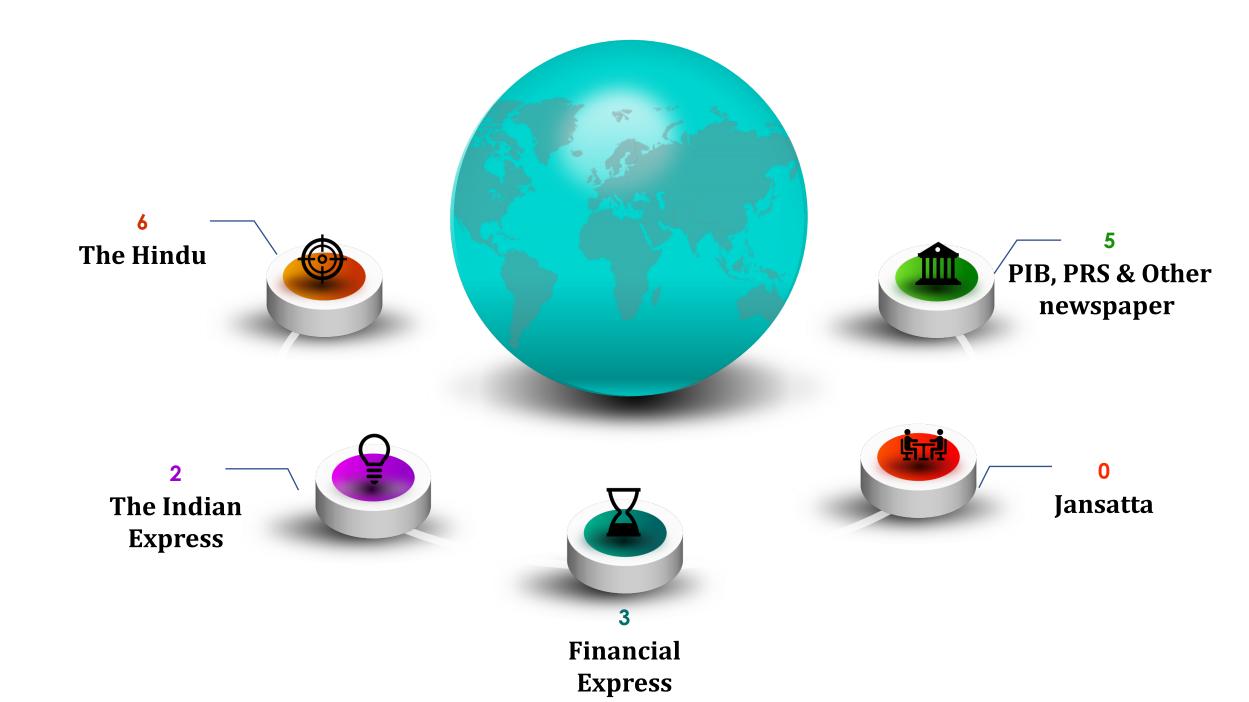
# Daily Current Affairs







THE **EXPRESS** 











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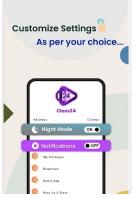


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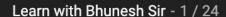






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#### Israel steps up attack; Gaza denied water, fuel

UN aid agency is on the verge of stopping operations; hospitals are on the brink and the death toll climbs beyond 700 a day; Israel flavs Antonio Guterres, who has decried 'collective punishment'

#### GAZA STRIP/TERUSALEM

he main UN aid agency in besieged Gaza warned it will have to stop operations by the end of Wednesday beuse it is running out of fuel. Hamas said the death toll from Israeli strikes had

toll from Israeli strikes had surged by more than 700 in a single day.

Alarm has grown about the spiralling humanitar-bombarded Gaza Strip where one doctor said he was forced to perform emergency surgery on the wounded without

usual water, food and oth-er supplies, and fewer than 70 relief trucks have en-70 relief trucks have en-tered since the war started – "a drop of aid in an ocean of need", warned UN chief Antonio Guterres. Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to "eliminate Ha-mas" and Israeli strikes have pow killed ower 6 500 have now killed over 6,500

people in Gaza, a rise of ov-



terres decried the "epic suffering" in Gaza and the "collective punishment" of its 2.4 million people.

'Not in a vacuum' Not in a vacuum'
It is "important to also recognise the attacks by Hamas did not happen in a
vacuum. The Palestinian
people have been subjected to 56 years of suffocating occupation... They have seen their land steadipeople in Gaza, a rise of ov-er 700 since Tuesday, a-cording to the Hamas-run health ministry.

Tempers flared earlier at the UN where Mr. Gu-there of the recommy stiffed; their people displaced and their

tion to their plight have been vanishing," Mr. Gu-terres said in a special UN

Security Council meeting. "But the grievances of "But the grievances of the Palestinian people can-not justify the appalling at-tacks by Hamas. And those appalling attacks cannot justify the collective pun-ishment of the Palestinian

people," he added.

His comments drew a furious response from Israel. "Mr. Secretary-General, in what world do you live?" replied Israeli Fo-reign Minister Eli Cohen,

who recounted graphic ac-counts of civilians killed in the deadliest single attack in Israeli history. Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Gilad Erdan, called

upon Mr. Guterres to re-sign, writing on X that the UN chief had "expressed an understanding for ter-rorism and murder".

On day 19, the UN agen-cy for Palestinian refugees UNRWA warned it cannot

#### A month after suspension, India partially resumes visa services for Canadians

umed visa services for cer-tain categories for Cana-dian citizens, nearly a month after they were sus-pended in the aftermath of Canada's allegations of In-dian involvement in the

dian involvement in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijiar, and a week after 41 Milling of Hardeep Singh Nijiar, and a week after 41 Milling of Hardeep Singh Nijiar, and a week after 41 Milling Nijiar Nijiar



of Indian origin. Officials said that applications from Canadians in these categories would be accepted at Indian missions in other countries as well.

"After a considered review of the security situation that takes into account some recent Canadian measures in this regard, it has been decided to res-



#### Modi govt, has no vision for future. savs Privanka

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said the Narenda Modi government has "no vision" for the future at a rally in Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district on Wednesday ahead of the Assembly poll. » Page 4

#### Jarange-Patil goes on hunger strike again



in Australia's huge win

#### NCERT panel suggests replacing 'India' with 'Bharat' in textbooks

A high-level committee set up by the National Council of Educational Research and Training to revise the and Training to revise the social sciences curriculum has recommended that the schanged of the schanged of me "India" to "Bharat" in school text-books. With Opposition parties protesting, the NCERT on Wednesday clarified that the proposal han to been approved yet, and it was "too premature to comment on the issue.

C.I. Issac, panel chair, told presspersons that the panel had proposed the name change in textbooks from the primary to the high school level.

On the news in media being flashed about chang-ing the name of India into Bharat in all NCERT text-Bharat in all NCERT text-books, NCERT states that since the development of new sylfablus and text-new sylfablus and text-companies of the sylfablus and for that purpose various for that purpose various for that purpose various formation and the sylfablus of the sylfablus and the sylfablus it is too premature to com-ment on the news being flashed in the media on the concerned issue," the concerned issue," the the opposition parties,

The Opposition parties, including the Congress, the Rashtriya Janata Dal

# as Congress, RJD. and AAP criticise the move; BJP

leaders welcome it

(RJD) and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), criticised the recommendation. The BJP leaders welcomed it. Mr. Issac, a member of

the Indian Council of His-torical Research (ICHR), is a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) sympathiser and was a faculty member in the Department of His-tory of the Kottayam-based

CMS College. He had been with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) for a long time and is currently president of the Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram, a right wing think tank.
The committee includ-

ed senior academics such as ICHR chairperson Ragu-vendra Tanwar, Yandana Markot Luker, Yandana Markot Lukers was and Vasant Shinde, an archaelogist and former Vice-Chancellor of Deccan Col-Talking to The Hindu, Mr. Shinde confirmed that the committee had submitteed its proposal to the MCERT four months ago. ed senior academics such



#### The legality of using white phosphorus

uman Rights Watch recently accused Israel of using white n Gaza, and said that such weapons put civilians at risk of serious and long-term injury. In the 2008-2009 Gaza War too, Israel Defense Forces (IDF) struck the Gaza Strip with sub-munitions containing white phosphorus. The Israeli government, which initially denied this, later acknowledged that it did use white phosphorus in 2009, but only in uninhabitable areas, for the purpose of signallin areas, for the purpose of signallin

A toxic substance In the summary of the report of the United Nations Headquarters the United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry into certain incidents in the Gaza Strip between December 27, 2008 and January 19, 2009, the then UN Secretary General said that the IDF had targeted certain UN facilities and asserted that "any precautions that were taken by the IDF were clearly inadequate in view of the firing of high-explosive shells into the compound [of a UNRWA Field Office]."

Further, the UN Fact Finding Further, the UN Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, also called the Goldstone Report (2009), condemned the IDF's use of white phosphorus in civilian outrage both at international and domestic levels in the case of Your Hass and others v. Chief of Stuff (2013), the Israel military agreed to abandon the use of white the case of Your the Conflict of the Conflict of Stuff (2014), the Israel military agreed to abandon the last of William (2015), the Israel military agreed to business which they communicated to the Justices at the Israel High Court of Justices at the Israel High Court of the consideration of alternatives. The outrage over the use of the toxic substance led to calls for investigations into whether its us constituted a violation of

international humanitarian law White phosphorus has a wide range of applications. It is useful i military operations. But it also White phosphorus can be



Nabeela Siddiqui is Assistant Professor

Parties involved

in armed conflicts must

that their

standards

international

humanitarian

law to ensure

actions conform to legal

cover for military manoeuvre Additionally, it can be used in incendiary devices such as which can result in persistent and

creens in the context of combat, aindering visibility and providing

which can result in persistent and intense fires, effective against people, equipment, and people, equipment, and concerns surrounding its use in populated areas are significant due to its potential to cause severe due to its potential to cause severe Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) imposes restrictions on the use of white phosphorus, with the aim of safeguarding civilians.

use is subject to the rules and principles of international humanitarian law, which aims to minimise harm to both civilians and combatants in armed conflicts. This includes the principles of distinction, which require differentiation between combatants and civilians, and proportionality, ensuring that military actions do not cause excessive harm to civilians excessive harm to civilians compared to the military advantage sought. International humanitarian law also prohibits indiscriminate attacks that may disproportionately harm civilian

Incendiary weapon
Protocol III under the CCW
specifically deals with incendiary
weapons. Article 1 of this protoco
defines an "incendiary weapon" designed to set fire to objects or to cause burn injury to persons through the action of flame, heat, or combination thereof, produced by a chemical reaction of a substance delivered on the target. Article 1(b)(i) includes an exemption in this classification for munitions that may cause unintended incendiary effects. such as illuminants, tracers,

primarily intended to produce lluminating and smokescreen effects, with the incendiary aspects being secondary or unintentional. Consequentl incendiary munitions clearly fall Protocol III's definition of an

ncendiary weapon." The Chemical Weapons The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is a treaty that Convention (CWC) is a treaty that on the time of the convention of the use of chemical weapons, white phosphorus, although a chemical agent and toxic, is not employed as an incendiary weapon and not for chemical under the regulations of Protocol III of the CCW. However, Protocol III of the CCW. However, Protocol multi-purpose munitions such as in does not effectively regulate multi-purpose munitions such as those containing white phosphorus, which can cause harm in the same way as the incendiary weapons it defines. Strengthening Protocol III would be a progressive step in terms of legal and procedural process. In this context, it is important to consider the Advisory Opinion on consider the Advisory Opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (International Court of Justice Report 226, 1996) and Additional Protocol I of the Geneva Conventions, which assess the effects of specific types of weapons to determine their

international law, treaties, and protocols to reduce harm to both civilians and the environment. Breaches of these legal principles can lead to global condemnation, investigation investigations, and potential prosecution for war crimes. Strengthening Protocol III would create a binding agreement for states that prevents them from engaging in uses that exploit legal loopholes. Removing ambiguity in Protocol III would also facilitate enforcement because with clearer rules, violations will become more

#### The issues in navigating Bengaluru

The new Metro line has helped, but more needs to be done to decongest the city

STATE OF PLAY Darshan Devaiah B.P.

welve years after it first began operations, achieves the Bengalum Metroschieves the Bengalum Metrosch

ween Challaghatta and White-field, the city's IT hub. Covering a distance of 43.49 km with 37 stations in bet-ween, the commute takes only about 80 minutes, for an end-to-end fare of ₹60. The line became operational on October

came operational on October 9 and was officially inaugurated by the Prime Minister virtually on October 20.
Following the introduction of the Purple Line, Namma Metro has experienced a notable increase of 86,000 passenses of 80,000 passenses of 8 reported by the Bangalore Me-tro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL). This is testimony to the crying need for good public transport. The Bengaluru 73.81 km with 66 Metro sta-tions. It is now the second-lar-gest Metro system in India after Delhi (350,2 km in length).

According to traffic police, there has been a noticeable reduction of 12%-14% in traffic Old Madras Road, one of the crucial Metro corridors and one of the busiest roads in the

:::

city, since the introduction of the Purple Line. But while the Purple Line But while the Purple Line has succeeded in persuading thousands to choose the Me-tro as their mode of commute, last-mile connectivity issues within the city still persist. Pu-blic transport experts empha-sise that addressing this issue is crucial if the city intends to encourage more people to encourage more people to transition to the Metro, Prioritising solutions for the last mile challenge is essential to making Metro travel a more viable and convenient option.

The Bangalore Political Ac-tion Committee in collabora-tion with the World Resources tion with the World Resources Institute initiated the #Personal2Public campaign to promote reduced personal webicle usage. As part of this effort, Transport Corporation (BMTC) recently introduced feeder bus services connecting multiple metro stations to the prominent tech corridor-to-the prominent tech corridors only a drop in the ocean. Besides, although the Me-Besides, although the Me-

only a drop in the ocean.

Besides, although the Metro extension has provided some relief to passengers, the six-coach trains have become excessively crowded. Despite trains running every three minutes during peak hours, pasnutes during peak hours, pas-sengers have expressed con-cerns about BMRCL struggling to cope with the overwhelm-ing demand. BMRCL officials have been saying that this isBMRCL operates 57 trains, with 33 allocated to the Purple Line and 24 to the Green Line

Having secured a ₹1,578-crore contract in 2019 to supply extra Metro coaches, Chi na Railway Rolling Stock Cor na Railway Rolling Stock Cor-poration (CRRC) encountered delays which were attributed to its inability to establish a solution of the control of the BMRCL issued several notices to CRRC, indicating the possi-bility of encashing its 5372 crore bank guarantee, Subse-quently, the Chinese company based Titagarh Wagons to ful-based Titagarh Wagons to fulbased Titagarh Wagons to ful-fil the contract by supplying the remaining coaches, cru cial for under-construction

stretches. Over the years, BMRCL has gained notoriety for its persis tent delays and unmet dea-dlines, causing considerable inconvenience to the public. inconvenience to the public. This situation is particularly challenging in a city that is also the public of the p

In Bengaluru, though the Purple Line is now fully operational, other crucial stretches that can play an important role in decongesting the city are set to only open in phases in April 2024, March 2025 and by the end of 2026, Given that the Metro has not exactly co vered itself in glory in keeping

#### Israel has an iron grip over Gaza and West Bank's economy

Over half the imports of the Palestinian territories are from Israel and over 80% of all exports go to Israel

#### DATA POINT

he Data point published on Monday titled 'Five wars in 15 years stifled Gaza's growth' described how the Gaza Strip and West Bank lagged behind many countries on several socio-economic indicators. It showed that the long conflict between Ha-mas and Israel and the widespread use of violence by Israeli forces on Palestinian territories have stalled

Palestinian territories have stalled Gaza's socio-economic growth.

This second part of the threepart series on the conflict takes a
possible series of the threepart series of the threepart series of the threepart series and the threepart series and the threepart series and the territories as the territories' economy.

Israel controls a significant share of the territories' economy.

The territories' economy.

ed that the share of Palestinians who are either looking for jobs or are working was among the lowest in the world. It also showed that there are record levels of unemployment in West Bank and Gaza due to lack of industries. Reports show that even among those who are employed, a significant share of them works in Israel or in its settlements. As of early 2022, more than 1.5 lakh Palestinians were working in Israel and its settle-ments. This is one-fifth of all the workers from the West Bank. Their income contributed a quarter of the West Bank's GDP.

the West Bank's GDP.

Not only are many Palestinians unemployed, but many of them are also underemployed or paid are also underemployed or paid at 33% of workers from Gaza received less than the minimum wage (\$435) as of 2021. Such heavy reliance on Israel, below-par payment, and constant bombardment the particular of the particular o territories has grown at a snail's pace over recent decades while israel's GDP showed rapid growth.

Chart I shows the difference in the even their access to family.

#### GDP growth of Israel and Palesti-

nian territories. Israel's control over Palestine's economy is more deeply felt through foreign trade restrictions.

In 2021, over half of all items im-ported by the Palestinian territo-ries came from Israel and over 80% of all exports went to Israel. Chart 2 shows the major sources and destinations, of imports and exports, from and to the Palesti-nian territories in 2021.

Electricity, water and fuel, which form the bulk of Palestine's should be a second of the composition of the compos off access, as is the case during the

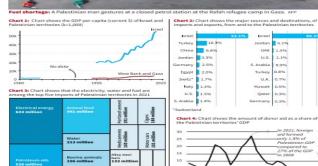
ongoing conflict. Given that Palestinians rely hea-vily on Israel, a war with Tel Aviv can leave them stripped of re-sources, necessitating foreign aid. In Gaza, 80% of people depend on international assistance. However, foreign aid, which started declin foreign aid, which started declin-ing in the 2010s, touched the low-est-ever level in the 2020s. In 2021, foreign aid formed only 1.8% of Palestinian GDP compared to 27%

Palestinian GDP compared to 27% of the GDP in 2008. Chart 4 shows the amount of donor aid as a share of the Palestinian torritories' GDP. of the Palestinian torritories' GDP. of the entry and exits in the territories which results in a "permit regime," typically leading to exploitation of workers, traders and patients. Consequently, many Palestinian of the West Palestinian of the West Palestinian of the Consequently, many Palestinian of the West Pank on time. This results in the Palestinian of the West Pa or the West Bank on time. This res-tricts their employment opportun-ities, access to health services and

#### Crippling dependence

nt, the World Bank, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, and the UN Comtrade





#### FROM THE ARCHIVES The Mindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FROM THE OCTOBER 25, 1973 EDITION AS THERE WAS NO EDITION ON OCTOBER 26, 1973

#### India and Bangla to review process of repatriation

New Delbi, Oct. 24: India and Bangladesh will review the progress of the three-way repatriation under the Delbi Agreement in Dacca during the week-end. An official Dacca during the week-end. An official Dacca during the week-end. An official Agreement in Charge of the Pakistan Division in the External Affairs Ministry, is leaving for Dacca on October 26 for the purpose. The review is being made particularly in the light of the declining number of the Pakistan of the declining number of the Pakistan of the Company of the Compa New Delhi, Oct. 24: India and Bangladesh will be in Dacca for two to three days. By the time the delegation reached Dacca, Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rehman would have returned to Bangladesh from his visit in Japan. At a press conference in Tokyo, Sheikh Mujib had accused Pakistan of failing to carry out its part of the New Delhi Agreement for mutual repatriation of nationals stranded when the country split. He had said: "We are taking everybody who wants to come back from Pakistan. They are not giving clearance to many people who want to mo Pakistan from Bangladesh."

#### A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 26, 1923 In Greece

Athens, October 25: A crowd of several thousands with flags and banners marched the streets and demonstrated in favour of the form of the balcony of the ministry and declared that the Government would proceed with the inexorable execution of its original programment only surrendering the reins of power to the

elected representatives of the people.

# Israel has an iron grip over Gaza and West Bank's economy

Over half the imports of the Palestinian territories are from Israel and over 80% of all exports go to Israel

#### **DATA POINT**

#### Sonikka Loganathan & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

he Data point published on Monday titled 'Five wars in 15 years stifled Gaza's growth' described how the Gaza Strip and West Bank lagged behind many countries on several socioeconomic indicators. It showed that the long conflict between Hamas and Israel and the widespread use of violence by Israeli forces on Palestinian territories have stalled Gaza's socio-economic growth.

This second part of the threepart series on the conflict takes a look at how dependent Palestinians are on Israel for employment and basic amenities such as GDP growth of Israel and Palestinian territories.

Israel's control over Palestine's economy is more deeply felt through foreign trade restrictions. In 2021, over half of all items imported by the Palestinian territories came from Israel and over 80% of all exports went to Israel. Chart 2 shows the major sources and destinations, of imports and exports, from and to the Palestinian territories in 2021.

Electricity, water and fuel, which form the bulk of Palestine's imports, are largely supplied by Israel. Over 60% of Gaza's electricity supply is imported from Israel, while the power plant in Gaza supplies the rest. The plant in turn imports diesel from Israel. Due to gaps in supply inside the territories, water is imported from Israel

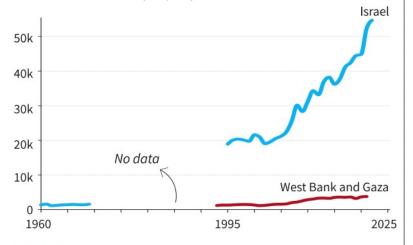
# Crippling dependence

The data for the charts are collated from reports prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, and the UN Comtrade



Fuel shortage: A Palestinian man gestures at a closed petrol station at the Rafah refugee camp in Gaza. AFP

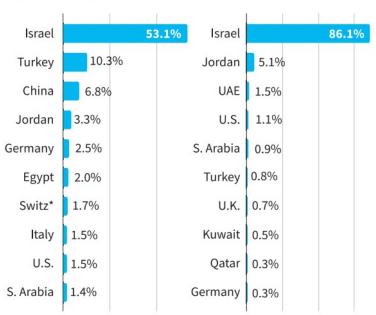
**Chart 1:** Chart shows the GDP per capita (current \$) of Israel and Palestinian territories (k=1,000)



**Chart 3:** Chart shows that the electricity, water and fuel are among the top five imports of Palestinian territories in 2021

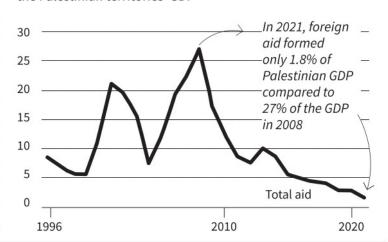
Electrical energy 633 million	Animal feed <b>441 million</b>	Portland cement 191 million	Cigars 188 million	
		a a surfix		
	Water 213 million	Medicaments 185 million	Motor cars 181 million	
		ΣÄ	ΣÄ	
Petroleum oils <b>526 million</b>	Bovine animals 196 million	Alloy steel bars 133 million		
	Telephone sets 194 million	Human blood 117 million		

**Chart 2:** Chart shows the major sources and destinations, of imports and exports, from and to the Palestinian territories



<sup>\*</sup>Switzerland

**Chart 4:** Chart shows the amount of donor aid as a share of the Palestinian territories' GDP







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#### ASSEMBLY POLLS 2023

Rainut as well

#### BJP urges EC to take legal action against Priyanka

India (EC) to take action India (EC) to take action against Congress general secretary Priyanka Vadra for what it termed as her "false claims" about "the personal religious devotion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

and party leaders Anil Baluni and Om Pathak, submitted a complaint to the EC seeking propriate legal action inst Ms. Vadra. The BJP's where she spoke of a telev news report claiming that when a donation envelope offered by the Prime Mini at a temple was opened, it had only ₹21. "She adds she saw the news and is not aware if the claim is true or not" the



A BJP delegation speaks to the media outside the Election

#### Cong. complains to EC against Shah, Assam CM

officially complained to the Election Commission against Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Assam Chief Ministe them of violating the mode ode of conduct (MCC) while campaigning for the Chhattisgarh Assembly poll. The party alleged misuse official machinery in

against Madhya Pradesh Transport Minister Gopal Singh





time and it adopted all kinds of tactics to remain in power, but it failed to do anything to change their (tribals') lives ARJUN MUNDA

#### Reel to real. Newton actor is a national icon



The Modi govt. generating any employment creating new educational institutions



#### Plant a promise and harvest a field of questions

Shubhomoy Sikdar

he Congress's latest promise to waive farm loans if the party returns to power in Chhattisgarh has raised new questions surrounding policy initiatives and the political narrative in the poll-bound State. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, who made the announcement on Monday, compared the decision to loan write-offs for industrialists. good for the overall economy. Though the Congress has officially welcomed the move, with spokespersons even calling it a maste stroke, some within the party have a different opinion. There are those who feel the

opinion. There are those who feel the decision may have been mudged by some decision may have been mudged by some "We have run the government for five years, bought goadly [the main crop in the State] for 72.500 a sparinal. Our claim is that state for 72.500 a sparinal. Our claim is that state of the st

Farm loan waiver was a crucial electoral promise made by the Congress in 2018 and is believed to have paid a major role in catapuling it back to power after a 15-year catapuling it back to power in the Bupesh isaghel government waived of around 19,000 corre of leans owed by farmers, benefiting 18 lakh of them.

In the past five years, the government has often talked about its initiatives that have strengthened the rural economy, resulting in the past of the rural economy, resulting in the past of the rural economy, resulting the past of the past of the rural economy, resulting in the past of the rural economy, resulting the past of the past of the rural economy, resulting the past of the past of the rural economy, resulting the past of the past of the rural economy, resulting the past of the past of the rural economy, resulting the past of the past of the rural economy, resulting the rural economy.

increasing incomes, acreage under cultivation and number of individuals engaged in farming. Mr. Baghel has even cited factors such as tractor sale figures to back his claims. However, these very claims are inviting the questions on the need for a loan

waiver.

Political commentator Neeraj Mishra suggests that if the government has that kind of money, it can make a policy of providing of more and the policy of providing the procurement price. "The government can increase the procurement brice." The government can increase the procurement budget by adding the few thousand crores that it has to spend every five years for loan waivers. That way, the need for borrowing for input elements such as fertilizers, etc. can be addressed and there would be no need for other interest groups, be it the banks or the government

servants," he says. Sudesh Tikam, a Rajnandgaon-based issue of bonuses and crop insurance and contested the 2019 Lok Sabha election on the farmer interest plank, says the sale of harvesters and tractors as claimed by the ent may not be a clear indicator of government may not be a clear indicator of how well the farmers are doing. "The input costs are increasing for the farmers, be it for fertilizers or labour. We also have to acknowledge that the farmer is a social being and has other financial commitments to.

and has other financial commitments too. Setting aside a miniscule portion of the annual budget to consolidate their votes may Mr. Mishra, as well as the Congress leader quoted above, however, differ on this and say such pre-election announcements may such pre-election announcements may spend the money on non-agriculture related expenses in the hope of a future waiver. The Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party questions the thing of the announcement.

CM CO

The election is said to be the closest in the State's recent electoral history with both the BJP and the Congress hoping to get all their moves right; while the Congress presents a united front, the BJP has fielded a galaxy of veterans, but CM Chouhan continues to be at the centre of the narrative

All bets are off in Madhya Pradesh fight

#### IN FOCUS

Mehul Malpani

t has been days since the BJP and the Con-gress released their candidate lists for most of

candidate lists for most of Madhya Pradesh's 230 seats for the Assembly-compared to the compared to the compar

the nominations.
The election is said to be cent electoral history with both the BJP and the Con-gress hoping to get all their moves right. The despera-tion has been reflected in

tion has been reflected in the approach of the two parties from their ground-level strategies to campaign pitches to projecting. The Congress, which had managed to form a government in 2018 but lost it to lyottraditys Scindia's rebellion in 2020, has once again decided to go with the leadership of Kamal

Nath. Mr. Nath has been micro-managing the Con-gress's strategy with not much interference from the party's central leadership. The party has also de-clared him its chief minis-

terial candidate. The party, which would deal with severe infighting deal with severe infighting among various factions in previous elections, this project a united front led by Mr. Nath and backed by the Nath and backed by cluding Digivijava Singh, Kantilla Bhuria, Ajav Singh and Arun Vadaw the par-ty ranks has come to the fore of late after the ticket few days, upset party workers have protested against the two leaders.

wever, argue that the prot-ests and struggle for party ticket are a reflection of how energised the party' cadre is this time. The BJP, which has ruled Madhya Pradesh for 18 out of the past 20 years, has decided to go with what it calls "collective lea-

dership" and not named Shivrai Singh Chouhan, its 16-year-CM, as the party's face. The BJP sprang a surClose shave

The table lists the number of seats won and vote share secured by parties in the past two Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh. The 2018 election saw a close contest with no party reaching the halfway mark of 116.

	2018		2013	
BJP	109	41.02%	165	44.88%
Cong.	114	40.8996	58	36.38%
IND	4	5.82%	3	5.38%
Others	3	12.27%	4	13.36%

for SCs:



defeat anti-incumbency while some said that one of them could be a replace-ment to Mr. Chouhan. The party insider, however, called its a calculat-ed move to utilise their influence not just on their seats but also to reenergise

230

"For example, (Union Minister Narendra Singh) Tomar ji has been fielded from Dimani seat which comes under his Lok Sab-ha constituency Morens in ha constituency Morena in Gwalior-Chambal region. Gwallor-Chambai region.
The BJP could only win seven out of 34 seats of the region and Congress got 26. This time around the

party hopes for Mr. To-mar's popularity to work in its favour," he said. Also hailing from the region, Mr. Scindia, who moved from the Congress to the BJP in March 2020

with several MLAs paving the way for a BJP government, has also been active ly campaigning to prove his worth in the saffron party.
The party has fielded
Union Ministers Prahlad
Singh Patel from Narsingh-

Singh Patel from Narsingh-pur seat in place of his brother and sitting MLA, Jalam Singh Patel, and Un-ion Minister Faggan Singh Kulaste from tribal-domi-nated Mandla district's Ni-was seat, which his brother

Rampyare Kulaste lost in 2018. The two districts are part of the politically imwhere the BJP could win

gress bagged 28. Dealing with all odds, Mr. Chouhan, a seasoned politician, a great orator and dubbed by many as a "survivalist", continues to be at the centre of the nar-

Charged up after its vic-tory in Karnataka Assembtory in Karnataka Assemb-ly polls in May, the Con-gress began its poll campaign in M.P. by an-nouncing multiple populist schemes such as ₹1,500 a month to women; ₹500-1,500 to school students;

The Hindu Bureau

mental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) for Assembly elec-tions in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Mizo-

ram and Chhattisgarh is left to local Congress units

of the respective States," Mr. Kharge told pressper-

sons in Kalaburagi. "Local Congress leaders will de-cide whether or not to go

decide seat sharing

increased price of wheat and rice crops; health insu-rance on the lines of its government in Rajasthan; 27% reservation to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in government jobs; and and implementation of Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

Pension Scheme (OPS). The BJP's Shivraj government, which has run its own welfare schemes for years, was quick to catch up and increased the allowance to women under ts 'Ladli Behna Yojana' rom ₹1.000 to ₹1.250. Mr. Chouhan has also pro-mised to raise the amount to ₹1,500 and eventually

to ₹1,500 and eventually take it to ₹3,000. Mr. Chouhan, days be-fore the poll announce-ment, also announced and notified 35% reservation

vey if voted to power, in a move to win over the State's nearly 50% OBC The BIP has been rela-

based divide in the society.
The demand has not yet
gained momentum with a
Congress leader saying
that though the party is
taking the word to the
masses, its impact is yet to
be seen on the ground.

#### Hit by protests within. Congress replaces four more candidates in M.P.

Mehul Malpani

Facing protests by suppor-ters of disgruntled party leaders since the release of its nomination lists, the Congress on Wednesday replaced its candidates for four more seats in the Mad-hya Pradesh Assembly election.

election.
In a communication on
Wednesday, the All India
Congress Committee fielded Ajab Singh Kushwah
from Sumawali in place of Kuldeep Sikarwar; Viren-dra Belvanshi from Pipari-ya in place of Guru Charan Khare: Murli Morwal from Badnagar in place of Rajen dra Singh Solanki; and Virender Singh Solanki from Jaora in place of Himmat

The four names were on the Congress's second list of 88 candidates released of 88 candidates released on October 19. The protests against ticket distribution, which began after the release of the first list of 144 seats, only intensified airtheologies, with party workers demonstrating outside State party chief Kamal Nath's residence, the PCC office in Bhopal, and against candidates and against candidates across the State. Several party workers also took out protests

four seats had been named in the Congress' second list of 88 candidates

against senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh, and burnt him in effigy. The Congress had ear-lier replaced three of its



Candidates for the

against senior Congress

Changes speculated

The Congress had earlier replaced three of its
candidates that were anlier replaced three of its
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candidates for a large replaced three
changes to accididates for a
core Brahmin votes.

The party expects Mr.
Shukla would help it sedepending on the parties'
depending on the parties'
depending on the parties'
the focus at present is on
the focus at

March 2020, along with the 21 other MLAs who

joined the revolt led by Ivo-

tiraditya Scindia, now a Union Minister, Mr. Kush-

wah joined the Congress and won the 2020

#### BJP completes | Cong. State units will Chhattisgarh nominations with new faces

The Hindu Bureau

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday an-nounced its four remaining The State units of the Connounced its four remaining candidates, all new faces, for the Chhattisgarh As-sembly election. The party has replaced an MLA and fielded an ex-Congress man against Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singh Deo for the high-profile contest in the Ambikapur Assembly constituency. are yet to happen.
"Decision on seat shar-ing with parties in the In-dian National Develop-mental, Inclusive Alliance

onstituency. From the Beltara constigion, Rajnish Singh, MLA, has been dropped and the party has chosen the 40year-old Sushant Shukla, from there. Mr. Shukla, a former member of the State youth commission, is co-in-charge of the Bharati-ya Janata Yuva Morcha State unit.



across the country as the BJP had not delivered on its

promises.

"BJP has failed to fulfil its campaigns for previous elections. People are disappointed with the BJP rule," Mr. Kharge said. "Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi is going everywh-ere and trying to convince actually work for them and who will not and exercise their franchises according-

# Reel to real, Newton actor is a national icon



Actor Rajkummar Rao, whose portrayal of an official tasked with conducting polls in the Naxal-affected areas of Chhattisgarh in the film *Newton*, will be inducted as a national icon by the Election Commission (EC).

The EC appoints prominent Indians as national icons to motivate voters to participate in the elections.

The official logo of the Election Commission of India

#### **Constitutional Body overview**

Formed 25 January 1950; 73 years

ago

(Later celebrated as

National Voters' Day)

Jurisdiction Ministry of Law and

Justice, Government of

India

**Headquarters** Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka

Road, New Delhi<sup>[1]</sup>

28°37′26″N

77°12′40″E

Employees Around 300<sup>[2]</sup>

Constitutional Rajiv Kumar, IAS (Retd.),

**Body executives** Chief Election

Commissioner of India

Anup Chandra Pandey,

IAS, Election

Commissioner of India

Arun Goel, IAS, Election

Commissioner of India

#### INBRIEF



#### Plaques in Santiniketan are temporary, says Visva-Bharati

The Visva-Bharati University has called "absolutely wrong and ridiculous" and "politically motivated" the voices being raised against the placing of two plaques in Santiniketan to mark the heritage area of the campus. The plaques mention Chancellor Narendra Modi and Vice-Chancellor Bidyut Chakrabarty but not founder Rabindranath Tagore, something that detractors term "self-advertisement". The Public Relations Officer (PRO) issued a statement saying the plaques were "purely temporary" and they would be replaced by UNESCO-approved plaques once they were received from the Archaeological

#### Man allegedly beaten to death over garba contest in Gujarat

A dispute, allegedly over the awarding of prizes at a garba event, has led to the murder of a at a garba event, nas led to the murder of a 40-year-old man in Porbandar, Gujarat. He was reportedly beaten to death by the organisers of a garba function in Gujarat after he argued with them because his li-year-old daughter said that she was given only one prize despite winning two. According to the FIR, the victim, Sarmato Odedara, was allegedly attacked with sticks and other objects by seven men on Tuesday. "We have arrested all seven accused involved in the murder," said Ruth Raba, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Porbandar, She added that further

#### Medical college rejects report of botched blood transfusions

After a media report which quoted a doctor at a State-run Kanpur hospital as saying that 14 children who underwent blood transfusion later children who underwent blood transfusion later Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Memorial Medical College on Wednesday rejected the allegations. "Not a single patient has been infected in the last medical college or its affiliated hospitals. These blood transfusions occurred elsewhere," said Dr. Sanjay Kala, principal of the college. The State Health Department also sought a clarification from the college over its mission.

#### Govt. to hold Hackathon on 5G tech for law enforcement

The government is organising a Hackathon to develop applications and tools that would help law enforcement agencies leverage 5G technology for better policing. The Hackathon would be exploring "360-degree surveillance" "predictive policing" and other topics. Rajesh Kumar. CEO of the Indian Cybercrime Kumar, CRO of the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (44C), said that 5G enables faster data transfer and it will help the police that the control of the control of the control Hackathon will involve three stages of ideas screening: Stages I and II shall be done in virtual mode whereas Stage III will be held at nodal centres in physical mode. Applicants can registe between November I and December 9.

Former lover to squeal about Channel Islands levying tax (8)

lostly trim issue for inventor (6) easoning item cut short these days in green meal (5)

**SM** (100)

## ISA to release report on global adoption of solar technology in November

The stocktake will also look at ways to broaden manufacturing of solar energy equipment, which is currently concentrated in China: the International Solar Alliance will meet in Delhi this month

he International Solar Alliance (ISA), a gathering of 116 member countries formed to accelerate the formed to accelerate the global adoption of solar technology, will for the first time compile and re-lease a 'global solar stock-

lease a 'global solar stock-take report'.

This is inspired by the first ever 'Global Stocktake' of the United Nations Con-ference of Parties, sche-duled to be held in Dubai later this year.

duied to be field in Dunai later this year.

Here countries are ex-pected to give an account of the actions taken until now to transition their eco-losism of the countries of the fuel and lay out plans to course correct, if their commitments are insuffi-cient to prevent runaway cient to prevent runaway global warming. The Global Stocktake follows from Paris Agreement signed in 2015 and is ex-pected to be held once in five years.

The 'solar stocktake'

November, said Ajay Math-ur. Director-General. ISA. It would take stock of the



Green energy: The alliance was formed to accelerate the global adoption of solar technology. FILE PHOTO

progress made by coun-tries. "In 2020, nearly \$300 billion of investment in solar has taken place and around \$380 billion in 2022. However, manufac-turing is uneven with most of it concentrated in China. The stocktake will look at ways to broaden this," Mr. Mathur said.

Key focus area The ISA, which is steered by India and France, is scheduled to hold its sixth ter this month. A key focus area for the organisation is expanding solar installa-tions in Africa and to that end the organisation has end the organisation has set up the Global Solar Fa-cility. The aim is to boost the scale of solar invest-ment there and following that expand to West Asia, Latin America, and the Ca-

The Global Solar Facility will have three funds: a payment guarantee fund, an insurance fund to mitiwestment fund for techni-

Solar photovoltaic in-stallations globally touched 1,133 gigawatts touched 1,133 gigawatts (GW) as of 2022, with 191 GW being added in 2022. Nearly a fourth, or about 350 MW, is installed in Chi-orthe 18A. China is fol-lowed by the United States, a member country, at 111 GW. India ranks among the top five countries globally with 62 GW.

"We believe that the 18A.

"We believe that the ISA has a seminal role to play in energy transition as it is focused only on renewa-bles and solar. India's ex-perience in this regard has been substantial. The rate of growth of renewable energy capacity in our country has been among the highest in the world. We find that among the va-rious renewables, solar energy has the edge. It is much more reliable, it is much more dependable and it is available for more months in a year. For un iversal energy access, solar energy is the solution," R.K. Singh, Union Minister for Power and Renewable

#### Centre approves ₹22,303-cr. subsidy on kev fertilizers

Press Trust of India

The government on Wed-nesday announced a £22,303-crore subsidy on phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilizers for the current rabi season, and said the farmers will continue to get key soil nutrient DAP (di-ammonium phosphate) at the old rate of ₹1,350 a

at the old rate of \$1,550 a bag (50 kg). The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal of the Department of Fertilizers Department of Fertilizers for fixing the nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) rates for the rabi season of 2023-24 (from October 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024) on P&K fortilizers.

Rabi boost Briefing presspersons, Un-ion Minister Anurag Tha-kur said the Modi govern-ment is committed to ensuring adequate availa-bility of fertilizers to farm-ers at affordable prices, Mr. Thakur said. "We estimate an expenditure of ₹22,303 crore as subsidy on P&K fertilizers for the rabi season," he added. In May, the Union Cabi

₹38,000 crore on P&K fer-tilizers for the kharif sea

son of 2023-24. Similarly, NPK (nitro-gen, phosphorus, and po-

Modi govt. will savs Minister

tassium) will be available at the old rate of ₹1,470 per bag and SSP (single super phosphate) at around ₹500 per bag. The MoP (muriate of potash) rates will come

of portash) rates will come down to £1,655 per bag from £1,700 per bag. Mr.

The Cablinet has fixed the NBS rate of mirrogen (N) at €47,620 per kg, phosing, potash (K) at £2.38 per ga and sulphur (S) at £1.89 per ga for \$1.89 per kg on \$1.80 per k

tion in per kg subsidy rate of N, P, K and S, Mr. Thakur said the international pric-es of finished products and raw materials have come down slightly, but it is still high, and therefore, the government is providing sul sidies to maintain the old

He said the fertilizer ₹2.55 lakh crore in the las ₹73,000 crore in 2014-15.

#### Modi to attend inauguration of Ram Temple in Ayodhya scheduled for January 22

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that he would attend the inauguration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya on Ja-

Shri Ram Janma Bh Tirtha Kshetra and other religious leaders invited the Prime Minister The foundation stone of

The foundation stone of the temple was laid by Mr. Modi on August 5, 2020. Expressing happiness on receiving the invitation, Mr. Modi said on X (for-merly Twitter), "I feel very-tune that in my lifetime, I will witness this historic occasion."



nuary 22. The office-bearers of the Narendra Modi

order – is spread over 71 acres of land. The area will have the temple on 2.77 acres which is divided into six parts. They are the main sanctum They are the main sanctum sanctorum (garbh greh) and the five pavilions - gun mandap, rang mandap, nritya mandap, kirtan mandap and prarthna mandap. Once complete, the temple will be li-floottall, with three floors.

To avoid overcrowding

secretary of the temple trust, said the idol of Lord Ram would be installed in

over 4,000 Hindu religious leaders for the consecra-tion ceremony. In addition to that, 25,000 dignitaries would also participate in the event.

The temple complex — which is being built after the Supreme Court's 2019

the temple on January 22. The trust plans to invite over 4,000 Hindu religious

#### In a first, Army gets vertical wind tunnel to train special forces

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

To augment the training infrastructure of special forc-es and combat free-fallers, the Army has installed its first vertical wind tunnel (VWT) at the Special Forc-es Training School (SFTS) at Bakloh in Himachal Pra-desh. Army chief General Manoj Pande virtually in-

Mannol Pande virtually inugurated the facility on
Weethers.

State-of-the-art
wind tunnel is set to refine
the combat free fall (CFF)
connel," the Army said in a
statement. "Functioning as
a freefall simulator, the
dir at specific velocities, or
chestrating different CFF
conditions. The system offers a controlled environ-

ment, enabling trainees to enhance their skills by sim-ulating real-life freefall conditions."

Stating that the VWT's integration into the train-ing curriculum at the SFTS ing curriculum at the SFTS would bring forth numer-ous pay-offs, the Army said the system simulated va-ried free-fall scenarios which are crucial in assessing individual reactions to situations in an airborneoperating environment. "It reduces potential in-

"It reduces potential in-stability in the air and dur-ing parachute deployment thereby assisting trainees to get used to free-fall con-ditions. The VWT is not on-ly beneficial for beginners but also an exceptional re-source for delivering ad-vanced training to sea. source for delivering ad-vanced training to sea-soned free-fallers and CFF instructors," it said.

#### Simultaneous polls: Law Commission shares strategy \_

The Hindu Bureau

Wednesday suggested a road map, which includes proposed changes to the Constitution for holding si-multaneous elections, before a high-level committee headed by former Presi-dent Ram Nath Kovind.

The panel has been offi-cially renamed the High Level Committee on One Nation, One Election, a Law Ministry release said.
The statement also said
the HLC had "noted" the

resignation of Congress leader Adhir Ranjan

leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury from member-ship of the committee. Sources indicated that it would be invited again as some aspects are yet to be examined.

#### TO SOVE this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. get across to our crossword site. https://grop.orget.link/lighth

Rare mark by church (6)
Bury one male - it's not final (7)
Took for granted that Sam used building (7)
Food sent back by king for is a bread based item (6) Can a rookie hide botched dish (9)

Part of harmony we hear [5] Mock journey going past Delaware (6) Terribly upset lad throbbed (8)

Yardsticks for leaders? (6)

Food that may make you smile in front of a camera (6)

1 Food that may make you smile in front of a camera (6):
2 Jewellery wild scene lacks for the most part (5):
4 Very hard worker with time gets to a position of superiority (7):
5 User hard worker with time gets to a position of superiority (7):
6 Guide caught in country by small hill (9):
7 Primarily seafood (uncooked) specially housed in a wrap (5):
6 User hard primarily seafood suncooked specially housed in a wrap (5):
6 User hard primarily seafood suncooked specially housed in a wrap (5):
6 User hard primarily suncooked specially housed in a wrap (5):
6 User hard primarily suncooked specially housed in a wrap (5):
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6 User hard primarily superiority states (6):
6 User hard primarily superiority states (6):
7 West (7):
7 West (7):
7 West (7):
8 West (7)

17 Film editor covering European community is chosen again (5,4)
18 Clear and well formed system of timekeeping (8) Fellow returned without hot liquid - it has protein (4) Daring spirit of supporter very oddly unreal (3,4)

Vehicle by old lake - it's a part of Christmas celebrations (5)

#### SUDOKU

in Ayodhya, the temple trust has urged people to avoid visiting the temple in

the initial days after the in-

auguration.

They have also asked VIPs to refrain from visiting Ayodhya on the day of the inauguration as this could lead to









#### FAITH

Sweet words

Speech is a unique gift given to mankind. But we must be

Speech is a unique gift given to mankind. But we must be careful how we speak, R. Narayanan said in a discourse. Our words should never be harsh. No matter what we do to make amends, the person who has been hurt will continue to be unhappy. And we will be sorry for having spoken to be unhappy. And we will be sorry for having spoken and we will later regret that we used them. Thiruvalluvar says that a wound caused by fire will heal. But the scarl left by harsh words remains for life. One see the word "wound" for a physical injury, suggesting it will heal in time. But for the hurt caused by words, he uses the word "scar", for the feeling of hurt never disappears, the word "scar", for the feeling of hurt never disappears evident in all the verses of the Thiruklural.

It is said that when one speaks or writes, one must keep in mind certain points. We must be brief. Despite being mind certain points. We must be brief. Despite being the right words. Our speech must have depth of meaning. We must speak in a coherent order. We must give many examples when we speak so that the listener never forgets with the high the properties of the properties of the should speak with clarity, and one should never exaggerate.

# In a first, Army gets vertical wind tunnel to train special forces

#### The Hindu Bureau

**NEW DELHI** 

To augment the training infrastructure of special forces and combat free-fallers, the Army has installed its first vertical wind tunnel (VWT) at the Special Forces Training School (SFTS) at Bakloh in Himachal Pradesh. Army chief General Manoj Pande virtually inaugurated the facility on Wednesday.

"The state-of-the-art wind tunnel is set to refine the combat free fall (CFF) skills of armed forces personnel," the Army said in a statement. "Functioning as a freefall simulator, the VWT creates a column of air at specific velocities, orchestrating different CFF conditions. The system offers a controlled environ-

ment, enabling trainees to enhance their skills by simulating real-life freefall conditions."

Stating that the VWT's integration into the training curriculum at the SFTS would bring forth numerous pay-offs, the Army said the system simulated varied free-fall scenarios which are crucial in assessing individual reactions to situations in an airborne-operating environment.

"It reduces potential instability in the air and during parachute deployment thereby assisting trainees to get used to free-fall conditions. The VWT is not only beneficial for beginners but also an exceptional resource for delivering advanced training to seasoned free-fallers and CFF instructors," it said.



#### Russia's Shoigu says Moscow is exhausting Ukrainian Army



kussia claimed on wednesday that it was exhausting ukraine's Army, 20 months into a conflict in which neither side has made recent significant gains. Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu made the comments during a visit to the eastern Ukraine region the Defence Ministry said on Wednesday, AF

Iran bans 12 actors from working in movies over hijab violations



#### RRIESELS.

Poland's Tusk meets von der Leven, vows to 'rebuild' EU ties



Pouss Opposition léader uonais Tusk vowed to "rébuild ties wit Brussels as he met EU chief Ursula von der Leyen after claiming victory in an election to end years of populist rule. The former EU head is looking to become Poland's next Prime Minister after his coalition won a majority against the Law and Justice (PiS) party. AFF

#### COLOMBO

Chinese research vessel arrives in Colombo port 'for replenishment'



esearch vessel SN Yor 6 had arrived at the Colombo port. "Clearance will be given for the vessel's arrival for replenishment spokesperson had said. Following reports of the scheduled visit, India and the U.S. had raised concern with Sri Lankan authorities

#### Palestinian death toll in West Bank crosses 100

Agence France-Presse

More than IOO Palestinians have been killed across the occupied West Bank since war erupted between Is-rael and Gaza's Islamist rul-ers Hamas on October 7, the Health Ministry said on

Wednesday. Violence had already spiralled in the West Bank before the Gaza war, with the highest death toll in the at least 2005

Many of the Palestinian deaths came in raids by Is-raeli troops but there has also been a rise in clashes between Palestinians and Israeli settlers, with civi-lians and fighters killed on both sides.

Since October 7, ten-sions and bloodshed have surged in the West Bank, ncluding annexed east Jeincluding annexed east je-rusalem, with the Palesti-nian death toll reaching 102, according to the Ra-tion of the Ra-ministry.

Over the same period, the Israeli military has re-ported one member of the security forces killed while taking part in a raid.

#### World leaders seek pause to fighting to allow aid into Gaza

Leaders worried about conflict spreading across a region key to global energy supplies; Biden and Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman agree on diplomacy 'to maintain stability across region'

he U.S. and Russia led the internation-al calls for a pause in fighting between Israel and Hamas to allow aid into the besieged Gaza Strip, as Israel maintained its bombardment of the en-clave where Palestinians are living in harrowing

A total of 704 Palestinians, including 305 chil-dren, were killed on Tues-day, the Health Ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza said, a toll the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said was the highest reported in a single day since the conflict be-gan nearly three weeks

gan nearly three weeks ago.

World leaders are now seeking to prevent the con-flict from spreading across a region key to global ener-

gy supplies. U.S. President Joe Biden and Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Sal-man spoke by phone on Tuesday and agreed on



broader diplomacy "to maintain stability across the region and prevent the conflict from expanding," the White House said.

the White House said.

The U.S. has advised israel to hold off on a
planned ground assault as
Washington tries to free
trages Hamas is still holding
captive in Gaza.
However, when asked
was if he was urging Israel
to delay its ground invaaden, U.S. President for the
den told reporters: "The is-

raelis are making their own decisions." Iran's UN Ambassador Amir Saeid Iravani told the Security Council on Tues-day that U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken had attempted to wrongly blame Iran for the Israel-

blame Iran for the Israel-Hamas war.
"The U.S. has further ex-acerbated the conflict by overtly aligning itself with the aggressor at the ex-pense of the innocent Pal-estinian population."
Late on Tuesday eight

and medicine entered Ga-za from Egypt. UN agencies said more than 20 times current deliveries were needed for the nar-row coastal strip's 2.3 mil-lion people.

lion people.

At the UN, the U.S. and
Russia put forward rival
plans on humanitarian aid
for Palestinian civilians.
Washington has called for
pauses and Russia wants a
humanitarian ceasefire. A
humanitarian teasefire.

ter than a ceasefire.
"The whole world is expecting from the Security Council a call for a ceasefire," Russian UN Ambassa-dor Vassily Nebenzia told

ther vassify techennia told the Security Council.

Arab states firmly back a call for a humanitarian casultant of the council of the council

#### Lebanon's Hezbollah holds talks with leaders of Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad

Hezbollah group held talks on Wednesday in Beirut with senior Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad figures in a key meeting of

gures in a key meeting of three top anti-Israel mili-tant groups amid the war raging in Gaza.

In neighbouring Syria, meanwhile, state media said an Israeli airstrike hit the international airport in the international airport in the northern city of Alep-po on Wednesday, damaging its runway and putting it out of service.

'Sensitive stage' There was no immediate comment from Israel on

comment from Israel on the reported strike. Following the meeting in Lebanon, a brief state-ment said Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah agreed with Hamaa's Saleh al-Arouri and Islamic Ji-had's leader Ziad al-Nai the three salone with oth the three – along with oth-er Iran-backed militants – should take at this "sensih meets Islamic Jihad's Ziyad

the resistance in Gaza and Palestine" and halt Israel's "treacherous and brutal aggression against our op-pressed and steadfast people in Gaza and the West Bank".

Rising tension
No other details were provided. The meeting came
vided and harmas, the Palestinian
militant group that rules
the Gaza Strip, is now in its
third week. The fighting,
triggered by Hamas' death
(O enober? That killed in one October 7 that killed more than 1,400 people in Israel,

Palestinians in Gaza.

As the Gaza death toll spirals, tensions have also been rising along the tense Lebanon-Israel border, where Hezbollah member have been eychanging fire with Israeli troops

with Israeli troops since the day after Hamas' ram-page into Israel.

The property of the property of the series remain limited to a handful of border towns and Hezbolah and Israelh sides. Lebanese Army sol-diers and United Narions peacekeeping forces have mumbers.

#### Republicans end weeks of gridlock as U.S. House elects new Speaker

Agence France-Presse

Republicans finally rallied be hind a new standard-bearer on Wednesday as the U.S. House of Representatives elected its 56th Speaker – ending weeks of turmoil and ending weeks of turmoil and bitter infighting that has para-lysed the U.S. Congress in a period of international and domestic crisis. Mike Johnson, who spear-headed legal efforts to over-turn the 2020 presidential election, received the unani-mous supect of his parts to

mous support of his party to lead the lower chamber of Congress, which has been at a standstill since Kevin McCar-



can picked by his party in three weeks to replace Mr. McCarthy, but the only nominee to garner enough support on the House floor.

#### Hong Kong will have own national security law in 2024'

Agence France-Presse

Hong Kong leader John Lee said on Wednesday the semi-autonomous city would create its own national securiv law in 2024, four years afte Beijing imposed sweeping le-gislation aimed at silencing

dissent.

In a three-hour-plus policy address, the Beijing-anointed leader unveiled measures aimed at revitalising Hong Kong's COVID-ravaged economy and flagging population growth, while asserting the need to protect the Chinese ci-ty from "external forces".

dermining China and the im-



two systems' in Hong Kong for their own benefits," he said, referring to the governance model agreed by Britain and China under which the city would keep some autonomy and freedoms following the 1997 handover.

"We must guard against

"We must guard against those seeking to provoke conof 'soft resistance' in different forms," Mr. Lee said, using a phrase that China and Hong Kong officials have started de-ploying in speeches to denote anti-government actions

#### Wave of protests

Wave of protests
Massive pro-democracy protests rocked the city in 2019,
bringing hundreds of thou-sands of people to the streets
to call for greater freedoms
and more autonomy from
mainland China.
In response, Beijing imposed a national security law

with sentences ranging up to life in prison. As of the end of September, 280 people have been arrested and 30 convict-



#### ICMR - NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE Nehru Nagar, National Highway No. 4, BELAGAVI - 590 010. Tel: 0831- 2475477 WALK-IN INTERVIEW igible candidates are invited for the walk-in interview for the follow osts under VRDL project to be filled purely on te Post Name Date/Time of Interview Vacancies Scientist-B (Medical) 30.10.2023 Data Entry Operato Multi-Tasking Staff Scientist-B (Non-Medical) 31.10.2023 Research Assistant 9:30 am onwards . Lab Technician 02 (UR) ailed advertisement pleasi and www.icmr.nic.in websites Date : 20.10.2023 Director

#### Japan's top court rules in favour of transgender people

Associated Press

Japan's Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that a law requiring transgender people to undergo sterilisation sur-gery in order to officially change their gender is unconstitutional.

unconstitutional.

The decision by the top court's 15-judge Grand Bench was its first on the constitutionality of Japan's 2003 law requiring the removal of sex organs for a state-recognised

organs for a state-recognised grader change.

The decision, which requires the government to report to the form of the form of



the Supreme Court sent the case back to the high court to further examine the requirement for gender-affirmation The decision comes at a

time of heightened aware of issues surrounding LGBTO+ people in Japan and is a par-tial victory for that victory for

tial victory for that community.

The judges unanimously ruled that the part of the law requiring sterilisation for a gender change is unconstitutional, according to the court document and the claimant's lawyers. But the top court ordered the case to be sent back

to the high court for further review of the requirement for gender-affirmation surgery – a decision the claimant's la-wyers said was regrettable because it delays the settlement the issue. Under the law, transgender

Under the law, transgender people who want to have their gender assigned at birth changed on family registries and other official documents must be diagnosed as having gender dysmorphia and undergo an operation to remove

their sex organs.
Other requirements are that they are unmarried and do not have children.

# Japan's top court rules in favour of transgender people

#### **Associated Press**

TOKYO

Japan's Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that a law requiring transgender people to undergo sterilisation surgery in order to officially change their gender is unconstitutional.

The decision by the top court's 15-judge Grand Bench was its first on the constitutionality of Japan's 2003 law requiring the removal of sex organs for a state-recognised gender change.

The decision, which requires the government to re-



**Partial victory:** A 2003 law mandating sterilisation surgery in order to officially change gender in Japan was declared unconstitutional. AFP

consider the law, is a first step toward allowing transgender people to change their identity in official documents without getting sterilised. But it was not a full victory because the Supreme Court sent the case back to the high court to further examine the requirement for gender-affirmation surgery.

The decision comes at a time of heightened awareness of issues surrounding LGBTQ+ people in Japan and is a partial victory for that community.

The judges unanimously ruled that the part of the law requiring sterilisation for a gender change is unconstitutional, according to the court document and the claimant's lawyers. But the top court ordered the case to be sent back

to the high court for further review of the requirement for gender-affirmation surgery – a decision the claimant's lawyers said was regrettable because it delays the settlement of the issue.

Under the law, transgender people who want to have their gender assigned at birth changed on family registries and other official documents must be diagnosed as having gender dysmorphia and undergo an operation to remove their sex organs.

Other requirements are that they are unmarried and do not have children.





#### LIGHTNING

Maxwell breaks Markram's mark, scores fastest World Cup hundred



reaching the landmark off just 40 balls against The Netherlands in New Delhi on Wednesday. The Australian eclipsed South African Aiden Markram's effort, that came off 49 balls versus Sri Lanka

#### MAKING HISTORY

Warner overtakes Ponting for most WC centuries by an Australian



to smash the highest number of centuries by an Australian batter in ICC Cricket World Cup history. Warner accomplished this milestone during his side's ICC CWC match against Netherlands. In the match.

#### SMASHING SHOW

Maxwell hit us to all corners of the ground, says Dutch coach



therlands coach Ryan Cook was all praise for Glenn Maxwell. "A fantastic innings by Glenn to get the fastest hundred in World Cup history. As he came in, he looked like he was on it from the start. usly made us pay. He helped himself and we helped him ittle as well. He hit us to all corners of the ground," said Cook.

Hardik may miss more matches, continues his recovery at NCA



Hardik Pandya is likely to sit out of India's next two World Cup matches as he is yet to recover from his ankle injury that rendered him out of action last week. Pandva had slipped in his follow-through

#### Maxwell puts on a big show, rips the Netherlands apart

Warner's sixth hundred in the World Cup sets the tone for a massive total of 399 before the Aussies blow away the Men in Orange to secure a victory by a record margin; Zampa registers a third four-for on the trot





ODI WORLD CUP P.K. Alith Kuma

he Big Show they call him. A big show he gave

em. Glenn Maxwell on Wednesday produced one of the most astonishing displays of batting in recent World Cup hundred by nine balls. His 106 off 44 balls (9x4, 8x6) stunned the unfortunate Netherlands bowlers as well as the fortunate 18,000-odd

spectators that came to watch the match at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. It had become more of a ismatch by the time Maxwell's third ODI hundred

er champion ended with 399 for eight. In reply, the Nether-lands was bundled out for 90 in just 21 overs. The Aussies won by 309 runs, the biggest margin at the World Cup. It was their third win on

It was their third win on the trot after their cam-paign stumbled at the beginning, losing convincing-ly to India and South Africa. They are now looking really good - even without Travis Head, whose return to the eleven didn't happen in this match despite all the

That meant David Warner and Mitchell Marsh could continue with their opening partnership, which had yielded a record 259 in the last match. On this day, it was only worth 28, with Marsh's at-

Book from outside the offstump, ending up as a skier.

skier.

Marsh was the rare faihure among the top four, as
warner (104, 93b, 11x4,
30 mid his skip top four, as
world Cup his best property
een Smith (71, 68b, 9x4,
1x6) and Marnus Labuschagne (62, 47b, 7x4, 2x6)
all looked keen to make
most of the butting beauty. That beast of an innings by Maxwell, however, made them the support cast. Maxwell looked like a

superhero that made his appearance a little before the climax. He came in only in the 40th over and played shots the way like nobody else probably could have, such as the six that took him to his fifty the reverse-sweep off Bas de Leede, who would go on to become the most ex-

#### tory (two for 115)

tory (two for IIS).

His second fifty came off just 13 balls. He added 103 off 44 balls for the second first came of the

Job.
They didn't take much time, with Adam Zampa recording his third four-wicket haul in a row. This game though will be re-membered more for the Maxwell show.

Next assignment

MUSTRALIA
Mitchell Mersie Ackermann b
van Beek 9 (2456, 2466), David
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AUSTRALIA

wkts. in 50 overs): 399 FALL OF WICKETS 1-28 (Marsh, 3.5 overes), 2-160 (Smith, 23.3), 3-244 (Labuschagne, 36.1), 4-266 (Inglis, 38.6), 5-267 (Warner, 39.1), 6-290 (Green, 42.2), 7-393 (Manwel), 49.3), 8-393 (Starc, 49.4). NETHERLANDS BOWLING

NETHERLANDS BOWLING Dutt 7-0-59-1, Ackermann 4-0-19-0, van Beek 10-0-74-4, van Meekeren 10-0-64-0, Vikramjit 4-0-27-0, van der Menwe 5-0-41-0, de Leede 10-0-115-2. NETHERLANDS

NETHERLANDS

Wikramji Singh run out 25 (23%, 6x49, Max O'Dowd b Sare 6 (0%, 6x49, Max O'Dowd Aryan buff low b Zampa 1 (8th Paul van Meekeren st. Inglis b Zampa 0 (2b); Extras (w-7): 7; Total (in 21 overs): 90. FALL OF WICKETS

1-28 (O'Dowd, 4.5), 2-37 (Wikramijt, 5.5), 3-47 (Ackermant 9-2), 4-53 (de Leede, 10.5), 5-62 (Engelbrecht, 13.2), 6-84 (Nidamanuru, 17.5), 7-86 (van Beek, 18.3), 8-86 (van der Merwe

AUSTRALIA BOWLING Starc 4-0-22-1, Hazle Marsh 4-0-19-2, Zampa 3-0-8-4 Toss: Australia.

#### Expensive De Leede has a forgettable day



#### Lalith Kalidas

Vetherlands seamer Bas de Leede recorded the worst ODI bowling figures, con-ceding 115 runs for one wicket in 10 overs. Australia's Mick Lewis and Adam Zampa had leaked II3 in 10 overs, both against South

# Sixes galore Glenn Maxwell's eight sixes is the most by a batter play-ing at No. 6 or lower in the ODI World Cup. Mitchell Starc drew level

with Lasith Malinga as the third-highest wicket-taker

Cup, equalled Sachin Ten-dulkar as the second-highest century-maker. Rohit Sharma leads the chart

with seven.
Australia's 309-run win
is the biggest in the World Cup. It is also the second-biggest margin in all ODIs behind India's 317-run win

against Sri Lanka in 2023. is the first sub-100 total in

Zampa's third four-for in uccession helped him qual Mohammad Shami equal Mohammad Shami (2019) and Shahid Afridi (2015) for most consecutive four-wicket hauls.

#### Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
ndia	5	5	0	10	1.353
iouth Africa	5	4	1	-8	2.370
lew Zealand	5	4	1	8	1.481
ustralia	5	3	2	- 6	1.142
akistan	5	2	3	4	-0.400
fghanistan	5	2	3	- 4	-0.969
iri Lanka	4	1	3	2	-1.048
ingland	4	1	3	2	-1.248
langladesh	5	1	4	2	-1.253
ietherlands	5	1	4	2	-1.902

BATTING		Rums	HS	Ave	SR	100s/50s
de Kock (SA)	5	407	174	81.40	114.97	3/0
Kohli (Ind)	5	354	103*	118.00	90.53	1/3
Warner (Aus)	5	332	163	66.40	109.93	2/0
Rohit (Ind)	5	311	131	62.20	133.47	1/1
BOWLING	Inns	Wkts	88	Avg	Econ	4W/5W
Zampa (Aus)	5	13	4/8	17.76	5.92	3/0
Santner (NZ)	5	12	5/59	16.91	4.25	0/1
Madushanka (SL)	4	11	4/49	21.18	6.13	1/0
Burnrah (Ind)	5	11	4/39	16.27	3.80	1/0

#### Vibrant opening salvos have set the tone for India's stellar batting shows



#### K.C. Vijaya Kumar

ing contest is often sensed during the opening act in ODIs. Remember Sachin Tendulkar's upper-cut six off Shoaib Akhtar in a 2003 World Cup game at Centu-rion in South Africa? It set the tone for India's success-ful chase and it was the bul-let that set fire to the African skies. After two decades, that shot continues to have immense re-call value. Cricketing tradition,

even in ODIs, often expect-ed openers to wear down fast bowlers before the middle-order stars swag-gered in. But that dour garb atop the batting tree was then slightly altered. Teams mixed it up with one classic player walking out along-side an aggressive partner. Closer home, we had Sunil Gavaskar and K. Srikkanth.

Later, it became Ravi Shastri and Srikkanth. Even with the West Indies, Desmond Haynes was more ice to Gordon Greenidge's raging fire. The late Martin Crowe then un-leashed the pinch-hitter with Mark Greatbatch be-ing the battering ram up the order for co-host New Zealand during the 1992 World Cup. In the 1996 edition host-ed in the Indian subconti-

nent, Sri Lanka did a 'buy one get one free' offer as two aggressive willow-wiel-ders – Sanath Jayasuriya

nend restrictions.

Against Afghanistan in Delhi, Rohit and Kishan shared 156 runs. In the big fight involving Pakistan at

and Romesh Kaluwithara-na – caused havoc. This double-trouble template was also reflected through Indian pairs such as Ten-dulkar-Sourav Ganguly of later Tendulkar-Virender Schwag.

On the latest World

Cup, India has been served well by its openers except during that shock two for three phase against Austra-lia at Chennai on Oct. 8. Skipper Rohit Sharma and Ishan Kishan or Rohit with Ishan Kishan or Rohit with Shubman Gill have plun-dered runs, especially dur-ing the compulsory first 10-over PowerPlay stage with field restrictions.

Ahmedabad, even though Gill fell early, by then India had struck 23 runs in a mere 2.5 overs. When the action shifted to Pune, Ro-hit and Gill shared an alhit and Gill shared an al-liance worth 88. Later, once the Himalayas were scaled, the duo added 71 against New Zealand at Dharamshala. In all these key bonding exercises, Ro-hit was the constant star. If Kishan was all about left-banda agreessen, the

left-handed aggression, the aesthetics were often the sole preserve of the right-handers – Rohit and Gill. Usually in cricket, it is the other way round where left always got it right when it came to tapping or artistic biases. An elegant left-hander was an expected norm even if for every David Gower poem, there was a counter through Allan Bor-der's hard prose. Killing them softly could be the joint theme of the Rohit-Gill combine and

Rohit-Gill combine and their fiery tango has drilled holes through the opposi-tion's field settings besides scraping the elder man scraping the skies. These partnerships have been crucial as India mounted championship and also laid the foundation for Virat Kohli to build his strong ed ifices. As the Men in Blue prepare for their Sunday's clash against England at Lucknow, the Rohit-Gill chemistry will continue to be the first hurdle that rival skippers will always be wa ry about.

#### LIGHTNING

# Maxwell breaks Markram's mark, scores fastest World Cup hundred



R.V. MOORTHY

Glenn Maxwell scored the fastest hundred in the World Cup, reaching the landmark off just 40 balls against The Netherlands in New Delhi on Wednesday. The Australian eclipsed South African Aiden Markram's effort, that came off 49 balls versus Sri Lanka, which was also achieved in this edition.

#### **Fastest hundreds**





Date	Venue	Match	Player	4s	6s	Balls	Runs
18/01/2015	Johannesburg	South Africa v West Indies	AB de Villiers	9	16	31	149
01/01/2014	Queenstown	New Zealand v West Indies	CJ Anderson	6	14	36	131*
04/10/1996	Nairobi	Pakistan v Sri Lanka	Shahid Afridi	6	11	37	102
25/10/2023	Delhi	Australia v Netherlands	Glenn Maxwell	9	8	40	106
16/03/2023	Kirtipur	UAE v Nepal	Asif Khan	4	11	41	101*
20/09/2006	Potchefstroom	South Africa v Zimbabwe	MV Boucher	8	10	44	147*
09/10/1999	Dhaka	West Indies v Bangladesh	BC Lara	18	4	45	117
15/04/2005	Kanpur	Pakistan v India	Shahid Afridi	10	9	45	102
01/01/2014	Queenstown	New Zealand v West Indies	JD Ryder	12	5	46	104

## **Records for T20I Matches**

#### **Fastest hundreds**





				(*)
Player	Balls	Match	Venue	Date
Kushal Malla	34	Nepal v Mongolia	Hangzhou	27/09/2023
DA Miller	35	South Africa v Bangladesh	Potchefstroom	29/10/2017
RG Sharma	35	India v Sri Lanka	Indore	22/12/2017
S Wickramasekara	35	Czech Republic v Turkey	Ilfov County	30/08/2019
S Periyalwar	39	Romania v Turkey	Ilfov County	29/08/2019
Zeeshan Kukikhel	39	Hungary v Austria	Lower Austria	05/06/2022
Johnson Charles	39	West Indies v South Africa	Centurion	26/03/2023
K Kadowaki-Fleming	40	Japan v South Korea	Sano	15/10/2022

## **Records for Test Matches**

### Fastest Hundreds (by balls faced)





Balls	Player	Match	Location	Season
54	BB McCullum	New Zealand v Australia	Christchurch	2015/16
56	IVA Richards	West Indies v England	St John's	1985/86
56	Misbah-ul-Haq	Pakistan v Australia	Abu Dhabi	2014/15
57	AC Gilchrist	Australia v England	Perth	2006/07
67	JM Gregory	Australia v South Africa	Johannesburg	1921/22
69	S Chanderpaul	West Indies v Australia	Georgetown	2002/03
69	DA Warner	Australia v India	Perth	2011/12
70	CH Gayle	West Indies v Australia	Perth	2009/10
71	RC Fredericks	West Indies v Australia	Perth	1975/76

# Antil and Gurjar win javelin golds with WR efforts

Dhama, Rakshitha, Haney and Nimisha also take home the yellow metal on a profitable day in athletics; India now has 64 medals including 15 gold and 20 silver



Double delight: Sumit Antil and Sundar Singh Gurjar took the honours with a new mark. SAI

# **♦**The Indian **EXPRES**

ACROSS 52 DISTRICTS On UP govt radar,

200 ailing health centres: missing infra, dodgy finance

80% commissioned before Yogi govt

53-year-old 'ward boy' Jharkhande Yadav at Kandharapur

came to power, SIT set up in many cases

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

#### S ANNOUNCEMENT COMES AFTER EXPRESS REPORT FLAGGED HOW BMC TOOK EYE OFF WASTE MOUNTAIN Mumbai civic body bans garbage burning in the open, sends notices to 6,000 construction sites

blished a report on how umbai's civic body took its eyes the garbage dumping and its ming, the Brihanmumbai s Guardian Minister Deepak rkar said the BMC had sent





'I FEEL VERY BLESSED'

Law Commission meets

Kovind committee on

one-nation, one-poll

tants from the garbage - at its two landfills in Deonar and

Kanjurmarg. The new set of guidelines to anywhere in the geographical area under BMC, especially garbage dumping grounds and CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

#### MONTH AFTER SERVICES SUSPENDED

#### Delhi dials down, restores some visa services in Canada

Visa services for categories such as entry, business, medical, conference resume today, but not tourists

otential Indian link to the killing A file photo of S Jaishankar potential Indian link to the killing of a Canada-based Khalistan separatist, Delhi mowed to reduce tensions between the two countries by restoring visa services in Thursday. Sories with effect Thursday.

In a statement that signalled the de-escalatory mowe, the High Commission of India in Ottawa said, "After a considered to the Countries of the

ortama Said, "After a considered review of the security situation that takes into account some re-cent Canadian measures in this regard, it has been decided to re-sume visa services for the fol-lowing categories with effect



While the entry visa is meant for Indian-origin Canadian pass-port holders, the business visa is for Canadian business travellers and investors in India. These have been restored keeping in view the high demand from Indian-origin Canadian crizzens who don't have OCI cards as well

as Canadian investors in India. The medical visa is mostly used by Indian-origin Canadian for cost-effective emergency medical treatment and the con ference visa is for academics an

not been normalised," an India

Hardeep Singh Nijjar.
The official statement sai
that the High Commission of

### Contours of joint theatre commands

for threat via sea; early talks on a fourth



# ready, await Govt nod before tweaks

One each for Pak, China frontiers, third



#### President Kam Nath Kovindon its 'suggestions and viewpoints' re-garding simultaneous elections. committee on Wednesday was attended by all the members – Kovind, Home Minister Amit Shah, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, former Leader of MAHUA MOITRA CASE: PROCESS, Opposition in Rajya Sabha Chulam Nabi Azad, 15th Finance Commission Chairman N K Singh, former Lok Sabha I SETHICS PANEL CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 Working to finish projects in a timely manner: health minister SC to Judges: Follow roster, taking

#### DHEERAJ MISHRA

YOUR RIGHT

TO KNOW

DHEERAJ MISHRA

AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION

TTAR PRADESH Deputy Chief linister Brajesh Pathak, who so holds the health portfolio, as told The Indian Express that state government is cog HCs) and community health

naire, Pathak said, "SIT investiganaire, Pathak said, "SIT investiga-tion has been ordered by the cur-rent government against officials of the executing agency con-nical said of the said of the Nigam Limited. Based on the findings of the SIT investigation, UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited is taking action against

health centres (CHCs) and pri-

mary health centres (PHCs) in 52 Uttar Pradesh districts are stuck, some from as far back as 2005, information accessed by The Indian Express under the Right to Information Act shows. Indeed, most of these centres

Indeed, most of these centres are languishing from before the fogi Adityanath government came to power in 2017, and the

UP government's health depart-ment has flagged alleged finan-

level." UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited is one of seven govern-ment agencies tasked with the

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 

LINDERI INING THE importance UNDERLINING THE importance of the roster for allocating work to Judges, the Supreme Court has discipline and ought not to take up any case unless it is specifically assigned by the Chief Justice". The bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Pankaj Mithal was hear-

ing an appeal against a Rajasthan ing c'wl writ petitions allowed the low a c'wli writ petition for club-bing of Fifts against some also directed that no coercive account and writ petitions, but a single consequence of the consequence of the

unassigned cases gross impropriety

Prime Minister Nuerndra Modi meets office-beurers of Shri Ram Januabboomi Theerth Koherta Traus in Belbino Wednesday, in a post on X, the Prime Minister said they invited him to Ayodhya for the Ram Temple idol consecration ceremony. "I feel very blessed," he posted Trust general secretary Champar Rai said the ceremony will be held on January 22.7 m PAGE

Kashyap, senior advocate Harish Salve and former Chief Vigilance

Commissioner Sanjay Kothari

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

CANADA AUGRALA NEJ Tealand GERMANY USA UK

rowed down the final contours of the integrated theatre com-mands with a proposal for the-atre commanders under a national defence committee likely to be headed by the Defence Minister, top officials have told The Indian Express. Officials said the structures of the theatre commands are awaiting the approval of the gov-ernment, based on which there

to integrate the Army, Navy and Indian Air Force and their re-

SIMPLY PUT, a theatre command deploys elements of the three services under a single, unified command is assigned a specific geographical region, combaning resources of the three services for operational roles, Given the threat india.

#### Citing absence, strike 20 lakh off rolls; 1.5 lakh may miss Boards

BIHAR GOVERNMENT scho more than 20 lakh students fro their rolls for remaining abser with more than 1.5 lakh at risk

utilised and benefits reach de-serving students. It is also aimed at streamlining the mid-day meal scheme, and ensuring that the presence of students during meal time, officials said. According to officials, two categories of students will be particularly impacted — those who remained absent from

work, and those who are en-rolled simultaneously in private schools and keep government schools as a "back-up" in case they don't do well there. While Education Minister Chandrashekhar was not avail-able for comment, an education department official explained: "There are no cases of ghost en-rolments anymore since Aadhaai cards have been made manda-tory for enrolling. But some parents enrol their wards in govern ment and private schools wit the hope of getting benefits ur der our scholarship schem. However, we have made 75 pc cent attendance mandatory & availing those benefits. Teachers' associations, h

#### Why all eyes are on lone seat in Abujhmad, the last Maoist fortress

stituency of Narayanpur. Officials say that 90% of its area remains unsurveyed. Most of the residents are

EVERT HECTION throws up the challenge of Nabighmand, adense.

November 1. Larger than the particularity and the properties of the seven Particularity and Particularity and the seven Particularity and Particularity



Assembly seats in Bastar is 13,000-plus. An official says that woring is "very low" in general at three-fourths of the 30 polling booths in the Abujihmad region. As per Election Commission data, in the Orchhadevelopment block in 2018, a total of 15,018 people had voter IDs out of which only

had voter IDs out of which only
4,867 people (27,2 MB) voted for
test on choppers.
Charting for size of the first out
Charting for size of the first out
in Sactar region, 2,000 politic
for a live webcast, with officials
frontinting the proceedings from

among the lowest voting, with only around 32.40% turning up

#### NARAYANPUR



# **CUBISM**

# On Pablo Picasso's birth anniversary, a look at the revolutionary visual art movement he pioneered

#### **ALIND CHAUHAN**

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

OCTOBER 25 marks the 142nd birth anniversary of the renowned Spanish artist Pablo Picasso (1881-1973). In partnership with French painter George Braque (1882-1963), Picasso pioneered Cubism, a revolutionary visual art movement that began in 1907.

#### What is Cubism?

The name 'cubism' seems to be derived from a snide comment by French artist Henri Matisse (1869-1954), who called one of Braque's paintings "a picture made up of small cubes".

Unlike its predecessors, Cubism involved artists seeing an object not from a single viewpoint but from every conceivable angle. It was the rejection of the traditional approach to making art, where



Pablo
Picasso's
painting
Girl with a
Mandolin
(Fanny
Tellier),
created
in 1910.
Wikimedia
Commons

By doing this, Picasso and Braque thought their art would invoke "a much stronger feeling of recognition" about the box or any other subject that artists might create.

Cubism was meant to make people pay more attention to everyday objects that were usually overlooked and present a more precise representation of how people actually perceive an object.

#### Pablo Picasso



Picasso in 1908

Born Pablo Diego José Francisco de

Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la

Santísima Trinidad Ruiz y

Picasso<sup>[1]</sup>

25 October 1881

Málaga, Kingdom of Spain

**Died** 8 April 1973 (aged 91)

Mougins, France

Resting Château of Vauvenargues

place

43.554142°N 5.604438°E

**Education** Real Academia de Bellas Artes

de San Fernando

**Years active** 1897–1973

Known for Painting, drawing, sculpture,

printmaking, ceramics, stage

design, writing

Known for Painting, drawing, sculpture,

printmaking, ceramics, stage

design, writing

Notable work La Vie (1903)

Family of Saltimbanques (1905)

Les Demoiselles d'Avignon

(1907)

Portrait of Daniel-Henry

Kahnweiler (1910)

Girl before a Mirror (1932)

Le Rêve (1932) Guernica (1937)

The Weeping Woman (1937) Massacre in Korea (1951)

Movement Cubism, Surrealism

Spouses Olga Khokhlova

(m. 1918; died 1955)

Jacqueline Roque (m. 1961)

Partners Fernande Olivier (1905–1912)

Eva Gouel (1912-1915)

Gabrielle Depeyre (1915–1916)

Irène Lagut (1916-1917)

Marie-Thérèse Walter (1927-

1935)

Dora Maar (1935–1943)

Françoise Gilot (1943–1953)

Children Paulo Picasso

Maya Widmaier-Picasso

Claude Picasso Paloma Picasso

Family José Ruiz y Blasco (father)

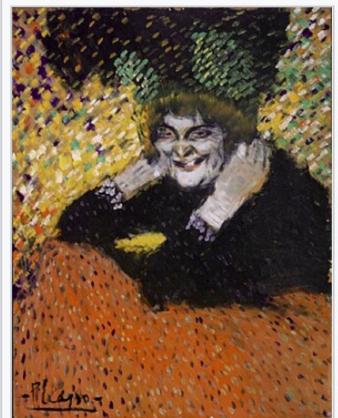
Marina Picasso

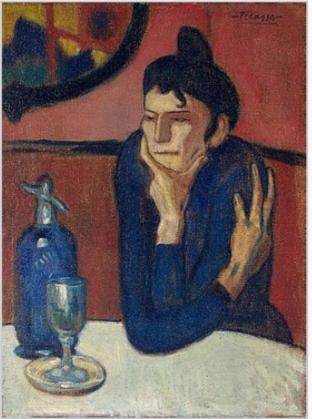
(granddaughter)

Bernard Ruiz-Picasso

(grandson)

Awards Lenin Peace Prize





Pablo Picasso, 1901, *Old Woman (Woman with Gloves)*, oil on cardboard,

67 × 52.1 cm, Philadelphia

Museum of Art

Pablo Picasso, 1901–02, Femme au café (Absinthe Drinker), oil on canvas, 73 × 54 cm, Hermitage Museum

# **EXPLAINED GLOBAL**

# CHINA LAUNCHES NEW MISSILE SUBMARINE: WHY THIS IS SIGNIFICANT

CHINA HAS launched its first nuclearpowered guided missile submarines, according to a recent report by the Pentagon. This gives it land and sea attack options, once the sole province of the US and Russia.

The Pentagon report, published October 20, marks the first apparent confirmation that modified submarines seen in Chinese shipyards over the last 18 months are Type 093B guided missile submarines.

Previously, satellite images from northeast China's Huludao shipyard in May 2022 had shown a new or upgraded class of submarine, possibly with vertical tubes for launching cruise missiles.

#### Threat to aircraft carriers

Known as SSGNs, conventionally armed missile submarines were first de-

veloped by the Soviet Union during the Cold War to target US aircraft carriers with cruise missiles — long-range, precision weapons that are jet-propelled at subsonic speeds throughout their flights.

Unlike ballistic missiles, which are rocket propelled only in the initial phases of their flight, cruise missiles fly at low altitudes, skimming the surface of the sea and thus avoiding radar detection.

Singapore-based security scholar Collin Koh said the SSGNs were an important new capability for the Chinese navy which "potentially allows them to carry out saturated land and anti-ship attacks" from a far greater range than before.

Three new Chinese SSGNs could be operational by next year, as part of a wider expansion of China's submarine fleet amidst recent escalation of tensions with the US.

REUTERS

# 10 Indian institutes in top 250, IIM-B best in country: QS rankings

THE INDIAN INSTITUTE of Management (IIM) Bangalore is the top B school in India and has ranked 48th in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings (WUR) 2024 for Global MBA and Business Master's.

The Stanford GSB's MBA has topped the list while The Wharton School and the Harvard Business School have been placed in the second and third positions. As many as 10 Indian MBA colleges are among the top 250 institutes in Asia.

The QS World University Rankings were released on Wednesday for the MBA programmes. In the QS Global Full-Time MBA Rankings 2024, IIM Bangalore has improved its rank from 50th in 2023 to 48th in 2024. IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Calcutta have been ranked 53rd and 59th, respectively.

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As many as two Indian MBA institutes are among the world's 50 best for employability. IIM Bangalore is placed 39th globally and fourth in Asia, followed by IIM Calcutta in 46th, ranking seventh in Asia. IIM Ahmedabad and Indian School of Business are placed in the top 50 for QS' entrepreneurship and alumni outcomes indicator. While IIM Ahmedabad is ranked 33rd, second in Asia, the Indian School of Business has been ranked 43rd, the fifth best in Asia.

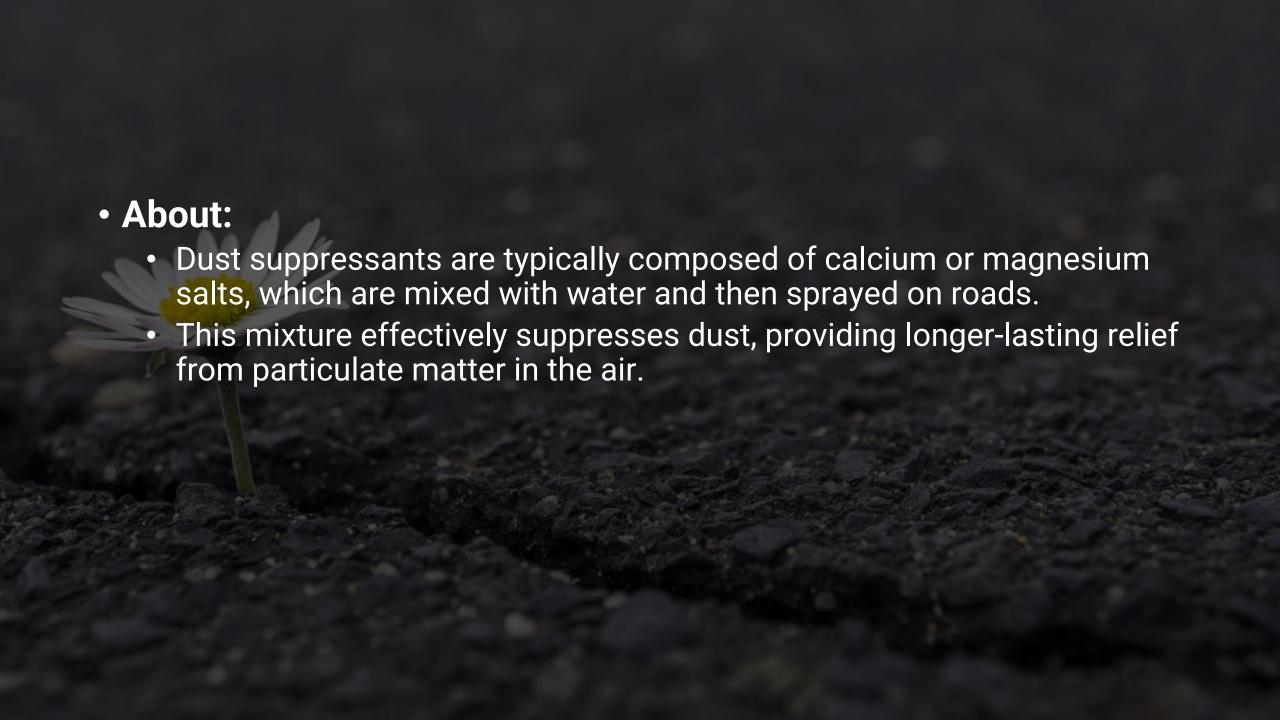
IIM Bangalore is the only Indian MBA among the top 50 for return on investment, in which it is placed in the 31st rank. It is also the national leader for thought leadership, but does not find place among the top 50, ranking 57th overall.

> **EXPRESS EDUCATION DESK**





 Recently, Dust suppressants have gained significant attention as a potential solution to reduce dust-related pollution especially in cities like Delhi where air pollution remains a critical concern.





# Efficacy:

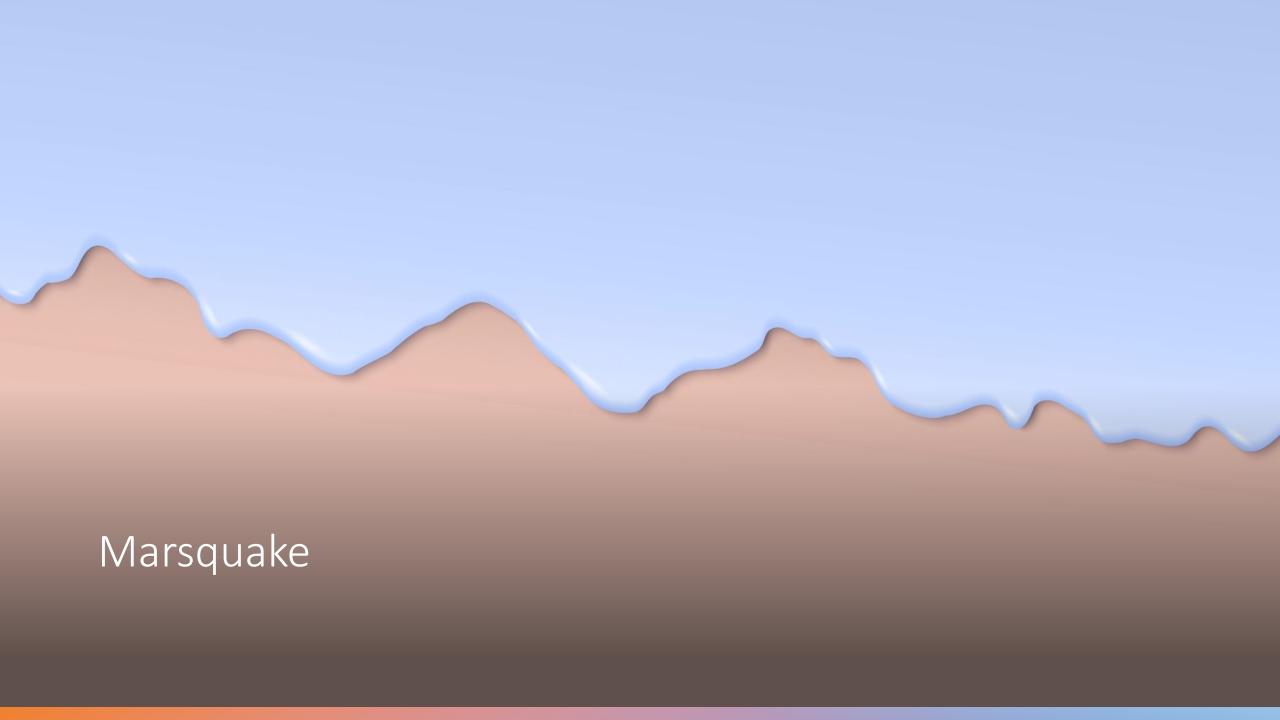


The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) study indicated that the application of dust suppressants, when mixed with water, is more effective at controlling pollution than traditional methods, such as water spraying.

- The study observed up to a 30% reduction in dust concentration (including PM10, PM2.5, and PM1) for construction sites and roads following the use of dust suppressants.
- In 2019, the CPCB recommended the use of dust suppressants on excavated earth surfaces, construction and demolition waste piles, and access roads in construction areas.

• In the cities of our country, which among the following atmospheric gases are normally considered in calculating the value of the Air Quality Index? (2016)

- 1. Carbon dioxide
- 2. Carbon monoxide
- 3. Nitrogen dioxide
- 4. Sulfur dioxide
- 5. Methane
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
  - **(b)** 2, 3 and 4 only
  - (c) 1, 4 and 5 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5



Recently, scientists have revealed the causes of the largest recorded marsquake.

This finding holds scientific importance and carries **implications for forthcoming Mars exploration** by providing fresh insights into the **geology and seismic events of the Red Planet.** 

What are the Recent Findings Related to Marsquake?

 Space agencies like Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), European Space Agency, China National Space Administration, and the UAE Space Agency collaborated on a groundbreaking project to search for a crater on Mars. The search found no impact crater, leading to the conclusion that the marsquake resulted from internal tectonic forces, indicating increased seismic activity.

This discovery has implications for future Mars exploration, aiding in the identification of safe landing sites and areas to avoid for astronauts.

What are the Major Facts Related to Mars?

Mars, the **fourth planet from the Sun**, takes its name from the Roman God of war.

It is often referred to as the "Red Planet" due to its distinctive reddish appearance.

This reddish coloration is primarily attributed to the **presence of a significant amount of iron oxide, commonly known as rust**, in its surface rocks and soil.

- Mars, being the second smallest planet in our solar system after Mercury, boasts a diameter of approximately 6,791 kilometers, making it about half the size of Earth.
  - It possesses two moons, known as Phobos and Deimos.



- A Martian day is 24 hours and 37 minutes, slightly longer than an Earth day, but a Martian year lasts nearly twice as long, spanning 687 Earth days due to its extended orbit around the Sun.
- Mars' axis of rotation is tilted 25 degrees with respect to the plane of its orbit around the Sun. This is similar to Earth, which has an axial tilt of 23.4 degrees.

- What Missions Have Been Sent to Mars?
- India's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) or Mangalyaan (2013)
- ExoMars rover (2021) (European Space Agency)
- Tianwen-1: China's Mars Mission (2021)
- UAE's Hope Mars Mission (UAE's first-ever interplanetary mission) (2021)
- Mars 2 and Mars 3 (1971) (Soviet Union)

- Consider the following statements: (2016)
- The Mangalyaan launched by ISRO
- 1.is also called the Mars Orbiter Mission
- 2.made India the second country to have a spacecraft orbit the Mars after USA
- 3.made India the only country to be successful in making its spacecraft orbit the Mars in its very first attempt
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- **(a)** 1 only
  - **(b)** 2 and 3 only
  - (c) 1 and 3 only
  - (d) 1, 2 and 3

# ICT Labs for PM Shri Schools



Information and Communication Technology (ICT) labs and Smart Classrooms for PM Shri schools are to be introduced in Haryana for adopting modern technology in the classrooms which will enhance the quality of education and provide a better learning experience to the students.



ICT labs and Smart Classrooms bridge urban-rural digital gap, providing equal education opportunities.

PM Shri is a centrally sponsored scheme for upgradation and development of more than 14500 Schools across the country which aims at strengthening the selected existing schools from amongst schools managed by Central Government/ State/UT Government/ local bodies.

It will showcase all components of the National Education Policy 2020 and act as exemplar schools and also offer mentorship to other schools in their vicinity.

Strike for Gender Equality : IE



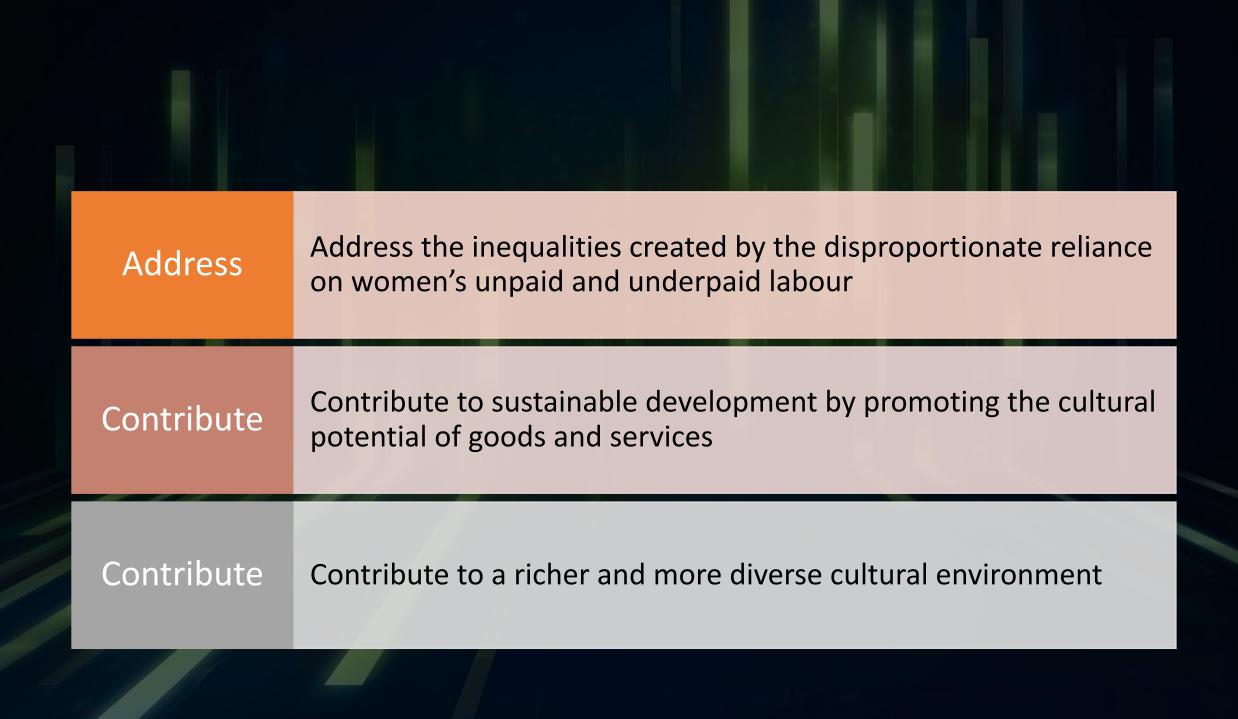
- Gender pay gap, where women earn 21% less than men in some professions
- Gender-based violence affects over 40% of women
- The goal is to challenge societal mindsets that perpetuate these inequalities. In 1975, Iceland's women staged their first strike, leading to a law granting equal rights regardless of gender a year later.

### Purple economy Source: Business Line





- What is Purple Economy?
- The purple economy is an economic order that focuses on the sustainability of caring labour. It's an alternative vision that complements the green economy. The purple economy aims to:
- 1.Organize the system around the sustainability of caring labour





### **PURPLE ECONOMY =**



**EDUCATION** 



**HEALTHCARE** 



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



SUPPORTING THE DISABLED AND THE ELDERLY



COMMUNICATION





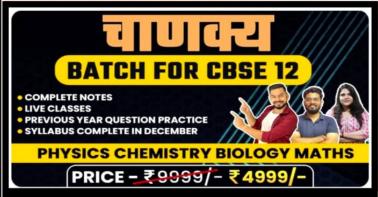


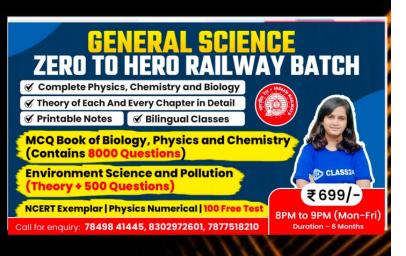


















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# STEP 1

## STEP 2

# STEP 3



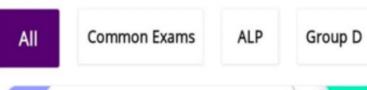
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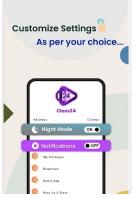


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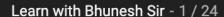






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