

Daily Current Affairs



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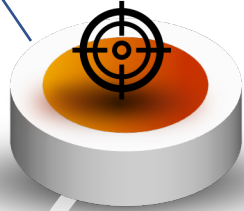


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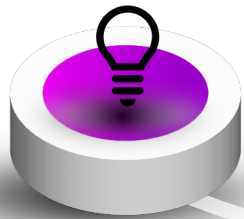


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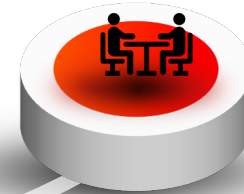


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EXIT OF A LEGEND
Karaikudi Mani passes away

STATES > PAGE 5

GO FIRST CRISIS
And another airline bites the dust

It is a pointer to the issues facing the aviation sector

EDITORIAL > PAGE 8

HOPES DASHED
India, Russia suspend rupee trade talks

BUSINESS > PAGE 16

Many killed in riots in Manipur; govt. issues shoot-at-sight order

Clashes broke out after a march was taken out by tribes against decision to grant ST status to the majority Meitei community; Army and RAF deployed

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Manipur government on Thursday issued a shoot-at-sight order in "extreme cases", as escalating ethnic violence following a tribal solidarity march displaced over 9,000 people in the State.

There was no official confirmation of the number of people killed or injured in the violence, but Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh admitted that "some precious lives were lost".

Clashes initially broke out during the course of Wednesday's solidarity march, called by the All



Vehicles set afire in the State capital Imphal on Thursday. PTI

Tribal Students' Union, Manipur. The Scheduled Tribe communities, mostly from the Kukiyomi group, are protesting against a move to grant a long-standing demand for ST status to the Meitei community, which makes up the majority of the State's population.

Leg-up for all tongues, no Hindi imposition: Shah

Dismissal of the allegation that the BJP and the Union government were trying to impose Hindi, he said the Modi government had put in systems to conduct recruitment tests for all-India services in all languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Yarghese K. George
NEW DELHI

The BJP stands for the promotion of all Indian languages and the accusation that it promotes Hindi at the cost of regional languages is "politically motivated", Home Minister Amit Shah has said.

In an exclusive interview with *The Hindu*, Mr. Shah said the party would win with an absolute majority in Karnataka, where issues of regional identity have featured in a big way in the election campaign.

Earlier, someone who has studied, say, in Kannada medium would have found it difficult to take many of these exams. NEET can be taken in several languages, so can exams for recruitment of constables, with SSC as the basic qualification.

IN BRIEF



Ready to return all our medals: Bajrang Punia

NEW DELHI
On Thursday, hours after a scuffle broke out at Jantar Mantar between protesting wrestlers and Delhi Police personnel, grappler Bajrang Punia said they would return their medals if they were going to get such treatment. > PAGE 2

Excise case: ED names Sisodia in fifth chargesheet

NEW DELHI
The ED has named former Deputy CM Manish Sisodia as an accused in a 2,373-page chargesheet in connection with the now-scrapped excise policy case. > PAGE 2

Jaishankar discusses LAC with Qin, holds talks with Lavrov, but not Bhutto

Subhasini Halder
BENALUR

The unresolved three-year-old military stand-off at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) remained the "focus" of India-China talks as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang here on Thursday, and held a "detailed" discussion on bilateral ties.

This is the second time the two Ministers have held talks this year, as Mr. Qin had earlier attended the G-20 Foreign Ministers Cooperation Organisation Meeting in Delhi in March.

Mr. Jaishankar also met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Uzbekistan counterpart



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with his Chinese counterpart Qin Gang on the sidelines of the SCO meet in Goa on Thursday. PTI

Bakhtiyor Saidov, after which he hosted them and all the other Foreign Ministers from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), at this Goan beach resort for a meeting on Friday.

However, no bilateral meeting was held or planned by officials between Mr. Jaishankar and Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, although the two Ministers greeted each other and shook hands at the dinner event, sources said.

Mr. Bhutto said his visit was "focused exclusively on the SCO" and that he looked forward to speaking to his counterparts from "friendly countries".

"A detailed discussion with State Counsellor and PM Qin Gang of China on our bilateral relationship. [The] focus remains on resolving outstanding issues and ensuring peace and tranquillity in the border areas. [We] also discussed SCO, G20 and BRICS," Mr. Jaishankar tweeted about his meeting, although neither side issued any official statement about the talks.

CONTINUED ON > PAGE 12

Summer boost



Reason to cheer! Buryed by summer showers, tribal farmers sowing ginger at Marjaguda village near the Araku Valley, 130 km from Visakhapatnam, in Andhra Pradesh on Thursday. A.R. SODHA

Stop caste survey immediately, High Court tells Bihar govt.

Amit Bhehari
PATNA

The Patna High Court on Thursday ordered a stay on the caste-based survey being conducted by the Nitish Kumar government.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice K.V. Chandran and Justice Madhuresh Prasad, hearing a petition filed by Akhilesh Kumar and others, directed the government to immediately stop the survey and ensure that the data already collected are preserved and secured. The data should not be shared with anybody till the final orders are passed, the court said.

Advocate Denu Kumar, for the petitioners, told the court that the Bihar government was misusing the contingency fund and the right to conduct such surveys was beyond the

court said.

"Prima facie, we are of the opinion that the State has no power to carry out a caste-based survey, in the manner in which it is fashioned now, which would amount to a census, thus impinging upon the legislative power of the Union Parliament," the HC said.

The next hearing is scheduled for June 3.

The first phase of the survey, which involved householding exercise, was carried out from January 7 to January 21. The second phase began on April 15 and was supposed to conclude on May 15.

Reacting to the court order, the BJP demanded the CM's resignation.

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RELATED REPORT > PAGE 4

Supriya Sule front runner as NCP panel meets today to pick new chief; quit for future of party, says Pawar

Shousholt Banerjee
PUNE

The mantle of the president of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) is likely to remain within the Pawar family, with the party's partners in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) rooting for Saranant Lok Sabha MP Supriya Sule to take over the post from her father, Sharad Pawar.

Leaders of the Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Congress have expressed a preference for Ms. Sule over her cousin and leader of the Opposition Ajit Pawar.

Congress leaders Balasaheb Thorat and Vashomai Thakur have lauded the MP's work in the Lok Sabha and endorsed her name for the post.

A number of NCP leaders, including Yeola MLA Chhagan Bhujbal, have

suggested that Ms. Sule should be appointed the new party chief. Party sources said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin spoke to Ms. Sule over phone to enquire about the latest developments.

Need new face: Pawar
Two days after resigning from the top post, Mr. Sharad Pawar on Thursday met party workers who have been requesting him to reconsider his decision to step down from the party. "I believe that there should be a new face for the NCP. A committee has been formed and it will take the final decision," Mr. Sharad Pawar said.

The panel to pick the NCP's new national presi-



Sharad Pawar interacts with NCP workers urging him to reconsider his decision of quitting as party chief in Mumbai on Thursday. ANI

dent will meet at 11 a.m. on Friday. The committee members include Ms. Sule, Mr. Ajit Pawar, Mr. Bhujbal, NCP State president Jayant Patil, and former Union Minister Praful Patel.

Not a contender: Patil
Earlier, speaking to reporters, the State party chief

with Saroj Patil, Mr. Sharad Pawar's sister, backing him to lead the party. "I have heard that my name too is in contention. But I have been working primarily in Maharashtra and do not know people in Delhi or other States," he said.

Mr. Patil termed "baseless" the suggestions that the real motive behind Mr. Sharad Pawar's decision to resign was to avoid seeing a split within the party. He said the joint rallies of the MVA had been postponed owing to forecast of "uncertain weather".

'Not in touch with BJP'
Later in the day, State BJP president Chandrabekhar Bawankule said no one from the NCP is in touch with the ruling party.

Mr. Patil's name has also cropped up as a contender for the NCP chief's post

'MVA WON'T BE HIT'
PAGE 4

Many killed in riots in Manipur; govt. issues shoot-at-sight order

Clashes broke out after a march was taken out by tribes against decision to grant ST status to the majority Meitei community; Army and RAF deployed

Rahul Karmakar

GUWAHATI

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Tribal Students’ Union, Manipur. The Scheduled Tribe communities, mostly from the Kuki-Zomi group, are protesting against a move to grant a long-standing demand for ST status to the Meitei

community, which makes up the majority of the State’s population.

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MORE REPORTS

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What is Manipur's ethnic composition?

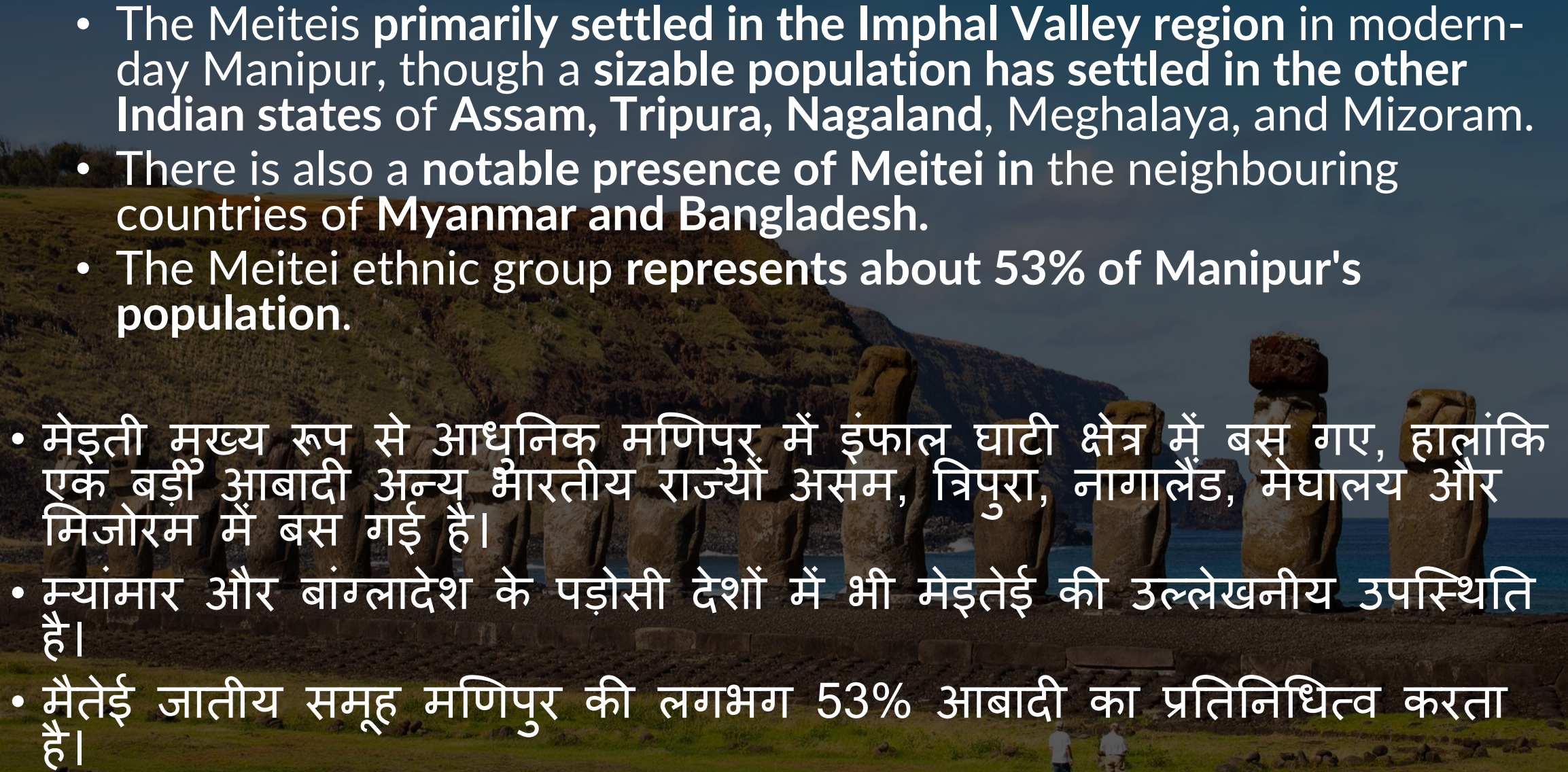
Geography has a lot to do with Manipur's problems. The State is like a football stadium with the Imphal Valley representing the playfield at the centre and the surrounding hills the galleries. Four highways, two of them lifelines for the State, are the valley's access points to the world beyond. The valley, which comprises about 10% of Manipur's landmass, is dominated by the non-tribal

Meitei who account for more than 64% of the population of the State and yields 40 of the State's 60 MLAs. The hills comprising 90% of the geographical area are inhabited by more than 35% recognised tribes but send only 20 MLAs to the Assembly. While a majority of the Meiteis are Hindus followed by Muslims, the 33 recognised tribes, broadly classified into 'Any Naga tribes' and 'Any Kuki tribes' are largely Christians.

What is the Meitei argument?

Hearing a petition by eight people representing the Meetei (Meitei) Tribe Union, the Manipur High Court on April 19 directed the State government to submit, within four weeks, a 10-year-old recommendation to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry for the inclusion of the Meitei community in the ST list. The court referred to the Ministry's letter in May 2013 to the Manipur government seeking specific recommendation along with the latest socio-economic survey and ethnographic report. The letter followed a representation submitted by the

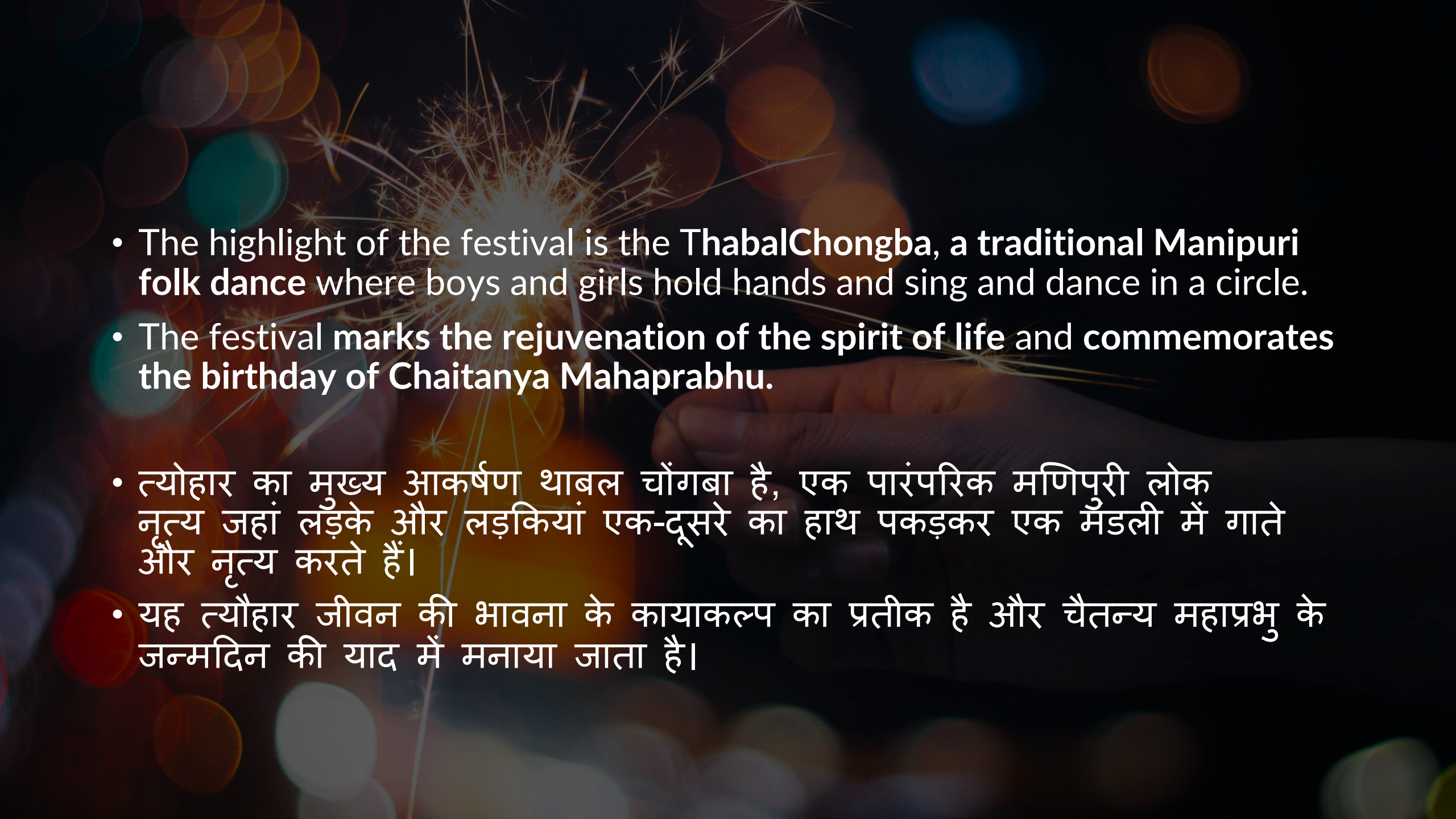
Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur (STDCM), which began demanding ST status for the Meiteis in 2012. The petitioners told the High Court that the Meiteis were recognised as a tribe before the merger of the State with the Union of India in 1949. They argued that the ST status is needed to "preserve" the community and "save the ancestral land, tradition, culture, and language" of the Meiteis. The STDCM also said the Meiteis needed constitutional safeguards against outsiders, stating that the community has been kept away from the hills while the tribal people can buy land in the "shrinking" Imphal Valley.

- 
- The Meiteis primarily settled in the Imphal Valley region in modern-day Manipur, though a sizable population has settled in the other Indian states of Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.
 - There is also a notable presence of Meitei in the neighbouring countries of Myanmar and Bangladesh.
 - The Meitei ethnic group represents about 53% of Manipur's population.
-
- मेइती मुख्य रूप से आधुनिक मणिपुर में इंपाल घाटी क्षेत्र में बस गए, हालांकि एक बड़ी आबादी अन्य भारतीय राज्यों असम, त्रिपुरा, नागालैंड, मेघालय और मिजोरम में बस गई है।
 - म्यांमार और बांग्लादेश के पड़ोसी देशों में भी मेइतेई की उल्लेखनीय उपस्थिति है।
 - मैतेई जातीय समूह मणिपुर की लगभग 53% आबादी का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है।

- Clans: They are divided into clans, the members of which do not intermarry.
- Economy: Rice cultivation on irrigated fields is the basis of their economy.
- Religion: A majority follow Hinduism, while more than 8% are Muslims.

- गोत्र: वे कुलों में विभाजित होते हैं, जिनके सदस्य आपस में विवाह नहीं करते हैं।
- अर्थव्यवस्था: सिंचित क्षेत्रों पर चावल की खेती उनकी अर्थव्यवस्था का आधार है।
- धर्म: बहुसंख्यक हिंदू धर्म का पालन करते हैं, जबकि 8% से अधिक मुसलमान हैं।

- **What is Yaoshang Festival?**
- It is celebrated by the Meitei people at the same time as Holi and is known as 'Manipur's version of Holi'.
- The five-day-long celebration begins with the burning of 'yaoshang'(a small thatch hut/straw hut), which is constructed with bamboo and straws on the first day.
- यशांग महोत्सव क्या है?
- यह मैतेई लोगों द्वारा होली के साथ ही मनाया जाता है और इसे 'मणिपुर के होली के संस्करण' के रूप में जाना जाता है।
- पांच दिनों तक चलने वाले इस उत्सव की शुरुआत 'याँशंग' (एक छोटी छप्पर की झोपड़ी/पुआल की झोपड़ी) के जलने से होती है, जिसे पहले दिन बांस और पुआल से बनाया जाता है।

- 
- The highlight of the festival is the **ThabalChongba**, a **traditional Manipuri folk dance** where boys and girls hold hands and sing and dance in a circle.
 - The festival marks the **rejuvenation of the spirit of life** and commemorates the **birthday of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu**.

- त्योहार का मुख्य आकर्षण थाबल चोंगबा है, एक पारंपरिक मणिपुरी लोक नृत्य जहां लड़के और लड़कियां एक-दूसरे का हाथ पकड़कर एक मंडली में गाते और नृत्य करते हैं।
- यह त्यौहार जीवन की भावना के कायाकल्प का प्रतीक है और चैतन्य महाप्रभु के जन्मदिन की याद में मनाया जाता है।

Next & Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Indian companies invested \$40 billion in the U.S., says CII

163 companies. The survey titled "Indian Roots, American Soil" of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was launched by India's Ambassador to the U.S. Tarunjit Singh Sandhu.

Most Indians alarmed or concerned about global warming: study

82 in percentage. Most Indians were in favour of bringing in energy policies to reduce the effects of global warming, according to Global Warming's Four Indias, 2022. An Audience Segmentation Analysis.

The calls made to mental health centres in Srinagar by women

70 in percentage. The call centre under the Tele MANAS initiative was established at the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Srinagar in Nov. 2022 and 10,000 calls were received since.

The additional investment made by Denmark for defence

5.6 in \$ billion. Denmark upped its defence spending due to the Ukraine invasion. "Global security policy and economic developments have meant... more defence resources," the defence ministry said.

The expected outflow of people from Sudan as per the UN

8.6 in lakh. The UN said it is planning this outflow from conflict-torn Sudan, and that it would need \$445 million to support them just through October.

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on the Washington Declaration

What prompted the visit of South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to the U.S.? Why does South Korea not have its own nuclear arsenal? What is the significance of the new agreement? How does it relate to nuclear deterrence? How have China and North Korea responded?

EXPLAINER

Femy Francis

The story so far: On April 25, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol arrived in the U.S. to commemorate the 70th anniversary of U.S.-South Korea bilateral relations. A highlight of the visit was the signing of the "Washington Declaration" as a nuclear deterrence strategy.

What prompted the U.S. visit? The successful launch of North Korea's Hwasong-8 solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), a vital component for nuclear weapons delivery, seems to have triggered the U.S. visit of the South Korean President. Mr Yoon aimed to advance the strategic partnership, drawing an alliance over an extended nuclear deterrence plan against the regional aggression of North Korea. The Washington agreement will launch a new phase in the partnership between Seoul and Washington. "Our two countries have agreed to immediate bilateral presidential consultations in the event of North Korea's nuclear attack and promised to respond swiftly, overwhelmingly and decisively using the full force of the alliance, including the United States' nuclear weapons," said Mr Yoon.

What does the Washington Declaration say? The agreement outlines cooperation towards deterrence.

According to the declaration, an American nuclear ballistic submarine would be deployed in the Korean peninsula; a nuclear consultative group would be formed to formulate principles of joint response tactics; South Korea would receive intel from the U.S. regarding nuclear advancements, and the U.S. will strengthen South Korea's nuclear deterrence capabilities through joint military training programs and an annual



Firm ties: U.S. President Joe Biden and South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol on April 26, 2023.

intergovernmental simulation. The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty, implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities and would instead focus on deterrence measures through an alliance-based approach. It also mandates the U.S. President as the only "sole authority" to use the nuclear arsenal of the U.S. in the event of a nuclear confrontation. While the existence of the agreement is based on the security needs of South Korea, the policy reflects big power politics where the interests of the larger power (U.S.) takes precedence.

Why is the U.S. not keen on S.Korea having a nuclear arsenal? South Korea's nuclear development programme supported by former

president Park Chung Hee was hindered due to U.S. pressure. In the 1990s, the U.S. withdrew one hundred nuclear weapons from South Korea as part of their "Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty". The U.S. was hoping to make North Korea unarm itself. Washington made an erroneous assumption that it could deter the weapons production of North Korea by extracting South Korea's nuclear capacity.

Secondly, the Nuclear Posture Review 2022 reflects a shift in the U.S. narrative where it is now concerned about the progressing nuclear capacities of North Korea. The report states that North Korea creates "deterrence dilemmas for the United States and its Allies and partners," and that "a crisis or conflict on the Korean Peninsula could involve a number of nuclear-armed actors, raising the risk

of broader conflict." And finally, the U.S. wants to control global nuclear arms production. It has been reluctant to allow South Korea to develop their own nuclear arsenal as it would hinder the prolonged efforts of controlling nuclear production in the world. The assurance that the U.S. and its nuclear weapons would protect its allies by being responsible for maintaining stability in the region aligns with the larger goal of non-proliferation.

What has been the regional response? The Washington Declaration advocates for nuclear deterrence policy in the region, aiming to balance power against North Korea. While the aim is to defuse the threat, physical deployment of the arsenal can be deemed as a direct threat by opposing actors and used as leverage to act aggressively.

China criticised the agreement with Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning saying, "What the U.S. is doing... provokes confrontation between camps, undermines the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the strategic interests of other states." North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's sister Kim Yo-jong warned that the declaration would "only result in making peace and security of North-East Asia and the world be exposed to more serious danger."

What is the domestic response? The South Korean public are sceptic about U.S. support. A poll by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations reported that 71% of South Koreans want to build their own nuclear weapons. With an aggressive North Korea in the neighbourhood, they would prefer their own deterrence.

The writer is a Research Assistant at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore.

THE GIST

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The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty, implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities.

What is behind Manipur's widespread unrest?

What triggered the conflict between the non-tribal Meitei people and other tribal groups?

Rahul Karmakar

The story so far: Manipur has been restive since an arbitrary when the BJP-led government launched an eviction drive seeking to target a specific tribal group. The drive led to protests but not on the scale of the one on May 3 triggered by the Manipur High Court's direction to the State to pursue a 10-year-old recommendation to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the non-tribal Meitei community.

What is Manipur's ethnic composition? Geography has a lot to do with Manipur's problems. The State is like a football stadium with the Imphal Valley representing the playfield at the centre and the surrounding hills the galleries. Four highways, two of them linkages for the State, are the valley's access points to the world beyond. The valley, which comprises about 10% of Manipur's landmass, is dominated by the non-tribal

Meitei who account for more than 64% of the population of the State and yields 40 of the State's 60 MLAs. The hills comprising 60% of the geographical area are inhabited by more than 32% recognised tribes but send only 20 MLAs to the Assembly. While a majority of the Meiteis are Hindus followed by Muslims, the 33 recognised tribes, broadly classified into 'Any Naga tribes' and 'Any Kuki tribes' are largely Christians.

What is the Meitei argument? Hearing a petition by eight people representing the Meitei (Meitei) Tribe Union, the Manipur High Court on April 10 directed the State government to submit, within four weeks, a 10-year-old recommendation to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry for inclusion of the Meitei community in the ST list. The court referred to the Ministry's letter in May 2013 to the Manipur government seeking specific recommendation along with the latest socio-economic survey and ethnographic report. The letter followed a representation submitted by the

Scheduled Tribes Demand Committee of Manipur (STDCM), which began demanding ST status for the Meiteis in 2012. The petitioners told the High Court that the Meiteis were recognised as a tribe before the merger of the State with the Union of India in 1949. They argued that the ST status is needed to "preserve" the community and "save the ancestral land, tradition, culture, and language" of the Meiteis. The STDCM also said the Meiteis needed constitutional safeguards against outsiders, stating that the community has been kept away from the hills while the tribal people can buy land in the "shrinking" Imphal Valley.

Why are tribal groups against ST status for Meiteis? The tribal groups say the Meiteis have a demographic and political advantage besides being more advanced than them academically and in other aspects. They feel the ST status to the Meiteis would lead to loss of job opportunities and allow them to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out. Groups such as the All

Tribal Students' Union of Manipur point out that the language of the Meitei people is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and many of them have access to benefits associated with the SC, OBC or EWS status. "The hill tribal people of Manipur, the demand for ST status is a ploy to attenuate the fervent political demands of the Kukis and Nagas, as well as a tact strategy of the dominant valley dwellers to make inroads into the hill areas of the State," Jawaharlal Nehru University lecturer, Thangkhal Haokip wrote in "The Politics of Scheduled Tribe Status in Manipur".

What led to the unrest? Pro-government groups in Manipur claim that the Meiteis' demand for ST status are trying to scuttle Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh's crusade against drugs. The trading drive began with destroying poppy fields and the Meiteis' "Bibi-settlers" from Myanmar — ethnically related to the Kuki-Zomi people of Manipur — are behind clearing forests and government lands to grow opium and cannabis. The first violence on March 10 was against the eviction of the residents of a Kuki village. This made the State government wary of the Meiteis' demands being more advanced than them academically and in other aspects. They feel the ST status to the Meiteis would lead to loss of job opportunities and allow them to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out. Groups such as the All

THE GIST

Large-scale violence broke out on May 3 triggered by the Manipur High Court's direction to the State to pursue a 10-year-old recommendation to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the non-tribal Meitei community.

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Tribal groups feel that the ST status to the Meiteis would lead to loss of job opportunities and allow them to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out.

On the Washington Declaration

What prompted the visit of South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol to the U.S.? Why does South Korea not have its own nuclear arsenal? What is the significance of the new agreement? How does it relate to nuclear deterrence? How have China and North Korea responded?

What prompted the U.S. visit?

The successful launch of North Korea's Hwasong-8 solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), a vital component for nuclear weapons delivery, seems to have triggered the U.S. visit of the South Korean President. Mr. Yoon aimed to advance the strategic partnership, drawing an alliance over an extended nuclear deterrence plan against the regional aggression of North Korea. The Washington agreement will launch a new phase in the partnership between Seoul and Washington. "Our two countries have agreed to immediate bilateral presidential consultations in the event of North Korea's nuclear attack and promised to respond swiftly, overwhelmingly and decisively using the full force of the alliance, including the United States' nuclear weapons," said Mr. Yoon.

What does the Washington Declaration say?

The agreement outlines cooperation towards deterrence.

According to the declaration, an American nuclear ballistic submarine would be deployed in the Korean peninsula; a nuclear consultative group would be formed to formulate principles of joint response tactics; South Korea would receive Intel from the U.S. regarding nuclear advancements; and the U.S. will strengthen South Korea's nuclear deterrence capabilities through joint military training programs and an annual



Firm ties: U.S. President Joe Biden and South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol shake hands during a meeting in Washington, D.C.

intergovernmental simulation. The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities and would instead focus on deterrence measures through an alliance-based approach. It also mandates the U.S. President as the only 'sole authority' to use the nuclear arsenal of the U.S. in the event of a nuclear confrontation. While the existence of the agreement is based on the security needs of South Korea, the policy reflects big power politics where the interests of the larger power (U.S.) takes precedence.

Why is the U.S. not keen on S.Korea having a nuclear arsenal?

South Korea's nuclear development programme supported by former

▼
On April 25, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol arrived in the U.S. to commemorate the 70th anniversary of U.S.-South Korea bilateral relations.

▼
Mr. Yoon aimed to advance the strategic partnership, drawing an alliance over an extended nuclear deterrence plan against the regional aggression of North Korea.

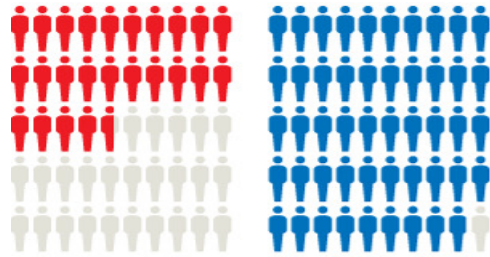
▼
The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities.

What is the domestic response?

The South Korean public are sceptic about U.S. support. A poll by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations reported that 71% of South Koreans want to build their own nuclear weapons. With an aggressive North Korea in the neighbourhood, they would prefer their own deterrence.

The writer is a Research Assistant at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru

North and South Korea



24.72m
North Korea

48.96m
South Korea

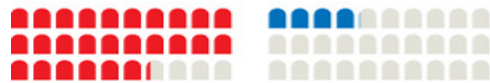
Population July 2013, estimated



\$1,800
North Korea 2011

\$32,400
South Korea 2012

GDP per capita (PPP)



26.21
North Korea

4.08
South Korea

Infant mortality rate 2012
per 1,000 live births



1.19m
North Korea



0.65m
South Korea

Active duty 2011



69.2
Years old

79.3
Years old

North Korea

South Korea

Life expectancy at birth, total population



178th

50th

North Korea

South Korea

Press freedom index ranking 2013

< 0.1

North Korea



81.5

South Korea

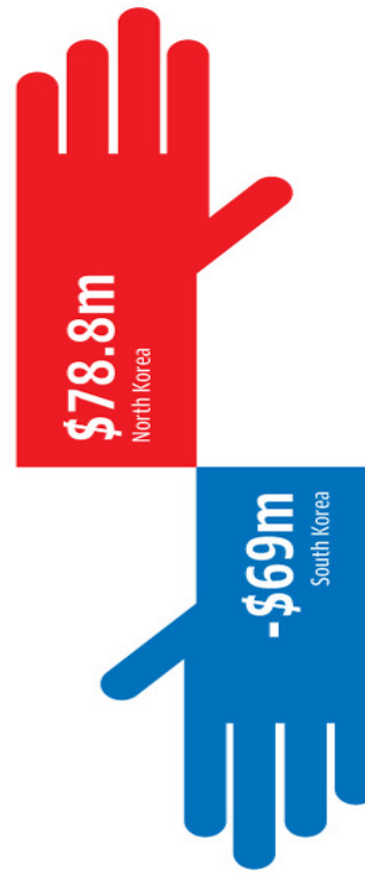
Internet users per 100 people



22.3%
North Korea

2.8%
South Korea

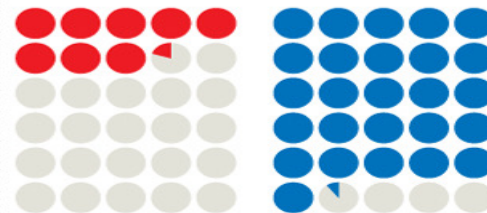
Military expenditure 2008
as a percentage of GDP



\$78.8m
North Korea

-\$69m
South Korea

Net official development assistance
(ODA) and official aid (current US\$)



\$8.213bn
North Korea

\$26.1bn
South Korea

Military spending 2008

Military might

	 North Korea	 South Korea
Active Personnel		
Total	1,190,000	630,000
Army 	1,020,000	495,000
Navy 	60,000	70,000
Air force 	110,000	65,000
Paramilitary 	189,000	4,500
Reserves 	5,700,000	4,500,000
Tanks 	3,500	2,434
Aircraft 	545	567
Submarines 	73	23
Artillery 	21,100	11,000

Source: The Military Balance 2017, IISS

Dynasty vs democracy

Leaders since 1948



North Korea

3



L-r: Kim Il-sung,
Kim Jong-il,
Kim Jong-un



South Korea

12



L-r: Rhee Syng-man, Yun Bo-seon,
Park Chung-hee, Choi Kyu-hah,
Chun Doo-hwan, Roh Tae-woo,
Kim Young-sam, Kim Dae-jung,
Roh Moo-hyun, Lee Myung-bak,
Park Geun-hye, Moon Jae-in

HOW THE MILITARY FORCES COMPARE



North Korea

MILITARY BUDGET MILITARY PERSONNEL

£6.4bn **1,000,000**

2011 estimate

TANKS

3,500

COMBAT AIRCRAFT

563

SUBMARINES

72

South Korea

MILITARY BUDGET MILITARY PERSONNEL

£21.9bn **522,000**

● 29,300 US personnel

TANKS

2,414

FIGHTER AIRCRAFT

467

SUBMARINES

23

Source: IISS 2014, GlobalSecurity.org

DEMILITARIZED ZONE
A truce line between the North and South, 2.5 miles wide and 160 miles long



India, Russia said to suspend talks to settle trade in rupees

Two Indian government officials say negotiators unable to convince Moscow to stock rupees in its coffers; an increasing amount of trade is being settled in other currencies like the UAE dirham

Reuters

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

India and Russia have halted efforts to settle bilateral trade in rupees, after months of negotiations failed to convince Moscow to keep rupees in its coffers, two Indian government officials and a source with direct knowledge of the matter said.

This would be a major setback for Indian importers of cheap oil and coal from Russia who were awaiting a rupee payment mechanism to help lower

Talks deadlocked

Negotiations with Moscow on a rupee trade settlement mechanism have been suspended after months of talks

- Seen as a major setback for importers of cheap oil and coal from Russia
- Russia's favourable high trade gap could land it with an annual rupee surplus of over \$40 bn, which Moscow sees as not desirable
- India's low share in global trade, rupee's lack of full convertibility seen as factors against holding rupees



currency conversion costs.


With a high trade gap in favour of Russia, Moscow believes it will end up with

an annual rupee surplus of over \$40 billion if such a mechanism is worked out and feels rupee accumula-


tion is 'not desirable', an Indian government official, who did not want to be named, told Reuters.

The rupee is not fully convertible and India's share of global exports of goods is just about 2%. These factors reduce the necessity for other countries to hold rupees.

India started exploring a rupee settlement mechanism with Russia soon after the invasion of Ukraine. Most trade is in dollars but an increasing amount is being done in currencies like the UAE dirham.



**WORLD PULMONARY
HYPERTENSION DAY**



What causes PH?

Knowing the causes of PH is crucial to raising awareness of the disease and promoting research and providing effective treatment. Moreover, it gains special significance in light of the fact that PH can be of five types depending on its causes – Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH), PH caused by left-sided heart disease, PH caused by lung disease, PH caused by chronic blood clots and PH triggered by other health conditions.

From a genetic mutation passed down through families, to the use of certain drugs, including methamphetamines, and certain heart problems present at birth – the causes of PAH can vary significantly.

PH caused by left-sided heart disease can occur from left-sided heart valve disease and failure of the lower left-heart chamber.

PH caused by lung disease can result from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), pulmonary fibrosis – a condition in which the lungs become scarred over time, obstructive sleep apnea and long-term ex-

posure to high altitudes.

Chronic blood clots in the lungs and certain clotting disorders give rise to yet another type of PH, known as PH caused by chronic blood clots.

Kidney disease, blood disorders, metabolic disorders, inflammatory disorders and tumors that press against pulmonary arteries are the main causes of PH triggered by other health conditions.

Who is at risk?

The likelihood of developing PH increases with a person's age. The condition is more

Only 4 states see more than 14% GST growth in FY20-23

Only four states recorded a CAGR equal to or more than 14% in their GST collections from domestic activities during FY20-FY23, according to a study by IndiaRatings and Research. (The GST compensation mechanism that existed for five years till June 30, 2022, had guaranteed 14% CAGR to states). In the case of Andhra Pradesh, the mop-up from GST on domestic economic activities was

GST collections: Gains from compliance

GST/GDP (%)



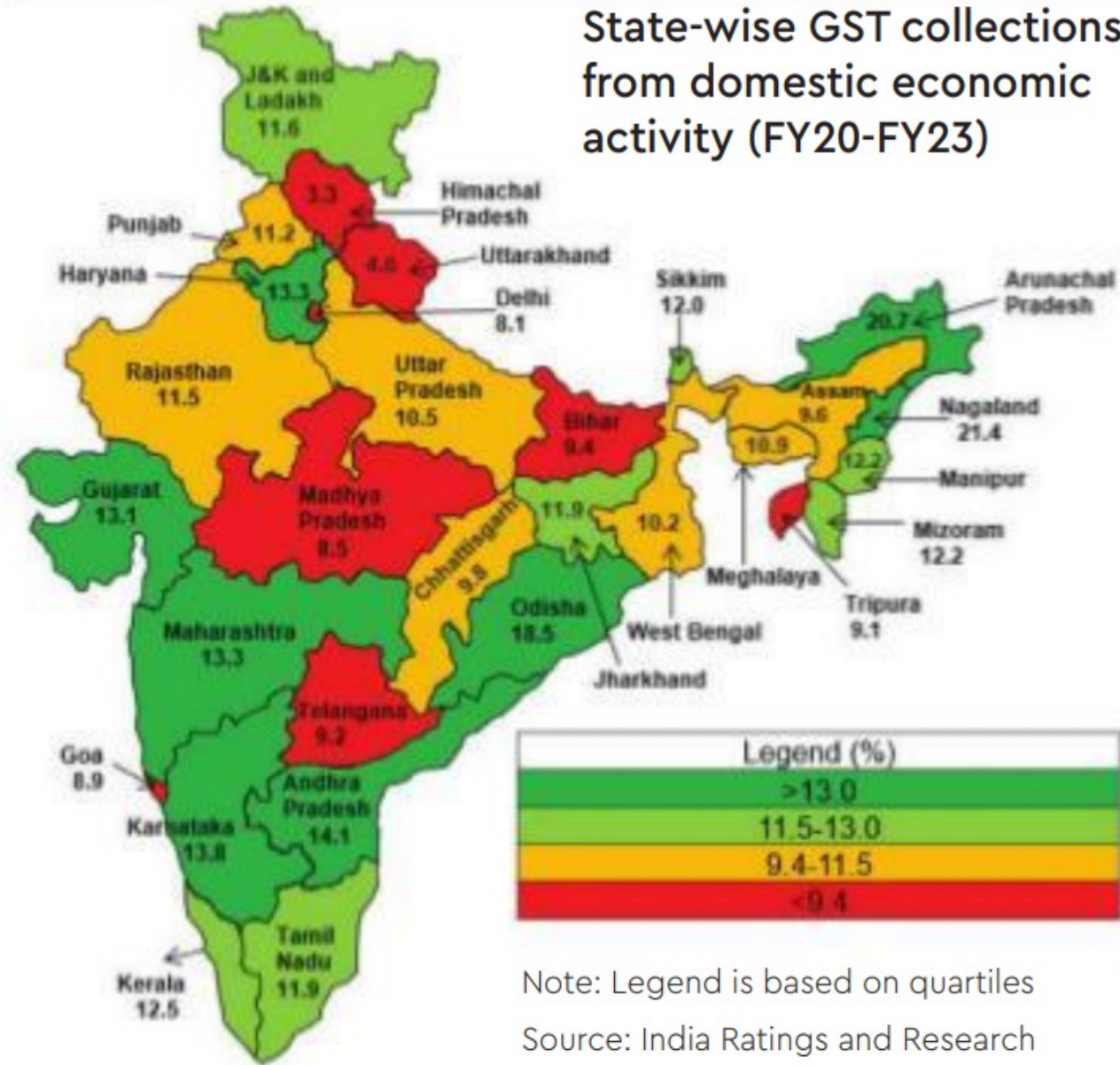
GST (excluding IGST)/GDP (%)



Q3FY18-Q4FY20
Q4FY21-Q4FY23

14.1% during FY20-FY23. For the three other states of Nagaland, Manipur and Odisha, it was much higher at over 18%.

State-wise GST collections from domestic economic activity (FY20-FY23)



Note: Legend is based on quartiles

Source: India Ratings and Research

State-wise Direct Tax (Net) Collection (Rs.in Crores)

	States/UTs	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	Total
1	Maharashtra	5,24,498	3,31,969	3,84,258	12,40,725
2	Delhi	1,77,824	1,20,121	1,49,613	4,47,558
3	Karnataka	1,68,678	1,16,255	1,08,973	3,93,906
4	Tamil Nadu	88,438	61,122	69,809	2,19,370
5	Gujarat	71,642	46,864	49,518	1,68,024
6	Andhra	56,663	40,314	42,730	1,39,708
7	West Bengal	53,775	40,310	40,629	1,34,714
8	Haryana	37,729	24,493	27,824	90,046
9	Uttar Pradesh	34,720	26,735	26,990	88,445
10	Telangana	27,185	15,854	14,046	57,085
11	Rajasthan	25,216	17,539	16,508	59,263
12	Kerala	19,562	14,516	15,164	49,242
13	MP	18,138	13,283	18,698	50,119
14	Punjab	15,981	10,491	11,704	38,176
15	Orissa	15,587	10,258	13,581	39,426
16	Chhattisgarh	7,783	4,451	5,009	17,243
17	Bihar	7,397	5,382	5,723	18,502
18	Jharkhand	7,031	5,581	6,637	19,250
19	Assam	5,688	4,551	4,723	14,962
20	Uttarakhand	4,208	3,088	3,406	10,703
21	Chandigarh	3,574	1,868	2,668	8,110
22	Himachal	3,073	2,323	2,482	7,878
23	Goa	2,879	2,655	2,170	7,705
24	J&K	1,778	1,037	1,318	4,134
25	Meghalaya	1,064	1,000	1,102	3,165
26	Pondicherry	992	612	805	2,409
27	D,NH, D&D	985	548	534	2,068
28	Tripura	424	489	292	1,205
29	Sikkim	384	292	400	1,076
30	Manipur	311	418	139	867
31	Nagaland	293	177	135	604
32	Arunachal	233	182	241	657
33	Mizoram	90	44	42	176
34	A&N	89	68	116	273
35	Lakshadweep	29	21	20	70
36	Ladakh	0	0	0	0
37	Total	13,83,942	9,24,910	10,28,011	33,36,863

Gross Tax Collection FY 22: 14,12,422 crores Gross Tax Collection FY 21: 9,47,176 crores Gross Tax Collection FY 20: 10,50,681 crores

Table: Swarajya Staff • Source: Ministry Of Finance, Department Of Revenue • Created with Datawrapper

#SWARAJYA

दिल्ली में गुरुवार तड़के छाया कोहरा, लोग हैरत में 1901 के बाद मई की तीसरी सबसे ठंडी सुबह

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
नई दिल्ली, 4 मई।

दिल्ली में गुरुवार की सुबह मौसम का कुछ अलग ही रंग देखने को मिला। सामान्य तौर पर इन दिनों भीषण गर्म हवाओं की चपेट में रहने वाली दिल्ली सुबह के समय कोहरे की हल्की चादर में लिपटी नजर आई। दिल्ली और आसपास के क्षेत्र में सामान्य रूप से मई का महीना साल में सबसे ज्यादा गर्म होता है और इसमें औसतन अधिकतम तापमान 39.5 डिग्री सेल्सियस होता है। गुरुवार को न्यूनतम तापमान 15.8 डिग्री सेल्सियस हो गया और यह 1901 के बाद मई में तीसरी सबसे सर्द सुबह रही।

अधिकारियों ने उत्तर पश्चिम भारत को लगातार प्रभावित कर रहे पश्चिमी विक्षोभों के कारण दिल्ली में असामान्य तरीके से बादल छाए रहने, बारिश होने और मौसम में ठंडक होने की बात कही है। दिल्ली निवासियों ने शहर में सुबह छाये कोहरे की तस्वीरें और वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर डाले और वे दिल्ली की तुलना

बाकी पेज 8 पर



गुरुवार को कोहरे की चादर में लिपटा हुआ इंडिया गेट।

राजधानी में गुरुवार को न्यूनतम तापमान 15.8 डिग्री

सेल्सियस मापा गया। **इससे** पहले दो मई, 1969 को पारा 15.1 डिग्री सेल्सियस के स्तर पर पहुंच गया था।

दो मई, 1982 को इस महीने का सबसे कम तापमान 15.2 डिग्री सेल्सियस दर्ज किया गया था।

उत्तर पश्चिम भारत को लगातार प्रभावित कर रहे पश्चिमी विक्षोभों के कारण ठंड बढ़ी है।

MINIMUM TEMP DIPS TO 15.8 DEGREES

Coollest May morning in 41 years; capital wakes up to fog

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 4

ON THURSDAY, Delhi recorded its coolest May morning in 41 years, along with an unusual episode of fog for this time of the year.

The minimum temperature early on Thursday was 15.8 degrees Celsius, nine degrees below the normal. The lowest minimum temperature for May since 1982, when May 2 recorded a slightly lower minimum, was 15.2 degrees Celsius. Data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) shows that the lowest minimum temperature ever recorded in May is 15.1 degrees Celsius in 1969 at the Safdarjung weather station, which provides representative figures for the city.

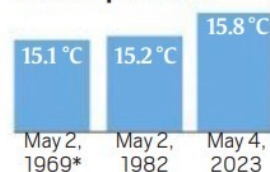
The lowest minimum temperature recorded in the city on Thursday was 14.2 degrees Celsius at the observatory at the Ridge near Delhi University, which was 11 degrees below the normal.

The low minimum temperature, along with moisture on account of rainfall the previous day, and low wind speed contributed to fog formation early on Thursday, said IMD scientist Kuldeep Srivastava. The visibility at Palam was around 800m,



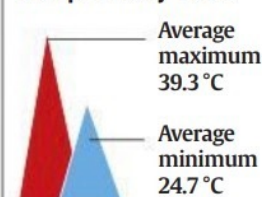
Fog engulfs India Gate and Kartavya Path, Thursday. *PTI*

Min temp for Delhi



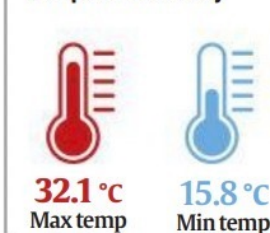
Temp at Safdarjung weather station (IMD data) *all-time record

Temp for May 1 to 5



Based on average from 1991 to 2020

Temp on Thursday



crucial for its formation. Since cooler air holds less moisture

temperature in May for the same period is 25.9 degrees

IMD forecast. Delhi is, however likely to get a warm start next

मराठी लघु फिल्म 'चिरभोग' को मानवाधिकार आयोग का पुरस्कार

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली 4 मई।

मानवाधिकारों पर हुई प्रतिष्ठित लघु फिल्म प्रतियोगिता में नीलेश अंबेडकर की फिल्म चिरभोग को प्रथम पुरस्कार के लिए चुना गया है।

राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग पुरस्कार में दो लाख रुपए की राशि देता है। इस फिल्म में जाति और पेशे के आधार पर समाज में जारी भेदभाव को एक लड़के की कहानी के माध्यम से उजागर किया गया है। जो समानता, स्वतंत्रता, गरिमा और शिक्षा के लिए लगातार संघर्ष करता है। फिल्म मराठी में है।

डेढ़ लाख रुपए के द्वितीय पुरस्कार के लिए भवानी डोले की फिल्म एनेबिल्ड को चुना गया है। इसमें एक दिव्यांग बच्चे की कहानी के माध्यम से दिव्यांगों के प्रति लोगों की सोच को बदलने की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया गया है।

यह फिल्म असमिया भाषा में है। एक लाख रुपए के तृतीय पुरस्कार के लिए टी कुमार की फिल्म अत्वम थविर को चुना गया है। इसमें एक छात्रा की कहानी के जरिए स्कूलों में बालिकाओं के साथ होने वाले यौन अपराधों के प्रति जागरूकता रेखांकित की गई है।

भारतीय कंपनियों ने अमेरिका में 4.25 लाख नौकरियां दीं

वाशिंगटन, 4 मई (भाषा)।

अमेरिका में भारत की 163 भारतीय कंपनियों ने अबतक 40 अरब डालर से अधिक का निवेश किया है जिससे यहां करीब 4,25,000 नौकरियां पैदा हुई हैं। एक सर्वेक्षण में यह तथ्य सामने आया है।

भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (सीआइआइ) के 'इंडियन रूट्स, अमेरिकन सायल' शीर्षक वाले सर्वे को बुधवार को अमेरिका में भारत के राजदूत तरनजीत सिंह संधू ने जारी किया। इस अवसर पर भारत में अमेरिका के नामित राजदूत एरिक गार्सेटी भी मौजूद थे।

भारत की कंपनियों के जरिए सृजित नौकरियों से लाभांशित होने वाले शीर्ष दस राज्यों में टेक्सास (20,906 नौकरियां), न्यूयार्क (19,162 नौकरियां), न्यू जर्सी (17,713 नौकरियां), वाशिंगटन (14,525 नौकरियां), फ्लोरिडा (14,418 नौकरियां), कैलिफोर्निया (14,334 नौकरियां), जार्जिया (13,945 नौकरियां), ओहियो (12,188 नौकरियां), मोंटाना (9,603 नौकरियां), इलिनायस (8,454 नौकरियां) हैं।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि भारतीय कंपनियों ने अमेरिका में कारपोरेट सामाजिक दायित्व पर लगभग 18.5 करोड़ डालर खर्च किए हैं। अमेरिका आधारित शोध एवं विकास परियोजनाओं में उनका वित्तपोषण करीब एक अरब डालर है।

संधू ने इस मौके पर बड़ी संख्या में उपस्थित भारतीय कंपनियों के प्रतिनिधियों को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि अमेरिका में भारतीय कंपनियां मजबूती, जुझारूपन और प्रतिस्पर्धा ला रही हैं। ये रोजगार पैदा कर रही हैं और स्थानीय समुदायों को

समर्थन दे रही हैं।

भारतीय कंपनियों के प्रतिनिधि यहां एक सम्मेलन में भाग लेने आए हैं। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि 163 भारतीय कंपनियों ने अमेरिका में 40 अरब डालर से अधिक का निवेश किया है। इससे देश में लगभग 4,25,000 नौकरियां पैदा हुई हैं। सीआइआइ के महानिदेशक चंद्रजीत बनर्जी ने कहा कि भारतीय कंपनियों ने अमेरिकी बाजार में अपनी जुझारू क्षमता और प्रतिबद्धता का प्रदर्शन किया है। उन्होंने यहां निवेश बढ़ाने के साथ रोजगार का भी सृजन किया है और विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में विविधीकरण किया है।

Daily Current Affairs

**Rail Vikas Nigam
Limited (RVNL) granted
Navratna Status**

- Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), a Central Public Sector Enterprises of Ministry of Railways, has been granted Navratna Status.
- The company was granted Mini-Ratna status in September 2013.
- रेल विकास निगम लिमिटेड (RVNL), रेल मंत्रालय के एक केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्यम को नवरत्न का दर्जा दिया गया है।
- सितंबर 2013 में कंपनी को मिनी रत्न का दर्जा दिया गया था।



RVNL

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

About RVNL

RVNL was incorporated as PSU in 2003, with following functions:

आरवीएनएल को 2003 में निम्नलिखित कार्यों के साथ पीएसयू के रूप में शामिल किया गया था:

Undertaking project development and execution of works covering full project life cycle.

पूर्ण परियोजना जीवन चक्र को कवर करने वाले परियोजना के विकास और कार्यों का निष्पादन करना।

Creating Project specific SPVs for individual works, if required.

यदि आवश्यक हो, तो व्यक्तिगत कार्यों के लिए परियोजना विशिष्ट एसपीवी बनाना।

On completion of a Railway project by RVNL, the concerned Zonal Railway will undertake its operation and maintenance.

आरवीएनएल द्वारा एक रेलवे परियोजना के पूरा होने पर, संबंधित क्षेत्रीय रेलवे इसका संचालन और रखरखाव करेगा।

Benefits of Navratna status

When a company achieves Navratna status, it gets enhanced financial and operational freedom

जब कोई कंपनी नवरत्न का दर्जा हासिल करती है, तो उसे वित्तीय और परिचालन संबंधी स्वतंत्रता मिलती है

It empowers it to invest up to Rs 1,000 crore or 15% of their net worth on a single project without seeking government approval.

यह सरकार की मंजूरी के बिना एक ही परियोजना पर 1,000 करोड़ रुपये या उनके निवल मूल्य का 15% तक निवेश करने का अधिकार देता है।

They will also have the freedom to enter joint ventures, form alliances and float subsidiaries abroad.

उन्हें संयुक्त उद्यमों में प्रवेश करने, गठजोड़ बनाने और विदेशों में सहायक कंपनियां बनाने की भी स्वतंत्रता होगी।

Eligibility Criteria for Navratna status

The CPSEs which are Miniratna I, Schedule 'A' and have obtained 'excellent' or 'very good' MOU ratings in three of the last five years and have composite scores of 60 or above in the following six selected performance indicators:

सीपीएसई जो मिनिरत्न I, अनुसूची 'ए' हैं और जिन्होंने पिछले पांच वर्षों में से तीन में 'उत्कृष्ट' या 'बहुत अच्छा' एमओयू रेटिंग प्राप्त की है और निम्नलिखित छह चयनित प्रदर्शन संकेतकों में 60 या उससे अधिक का समग्र स्कोर है:

Net Profit to Net
worth

नेट प्रॉफिट टू नेट वर्थ

Manpower Cost to total Cost of Production or
Cost of Services

उत्पादन की कुल लागत या सेवाओं की लागत के लिए
जनशक्ति लागत

PBDIT to Capital
employed

नियोजित पूंजी के लिए
पीबीडीआईटी

PBIT to Turnover

पीबीआईटी टू टर्नओवर

Earnings Per Share

प्रति शेयर आय

Inter Sectoral
Performance

अंतर क्षेत्रीय प्रदर्शन

List of 14 Navratna Companies in India

Serial No.	Company Name
1	Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)
2	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
3	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)
4	Engineers India Limited (EIL)
5	National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
6	Bharat Electronics Limited (BHEL)
7	National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC)
8	Oil India Limited (OIL)
9	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)
10	Container Corporation of India (CONCOR)
11	National Aluminium Company (NALCO)
12	Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)
13	NLC India Limited (NLCIL)
14	Power Finance Corporation (PFC)

Eligibility Criteria for grant of Maharatna status to CPSEs

Having Navratna status

Listed on Indian stock exchange with minimum prescribed public shareholding under SEBI regulations

An average annual turnover of more than Rs. 25,000 crore during the last 3 years

An average annual net worth of more than Rs. 15,000 crore during the last 3 years

An average annual net profit after tax of more than Rs. 5,000 crore during the last 3 years

Should have significant global presence/international operations.

सीपीएसई को महारत्न का दर्जा देने के लिए पात्रता मानदंड

नवरत्न का दर्जा होना

सेबी नियमों के तहत न्यूनतम निर्धारित सार्वजनिक शेयरधारिता के साथ भारतीय स्टॉक एक्सचेंज में सूचीबद्ध

रुपये से अधिक का औसत वार्षिक कारोबार। पिछले 3 वर्षों के दौरान 25,000 करोड़

रुपये से अधिक की औसत वार्षिक निवल संपत्ति। पिछले 3 वर्षों के दौरान 15,000 करोड़

रुपये से अधिक के कर के बाद औसत वार्षिक शुद्ध लाभा। पिछले 3 वर्षों के दौरान 5,000 करोड़

महत्वपूर्ण वैश्विक उपस्थिति/अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संचालन होना चाहिए।



How Maharatna, Navaratna and Miniratna status granted to Public Sector Enterprises



Difference Between Maharatna and Navratna Companies

In India, the Central and Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) are divided into several categories. Maharatna companies and Navratna companies are two of them. Here is the difference between these two types of CPSUs:

Maharatna Companies	Navratna Companies
The company must have an average annual net profit of more than ₹5,000 crores.	The company can invest an amount of up to ₹1,000 crores.
The average annual turnover of the company must be ₹25,000 crores.	The company may invest 30% of its net worth during the year without exceeding the ₹1,000 crores limit.
There is no higher level above Maharatna company.	A Navratna company can be turned into a Maharatna company.



Type	Public
Traded as	NSE: RVNL BSE: 542649 ^[1]
Industry	Railway infrastructure
Founded	24 January 2003
Headquarters	New Delhi , India
Area served	India
Key people	Pradeep Gaur (Chairman & MD)
Revenue	₹ 19,381.71 Cr (March 2022)
Operating income	₹ 1476.14 Cr (March 2022)
Total assets	₹ 19,121.42 Cr (March 2022)
Total equity	₹ 5,631.41 Cr (March 2022)

Owner	Government of India (78.20%) ^[2]
Number of employees	515 (March 2022)
Subsidiaries	High Speed Rail Corporation of India Limited
Website	https://rvnl.org

Daily Current Affairs

Food Street Project

- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya recently reviewed the 'Food Street Project'.
- केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने हाल ही में 'फूड स्ट्रीट प्रोजेक्ट' की समीक्षा की।



Key Points

- It is aimed at developing 100 healthy and hygienic food-streets across the country.
- The project seeks to encourage safe and healthy food practices, reduce foodborne illnesses and improve overall health outcomes.
- To operationalize the food streets, the National Health Mission will provide assistance of one crore rupees per food street.
- इसका उद्देश्य देश भर में 100 स्वस्थ और स्वच्छ भोजन-सड़कों को विकसित करना है।
- परियोजना सुरक्षित और स्वस्थ भोजन प्रथाओं को प्रोत्साहित करने, खाद्य जनित बीमारियों को कम करने और समग्र स्वास्थ्य परिणामों में सुधार करने का प्रयास करती है।
- फूड स्ट्रीट को चालू करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन प्रति फूड स्ट्रीट एक करोड़ रुपये की सहायता देगा।

- Financial assistance would be provided for activities such as the provision of safe drinking water, hand washing, toilet facilities, and appropriate liquid and solid waste disposal.
- The initiative will be implemented through NHM in convergence with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- The Health Ministry has taken various steps to improve the hygiene and food safety standards protocols for food street hubs.

- सुरक्षित पेयजल, हाथ धोने, शौचालय की सुविधा और उचित तरल और ठोस अपशिष्ट निपटान जैसी गतिविधियों के लिए वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की जाएगी।
- पहल आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्रालय के साथ अभिसरण में एनएचएम के माध्यम से कार्यान्वित की जाएगी।
- स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने फूड स्ट्रीट हब के लिए स्वच्छता और खाद्य सुरक्षा मानकों के प्रोटोकॉल में सुधार के लिए कई कदम उठाए हैं।

- These initiatives include training of food handlers, independent third-party audits, and certification under the Clean Street Food Hub initiative of the Eat Right India movement.

- इन पहलों में खाद्य संचालकों का प्रशिक्षण, स्वतंत्र तृतीय-पक्ष ऑडिट और ईट राइट इंडिया आंदोलन की क्लीन स्ट्रीट फूड हब पहल के तहत प्रमाणन शामिल हैं।

Daily Current Affairs

Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTPP)

- NTPC has marked its first overseas capacity addition, beginning with Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTPP) in Bangladesh
- एनटीपीसी ने बांग्लादेश में मैत्री सुपर थर्मल पावर प्लांट (एमएसटीपीपी) से शुरुआत करते हुए अपनी पहली विदेशी क्षमता वृद्धि की है



About Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTPP)

- Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTPP) is located in Rampal, Mongla, Bagerhat, Bangladesh.
- NTPC recently added Unit-1, a 660 MW capacity, of the 1320 MW (2x660)
- The new addition takes the Installed Capacity of NTPC to 72304 MW.
- This demonstrates the company's global reach and commitment to providing reliable and sustainable power.
- मैत्री सुपर थर्मल पावर प्लांट (MSTPP) रामपाल, मोंगला, बागेरहाट, बांग्लादेश में स्थित है।
- एनटीपीसी ने हाल ही में 1320 मेगावाट (2x660) की 660 मेगावाट क्षमता वाली यूनिट-1 जोड़ी है।
- नया जोड़ा एनटीपीसी की स्थापित क्षमता को 72304 मेगावाट तक ले जाता है।
- यह विश्वसनीय और टिकाऊ बिजली प्रदान करने के लिए कंपनी की वैश्विक पहुंच और प्रतिबद्धता को प्रदर्शित करता है।

- The project was executed in collaboration with the Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company Pvt Ltd. (BIFPCL), a foreign joint venture company of NTPC Ltd.

- परियोजना को एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड की एक विदेशी संयुक्त उद्यम कंपनी बांग्लादेश-इंडिया फ्रेंडशिप पावर कंपनी प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (बीआईएफपीसीएल) के सहयोग से निष्पादित किया गया था।

NTPC

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graph LR; A[NTPC] --- B[Established in 1975, NTPC aims to be the world's largest and best power major.]; A --- C[It is India's largest power utility with an installed capacity of 72,304 MW (including JVs) and plans to become a 130 GW company by 2032.]; A --- D[It has comprehensive Rehabilitation & Resettlement and CSR policies well integrated with its core business of setting up power projects and generating electricity.]; A --- E[It became a Maharatna company in May 2010.]; A --- F[It is ranked No. 2 Independent Power Producer(IPP) in Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company rankings.];
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एनटीपीसी

1975 में स्थापित, एनटीपीसी का लक्ष्य दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी और सबसे अच्छी बिजली कंपनी बनना है।

यह 72,304 मेगावाट (जेवी सहित) की स्थापित क्षमता के साथ भारत की सबसे बड़ी बिजली उपयोगिता है और 2032 तक 130 गीगावाट कंपनी बनने की योजना है।

इसकी व्यापक पुनर्वास और पुनर्स्थापन और सीएसआर नीतियां बिजली परियोजनाओं की स्थापना और बिजली उत्पादन के अपने मुख्य व्यवसाय के साथ अच्छी तरह से एकीकृत हैं।

मई 2010 में यह महारत्न कंपनी बन गई।

यह फ्लैट्स टॉप 250 ग्लोबल एनर्जी कंपनी रैंकिंग में नंबर 2 इंडिपेंडेंट पावर प्रोड्यूसर (आईपीपी) है।

Daily Current Affairs

What are Channapatna Toys?

- Toy manufacturers in Channapatna, Karnataka, applauded the Government's decision to prohibit the import of toys from China and said that the government's action is contributing to augmenting their profitability.
- कर्नाटक के चन्नापटना में खिलौना निर्माताओं ने चीन से खिलौनों के आयात पर रोक लगाने के सरकार के फैसले की सराहना की और कहा कि सरकार की कार्रवाई उनकी लाभप्रदता बढ़ाने में योगदान दे रही है।

About Channapatna Toys

- Channapatna toys are a particular form of wooden toys and dolls that are manufactured in the town of Channapatna in the Ramanagara district of Karnataka.
- Channapatna is also known as Gombegala Ooru (toy-town).
- चन्नापटना खिलौने लकड़ी के खिलौने और गुड़िया का एक विशेष रूप है जो कर्नाटक के रामनगर जिले के चन्नापटना शहर में निर्मित होते हैं।
- चन्नापटना को गोम्बेगला ऊरु (खिलौना शहर) के नाम से भी जाना जाता है।

History

- The historic ruler of Mysore, Tipu Sultan, is the one attributed to introducing these wooden toys to the current town of Channapatna.

- He invited artists from Persia to train the local artists in wooden toy making, which then helped this industry thrive locally.

- मैसूर के ऐतिहासिक शासक, टीपू सुल्तान को इन लकड़ी के खिलौनों को वर्तमान चन्नापटना शहर में लाने का श्रेय दिया जाता है।

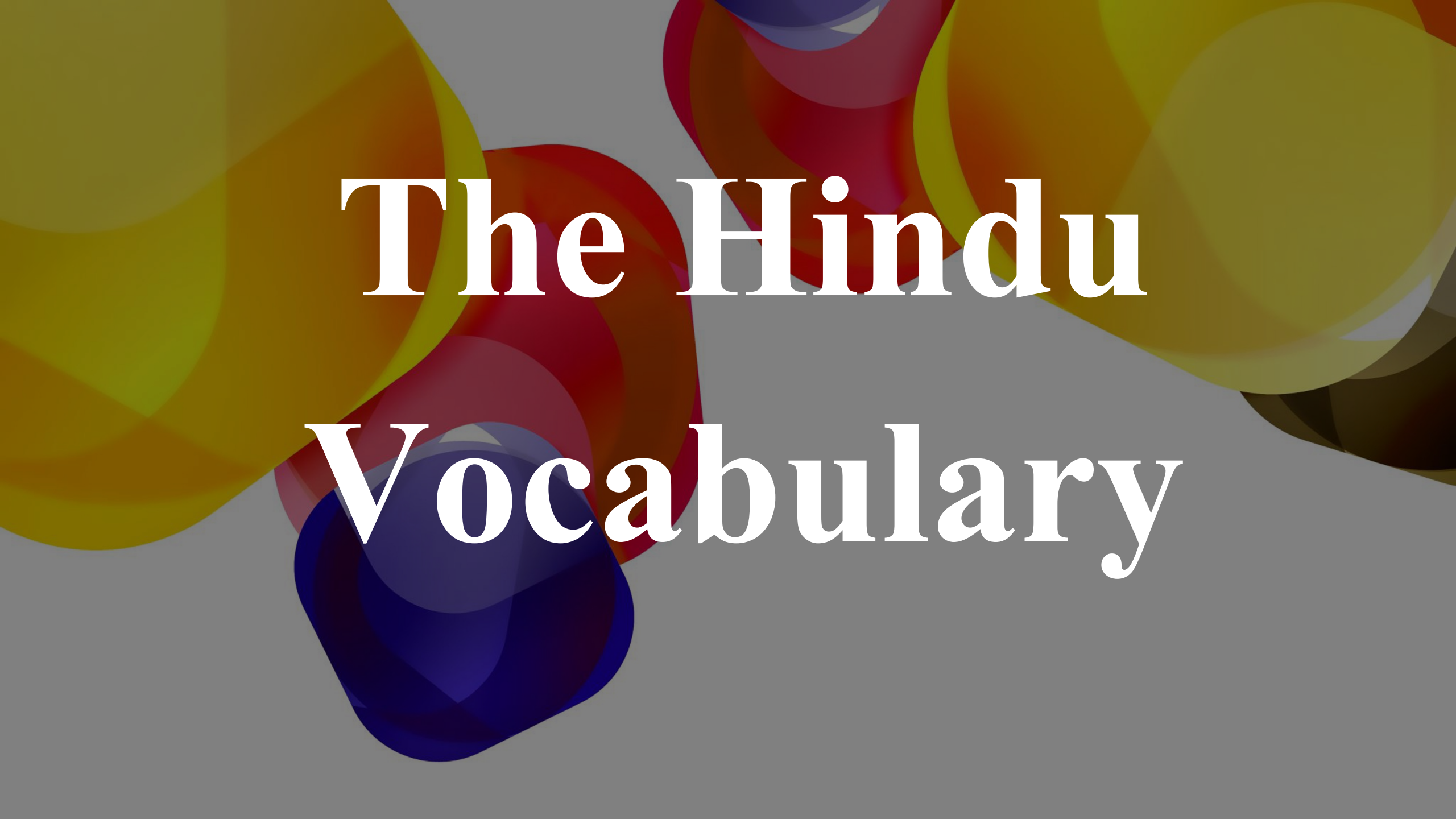
- उन्होंने फारस के कलाकारों को लकड़ी के खिलौने बनाने में स्थानीय कलाकारों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए आमंत्रित किया, जिससे इस उद्योग को स्थानीय स्तर पर फलने-फूलने में मदद मिली।

Features

- Most of these toys are handmade.
- They are also painted in organic colours extracted from vegetables and plants and natural dyes, making the Channapatna Toys 100% chemical free.
- Traditionally, they are mostly made of Ivory Wood. However, nowadays, sandalwood and mango wood are also used.
- इनमें से अधिकांश खिलौने हस्तनिर्मित हैं।
- उन्हें सब्जियों और पौधों और प्राकृतिक रंगों से निकाले गए जैविक रंगों में भी रंगा जाता है, जिससे चन्नापटना खिलौने 100% रसायन मुक्त हो जाते हैं।
- परंपरागत रूप से, वे ज्यादातर हाथीदांत की लकड़ी से बने होते हैं। हालाँकि, आजकल चंदन और आम की लकड़ी का भी उपयोग किया जाता है।

- Their shapes are mostly round and cubes with blunt edges, so they are completely safe for kids.
- They received the geographical indication (GI) tag in 2005.

- उनके आकार ज्यादातर गोल और कुंद किनारों वाले घन होते हैं, इसलिए वे बच्चों के लिए पूरी तरह से सुरक्षित हैं।
- उन्होंने 2005 में भौगोलिक संकेत (जीआई) टैग प्राप्त किया।



The Hindu Vocabulary

Miffed (verb) : aroused to impatience or anger (नाराजगी)

Synonyms: annoyed, peeved, irritated

Antonyms: delighted, pleased, relieved



Intimidation (संत्रास) Noun : the action of intimidating someone, or the state of being intimidated.

Synonyms: threat, bullying, menace

Antonyms: fearlessness, fillip



Curio (noun) : something unusual
(विचित्रता)

Synonyms: oddity, rarity, peculiarity

Antonyms: ordinary, usual



Outrage (उल्लंघन) an extremely strong reaction of anger, shock, or indignation.

(Noun)

Synonyms: fury, savagery, brutality

Antonyms: delight, flattery, remedy



Mirth (noun) : amusement, especially as expressed in laughter. (प्रमोद)

Synonyms: merriment, cheer, hilarity

Antonyms: sorrow, sadness, unhappiness





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1. With reference to different Collar jobs, consider the following pairs:

1. Red-collar worker — Government workers
2. Gold-collar worker — salaried professional
3. White-collar worker — highly skilled people
4. Green-collar worker — environment sector

How many of the pairs above is/are correct?

- A. One pair only
- B. Two pairs only
- C. Three pairs only
- D. All the pairs

1. विभिन्न कॉलर जॉब्स के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार करें:

1. लालपोश कार्यकर्ता - सरकारी कर्मचारी
2. गोल्ड-कॉलर कार्यकर्ता - वेतनभोगी पेशेवर
3. सफेदपोश कार्यकर्ता - अत्यधिक कुशल लोग
4. ग्रीन-कॉलर कार्यकर्ता - पर्यावरण क्षेत्र

उपरोक्त युग्मों में से कितने जोड़े सही हैं/हैं?

- ए केवल एक जोड़ी
- बी। केवल दो जोड़े
- C. केवल तीन जोड़े
- डी। सभी जोड़े

Answer – B

- Red-Collar Worker: Government workers of all types.
- Blue-Collar Worker: It is a member of the working class, who performs manual labour and earns an hourly wage.
- White-Collar Worker: It is a salaried professional, typically referring to general office workers and management.
- Gold-Collar Worker: It is used to refer to highly-skilled knowledge people who are highly valuable to the company. Example: Lawyers, doctors, research scientists, etc.
- Green-Collar Worker: It is a worker who is employed in the environmental sectors of the economy.
- Pink-Collar Worker: It is employed in a job that is traditionally considered to be women's work and is often low-paid.
- The gig economy is prevalent among blue-collar and white collar jobs in India.

2. Ekuverin is a joint military exercise between

- A. India and Myanmar
- B. Maldives and Australia
- C. Sri Lanka and India
- D. India and Maldives

2. एकुवेरिन किसके बीच एक संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास है?

- A. भारत और म्यांमार
- B. मालदीव और ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- C. श्रीलंका और भारत
- D. भारत और मालदीव

Answer – D

- India and Maldives have been conducting Exercise Ekuverin meaning ‘Friends’ in the Maldivian language since 2009.

3. With reference to the 'G20, consider the following statements:

1. G20 Presidency is rotated annually in an alphabetical manner.
2. G20 takes up global economic, environmental and other pressing issues.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

3. 'जी20' के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. G20 प्रेसीडेंसी को वार्षिक रूप से वर्णानुक्रम में घुमाया जाता है।
2. जी20 वैश्विक आर्थिक, पर्यावरण और अन्य महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों को उठाता है।

ऊपर दिए गए कथनों में से कौन सा/से सही है/हैं?

ए केवल 1

बी 2 केवल

C. 1 और 2 दोनों

D. न तो 1 और न ही 2

Answer – B

- Statement 1 is incorrect: The president is chosen through a system of rotation. To this end, the 19 member states of the G20 (the 20th member being the EU as a whole, which is not part of a country group) are divided into five regional groups, consisting of a maximum of four states.
- Within a group, all countries are eligible to take over the G20 Presidency when it is their group's turn. Therefore, the states within the relevant group need to negotiate among themselves to select the next G20 President.

4. With reference to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), which is correct:

- A. SCO was established in Shanghai as Shanghai Five in 2002.
- B. It has eight members, latest being India and Pakistan which joined in 2016.
- C. It has eight members, latest being India and Pakistan which joined in 2016.
- D. SCO has three official languages namely Russian, Chinese and English.

4. शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) के संदर्भ में, जो सही है:

- A. SCO की स्थापना 2002 में शंघाई फाइव के रूप में शंघाई में हुई थी।
- B. इसके आठ सदस्य हैं, नवीनतम भारत और पाकिस्तान हैं जो 2016 में शामिल हुए थे।
- C. इसके आठ सदस्य हैं, नवीनतम भारत और पाकिस्तान हैं जो 2016 में शामिल हुए थे।
- D. SCO की तीन आधिकारिक भाषाएँ हैं, नामतः रूसी, चीनी और अंग्रेज़ी।

Answer – C

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a Eurasian political, economic, international security and defense organization.
- SCO was created in 2001. The SCO Charter was signed in 2002, and entered into force in 2003.
- Prior to the creation of SCO in 2001, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan were members of the Shanghai Five.
- Following the accession of Uzbekistan to the organization in 2001, the Shanghai Five was renamed the SCO.
- India and Pakistan became members in 2017.

Thank you 😊

