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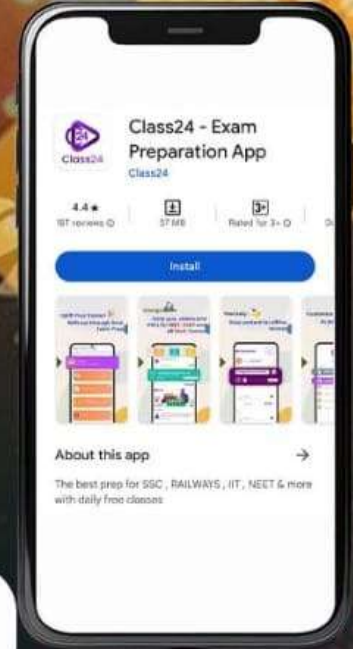
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INSIDE

Glacial lakes expanding, show ISRO images

BENGALURU
The Indian Space Research Organisation's long term satellite imagery covering the Himalayan river basins have shown significant increases in areas of glacial lakes. • PAGE 2

Five people die trying to cross English Channel

LONDON
Five persons died while attempting to cross the English Channel early on Tuesday - without visas of the British parliament passing a law that will permit the deportation of those seeking asylum in the UK. In Florida. • PAGE 14

We are examining Modi's Rajasthan speech, says EC

Only remedy is disqualification of those who try to create a divide between different classes of citizens, Cong. tells the poll body. CPIMD also seeks action against PM for 'inflammatory' speech

Scepterana Chakrabarti
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday said it was examining the complaints lodged against a speech made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a rally in Rajasthan. Mr. Modi had said that if elected to power, the Congress would distribute people's property, land, and gold among Muslims. Sources said the complaints regarding the Prime Minister's speech had been received and were under the consideration of the commission. The Congress approached the poll body on Monday. CPIMD general secretary Nitaram Yeshu had lodged a complaint seeking action against the Prime



Shree of Hyderabad Members of Congress, ADF and Left parties protest in Hyderabad on Tuesday against Modi's remarks. (ANI)

Congress says it will move SC if EC does not act

NEW DELHI
The Congress on Tuesday said that it would move the Supreme Court if the Election Commission (EC) did not decide on its complaint against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his remarks on wealth redistribution. • PAGE 8

Congress tried to reduce quota for Dalits, says PM

The Hindu Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday accused the Congress of attempting to reduce the reservation for Dalits, tribals, and backward classes and give it to Muslims in defiance of the Constitution. "As soon as the Congress formed the government at the Centre in 2004, out of its first task was to reduce the SC/ST reservation in Andhra Pradesh and give the quota to Muslims. Between 2004 and 2010, the Congress made four attempts to introduce Muslim reservation in that State, but it could not succeed because of legal impediments and the Supreme Court's alertness," Mr. Modi said at an event in the district of Rajasthan. "Mr. Modi said the Congress had launched it as a 'pilot project' in Andhra



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being felicitated with a mace during a public meeting in Tumk, Rajasthan on Tuesday. (ANI)

Pradesh with an intention to extend it all over the country. The Prime Minister defended his recent remarks on "redistribution of wealth", saying he had expressed the "core bank and assessment policies" of the Congress in his second speech. "The Congress has hatched a deep conspiracy to snatch people's wealth and distribute it among the select groups," he said, adding that his exposure had created

so much panic in the Congress and the INDIA bloc that their leaders were abusing him everywhere. The Prime Minister said he had extended the reservation for Dalits and tribal people for 45 years to 2020 when the constitutional limit for the quota was ending. He said the BJP government, when elected in Rajasthan, had abolished the Muslim reservation which was created by snatching the share of the SC and ST communities.

Out of race in Surat, Congress nominee does 'vanishing act'

Mahesh Langa
SURAT

A day after the BJP's Mukesh Dalal was elected unopposed in the Surat Lok Sabha seat, Congress candidate Nilesh Kumbhani - whose nomination papers were rejected on technical grounds - has gone missing, prompting the local workers to protest outside his house here.

Mr. Dalal was declared the winner after the remaining candidates in the fray withdrew their nomination papers on Monday.

The protesting Congress workers called Mr. Kumbhani a "traitor" and "murderer of democracy". "He is misbehaving with his phone is switched off and his location remains unknown," said the party workers.

"The Congress workers, who are furious at Mr. Kumbhani's 'irresponsible conduct', even pasted posters at the gate of his locked house that read 'Janta ko gaddar (people's traitor)'".

Mr. Kumbhani's nomination papers were rejected on Monday after his three proposers denied that they signed the papers endorsing him as a candidate. The three proposers have also been missing since April 19.

Congress moves EC
In Delhi, the party has approached the Election Commission (EC) seeking its intervention in Surat, where all vital candidates opted out of the contest one by one, paving the way for the BJP's Mr. Dalal to be declared the winner without election.

In its plea to the EC, the Opposition party has asked

Party asked contestants to withdraw; BJP

MUMBAI
The Bharatiya Janata Party had approached independent candidates in Surat and asked them to withdraw their nomination for the Lok Sabha election, the party's national general secretary Vinod Tande said on Tuesday. • PAGE 8

the poll body to use powers under Article 324 for setting aside the order passed by the Returning Officer cancelling Mr. Kumbhani's nomination, directing restoration of his candidature from the Surat Lok Sabha constituency or in the alternative, suspending nomination of the backup candidate for the EC. Sunish Fadnis

However, Congress leaders and workers in Surat are furious at the party leadership's inability to ensure proper nomination papers or look into proposers who endorsed his nomination. "This was bound to happen when the party leadership ignores to people like Kadir Pirzada (Gujarat Congress working president) and Jeebhari Upadhyay (Gujarat Congress vice president). Both are special forces but still the candidate candidates for local and municipal and panchayat elections to Assembly and Lok Sabha elections," said Anand Chakravarti, a local Congress leader.

The public announcement by Anand Das, the journalist, came after she and her team from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) were questioned by an officer from the Criminal Intelligence Department whom they were producing a programme on the Indian government's alleged targeted assassination of human rights activists in Western countries.

Sources here have described her version as "misleading". "Last week, I had to leave India abruptly. The Modi Government told me my visa extension would be denied, saying my reporting 'scanned a line' after Australian Government intervention. I got a two-month extension, less than 24 hours before my

flight. We were also told my election accreditation would not come through because of an Indian Ministry directive," Mr. Das said in a post on X.

"We left on day one of voting in the national election in which Modi calls 'the Mother of democracy'," said Mr. Das in the same post.

Of all political hues



One who shops A vendor selling campaign material amidst customers in Palshahar on Tuesday. Kerala votes on Friday. P.R. MISHRA/ANI

Australian journalist had to leave India 'abruptly' as visa extension was denied

Kalpal Bhattacharjee
Subhash Haldar

NEW DELHI
The New Delhi chief of bureau of Australia's state-run news outlet has stated that she had to leave India "abruptly" after government officials denied her a visa extension.

The public announcement by Anand Das, the journalist, came after she and her team from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) were questioned by an officer from the Criminal Intelligence Department whom they were producing a programme on the Indian government's alleged targeted assassination of human rights activists in Western countries.



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told me my visa extension would be denied, saying my reporting 'scanned a line'. We left on day one of voting in the national election in which Modi calls the Mother of democracy. ANAND DAS
New Delhi chief of bureau, ABC

"The Hindu has learned from sources relevant that Mr. Das and her crew were "intimidated and harassed" by government officials.

"Surprise departure" Meanwhile, government sources said that Mr. Das's sudden departure came as a surprise, citing the fact that the journalist had herself paid the fees for visa extension a day prior to flying out.

In addition, sources said that Mr. Das had been found to have flouted the BJP's security norms while filming at the Wagah border and the ABC film crew had not followed the visa norms for documentary-making while in India.

Govt. should act on FMCG firms using 'misleading' ads: SC

Krishnanand Subhagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the Centre should "activate itself" against Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) companies if they employ "misleading advertisements".

"The misleading advertisements of FMCGs take the public for a ride, particularly families, affecting their health. The issue concerns even the health of babies and school children," Justice Himan Kohli, heading a Bench with Justice Abanindran Athanandya, said.

The bench said its concern amid recent reports alleging higher sugar content in the baby food products sold in India as well as in African and Latin American countries.

The Union Consumer Affairs Ministry has asked the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to investigate the allegations against the leading FMCGs. "If these advertisements target babies and children, if that is happening, the Union has to activate itself," Justice Kohli underscored.

On Monday, the court widened the scope of the case and decided to implead the Ministries of Consumer Affairs and Information and Public Relations as parties in the case. The Union Ministry is already represented in the case. Additional Solicitor General K.M. Bhatnagar appeared for the Union Ministry.

Justice Kohli asked whether the Centre was

SC tears into Patanjali over public apology

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked Patanjali Ayurved if its apology published in newspapers was as big and evasive as its usual "press page" advertisements for herbal drugs. • PAGE 4

taking any effort to identify FMCG companies which resort to misleading advertisements.

Justice Kohli pointed out that the Advertising Standards Council of India had flagged some objectionable advertisements to the AYUSH Ministry in the past two years. "What follow-up action did you take on this information?" the judge asked. Justice Anand said he recently saw a channel flash news about the Supreme Court hearing in the case even as a part of the screen was taken up by a FMCG company's misleading advertisement. "It was ironic," Justice Anand said.

Contempt case
The court was hearing a contempt case against Patanjali Ayurved. Its co-founder and yoga guru Baba Ramdev and his associate Acharya Balkrishna for continuing to advertise their ayurvedic drugs in violation of the Drug and Magic Remedies Act despite a court order to stop them from the Supreme Court.

On April 10, the Bench had similarly expressed its mingivings about the exorbitant prices of ayurvedic advertised and sold by FMCG companies.

Justice Kohli asked whether the Centre was

IN BRIEF



Sreecia becomes top-ranked Indian woman paddler

Israeli Akiba on Tuesday became the top-ranked Indian woman table tennis player after rising to career-high rank of 38 in the latest ITTF chart, replacing Mandia Bharti. Sreecia climbed a spot while Mandia dropped two places to 39 in the latest update. Sharath Kamal continues to be the top-ranked male player, occupying the 27 spot in the rankings while C. Nandha and Manav Thakur have interchanged places to be 69th and 68th respectively.

Tondaiman finishes 23rd in Trop Olympic qualification

Puerto Rican Tondaiman shot 20 and missed the final by two points in trap in the Olympic specific Asian qualification in Osaka on Tuesday. Anshu Garasia of Spain won the Olympic quota with 21 and Thailand's leading qualification runner Major De Pinye (24) of July 4-6.

The results: Trap (Men) 1. Andrey Arsenov 40 (2:21.3), 2. Sreecia Devi 38 (2:30), 3. Oghuzhan Vatan 38 (2:22), 21. Andrian Andrianov 28 (2:35), 22. Sreecia Devi 28 (2:35), 23. Sreecia Devi 28 (2:35), 24. Major De Pinye 24 (2:35), 25. Shantanu Kumar 23 (2:35), 26. Andrian Andrianov 23 (2:35).

Seby considers retirement after 'pathetic' Worlds exit

Four-time world number one World champion Mark Seby is considering retirement after crashing out at the first round of the World Cup in the Olympic qualifier in Chennai in Sheffield on Monday. "I will take a long time to think about it over the summer," said the 40-year-old. "Some days I'm happy, then when I come to consider it I'm depressed. It was pathetic from start to finish."



World no 1 Viswanath Anand holds the trophy of his second and other young Indians in an embrace at the podium's moment for achievement in the game.

Indian earthquake in Toronto: Kasparov

Former World champion, whose record Chess broke on Tuesday, says the triumph marks the shifting tectonic plates in the game's global order

CANDIDATE CRISIS The shifting tectonic plates in the chess world as the 17-year-old Israeli 1740 has the Chinese champion Wang Leifu for the highest title, "world champion" on "7", referring to the Russian domination of the past.

Landing ahead Kasparov acknowledged three-time World champion Viswanath Anand's contribution to Indian chess, saying, "The victors of this award are on the board" Kasparov was remembered to congratulate Anand's victory in the 2007 FIDE Candidates' tournament by Grand Chess Tour following Anand's success. "Congratulations to Viswanath for his victory in the FIDE Candidates, securing his place as a challenger in 2008. Viswanath's success in the 2007 Candidates' tournament was a major achievement. We warmly welcome his participation in the tournament of the past."

Final chess tour event Kasparov, who ranked 1740, will play a match on Tuesday in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, against Wang Leifu, who ranked 1735, in a match that will be the first in a series of matches between the two players. Kasparov will play a match on Tuesday in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, against Wang Leifu, who ranked 1735, in a match that will be the first in a series of matches between the two players.

Swapnil and Ashi top the trials in rifle 3-position



Swapnil Khande shot 102 in top qualification in men's rifle 3-position event in the Olympic selection trials held in Tirunelveli. Olympic sports shooter Swapnil had 109 in kneeling, 109 in prone and 104 in standing.

Stung by an early reverse, Odisha rallies to beat Mohun Bagan

Odisha FC fought back from a deficit to defeat League Super Gurgaon (2-1) in the consolation final leg of the 2007-08 I-League Super Cup.

Defensive battle may decide the result between Mumbai, Goa

Mumbai City FC will lock horns with FC Goa in the first leg of the second semi-final of the 2008-09 Indian Super Cup on Wednesday.

When the food was more attractive than the competition

World's Top Pataak, Super... Both England and the West Indies beat the World XI in the final of the World Cup in Australia, 2007-08, but to be fair to the copartnership between the two teams rather than based on cricketing merit...

Inter seals Serie A in style after derby thriller with Milan

Inter Milan won Serie A in a dramatic finish after beating AC Milan 2-1 and creating an unassailable lead at the top of the league with six straight derby victories.

Bonmati and Djokovic sportspersons of the year



The best (Nadal) and Djokovic with their best sports...



Making the difference between... seen in the blink of an eye...

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Spanish tennis player Rafael Nadal and Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic were named as the best sportsmen and women of the year.

LAUREN AWARDS Spanish tennis player Rafael Nadal and Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic were named as the best sportsmen and women of the year.

Bonmati and Djokovic sportspersons of the year



The best: Bonmati and Djokovic with their statuettes. AFP

LAUREUS AWARDS

Reuters
MADRID

Spain's World Cup winning midfielder Aitana Bonmati was named the Sportswoman of the Year, while Serbia's Novak Djokovic captured the top men's honour at the Laureus awards on Monday.

England midfielder Jude Bellingham, who has taken LaLiga by storm with Real Madrid, was named the Breakthrough Player of the Year, the first footballer to win this award.

Gymnast Simone Biles won Comeback of the Year award after winning four gold at last year's Worlds.

List of winners: World Sportswoman of the Year: Aitana Bonmati (football); **World Sportsman of the Year:** Novak Djokovic (tennis); **World Team of the Year:** Spain women's football team; **World Breakthrough of the Year:** Jude Bellingham (football); **World Comeback of the Year:** Simone Biles (gymnastics); **World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability:** Diede de Groot (wheelchair tennis); **World Action Sportsperson of the Year:** Arisa Trew (skateboarding). **Laureus Sport for Good:** Rafa Nadal Foundation.

Laureus World Sports Awards



Cartier statuette presented to each winner

Awarded for Men and women from the world of sport along with their achievements from the previous calendar year

Presented by Laureus Sport for Good Foundation

Most awards  Roger Federer (6)

2020	 Berlin, Germany	Verti Halle	Twentieth anniversary of awards
2021	 Seville, Spain	Online	Virtual ceremony
2022	 Seville, Spain	Online	Virtual ceremony
2023	 Paris, France	Pavillon Vendome	
2024	 Madrid, Spain	Palacio de Cibeles	
2025	 Tokyo, Japan	New National Theatre Tokyo	



Sreeja becomes top-ranked Indian woman paddler

Sreeja Akula on Tuesday became the top-ranked Indian woman table tennis player after rising to career-high rank of 38 in the latest ITTF chart, replacing Manika Batra. Sreeja climbed a spot while Manika slipped two places to 39 in the latest update. Sharath Kamal continues to be the top-ranked male player, occupying the 37 spot in the rankings while G. Sathiyan and Manav Thakar have interchanged places to be 60th and 61st respectively.

Men TOP RANKED PLAYERS

SENIOR

YOUTH

1		WANG Chuqin		7125
2		FAN Zhendong		5228
3		MA Long		4685
4		LIANG Jingkun		4280
5		LIN Gaoyuan		3485

Women TOP RANKED PLAYERS

SENIOR

YOUTH

1		SUN Yingsha		8300
2		WANG Manyu		5965
3		WANG Yidi		4772
4		CHEN Meng		4760
5		CHEN Xingtong		3145

Next & Limit

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The fall in agricultural exports to the United States

8.8% in percentage. India's agriculture exports declined by \$43.7 billion during April-February period of 2023-24 from \$47.9 billion in 2022-23, due to factors such as Red Sea crisis, Russia-Ukraine war etc. ❧

The amount of military aid pledged by the U.K. for Ukraine

620 in £ million. The U.K. pledged an additional amount in new military supplies for Ukraine, including long-range missiles and four million rounds of ammunition. ❧

Hydro-meteorological hazards to strike Asia in 2023

79 floods and storms accounted for over 80% of hydro-meteorological incidents, resulting in over 2,000 fatalities, affecting nine million people in the region, as per the World Meteorological Organization. ❧

Stations with affordable meals for general class travellers

100 stations. Train passengers travelling in unreserved compartments will now get an economy meal for ₹20 and a snack meal for ₹50 at stations, according to Railway officials. ❧

Number of arms deposited in Himachal before Lok Sabha polls

70,343 The recovered arms have been deposited in order to ensure free and fair elections in the State. ❧
COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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An overview of the PMAY-U scheme

What are the objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana scheme? How has the in-situ slum redevelopment vertical under the scheme fared? Has the participation of the private sector in social housing been a success? What is the Centre's contribution to the overall investment expenditure?

EXPLAINER

Rishabh Prasad

The story so far: As the current Union government completes two terms, one of its flagship great schemes was Housing For All (HFA) by 2025, both in urban and rural areas, planned under the PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana) scheme in 2015.

What is the PMAY scheme? While the PMAY is a centrally sponsored scheme both the Union and the State governments are supposed to financially contribute to it. The declared objectives of the scheme included rehabilitation of slum dwellers with private developers' participation; promotion of affordable housing for the weaker sections through Credit Linked Subsidy Schemes (CLSS); affordable housing in partnership with public and private sectors; and subsidy for beneficiary-led construction (BLC).

How has the scheme panned out? Even though two more years have passed since the supposed completion of the scheme, HFA remains a distant reality. In August 2022, the government approved the continuation of the PMAY-U (Urban PMAY-U) up to December 31, 2024, for the completion of already sanctioned houses till March 31, 2022.

Currently, according to the government's estimates, there is a shortage of around 20 million houses in rural areas and three million in urban centres. However, these figures do not speak of the actual reality. Till 2023, the urban shortfall was more than 85 lakh houses. According to a study by the ICRAR, urban housing shortage increased by 36% from 1.88 crore in 2012 to 2.5 crore in 2019. Thus, the PMAY-U has actually faltered. Even according to data from the PMAY dashboard (as of April 19), there is a shortfall of around 40 lakh houses from the sanctioned and



SHREYAS

completed agreements. This means that the vertical that is supposed to meet the largest demand, called in-situ slum redevelopment (ISSR), has failed.

According to a PIB press release, under the ISSR, which is the most pressing need in cities, only 2,45,552 houses have been sanctioned for eligible beneficiaries. According to another report by Newslife, the PMAY-U has only addressed a 28.18% of the housing shortage by delivering 80 lakh houses, even if the awaiting houses sanctioned are constructed by the end of 2024, it would have addressed just about 37% of the total need. Almost 2.4 crore households will still be without a roof.

The current housing programme which was a kind of merger of the Rajiv Awas Yojana has spent over \$29 billion in the last five years providing

support for both rural and urban low-cost housing. Despite this focus and budgetary infusion, "Housing for All" remains an unfulfilled promise.

What ailed the PMAY? The scheme is euphoric in the participation of the private sector in bridging the gap of public investments in social housing. The current estimates suggest that in the Indian urban lands are around 40% (according to the World Bank, 40% of the people are living in both designated and informal slums). Hence, the success of the PMAY was dependent on addressing the housing question in the slums.

In some of the projects where spaces occupied by the slum dwellers were handed to private players, the vertical growth of such settlements created more

problems for the residents rather than addressing them. Take for example a multi-story building with the recurring cost of water, electricity and sewerage utilities which at times went beyond the scope of residents' expenditure. Building typologies and layout design with spaced spaces dissuaded people from occupying such houses. Land was also a major issue. Land registered under airports, railways, forests, etc., was ineligible for ISSR. Moreover, plans for ISSR were drawn up by consultants, without any role from the community.

Another major hurdle is the dichotomy existing between the city's master plans and PMAY-U. Most of the cities' plans are now being dictated by big consultants who favour large capital-intensive technological solutions. Take for example, the transit-oriented development models being advocated by the Delhi Development Authority in its 2041 master plan. It does not speak about social housing and states that this must come from market forces. In such a scenario, almost all verticals of PMAY fail.

It is worth noting that the Centre's contribution to the overall investment expenditure under this scheme is just about 25%, or ₹2.03 lakh crore. The bulk of the money is shelled out by the beneficiaries' themselves. In fact, that is 65% or ₹4.95 lakh crore. State governments together with Urban Local Bodies spent ₹1.33 lakh crore on the scheme as well. The architecture of PMAY does not address the landless and the poor. Around 75% of the houses sanctioned come under the BLC vertical where the government's role is limited to just cost sharing with the beneficiaries. CLSS beneficiaries are supposed to be 33%. In both the above, the government has a limited role with just the provision for providing interest subsidy, whereas land is owned by the beneficiaries. Slum-dwelling families that are to be rehabilitated under ISSR make up just about 2.8% of the total beneficiaries.

The writer is former deputy mayor, Shimla, and Member, Kavayati Nidhi Committee.

THE GIST

While the PMAY is a centrally sponsored scheme both the Union and the State governments are supposed to financially contribute to it.

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How is India planning to boost EV production?

How have domestic players reacted to the policy? How can electric vehicle adoption be upscaled?

Santapano Ghosh

The story so far: The Union government on March 15 approved a policy to promote India as a manufacturing hub for Electric Vehicles (EVs). The minimum investment cap has been set at \$4,150 crore.

What does the policy stipulate? The policy broadly clears the path for global EV makers like Tesla and Chinese EV maker BYD to foray into the Indian markets. The central goal of this policy is to enable transitioning to local production in a commercially viable manner and plan as per local market conditions and demand. The most significant provision is the reduction of import duty on electric vehicles imported as a completely built unit (CBU) with a minimum cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value of \$30,000 to 15% (for a five-year period) from the present 70%-100%. This is provided the maker

sets up a manufacturing unit within three years. The policy also stipulates that the total number of EVs imported, it must be noted that, a maximum of 40,000 EVs can be imported under the scheme at not more than 8,000 units a year, provided the minimum investment made is \$600 million. Another important aspect of the scheme is localisation targets. Manufacturers have three years to set up their manufacturing facilities in India. They are expected to attain 25% localisation by the third year of incentivised operation and 50% by the fifth year. Should the localisation targets not be achieved, and if the minimum investment criteria as defined under the scheme is not met, the bank guarantee of the manufacturer would be evoked.

What about domestic players? Tata Motors, as reported by Reuters in December 2023, had opposed the Tesla

proposal. It argued that lowering duties would hit the domestic industry and "the investment climate will get vitiated". Assessing the policy from the perspective of domestic players, Rajat Mahajan, Partner at Ecolite India told *The Hindu*, "Most Indian players are leading in the segments below \$29 lakh (as of now, and hence this policy benefit from 15% import duty) will likely be for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) catering to consumers in the higher end of the market." He added that the policy makes it lucrative for global EV players and Indian EVs with such players, to expand sales and manufacture in India.

How does it cater to Indian markets? I.V. Rao, Distinguished Fellow at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), thinks that global players in India must consider local circumstances, like the environment, roads, and usage conditions. Mr. Mahajan from Ecolite notes that while penetration in the two- and three-wheeler segment has been

significant, passenger vehicles have seen only a 2.2% contribution thus far. "This is mainly due to lack of proper charging infrastructure, range anxiety, and limited number of products in the affordable range due to limited localisation," he observed. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in a July 2023 report had observed that India may require at least 13 lakh charging stations by 2030 to support "aggressive EV uptake."

Thiruv. Aravind, retired professor at the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development explained to *The Hindu* that the investment climate will get vitiated. "Assessing the policy from the perspective of domestic players, Rajat Mahajan, Partner at Ecolite India told *The Hindu*, "Most Indian players are leading in the segments below \$29 lakh (as of now, and hence this policy benefit from 15% import duty) will likely be for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) catering to consumers in the higher end of the market." He added that the policy makes it lucrative for global EV players and Indian EVs with such players, to expand sales and manufacture in India.

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

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8.8 in percentage. India's agriculture exports declined to \$43.7 billion during April-February period of 2023-24 from \$47.9 billion in 2022-23, due to factors such as Red Sea crisis, Russia-Ukraine war etc. PTI

- The bilateral trade between India and the U.S. has increased by 7.65% to USD 128.55 in 2022-23 as against USD 119.5 billion in 2021-22. Exports to the U.S. rose by 2.81% to USD 78.31 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 76.18 billion in 2021-22, while imports grew by about 16% to USD 50.24 billion.

INDIA-US RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

The confluence of common factors like democratic values, Shared areas of Interests, Stand against terrorism makes India and US enjoy a comprehensive strategic partnership.



\$ 128.55 billion
Bilateral trade in
2022-23 (increase of
7.65% over 2021-22)



Largest Export destination
US is the major
export hub
for Indian goods.



3rd largest defence Supplier
US (~11%) is India's
3rd largest defence
supplier after
Russia (~45%)
and France (~29%)



\$28 billion
India maintains a
trade surplus with
the US

Defence ties

- ⊖ US recognized India as a **“Major Defence Partner”** in 2016.
- ⊖ US Defence agreements like
 - **Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Association (LEMOA), 2016**
 - **Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA), 2018**
 - **Industrial Security Agreement 2019**
 - **Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) 2020** are signed with India
- ⊖ Bilateral military exercises like **Yudh Abhyaas, Vajra prahar, Malabar, RIMPAC etc.** are conducted between the two countries.



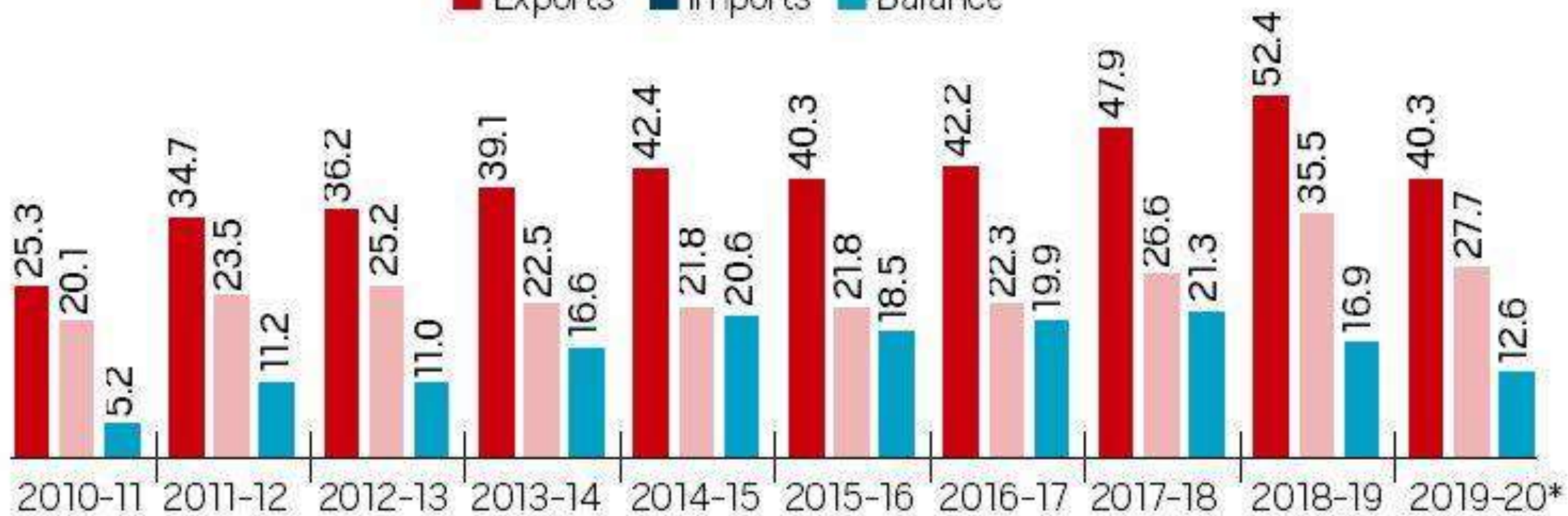
People to People ties

- ⊖ Indian diaspora in US is around 4.9 Million and they form the **second largest immigrant group** in US after the Mexicans



INDIA'S TRADE SURPLUS WITH THE US

Exports Imports Balance



All figures in \$ billion. Figures rounded up to one decimal point; trade balance calculated using these figures.

* April-December

Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

The fizz in the shaving cream

Q

Q. How do they get all that shaving cream into an aerosol can?

A: Shaving cream is basically soap and water. It is put into a can along with compressed butane gas. Without the gas, all you have is soapy liquid.

When the valve is pressed, some of the gas mixes with the soap and water, escapes, and expands to make foam.

The filling process is like the process used to fill air in the tube of a tyre, or even a balloon.

As long as the pressure is maintained in a closed system and the gas from a pressurised source is not allowed to escape, it takes up a very small amount of space.

The fact that any pressurised gas expands when the pressure is released means that a small quantity of soap and water can make a whole lot of foamy bubbles.



Since pressurised gas expands when the pressure is released, it means that a small quantity of soap and water can make a whole lot of foamy bubbles. GETTY IMAGES

For feedback and suggestions

for 'Science', please write to science@thehindu.co.in

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 22 PAGES

DECISION 2024
WHY I WILL VOTE & YOU SHOULD TOO

UDITPRAKASH MISHRA
 Professor of Law

Shape the Future
 Democracy, I believe, is the most outstanding idea humankind has come up with. That it was born in India is a matter of pride for us. These days, we are celebrating the 75th of Democracy. Five times in the Lok Sabha and four State Assemblies, apart from a number of bye-elections, are taking place from April to June, 2024. This is the largest exercise in its kind in history, with 96.28 crore registered voters.
 Needless to say, the idea of democracy can be only as strong as we make it to be. It is our participation in the election that deepens the roots of democracy — not only in India, but also around the world. Let us give, as every eligible voter is to do, and experience the joy of participating in our collective endeavour to shape the future.

THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW

AKASH ANAND
 BJP National Coordinator
PAGE 8
PAGES 7, 9

- Mother's emergency says she'll see country 17 days into health at PM
- Cong vows to implement wealth tax, redresser wage

HC: Public sector banks cannot request LOCs against defaulters
OMKAR GOKHALE
 MUMBAI, APRIL 23

THE BOMBAY High Court Tuesday ruled that public sector banks do not have the power to request issuance of Letters of Comfort (LOCs) against loan defaulters under the central government's office memorandum circulars which give special powers.

Issued by the Bureau of Investigation of the Ministry of Home Affairs, LOCs allow an officer at any point of departure to prevent a person from travelling abroad.

While the central government's office memorandum were not often used or "put as authority", the subsequent interpretation of managers of public sector banks to issue requests for LOCs was arbitrary, the court said. "We do not expect public sector banks to do this (even to the request for LOCs)", said.

A division bench of Justices Gaurish S Patel and Madhav J Gadgil quashed the judgment on a batch of petition and quashed the LOCs issued to various people included in public sector banks from travelling abroad.

The High Court said that the Bureau of Investigation will not act on the LOCs.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RADIKA
 NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THREE YEARS ago, the Government launched engineering degree courses in regional languages as part of a national plan to make technical education more inclusive and not allow lack of English to be a hurdle. Since then, 2,389 seats have been volunteered in local languages by 22 engineering colleges across the country — 18 in Hindi, the rest in public.

Of the total 25 lakh bank of engineering seats, this is a small fraction but it is a positive sign

On Arun 'Ram' Govil's lips, Modi and Yogi: 'They must have a plan'
PAGE 1 ANCHOR
AMIT SHARMA
 NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE BJP may be banking big on the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya under the Modi government for the coming Lok Sabha election, seeing it as a poll magnet. But Arun Govil, the Ram temple's vice-president, believes that God alone won't see him through in Ayodhya. He is also casting on Narendra Modi and Yogi

BJP CANDIDATE WINS LOK SABHA SEAT UNOPPOSED
How Surat was won: BJP member says attested affidavits disowning signatures on Cong form

KAMAAL SAIED
 SURAT, APRIL 23

THE AFFIDAVITS in which three representatives of Surat Lok Sabha Congress nominee Nilesh Kumbhakar and one member of the party's chosen candidate Nilesh Kumbhakar disowning their signatures on the nomination papers were not signed (attested) by a member of the Surat city BJP legal cell.

On Monday following the inspection of the Congress nomination papers and the withdrawal of eight others including the BJP


BJP's Nilesh Dalal: Cong's Nilesh Kumbhakar (right)

RIP's Nilesh Dalal: Cong's Nilesh Kumbhakar (right)

 member, BJP candidate Nilesh Dalal was declared an elected unopposed from the Surat Lok Sabha constituency.
 Kiran Chughani, member of

BLINDING AN UNLAWFUL
 BY LINNY

The blind of dalal to survive



Party-hopping for poll tickets is a disturbing trend, says Venkaiah

LIZ MATHEW
 NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

CALLING FOR strengthening of the anti-defection law, former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu Tuesday spoke out against the "disturbing trend" of party-hopping for election tickets, and criticised those who praise their "new leader" and "abuse the first leader".

He also took strong exception to the announcement of freebies by parties and said "only education and health should be free".

Speaking at a media press conference in New Delhi after he had been conferred the Padma Vibhushan by the President, Naidu said, "In the morning you are in one party, in the afternoon you join the other one. The next day you get a ticket to fight the

M Venkaiah Naidu, who received Padma Vibhushan Monday with L K Advani, seen on the left

 election. First you are praising your new leader and then you abuse the first leader. This is a very bad trend. You were addressing Congress today, you joined the other party in the afternoon, you join the other one. The next day you get a ticket to fight the

As citizenship issue roils Barak Valley, border seat is Opp candidate's hope

SHRUTI BARUAH
 RAJMARGAL, APRIL 23

THE DAYS leading up to polling day in Barak Valley were a little difficult for this time, says Mohanlal, 35, who runs a book shop in Barpeta, halfway between Karimganj town and Jorhat. Every evening, he has people queuing at his shop to stop the vicious division on the elections and voters they should vote for — instead for the incumbent, he says.

Rahman Choudhury, the editor of the only daily newspaper published here, Karimganj, Dainik Bahubhara Pasanggi, agrees. "A

Cong's Hafiz Rashid Ahmed Choudhury, Editor

 Karimganj branch for elections on April 26, one of the five seats in Assam, sitting in the general seat, Choudhury says. "In all 65 seats, the in general, the incumbent I'm voting for but the only daily newspaper published here, Karimganj, Dainik Bahubhara Pasanggi, agrees. "A

GUKESH DOMMANATES!

AMUL! GRANDMASTER OF BREAKFAST


'TOYED WITH CONSTITUTION'
Cong tried to give Muslim quota by cutting SC/ST reservation: PM
 Says party tried it first in Andhra, then sought to implement across country

HAMEER KHAN
 JAMSHEDPUR, APRIL 23

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Tuesday said the Congress party tried to give reservation to Muslims by reducing the reservation for SC, ST and OBCs, and that it "did not care" along the Constitution.

Speaking in Rajasthan's Durb-Sawai Madhopur Lok Sabha constituency, which voted on April 26, the PM said, "The truth is that when Congress and PM's alliance work to prove, these people take into the reservation of Dalit and the backward for vote bank politics, and wanted to give reservation to these specific people (Muslims) separately. While the Constitution is absolutely against this."

"The right to reservation provided by Rajasthan Assembly to Dalits, backward and Muslim

After her Nijjar report blocked, journalist exits India, cites visa extension issue

AVANI DAS, AUSTRALIA'S ABC NEWS
 A SOUTH ASIA JOURNALIST CHIEF

AVANI DAS, Australia's ABC News, a South Asia journalist chief, announced

What lies beneath PM's 'Muslim quota' attack on Congress?

MANOJ C
 A GREENFIELD JANYALA
 NEW DELHI, HYDRABAD, APRIL 23

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Tuesday said the Congress tried to extend reservation on the basis of religion and give to Muslims. Addressing an election rally in Trichy, he said that as soon as the Congress formed the government in the Centre in 2004, one of its first tasks was "cutting the 27.77 reservation in Andhra Pradesh" and giving it to Muslims.

He also said that when the BJP government in Karnataka got an opportunity, the first thing it did was to abolish the Muslim

— MOVE TO MAKE TECHNICAL EDUCATION INCLUSIVE —
Engineering in local language? Slow start but uptick in students in UP, TN, Andhra

RADIKA
 NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THREE YEARS ago, the Government launched engineering degree courses in regional languages as part of a national plan to make technical education more inclusive and not allow lack of English to be a hurdle. Since then, 2,389 seats have been volunteered in local languages by 22 engineering colleges across the country — 18 in Hindi, the rest in public.

Of the total 25 lakh bank of engineering seats, this is a small fraction but it is a positive sign

At an introductory class for computer science in Hindi at the G.I. Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management in Noida, Gopesh Nair


In Noida, it's a hit — with some help from 'Hinglish'

RADIKA
 KUNTAMALLA
 NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

"IT COULD be hardware or teach how to use it, or operating system both go side by side. The interface between a user and the hardware can be called an operating system. Localized software, assistant software, web interface (used in a classroom) at the G.I. Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management in Noida.

Welcome to an introductory course on operating systems for students from English medium schools, too, given that it's easier to get a more "broad" grasp.

Operating the door

In line with the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the AICTE approved IITs work for B.Tech programmes in 11 regional languages.



par sonar. Modi for Parivar (On this vote, the Modi family have brought Ram) and '26/11' (Modi on the 26/11) in the name of the party. Modi, including other rich, shown, carry posters saying "I

from, availability of non-English textbooks and language teachers to questions over job prospects, in some colleges, these vocational programmes have become a regular choice for students from English medium schools, too, given that it's easier to get a more "broad" grasp.

the Big Picture: Operating the door
 In line with the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the AICTE approved IITs work for B.Tech programmes in 11 regional languages.

On Arun 'Ram' Govil's lips, Modi and Yogi: 'They must have a plan'

AMIT SHARMA
 NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE BJP may be banking big on the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya under the Modi government for the coming Lok Sabha election, seeing it as a poll magnet. But Arun Govil, the Ram temple's vice-president, believes that God alone won't see him through in Ayodhya. He is also casting on Narendra Modi and Yogi

Govil says: "The electorate has already decided the outcome in the Indian general election in the Indian, and the people in the country have already decided that for the sake of the country and development, Modi is right because PM for the third time" people to vote for Govil, apart from the NDA's other candidates in Bihar's Kishanpur town on April 16. Yogi said that when Govil played Ram, he could have easily resigned that one day he would be seeking votes for himself in the next year as the NDA's PM for the third time. Getting to the crossroads.

On Arun 'Ram' Govil's lips, Modi and Yogi: 'They must have a plan'

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Asia worst hit by disasters in 2023, 79 extreme weather events killed over 2k

Asia warmed faster than global average, warming trend nearly doubled since 1961-1990: Report

NIKHIL GHANEKAR
NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

ASIA WAS the most disaster-hit region in the world in 2023 as 79 events associated with extreme weather, climate and water affected more than nine million people directly and killed over 2,000, a new report by the World Meteorological Organization said.

The report, 'State of the Climate in Asia 2023', said more than 80 per cent of the reported hydrometeorological hazards in Asia were floods and storms. More than 60 per cent of the 2,000 deaths were caused by flooding and over 15 per cent by storms, the report said. Storms affected the largest number of people and also caused the most economic damage.

The number of disasters in 2023 were just two fewer than in 2022. The number of affected people, however, was far lower in 2023 as the Pakistan floods alone had affected more than 30 million people in 2022.

EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS IN INDIA LAST YR

■ **APRIL-JUNE:** Severe heatwave, 110 people dead from heatstroke.

■ **AUGUST:** Floods in Himachal, Uttarakhand; 25 deaths, agri, infra damaged.

■ **OCTOBER:** Glacial lake outburst flood in Sikkim; 40 deaths

■ **DECEMBER:** Cyclone Michuang makes landfall in Andhra; 22 deaths

During 2023, India experienced extreme weather events such as severe heatwaves, rainfall-induced floods, glacial lake outbursts and tropical cyclones.

The report noted that Asia has warmed faster than the global average and the warming trend has nearly doubled since the 1961-1990 period. The accelerating rate of key climate change indicators — such as surface temperatures, glacier retreat and sea-level rise — will have major consequences for Asia, its economy and its ecosystems, the report emphasised.

WMO's Secretary-General

Celeste Saulo said the report's conclusions are sobering. "Many countries in the region experienced their hottest year on record in 2023, along with a barrage of extreme conditions, from droughts and heatwaves to floods and storms. Climate change exacerbated the frequency and severity of such events, profoundly impacting societies, economies, and, most importantly, human lives and the environment that we live in," she said.

In April and June 2023 in India, severe heat waves resulted in around 110 deaths due to heatstroke, the report noted. The deaths of these people, many of

them senior citizens with comorbidities, took place in Ballia and Deoria districts of Uttar Pradesh. Temperatures were in the 42-43 degrees Celsius range in the region at that time.

A prolonged heatwave also affected much of South-East Asia in April and May, extending westwards in Bangladesh and eastern India and parts of China too.

Flood events occurred in India during August 2023 and Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand recorded 25 deaths as well as extensive damage to infrastructure and agriculture, the report said.

"Triggered by heavy rainfall, the disaster compounded the effects of an earlier monsoon surge in June. The Indian government declared a state of emergency in the worst-affected areas, initiating rescue and relief operations," the report added.

The Indian subcontinent experienced six tropical cyclones in 2023 which formed in the North Indian Ocean. The cyclone activity

was slightly above the average of 5.4 cyclones, the report noted. Four out of the six cyclones (Mocha, Hamoon, Midhili and Michaung) formed the Bay of Bengal and two (Biparjoy and Tej) formed over the Arabian Sea. The extremely severe cyclonic storm Mocha made landfall along the Rakhine Coast in Myanmar on May 14 and killed 156 people.

In India, Michuang made landfall in South Andhra Pradesh on December 5 and claimed 22 lives. The report also took note of the 'significant glacial lake outburst flood' that occurred in South Lhonak lake in Sikkim on October 4 last year. The GLOF event had overtopped and breached the Chungthang dam downstream on Teesta River and killed over 40 people, according to the Sikkim government.

"This type of disaster is increasingly observed because of climate change-induced glacier retreat and highlights the compounding and cascading risks faced by vulnerable mountain communities," the report said.

The Places Most Prone to Disaster

Countries most at risk when facing natural disasters per region by World Risk Index*



* World Risk Index calculated via exposure, susceptibility, coping and adaptation, 0 = lowest, 100 = highest

Ban on MDH, Everest spices: India seeks details from Singapore and Hong Kong

MUKESH JAGOTA
New Delhi, April 23

INDIA HAS SOUGHT details from food regulators of Hong Kong and Singapore who have banned the sale of four products from well-known Indian brands of spices citing high levels of pesticide residue that can cause cancer if consumed over a long period.

The commerce ministry has also sought a detailed report from the Indian embassies in both these countries for a report on the entire issue. The ministry has also sought details from — MDH and Everest whose products faced a ban for containing pesticide 'ethylene oxide' beyond permissible limits. "Details have been sought from the companies. The root cause of the rejection and corrective actions will be determined along with the exporters concerned," a commerce ministry official said.

Technical details, analytical reports and the details of the



After Hong Kong's lead, Singapore's food agency also recalled Everest's Fish Curry Masala due to the residue

exporters whose consignments have been rejected have been sought from Embassies in Singapore and Hong Kong, the official said.

Details have also been sought from the Singapore Food Agency and Centre for Food Safety, and Food and Environmental Hygiene Depart-

ment, Hong Kong, he added.

An industry consultation is

also scheduled to discuss the issue of mandatory testing of ethylene oxide in spices for export. The Food Safety Regulator of Hong Kong has asked consumers not to buy these products and traders not to sell them, the Singapore Food Agency has directed a recall of the products.

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of Hong Kong had announced early this month that it detected pesticide ethylene oxide in three MDH products — Madras Curry Powder, Mixed Masala Powder, and Sambhar Masala — and Everest's Fish Curry Masala.

After Hong Kong's lead, Singapore's Food Agency (SFA) also recalled Everest's Fish Curry Masala due to the residue.

BHARAT NIDHI LIMITED

Regd. Off: 1st Floor, Express Building, 9-10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,

New Delhi - 110 002 Phone No. 011-43562982.

E-Mail ID:- bharatnidhi1@gmail.com | CIN No. U51396DL1942PLC000644

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Shareholder of the Company holding fully paid up equity shares of Rs. 10/- each of the Company, has reportedly lost his Share Certificates and application has been made to the Company by his legal heir to issue duplicate share certificates:

Name of the Shareholder	Father/ Husband's Name	No. of Shares held	Folio No.
Ganda Ram Dang	Late Shri Ganesh Das	63	868

Any person who has a claim in respect of the said equity shares, should inform such claim with the

Mahashian Di Hatti Private Limited



Company type	Private
Industry	Food, spices
Founded	1919; 105 years ago, Sialkot, Punjab Province, British India
Founder	Mahashay Chunnilal Gulati
Headquarters	New Delhi, India
Key people	Mahashay Dharampal Gulati Rajeev Gulati (Managing Director) Jyoti Gulati (Director)
Products	Deegi Mirch, Chana masala , Kitchen King, Chunky Chaat Masala, Meat Masala, Kasoori Methi, Garam masala , Rajmah masala , Shahi Paneer Masala, Dal Makhani Masala, Sabzi Masala.
Revenue	▲ ₹9.24 billion (US\$137.51 million) (2016) ^[1]
Operating income	▲ ₹20 billion (US\$269.91 million) (2020)
Net income	▲ ₹4.2 billion (US\$56.68 million) (2020)

Everest Food Products Pvt Ltd



Industry	Food
Founded	1967
Founder	Vadilal Shah
Headquarters	Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Products	Spices
Website	www.everestfoods.com ↗

ETHYLENE OXIDE

The pesticide and carcinogen has been found in popular Indian masala brands abroad

RINKU GHOSH & ANONNA DUTT

NEW DELHI, APRIL 23

THE FOOD Safety and Standards of Authority India (FSSAI) will conduct checks on products of spice brands MDH and Everest Group after authorities in Hong Kong and Singapore last week determined that four of their spice mixes contained high levels of ethylene oxide.

An official told *The Indian Express*: "Our job is to ensure that products consumed by the Indian population are safe. So, we decided to check whether this contaminant is present in products available in the Indian market as well."

What is ethylene oxide?

Kanika Narang, a nutritionist at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi, said, "Ethylene oxide is a pesticide that has been classified as a Group 1 carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, meaning there is sufficient evidence from human studies that it can cause cancer."

Ethylene oxide, an industrial chemical, is a colourless, highly flammable, and reactive gas that kills bacteria, viruses, and fungi. It is used by the spice industry as a fumigant to reduce microbial contamination.

Hong Kong's food safety authority

found its traces in the packets of MDH curry powders, *sambhar* powders, and fish curry powders.

The Singapore Food Agency found the presence of ethylene oxide in the Everest fish curry power.

How can it impact the health?

Doctors advise extreme caution when it comes to consuming foods containing ethylene oxide, even at low levels.

"While the risk from occasional, low-level exposure may be minimal, spices and spice blends like those flagged are commonly used in household cooking across multiple dishes. This can lead to chronic, persistent exposure over time, which has been linked to an increased risk of cancers like leukemia, stomach cancer and breast cancer," Narang said.

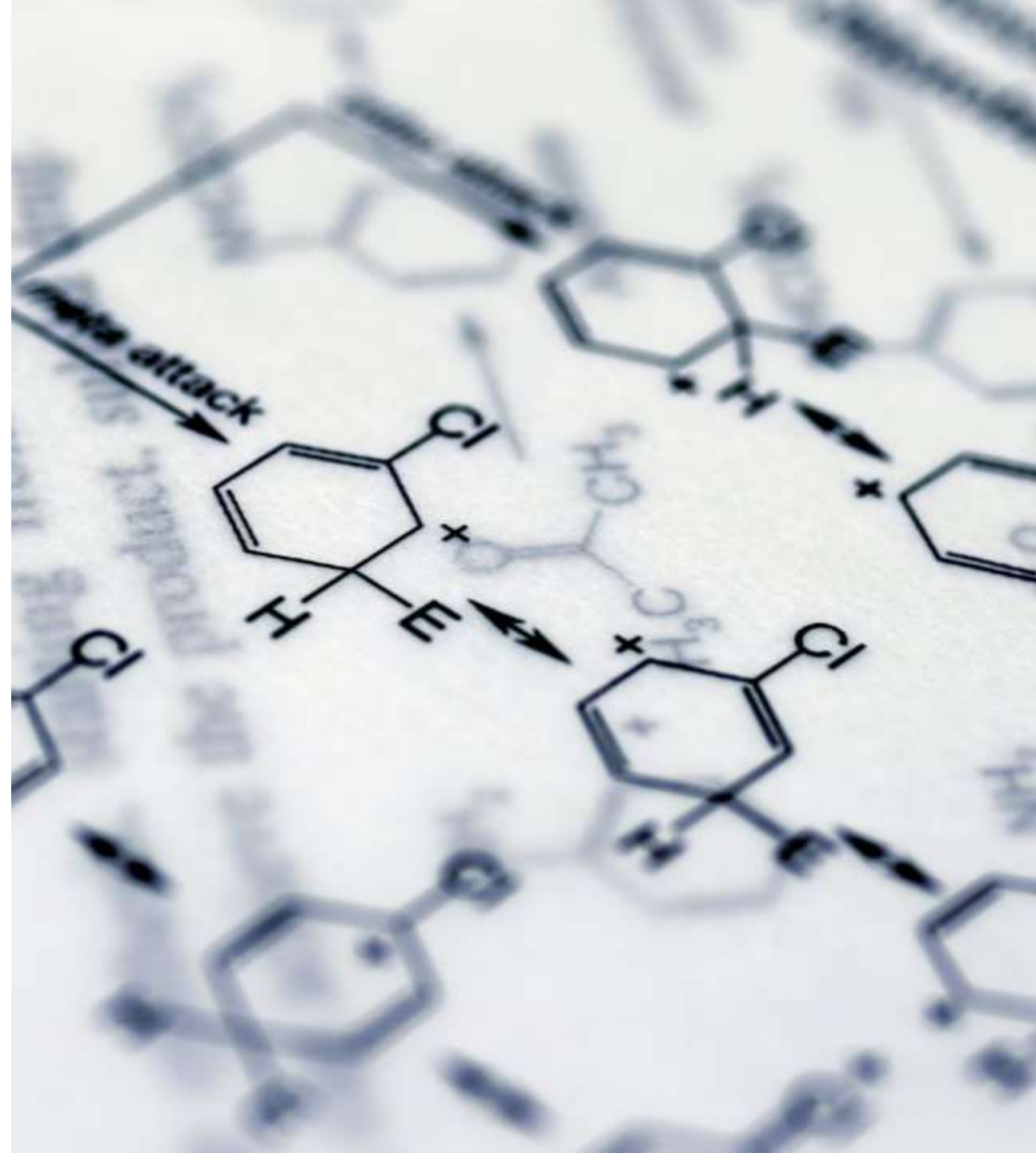
"It can even lead to respiratory irritation and lung injury, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and shortness of breath. Until more rigorous testing and remedies are undertaken by the brands involved, consumers should avoid the identified products entirely," she said.

Where else is it banned?

The European Union banned ethylene oxide in 2011 for fumigation of food and animal feed during transport and storage. Its use is now only permitted in disinfection and sterilisation of medical devices.

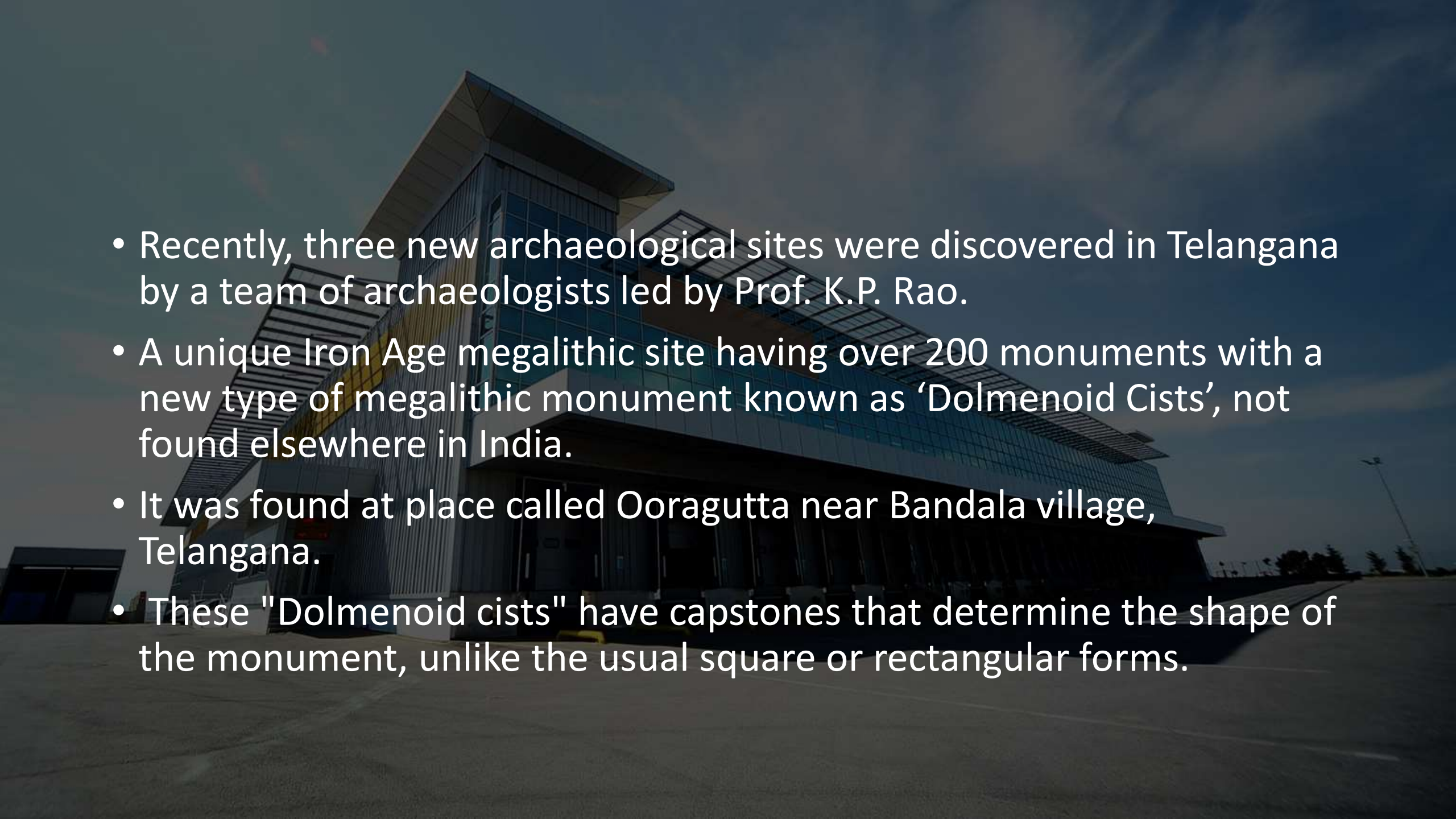
- Following red flags raised by **food regulators in Hong Kong and Singapore** regarding the presence of a **cancer-causing ingredient in certain Indian spice products** from some brands, the Indian government **has ordered food commissioners to collect samples of spices from all manufacturing units in the country.**
- -
- The harmful substance, **ethylene oxide**, has been classified as a '**Group 1 carcinogen**' by the **International Agency for Research on Cancer.**
- Ethylene oxide is **banned for use in food items in India.**


- Ethylene oxide, primarily used as a **sterilizing agent and insecticide**, poses health risks including **irritation of the eyes, skin, nose, throat, and lungs**, as well as potential long-term effects on the **central nervous system and carcinogenic properties**.





Archaeological Sites Discovered in Telangana

- 
- Recently, three new archaeological sites were discovered in Telangana by a team of archaeologists led by Prof. K.P. Rao.
 - A unique Iron Age megalithic site having over 200 monuments with a new type of megalithic monument known as 'Dolmenoid Cists', not found elsewhere in India.
 - It was found at place called Ooragutta near Bandala village, Telangana.
 - These "Dolmenoid cists" have capstones that determine the shape of the monument, unlike the usual square or rectangular forms.

- 
- The monuments are estimated to be around 1,000 BCE.
 - It was suggested that these might be an earlier form of the more common square/rectangular megaliths seen in India and similar to European Passage Chambers.
 - The team also discovered two new rock art sites at Damaratogu village.
 - It includes the site, "Devarlabanda Mula" featuring animal depictions without humans or weapons/domestic animals.

Telangana

State



Top to Bottom: World Heritage Site Ramappa Temple; Kakatiya Kala Thoranam at Warangal Fort; Telangana Assembly; B. R. Ambedkar statue in Hyderabad; Charminar; Nagarjuna Sagar Dam; Golconda

Country	 India
Region	South India
Before was	Part of United Andhra Pradesh
Formation (by bifurcation)	2 June 2014 (9 years ago) Telangana Day
Capital	Hyderabad
Largest city	Hyderabad
Districts	33
Government	
• Type	State Government
• Body	Government of Telangana
• Governor	C. P. Radhakrishnan ^[1]
• Chief minister	Anumula Revanth Reddy (INC)
• Deputy chief minister	Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka (INC)
State Legislature	Bicameral Telangana Legislature
• Council	Telangana Legislative Council (40 seats)
• Assembly	Telangana Legislative Assembly (119 seats)
National Parliament	Parliament of India
• Rajya Sabha	7 seats
• Lok Sabha	17 seats
High Court	Telangana High Court
Area ^[2]	
• Total	112,077 km ² (43,273 sq mi)
• Rank	11th

Elevation ^[3]	256 m (840 ft)
Highest elevation (Doli Gutta) ^[4]	965 m (3,166 ft)
Lowest elevation	0 m (0 ft)
Population (2011) ^[2]	
• Total	▲ 35,003,674
• Rank	12th
• Density	312/km ² (810/sq mi)
• Urban	38.88%
• Rural	61.12%
Demonym(s)	Telanganiites Telugu people
Language	
• Official	Telugu ^[5]
• Additional official	Urdu ^{[5][6]}
• Official script	Telugu script
GDP ^[7]	
• Total (2023–24)	▲ ₹14.49 lakh crore (US\$180 billion)
• Rank	9th
• Per capita	▲ ₹317,115 (US\$4,000) (5th)
Time zone	UTC+05:30 (IST)
ISO 3166 code	IN-TS ^[8]
Vehicle registration	TG ^[9]
HDI (2022)	▲ 0.705 High ^[10] (16th)
Literacy (2017–18)	▲ 72.80% ^[11]
Sex ratio (2011)	988 ♀/1000 ♂ (27th)

Symbols of Telangana



Emblem of Telangana

Bird

Indian roller^[12]

Flower

Senna auriculata^[12]

Mammal

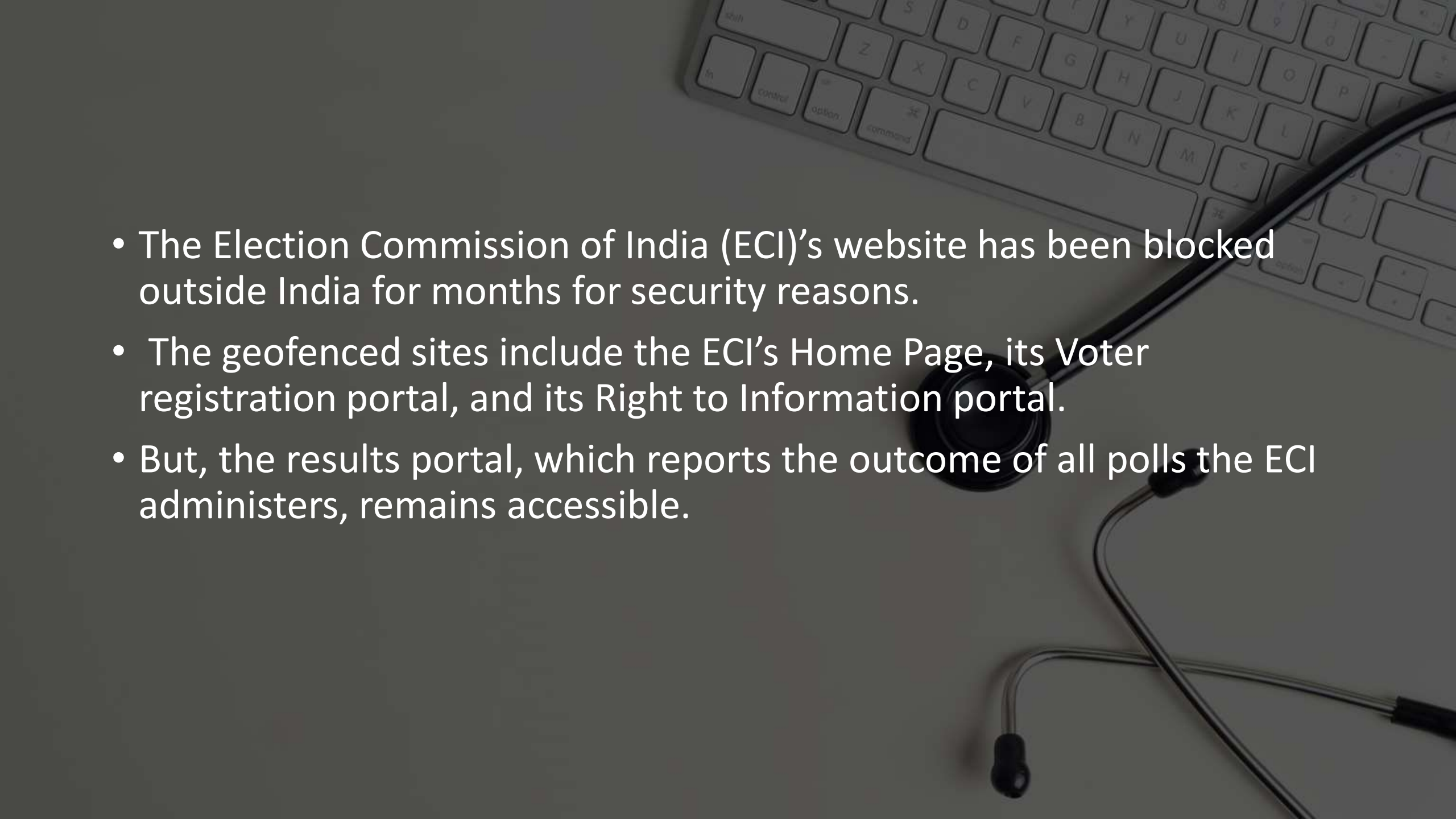
Spotted deer^[12]

Tree

Prosopis cineraria^[12]



Geofencing

- 
- The Election Commission of India (ECI)'s website has been blocked outside India for months for security reasons.
 - The geofenced sites include the ECI's Home Page, its Voter registration portal, and its Right to Information portal.
 - But, the results portal, which reports the outcome of all polls the ECI administers, remains accessible.

- Geofencing:
- **Geofencing** means “**security by obscurity**” measure, which allows those running websites to **evade the most direct forms of cyber attacks from abroad** by being fully inaccessible.
- Geofencing makes search engines less effective at indexing searched pages and turning them up in results.
- On the other side, good-faith security researchers are also prevented from flagging vulnerabilities while probing sites from abroad.

Constitutional Body overview

Formed	25 January 1950; 74 years ago (celebrated as National Voters' Day)
Jurisdiction	India
Headquarters	Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi ^[2]  28°37′26″N 77°12′40″E
Employees	~300 ^[3]
Constitutional Body executives	Rajiv Kumar ^[4] , Chief Election Commissioner of India Gyanesh Kumar ^[5] , Election Commissioner of India Sukhbir Singh Sandhu ^[5] , Election Commissioner of India

50 Years of Chipko Movement

-
- The Chipko movement, which originated in the 1970s in the Himalayan villages of Reni and Mandal, marked its 50th anniversary recently.
 - The Chipko movement **was a non-violent protest that began in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand (then Uttar Pradesh), India, in 1973.** Led by environmental activists such as **Sundarlal Bahuguna and Gaura Devi**, among others, the movement aimed to prevent the felling of trees in the Himalayan region.
 - The name **“Chipko”** comes from the Hindi word **meaning “embrace,”** as villagers hugged the trees to prevent their cutting.

-
- The original Chipko movement dates back to **1730** when Amrita Devi Bishnoi and over 300 others from the Bishnoi sect sacrificed their lives protesting the felling of Khejarli trees in Rajasthan.)

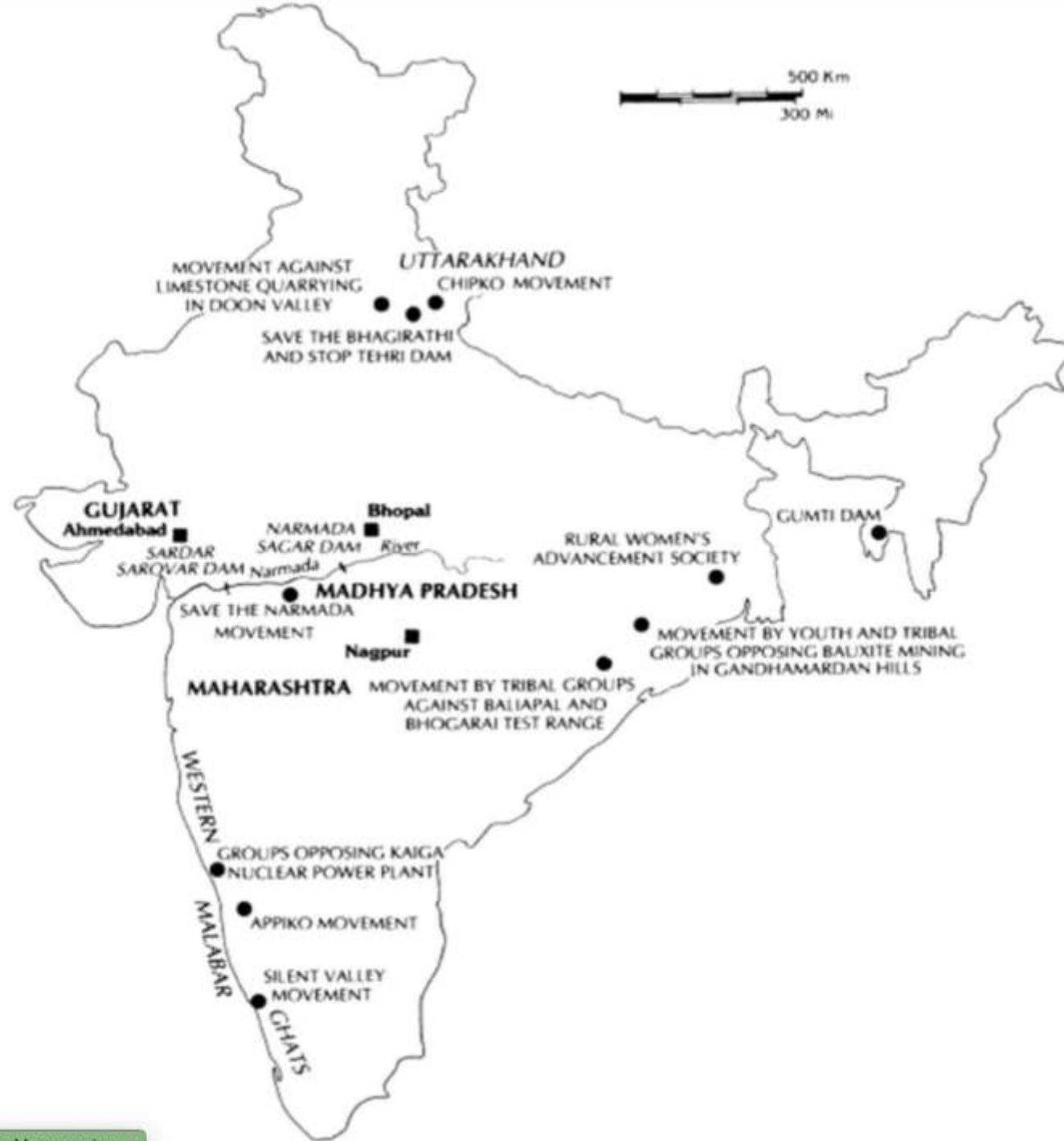
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Impact of Chipko Movement:

Impact	Description
Environmental Awareness and Conservation	Raised awareness about deforestation and the importance of conserving forests.
Push to Eco-Feminism	Eco-feminism is a philosophical and political movement exploring the <u>links between ecological issues and women's experiences</u> .
	It recognizes the importance of traditional knowledge, often held and transmitted by women, in promoting sustainable practices.
	The Chipko movement exemplifies the collective involvement of women in forest conservation, reflecting the principles of Eco-feminism
Local Empowerment	Empowered local communities, particularly women, in protecting natural resources.
Policy Changes	Contributed to the formulation of policies for forest conservation and sustainable resource management.
Inspiration for Similar Movements	Inspired similar movements globally, emphasizing nonviolent direct action and community involvement.
Global Environmental Movement	Became a symbol of the global environmental movement, highlighting grassroots activism.
Recognition of Women's Role	Challenged traditional gender roles, recognizing women's crucial role in conservation.
Economic and Cultural Impact	Helped preserve traditional livelihoods and cultural practices linked to the environment.
Education and Research	Spurred interest in environmental science and sustainable development research.
Forest Protection and Regeneration	Protected forests from destruction, aiding in regeneration and ecological benefits.

Other such movements include:

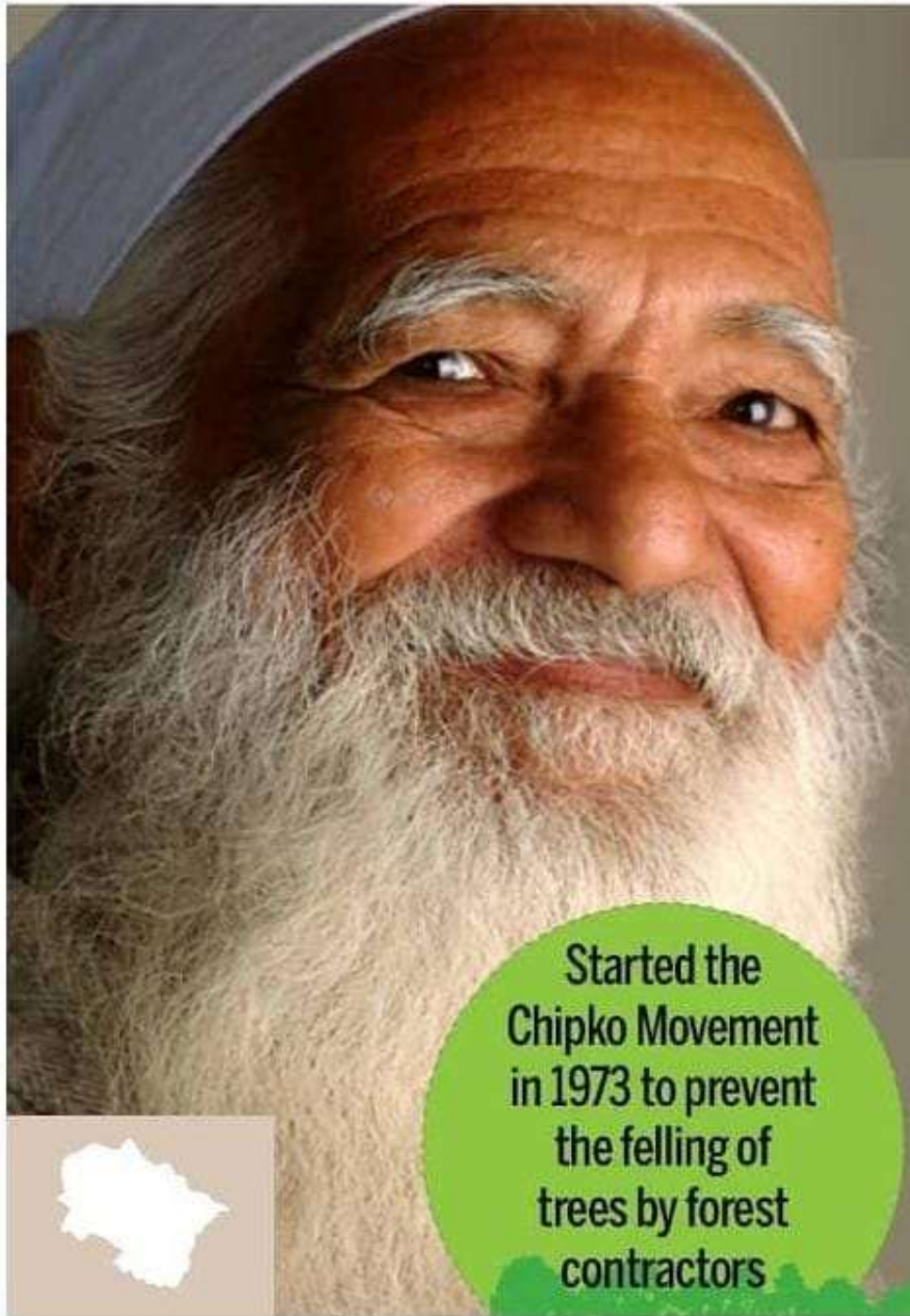
Movement	Year	Place	Leaders	Aim
Save Silent Valley Movement	1978	Silent Valley, Palakkad district, Kerala	Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP), Sughathakumari	Protection of Silent Valley from a hydroelectric project
Jungle Bachao Andholan	1982	Singhbhum district, Bihar	Tribals of Singhbhum	Against replacing natural sal forest with Teak
Appiko movement	1983	UttaraKannada and Shimoga districts, Karnataka	Pandurang Hegde (facilitator)	Opposition to felling and commercialization of natural forests and ancient livelihood
Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA)	1985	Narmada River, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra	Medha Patker, Baba Amte, Adivasis, farmers, environmentalists, human rights activists	The movement against the construction of large dams on the Narmada River
Tehri Dam Conflict	1990s	Bhagirathi River, Tehri, Uttarakhand	Sundarlal Bahuguna	Protest against displacement of town inhabitants and environmental consequences of weak ecosystem
Save Dehing-Patkai	2020	Assam	Adil Hussain, Randeep Hooda, Joi Barua, Jadav Payeng, members of AASU, AAMYU	Opposition to opencast mining in Dehing-Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary
Save the Sundarbans	2020	West Bengal	Response to cyclone Amphan , aiming to protect the Sundarbans from further environmental degradation and provide support to affected communities	



- 
- He spearheaded the **Chipko movement in the 1970s** to protect trees in the Himalayas, popularizing the slogan “***ecology is permanent economy.***”
 - He advocated for the integration of ecology and economy, emphasizing their interconnectedness. Bahuguna protested against the **Tehri Dam project, undertaking a 56-day fast.**

-





Environmentalist **Sunderlal Bahuguna**
was born on Jan 9, 1927

DEFENDER OF THE HIMALAYAS

His 4,700 km trans-Himalaya march in 1981-83
highlighted the dangers of mega development
projects on the Himalayan ecosystem

Started the
Chipko Movement
in 1973 to prevent
the felling of
trees by forest
contractors

Spearheaded the
Anti-Tehri Dam
movement, going
on hunger strikes
& courting arrest

A Gandhian at
heart, he was
inspired by
the principles
of satyagraha

Awarded
the Padma
Vibhushan
in 2009



He also led a 4,800 km padayatra from Kashmir to Kohima to raise awareness about Himalayan issues.

Bahuguna supported women-led movements against the liquor mafia and championed the Beej Bachao Andolan to preserve Himalayan biodiversity.

He received the Padma Vibhushan in 2009 for his environmental activism.

A wide-angle photograph of a rugged mountain range. The peaks are dark and jagged, with patches of snow and ice. A large glacier flows through a valley in the center. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The text "Summit of the Future 2024" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Summit of the Future 2024

- UN Secretary-General Guterres highlights Multilateral Development Banks (MDB) reform as a key theme at the upcoming **Summit of the Future during UNGA**, praising the Indian G20 presidency's efforts.
-
- **About the Summit: The Summit of the Future 2024 is a flagship** event organized during the annual high-level UN General Assembly meeting in September. It focuses on key global issues, with a particular emphasis on **reforming multilateral development banks (MDBs)** to address contemporary challenges like poverty and climate crisis.

The background features a dark red gradient with several overlapping, semi-transparent circles of varying sizes, creating a layered, abstract effect.

'Pink' hydrogen

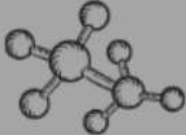
- **India** is considering amending the **Atomic Energy Act, 1962**, to allow **private investments in the nuclear sector**, aiming to **boost nuclear capacity and promote clean energy** initiatives, **particularly hydrogen**.
- Currently, **the Act restricts private ownership of nuclear plants**, but proposed amendments would **enable private companies to participate in certain activities**, such as financing, project development, and equipment supply.
- The production of **'pink' hydrogen**, which is generated through **electrolysis powered by nuclear energy**.
-

Types of Hydrogen based on colour codes:

Grey Hydrogen

Process:
Steam Reforming


Source:
Natural Gas



Blue Hydrogen

Process:
Steam Reforming
With Carbon Capture


Source:
Natural Gas



Green Hydrogen

Process:
Electrolysis


Source:
Renewable
Energies



Black Hydrogen

Process:
Gasification


Source:
Coal



Pink Hydrogen

Process:
Electrolysis


Source:
Nuclear
Energy



Turquoise Hydrogen

Process:
Pyrolysis

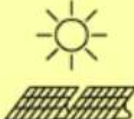
Source:
Natural
Gas



Yellow Hydrogen

Process:
Electrolysis

Source:
Solar
Energy



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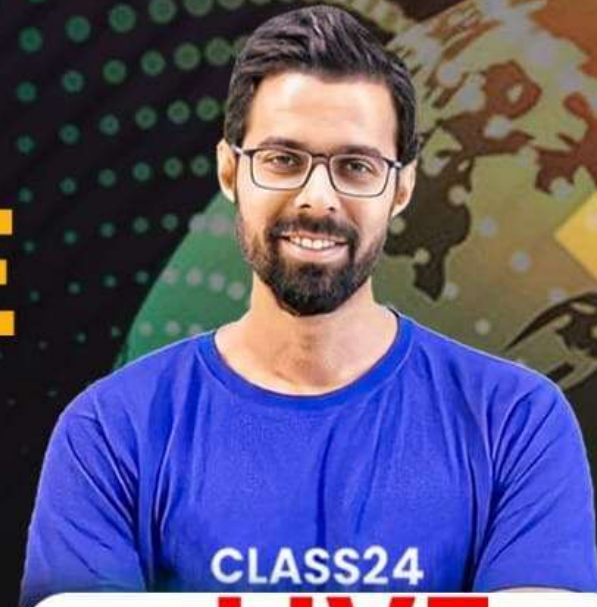
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A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, with some wearing suits. The background is blurred, showing more people and a window. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner.

Thank you
guys.
