Daily Current Affairs







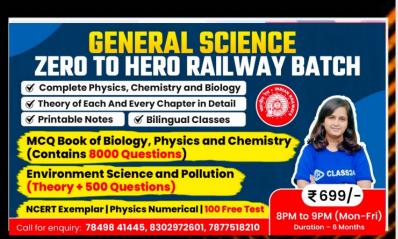


















Call for enquiry: **78498 41445, 8302972601, 7877518210**

Work as hard as you can and then be happy in the knowledge you couldn't have done anymore

Printed at 34 Chennai 34 Colmbotore 36 Bengoluru 36 Hyderabad 35 Madurai 35 Noida 36 Visaliha



GS Foundation (Prelims + Mains) | Offline & Online

• 400+ Classes • Doubt-Clearing Sessions Special Weekly Current Affairs Classes

13 September | 8:00 AM

Delhi may turn venue for dialogue on reviving the Black Sea Grain Initiative

Suhasini Haidar NEW DELHI

As world leaders gather in Delhi on Friday ahead of the G-20 Summit, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is on a mission to revive the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI or BSD, in talks on the side-lines of the summit. The deal that facilitates export deal that facilitates export Ukraine lapsed in July.

Among those in Delhi, Turkey President Recep Erdogan, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, as well as leaders of the Russian foreign facilitation of the Summit of the Sum

pean Union and UN offi-cials will be trying to work out a compromise that will give assurances to Russia, for an exchange that will allow grain export from blockaded Ukrainian ports to restart at the earliest, courses told The Hindu



fairs (MEA) officials said they were unaware of any meetings on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit, but underlined India's position underlined India's position in support of the initiative.

The BSI, which was signed to avert massive shortages of wheat, sunflower oil, and other com-modities due to the Ukraine conflict, lapsed on July 17 after Russia refused to renew the deal citing On Thursday, Mr. Gu-terres said the UN was "deeply engaged" in re-solving the issue, that would mean giving Russia more access to financial markets despite EU and U.S. sanctions and in re-turn receiving guarantees that Russia will not threa-ten or bomb Ukrainian ships or ports exporting

African Union to join G-20, as Sherpas reach a deal

Membership of the AU in the grouping appears to be a major breakthrough, with both Russian

he African Union (AU) is set to join tors age to 120 as negotiation of the G-20 as negotiation of the State of The Stat

the G-20.

While it still unclear whether the G-20 will be renamed as the "G-21" after the induction of the AU, In-dian officials said the announcement would help "leave a lasting imprint" of the work the Indian Presidency has done in bringing in the Global South's ambi-



grouping.

As talks paused on Thursday afternoon, Sherpas, who are the personal representatives of each of the G-20 leaders, will move their discussions to the Delhi G-20 venue next, but

negotiations will cont until there is agreemen

a draft declaration, the

sources said.

No G-20 summit has ended without a joint statement, and Indian officials who hope to avoid such an outcome say they hope to fill the gaps by the time the summit ends on Sunday aftermoon. Much of the effort

itical issue" paragraphs one of two paragraphs that were agreed to in the Ball G-20 document last year, that Russia and China have opposed in the Indiar draft. The most significant differences are over "Para differences are over "Para-graph 6" of the latest draft, that seeks to quote United Nations General Assembly resolutions condemning the Russian invasion of Uk-raine, but there remain others, the sources said. For the past month, She widnight oil, with ne-ther indigitation of the para-tic parameter of the pa

the midnight oil, with ne gotiations on a draft deck ration continuing until the early hours of the morn ing. Even on Thursday, the latest version of the draft was circulated close to



end fast: Maratha quota protester

faratha quota prof Jarange on Thursday said he would end his fast only when the Maharashtra government relaxes the genealogy clause for issuing Kunbi caste certificates to members of the community, » Page 4

IIT Delhi cancels survey on caste bias within hours

n IIT Delhi, circulated following he death by suicide of two SC students on campus, was uspended within hours on Thursday after complaints of

Stalin joins issue with Modi on Sanatana *Dharma* row; Congress sticks to middle path

The Hindu Bureau

Five days after Tamil Nadu Minister and Dravida Mun-netra Kazhagam leader Ud-hayanidhi Stalin said Sama-layanidhi Stalin said Sama-layanidhi Stalin said Sama-layanidhi Stalin said said said and mosquitoses should be, the war of words between Defending his onn over his statements, Chief Mi-nister M.K. Stalin said on Thursday that Prime Minis-cabinet colleagues were Five days after Tamil Nadu

Cabinet colleagues were using Mr. Udhavanidhi's remarks to divert attention



better than others

irregularities of ₹7.5 lakh crore highlighted in the re-port by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. On Wednesday, at a

meeting of the Union Council of Ministers, Mr. Modi said that Mr. Udhaya-

We understand that this country is made of myriad hues, where everyone has a place. Neither the Indian Constitution nor our own party's tradi-tion allow us to show someone as

> nister A. Raja extending support to Mr. Udhayanid-hi on Thursday, Union mendra Pradhan said the remarks were reflective of

and "deep-rooted Hindu-phobia" of the INDIA al-liance, He posted on X that the country was watching how "the Congress and its friends are consciously ma-

rriends are consciously ma-ligning the soul, spirit and roots of Bharat". The Congress, however, distanced itself from Mr. Udhayanidhi's statements. Party spokesperson Pawan Mr. Congress confe. Khera, at a press confe-rence on Thursday, said the Congress believed ev-ery religion and faith had its space and no one could treat any particular faith as less than another, Mr. Khe ra said the party had alrea-

"We have a history of bringing every religion and thought together. And we understand that this coununderstand that this country is made of myriad hues, where everyone has a place. Neither the Indian party's tradition allow us to show someone as better than others," he said... On the someone as better than others," he said... On the someone of the someone of

ASEAN SEEDS

Conversion plaint only by kin of affected: HC

Granting bail to two per-sons booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Re-ligion Act, 2021, the Allaha-bad High Court said only those related to the person who has converted, such as parents, spouse, or rela-tives, or the converted per-son himself can lodge com-

plaints in such cases.

It also observed that dis-tributing the Bible and imparting teachings did not

The court made the ob-servations while granting bail to Jose Papachen and Sheeja, who were arrested based on a complaint filed



(Toll Free No.) 1800 222 244 / 1800 222 243 / 1800 425 1515 / 1800 208 2244



Modi presents a 12-point proposal to expand India-ASEAN relations

Press Trust of India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday present ed a 12-point proposal to expand cooperation bet-ween India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in areas such as connectivity, trade

such as connectivity, trade, and digital transformation even as he called for building a rules-based post-CO-VID world order, at the annual ASEAN-india Sammit.

nounced the establishment of a multi-modal connectivity and economic corridor linking Southeast Asia, india, West Asia, and share New Delhi's distrial share New Delhi's distrial share New Delhi's digital public infrastructure stack with ASEAN partners. The proposal included the Prime Minister's call

for a collective fight against terrorism, terror financing and cyber-disinformation and for raising issues being faced by the Global South in multilateral fora. Also addressing the East Asia Summit, a forum in the Asia-Pacific region to deal with issues relating to

security and defence, Mr. Modi called for joint efforts

and territorial integrity of all nations even as he said India believes a code of conduct for South China Sea should be effective and compliant with the UN Convention on the Law of

African Union to join G-20, as Sherpas reach a deal

Membership of the AU in the grouping appears to be a major breakthrough, with both Russian and Chinese officials backing the move; it is unclear whether the forum will be renamed 'G-21'

Suhasini Haidar Ananth Krishnan

NEW DELHI

he African Union (AU) is set to join the G-20 as negotiators agreed on clearing its membership, according to sources privy to the discussions at the Sherpa meeting at a resort on the outskirts of Delhi.

This will mean the 55-member AU will join the European Union as the only two regional bodies in the G-20.

While it still unclear whether the G-20 will be renamed as the "G-21" after the induction of the AU, Indian officials said the announcement would help "leave a lasting imprint" of the work the Indian Presidency has done in bringing in the Global South's ambi-



On alert: Security personnel keep strict vigil near the G-20 venue at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on Thursday. R.V. MOORTHY

tions to the economic grouping.

As talks paused on Thursday afternoon, Sherpas, who are the personal representatives of each of the G-20 leaders, will move their discussions to the Delhi G-20 venue next, but negotiations will continue until there is agreement for

a draft declaration, the sources said.

No G-20 summit has ended without a joint statement, and Indian officials who hope to avoid such an outcome say they hope to fill the gaps by the time the summit ends on Sunday afternoon. Much of the effort is on resolving the "geopol-

itical issue" paragraph, one of two paragraphs that were agreed to in the Bali G-20 document last year, that Russia and China have opposed in the Indian draft. The most significant differences are over "Paragraph 6" of the latest draft, that seeks to quote United Nations General Assembly resolutions condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine, but there remain others, the sources said.

For the past month, Sherpas have been burning the midnight oil, with negotiations on a draft declaration continuing until the early hours of the morning. Even on Thursday, the latest version of the draft was circulated close to 3 a.m.

CONTINUED ON

» PAGE 14





Text&Context

THE

NEWS IN NUMBERS Number of CBI officers Fit to width

Tarun Gauba, the CBI officer who probed a corruption case, and the officer who supervised cases of post-poll violence in West Bengal vere among the serving and retired CB officers who received police medals em

Estimated growth in domestic air passenger exports in the fourth traffic in FY2024: ICRA

8-13 in percentage. Amidst the recovery in domestic and international air passenger traffic, and improved pricing power, the industry is also expected to trim the losses in

Decrease in China's month of decline

in percentage. Data showed
a slump in China's exports
to \$284.87 billion in the fourth straight month of decline, while imports slid 7.3% to \$216.51 billion. Total

People rescued from floodwaters in Greece after days of flood

People have been rescued over the past two days from floods in Greece, the fire department informed, after rainstorms turned streets into raging

Increase in online gig work from 2016 to first quarter of 2023

is growing globally, creating an important source of employment for women and young people, according to a World Bank report. At

Follow us a facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the hindu instagram.com/the hindu

Impact of RBI's lending guidelines

Why did the RBI introduce guidelines enabling a borrower to transition from a floating interest rate-based loan to one with a fixed interest rate? How do lenders communicate the impact of switching from floating to fixed rates to borrowers? How does the RBI assess borrowers' repayment capacity?

EXPLAINER

Saptaparno Ghosh

The story so far:

The story so far:

August 18, apex banking in August 18, apex banking of india (REB) issued guidelines enabling a borrower to interest rate. According to RB, the endeavour was to address borrowers of boan tenure and/or an increase in the EMI amount in the event of an increase in the communication along with the abbence of communication along with the absence of consent formed part of the concerns. The as well as new loans by the end of the

What exactly has the RBI instructed? sex banking regulator has given vers the option to switch over to a fixed (interest) rate mechanism for their loans from floating rates. This would be loans from floating rates. This would be based on a board-approved policy drafted by the lending entity. The policy must also specify the number of times such a switch would be allowed during the

tenure. lender must also transparently communicate to the borrower all relevant charges alongside service charges or administrative costs associated with the

The responsibility would rest with the lender to communicate clearly, at the time of loan sanction, the impact emanating from the change in regime (floating to fixed), such as the change in EMI and/or tenure of the loan or both. The borrower would now also have the option to choose between enhancement of the EMI or elongation of the tenure or a combination of both. S/he might also opt to prepay the loan, either in part or full, at any point during the tenure. This



would however still invite foreclosure would, however, still invite foreclosure charges or pre-payment penalty. Further, entities provide borrowers, through appropriate channels, a statement at the principal and interest recovered till date, EMI amount, number of EMIs left and annualised rate of interest? Annual through the control of the control of the tenure of the loan. RBI has asked for the statement to be "simple and easily the inteructions would apply to all

The instructions would apply to all equated instalment-based loans of different periodicities albeit with certain changes based on the nature of the loan

What is the difference between a fixed and floating interest rate? Fixed interest rates are those that do not change during the tenure of the loan. On the other hand, floating interest rates are the other hand, floating interest rates are subject to market dynamics and the base subject to market dynamics and the base has also contended by several lending entities, floating interest rates are generally lower than fixed interest rates for home loans is 10.5%, the fixed interest rate would be 12%. Lenders argue that even if the floating Lenders argue that even if the floating

Lenders argue that even if the froating interest rate were to rise by up to 2.5 percentage points, the borrower would be able to save more money when it is below the fixed rate. It has been widely argued that their preference for the floating rate-based regime is to better adjust their positions as per the evolving market dynamics. The advantages are transmitted onto the borrower's savings pool, but the opposite also holds true in a rising benchmark rate regime. Also noteworthy is the fact that floating

interest rate loans do not draw any prepayment penalty— unlike fixed rate

However, the fixed rate-based regime However, the fixed rate-based regime endows a borrower with greater certainty and security. This also helps in better planning and structuring of individual budgets. Thus, prospective borrowers should note broader evolving economic dynamics and accordingly decide the

dynamics and accordingly decide the tenure they seek. In a largely similar context, in 2010, V.K. Sharma, then Executive Director at the RBI, said at a conclave that lenders may argue that housing loan borrowers would prefer a floating-rate loan to a fixed rate. This is where RBI's guidelines relating to "customer appropriateness and financial literacy and credit

counselling" enjoined upon banks come in, he pointed out. "This is because typically an unsophisticated, and uninitiated, borrower may be driven largely by the prevailing lower short-term interest rates, almost completely oblivious to the potentially higher interest rates over such a long-time horizon, as say, 10 years or

What is DRPs stance on assessing

nore." he stated.

What is RBI's stance on assessing repayment capacity? RBI stated in the circular that lending entities are required to consider the very considerative to the required to consider the very considerative to the repair of the rep forward camouflage the underlying stress in a particular loan." The extension, he stated, must be for a "reasonable period".

"It is a commercial decision that the banks have to take. We are just providing some broad guidelines," he informed.

THE CIST

On August 18, the RBI issued On August 18, the IGH issued guidelines allowing borrowers to switch from floating to fixed interest rate loans. The move aims to address concerns about loan tenure elongotion and EMI increases when benchmark interest rates rise.

Borrowers will have the option to switch based on a board-approved policy drafted by the lending entity, specifying the number of allowable switches during the loan tenure.

+

Lenders must transparently communicate all relevant charges and administrative costs associated with the

Borrowers will receive clear communication about the impact of switching, such as changes in EMI or loan tenure and can choose between EMI enhancement, tenure elongation, or prepayment

What is heat index and why is it important to measure?

How does high humidity impact the human body during a heatwave? At what temperature and humidity levels do heat cramps or heat exhaustion become likely

Priyali Prakash

The story so far: ariler in August, Iran recorded a scorching heat index of 70 degrees Celsius °C0 in the coastal part of the country, a metric at which survival of life is unfathomable, if not impossible. The country had also declared public holidays on August 2 and 3 on account of on August 2 and 3 on account of "unprecedented heat," Reuters reported. This is not the first time this year that Iran is dealing with extreme heat. In July, U.S.-based weather observer Colin McCarthy reported that the Persian Gulf Airport recorded a heat index of 66.7 °C.

reat index, also known as apparent temperature, is a measure of how the temperature feels to humans. Relative humidity is an important factor that determines heat index, along with air temperature.

How is the heat index calculated? A complex formula to calculate heat index was published by Dr. Robert Steadman, a professor in the textiles and clothing department of Colorado State University, in 1979. Dr. Steadman published two in 1979. Dr. Steadman published two papers tilted The Assessment of Sultriness -Part I: A Temperature-Humidity Index Based on Human Physiology and Clothing Science, and Part II: Effects of Wind, Extra Radiation and Barometric Pressure on

Apparent Temperature, both describing his calculations of heat index. Dr. Steadman's study considers a "typical adult human of either sex, wit height of 1.7 metres and a weight of 67 kg."

kg."

Dew point, which is the temperature at which gas is transformed into a liquid state, is an important factor in the calculation of heat index. In terms of atmospheric moisture, it's the temperature at which air cannot hold any more water vapour, and droplets of water begin to form. Dr. Steadman used 14 °C as the dew point in his calculations. Some countries have developed their own corresponding indices to measure hear index instead of using the one developed

Is it important to measure the heat

Hot air can hold more moisture than cold air. Therefore, when temperature rises, the air's capacity to hold moisture also the air's capacity to hold moisture also increases, thus affecting the apparent temperature or heat index. Humidity is typically higher during heat waves — which is why the heat index at the time is usually higher than just the temperature because humid air can feel hotter to

How does high humidity impact the human body? High humidity can lead to heat stress, meaning the body is unable to get rid of excess heat. Humans usually maintain a core temperature in the range of 36.1 to

37.2 °C. When the body is unable to get rid of excess heart, the heart rate increases due to a rise in core temperature, leading to heat-related exhaustion and rashes, fatal if not addressed promptly.

At high temperatures, the human body can lose excess heat through perspiration and cost lited flust when humidity is high that the control of the con

low, evaporation of sweat is easier, thus making the apparent temperature feel close to the actual air temperature. This is why a measure of heat index is

more useful than just the temperature to gauge the impact of heat on humans.

What measures can we take to adapt? A heat index value of 67°C or above can A heat index value of 67°C or above can be extremely dangerous for people and animals who have direct and prolonged exposure, said Tashina Madappa Cheranda, senior associate at the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and

for Study of Science, Technology and Policy.

Policy.

In the Science Change, it is likely that we will continue to witness record-breaking heat index values across the world. We will need to prepare and investing in early warning, making changes to work timings, and finding suntainable cooling solutions," she added.

THE GIST

Iran experienced extreme heat with a heat index of 70°C in August, leading to public holidays being declared due to

The heat index, also known as The heat index, also known as the apparent temperature, measures how the temperature feels to humans, taking into account relative humidity and air temperature.

Dr. Robert Steadman developed a complex formula in 1979 to calculate the heat index, considering factors like dew point and atmospheric moisture.

Measuring the heat index is important because high humidity during heatwaves can lead to heat stress and

CM C

What is heat index and why is it important to measure?

How does high humidity impact the human body during a heatwave? At what temperature and humidity levels do heat cramps or heat exhaustion become likely?

Priyali Prakash

The story so far:

arlier in August, Iran recorded a scorching heat index of 70 degrees Celsius (°C) in the coastal part of the country, a metric at which survival of life is unfathomable, if not impossible. The country had also declared public holidays on August 2 and 3 on account of "unprecedented heat," *Reuters* reported. This is not the first time this year that Iran is dealing with extreme heat. In July, U.S.-based weather observer Colin McCarthy reported that the Persian Gulf Airport recorded a heat index of 66.7 °C.

What is heat index?

Heat index, also known as apparent temperature, is a measure of how the temperature feels to humans. Relative humidity is an important factor that determines heat index, along with air temperature.

How is the heat index calculated?

A complex formula to calculate heat index was published by Dr. Robert Steadman, a professor in the textiles and clothing department of Colorado State University, in 1979. Dr. Steadman published two papers titled *The Assessment of Sultriness - Part I: A Temperature-Humidity Index Based on Human Physiology and Clothing Science*, and *Part II: Effects of Wind, Extra Radiation and Barometric Pressure on Apparent Temperature*, both describing his calculations of heat index.

Dr. Steadman's study considers a "typical adult human of either sex, with a height of 1.7 metres and a weight of 67 kg."

Dew point, which is the temperature at which gas is transformed into a liquid state, is an important factor in the calculation of heat index. In terms of atmospheric moisture, it's the temperature at which air cannot hold any more water vapour, and droplets of water begin to form. Dr. Steadman used 14 °C as

the dew point in his calculations. Some countries have developed their own corresponding indices to measure heat index instead of using the one developed by Dr. Steadman.

Is it important to measure the heat index?

Hot air can hold more moisture than cold air. Therefore, when temperature rises, the air's capacity to hold moisture also increases, thus affecting the apparent temperature or heat index. Humidity is typically higher during heat waves — which is why the heat index at the time is usually higher than just the temperature because humid air can feel hotter to humans.

How does high humidity impact the human body?

High humidity can lead to heat stress, meaning the body is unable to get rid of excess heat. Humans usually maintain a core temperature in the range of 36.1 to 37.2 °C. When the body is unable to get rid of excess heat, the heart rate increases due to a rise in core temperature, leading to heat-related exhaustion and rashes, among other symptoms. It can also be fatal if not addressed promptly.

At high temperatures, the human body can lose excess heat through perspiration and cool itself. But when humidity is high as well, it is difficult to sweat and then for that sweat to evaporate because the air around is already saturated with moisture. This makes it difficult for the body to lose heat.

On the other hand, if the humidity is low, evaporation of sweat is easier, thus making the apparent temperature feel close to the actual air temperature.

This is why a measure of heat index is more useful than just the temperature to gauge the impact of heat on humans.

What measures can we take to adapt?

A heat index value of 67°C or above can be extremely dangerous for people and animals who have direct and prolonged exposure, said Tashina Madappa Cheranda, senior associate at the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy.

"With climate change, it is likely that we will continue to witness record-breaking heat index values across the world. We will need to prepare and adapt to such extreme conditions by investing in early warning, making changes to work timings, and finding sustainable cooling solutions," she added.

THE GIST



Iran experienced extreme heat with a heat index of 70°C in August, leading to public holidays being declared due to the unprecedented heat.



The heat index, also known as the apparent temperature, measures how the temperature feels to humans, taking into account relative humidity and air temperature.



Dr. Robert Steadman developed a complex formula in 1979 to calculate the heat index, considering factors like dew point and atmospheric moisture.



Measuring the heat index is important because high humidity during heatwaves can lead to heat stress and heat-related health issues in humans.

News

INBRIDE



Poila Baisakh is West Bengal Foundation Day: Assembly

The West Bengal Legislarive Assembly on Thursday passed a resolution declaring Poila Baisakh, the first day of the Bengali calendar, as Bangla Dibas, or West Bengal Foundation Day. The resolution was passed after a debate in the Assembly, with 167 MLAs voting in support of the resolution. A controversy had erupted earlier this year when the Raj Bhavan had observed June 20, as the State Foundation Day. The Assembly also passed a proposal of making Rabindranath Tagore's 'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol' (Bengal's soil and Bengal's water) as the official song of West

President Droupadi Murmu to inaugurate NHRIs conference

President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the Rights Institutions (NHRIs) of Asia Pacific in New Delhi on September 20. The conference is being organised by the National Human Rights organised by the National Human Rights with the Asia Pacific Forum, in which member countries and more than 1,300 plus delegates from India and abroad are likely to participate. In a communiqué regarding the international conference, the NHRC on Thursday said that the conference will be attended by heads, members and senior officials of the NHRIs of a total 23

Railway institute signs MoU with Airbus to create jobs

With an aim to create IS,000 job opportunities for Indian students and strengthen the country for Indian students and strengthen the country (GSV), Vadodara, of the Indian Railways signed a memorandum of understanding MotD with the European aviation major Airbus on Tharesdayen Rermi Maillard, president and managing director, Airbus India and South Asia, and Manoj Choudhary, Vice-Chancellor, GSV, Railway Minister Ashwin Vasilanaw said the MoU would Minister Ashwin Vasilanaw said the MoU would create job opportunities for students as per industry requirements. It is expected that 15,000 students are likely to be placed in Airbus' Indian

U.P. to release dictionary for the regional dialects of State

The Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Education (SIE) designed a first-to-fits-kind dialects dictionary containing 76,000 words in regional dialects/languages of the State such as Bhojpuri, conserving regional dialects of the State and also promoting and helping in removing linguistic arriers. The dictionary consists of four books and is in the publishing stage. The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), and Training (SCERT), and the state of the State Council The initiative is in line with the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which calls for Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which calls for conserving and promoting regional dialects.

Centre to stop sites from weaving 'dark patterns' to mislead buvers

Draft guidelines open for public comments till October 5; they include ways to prevent and regulate 'false urgency, basket aking, confirm shaming, forced action, subscription trap; applicable to online platforms including sellers and advertisers

he Centre has sought public com-ments on the draft guidelines for prevention and regulation of "dark patterns" on the Internet, patterns" on the Internet, particularly in e-commerce platforms. The guidelines include ways to prevent and regulate false urgency, basket sneaking, confirm shaming, forced action, snaming, forced action, subscription trap and more such "dark patterns". The public can comment on the guidelines, upload-ed on the Union Consumer

ed on the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry's website, till October S. Dark patterns have been Dark patterns have been the Course of the Internet's growth, and regulators started taking steps to limit them. In the European Un-ion, for example, users complained that Amazon's to unsubscribe online, as to unsubscribe online, as the firm would redirect us-



ers through a series of pag-es seeking to retain them. After talks with the Euro-pean Commission, the company agreed last June to simplify the process.

'Misleading users' The draft guidelines have defined dark patterns as "any practices or deceptive design patterns using user interface or user expe-rience interactions on any platform; designed to mis-lead or trick users to do so-

mething they originally did not intend or want to do; by subverting or impairing the consumer autonomy, decision making or choice; amounting to misleadings trade practice or violation of consumer rights." Some of the different types of dark patterns, de-fined by the Ministry, are "false urgency," meaning sense of urgency; "basket

paid subscription impossi-ble or complex; "interface between the complex; "interface element that manipulates the user interface; and a particular outcome based on the user's action. "Drip particular outcome based on the user's action." Drip practice whereby elements of prices are not revealed practice whereby elements of prices are not revealed vertisement" and nagging have been defined by the "Guidelines would be "Guidelines would be made applicable to all the sense of urgency; "basket sneaking", meaning inclu-

sion of additional items at the time of checkout with-out the consent of the user; and "confirm shaming", or using a phrase, video, au-dio or any other means to create a sense of fear or shame or ridicule or guilt in the mind of the user.

persons and online plat-forms including sellers and advertisers," the Ministry said in a release. Renu Gupta, an advo-cate who has written about dark patterns and competi-tion, commended the indelines, but cautioned that enforcement might be a

"The real challenge lies in conclusively proving that certain practices indeed qualify as dark pat-terns," Ms. Gupta said. "Consider the false category', for instance. How will a regulator determine if a hotel or platform claimif a horelf or platform claiming only 2 rooms remaining – book now! is genuinely providing accurate data, or misleading users the to a lack of context, has been added to the context of t

vertisements' may need further clarity.

'Assets worth over \$1.8 bn recovered under FEOA'

The Hindu Bureau

Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday said as-sets estimated at more estimated at more attached since 2014 under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), while in the past four years or so, property valued at S.8 billion had been recovered under the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA).

tional Day of Police Coop-eration, Dr. Singh said the FEOA was brought in by the Narendra Modi-led Un

ion government. He said there has been a He said there has been a steep jump in the extradi-tion of criminals and fugi-tives in recent years partic-ularly after the country hosted the 90th Interpol General Assembly in Oc-tober 2022. During 5022. During 5033, on average around four cri-minals or fuetives reminals or fugitives re-turned to India, while the number jumped to 10 after

A celestial click



Bengal Governor 'invites' Mamata to stage protests inside the Raj Bhavan

The Hindu Bureau KOLKATA

West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose on Thursday invited Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee as his "ho-noured guest" to the Raj Bhavan for staging any protest she wished to on the premises.

The dark patterns in-clude "forced action", which forces a user into

taking an action that would

require the user to buy ad-ditional goods; "subscrip-

tion trap", or the process of making cancellation of a paid subscription impossi-

"I will request my esleague, the honourable CM, to come inside the Raj shawan and hold protests if she wants. Why should she be standling outside? We welcome her with open arms," the Governor said while speaking to pressper-sons at the airport here. The Chief Minister on Tuesday said that she would hold a "dharma" out sould hold a "dharma" out CM to come inside the Rai

Governor continued "hold-ing back" Bills passed by the Assembly. Earlier in the day, the Governor said that he would continue his fight to make the universities free of corruption and vio-

C.V. Ananda Bose

lence. In a video message

in Bengali, he tried to explain why he had appoint-ed interim Vice-Chancel-lors (V-Cs) for the State-run

iors (v-Ls) for the State-run universities.

"The Hon'ble Supreme Court has ordered you [Higher Education Depart-ment] ... your action was held illegal. The V-Cs ap-pointed had to resign. Who will then be the V-C? In such a situation Lappointsuch a situation I appoint-ed interim V-Cs," Mr. Bose

The Governor said he did not force anyone to re-sign as Vice-Chancellor. "Five [interim] V-Cs had to

resign. Why? They told me they were being threa-tened by goons, senior IAS officers were pressuring them. This is what the [interim] Vice-Chancellors told me in confidence. That is why five of them resigned. I did not ask them to resign. They resigned out of fear," the Governor

In another develop ment, a section of academ ics said that they would hold a protest gathering in front of the Rai Bhayan front of the Raj Bhavan gates. A "peaceful and si-lent protest" will be held on Friday, Educationists' Forum spokesperson and former Vice-Chancellor of North Bengal University Om Prakash Mishra said in a statement.

om Prakasi Missira said in a statement. "We will also protest against the inaction of the Governor over the Bills passed by the West Bengal Legislative Assembly on subjects relating to higher education, which is unconstitutional," Professor Mis-hra said.

Resentment brewing in Odisha

Satyasundar Barik BHUBANESWAR

Resentment is brewing in Rayagada district of Odisha as people of the villages have started coming to-gether in protest against

bauxite mining projects.

While the Baphlimali
and Kodingamali mines are
operational, mining has
been proposed at Kutrumali and Sijimali.

"We strongly condemn
these art is sole policies. these anti-people policies

of the governments, the police brutality and the Arms Act on people. These atrocities are carried out in order to squeeze the de-mocratic space," Deba Ranjan, general secretary of GASS, said.

TH CROSSWORD+ 13965

I (6) ence? This is the essence...

To solve this puzzle online get across to our crossword site.

@ https://qrgo.page.link_lipTn



- After bath, Neil walks dog (7)
 Scrape away some candelabra debris (6)
 Take care of toad hopping around damaged tent (6,2)
- 26 Egyptian peasant dropped a hint to some extent (8) Drops plant parts (6)
- 30 Forbid capturing eastern animal (4) 31 Gardner's lawyer's builder (5)
- 32 Old silver with newspaper boss (4)
- That chap is accompanied by the Spanish bounder (4)
 Dipsomaniac and medico at UN beginning to kiss on a road (6)
 Sailor consumed a drop of drink and slacked off (6)
- 4 Hot inside gas emitter that is a longer distance away (7)
 5 Shown app designed in uncle's place (8)
 6 After interactive program, Thomas is behind (6)
- 7 Fruit and vegetable, right? (4) 14 General's opposer on hand (5)
- 14 General's opposer on hand (5)
 Evening before book ceremony, for example (5)
 18 Come home, for example, for words spelled similarly but pronounced differently (3,5)
 20 Pushed corgi out of conflagration... injured... will not lead to death (3,5)
- 21 Disappear carrying recipe for liquid coating material (7)
- 23 Temptation everyone at old place experienced in the beginning 25 Gift old Roman and Greek currency (6)
- nt damaged ladder kept behind service truck initially (8) o enthusiast permitted a play (6)

SUDOKU







FAITH

Gugga's blessings

A day after Janmashtami, devotees celebrate Gugga Navami. The popular folk and religious festival observed across Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, and Uttar Pradesh, among other States, reflects the syncretic and fluid traditions of our country, where Gugga is wor-shipped by people of different sects and religions, Kumool Abbi said in a lecture.

Devotees pray to Gugga, the snake God, for health, for procreation and for protection. Gugga Navami is observed on the ninth day of Krishna Paksha in Bhardapad month

on the minth day of Krishna Paksha in Bhardapad mouth according to the Amavasyant calendar, and usually falls on the day after celebrating Krishna's avatar. Gugga, who is the day after celebrating Krishna's avatar. Gugga, who is call the control of the control

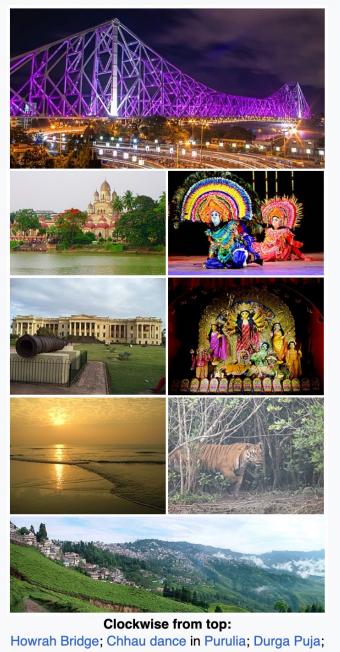


Poila Baisakh is West Bengal Foundation Day: Assembly

The West Bengal Legislative Assembly on Thursday passed a resolution declaring *Poila Baisakh*, the first day of the Bengali calendar, as *Bangla Dibas*, or West Bengal Foundation Day. The resolution was passed after a debate in the Assembly, with 167 MLAs voting in support of the resolution. A controversy had erupted earlier this year when the Raj Bhavan had observed June 20, as the State Foundation Day. The Assembly also passed a proposal of making Rabindranath Tagore's *'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol'* (Bengal's soil and Bengal's water) as the official song of West Bengal.

Capital (राजधानी)	Kolkata
Formation (निर्माण)	1950
Total Area (कुल क्षेत्रफल)	88,752 km2 (34,267 sq mi)
Area Rank (क्षेत्र रैंक)	14 th
Population (जनसंख्या)	91,347,736
Population rank (जनसंख्या रैंक)	4 th
Density (घनत्व)	1,029/km2 (2,670/sq mi)
Literacy Rate (साक्षरता दर)(%)	76.26%
Sex Ratio	950(F)/1000(M)
Legislative Assembly (विधान सभा)	295 Seats
Lower House (लोक सभा)	42 Seats
Upper House (राजसभा)	16
Number of Districts (जिलों)	23
High Court	Calcutta High Court
Language (भाषा)	English and Bengali are the two official (presumably, first official) languages of the state. To these will be added Urdu, Gurmukhi, Nepali, Ol-Chiki, Oriya and Hindi
Lake (झील)	Debar Lake, East Calcutta Wetlands, JorePokhri, Mirik Lake, RabindraSarobar, Rasikbil, Santragachhi Lake, Senchal Lake
River(नदी)	Ajay N, Barakar, Bhagirathi, Bhairab R, Damodar, Ganga, Ganga or Padma, Hooghly River, Jalangi N, Jaldhaka, Mahananda, Subarnarekha, Teesta, Torsa

Dam (बांध)	The Mukutmanipur Dam
Stadium (स्टेडियम)	Eden Gardens
Festival (त्यौहार)	Nandikar's National Theatre Festival, Durga pooja
Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)	Gambhira Dance, Kathi dance, The Baul dance, Domni, Dhunachi
Port (बंदरगाह)	The Port of Kolkata
National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)	Gorumara National Park, Buxa National Park, Buxa National Park, Singalila National Park, Jaldapara National Park, Sundarbans National Park
Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)	Farakka Super Thermal Power Plant, Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station
Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)	Ballabhpur Wildlife Sanctuary, Bethuadahari Wildlife Sanctuary , The Buxa Tiger Reserve , Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary , ChintamoniKar Bird Sanctuary , The Haliday Island Wildlife , JorePokhri Wildlife Sanctuary , Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary , Raiganj Wildlife Sanctuary , Ramnabagan Wildlife Sanctuary , SajnakhaliWildlifeSanctuary , Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary , The Sundarbans National Park



Bengal tiger in Sundarbans National Park; Darjeeling from Happy Valley Tea Estate; Digha beach; Hazarduari Palace: Dakshineswar Kali Temple

Before was Bengal Province Formation 15 August 1947 (by bifurcation) Kolkata Capital and largest city **Largest metro** Kolkata metropolitan area **Districts** 23 (5 divisions) Government Body Government of West Bengal C. V. Ananda Bose Governor Chief minister Mamata Banerjee (TMC) Unicameral

State Legislature

 Assembly West Bengal Legislative

Assembly (294 seats) **Parliament of India**

National Parliament

 Rajya Sabha 16 seats · Lok Sabha 42 seats

Calcutta High Court **High Court**

Area

88,752 km² (34,267 sq mi) Total

· Rank 13th

Dimensions

 Length 623 km (387 mi) · Width 320 km (200 mi)

Elevation 500 m (1,600 ft) **Highest elevation** 3,636 m (11,929 ft)

(Sandakphu^[2])

Lowest elevation (Near Bay of Bengal)

11 m (36 ft)

Population (2011)^[3]

 Total **4** 91,347,736

· Rank

 Density 1,029/km² (2,670/sq mi)

 Urban 31.87% Rural 68.13%

Language	
 Official 	Bengali ^[4] • English
Additional official	Nepali • Urdu • Hindi • Odia • Santali • Punjabi • Kamtapuri • Rajbanshi • Kudmali/Kurmali • Kurukh • Telugu ^[4]
 Official script 	Bengali-Assamese script
GDP ^{[5][6]}	
• Total (2023)	▲₹17.19 lakh crore (US\$220 billion)
∙ Rank	6th
· Per capita	▲₹121,463 (US\$1,500) (20th)
Time zone	UTC+05:30 (IST)
ISO 3166 code	IN-WB
Vehicle registration	WB
HDI (2022)	▲ 0.674 Medium ^[7] (24th)
Literacy (2017)	▲ 80.5% ^[8] (19th)
0000 00110 (0011)	050 0 (4000 10) (045)
Sex ratio (2011)	950♀/1000 🎖 ^[9] (8th)



Song Banglar Mati Banglar Jol

(The Soil of Bengal, The

Water of Bengal)[1]

Bird White-throated kingfisher

Fish Ilish

Flower Night-flowering jasmine

Fruit Mango

Mammal Fishing cat

Tree Chhaatim tree

Australia PM confirms China visit,



he will visit China later this year after talks with China's premier, years of friction. The announcement came after a years-long break

ADDIS ABABA

Police beat, arrest Opposition supporters in Ethiopia's Tigray



baton-charged leaders and supporters of a coalition of three Opposition parties ahead of planned demonstrations against the region's interim administration led by the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) on Thursday, a protest organiser said. ***

VEREVAN

Armenia PM says Azerbaijan preparing 'military provocation'



Azerbaijan of preparing a military provocation against its forces by concentrating troops along the arch-foes' shared border and near the breakaway Nagorno-Karabakh region. The ex-Soviet republics have been locked in a decades-long conflict. An

Sudan's Army chief travels to Qatar for talks with emir as conflict rages



17

Thursday for talks with the country's emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, making his third international trip since fighting broke out between the military and a rival paramilitary force in Apri Sudanese state media said. A

At ASEAN summit, Indonesia warns against new conflicts

Interactions between officials from the U.S. and China are being closely watched as they seek to control tensions that risk flaring anew over issues ranging from Taiwan to ties with Moscow

Agence France-Presse

leaders including U.S. Vice-President Kama-la Harris, Chinese Premier Li Qiang and Russian Fo-reign Minister Sergei Lav-rov against sharpening rivalries as they wrapped up an East Asia summit in Jakarta on Thursday.

The meeting brought Washington and Beijing in-to contact a day after Mr. Li to contact a day after Mr. Li warned major powers must manage differences to avoid a "new Cold War", and ahead of the G-20 Summit in New Delhi this week that Chinese President Xi Jinping will miss.
Interactions between
the officials from the

Sergey Lavrov, left, Kamala Harris, middle, among other leaders of member nations during the ASEAN Summit on Thursday. AP

as they seek to control ten-sions that risk flaring anew over issues ranging from Taiwan to ties with Mos-cow and the competition

Ukraine", maritime chai-lenges in the South and East China Seas and the growing threat of North Korean missile pro-grammes, Daniel Kriten-brink, U.S. assistant secretary for East Asia and Pacific affairs, told a briefing.

Thursday's 18-nation summit was the first time top U.S. and Russian officials have sat around the same table in almost two months, after U.S. and Eumonths, after U.S. and Eu-ropean officials con-demned Mr. Lavrov at a Ju-ly ministerial meeting over Russia's invasion of

Ukraine.

Mr. Lavrov spoke of the risks of the "militarisation of East Asia", accusing the NATO alliance of moving into the region, Russia's Foreign Ministry said.

China may be using AI to sway U.S. voters, says Microsoft

Microsoft researchers said on Thursday they found what they believe is a net-work of fake, Chinese-con-trolled social media ac-counts seeking to influence U.S. voters by using artifi-cial intelligence. A Chinese embassy spo-

A Chinese embassy spo-kesperson in Washington said that such accusations were "full of prejudice and malicious speculation". In a new research re-port, Microsoft said the so-

port, Microsoft said the so-cial media accounts were part of a suspected Chi-nese information opera-ion of the control of the milarities to activity which the United States Depart-ment of Justice has attri-buted to "an elite group within (China's) Ministry of varieties ecurity," Microsoft said.

Philippines opposes 'militia vessels' in South China Sea

Philippine President Ferdi-nand Marcos told leaders at a summit in Indonesia on Thursday to oppose the use of "coast guard and maritime militia vessels" in the South China Sea, where Manila has a territo-rial bulpute with Selijne,

Philippine ships have been harassed several times in recent months by Chinese vessels in the dis-puted waterway, an impor-tant trade route where other Southeast Asian countries such as Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia al-

Vietnam and Indonesia al-so have claims. Sold the 18-Mr. Marcos told Summit, which was attended by China, that Manila was concerned about the in-stallation of milital for fact such as outcrops and reefs, as well as violations of in-ternational law.

a border with an EU mem

ber, the Republic of Ireland. The two sides struck a

deal to ease those tension

in February, but Horizon negotiations have dragged

on over details of how much the U.K. will pay for



Ferdinand Marcos

"We are concerned over consistent actions that are in violation of obligations under international law."

Mr. Marcos said. He did not mention any He did not mention any country by name at the summit, which was attend-ed by Chinese Premier Li Qiang and U.S. Vice Presi-dent Kamala Harris. Chinese coast guard ves-sels fired water cannon on

sels fired water cannon on August 5 at a Filipino ship on a mission to resupply marines stationed at a World War II-era ship on Second Thomas Shoal.

Another resupply mission to the shoal was also harassed later that month. China defended its actions in professional. The Philippines deliberately grounded the ship to stake its claims on the shoal in the disputed sea, which China claims almost

in its entirety. China, which has built military facilities on re-claimed territory, has urged the Philippines to re-move the ship. It has also used boats, which Manila described as "militia ves sels", to enforce its claims

against smaller reighbours.
Mr. Marcos said countries must not allow tensions in the South China Sea to escalate further and urged "all parties to exercise self-restraint and refrain from unilateral" actions that would increase

'Systematic repression' crushing Myanmar: UN

Agence France-Presse

Hopes of a return to de-mocracy in justa-ruled produced in justa-ruled for the produced in the pro-ferrabled by "systematic re-pression", United Nations Secretary General Antonio of a summit in Indonesia with the United States, Chi-na and regional leaders. The produced in the pro-since a 2021 military coup aged by deadly violence since a 2021 military coup government, unleashing a

bloody crackdown on

"Brutal violence wor-"Brutal violence, wor-sening powerty, and syste-matic repression are crush-ing hopes for a return to democracy. The situation said before a meeting with the ASEAN, of which Myan-mar is a member. The junta was not in at-tendance after being the state of the state of the ASEAN summits until it in-plements a five-polements a five-pole-

plements a five-point peace plan agreed two

tions, the British govern-

ment said the country was Britain is also becoming a "fully associat-ed member" of the re-search collaboration body

Associated Press

Britain is rejoining the Eu-ropean Union's \$100 bil-lion science-sharing pro-gramme Horizon Europe, gramme Horizon Europe, the two sides announced on Thursday, more than two years after the coun-a casualty of Brexit. British scientists ex-pressed rellef at the deci-sion, the latest sign of thawing relations between the EU and its former

member nation. After months of negotia-

rejoining Copernicus, EU space program's Earth observation component

search collaboration body
UK-based scientists can
bid for Horizon funding
attitus on Thursday and
attitus on Thursday
con-backed science projects starting in 2024. Britain is also rejoining
percept and the search of the
programmes Earth observation component. K. are
key strategic partners and
allies, and today's agreement proves that point;
said prosess that the search proves that point;
said proves that point;
said president Ursula von
item President Ursula von der Leyen, who signed off on the deal during a call with Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Wednesday. "We will continue to be at the forefront of global science and research." The EU blocked Britain from Horizon during a

from Horizon during a feud ower trade rules for Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that shares

U.K. rejoins EU's science research programme | French court backs abava ban in schools

Agence France-Presse PARIS

France's top administra-tive court on Thursday on traditional over-gar-ments worn by some Mus-lim women in schools and discriminatory and could discriminatory and could incte hatred. Emmanuel Macron's government an-nounced last month it was banning the abaya in rules on secularism in edu-

much the U.K. will pay for its membership. Relations between Bri-Relations between Bri-well by the Britanian Britanian Britanian well by the Britanian Britanian Britanian star followed Britainis 2016 vote to leave the EU. The 2020, but relations chilled still further under strongly pro-Brexit Boris Johnson. rules on secularism in education. Muslim head-scarves have already been

An association repre-senting Muslims filed a mo-

senting Mualims filed a mo-tion with the State Council, France's highest court, for an injunction against the ban on the abaya.

But after examining the abaya "follows the logic of religious affirmation", ad-ding that the decision was based on French law which did not allow anyone wear-sieus affiliation in achools. gious affiliation in schools

The Kerala Minerals & Metals Ltd E-TENDER NOTICE E-Tender ID excavation of iron exide from third pend in as is where 2023 KMMI, 600650 a. 07.09.2023 St/Managing Director for The Keral

NOTICE INVITING BID

21.08,2023: 08:00 P.M. Other particulars of the bid may be visited Procurement portal website "https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" "www.diprenfine.org" or "https://eprec.rajasthan.gov.in" or webs "http://msc.health.rajasthan.gov.in". UBN:.MSC224GLRC00066

CONTROLLER OF THE ATTACHED HOSPITALS, JAPUR F/MC/Store/CMA/2023-24/3389-90 Dated:- 19/08/2023 o.-F/MC/Store/CMA/2023-24/3389-90

Notice Inviting Bid ents/ Items as mention 3-09-2023 at 04:00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be vis

SK CON

Karnataka State Medical Supplies Corporation Limited NOTIFICATION

for the Appointment for the post of PRO & Media Co-Ordinator on Contract Basis
The existing KSDLWS is transformed from Society to Corporate entity as Karnataka State Medical Supplies organization Limited vide Govt. Order No. HEW/76FPR2019. Bandalore. Dtd: 25.08.2020. KSMSCL intenruit for the post of Public relation officer & Media Co-ordinator on Contract Basis

nber of Post: 01 (One), Pay & allowances: Rs. 75,000/- per month (Consolidated Pay) Educational Qualification & Experience Mode of Recruitment A.Education : MA in Mass Communication & The recruitment will be A Education : MA in Mass Communication & purely in ment basis. The Journal Mark of the Mark of Nature of the Job: The PRO should interact with all stake holders. As Media Co-Ordinator should engage vith Print, Electronic & Social Media

with Print, Electronic & Social Media.

Terms & Contillement - 1) The selection of candidate is subject to decision of the committee. 2) Measurement of the committee of the contillement of the contillement

स्थापित सेन्टर फॉर मेटिरियल्स फॉर इलेक्टॉनिक्स टेक्नोलाजी (सी-मेट) CENTRE FOR MATERIALS FOR ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY (C-MET) INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Development of content for skilling and capacity building of informal actors on disman and segregation of E-Waste
Selection of accelerators for dissemination and setting up of e-waste recycling CFC
(Common Facility Centers)for informal sector under the MSME-CDP (Cluster Developme
Program) scheme of Mio MSME, Gol

in the control of the

erensefter- वापूर अधान, नीएनजी (एकवीएकवी बार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

U.K. rejoins EU's science research programme

Associated Press

LONDON

Britain is rejoining the European Union's \$100 billion science-sharing programme Horizon Europe, the two sides announced on Thursday, more than two years after the country's membership became a casualty of Brexit.

British scientists expressed relief at the decision, the latest sign of thawing relations between the EU and its former member nation.

After months of negotiations, the British government said the country was becoming a "fully associated member" of the research collaboration body U.K.-based scientists can bid for Horizon funding starting on Thursday and will be able to lead Horizon-backed science projects starting in 2024. Britain is also rejoining Copernicus, the EU space programme's Earth observation component.

"The EU and U.K. are key strategic partners and allies, and today's agreement proves that point," said European Commission President Ursula von Britain is also rejoining Copernicus, EU space program's Earth observation component

der Leyen, who signed off on the deal during a call with Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Wednesday. "We will continue to be at the forefront of global science and research."

The EU blocked Britain from Horizon during a feud over trade rules for Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that shares a border with an EU member, the Republic of Ireland.

The two sides struck a deal to ease those tensions in February, but Horizon negotiations have dragged on over details of how much the U.K. will pay for its membership.

Relations between Britain and the bloc were severely tested during the long divorce negotiations that followed Britain's 2016 vote to leave the EU. The divorce became final in 2020, but relations chilled still further under strongly pro-Brexit Boris Johnson.



Religion (2015) ^[2]	71.6% Christianity 45.3% Catholic 11.1% Protestant 9.6% Eastern Orthodox 5.6% other Christian 24.0% no religion 1.8% Islam 2.6% other
Demonym(s)	European
Туре	Continental union
Membership	27 members [show]
Government	Mixed intergovernmental directorial parliamentary confederation
 President of the European Council President of the 	Charles Michel Ursula von der Leyen
Commission	
Legislature	The European Parliament and the Council
Upper house	Council of the European Union
 Lower house 	European Parliament
Formation ^[3]	
Treaty of BrusselsTreaty of ParisTreaty of RomeSingle European Act	17 March 1948 18 April 1951 1 January 1958 1 July 1987
Treaty of MaastrichtTreaty of Lisbon	1 November 1993 1 December 2009

Area	
 Total 	4,233,262 km ²
	(1,634,472 sq mi)
Water (%)	3.08
Population	
 2023 estimate 	▲ 448,387,872 ^[4]
 Density 	106/km ² (274.5/sq mi)
	· , ,
GDP (PPP)	2023 estimate
 Total 	▲ \$25.399 trillion ^[5]
 Per capita 	▲ \$56,928 ^[5]
GDP (nominal)	2023 estimate
• Total	▲ \$17.818 trillion ^[5]
Per capita	▲ \$39,940
Gini (2020)	▼ 30.0 ^[6]
	medium
Currency	Euro (€) (EUR)
	Others [show]

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 24 PAGES

₹7.00 (₹8 BIHAR & RAIPUR, ₹12 SRINAGAR) WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

FORMER PM MANMOHAN SINGH

On G20-eve, praise & caution: 'India's done right thing (on Ukraine)... my optimism based on society being harmonious'



MANOJ CG& PVAIDYANATHANIYER NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

N THE WAKE of the N THE WAKE of the Russia-Ukraine war, India has a "pivotal role" in "steering" the new world order and has "done the right thing in putting its sovereign and economic in-terests first while also appeal-ing for peace," former Prime

The Indian Express ahead of the G20 Summit that begins Saturday, Singh said he was more optimistic about India's uture than worried," but that

the G20, as a leaders' summit, came into being after the 2008 financial crisis, also struck a note of caution calling for "re-straint" in using "diplomacy and foreign policy for party or personal politics." Excerpts:



Singh with Heads of State at the first G20 Leaders' Summit after the financial crisis, in Washington DC, 2008, PIB Archive

decade (2004-14) during

Presidency of the G20 came during my lifetime and I am witness to India hosting world leaders for the G20 Summit. should rightfully be an issue in domestic politics, it is equally

The international order is very different now, especially after the Russia-Ukraine con-flict and the geopolitical rift be-tween the Western nations and China. India has a pivotal role to play in steering this new world order. As a peaceful large with

Constitutional values, built large growing economy, India commands immense respect globally.

goosaly.

C20 was elevated from a forum of initial ministerial level consultation into summittee in the summittee in the good of the good

India's standing in the world should rightfully be an issue in domestic politics but it is equally important to exercise restraint in

"It is imperative to adhere fully to international laws." Speaking at the East Asia Summit in the Indonesian capital and the East Asia Summit in the Indonesian capital and "Ioday's era is not of war" and "Galogue and diplomacy" form "the only path to resolution" – a theme he has advocated for an end to the war in Ukraine ever February 2022. February 2022. "The present global land "The present global land-scape is surrounded by challeng-ing circumstances and uncer-tainties. Terrorism, extremism, challenges for all of us. Multilateralism and rules-based international order are essential in countering them," he said. "It is imperative to adhere fully to international laws; and

everyone's commitment and joint efforts are also necessary to joint efforts are also necessary to strengthen the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all coun-day's era is not of war. Dialogue and diplomacy is the only path to resolution," he said. His remarks came just two days before the G20 Summit

plan to build

ASEAN-India

partnership

SHUBHAJITROY

Ac WORLU leaders headed to the work of the second second second second this weekend amid divisions in the grouping ower the Russia-Lutanian war and tensions with a Modi, in a veiled message Thursday, called for "joint ef-eignty and territorial integrity of all countries", underlining that to international laws."

where lack of consensus on the Russia-Ukraine war is threaten-CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

in Indo-Pacific, flags territorial integrity

G20 DIVIDED ON RUSSIA. MODI SAYS DIALOGUE & DIPLOMACY ONLY PATH

China on mind, PM says laws apply to all

Modi to host dinner for Biden this evening, range of issues on table

SHUBHAJIT ROY

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi is going to host US President Joe Biden for a private dinner Friday when the two leaders meet for bilateral talks. This special gesture for the US President will be at the Prime Minister's Lok Kalyan Marg residence where they will meet around 730 pm.

This is Biden's first visit to India as the US President, three

months after Modi was in the US on a State visit. The last US President to visit India was

COUNTDOWN TO **G20**

MORE REPORTS

In June this year. Biden and

message

INDO-USTIES have soared Sea, with its aggressive be-

Regulating, licensing crypto better than ban: Key G20 paper

on crypto currencies m workgivenitsborderlessn mending licensing crypto servi providers and called upon cou provinces and caused upon coun-tries to implement the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (AMIL/CFT) standards in the sector. The policy paper — IMF-FSB Synthesis Paper: Policies for

Board (FSB), at the request of the Indian G20 Presidency, comes days after Finance Minister rmala Sitharaman called for tting up a framework for han-ing challenges related to

rypto assets. New Delhi will seek conse s on the policy paper's recon who will be here this weekend for the G20 Summit. The G20 nations are expected to discuss the paper which was earlier dis paper which was earlier dis-cussed at the meeting of finance deputies in New Delhi on September 5-6, ahead of the Leaders' Summit. Flagging the potential impact crypto-assets could have on the

crypto-assets could have on the financial stability of nations, the paper said that widespread adoption of crypto-assets could 'undermine the effectiveness or continued on Page 4

using diplomacy and foreign policy for party or personal politics. CENTRAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE In Sanatan season, RSS chief cites BUSINESS AS USUAL SC hands over its green '2000 vrs' of caste: We didn't care

watchdog committee to

JAY MAZOOMDAAR

TWO DECADES after it was set up by the Supreme Court to flag cases of official non-compliance with its orders related to consertion, the Central Empowered mmittee (CEC) will now report

Set up in 2002, and reconsti-Set up in 2002, and reconsti-tuted in 2008, the CEC has, in the words of the court, "rendered yeoman services to the cause of environment." It has filled thou-sands of reports on issues referred to it by the apex court that have shared the discourse anunden-

Environment Ministry vironment policy. These include compensatory afforestation, net Studremucht mining, Aravali forests and Bellary mining. Indeed, in 2006, a CEI report resulted in a month's simple imprisonment of a former

ing Forest Secretary for permit the SC this May. That's changed. Consider

these:
In March, the CEC filed a

DEEPTIMANTIWARY

IN ONE of his most unequivocal endorsements for reservation, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has

suffered for solong.
Addressing a gathering of
students Wednesday at the Agrasen Chhatravas (hostel) in Nagpur, Bhagwat also suggested



As long as discrimination

SANATAN ROW: BJP ON OFFENSIVE, DMK BID TO LOWER HEAT

against Sanatan Dharma. Bdhayanidds has arguedthat his call for "eradication" in respect of Sanatan Dharma was not an at-tackon Hindu religion but against what he flagged as its discrimina-tory and casteist structure. While the RSS advocates

caste-less society for its goal of a unifying Hindu fold, and Bhagwat has been careful not to

ars, is new. "Apne yahan jo aarakshan diya gaya hai... apne desh mein samajik vishamta ka itihaas raha hai. Aur humne apne hi samaj ke



HELLO, EARTH

ISRO on Thursday released images of the Earth and the Moon captured by the Aditya-L1 solar mission

RELATED REPORT, PAGE 12

DM who brought water to UP village shunted out, put on waiting list

5-year-old Anjaria Yadav Saw ater flowing from a tap in Uttar adesh's Lahuria Dah village. ike her, the whole village knew who to thank: "It was DM sahab District Magistrate Divya Mittal) who made it possible," said

OVT & POLITICS

HOUSE PASSES

far relied on tankers that provide 15-30 litres per person, a small "jhama" (reservoir) around 1 km away, and a well that was re-tactive after being posted in the district in September last year. On August 30, after piped wa-ter finally reached the village. Mittal (35) held a small "jot per

jan", where she opened a tap with running water for the first

with misater it possible, sain with rimining work of the time for most he highway which leads to Rewa in Madhya Pradesh.
Lahrain Dah, in eastern UP, is eastern UP, is eastern UP, standard and analysis of Mircapur district Residents say they have (Appointment and Personnel).



Mittal tweeted a photo of Aug 30° jal pujan'; tankers are the main water source. Vishal Srivastav



lage. Mittal had tweeted: "Today myheart is fill! Water is flowing in Lahunya Dah and through my eyes and the eyes of people there. Even after 75 years of Independence, people of the village did not have access to water... When I went there for the first time, I did not

After dedicated work of nine months, our team beat the chal-lenges of geography, finances and other logistics, achieving what Foday, through the Har Ghar Jal scheme, piped connections to supply clean, safe water directly to every home in the village was started." All worser. Taps like to

Chief Minister Jaunched th

LORD OF DANCE: HISTORY, SYMBOLISM OF SHIVA'S NATARAJA FORM

ARJUN SENGUPTA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

GREETING G20 leaders in front of Bharat Mandapam this weekend will be a magnificent 27-foot, 18-tonne Nataraja, the tallest statue of Lord Shiva's dancing form in the world. Srikanda Sthapathy, a sculptor from Swamimalai in Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu who, along with his brothers crafted the *ashtadhatu* statue, told *The Indian Express* that the design draws inspiration from three revered Nataraja idols at the Thillai Nataraja Temple in Chidambaram, the Uma Maheswarar Temple in Konerirajapuram, and the Brihadeeswara Temple in Thanjavur.

Cholas and Nataraja

All three temples were built by the Cholas, who at their peak from the 9th-11th centuries AD, ruled over much of peninsular India. "Among icons which form the most important part of Chola sculpture, Shaiva figures predominate... although very fine Vaishnava and Jain images are not unknown," K A Nilakanta Sastri, the pioneering historian of South India, wrote in *The Colas* (1937).

Although Shiva was first portrayed in sculpture as Nataraja in the fifth century AD, its present, world-famous form evolved under the Cholas. "The Nataraja image in its various forms...holds the first place among Chola bronzes," Sastri wrote.



The Nataraja at Bharat Mandapam, venue of the G20 Summit. PTI

Sastri interpreted as "the circle of the world which he [Nataraja] both fills and oversteps". The Lord's long dreadlocks flare out due to the energy of his dance, and he strikes a rhythmic pose with his four arms.

In his upper right hand He holds a damru, whose sounds "draw all creatures into his rhythmic motion", and in his upper left arm, he holds agni, which he can wield to destroy the universe, Sastri wrote. Beneath one of Nataraja's feet lies crushed a dwarf-like figure, representing illusion, which leads mankind astray.

Yet, amidst all the destructive symbolism, Nataraja also reassures, and shows Shive as the Protector With his

The Lord of Dance

Shiva "is death and time (Mahakala) which destroys all things", the Indologist A L Basham wrote in his classic *The Wonder that was India* (1954). "But he is also a great ascetic and the patron of ascetics generally." He is the Lord of Dance — Nataraja — who is said to have "invented no less than 108 different dances, some calm and gentle, others fierce, orgiastic and terrible," Basham wrote.

In a typical portrayal, Nataraja is encompassed by flaming aureole or halo, which

shows Shiva as the Protector. With his front right hand, he makes the *abhayamudra* (a gesture that allays fear), and with his raised feet, and with his front left arm he points to his raised feet, asking his devotees to seek refuge at his feet. Strikingly, Nataraja almost always wears a broad smile.

"He smiles at death and at life, at pain and at joy alike, or rather...his smile is both death and life, both joy and pain," the French historian Renee Grousset wrote describing Nataraja (quoted by Sastri in A History of South India, 1955).

Japan's Moon mission takes off, expected to land next February

KANTARO KOMIYA

TOKYO, SEPTEMBER 7

JAPAN LAUNCHED a lunar exploration spacecraft on Thursday aboard a homegrown H-IIA rocket, hoping to become the world's fifth country to land on the moon early next year.

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) said the rocket took off from Tanegashima Space Center in southern Japan as planned and successfully released the Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM). Unfavourable weather led to three postponements in a week last month.

Dubbed the "moon sniper", Japan aims to land SLIM within 100 metres of its target site on the lunar surface.

The \$100-million mission is expected to start the landing by February after a long, fuel-efficient approach trajectory.



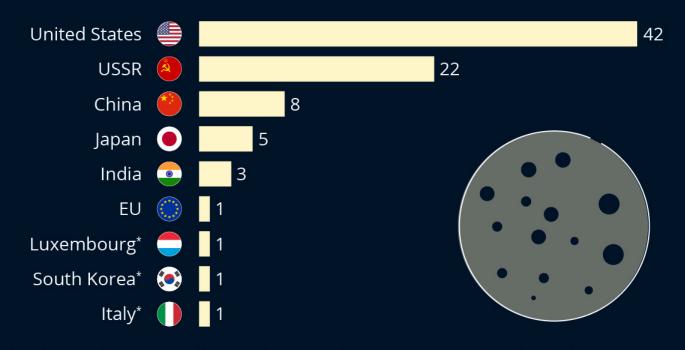
H-IIA rocket with the moon lander on Thursday. Reuters

Hours after launch on Thursday, JAXA said it picked up signals from SLIM showing it was operating normally.

Two earlier lunar landing attempts by Japan failed in the last year. JAXA lost contact with the OMOTENASHI lander & scrubbed attempted landing in November. The Hakuto-R Mission 1 lander, made by Japan startup ispace, crashed in April as it attempted to descend on the Moon. **REUTERS**

Which Countries Have Been to the Moon?

Countries which have landed on, orbited or flown by the moon, by number of successful/semi-successful missions



^{*} Italy, South Korea and Luxembourg (private company) piggybacked on U.S. and Chinese rockets.

As of Aug. 23, 2023

Sources: OMG Space, Statista research





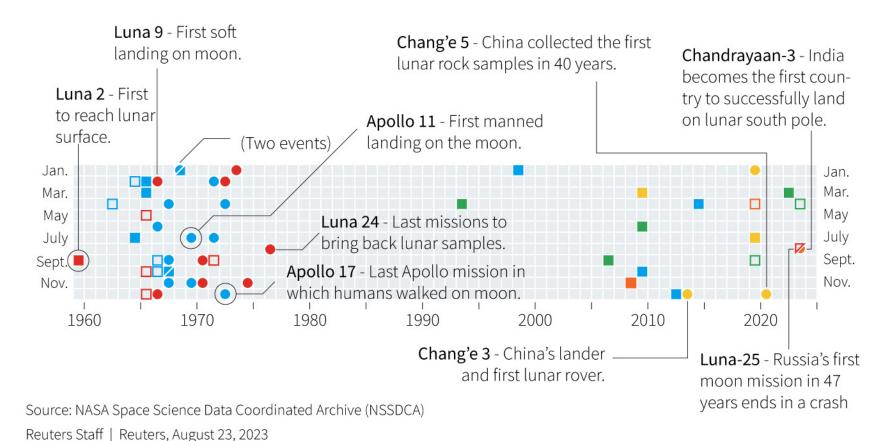
Moon missions through the ages

The Soviet Union, the United States, China and India are the only four countries that have successfully carried out soft landings on the Moon.

SPACECRAFTS THAT LANDED OR CRASHED ON THE MOON

Timeline based on landing or impact dates





स्वदेशी 'संदेश' ऐप से होगी जी20 शिखर सम्मेलन के मेहमानों की सुरक्षा

जनसत्ता संवाददाता नई दिल्ली, 7 सितंबर।

जी20 शिखर सम्मेलन में कई देशों से आने वाले मेहमानों की सुरक्षा कवच स्वदेशी 'संदेश' ऐप से होगी। सुरक्षा को लेकर तीन दिनों तक होने वाले महत्त्वपूर्ण व विशेष सम्मेलन में पुलिस वाट्सऐप से दूरी बनाकर रहेगी। 'संदेश' ऐप को भारत सरकार के राष्ट्रीय सूचना विज्ञान केंद्र (एनआइसी) से जी20 शिखर सम्मेलन को लेकर दिल्ली पुलिस संदेशों का आदान प्रदान करेगी।

जानकारी के अनुसार जी20 जैसे बड़े आयोजन के लिए पहली बार इसका इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। तब ये दावा किया गया था कि ये पूर्ण रूप से स्वदेशी और इसका उन्नत संस्करण सबसे सुरक्षित होगा। ऐसे बड़े कार्यक्रम में गोपनीयता लीक न हो इसके लिए वाट्सऐप से दूरी बनाई गई है। यही कारण है कि जी20 की सुरक्षा में लगे दिल्ली पुलिस की टीम ने मेहमानों के लिए इस स्वदेशी ऐप को सुरक्षा कवच बनाया है।

दिल्ली पुलिस ने संदेश ऐप पर सबसे ज्यादा भरोसा किया है। इसलिए सुरक्षा से जुड़े तमाम अधिकारी मसलन निरीक्षक से लेकर पुलिस आयुक्त तक ने अपने सरकारी मोबाइल नंबर पर इसे डाउनलोड किया है। जानकारी के अनुसार दिल्ली पुलिस ने शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान किसी प्रकार के संदेश को वाट्सऐप से साझा नहीं करने को कहा है। किसी दूसरे निजी मोबाइल नंबर पर संदेश को डाउनलोड करने की अभी मनाही है।

BRIGHT STAR-23

- INS Sumedha, a Saryu class Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel (NOPV), arrived in Port Alexandria, Egypt for 'Exercise BRIGHT STAR-23.'
- It is a multinational Tri-Services military exercise taking place in Port Alexandria, Egypt.
- 34 countries are participating, making it the largest joint military exercise ever conducted in the Middle East & North Africa region.

The exercise is divided into two phases: the Harbour Phase and the Sea Phase.

- The Harbour Phase includes cross-deck visits, professional exchanges, sports fixtures, and planning interactions.
- The Sea Phase includes complex and high-intensity exercises such as cross-deck flying, anti-surface and anti-air exercises, and live weapon firing drills.

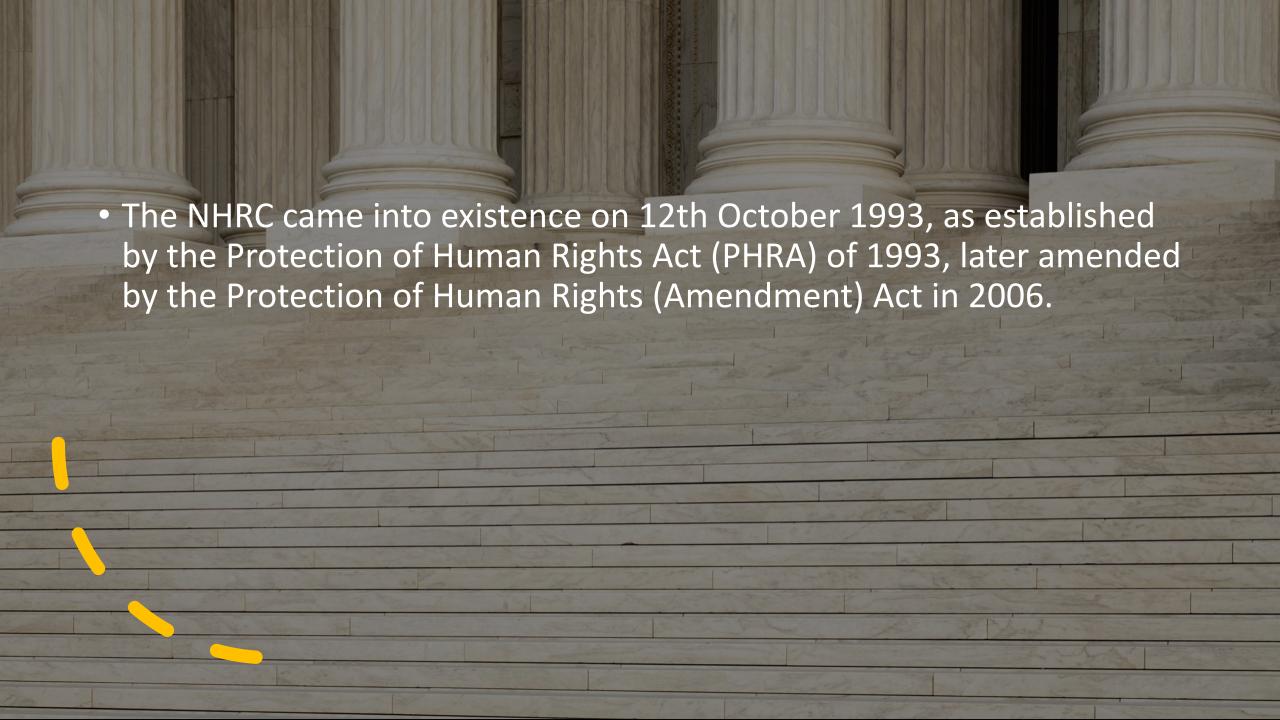
The Indian Navy is participating for the first time in Exercise BRIGHT STAR.

Indian President to Inaugurate Asia Pacific Human Rights Conference

The President of India is set to inaugurate the biennial conference of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) of Asia Pacific on 20th September 2023 at Delhi.

Organized by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum (APF), the event will also feature the 28th Annual General Meeting of APF.

The conference will mark the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and will also celebrate 30 years of National Human Rights Institutions and the Paris Principles.



• Composition:

- The chairperson is a retired chief justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court.
- They are appointed by the President on the recommendations of a sixmember committee consisting of:
- Prime Minister (head)
- Speaker of the Lok Sabha
- Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
- Leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of Parliament
- Union Home Minister.

Term and removal:

They hold office for a term of three years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

The President can remove them from the office under specific circumstances.

- Problems with the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- NHRC cannot penalise authorities which do not implement its orders.
- The Act does not extend to Jammu and Kashmir
- NHRC cannot investigate an event if the complaint was made more than one year after the incident.

Does not specify whether judges (members for the NHRC) should have a proven record of human rights activism or expertise or qualifications in the area.

Relating to **violations of human rights** by the **armed forces**, the commission must simply seek a report from the Government, and then issue recommendations.

There is no statutory requirement to include academics, representatives of NGOs or members of civil society that have contributed towards enhancement of human rights.







Electric Mobility: Norway Races Ahead

Countries with the highest share of plug-in electric vehicles in new passenger car sales in 2018*



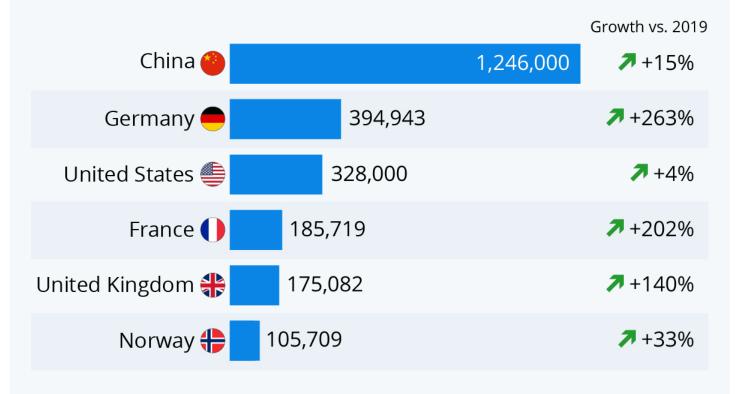


including plug-in hybrids and light vehicles, excluding commercial vehicles
 Sources: ACEA, CAAM, InsideEVs, KAIDA



Who Leads the Charge Towards Electric Mobility?

Largest markets in terms of plug-in electric passenger car sales in 2020*



^{*} including plug-in hybrids and light vehicles, excluding commercial vehicles Sources: ACEA, CAAM, EV-Volumes







- Ramveer Tanwar, known as 'India's Pond Man,' is dedicated to restoring and revitalizing lakes, ponds, and wetlands across India
- Through his NGO, Say Earth, Tanwar employs sustainable methods and community-driven approaches to clean and restore these water reservoirs.

- Born in an agricultural family in Greater Noida, Tanwar witnessed the decline of the ponds and lakes he had cherished during his childhood.
- His passion for water conservation led him to **start awareness initiatives like 'Jal Chaupals'** during college. In 2015, he and volunteers cleaned **their first pond, initiating his journey**.

After working for an MNC for two years, Tanwar decided to pursue water conservation full-time and founded **Say Earth in 2020**.

They clear garbage, install filtration systems, and promote native aquatic plants, resulting in the restoration of **80 water bodies across India**.



The Indian Air Force (IAF) is collaborating with the Drone Federation of India to co-host 'Bharat Drone Shakti 2023', at the IAF's airbase in Hindan, Ghaziabad.

This event aims to showcase the capabilities of the Indian drone industry and promote the use of drone technology in various sectors.

- The event will feature over 50 live aerial demonstrations, including survey drones, agriculture drones, fire suppression drones, tactical surveillance drones, heavy-lift logistics drones, loitering munition systems, drone swarms, and counter-drone solutions.
- The event serves as a significant step toward India's goal of becoming a global drone hub by 2030, highlighting the country's growing interest in drone technology across various sectors, including defence and civilian applications.

SSC CGL TIER1 2023 Date-17.july.2023 shift 3 and shift 4 current affairs

What was India's rank in Paralympics 2020?

21	
25	24
24	
19	

Who was awarded the Mother Teresa Memorial award for social justice 2021?

Sumaira Abdulali Rajendra Singh Jadav Payeng Anil Prakash Joshi

Anil Prakash Joshi

on Jane 2021, The Supreme court held that persons with disabilities have a right to reservation in promotion under article (16)4 of the constitution of India, 1950, in the case of:

Indra sawhney v.Union of India Rajeev kumar Gupta V. rangachari State of kerla v. Leecamma joseph State of kerla v. N.M. Thomos

State of kerla v. Leecamma joseph

In the Olympic flag, the total number of rings are _____.

3
5
7

The Desh ke mentor programme launched by Delhi government in October 2021 is for the students of classes _____.

VI to XII

I to V

XI to XII

VI to VIII

XI to XII

On 7 November 2022, PM modi attended and offered players at celebration of the _____ prakash parv of shri Guru Nanak dev ji at new delhi

550th

551st

552nd

553rd

553rd

Padma shri awardee in 2022, Arjun singh dhurve is tribal dancer of which of the following dance forms?

Baiga

Chhau

Santhal

Tertali

Baiga

Which county will host the 2031 Cricket World cup?

England
India and Bangladesh
Australia
West indies

India and Bangladesh











SALESFORCE COURSE















Call for enquiry: **7849841445**, **8302972601**, **7877518210**











