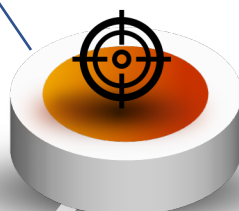


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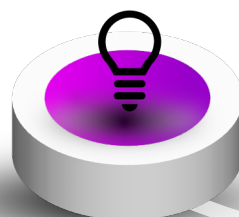


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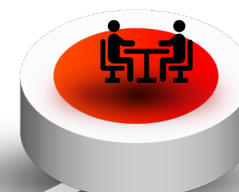


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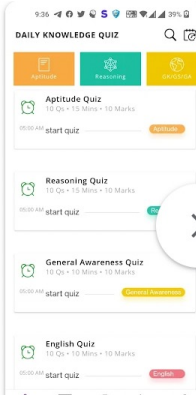
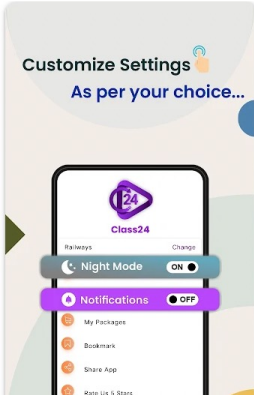
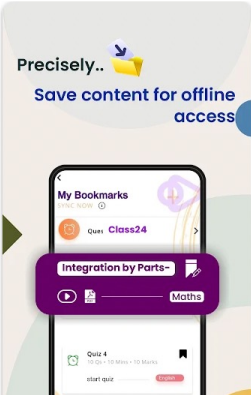
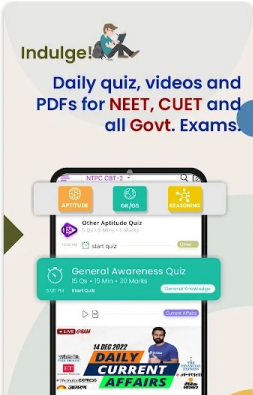
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Adityanath flags off 51 buses under 'Mission Mahila Sarathi'

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has flagged off 51 State transport corporation buses under Mission Mahila Sarathi on the occasion of Durga Ashtami in Ayodhya on Sunday. These buses will have women drivers and conductors "There could not be a more appropriate occasion than 'Ashtami' for the launch of Mission Mahila Sarathi. The initiative seeks to connect and empower women," said Mr. Adityanath during the launch at Ram Katha Park.

Yogi flags off 51 buses to be operated by women drivers, conductors

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 21

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday launched the 'Mission Mahila Sarathi' initiative under the state's Mission Shakti Abhiyan and flagged 51 buses that will be operated exclusively by women as drivers and conductors.

During the programme in Ayodhya, the chief minister said, "There could not be a more appropriate occasion when the date of 'Maha Ashtami' is being linked with Mission Shakti along with the launch of Mission Mahila Sarathi. The initiative seeks to connect and empower women drivers and conductors."

"The Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UP-

SRTC) is your companion in times of crisis. Now, daughters symbolising 'Mission Shakti' will drive these vehicles as drivers, fulfilling the role of companions," he added.

Adityanath said that the safety, respect, and self-reliance of women had always been a challenge for the state. "That is why Indian society has always believed that where women are respected, their dignity is protected. The UP government has consistently promoted this idea in the fourth phase of Mission Shakti," he said.

Adityanath said that so far, more than 1.5 lakh women have been employed on various posts in Uttar Pradesh Police and the state government. "But, the dream of having women as drivers and conductors in the UP-



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flags off the buses in Ayodhya on Sunday. PTI

SRTC has also been realised. Now, daughters have become fighter pilots too," he said.

He said that the UPSRTC is considered the lifeline of transportation within the state. "India

became independent on August 15, 1947, but the first bus of the corporation had started operations in May 1947. Since then, the transport corporation has been setting long-distance routes.

Now, UPSRTC is making progress and expanding its operations. Bus stations in the state will now be like airports, for which work has already begun," the chief minister said.

"During the COVID-19 pandemic, around 40 lakh people from Uttar Pradesh working in different parts of the country became jobless and returned home. UPSRTC rose to this challenge. Around 11,000-12,000 buses with drivers and conductors converged at the borders, where they helped UP citizens return home, and people from other states reach the UP border," he said.

"Now, the focus is shifting from buses running on diesel towards electric buses. There will be a significant increase in the number of electric buses in the UPSRTC fleet and contracts.

These buses will not cause pollution, noise, and have better speed," he said. The CM said that the state government will provide incentives worth Rs 20 lakh to individuals buying electric buses. "We have allocated Rs 400 crore in this regard," he added.

Adityanath also said that the government needed to buy several buses as part of preparations for the 2025 Kumbh Mela. "For better connectivity, the UP government has formulated an Electric Vehicles (EV) policy. Electric buses do not use diesel, petrol, or CNG; they will be charged with electricity. They can travel up to 300 km on a single charge," the CM said.

Meanwhile, earlier during the day, Adityanath offered prayers at Chhoti Devkali temple on Ashtami and met the saints there.

6th Atal Bihari Vajpayee National Award at 9th Global Literary Festival

Women's participation in Uttar Pradesh labour force up by 17.9%

UP govt to provide pink scooters to 1100 women beat constables

UP CM Yogi Adityanath unveils freedom fighter Raja Rao statue in Unnao

Bareilly first district to grant access to Smart Classes in schools

CM Yogi to open first Mission Shakti Café in Gonda

Construction of Veterinary Science College to start in Gorakhpur

UP government to organize three-day 'Sri Anna Mahotsav'

Secretary, MeitY inaugurated Robotic Process Automation (RPA) Lab

In first list, BJP confirms Eatala vs KCR contest in Gajwel constituency

Prominence given to Backward Classes candidates with 19 of them included in the 52-member list; a total of 12 women candidates find a place; the party has fielded eight Scheduled Caste and six Scheduled Tribe candidates

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The first list of Bharatiya Janata Party candidates for the Telangana Assembly election is finally out with 52 names cleared by the Central Election Committee chaired by party president J.P. Nadda and also attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah and all other members of the committee on Sunday.

As was expected, former State party president and Karimnagar MP Bandi Sanjay Kumar will be contesting from the Karimnagar constituency and former Minister and election campaign coordination committee chairman Eatala Rajender will be taking on Chief Minister K. Chandrababbar Rao in Gajwel besides his own constituency of Huzurabad. Nizamabad MP Dharmapuri Aravind will be contesting from Kozhla and Adilabad MP Soyam Babu Rao from Boath.

Other names Dubbak MLA M. Raghunandan Rao, who won a byelection, will be contesting from the same constituency, while former MLA Chintala Ramchandra Reddy will be once again trying his luck from the Khairatabad constituency. Another noted candidate is the elder brother of BRS Minister Erraballi Dasyak Rao,

Erraballi Pradeep Rao, getting ticket for Warangal East. Other names cleared by the Central committee are: Palavi Harish Babu (Sirsi), S. Amarajula Sridevi (Bellampalli), Ramesh Rathod (Khanapur), Payal Shankar (Adilabad), Aleti Maheshwar Reddy (Nirmal), Kammarao Patel (Mudhole), Paidi Rakesh Reddy (Arnur), T. Aruna Tara (Jukkai), K. Venkata Ramana Reddy (Kamareddy), Dhanpal Suryamaryana Gupta (Nizamabad Urban), Annapurnamma Aleti (Balakonda), Boga Sravani Gangti, S. Kumar (Dharmapuri), Kandula Sandhya Rani (Ramagundam), Rodiga Shobha (Choppadandi), Kani Kusuma Reddy (Sircilla), Arepalli Mohan (Manakondur), Erragolla Mutali Yadav (Narsapur), T. Nandhishwar Goud (Paradise), Madavani Raghunandan Rao (Dubbak), Kuna Sriisailam Goud (Qutubullapur).

As assured, prominence was given to Backward Classes candidates with 19 fielded of whom two were women. The forward castes got 19 seats of which 12 belong to the dominant Reddy community. Among the forward castes, one seat was given to the Vysya community and another to the Agarwal community.

The first list also had eight Scheduled Caste and six Scheduled Tribe candidates. Over all, 12 women candidates found a place in the first list.



Core discussion: Narendra Modi with BJP president J.P. Nadda during the party's Central Election Committee meeting for the Telangana Assembly election in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Raja Singh's suspension lifted; party set to field him again

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The BJP's central disciplinary committee has decided to revoke the suspension of Goshanahalli MLA T. Raja Singh, after due consideration of his explanation in response to the show cause notice served by the party. On Pathak, member secretary of the committee, said in a communication to Mr. Singh that the panel had considered his reply before taking the decision.

This clears the path for him to be renominated once again from the Gosh-



T. Raja Singh

particular religion when the Telangana government allowed a stand-up comic to conduct his show in Hyderabad.

The artist was accused of insulting Hindu gods in his show. Receipts should be given for every seizure and the aggrieved party should be educated about to whom their appeal should be referred. The Director-General of Police stressed the need for confidence-building between the police and the public. There should be visibility of the police like flag marches.

Telangana CEO not satisfied with election arrangements

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Electoral Officer Vikas Raj has expressed dissatisfaction over the gaps in the arrangements for the hassle-free conduct of the Assembly election.

The CEO, who took stock of the situation during a video conference, drew the attention of the returning officers and other officials concerned about the gaps that were surfacing in spite of the instructions given by the election authority. He was particular about the complaints received from the people as well as the political parties and asked the officials to convene meetings of the district grievance committees on seizures.

Fast resolution The committees should ensure that genuine cases are resolved immediately after taking all the parameters into consideration.

There is a need to prepare foolproof reports relating to the seizures and the acts under which they were made. Receipts should be given for every seizure and the aggrieved party should be educated about to whom their appeal should be referred.

The Director-General of Police stressed the need for confidence-building between the police and the public. There should be visibility of the police like flag marches.

Man welcomes his daughter with band, baaja after divorce

Amir Bhelari
PATNA

On October 15, the first day of Navratri, Prem Gupta (referred to as Sakshi's in-laws in Ranchi's Bajra-Sarveshwari Nagar area with a musical band and fireworks).

The occasion was unusual: Mr. Gupta had come to bring Ms. Sakshi back to his home in Ranchi's Kumbhari after she filed for divorce over her in-laws and her husband allegedly harassing her.

A real estate businessman by profession, Mr. Gupta had recovered from cancer only six months earlier. And six days ago, Mr. Gupta shared on social media a video of the fanfare with which he welcomed his daughter.

"When a daughter's marriage is done with great pomp and show, she must also be brought back home with respect and honour if things go wrong, because daughters are very precious," he had said.

Harassed by in-laws Ms. Sakshi had in April last year got married to Sachin Kumar, an assistant engineer in Bharkhand Bilji Vitar Nigam Ltd. Some time after the wedding, Mr. Gupta came to know that his daughter was being harassed by Mr. Kumar and his family. There had even been rumours that Ms. Sakshi's in-laws had written her out of the house.

Ms. Sakshi eventually told her father the dis-



Prem Gupta with his daughter Sakshi Gupta. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

covered that her husband had already been married twice. After the Gupta family's attempts to resolve the issue failed, Ms. Sakshi filed a divorce petition which is currently pending before the court.

Mr. Gupta told *The Hindu* over phone that he had given Mr. Kumar's family ₹17 lakh during the wedding. With the divorce petition filed, they have promised to return this money as alimony, he added.

'No decision right now' Asked about his daughter's future, he said, "We have not decided anything right now, but if my daughter wants to start a new life with a new partner, we will be more than happy. The couple has now mutually agreed for the divorce and the family court of Ranchi will pronounce the decision soon."

With her mother Veena and brother Ujjwal also backing her decision, Ms. Sakshi told *The Hindu* that she was lucky to have such a supportive family.

Attempts to reach out to Ms. Sakshi's in-laws elicited no response.

Tourists flow into Mysuru as the heritage city prepares for grand Dasara finale tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Mysuru is all set for the grand Dasara finale amidst scores of tourists descending on the city to witness the spectacle that unfolds on Tuesday. The celebrations began on October 15 atop the Chamundi Hills in Karnataka, and the city is now gearing up for the conclusion of the 10-day festivities.

The cynosure of all eyes is the golden howdah that will be carried by lead elephant Abhinav during Janabho Savari, Abhinav and 13 other elephants will be the highlight of the procession that begins from the palace and ends at the Banimantap grounds, passing through the 5-km



Practice makes perfect: The rehearsal for the Dasara air show under way in Mysuru on Sunday. The air show will be held at 4 p.m. on Monday. U.A. SIKHA

Raja Marga. This year, 49 tableaux will be part of the procession from across the State.

Among them is one on the guarantee schemes that will be part of the procession from across the State.

Another one on the Somnathapura temple, which was recently damaged by a fire.

The tableaux portray the rich culture and tradition of the land, which will be showcased in the presence of lakhs of people who are eagerly awaiting the show.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will flag off the procession after the Nandi Dhawaj puja at the Kote Anjaneya Swamy Temple. This will be followed by the display of the State's cultural diversity.

In the evening, the torchlight parade will be held at Banimantap grounds. This is the last event of the celebrations, which again is one of the most popular attractions of the festivities.

The Dasara air show will be held on Monday at 4 p.m.

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The very severe cyclone, Tej that formed over the Arabian Sea on Sunday intensified into an extremely severe Cyclone. The cyclone, which is moving north-westwards, is likely to cross the Yemen coast close to Al Ghaidah in the early hours of Tuesday as a very severe cyclonic storm with wind speed of 125-135 kmph gusting to 150 kmph.

Kerala is likely to receive isolated heavy rainfall triggered by the weather system over the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. A yellow alert has been issued for eight districts from Kollam to Palakkad,

Kerala is likely to receive isolated heavy rainfall triggered by the weather system

warning of isolated heavy rains on Monday. However, the typical northeast monsoon rain will be absent at least for the next few days in the State as the present weather system over the Bay of Bengal is likely to upset the flow of northeast monsoon over the State.

Meanwhile, the depression formed over the Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a deep depression in 24 hours and subsequently a cyclonic storm

by Tuesday, according to a weather bulletin issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday. The IMD is monitoring the situation.

It is likely to move towards the Andhra coast during the next 12 hours and then recurve and move north-eastwards towards Bangladesh and adjoining the West Bengal coast during the subsequent days.

Fishermen are advised to not venture into the southwest and central Arabian Sea till Wednesday as gale wind speed is likely to reach up to 150-160 kmph gusting to 175 km in the west-central Arabian Sea on Monday.

Sensitive ecosystem in Cauvery's birthplace cries for attention amid deficit rainfall

B.S. Sakshi Kumar
KODAGU

The dwindling storage in Karnataka's Cauvery basin reservoirs owing to drought prevailing in the State has caused concerns in the downstream states besides typically escalating the legal tussle over inter-State sharing of the river water. But the plight of the sensitive ecosystem of Kodagu, which is the main catchment area as well as place of origin of the river, is yet to get due attention.

This tiny hilly district is situated in the pristine Western Ghats region should receive good rains if the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) reservoir, located in the downstream, has to get adequate inflow to take

care of irrigation requirement of farmers in command areas and drinking water needs of towns and cities in the basin, including Bengaluru. Also, the State's experience has shown that the inter-State sharing of Cauvery water does not get complicated when there are good rains in Kodagu.

Rainfall pattern This year, Kodagu district has reported a cumulative rainfall deficit of 42% in the southwest monsoon 30 as against the State's average deficit of 25%. In fact, the deficit was as high as 80% in June and 82% in August in this district. This deficit would not just impact the ecosystem of the

district, but the flow of river in the entire Cauvery basin that transcends State boundaries.

While legal experts are worried about dwindling storage in KRS, naturalists well-versed with the Kodagu landscape are concerned about decline in rain-fed paddy cultivation in Kodagu which they say is a micro reservoir system of Kodagu and the Cauvery river.

We have an age-old practice of cultivating paddy in the valleys with the help of rainwater. These paddy fields act like small ponds that store rainwater in them for three to four months. These paddy fields will feed streams and rivulets which in turn

strengthen tributaries of the Cauvery. But the cause of concern now is that cultivation of paddy has reduced by nearly 50%," says C.G. Kushalappa, scientist and retired dean of College of Forestry in Ponnampet, who has studied the eco-



Paddy fields at Nallur in Kodagu district, part of a micro reservoir system that sustains the ecosystem of the Cauvery. K. MURALI KUMAR

system of Kodagu for over 35 years. According to him, farmers are shunning paddy because it is not remunerative. The high labour cost and man-animal conflict in this endeavour, he suggests,

forcing them to shun paddy cultivation.

Another major reason for shunning the cultivation is rapid commercialisation, which is making farmers either sell off or take up construction activities on paddy fields which are more suited for construction than the slopes, he says.

Expressing concern that shunning paddy cultivation is affecting particularly the summer flow of Cauvery, he suggests that the government revive rain-fed paddy cultivation by providing an incentive of ₹1000 per acre. The government, NGOs and corporates should join hands in this endeavour, he suggests.

"If the government wants continued flow of Cauvery even during summer, then the need of the hour is to demonstrate sustainable development model involving paddy cultivation backed by incentive to the people of villages so that others too would get attracted," says Dr. Kushalappa.

Former member of Coffee Board of India and an expert on coffee industry as well as Kodagu ecosystem, Bose Mandanna told expresses concern over rapid commercialisation that is affecting the ecosystem in sensitive zones of Kodagu basin. He says that investment in land here for commercial purposes. This has resulted in huge constructions coming up on ecolog-

ically sensitive areas. We saw its impact in 2019 when it rained 40 inches in a single day," he says.

"It is okay to allow conversion of agricultural land for construction for residential purposes, but not so version of agricultural land for large constructions like big resorts should not be allowed. It is not wise to allow such huge constructions atop hills," he says.

Kodagu unit president of Karnataka Rajya Raikata Sangha, Manu Somaiah, says that outsiders show a lot of interest in buying lands here for commercial purposes. Politicians too are buying lands here in their names (the 'nami ownership')."

Tourists flow into Mysuru as the heritage city prepares for grand Dasara finale tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Mysuru is all set for the grand Dasara finale amidst scores of tourists descending on the city to witness the spectacle that unfolds on Tuesday. The celebrations began on October 15 atop the Chamundi Hills in Karnataka, and the city is now gearing up for the conclusion of the 10-day festivities.

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Practice makes perfect: The rehearsal for the Dasara air show under way in Mysuru on Sunday. The air show will be held at 4 p.m. on Monday. M.A. SRIRAM

Raja Marga.

This year, 49 tableaux will be part of the procession from across the State.

Among them is one on the guarantee schemes that were launched by the Congress government and

another one on the Somanathapura temple, which recently bagged the world heritage tag.

The tableaux portray the rich culture and tradition of the land, which will be showcased in the presence of lakhs of people who are eagerly awaiting the show.

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The Dasara air show will be held on Monday at 4 p.m.

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of innings Shubman Gill took to reach 2,000 ODI runs

38 Indian opener Shubman Gill on Sunday became the fastest player to score 2,000 runs in ODIs during India's World Cup match against New Zealand. He broke the record of South African Hashim Amla.

The number of power plants with critical coal stocks

86 These power plants, including six imported dry fuel-based, are labelled as having a critical coal stock situation, as the dry fuel there is less than 25% of the normative level.

The vote secured by populist right party in Swiss elections

29 In percentage. The right-wing populist Swiss People's Party topped Switzerland's general election on Sunday, according to the first results projections for the lower house of parliament.

The fall in bilateral trade between the U.S. and India

11.3 in percentage. The bilateral trade between India and the U.S. declined by 11.3% to \$59.67 billion during April-September 2023 compared to the same period last year.

The number of newborns at risk as fuel runs out in Gaza

120 More than 1,750 children have been killed by Israeli strikes against Gaza in retaliation for the October 7 Hamas attacks.

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Have earnings grown post-pandemic?

While concerns regarding the forms of work have been extensively discussed, the aspect of earnings must also be examined to better understand the condition of the Indian labour market

ECONOMIC NOTES

Rahul Menon

Recent data from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) of 2022-23 revealed a strengthening of the labour market, with unemployment rates falling and labour force participation rates (LFPR) rising. Rural women's LFPRs for those aged 15 and above — rose from 19.7% in 2018-19 to 41.5% in 2022-23, a significant jump for a cohort that had long been on the margins of the labour market. These results were taken as examples of a robust post-pandemic recovery for the Indian economy.

Yet there are notes of caution. Much of the new employment generated for women has been in self-employment. There has been a rise in the proportion of women working as unpaid family helpers, with the share of rural working women in this form of employment rising from 37.9% to 43% between 2018-19 and 2022-23. The share of women in regular wage work fell from 22% to 16%. Greater employment seemed to be coming at the cost of suitable working conditions, especially for women.

While concerns regarding the forms of work have been extensively discussed, the aspect of earnings must also be examined to better understand the condition of the Indian labour market. While wages and earnings have increased, inflation has been high as well. If inflation is higher than earnings growth, real earnings reduce, reducing purchasing power.

The status of earnings

Here we will examine the real earnings of the workforce between the quarters of April-June 2019 and April-June 2023, covering the period before the onset of the pandemic and the latest period for when data is available. The PLFS collects information on the earnings of regular wage workers, casual workers and the self-employed (regular wage workers have fixed work hours and are paid on a regular basis; casual workers are employed on a daily basis on the availability of work and receive daily wages). We look at the monthly wage earnings of regular wage workers, and the gross earnings of the previous month for the self-employed. For casual workers, average daily wages are converted to monthly figures. The average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) across the months of April to June of 2019 and 2023 are taken to convert nominal figures into real terms. The earnings for urban and rural workers were deflated by the urban and rural CPI for those periods separately.

Between 2019 and 2023, only casual workers — both men and women, across both rural and urban sectors — saw a net increase in their average real monthly earnings. Women casual workers experienced a 13% increase across the entire period, while male casual workers enjoyed a 10.53% increase. The only other cohorts which saw an increase in real earnings in 2023 as compared to 2019 were women in regular wage work — a 4.27% increase — and male self-employed workers (6.9%). Significant inflation over this period ate away at the gains of workers, resulting in lesser real earnings for most workers in 2023 as compared to the pre-pandemic period.

There are significant differences between urban and rural sectors. Urban male self-employed workers saw a reduction in real earnings, while rural male self-employed workers saw real earnings increase by roughly 14.67% in 2023 compared to 2019. However, the figure for gross earnings of the



Daily toil: Casual women workers — across both rural and urban sectors — saw a net increase in their average real monthly earnings. JITHI RAMALINGAM

Has there been an increase in income?

While wages and earnings have increased, inflation has also increased. If inflation is higher than the growth of earnings, real earnings reduce

	Rural			Urban			All		
	Men	Women	Person	Men	Women	Person	Men	Women	Person
Regular wage workers	-6.92%	27.91%	2.99%	-1.75%	-2.34%	-2.34%	-2.36%	-3.09%	-4.27%
Casual workers	10.62%	14.10%	10.03%	10.86%	8.11%	10.95%	10.33%	12.93%	9.64%
Self-employment	14.67%	-7.72%	5.08%	-1.62%	0.72%	-4.05%	6.90%	-9.27%	-8.76%

	Rural			Urban			All		
	Men	Women	Person	Men	Women	Person	Men	Women	Person
Regular wage workers	2.97%	35.54%	6.73%	1.42%	2.66%	1.94%	1.92%	10.24%	3.08%
Casual workers	1.21%	3.55%	0.81%	1.85%	-4.48%	1.49%	1.22%	2.27%	0.99%
Self-employment	9.27%	2.14%	4.73%	8.89%	4.20%	6.74%	8.86%	1.46%	4.70%

self-employed do not include those who reported zero incomes, and hence these aggregate figures may not give a true picture of earnings for the entire population of the self-employed. In the case of regular wage workers, urban women saw a reduction in earnings, with real incomes in 2023, 2.34% lesser than that in 2019. Rural women in regular wage employment earned the highest gains of all cohorts, their monthly real earnings 27.9% higher in the quarter of April-June 2023 as compared to April-June 2019. Yet this cohort makes up only 8% of the rural female workforce, and hence a smaller proportion of the aggregate workforce.

The impact of inflation

On the other hand, the biggest declines were seen in the one cohort that showed a significant rise in employment: rural women in self-employment. The share of the rural female workforce in paid forms of self-employment rose from 22% to 28% between 2018-19 and 2022-23, yet their average monthly real gross earnings reduced by 7.72%, the largest reduction

for any cohort. Large numbers of rural women have entered low-paying, low-productive jobs, perhaps to supplement household incomes in the wake of the pandemic — this does not indicate robustness of recovery. Note that this excludes women engaged as helpers in household enterprises, who, by definition, do not earn any income, and who form the largest proportion of rural working women.

The moderation of inflation by 2023 saw a gradual rise in real incomes. Between 2022 to 2023, all cohorts — except, surprisingly, urban women casual workers — saw a rise in real earnings. Self-employed men enjoyed significant gains, with rural and urban men's earnings rising by 5.27% and 8.9% respectively. Rural self-employed women saw real earnings gains of 2.14%, while their urban counterparts experienced a gain of 4.2%. Wage workers — both casual and regular — did not see extensive gains, with only rural women in regular wage employment experiencing a 35.5% growth in real earnings. Urban men and women in regular wage employment experienced

gains of 1.42% and 2.66% respectively.

Conclusion

While it is too soon to tell whether these gains indicate the beginning of a sustained recovery, the fact that every cohort — barring rural casual women workers — saw an increase in real earnings marks a distinct break from earlier periods. However, there is another problem. Real GDP growth between 2022 to 2023 was measured at around 7.2%. Only three cohorts experienced earnings growth faster than this: urban and rural male self-employed, and rural women in regular wage employment (the latter forming a minuscule portion of the aggregate workforce). Wage workers as a whole have seen real earnings grow slower than output, indicating a reduction in the share of wages even though growth remains healthy. This serves as further evidence of the possibility of India experiencing a K-shaped recovery in the wake of the pandemic.

Rahul Menon is Associate Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University

THE GIST

There has been a rise in the proportion of women working as unpaid family helpers, with the share of rural working women in this form of employment rising from 37.9% to 43% between 2018-19 and 2022-23.

Between 2019 and 2023, only casual workers — both men and women, across both rural and urban sectors — saw a net increase in their average real monthly earnings.

Wage workers as a whole have seen real earnings grow slower than output, indicating a reduction in the share of wages even though growth remains healthy.

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of innings Shubman Gill took to reach 2,000 ODI runs

38 Indian opener Shubman Gill on Sunday became the fastest player to score 2,000 runs in ODIs during India's World Cup match against New Zealand. He broke the record of South African Hashim Amla. PTI

From Page One

Israel pounds Gaza as a crisis unfolds in hospitals

Power is one of the main worries for the seven specialist wards across Gaza treating premature babies to help with breathing and provide critical support, for example when their organs are not developed enough.

Sunday's aid delivery through the Rafah crossing was the second such operation in two days after 20 trucks arrived on Saturday. The United Nations has estimated about 100 trucks per day are needed to meet the needs of 2.4 million Gazans.

Iran's threat

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian on Sunday said that if the U.S. and Israel "do not immediately stop the crime against humanity and genocide in Gaza, anything is possible at any moment and the region will go out of control".

U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said on Saturday that he had ordered the deployment of a second carrier strike group in the eastern Mediterranean and additional Patriot battalions.

The Pentagon said the move aimed to defend U.S. ally Israel amid what it called "escalations by Iran" and its proxies across the region.

India sends relief goods to civilian population

"People of Palestine will truly appreciate the Indian assistance as they are in need of urgent help after nearly 15 days of Israeli blockade which stopped electricity, food, medicine and other necessities. India is sending us help even without us asking. This is a great initiative," said a senior official in the Indian consulate in Gaza.

The Indian consignment landed in Egypt on Sunday where Ambassador Ajit V. Gupte handed over the supplies to the Egyptian Red Crescent "for onward transmission to Palestine", said Mr. Gupte.

Several countries such as Egypt, Turkey and the U.S. have started sending help to Gaza through the border crossing of Gaza and Egypt, and Indian supplies are expected to reach Gaza through the same route. India has reiterated its support for the two-state solution to end the Israel-Palestine conflict since it flared up on October 7.

Canada's actions breach the Vienna Convention

"And right now, that is what is in many ways been challenged in Canada — that our people are not safe, our diplomats are not safe," Mr. Jalna Hanrahan said. "If we see progress there, I would like very much to resume the issue of visas," he added. He was speaking at the Kautilya Economic Conclave here.

An informed source told *The Hindu* that India was reviewing the security situation that led to the suspension of visa services. Canada's position drew support from the U.S. and the U.K. statement from the U.K.'s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. India's move was seen as a move to impact the principles of the Vienna Convention, while the U.S. State Department said that the resolution of differences between the countries requires diplomats on the ground in India.

PPF returns 41 bps behind formula rates

With government bond yields hardening over the past month, economists say there may be some room for further hikes in the small savings rates in the penultimate quarter before the general election, that is, the January to March 2024 quarter. Small savings rates had been hiked ahead of the last Lok Sabha election in 2019, when the PPF rate was raised to 7.9%. In April 2020, these rates were cut across the board, and a further 40 to 100 bps reduction was announced for the April to June 2021 quarter, but was then withdrawn immediately.

While correcting most schemes' returns gradually in each quarter since October 2022, the government has held back hikes for the PPF, with officials pointing to the tax-free returns they offer, unlike other SIs. The rate offered on the Sukanya Samriddhi Account scheme, which offers tax-free returns as well, was raised in the last quarter.

The formula for quarterly resets of small savings rates, mooted by a panel led by former RBI Deputy Governor Raghuram G. Gopuram, links them to secondary market yields on government securities of comparable maturities over a three-month period prior to each quarter.

The RBI has noted that these yields have started to harden across the board. As of October 20, the yield on 10-year Central government securities had firmed up to nearly 7.4% from about 7.2% at the start of this month.

For the January to March 2024 quarter, the formula-based rates for small savings will be linked to the government bond yields prevailing through September 2023.

"A lot of the catch-up that needed to happen with the backlog in small savings rates has been done. Of course, in the last one and a half months, we have seen a hardening of interest rates so that will have some incremental impact on the formula-based rates, but that may not be very huge," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at rating firm ICRA.

To curb evasion, EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires

It will generate \$250 bn from less than 3,000 individuals; report highlights success of automatic exchange of bank data in reducing offshore tax evasion; it raises concern over rise of preferential tax regimes targeting wealthy foreign individuals

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Pointing out that tax evasion is enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth, the European Union Tax Observatory in its 'Global Tax Evasion Report 2024' has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth. This would both address evasion and "generate nearly \$250 billion from less than 3,000 individuals", the report stated.

The report justified the proposal by noting that while the number of taxpayers affected by it would be minuscule, the tax rate for them (2%) "would still be very modest" given that the wealth of billionaires has grown at 7% a year annually on average since 1995 (net of inflation).

Assessing the impact of international efforts to end so far to curb tax evasion, the report highlighted the success of one measure — the automatic exchange of bank information — in re-

ducing offshore tax evasion by a factor of three over the past 10 years. The report observed that before this measure came into existence, the tax rate owned the equivalent of 10% of world GDP in financial wealth in tax havens globally, the bulk of which was undeclared to tax authorities and belonged to high net worth individuals.

Two reasons

But today, there is still the equivalent of 10% of world GDP in offshore household

financial wealth, but only 25% of it evades taxation. "This reduction in non-compliance is a major success that shows that rapid progress can be made against tax evasion if there is the political will to do so," the report stated. Despite this progress, offshore tax evasion continues to be a global tax revenues by 10%, a growing list of loopholes has reduced expected revenues by a factor of two.

First, it is still possible to own financial assets that escape being reported on because not all offshore financial institutions comply with the requirement of

automatic exchange of bank information — for fear of losing their customer base or facing no real threat or penalty from foreign tax authorities for non-compliance.

Second, wealthy individuals who used to hide financial assets in offshore banks have started shifting their holdings to asset classes not covered under this agreement, especially real estate.

The report, therefore, calls for expanding the range of assets brought under the system of automatic exchange of information.

Several loopholes

The other major measure — the global minimum tax of 15% on MNCs, adopted in 2021 by 140 countries and territories — has been a disappointment. While it is expected to increase global tax revenues by 10%, a growing list of loopholes has reduced expected revenues by a factor of two. The report also flagged the trend of "greenwashing the global minimum tax" wherein

MNCs can use 'green' tax credits for low carbon transition to reduce their tax rates way below the minimum of 15%.

"U.S. green-energy tax credits will amount to the equivalent of about 15% of U.S. corporate tax," the report noted.

The report also flags emerging forms of aggressive tax competition that are severely affecting government revenues.

It notes with concern the rise of preferential tax regimes targeting wealthy foreign individuals — their number having grown from five to 28 in the EU and the U.S.

Noting that "these regimes offer tax exemptions or reductions to incoming residents while preserving the general income tax schedule applied to domestic taxpayers", the report also noted that, because the adopting governments voluntarily forego tax revenues and because they inflict negative spillover effects to other countries",

For Cong. it may be an 'alien concept', but public service delivery is govt. duty: Nadda

The Hindu Bureau

BENGALURU

BIP president J.P. Nadda on Sunday said government was an "alien concept" for Congress. He was reacting to a letter by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to Prime Minister Narendra Modi objecting to a government order asking senior officers to be deployed as "Rath Pratharis" in various districts to abhorge the case achievements of the government.

"It baffles me to see the Congress party has an issue with public servants reaching the grassroots to ensure saturation of schemes," Mr. Nadda said on X, asking, "If this not the basic tenet of governance, what is?"

The BIP chief added that "it may be an alien concept for the Congress, but public service delivery is the duty of a government".

"If the (Narendra) Modi government wants to ensure saturation of all schemes and ensure all beneficiaries are reached, nobody who has the interest of the poor in their mind can have a problem," he said. "But, the Congress only has an interest in keeping the poor in power and hence, their opposition to the saturation drive."

Hitting out at the Congress, BIP IT department head Anil Malviya wrote on X, "Who said Congress is not in the government of India are not meant to talk about the programmes and schemes implemented".

"Just because five States are going to polls and general elections are seven months away, Congress is abandoning governance?" he asked.

Even as the Gujarat Chief Minister, irrespective of election, Mr. Modi ensured his bureaucrats went out in the field during June-July to ensure all school-going children enrolled, he said. "It is expected that education in Gujarat," he said.

Similarly in the next six months, Mr. Modi wants complete saturation of welfare schemes like the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), National Rural Livelihood Mission, PM Kisan, Fasal Bima Yojana, Poshan Abhiyan, Ujjwala Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Janushiksha Yojana and MGNREGS. Kalyan Anna Yojana, he added.

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Similarly in the next six months, Mr. Modi wants complete saturation of welfare schemes like the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), National Rural Livelihood Mission, PM Kisan, Fasal Bima Yojana, Poshan Abhiyan, Ujjwala Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Janushiksha Yojana and MGNREGS. Kalyan Anna Yojana, he added.

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To curb evasion, EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires

It will generate \$250 bn from less than 3,000 individuals; report highlights success of automatic exchange of bank data in reducing offshore tax evasion; it raises concern over rise of preferential tax regimes targeting wealthy foreign individuals

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Pointing out that tax evasion is enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth, the European Union Tax Observatory in its 'Global Tax Evasion Report 2024' has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth. This would both address evasion and "generate nearly \$250 billion from less than 3,000 individuals", the report stated.

The report justified the proposal by noting that while the number of taxpayers affected by it would be minuscule, the tax rate for them (2%) "would still be very modest" given that the wealth of billionaires has grown at 7% a year annually on average since 1995 (net of inflation).

Assessing the impact of international efforts made so far to curb tax evasion, the report highlighted the success of one measure – the automatic exchange of bank information – in re-



The report calls for expanding the range of assets brought under the system of automatic exchange of information. GETTY IMAGES

ducing offshore tax evasion by a factor of three over the past 10 years. The report observed that before this measure came into effect, "households owned the equivalent of 10% of world GDP in financial wealth in tax havens globally, the bulk of which was undeclared to tax authorities and belonged to high net worth individuals".

Two reasons

But today, there is still the equivalent of 10% of world GDP in offshore household

financial wealth, but only 25% of it evades taxation. "This reduction in non-compliance is a major success that shows that rapid progress can be made against tax evasion if there is the political will to do so," the report stated. Despite this progress, offshore tax evasion continues, and the report identifies two reasons for it.

First, it is still possible to own financial assets that escape being reported on because not all offshore financial institutions comply with the requirement of

automatic exchange of bank information – for fear of losing their customer base while facing no real threat or penalty from foreign tax authorities for non-compliance.

Second, wealthy individuals who used to hide financial assets in offshore banks have started shifting their holdings to asset classes not covered under this agreement, especially real estate.

The report, therefore, calls for expanding the range of assets brought under the system of automatic exchange of information.

Several loopholes

The other major measure – the global minimum tax of 15% on MNCs, adopted in 2012 by 140 countries and territories – has been a disappointment. While it was expected to increase global tax revenues by 10%, a growing list of loopholes has reduced expected revenues by a factor of two. The report red-flagged the trend of "greenwashing the global minimum tax" wherein

MNCs can use 'green' tax credits for low carbon transition to reduce their tax rates way below the minimum of 15%.

"U.S. green-energy tax credits will amount to the equivalent of about 15% of U.S. corporate tax," the report noted.

The report also flags emerging forms of aggressive tax competition that are severely affecting government revenues.

It notes with concern the rise of preferential tax regimes targeting wealthy foreign individuals – their number having grown from five to 28 in the EU and the U.K.

Noting that "these regimes offer tax exemptions or reductions to incoming residents while preserving the general income tax schedule applied to domestic taxpayers", the report detailed the harm they caused, pointing out that "they weaken overall tax collection, because the adopting governments voluntarily forego tax revenues and because they inflict negative spillover effects to other countries".

SEOUL South Korea, U.S., Japan hold joint air drills involving B-52 bomber



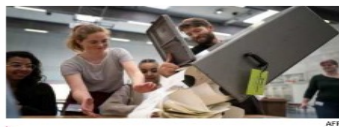
South Korea, the U.S. and Japan carried out their first joint aerial drills on Sunday, Seoul's military said. The exercise, which involved a U.S. nuclear weapons-capable B-52 bomber, comes as Seoul, Washington and Tokyo beef up their defence cooperation against growing missile and nuclear threats from North Korea. AFP

BUENOS AIRES Argentina votes in polls under a shadow of economic crisis



Argentines headed to the polls to vote in a general election under the shadow of the South American country's worst economic crisis in three decades. The three front-runners in the elections are a libertarian economist Javier Milei, centrist Peronist Economy Minister Sergio Massa and conservative Patricia Bullrich. REUTERS

BERN Initial results show populist right leading Swiss elections with 29%



The right-wing populist Swiss People's Party topped Switzerland's general election on Sunday with 29% of the vote, according to the first results projections for the lower house of Parliament. The party finished well ahead of the left-wing Social Democrats on 17% and the centre-right party The Centre on 15%. AFP

KYIV Russian strike on Ukraine mail depot kills six, injures 17 others



Russian missile strikes killed at least six postal workers and wounded 17 others on Saturday when they hit a mail depot in Ukraine's northeastern Kharkiv region. Separate Russian attacks on villages near the war-battered Ukrainian city of Bakhmut killed at least two persons on Sunday. AFP

Manila, Beijing trade blame over collisions in disputed sea

Two incidents, involving Chinese vessels, Philippine boats, occurred near Second Thomas Shoal in South China Sea. Beijing routinely deploys ships to assert its claims over almost the entire sea

Agence France-Presse
MANILA

Beijing and Manila traded blame on Sunday for two collisions between Chinese vessels and Philippine boats on a resupply mission to Filipino troops on a remote outpost in the disputed South China Sea.

The incidents happened near Second Thomas Shoal in the Spratly Islands, a hotly contested region where Beijing deploys ships to assert its claims over almost the entire sea.

A Philippine government task force said the "dangerous blocking manoeuvres of China Coast Guard vessel 5203 caused it to collide with the Armed Forces of the Philippines contracted indigenous resupply boat" about 25 km from Second Thomas Shoal.

China said the "flight collision" happened after the resupply boat ignored "multiple warnings and deliberately passed through law enforcement in an un-



Point of contact: A Chinese militia vessel, top, and a Philippine Coast Guard vessel as they approach the Second Thomas Shoal. AP

professional and dangerous manner", state broadcaster CCTV reported, citing the Foreign Ministry. Chinese militia vessel In another incident, a Philippine Coast Guard vessel escorted the routine resupply mission was "bumped" by what the Philippine task force described as a "Chinese Maritime Militia vessel". China, however, accused the Philippine boat of "deliberately" stirring up trouble by reversing in a "premeditated manner"

was able to reach the grounded BRP Sierra Madre and "successfully resupply our troops and personnel stationed there", the statement said. "Irresponsible actions" —The National Task Force for the West Philippine Sea condemns in the strongest degree the latest dangerous, irresponsible, and illegal actions of the CCG and the Chinese Maritime Militia done this morning," the task force said in a statement. China claims almost the entire South China Sea, through which trillions of dollars in trade passes annually, and has ignored the stern of the smaller resupply vessel briefly touching. The Philippine vessel continues on its course. No one on either Philippine vessel was injured, but the supply boat involved in the collision was damaged, the National Security Council said in a statement, citing the coastguard. A second resupply boat

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iran's judiciary on Sunday announced lengthy jail sentences for two women journalists who were arrested after reporting on the death last year of Mahsa Amini, which sparked nationwide protests.

Elaheh Mohammadi, 36, and Niloufar Hamedli, 31, were both found guilty of collaboration with Iran's arch-enemy the U.S., the judiciary's Mizan Online website said.

In its ruling, the Revolutionary Court sentenced Ms. Mohammadi to six years in jail, and Ms. Hamedli was handed seven years in prison, said Mizan.

The pair were also each given five-year sentences for conspiring against state security and one for propaganda against the Islamic republic, the website said, adding that the sentences would be served concurrently.

Ms. Mohammadi, a reporter for *Mam Mihaan* newspaper, and Ms. Hamedli, a photographer for *Shargh* newspaper, have been held in Tehran's Evin prison since September



Mahsa Amini's death allegedly at the hand of Iran's morality police triggered protests in the country and across the world. REUTERS

republic, the website said, adding that the sentences would be served concurrently. Ms. Mohammadi, a reporter for *Mam Mihaan* newspaper, and Ms. Hamedli, a photographer for *Shargh* newspaper, have been held in Tehran's Evin prison since September

2022. Their trials started in May. Ms. Hamedli was arrested less than a week after Amini's death when she went to the hospital where the young woman was being treated and posted a photo of the grieving family on social media. Ms. Mohammadi was arrested after going to Amini's hometown of Saqez, in the western Iranian province of Kurdistan, to cover her funeral which turned into a demonstration. The verdicts against Hamedli and Mohammadi, who were tried separately, are subject to appeal, Mizan said. Their lawyer has yet to react to the rulings. In August, Iranian media reported that authorities had questioned or arrested more than 90 journalists since the protests triggered by Amini's death in different cities erupted across the country. Ms. Elaheh's sister, Ms. Elnaz, also a journalist, was arrested and kept in Evin prison for a week in February and given a three-year suspended sentence in September.

Nawaz Sharif moves to restore appeals against convictions

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif signed applications on his return to Pakistan to restore pending appeals against his convictions in the Avenfield Apartments and Al-Azizia corruption cases.

Sharif, 73, the three-time Prime Minister and supreme of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), returned to Pakistan on Saturday after spending four years in self-imposed exile in London.

Sharif signed the applications at Islamabad International Airport on Saturday.

The applications, prepared by his legal team, will be filed in the Islamabad High Court (IHC) Division Bench and are likely to be heard on October 24, a PML-N lawyer told Dawn newspaper.

Sharif's legal team will also present a petition seeking protective bail. Besides, Sharif is also supposed to appear before an accountability court on the same day, the report said.

The former Prime Minister was convicted in the Avenfield and Al-Azizia cases and was declared a proclaimed offender in the Toshakhana vehicle case, which is pending before an Islamabad accountability court.



He was on bail in these cases when he left for the U.K. in 2019 on medical grounds.

VVIP treatment Meanwhile, jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party has strongly criticised the "VIP protocol" given to Sharif upon his return to Pakistan, alleging that all federal and Punjab government resources were used to manage the return of a "convicted absconder".

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan said Sharif was being unfairly and unlawfully facilitated in everything, claiming that the people will however hold the "convicted prisoner" accountable if no one else does, Dawn News reported. "A convicted prisoner got VVIP protocol and the state-owned airport at Islamabad opened at his arrival to receive him," Mr. Ayub Khan said.

Taiwan's Foxconn under tax and land use probe in China

Agence France-Presse
TAIPEI

Taiwanese tech giant Foxconn is under tax and land use investigations at several of its sites in China, state media reported on Sunday.

Inspecting Foxconn's sites in southern Guangdong province and Jiangsu in the east, as well as carrying out on-site investigations into the company's land use in central Hunan and Hubei provinces, China's state-run *Global Times* reported.

The newspaper did not specify what authorities are looking into, nor any offences that Foxconn may have committed.

The investigation comes two-and-a-half months before presidential elections in self-ruled Taiwan, which China claims as its territory

Foxconn's founder, billionaire Terry Gou, plans to contest in Taiwan's January 2024 elections

and has vowed to take one day.

Foxconn's founder, billionaire Terry Gou, has cut ties with the firm to focus on his long-shot bid to run as an independent candidate in Taiwan's January 2024 elections.

The 72-year-old failed to become the opposition Kuomintang (KMT) party's nominee in 2019.

Critics have alleged that Mr. Gou has a cosy relationship with the Chinese leadership, although Mr. Gou says he can bring peace between Taipei and Beijing.

**Government of Telangana
Commissioner of Printing, Stationery
and Stores Purchase Department**
Gandhinagar, Hyderabad - 500 015.

Tender call notice inviting proposals from reputed suppliers for Supply, Installation & Maintenance of self-cleaning machines for the Government of Telangana.

I) Tender No. 26/2023-SP/MS/2023-24/Tender ID No. 481867
II) Web-Ofset Machine 24"x34" - 4 units (one with running line)
III) Tender No. 26/2023-SP/MS/2023-24/Tender ID No. 481867
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SEOUL

South Korea, U.S., Japan hold joint air drills involving B-52 bomber



AP

South Korea, the U.S. and Japan carried out their first joint aerial drills on Sunday, Seoul's military said. The exercise, which involved a U.S. nuclear-weapons-capable B-52 bomber, comes as Seoul, Washington and Tokyo beef up their defence cooperation against growing missile and nuclear threats from North Korea. AFP

In a first, South Korea, Japan and US perform joint aerial exercises

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, OCTOBER 22

THE SOUTH Korean, US and Japanese militaries conducted their first-ever trilateral air drill Sunday in response to evolving North Korean nuclear threats, South Korea's air force said.

The training held near the Korean Peninsula was to implement the three countries' earlier agreement to increase defense cooperation and boost their joint response capabilities against North Korean threats, the air force said in a statement.

The drill involved a nuclear-capable B-52 bomber from the United States and fighter jets from South Korea and Japan, the statement said. South Korea and Japan are both key US allies in Asia, which together host about 80,000 American troops.

The three countries have occasionally held trilateral maritime drills, such as anti-subma-



During the trilateral air drill. *Reuters*

rine or missile defense exercises, but Sunday's training marked the first time for them to perform a trilateral aerial drill.

In South Korea, expanding military drills with Japan is a sensitive issue, because many still harbor strong resentment against Japan's brutal 1910-45 colonial rule over the Korean Peninsula.

But the North's advancing nu-

clear program has pushed South Korea's conservative president, Yoon Suk Yeol, to move beyond historical disputes with Japan and beef up a trilateral security cooperation.

In August, Yoon, US President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida met at Camp David in their countries' first stand-alone trilateral summit and agreed to bolster their

defense cooperation to deal with North Korea's nuclear threats.

The three leaders decided to hold annual trilateral exercises and put into operation by year's end the sharing of real-time missile warning data on North Korea. North Korea has long bristled at US training exercises with South Korea, calling them an invasion rehearsal and responding with missile tests.

North Korea slammed the Camp David agreement, accusing the US, South Korean and Japanese leaders of plotting nuclear war provocations on the Korean Peninsula. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called Yoon, Biden and Kishida "the gang bosses" of the three countries.

Worries about North Korea's nuclear program deepened after it enacted a law that allows preemptive use of nuclear weapons last year and has since openly threatened to use them in potential conflicts with US and South Korea.

QUICK GUN

Gill breaks Amla's record, becomes the fastest to 2000 ODI runs



K.R. DEEPAK

Shubman Gill became the fastest batter to reach 2000 ODI runs, achieving the feat in 38 innings during his knock against New Zealand at Dharamshala on Sunday. He eclipsed Hashim Amla's record (40 innings). Incidentally, Gill had made his ODI debut against the Kiwis in Hamilton in 2019.

MAKING HISTORY

Shami becomes first Indian to scalp two five-fors in World Cup



K.R. DEEPAK

Mohammed Shami's five-wicket haul against New Zealand made him the first Indian to scalp two five-fors in the World Cup. He had finished with five for 69 against England at Birmingham in 2019. Kapil Dev, Venkatesh Prasad, Robin Singh, Ashish Nehra and Yuvraj Singh are the other Indians who have taken five-fors in the World Cup.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Fog stops play in Dharamshala during India's chase



K.R. DEEPAK

In a rare occurrence, dense fog interrupted the World Cup match between India and New Zealand during the home team's chase on Sunday. India was 100 for two in 15.4 overs when fog descended at the ground, resulting in poor visibility and forcing the umpires to stop the match for a brief period.

UNFORTUNATE

Topley ruled out of World Cup after fracturing finger



EMMANUEL YOGINI

England fast bowler Reece Topley has been ruled out of the rest of the World Cup after fracturing his left index finger, the ECB said on Sunday. It added a replacement would be announced in due course but coach Matthew Mott said Jofra Archer, who is among the reserves, would not be included in the squad.

Kohli masterminds India's chase after Shami burst

Mitchell's resourceful century goes in vain for New Zealand as the Men in Blue romp home with four wickets and two overs remaining to record their fifth win in five matches

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
DHARAMSHALA

Like the endearing warmth of the fire-place in a cold Himalayan cottage, India too found its comfort zone up in the hills. Virat Kohli (85, 104b, 8x4, 2x6) played the shepherd guiding his flock, and chasing New Zealand's 275, the Men in Blue coasted home with a four-wicket victory. India finished with 274 for six in 48 overs in a key World Cup game at the HPCA Stadium here on Sunday.

The pursuit shimmered bright in the beginning as skipper Kohli Sharma whipped and lofted Trent Boult, and hoisted and scooped Matt Henry. Shubman Gill, meanwhile, drove with élan, and India moved to 63 for no loss in 10 overs. A false note occurred when Kohli (46) chopped Lockie Ferguson onto his stumps.

Next man Kohli punched Ferguson for four but Gill failed to get past the waiting third-man fielder. The clouds then descended and the cricketers admired nature's tapestry. Despite the mist, Kohli and Shreyas Iyer got some runs but when visibility declined, a short break was imposed.

On resumption, Shreyas succumbed to Boult. Kohli watched K.L. Rahul tuck into Rachin Ravindra's spin. The last-named then felt the heat of Kohli's blade, an inside-out lofted strike flew into the skies and when Henry steamed



On top of their game: Shami's five-wicket haul put paid to the Kiwis' hopes of posting an imposing total while Kohli paced his innings adroitly in a tricky chase. K.R. DEEPAK

in, he was drilled away with disdain.

Mitchell Santner prised out Rahul and the worry-lines popped up once Suryakumar Yadav got run out. India was delicately placed at 191 for five but Kohli and Ravindra's spin ensured that there were no further alarms.

A garland of muscular hits against Boult found Kohli nearly galloping to-

wards his ton before he fell at the last stretch but by then he had left India at the cusp of a special win.

In the afternoon as vehicular roads and boisterous fans disembarked in their blue shade, Kohli won the toss and elected to field.

India stepped in with two changes as Mohammed Shami and Suryakumar replaced Hardik

Pandya and Shardul Thakur.

Devon Conway, watchful against Jasprit Bumrah, flicked Mohammed Siraj to a diving Shreyas.

With Conway dismissed for nought and Shami's first ball in the current World Cup forcing Will Young to drag one onto his stumps, New Zealand needed an alliance.

The situation could have

become worse but in a rare episode of Ravindra dropping Ravindra, Jadeja

grasped Ravindra, when the latter was on 12 while Shami ruled his bad luck.

A partnership emerged between Ravindra and Daryl Mitchell with the high-light being their massive sixes off Kuldeep Yadav.

The pair survived vociferous appeals and bonded for more than 20 overs.

Mitchell, had his lucky break on 69 with Bumrah

dropping him off an aggrieved Kuldeep. The 159-run third-wicket alliance concluded when Ravindra (75) holed out in the deep off Shami. Kuldeep then trapped New Zealand skipper Tom Latham while Mitchell cruised towards his hundred.

The centurion watched fickle companions leave as

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND
Devon Conway c Shreyas b Siraj 0 (8b), Will Young b Shami 17 (27b, 3x4), Rachin Ravindra c Gill b Shami 75 (87b, 6x4, 2x6), Daryl Mitchell c Kohli b Shami 130 (127b, 4x4, 5x6), Tom Latham lbw b Kuldeep 5 (7b, 2x4), Glenn Phillips c Rohit b Kuldeep 23 (26b, 1x6), Mark Chapman c Kohli b Shami 8 (8b), Mitchell Santner b Shami 1 (2b), Matt Henry b Shami 0 (1b), Lockie Ferguson run out 0 (2b), Extras (b-3, lb-5, w-7): 15, Total (in 50 overs): 275.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-9 (Conway, 3.3 overs), 2-19 (Young, 8.1), 3-178 (Ravindra, 15.4), 4-235 (Latham, 36.5), 5-243 (Phillips, 44.2), 6-257 (Chapman, 46.6), 7-260 (Santner, 47.4), 8-260 (Henry, 47.5), 9-273 (Mitchell, 49.5).

INDIA BOWLING
Bumrah 19-1-45-1, Siraj 10-3-45-1, Shami 10-0-54-5, Jadeja 10-0-48-0, Kuldeep 10-0-72-2.

INDIA
Rohit Sharma b Ferguson 46 (60b, 4x4, 4x6), Shubman Gill c Mitchell b Ferguson 26 (31b, 5x6),

Virat Kohli c Phillips b Henry 95 (104b, 8x4, 2x6), Shreyas Iyer c Conway b Boult 33 (29b, 6x4), K.L. Rahul lbw b Santner 27 (35b, 3x4), Suryakumar Yadav run out 2 (4b), Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 39 (44b, 3x4, 2x6), Mohammed Shami (not out) 1 (2b), Extras (b-3, w-4): 5, Total (for six wickets in 48 overs): 274.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-71 (Rohit, 11.1), 2-76 (Gill, 13.2), 3-128 (Shreyas, 21.3), 4-182 (Rahul, 32.1), 5-191 (Suryakumar, 33.5), 6-269 (Kohli, 47.4).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING
Boult 10-0-60-1, Henry 9-0-55-1, Santner 10-0-37-1, Ferguson 8-0-43-2, Ravindra 9-0-46-0, Phillips 3-0-12-0.

Toss: India.
Match: India won by four wickets with two overs to spare.

Next assignment

NEW ZEALAND: October 28 vs. Australia, Dharamshala, 10.30 a.m.

INDIA: October 29 vs. England, Lucknow, 2 p.m.

Points table

	M	W	L	T	N/R	Net
India	5	3	0	1	1	3,193
New Zealand	5	4	1	0	0	3,481
South Africa	4	3	1	0	2	2,212
Australia	4	2	2	0	0	-0,193
Pakistan	4	2	2	0	0	-0,456
Bangladesh	4	1	3	0	0	-0,784
Netherlands	4	1	3	0	0	-0,790
Sri Lanka	4	1	3	0	0	-1,048
England	4	1	3	0	0	-1,248
Afghanistan	4	1	3	0	0	-1,250

Shami clattered stumps. Mitchell (130, 127b, 9x4, 5x6) became Shami's fifth victim (five for 54) as India

kept the visitors under 300. It proved within reach as Kohli played the lead star.

All dismissals are my favourites, difficult to pick one: Shami

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
DHARAMSHALA

The seasoned fast bowler was equally quick on the draw while addressing the media.

Fresh from a five for 54 yield against New Zealand, India seamer Mohammed Shami spoke with remarkable candour at the HPCA Stadium here on Sunday night. "I bowled a good line and length and took whatever came my way," he quipped.

Every brick matters
When asked about his favourite dismissal, Shami replied: "All dismissals are my favourites. It is difficult to pick one, it is like making a building, every brick matters and so is the case with every wicket, they all matter a lot."

There was a tricky query about him being benched in the previous games and Shami handled it with grace: "Yes it was a



Start and finish! Shami's first delivery turned out to be Young's last of the match. K.R. DEEPAK

bit difficult to be on the bench but I saw it this way. I am part of a World Cup squad and I was sure I will get a game, if not tomorrow,

then may be day after and when that happens I should be ready. More than all that I enjoyed the success of my teammates,

there is no space for jealousy here."

And about the whispers on the rough outfield, Shami was diplomatically personified: "Listen, the ground is the same for us and New Zealand, I don't want to complain and all, plus this involves ground-staff doing their work. In India the weather can change, there could be moisture, some places it can be dry and it gets difficult. All I would say is that the better the outfield, better it is for the game but yes, no complaints."

When a surprise guest – Mohammed Siraj stepped in, Shami acknowledged the camaraderie within the fast-bowling club.

"We work out plans and are happy when each of us do well. Siraj here has done well and he keeps egging you on, plus we also get to win medals in the dressing room. It is all good fun."

"The way India bowled was pretty special"

Lalith Kalidas
DHARAMSHALA

New Zealand batter Daryl Mitchell lauded India's death-bowling masterclass in its four-wicket win at the HPCA Stadium on Sunday.

"I think we set the platform at the 35-over mark. It felt it was very similar to what India was at that stage and we knew that India had a world-class death-bowling unit. For us, it was trying to cash in at the end," said Mitchell who scored his fourth ODI century this year.

Shami (five for 54) was adjudged Player-of-the-Match after combining with pacers Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj to give away just 144 in 30 overs.

"The way India bowled was pretty special. Shami got the rewards, but also Bumrah. The way the two, and Siraj, took wickets and those 30 overs held us back a bit," said Mitchell.

Rohit the first Indian to hit 50 sixes in ODIs in a year

Lalith Kalidas
DHARAMSHALA

Skipper Rohit Sharma became the first Indian batter to smash 50 sixes in a calendar year in One-Day Internationals.

Virat Kohli is the first player to hit 3,000 runs in ICC white-ball tournaments (50-over World Cup, T20 World Cup and Champions Trophy).

Kohli recorded his 67th fifty-plus score in run-chases in his 152nd innings. Only Sachin Tendulkar has more such scores in ODIs – 69 in 232 innings.

Mitchell's hundred is just the second by a New Zealand batter against India at the World Cup after 1999 years. The first was struck by Glenn Turner in the inaugural World Cup in 1975 at Old Trafford.

Mitchell also tied the Kiwi record for most ODI hundreds in a single calendar year with his fourth



Prolific! Mitchell tied the Kiwi record for most ODI hundreds in a calendar year. K.R. DEEPAK

ton in 2023.

Shami, in 95 matches, equalled Sirinath (229 matches) and Harbhajan Singh (234) for the most ODI five-fors among Indians.

India equalled New Zealand (2015) for the most wins – five – in consecutive World Cup matches

while chasing.

Shami, fielded Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Mohammed Shami for the first time in an ODI on Sunday against New Zealand. Incidentally, the trio also rank among the top-three Indian bowlers ever in terms of averages (min. 50 wickets).

MAKING HISTORY

Shami becomes first Indian to scalp two five-fors in World Cup



K.R. DEEPAK

▲ Mohammed Shami's five-wicket haul against New Zealand made him the first Indian to scalp two five-fors in the World Cup. He had finished with five for 69 against England at Birmingham in 2019. Kapil Dev, Venkatesh Prasad, Robin Singh, Ashish Nehra and Yuvraj Singh are the other Indians who have taken five-fors in the World Cup.

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US emerges as India's biggest trading partner during Apr-Sep this fiscal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

THE US has emerged as India's biggest trading partner during the first half of the current financial year despite global economic uncertainties and declining exports and imports, according to government data.

According to the provisional data of the commerce ministry, the bilateral trade between India

and the US has declined by 11.3 per cent to \$59.67 billion during April-September 2023 against \$67.28 billion in the same period last year. Exports to the US have come down to \$38.28 billion during April-September 2023 from \$41.49 billion a year ago.

Imports also declined to \$21.39 billion during the first six months of the current fiscal compared to \$25.79 billion in the same period last year. Similarly, the two-way trade between India and

China also dipped by 3.56 per cent to \$58.11 billion. Exports to China contracted marginally to \$7.74 billion during the first half of the current fiscal from \$7.84 billion in the year-ago period. Imports fell to \$50.47 billion from \$52.42 billion a year earlier.

Trade experts believe that though exports and imports are declining between India and the US due to global demand slowdown, the growth rate will enter a positive zone soon.

VIENNA CONVENTION

As India asks Canada to downsize its diplomatic staff, both countries have invoked the 1961 Vienna Convention. The US and UK have mentioned it too

RISHIKA SINGH

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

AMID THE ongoing standoff between India and Canada, the Canadian government last week announced it had recalled 41 diplomats posted in India. Canada's Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said this was because they were "in danger of having immunity stripped on an arbitrary date" and that would have "put their personal safety at risk".

Earlier this month, India had sought parity with Canada, asking it to downsize its diplomatic staff here. India has about 20 diplomats in Canada and said there should be a similar number of Canadian diplomats in India as well.

The US and UK have backed Canadian diplomats' presence. Further, they spoke of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, which has also been mentioned by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, S Jaishankar.



Jaishankar has justified India's demand for diplomatic parity. *File*

matic Relations (1961) is a United Nations treaty that set some common principles and terms on how countries must treat each other's diplomatic representatives, in order to ensure friendly relations and maintain proper communication channels between countries.

One prominent example of such principles is that of diplomatic immunity. It's the privilege of exemption from certain laws and taxes granted to diplomats by

What has India said?

India rejected Joly's contention, where she said that the "unilateral revocation of the diplomatic privilege and immunity is contrary to international law" and a violation of the Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

In a press release, the MEA said, "The state of our bilateral relations, the much higher number of Canadian diplomats in India, and their continued interference in our internal affairs warrant a parity in mutual diplomatic presence in New Delhi and Ottawa." It added, "Our actions in implementing this parity are fully consistent with Article 11.1 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations."

And what is the Vienna Convention?

The Vienna Convention on Diplo-

laws and taxes granted to diplomats by the country in which they are posted. It was framed so that diplomats could function without fear, threat or intimidation from the host country.

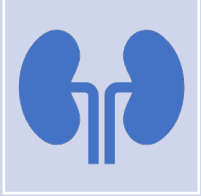
Diplomatic immunity flows from two conventions, popularly called the Vienna Conventions — the 1961 Convention and the Convention on Consular Relations, 1963.

The 1961 Convention says, "Article 29: The person of a diplomatic agent shall be inviolable. He shall not be liable to any form of arrest or detention. The receiving State shall treat him with due respect and shall take all appropriate steps to prevent any attack on his person, freedom or dignity."

Today, 193 countries have ratified the convention, meaning they agree it should be legally binding on them.



Daily 5 vocab



CLOGGED : Adjective: the action of becoming or causing something to become obstructed or blocked.



Synonyms: Blocked, obstructed, congested



Antonyms: Unblocked, cleared, opened, freed.

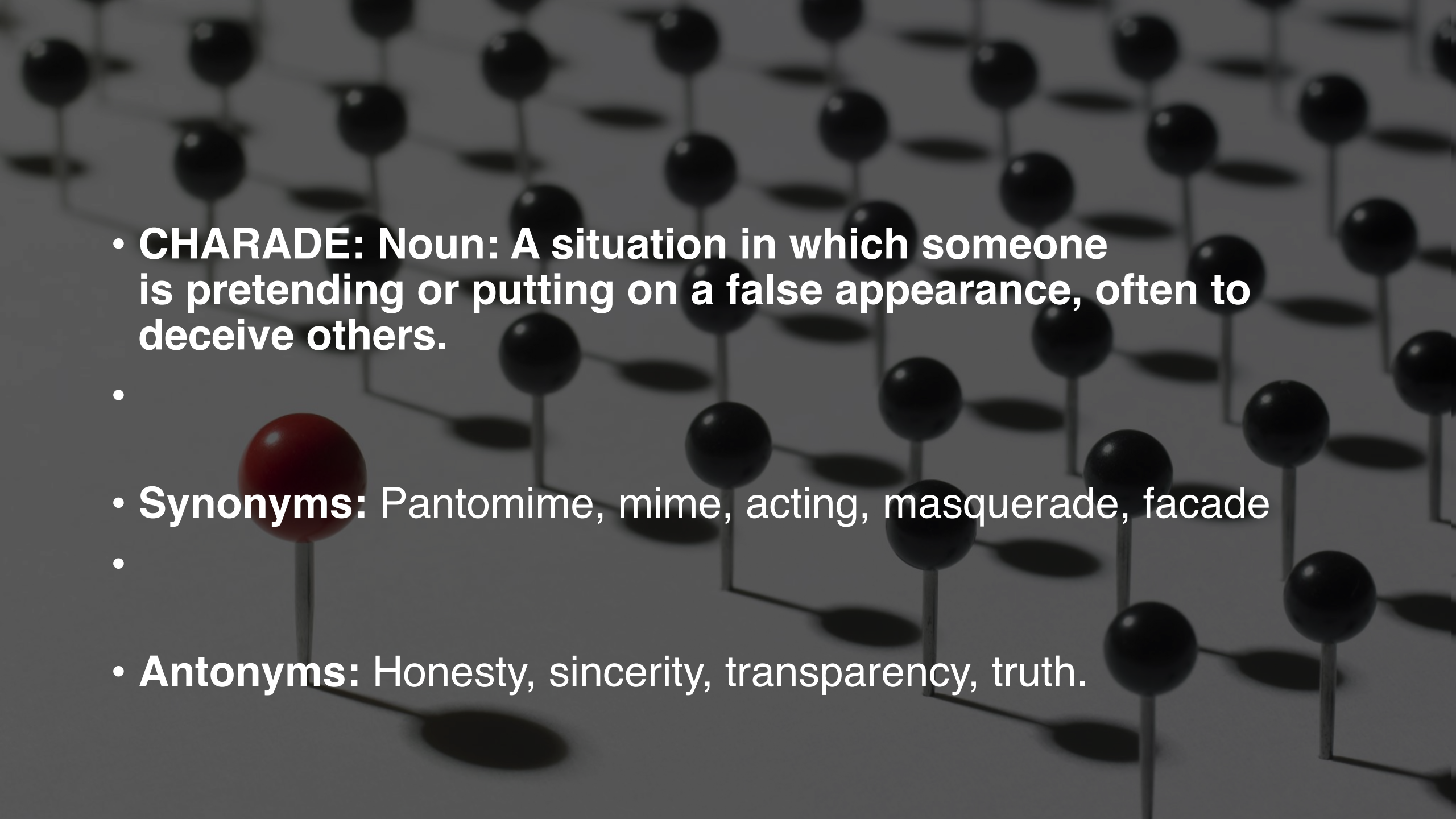
CRAMMED: Adjective: filled or packed tightly with an excessive or overcrowded amount of something.

A light orange arrow pointing downwards from the definition box to the synonyms box.

Synonyms: squeezed, jammed, forced, wedged.

A light gray arrow pointing downwards from the synonyms box to the antonyms box.

Antonyms: Emptied, cleared, unpacked.



- **CHARADE:** Noun: A situation in which someone is pretending or putting on a false appearance, often to deceive others.

-

- **Synonyms:** Pantomime, mime, acting, masquerade, facade

-

- **Antonyms:** Honesty, sincerity, transparency, truth.

- **VOCIFEROUS: Adjective** : loud, noisy, or characterized by vehement and persistent outcry or expression of opinions


-

- **Synonyms:** clamorous, boisterous, raucous

-

- **Antonyms:** muted, peaceful, meek

-

- 
- **-HARP: Verb: to talk or complain about it repeatedly, often in a tedious or annoying manner.**
 -
 - **Synonyms:** Dwell, obsess, nag, repeat
 -
 - **Antonyms:** Move on, let go, forget



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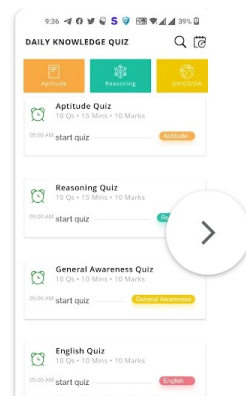
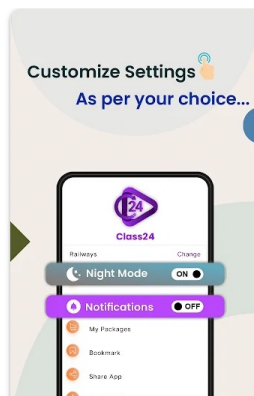
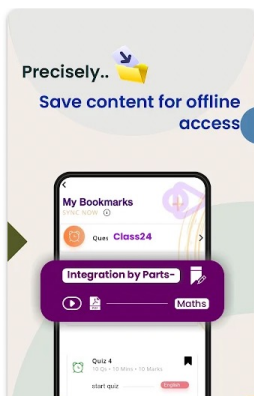
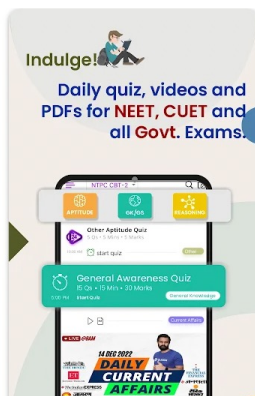
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