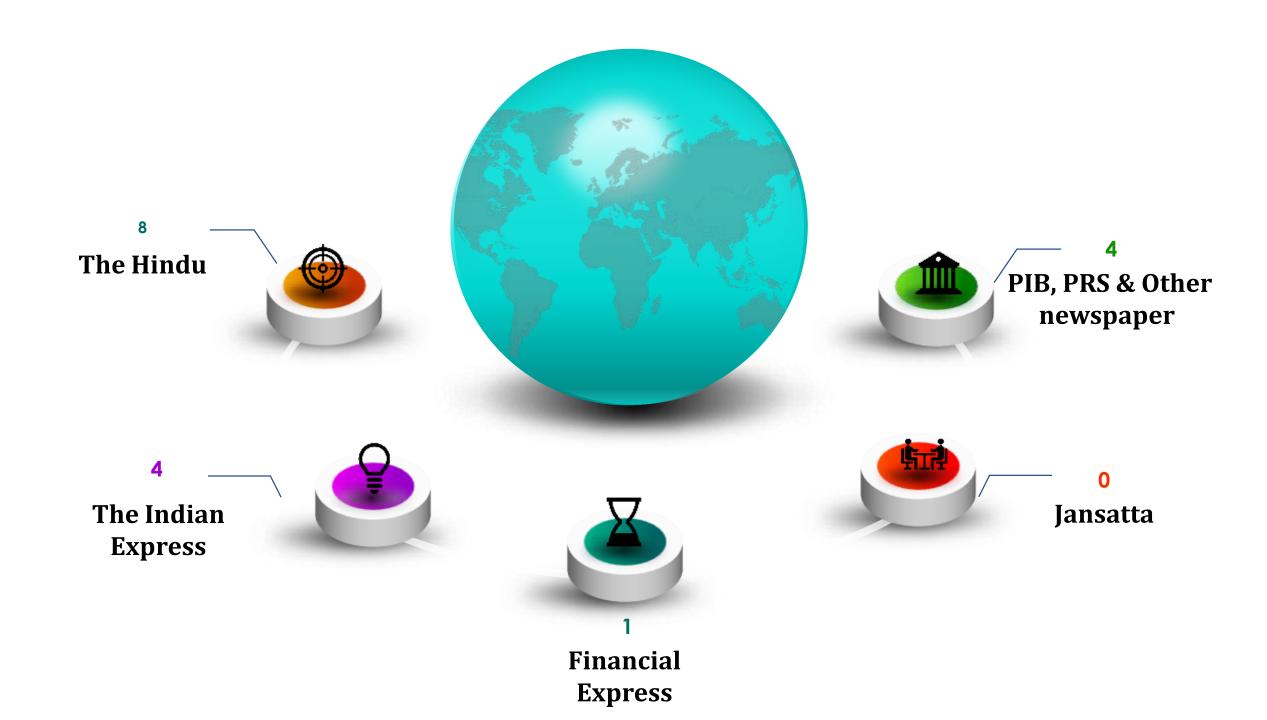
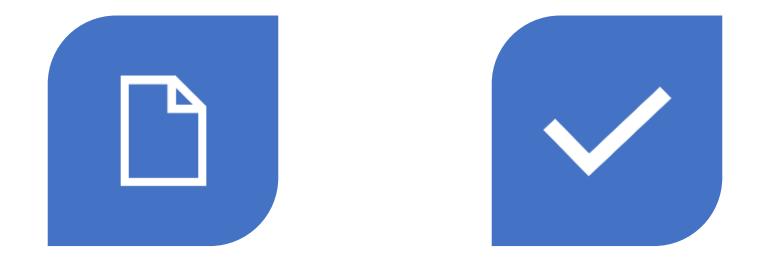


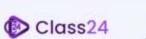
THE SFREED The Indian EXPRESS FINANCIAL EXPRESS



Download class24







Home A Partner with

LEAD

Exams

Current Affairs Buy a course ~



12

🔒 Hi,Bhunesh

G

Daily Current Affairs PDF, GK Updates & Quizzes 2025 Class24 – PDF Downloads & Key Topic Updates

Daily Current Affairs by Class24: Download PDFs, Attempt Quizzes, and Learn Current Affairs Across Various Regions and

Sections

Daily Current Affairs News, PDF : Stay Prepared with

Our expertly curated PDF documents provide you with a comprehensive

and get a quick overview of crucial current affairs, ensuring you're well-

prepared for the General Knowledge section of your competitive exams.

summary of the latest national and international news, covering important

topics for exams like SSC, Banking, UPSC, and RRB. Download the PDF daily

p Daily Current Affairs in PDF: Boost Your GK Knowledge

top daily current affairs delivered to your device with Class24's PDF

This resource highlights the most essential news from politics.

Stay ahead in your exam preparation with Class24's Daily Current Affairs PDF.

Attempt Daily Current Affairs Quiz

Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 17, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 16, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 15, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 14, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 12, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 11, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 10, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 09, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 08, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 07, 2025 Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 05, 2025 Older Date Current Affairs Quiz

(f) 🔽 🛅 🔘 🔘

Class24's Daily Updates

18 April

Blog

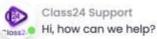


Trending Current Affairs

- Budget MCQs 2025-26, Download Free PDF
- Decline in Haryana Sex Ratio at Birth 2024
- Harvana Unveils 'Samman Sanjeevani' App on National Girl Child Day for Women's Empowerment
- Assam to Host the World Largest Jhumur Festival
- Sahitya Akademi Recognizing Exce Literature

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD

FREE RESOURCE NOW!



Padma Awards 2020. FUILLIST OF cipients and Key Highlights

> a Skills Report 2025: Unlocking ployability and Bridging the Skills



PDF

Boost Your Preparation with the 2024 Solved Question Paper & Expert Answers 4

Competitive Exams

"Self confidence is a super power. Once you start to believe in yourself, magic starts happening."

~UNKNOWN





POLITICAL STATEMENTS **Opposition** criticises V-P's remarks on SC HEWE - PAGE 6

AN COL





HOLENCE Scars from a communal fire The Waaf Act and the deepening divide across West Bengal GROUND ZEND & PAGE

Agence France Press

the strikes on a Yomore

<text><text><text><text><text>

SHUGS DULL THE DAY

74 killed in U.S. strikes on Yemen fuel port: Houthis

Chahal, Wadhera star in PBKS' win over RCB SPORT - PAGE 14

Rubio hints at U.S. exit if Ukraine peace deal stalls

After Paris talks, U.S. Secretary of State warns time is running out for an agreement, final decision expected 'within days' he recalls that it's not America's war and it has other priorities to address

All new NCERT Associated Press textbooks named thoughtfully'

NEW DELE

INSIDE

New Internet to head textilication have been throughdfully named to convey rootschess in India's culture and knowledge systems and the sites are from reduce because whet will be? Indian languages, the PECENT has stated to since b

Jaishankar must take up U.S. visa issue with Rubio'

PROPERTY AND ADDRESS. erei inter Ali. Als Expressing concern over All claim that 50% of 327 year 5. Jaintankar will raise the issue with his U.S. counterport Maren Rukin, to PAGE 4



Pride and love

a Rubio (R) with Britser's Foreign Becretary David Latony and th Foreign Minister Jean-Neel Barret in Parts on Thursday, or

"We are now reaching a point where we need to de-cide whether this is even "in a matter of days"

cide whether this is even possible or not, Wit Rubio told presignments. "Recause if it's not, then I think we're just going to-move set. It's not our war, We have other priorities to focus on." He said the U.S. admi-Puts pressure Mr. Rubio's comments stepped up pressure on both sides to reach a peace deal, even as the U.S. and Ukraine made progress un a minerals agreement that Mr. Trump has sought to



structions from the Su-preme Commander in-Chief, President Putin," Dmitry Peskov told mistration wants to decide

preseptences. When asked about Mr. Rubio's comments on Fri-day. Mr. Peekev tok press-persons that "fairly com-plex" negotiations are ongoing between Kusta ongoing be and the U.S.



Was exhibited from any lighted to meet to charged indicates after a U.S. anothile bit the Bas has had part in Yemen on Friday Atartics

nounced missile attacks on capital Sanaa on Priday brael and two U.S. aircraft carriers, brael's military earlier on Friday said it had "The American military build up and continued ag gression against our coun try will only lead to men Intercepted a retaille laanshed from Yomon. counter-attack and artacl operations, clashes and confrontations," Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree said. The U.S. strike is the lat-est in an intensified barrage of attacks under Presi-dent Donald Trump.

The attikes came just before the U.S. resumes ne-gotiations with tran over its nuclear programme in Rome on Saturday, follow-ing warnings that Tohran is gotting cleaser to building an atomic meaning Louid chants Protesters chanting "Death to Americal Death to Is-raell" gathered in rebai-heid clines around the country, including one ma-country, including one matry, including one ma-benonstration in the an atomic weapon

T.N. CM rebuts Modi's

jibe on fund requests citing rights of State

FBI arrests suspected **BKI operative wanted** in Punjab terror cases

Devealt K. Pandey

The Foderal Discout of In-vestigation (PBD and the Enforcement and Removal pration and Castrome En-forcement of Printley ar-rosted "torrorise" Narpreet the United Stress, He was wanted by the National In-vestigation, Agency OKAJ and the Panjab police in vestigation.

INTERNAL AND Today, Harpreet Singh. an alleged terrorist respon an alleged terror tar respon-sible for terror attacks in Punjab, India, was arrested by the #FDL& #ERO in Sa-eranterio, Linkau to two international terrorist groups, he emend the U.S. illegally and used burner phones to exade capture, posted the PBI Sacramen to, confirming the develop

'Major milestone' Through his official X have die, Punjab Director-Gen-eral of Police Gauray Yaday said Happy Passia is a C.S. based "key operative of 135-backed Babbar Shaisa In-

ternational (BKD* and close associate of Paldatanclose associate of valoritat-based designated terrorist Harwinder Singh Sandhu alian Rinda. He described the arrest as "a major ini-

the arrest as "a major mi-crackdown on the ansister crackdown on the hasked the second second second second "Between 2022-2023, happy Passia played a con-rul role in orchestrating largeted killings, greenal ments, and entoriton across Punjab and other thates. Its arrest on April 17, 2028, in Scienaments, autorem et sexcillent interlowing which the came in contact with Rinda. Rinda had field to Pakis-um in 2014-19. Therestfer, he allogedly got revolved in smugging of arms, armsmu-nificiti equation and drugs into the Indian barri-tory from Pakistan, he along with Hoppy Pakista put or with Hoppy Pakista put or with Hoppy Pakista put or with the properties of the put or barries of the pakistan. outcome of excellent inter-national cooperation and activities,

CM (CONTRACT)



ates Fielding, while exchange of information between the United States & India. @PunjabPoliceInd shared intell gence with the central agencies," Mr. Yaday said. agencies; Mr. Yudav said. A. 25-yaar-old "gampdre-turned forestid", Passia was allegidly involved in its grounded stitucks in Psinjab. The NA had announced a researd of 85 lukh for his arrest in connection with a hand greunde strack on a Scattaribur. 2004.

September 2024. According to the agen-cies, the accused had gone to Dubai in April 2018. from where he returned in February 2019 and then went to the U.K. in October inited Bhattacherics rulia on Friday hit back at 2020, before he shifted to the U.S. It is suspected that Pas-sia initially was associated Hangladesh after the press secretary of Chief Adviser

Prof. Mohammed Yumus with the members of Jaggu Rhagwanpurta gang, fol-lowing which he came in called upon India to pro-tect rights of minority Muslim population and refuted allegations of involvement of cliteens of Bangladesh in the anti-Waqf Act violence

the and ward Act violence in Murshialabad in West Bengal. A statement from the Icksternal Affairs Ministry (MEA) further raised the is-sue of protection of minor-ity communities in Bangla-disphand and distingunui displand and distingunui



Protect minorities, Delhi tells Dhaka as neighbour rakes up Bengal riots

ous attempt to draw a pa-rallel with India's concerna **Bangladesh** refutes allegations of involvement of its over the ongoing persecu-tion of minorities in Ban-gladesh where the criminal citizens in violence in Murshidabad perpetrators of such acts

continue to roam free. In-stead of making unwar-ranted comments and indulging in virtue signalling, bangladesh would do bet-ter to focus on protecting the rights of its own minor-Hies," stated MEA.

tacks on Mudime causing loss of loss and properties. We urge the Government of india and Wast Hengal to-take all steps to fully pro-text the minority Mudim population," Mr. Alam said in a post on usefal media. India keeps mining the alleged tucklorits of stacks Ensure protection On Thursday, Shafiqui Alum, the press secretary to Prof. Yumus had refuted allegations from the Instan aide about the insolvement of Bangdadeshi oitizens in

and intimidation against minority religious com-munities in Bangladesh, following the removal of Shekh Hasina government on August 5, 2024.

the violence in Murshidabad that flared up over the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, "We condemn at tacks on Muslims causing

Bangladesh has refused to acknowledge that these attacks were because of communal hatred and res-

communal harred and rea-ponded suring that, "Diffe-nent and often intersecting incitives drove thates al-facets, ranging from reli-nation, to perceived opportunities for revenge optimist Award Leagues sup-porters among minorities, local communal disputes including about land, and interpersonal succ. AT A MINISTRA

Turnil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stallin on Friday re-minuted Prime Minister Na-ments as Gujarat Chief Minister over fund appro-priation from the Union Minister over fund appro-priation from the Union Minister Amit Shah could observe this definita-liest wantid not roduce Ta-liest wantid not roduce Ta-liest wantid not roduce Ta-merange the State from the M.R. Sight

exempt the State from the ambit of NERT, and assure that Hindi would not be imposed. At a government func-tion held at Ponneri in Ti-euvallur district, the DMK president recalled Mr. Mo-di's comments during file recent visit to Ramewarecent visit to Ramerswa-ram that those in Tamil Na-du were "czying" for fands. He aaid, "What did he any? Whatever is given, those here are czying for fundel, He is saving we are cyring irrespective of wha-tever they give as." Mr. fillah said, "Wath complete harming and the prime Minister that it was

prime Minister that it was you who had said the states are not beggars to important the Union go-vernment for funds. I am only remainding you?

<text>

....



Pointing to Tamil Nadu's Pointing to Tanda Sada's domands for Jands, Mi-Stalin said, "When we do the same, is it justified to say that we are crying for funda? I don't cry for funds but for the rights of Tarmil Nadus. I neither cry nor rend and fail a supposed

crawl and fall at someone's feet. Let us estend our hand of friendship fas behand of friendship (for ber-ler) relations even while prosing for our rights, Who taught us this? It was our leader Kategorer [Ko-runanidhi], I am following in his footsteps." During his sevent visit to Chennal Union Horne Mi

Chennal, Union Home Mi-niatur Amit Shah said we

"Tamil Nadu's right" Recalling more statements, the Chief Minister said.

ADDRESS OF

the Chief Minister and "What dhay yoo sposk when you were the Gujarat Chief Minister? That they were rooming a part of govern white said it thera? Mr. Madi said it when he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat. He said the Union govern-ment was parties in a alone by (Opposition) parties."



SC upholds homebuyers' right to protest peacefully against their builders

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has upheld the right of homebuyers to peacefully protest against builders, saying portraying their right to free speech as a criminal offence is a clear abuse of the law.

"A right to protest peacefully without falling foul of the law is a corresponding right, which the consumers ought to possess just as the seller enjoys his right to commercial speech. Any attempt to portray them as criminal offences, when the necessary ingredients are not made out, would be a clear abuse of process and should be nipped in the bud," a Bench headed by Justice K.V. Viswanathan observed in a recent case.

The case stemmed from a unique manner of protest employed by unhappy homebuyers against a buil-

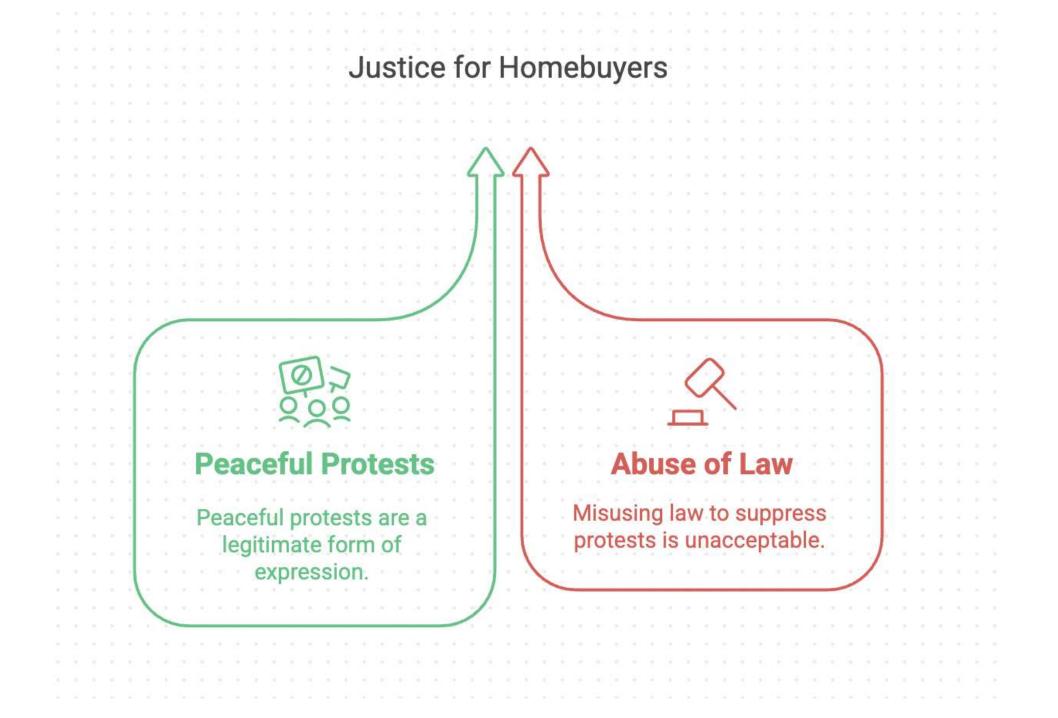


der, A. Surti Developers. They erected a banner visible to the public at large, setting out in English and Hindi their grievances against the builder.

The builder company took the homebuyers to court on the charge of damaging its reputation. The Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Borivali, Mumbai, summoned the homebuyers, who appealed to the Bombay High Court to quash the builder's case. The High Court, however, turned down the plea, compelling them to move the apex court. "Homebuyers and developers have not always been the best of friends. Instances are innumerable where the two have been at daggers drawn. This case presents one such instance," said Justice Viswanathan, who authored the April 17 judgment for the Bench also comprising Justice N. Kotiswar Singh.

The court concluded that the manner of protest resorted to by the homebuyers was peaceful and orderly and without using, in any manner, offensive or abusive language. "It could not be said that the appellants [homebuyers] crossed the Lakshman Rekha and transgressed into the offending zone," he observed.

The court found the protest of the homebuyers dwelt within the scope of one of the exceptions to criminal defamation and was protected under the right to free speech.



Judicial Collaboration



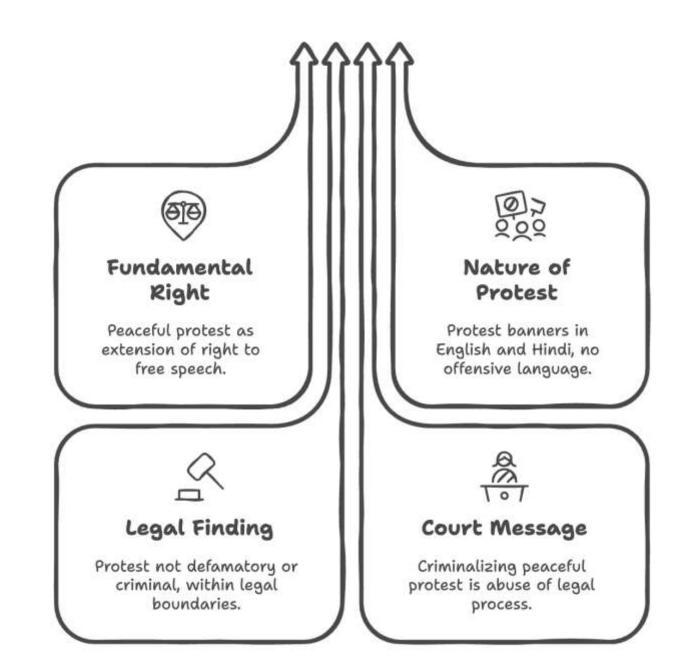
Justice K.V. Viswanathan

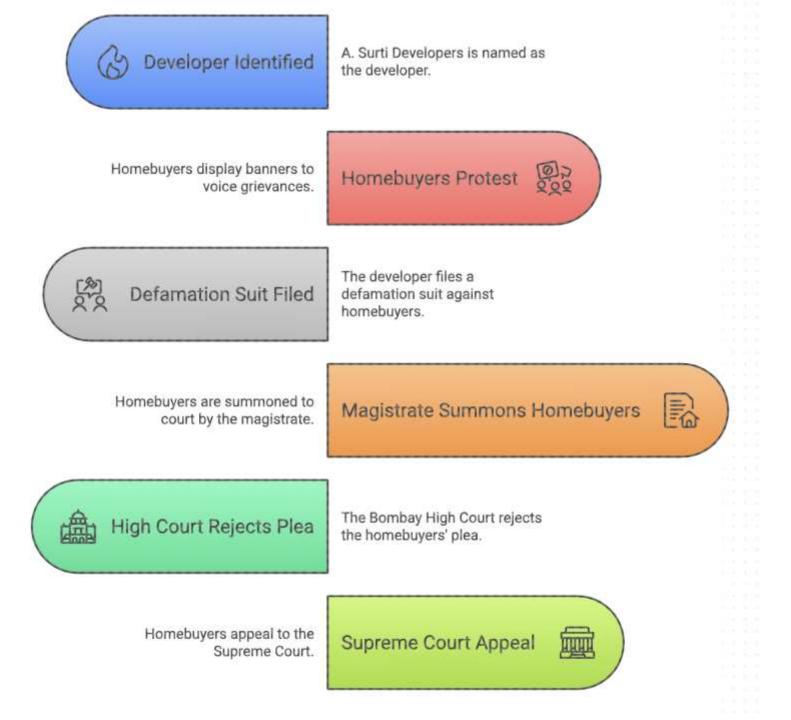
Authored significant legal judgment with precision.

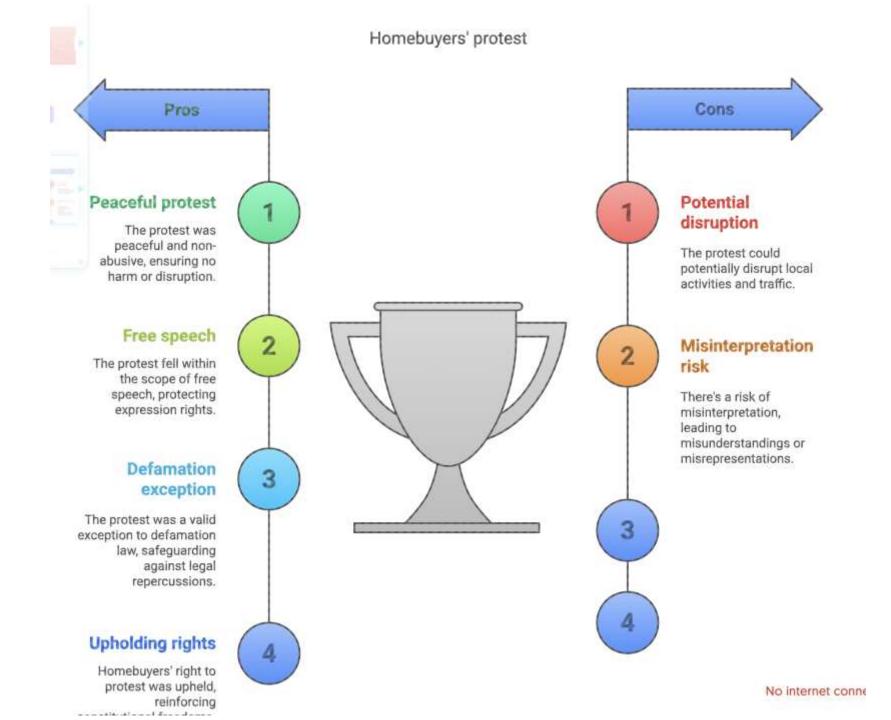
Justice N. Kotiswar Singh

Contributed crucial insights to the court's decision.

Pillars of Peaceful Protest







Consider the following statements regarding the recent Supreme Court judgment on homebuyers' protest rights:

- 1. The court held that peaceful protest by homebuyers does not qualify as defamation.
- 2. The right to protest peacefully is not considered part of free speech under Article 19(1)(a).
- 3.The Supreme Court found the protest of the homebuyers to be abusive and offensive in nature.
- 4. The court ruled that misuse of defamation charges against peaceful protesters is an abuse of process.

Which of the above statements are correct?

A. 1 and 4 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1, 3 and 4 only
D. 1, 2 and 3 only

End of the road for BluSmart drivers

No clarity as hubs locked; new job offers at half of earnings

NITIN KUMAR New Delhi, April 18

OVER 10,000 DRIVER-PARTNERS of BluSmart have been stranded without a livelihood after the company abruptly halted operations following the Securities and Exchange Board of India's (Sebi) order on Gensol Engineering and its related parties. There has been no official communication from the ride-hailing company's management. What began as a routine message on Wednesday - instructing drivers to return to their respective hubs - has turned into complete silence, leaving the drivers in shock, confusion, and despair.

The shutdown came without a formal notice. The drivers' Whats App group received a vague voice note on Wednesday evening, citing "server issues" and asking them not to report to their hubs until further notice. Since then, the hubs have remained



The monthly earnings for drivers ranged from ₹12,000-50,000, often bolstered by generous incentives — as high as ₹8,000 a week. Now, the once-bustling parking lots like this one in Gurugram stand deserted

REUTERS

locked, the company has been unresponsive, and the once-bustling parking lots stand deserted.

"I've been waiting every day for some update, but there's nothing. We're not even allowed inside the hub," said Sachin Kushwah, who has been with BluSmart for two years adding he doesn't know who

to contact.

Kushwah, like thousands of others, is now on a job hunt. But with so many former BluSmart drivers in the market, opportunities are scarce.

"Even where there are jobs, dealers are demanding ₹20,000-30,000 as commission," said Satish John, Kushwah's fellow driver from Haryana. "And that's for work that pays half of what we were earning at BluSmart," John adds.

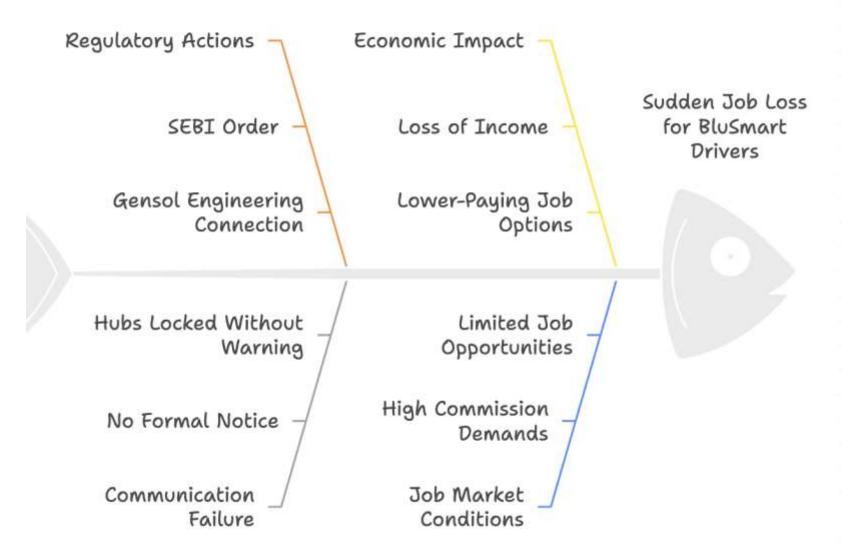
For many, the financial impact is only part of the loss. Drivers say the company gave them not just a livelihood, but dignity and stability.

Continued on Page 6

BluSmart Mobility

Blu	ISmart
Company type	Private
Industry	Automotive Electric vehicles
Founded	January 2019; 6 years ago
Founder	Anmol Singh Jaggi Punit K Goyal Puneet Singh Jaggi
Headquarters	Gurugram, Haryana, India
Area served	India, Dubai
Services	Electric Cab

Analyzing the BluSmart Driver Job Loss Crisis



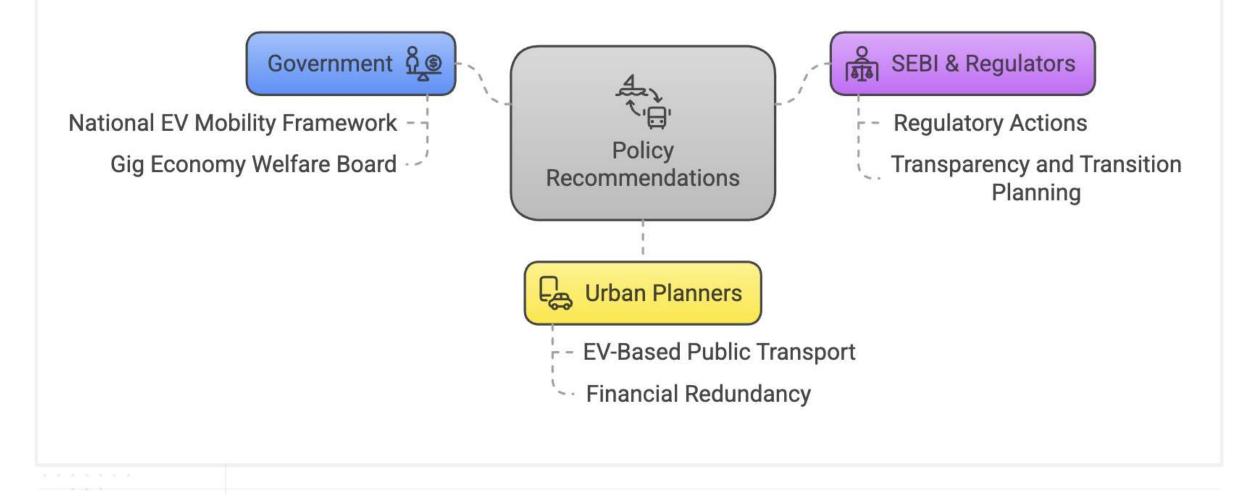
Rise of Ride-Hailing Services in India

Surge in Cab **BluSmart's** Gensol Regulatory Aggregators Engineering's Launch Scrutiny Role Post-2010, India saw In 2019, BluSmart Gensol faced a rise in cab emerged as India's regulatory scrutiny, **Gensol Engineering** aggregators like Ola first all-electric rideleading to provided the and Uber. hailing platform. operational operational disruptions. backbone for BluSmart. 8 4 e

The Ripple Effect of Job Loss



Policy Recommendations for Sustainable Mobility



··· ±



Visa row: India expresses concern, U.S. denies bias

Indian embasey, missions in U.S. 'in much' with U.S. government denies targeting indians with its MEA tight-lipped on raising the issue with U.S. actions, infinial area process not discriminatory V-P Vance who is set to arrive in Delibit temperore and more re

Lat."M

Bangladesh killings follow systematic pattern: India

We condition this technology with the second second

40000

tradium regress in conseil monthline.

of presenting of sense the

Muchine loss wing, "Employ, Utra, a humanish mice, earning screen the second seco

Endbauted Haildan: IMEC on track, ndu has "raised consays Misri ahead the star correction notices and a policy brief of PM's Saudi visit *******

native conflict. The total Patient Date clamber, will and inspect the plans, for an institutibilitation clamber (herein Reconstrict consider (MEEC), Tronger Secretary Vikeen Meet and on temperature while presenting an overview of enting an overview of an two articlased states dish is preparing to heat time Metalar Narosaka Mod and other officials, is read to remember deviced tangenting where specific ally. The survey, constanted y the American transgra-

fast Lawyore Association ARAI, readied 327 enc-tones to a research call,

Robot marathon

圖 1 1

TROMOVINGS.

athing ine the pro-

1000

We have noted with distress the abduction and

brootal killing of Shiri Bha-besh Chandha Roy, a Hindu



INSTREE.

20

Cong. discusses follow-up steps to AICC meet

---group president disfile Sharph in Salanday providers Mesoge on Secondary previous an a neuring of generating ancestation, States in cliency, and results of formers chark out a fabric-up state to chark out a fabric-up state to implement the devices taken at the party's face-up and assesses on the ground a beat of

China likely to weaponts biotech: U.S. panel NEW DELMA

In a report schedule to the in a report schedule to the U.S. Schegeng, the U.S. National Society Commission on Swarging Bakerbooksgy has warned that Own in Berly is suggestion the maturalizer and may create genetically structure balant politics interested by articular the watch of the owner of

Kalkei Blattacherter

ethnolog with its longh Continuing with its tanget line on the rights of the ne-nority religious commun-ties in fungiabuls, the Ho-nkery of External Affairs iMEO on futurity and there is "externatic perse-cution of Houle priva-

cution of Haula minure-iess' under the interview go-eventseent heat by Molassmarch Waras. A stansmer from the of-ficial quotiesperson of the MIA toused the mecan kill-ing of a Histor community leader. Windowith Charakta Rey, and vesticked the Yu-man advantationation of his

12 6000

es sent out in the past two months, and found that half of the notices had

Verifing process Avied about the report and the inducation that in durar were particularly tar-gered for the resonation of the Washing and Euclassics Wahter Frequences CEVID status, on Association offi-tials, who ashed not re be transed, denied that the process was discimulatori process was discussing ry against indices. "Continuous writing and oce of an antimuted 4.000 time revocation, actions are

第一名 NO.1

mind the interim groom-

exact to live agr to the responsibility of prosecting all minimittee, including

-

Contraction of the local division of the loc

10000

response. etal asorings. anakoro detananti or told almae bad ilectr visa can security." AGA Executive The Enternal Athana Me. The regist tressue in to "aelf-depart" in the first cellad because their natus. Uncertar han 3dment nati.

readed of such metters, where the MILA had can instead hydraken sindersta to "follow the law". SEVES terminations caries after U.S. Increment of Banic Marcine Rathies havingfield a new Ad-assisted "Catch and Records" programmine data would kinethly students be-lieved to have political views inductad for U.S. No based to base political memory in the social media memory. shift in states

<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text> wyers have pointed star that protecting is not Begal per av, and that the arc dents risked brokg their fature due to the govern-result action. "International stadione unenrithene belianes of also last to [die U.A.] economy Scholary and revearchers are making dhis constru-strenger by doing tracted by selenative work in cate-or remainers, quant travel consponent technology and almost every area of science and menarch. Syle ing them observing a not on by weakone our eccentry but threatens our national security," A&A Executive

ponses received pertained to allegations that the sta-

dents were investmed in an

political activity, and is

Eleven killed as four-storey building collapses in Delhi

Assobilité Termit Elaver people, four chil-dren anoing thom, were kilked and en many nec-tarised inparks when a four-story building of inperi at Munifaliatal in meritoaan Bolla on Earter decimants restriction both on latter day manufact. The Manifeld Origin was un-terned block 0000 was un-near about the age of the building to an unsuther-ized origin on a unsuther-ized origin on a plot title-ment of the standing ministees of the tapanel alonget that the building origination of the tapanel parel as one of the pl-in a alway on the rol floor had been rerend for remevation rent, the policy ask durved for resultation werer, the policy said are just to ascertain makes. The results of building, Tohom, is at the dead.

all a Million

Prohe ordered Dedhi Chuef Minister II. Gapta ordered an in-gation tota the colla and promised strict a: A CCTV footage Thatter, without incoming reaction of matting disting-tions," with Mr. zawend, The remark is the lawar The remark is the lawar By a participation of the information of the information

1000

40005

181 86-	A CONTRACTOR OF	and the lot of the lot
b. F60-	Wedge of Authorite; Management and	
t they	maniphrised to have fuelty on failed	and the second second second
s the	THE COMPANY AND AND AND IN	Azero, 1990 analisho ana
e she l	the respond load bearing	quandianist for act a
interest.	wapserity. "It appears that	designering 50% of particul
	other backlags in the area	sality of althers) of the W
	many takes faster structural in-	notiva Nyapa Itanfutka
	more and may tail pressent.	NEWF DAG Moheren H
table -	information load-beauting als-	high and, "the margart
NAURI-	means, for view of this, the	which the forgrates
lepter,	MODI will carry and a tast	Including collapsed in set
ections .	you in the area to elevative	we call a 'matscale of
dide.	Insidelings with table and	lograp" - a pasticula
1	starth floore withhand adver-	damperons type who
100.00	unto found-bounding alter-	chances of perilod are a
1.15		
	courses, and will take action	minial, Hill, we worked miniputed lives, Since
948.83	to and them. Purther,	
P	strong action will be taken	was a highly congest
dentiti-	against three found gality,"	area, It was extremely ch
Tib	the MCD official said,	langing to work here."
44, 71	The police have bled a	President Drouge
R: 164	naw against the owner of	Murray and Prises Miccis
Sesle .	dro building, Telioin, un-	Narroubra Modi used in
sect.	der seutions 290 theiligeni	seem caddened by the k

Visa row: India expresses concern, U.S. denies bias

U.S. government denies targeting Indians with its

actions, official says process not discriminatory

Indian embassy, missions in U.S. 'in touch' with students affected and offering support, says MEA

Suhasini Haidar NEW DELHI

ndia has "raised concern" through diplomatic channels about the visa revocation notices issued to Indian students in the U.S., government sources told The Hindu on Saturday.

After a survey found that 50% of those reporting the revocations were Indian, the issue was taken up days before U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance and senior U.S. State Department officials arrive in Delhi on Monday for talks.

Meanwhile, the U.S. government denied targeting Indians specifically.

The survey, conducted by the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), studied 327 responses to a research call, out of an estimated 4,000

and more revocation notices sent out in the past two months, and found that half of the notices had gone to Indians.

The study was described in a policy brief that found "50% of these students were from India, followed by 14% from China", adding that other significant countries in the data included South Korea. Nepal, and Bangladesh.

Vetting process

Asked about the report and the indication that Indians were particularly targeted for the revocation of the Student and Exchange Visitor Programme (SEVIS) status, an American official, who asked not to be named, denied that the process was discriminatory against Indians.

"Continuous vetting and visa revocation actions are



The survey studied 327 responses to a research call and found half of the revocation notices had gone to Indians. FILE PHOTO

not limited to visa holders from any specific country or area in the world. All visa applicants and visa holders, no matter the visa type and where they are located, are continuously vetted," the official told The Hindu in a written response.

The External Affairs Mi-

nistry declined to comment on whether the issue would be raised directly with Mr. Vance or other officials such as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Ricky Gill, who will be in Delhi on Monday for official meetings.

The rapid increase in

SEVIS terminations came after U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio launched a new AI-assisted "Catch and Revoke" programme that would identify students believed to have political views inimical to U.S. foreign policy interests based on their social media posts.

Nationwide crackdown

In addition, the Department of Homeland Security is carrying out a nationcrackdown on wide students whose names allegedly feature in police databases, and terminating their student status due to visa violations according to U.S. immigration laws.

Two Indian researchers. Ranjani Srinivasan and Badar Khan Suri, were among the first batch of students detained or told to "self-deport" in the first

round of such notices. appeared in the police where the MEA had cautioned Indian students to

Subsequently, a number of

Indian students have ap-

proached courts to have

their SEVIS status restored.

and in an indication of a

shift in the MEA's stance,

The AILA study found

"follow the law".

Shift in stance

MEA tight-lipped on raising the issue with U.S.

V-P Vance who is set to arrive in Delhi tomorrow

complaint. Only two of the 327 res-

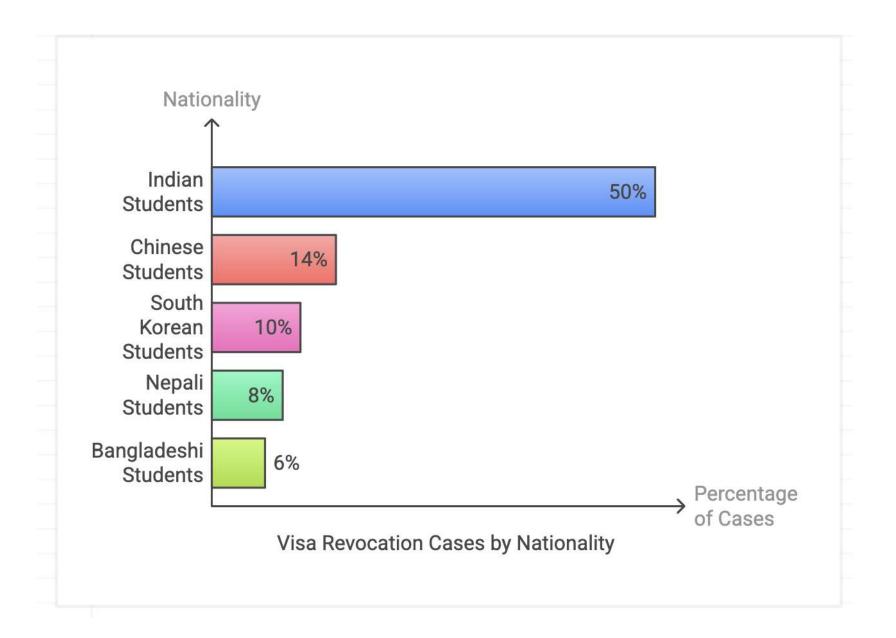
ponses received pertained to allegations that the students were involved in any political activity, and lawyers have pointed out that protesting is not illegal per se, and that the students risked losing their future due to the government's action.

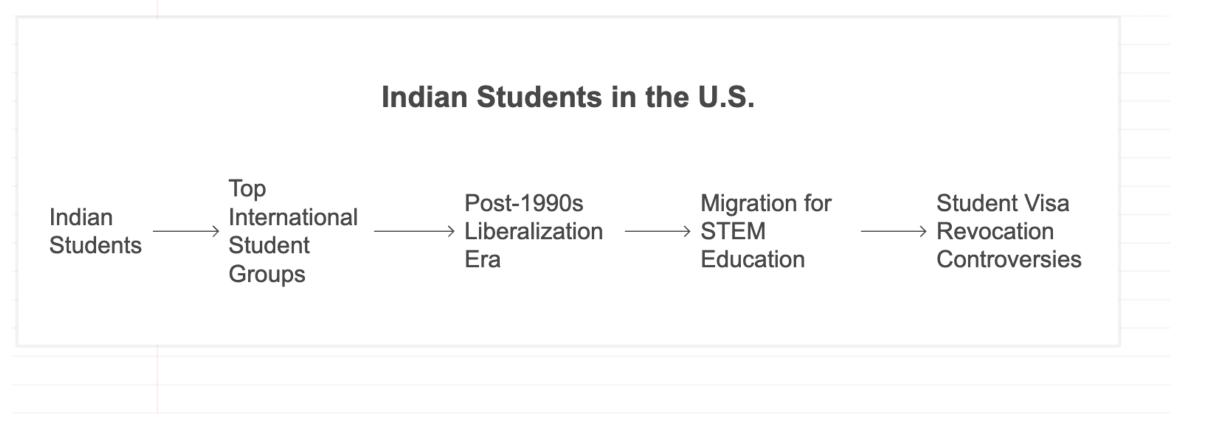
"International students contribute billions of dollars to [the U.S.] economy. Scholars and researchers are making this country stronger by doing incredibly valuable work in cancer research, space travel, computer technology and almost every area of science and research. Driving them elsewhere not only weakens our economy but threatens our national security," AILA Executive Director Ben Johnson said.

spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal disclosed this week that the Indian embassy and missions are "in touch" with the students affected and were offering support. many of those whose visa has been revoked had been

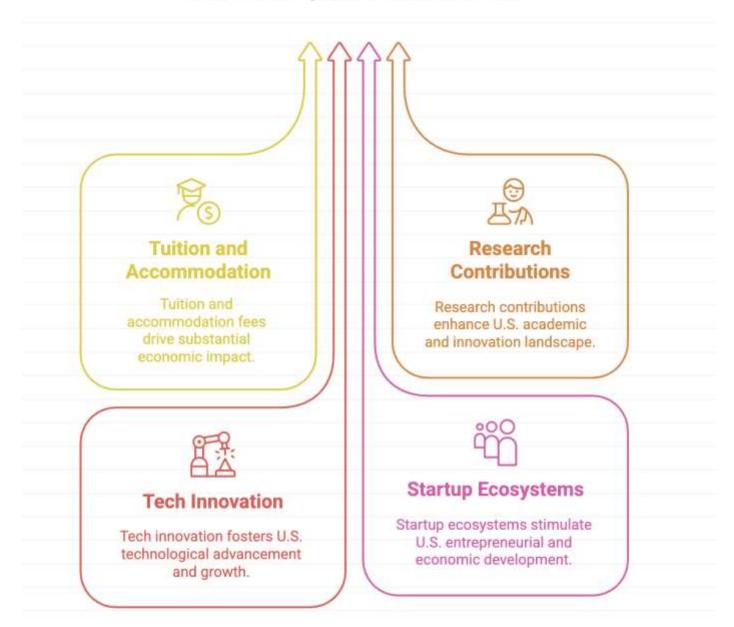
in police reports for minor traffic violations or campus infractions, while in an extreme case, a student who was a victim of domestic abuse had their visa cancelled because their name

Rank	Country	Number of Students
1	India	331,602
2	China	277,398
3	South Korea	43,847
4	Canada	27,876
5	Vietnam	21,900





Economic Impact of Indian Students



How to address the revocation of student visas?

0

0

Due Process

Argue for the right to a fair legal process to ensure justice.

Right to Protest

Defend the students' right to express their views without fear of reprisal.

F)°

 $\bigcirc \circ$

Lack of Evidence

Highlight the absence of concrete evidence of illegal activity.

Privacy Violation

Emphasize the breach of privacy due to social media monitoring.

Robot marathon



Machine learning: Tiangong Ultra, a humanoid robot, running across the finish line to secure the first position during the E-Town Humanoid Robot Half Marathon in Beijing, China, on Friday. REUTERS

12

THE HINDU World

DESIR AL-BALAD

tid, with U.S. West Asia en

pected to participate. Mr. Aragischi later de scribed the discussions as a

and the article of a more accessing the second s

voy Steve Witkoff also ex-

Sunday, April 20, 2028

WATERAN CETY

Vatican holds talks with Vance after criticisms of Trump policies



U.S. Vice President J.D. Varue wont to the Values on Scheday to 6.6. Van President J.D. Vanar word in the Vallaam on Netherlay to meet anning Calibrais Charch afficials who have been sharply critic of President Donald Tramp's polities. The two sides had "cardial table" that included "an exchange of opinions on the international situation" according to a Vatican adverser. Morran



WASHINGTON

The U.S. Summer Court on Laborate parend the Trans-The U.A. Bagement Gaurk are laterally patient the Therep antimotations/or disportation of allogical Vennessolation gaing memohers under an 38th contany two. The order came after rights tawayers flad as emergency appear to half the deportation of migrantic currently hold in a facility in the courteen state of fease. Are

ing to the site of the in-

President Donald mark nuclear accord in 2018.

itial dialogue a week ago. Those were the first dis-cussions at such a high le-vel between the files since

2010. Western countries in-cluding the United States have long second frain or weapons . an altegation Pehran has consistently denied, invisiting that is consistently denied in the second second second second consistent and second servicing in the tablas copy

U.S. top court pauses deportation



with the local of the second second build of the local data and the local data in th housed bottoms in Gasan have hilled more than 10 prompters the basis to future, as termin brough range up attained to pressure the hormax la release its hostingers and disarrer. The dead include 30 persons who work killed covernaget, among them workers and children, some of whom wore sheltering in a designated humanitarian goes ar

NEWS ANALYSES

During his campaign, Do-nald Trump famously claimed that, if elected, he would end the war in Ok-raine within 24 hours. To his credit, Mr. Trump, after

eturning to the White douse in January

muched a peace initiativ

Identics in January, hut three months after Mr. Trump assumed officer, there was no againform comprehensive consertion. The Trump administra-tion's growing frantration in the second state of the total state of the U.S. Second on Bullet, the U.S. Second on the U.S. Second o

Krendin quokesperson, an nosinced that a 30-day pause on attacks on Uk-

raine's energy facilities had

LLB. viewes Why does the diptematic path to ending the or the answer lise in the funda-mentally divergent post-mentally divergent post-has the thrane was holds that the thrane was holds that the thrane was holds that the thrane was hold who doesn't subscribe to the frame-atlantic world internationalists, is abso-

internationalists, is also spoking a reset in Ameri-ca's bes with Russia. But such a reset remains im-

Giving an example of new Clana is distorting the biotechnology markets, the report delved into how

report warned

expired.

U.S. views

Stanty Johns

NUMBER Putin announces 'Easter truce' till Sunday midnight in Ukraine war



Russian President Madenti Pulity on Rabindati announced on Easter Raskian President Vialenti Palin en Galarday antiaurund an Bailer buse in the conflict in Useraine starring Batanday mening and lating IB midnight on bunday. The short-term concefere proposal from Russia cornes as U.S. President Denaid Trump has been pressing both Motove and Ryte to agree a truce. APP

Three months after he took U.S., Iran plan to meet again in a week power, Trump is far from after second round of talks concludes ending the Ukraine war

The Oman-mediated talks held in Rome lasted about four hours in a constructive atmosphere, with nuclear issue being the only tonic raised. Tehran says the two sides managed to reach a better understanding on a series of principles and goals

spokeaman Eismaeil Baigaet said on X.

iran later added that the bird round of talks would take place in Oman, re-

Middle ground: Innian Foreign Minister Abhan Aragnide and Italy's Foreign Minister Antonio Tajari in Burne on Latarday, arr

Greetings from Yoda

10

Agence France-Presse

The United States and tran on sources and transition of high-stakes programme, agriceling to programme, agriceling to imme, the transition foreign ministery said. The Oman-mediated fails in Rome lasted about four hours, associating to which described the at-mosphere are mosphere "constructive". 1414



Afghanistan 'concerned' by Pakistan's deportations

Agence France Press

Afghanistan's Foreign Mi nister expressed "deep concern and disappoint-ment" to his Pakistani counterpart on Saturday over the forced deporta-tion of tens of thousands of Afghans since the start of Pakistan has launched a

Pakistan has laundred a campaign to evict more than 8,00,000 Afghans. Pakistaniv top diplomat isbaq Dar flew to Kabul for a day-long vinit on Saturday white Afghan Taliban offi-cials, including Prime Mi-nister Haan Akhuan and Foreign Minister Amir Khan Mutsqi.



49

distant.

China will weaponise biotech, may create AI-powered super-soldiers, says U.S. panel

Dinakar Peri

As the world enters an age As the world enters an age of biotechnology, (here is emerging evidence that China is "distorting" bio-technology markets and is quickly ascending to "do-minance" in this field, hav-ing made this is strategic

ing miss with a start operating priority for the last 20 pears, according to the U.S. 20 mission of the U.S. 20 mission warmed the Commission warmed the Commission warmed the Commission warmed the Distribution of the U.S. 20 pears of the Start of the Distribution of the U.S. 20 pears of the Start of the Commission competitive, the U.S. small take switt ac-opears. Otherwise, we risk the U.S. Congress, the commission warmed that China is likely to wappen into the technology and may create generically en-used by artitled by articled "To remain compositive the U.S. must take soft ac-tion in the next three halling behind, a serback

TH alteration

from which we may never recover," said the report, which was released carlier this week, and is based on search indicates that China is likely to follow the same playbook with biotechnology as it has with other strategic technologies, the two years of research and comultations with private and public experts. It is certain that a bio-"First, they steal. Then, technology revolution is coming, the Commission reiterated. "There will be a they scale. Once they have cornered the market, they strangle," it said, pointing to the Chinese restriction on gallium and germanium

ChatCPT moment for bio-technology, and if China geta there first, no matter how fiost we run, we will never catch up.⁹ 8 warned. a gallium and germantum i 2024 that had diarupted J.S. semiconductor U.S. semiconductor production. Noting that U.S. alless and partners offer unique capabilities, the report re-levied to India which it says is "perioritising" cost-effective bits manufactur-ing, particularly of vac-cities. "Blead, scale, strangle"

"We must do more in "We must do more in take advantage of our partment" imparalleled strengths, which could in-clude entering into res-procal data-sharing agree-



New, with its Military-Ci-

ments or proding demand for blatechnology pro-ducts," it said. Al super-soldiers Particularly focusing on biosch in the defence do-main, the Commission sold it has every reason to be lieve that the Chinese Com-munist Party (COP) will "weaponize" biotechnolo-

None, with its Milliary-Cl. 2011 Patients proteins, the CCP attracts to use bioinclinaring the "intelligent warfare" -mitten Army, CLAD a "worlds-class milliary: Thy 2016. "Drovie warfare will arom qualitit if we are faced that a super-solition's with these bilance and Ar" the based bilance and Ar" the

the Beijing Genomics Bati-tute (BGD and MGI Tech have buarsed their growth in an "atypical manner" that indicates "undis-closed" state involvement choised" Atale involvement and "solutionation," un-derministing their foreign is expression of the solution is expression of the solution fortune active gharmaceut-flicture active gharmaceut-disgumentionation of the prices led misla to impose a unitare at and champing prices led misla to impose a unitare at and champing for the solution of the solution of the solution of the solution of the domestic manufacturing industry," is closerved. Plans for the U.S.

The Commission's main re-commission is that the U.S. government should · · · ·

billion over the next five years to unleash more priv-ate capital into the national oute faster, and dow China In this regard, it called for defending American biotechnology IP and data against Chinese state-spon-sored corporate espionbiotechnology sector. After an extensive study including more than 1,800 makeholder consultations, the Commission listed out age, even if this means re-jecting an altractive investment. a set of top-priority recom-mendations for the U.8. go vernment. These include suggest "We must not treat Chi-These include auggood tions to: prioritias biotech-nology at the rational le-wel, mobilise the private sector to get U.S. products metrics of biotechnology for definace, our innovate stra-negic competitors, build the biotechnology work-force of the future, and mobilise the collective automatic of allow and mobilise the definition and mobilise the definition and motivities of allow and

dedicate a minimum of \$15

"We must not treat Chi-ness state-tim companies as ordinary competions in our our market, even if it-sive alternatives. China we alternative does not have a right to Annerican tensarch-see Attificial intelligence (AD is accelerating is to ward the inflection point, the Commission said, not advantage was since Partners. Further soutioning that the window to act is clos-

advantage was once thought "unassailable", China has emerged as a po-werthouse in Al-enabled biotechnology. and shall be seen in the second (Sinters)



Softing through ridner A Ukrainten softier inspec a missile following a Bassian strike in Bharkiv on P Trickey, whi

raintan President, finds the nonathle without first rainian President, huds the Russian demands difficult to available. Having already Chrann's territories, he is anwilling to go down in history as the leader who legitimized those losses, each creditive security gua-rantees from the West and worts to reach the diffut to rearry and factorial the right to rearry and factorial to the security function of the security for the territory of the security for the security gua-tantees from the West and worts to reach the right to rearry and factorial to the security function of the security for the security gua-tantees from the West and worts to reach the security gua-tantees from the West and security for the security guarantees for the security of the sec bringing the Ukraine war to an end. Russian position The Russians appear to re-cognize this is a rare oppor-wer, and are enger to en-gage the Trianp adminis-tration. But if Mr. Trianp and the Stania weeks is a comprehensive" peace agreement. Russia has put forward three cores de-remain a neutral country Several European cour tries, including France and the U.K., believe that if Uk-rative swallows Russian de remain a neutral country oneaning, no NATO mem-bership, and no NATO troops stationed on its termands, that would effec-tively rewrite the security architecture of flurope, ritory), second, the five oblisits that Rousia bas an-nexed (Crimes, Donetak, Lubansk, Zaporishshia **Esphering Russlats statums** a great power. Europe today sees the raine as a critical buffer Lahtarank, Zaportahatha and Kherson) must be for-multy recognised an part of the second second second second tions the lifetid third, Ukr-ains must be demilitaries, Ukr-ains must be demilitaries, the lifetid and arrange the second second second second the second se raine as a critical buffer between Russia and the rest of the continent. A fail Ubraining capitulation, in Europe's views, would ion. As a result, Europe's major powers prefer Uk-raine to continue to fabi-or preserve the right to to arm itself in the event of a for a posice agreement with Russia.

Russia. As there is little com-mon ground among the main players, Mr. Trump's overtures for peace seems to have hit a stonewall. meruly perpenants the con-flict rather than resolve 8. Then there are Ukraine and its four-opean allies. Vo-lodymyr Zelenskyy, the Uk-

gy, to make America time

China will weaponise biotech, may create AI-powered super-soldiers, says U.S. panel

Dinakar Peri NEW DELHI

As the world enters an age of biotechnology, there is emerging evidence that China is "distorting" biotechnology markets and is quickly ascending to "dominance" in this field, having made this a strategic priority for the last 20 years, according to the U.S. National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology.

In a report submitted to the U.S. Congress, the Commission warned that China is likely to weaponise the technology and may create genetically enhanced super-soldiers, powered by artificial intelligence.

"To remain competitive, the U.S. must take swift action in the next three years. Otherwise, we risk falling behind, a setback

CM

from which we may never recover," said the report, see which was released earlier is this week, and is based on pl two years of research and og consultations with private st and public experts. re

It is certain that a biotechnology revolution is th coming, the Commission coreiterated. "There will be a st ChatGPT moment for biotechnology, and if China or gets there first, no matter how fast we run, we will never catch up," it warned.

'Steal, scale, strangle'

The world is entering the age of biotechnology, a time when biology is the basis of innovation, the report says in a sober analysis, stressing that every strategic sector – including defence, healthcare, agriculture, energy, and manu-

facturing - can be ad-

vanced by biotechnology,

but also breached by it.

ever The Commission's research indicates that China is likely to follow the same playbook with biotechnology as it has with other strategic technologies, the report said.

"First, they steal. Then, they scale. Once they have cornered the market, they strangle," it said, pointing to the Chinese restrictions on gallium and germanium in 2024 that had disrupted U.S. semiconductor production.

Noting that U.S. allies and partners offer unique capabilities, the report referred to India which it says is "prioritising" costeffective bio-manufacturing, particularly of vaccines.

"We must do more to take advantage of our partners' unparalleled strengths, which could include entering into reciprocal data-sharing agree-



The report referred to India which it says is prioritising cost-effective bio-manufacturing, particularly of vaccines. AFP

ments or pooling demand for biotechnology products," it said.

AI super-soldiers

Particularly focussing on biotech in the defence domain, the Commission said it has every reason to believe that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) will "weaponise" biotechnology. Now, with its Military-Civil Fusion strategy, the CCP aims to use biotechnologypowered troops – terming this "intelligent warfare" – to make the People's Liberation Army (PLA) a "worldclass military" by 2049.

"Drone warfare will seem quaint if we are faced with genetically enhanced PLA super-soldiers with fused human and AI," the report warned.

Giving an example of how China is distorting the biotechnology markets, the report delved into how the Beijing Genomics Institute (BGI) and MGI Tech have financed their growth in an "atypical manner" that indicates "undisclosed" state involvement and "subsidisation," undermining their foreign competitors in the genomic sequencing market. "China's ability to manufacture active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) at disproportionately low prices led India to impose a unilateral anti-dumping duty on certain APIs from China in 2022 to protect its domestic manufacturing industry," it observed.

Plans for the U.S.

The Commission's main recommendation is that the U.S. government should

dedicate a minimum of \$15 of billion over the next five years to unleash more private capital into the national biotechnology sector.

After an extensive study, including more than 1,800 stakeholder consultations, the Commission listed out a set of top-priority recommendations for the U.S. government.

These include suggestions to: prioritise biotechnology at the national level; mobilise the private sector to get U.S. products to scale; maximise the benefits of biotechnology for defence; out-innovate strategic competitors; build the biotechnology workforce of the future; and mobilise the collective strengths of allies and partners.

Further cautioning that the window to act is closing, the Commission pitched a two-track strategy, to make America innovate faster, and slow China down. In this regard, it called

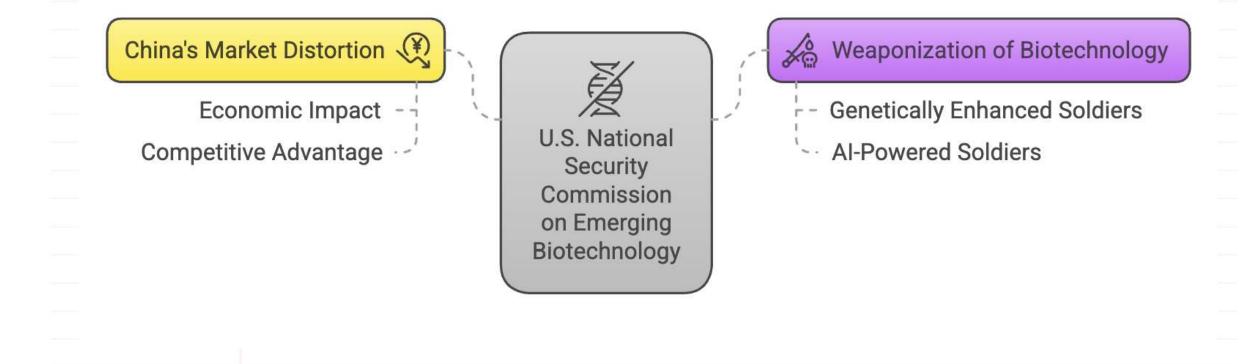
for defending American biotechnology IP and data against Chinese state-sponsored corporate espionage, even if this means rejecting an attractive investment.

"We must not treat Chinese state-run companies as ordinary competitors in our market, even if it means using more expensive alternatives. China does not have a right to American research-period," it said.

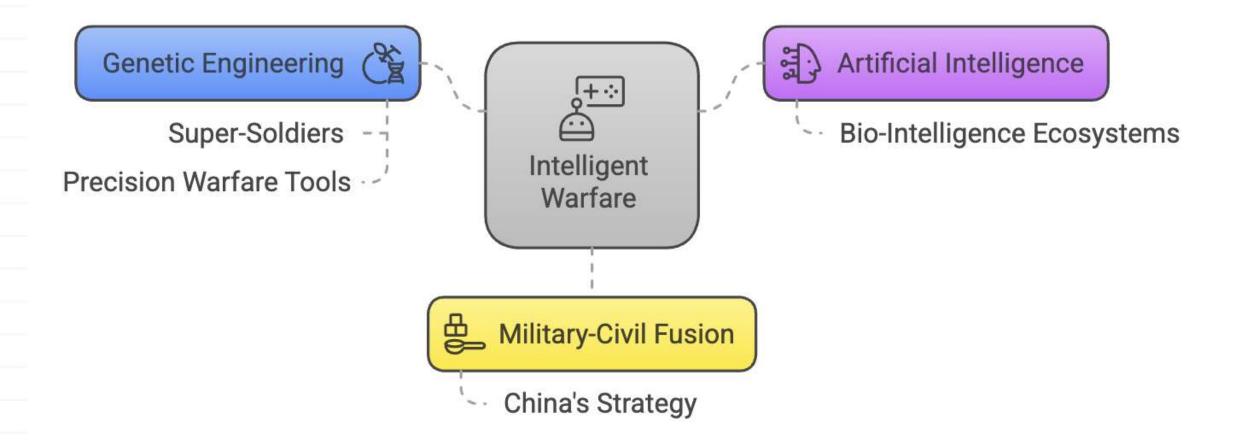
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is accelerating us toward the inflection point, the Commission said, noting that though the U.S.'s advantage was once thought "unassailable", China has emerged as a powerhouse in AI-enabled biotechnology.

ment should

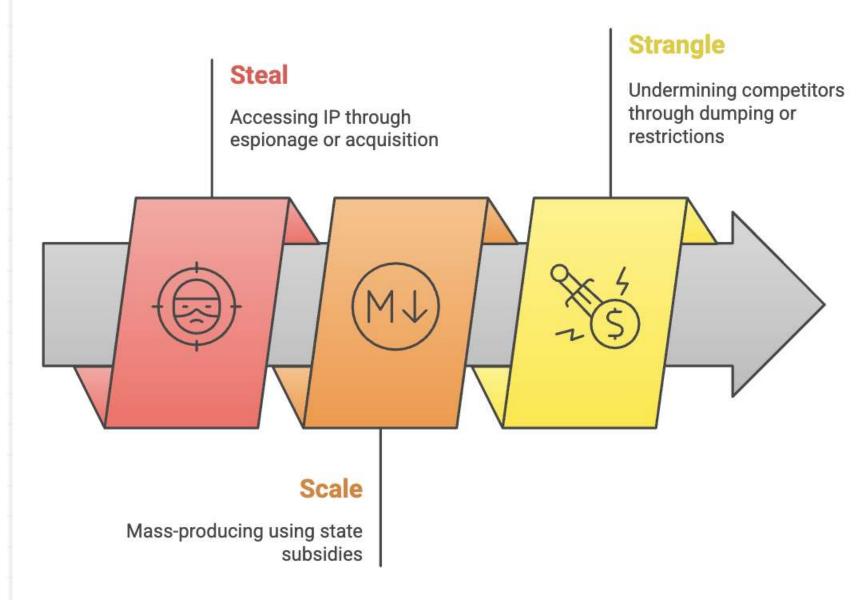
A IN-X

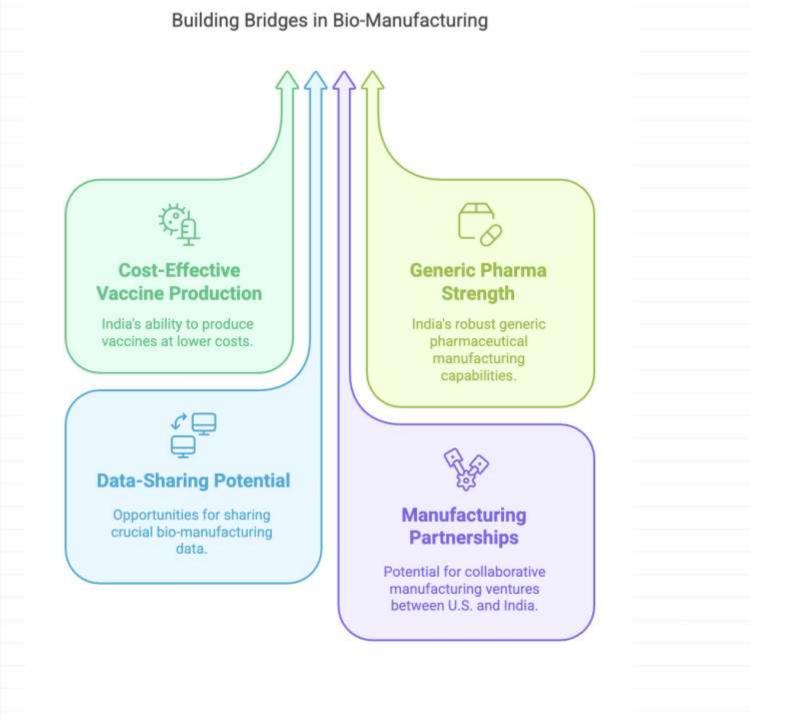


Intelligent Warfare: Genetic Engineering and AI Integration

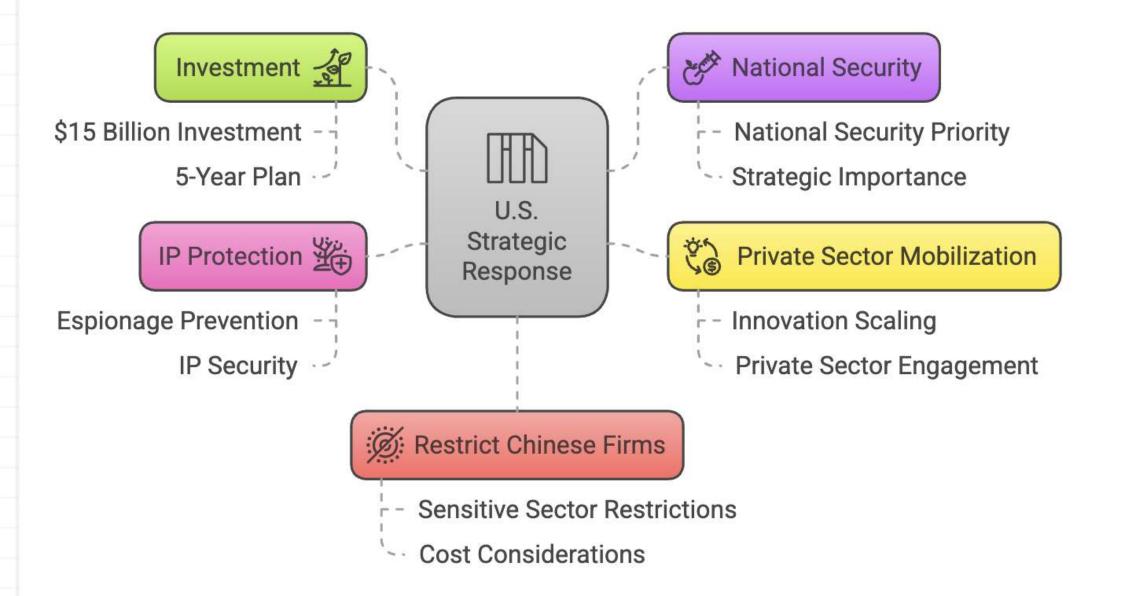


China's Economic Strategy

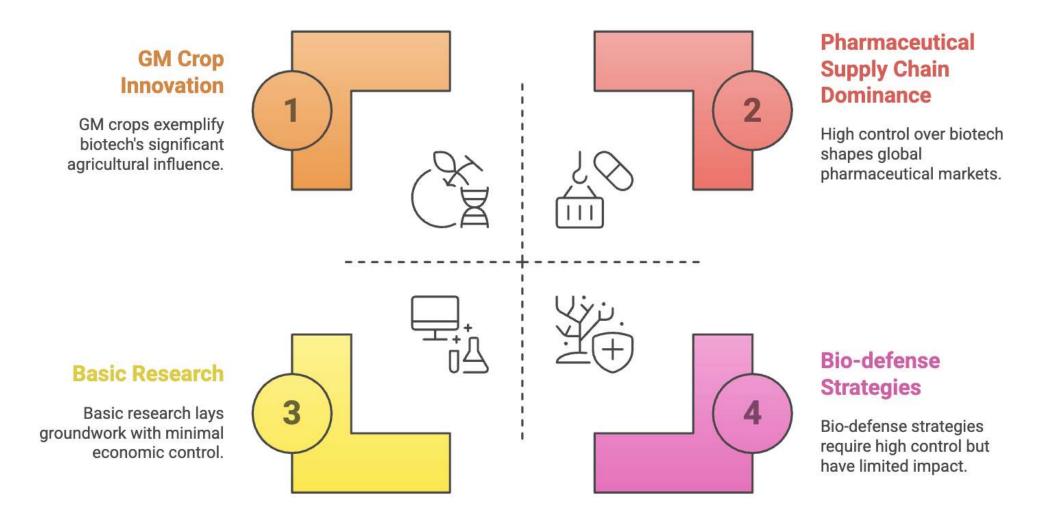




U.S. Strategic Response to Biotechnology Weaponization



Biotech Impact and Control



THE HINDU Sport

NORMAL SCALE OF STREET, STREET

Rahul completes 200 sixes in

the IPL, 11th to achieve the feat



ofhi Capitala" R.L. Rahul became the aixth Indian and 11th overall to hit able sizes in the IPL, the scoresplished the millestone against Gujarw Titaris, Rahul's 28 off just 34 balls was laced with four isoundaries and a sia. The top tipne sis hitters in the competition are Chris Gayle (387), Rahit Bharma (288) and Vani Kahli (382).



At 14, Survayanshi becomes the

youngest to make IPL debut

REAL CORRECT DESIGNATION OF A REAL PROPERTY OF A RE

Repathan Royala' Varbrar Survasionshi became the yourganet player to make his delute in the IRL. The Longue and 32 days and 162-handre bottened the record of Prayas Ray Borman (16 years, 15 Y days) when he southered a first statistical substance Sugar Clarks. Kurywornshi stronk find field agoing Lucknew Sugar Clarks.

NAMES AND STREET,

It was the joint-most San-deep has conceded in an over in IPL. In the end, that

court that Bargala doort.

Navar returns to the Knight Riders' dugout as assistant coach



on of his contract as the assistant coach of the indian After communication of this contrast as the assessment councy of the industry oricle at team, Ablashesh Kangur registrated the Solitania Kingdre Indiaes Insularization shall an Gaturniay. Nayan, when workness as KORE associated match from 2016 to 2020, jointed the relational teams fast July and was relieved of his dusting following a disappointing four of Australia. Head coach Stephen Flaming admitted CSK faces a dilemma

Trend couch stepren running admitted (on taces a distribu-regarding objects who simplified admitted (on taces a distribu-phane, tack 107 We are still in the sompatition but we are hanging as by the thread, twing bit find a talatance between going the goys are solonided can be show asens from and alias, wanting to get results?

We have run out of time to

be too patient, says Fleming



Buttler's dazzling knock takes GT to top of the table

+ The Guiarat outfit makes it three-in-a-row at home; Capitals' top-order fails to convert starts; Prasidh and Ishant hold their own on a belter Points table

angests minutes

Dhruva Prasad

1215-000

the second secon

tals. The Englishman loyed with Starc's yorkers, back-ing away and smearing the off side with four consecu-tive faurs before pulling a abort one to make it five boundaries to a row.

Costly over

That 20-run over left CT needing just 45 runs from the last five overs. Sherfane Butherford mistimed a rank full toss from Mukesh Rumar with it monded, and stare was left to defend nine runs off the final over. If there were any nerves, Rahul Tewatia shook them off with a six

COREBOARD.

URLENT CAPTURES Alterbisk Perret & Steap Is Andreast (d. 2022, 2004, 2004, REPORT PARTY C Anather Is Proceedings in (d. 2004) and the Proceedings of (d. 2004) and the Proceedings of (d. 2004) and the Party of the Party of the Anather Is Pressive and (d. 2004), down and the Island of Captures (d. 2004) Bing and Anather III (d. 2004), down Anather III (d. 2004), down (d. 2004) Realisers III (d. 2004), down (d. 2004) Nonovan Porretra (Impact Naver for Perel) o BacKish Hant 1 (Alu, Mitchell Starc (Sol) 60 3 (200, Rubberg Yadar (not 60 4 (26, 360); Erinis (b. 3, w.%) L2, Total Nor sight with, in 20 swers): 203. FALL OF WICKETS

2.50

1-33 (Peret, 1.8 metrid, 3-58

ties, but a big score evaded them. Mixing it up Prasidit Kristina ared the hard lengths on a better and lengths on a better it up well to ensure Mo-hammed Siraj and Rashid Khan's off days didn't cost the host too much. Both Prasidh and Isharit

(Rahal, 4.4), 5-90 (Karun, 8.3), 6-146 (Shubba, 14.2), 5-173 (Karu, 17.1), 6-173 (Vipral, 17.2), 7-181 (Permira, 18.4), 8-199 (Ashubbah,

TITANS BOWLING

0° erre 10.50

Scottiers Hyderoliced Decision States Kings 7 8 8 4 14.417 7 2 5 4 14.376 and a four, leaving Buttler matched an opticale started off like the clappers, post-ing its season-best 73 runs in the browsrPlay, but start out parts of the line five out part 53 in the line five butters got off to starts, four of them struck this were cramping up under the accrebing out but turned the heat on the opposition. Prasidh nabbed Asar Patel and Vipraj Nigam off consecutive deliveries in the lith over, and laham

this final useful and the fa-mil Nadu aptimiser's ploy to-keep the ball wide outside off-situap paid off as only-nine runs cause off the last six ball. Raildeep 'aday smalked a boundary off the final ball to take Capitals

Politic Trians.

Next assignment

HE Append to as BARH Backgroup, P. Margaria BET Append 23 vis ABR



he furth over, and tanam sent Donovan Ferreira back in the next with a low fall tons. K. Sai Kishare was brought on only to bowf the final over, and the Ta

Late Inerate Averati's performance in the final every and Seman's arreno Feelpoid 5.00 with a Girillor, shotan shipting? Kalaritat CONTRACTOR OF



 FALL OF WORKEYS

 1-10 (March 2.4 control, 5-40)

 POORD, 5.2), P-54 (Paint, 7-46)

 1-30 (Marchan, 13-50, 5-148)

 Houton, 17-30;

 ROVALS BESMULARS

 AvcShot 4.5 (2), 1, 1 fieldstrame

 4-0-32-0, Randman 4-6 (5-1), 1

 Houton 4-6 (2), 1, Marchanger
 filans wan by assert wichels with four notes to grave.

RAZASTHAN BOYALS Yashneri Jaswat & Aveah 74 (50), Set, 460, Validay Suryavanshi (Impact Player for Sandeep) at, Pasti Is Markeam 34 (20), 2e4,

However, with the sea-soned Jaiswal bringing up his foarth half-century of the season, and adding 62 vurus with stand-in capitain Rhan hurag, Royala looked on course for a much-needed win, before Aveah three for 275 turned things around, diaminsing both in a span of fixe deliveries. Royals needed only nine The set of the final weak of the set of the runs off the final over, but

STREET, STREET, STREET, ST

Mumbai Indians, Super Kings brace for another chapter of storied rivalry

Amol Karhadkar

For most of the pre-match days at Chepauk, he usuallays at chepanic, he unitar by entors the ground in the latter half of Chennal Sup-er Kinger practice seesion. On Samurday, though, he walked down the famed nairs of the Wankheale Sa dium soon after the batters started a range bitting streak and had a gentle jog with the team physic Ton

with the train players from my Simask. As he returns to land the source of the second second second will be expected to sprint to a carneo and give file used by the second second while the second second second the latter half of the IPL. While them will be second sec-ence of the second second the second second second the second second second second second second second convincing with to evolute amp will be segar for a convincing with to evolute ampute the league. languishing in the bottom



Karn Shurma, the MI leggie, is all furt rules out aber hoving spith its web-home toam will solve the home toam will thus be banking on Will Jacks' off-egin to athle yet another CRK will be usingted to held Dewald Breves, who islined the camp on share bank to be usingted to held Dewald Breves, who have be another to be band the dependion to in-has aggregator in its ba-ting order.

Punjab Kings eves the double against Royal Challengers

M.B. Praypen Chandran

Purplet Kings is enloying one of its better starts in IPL under its presed cards through the second second directly the courtament, Sings are in third point with comment their pecition when they take on Royal Challenger, the Sings and Sings and Sings and Challenger, the Sings and Sings and Sings and Sings and Sings and Sings pattern, PBES will look to see an under withing mo-hal is making the built all other an the Challenge with the making the built all other an the Challenge with the making the built all other an the Challenge with the second sec Punjub Kings is enloying

al. 17.11.

Toss: LSB, Pobli Aveah. 256 asnr by two rares

LODI AGEN IZ IN DE

BRUADER PARA

dimensional and a second

Next assignment

400000

have been the key factor in PBKS' win in the last two

matches. The RCB bowlers will be wary of Kings' batting fire-power with almost all the batters, with the exception + + + (million)

Tage alterates Kings were right on the memory with the catching in the men fut game against MCH. H. show

.....

- MANDONAL -

came a cropper but they will be more at home at Multanpur where the track has traditionally favoured the batters herring the last game in which PREX de-fended 111 against Kolkata of Glenn Maxwell, making of clients Markwell, making a nightficant contribution. In manifestion of the second second horney, winning two east of the threse matches. However, with will be up against RCM which has been formidable on the road file search RCB, which has won four consecutive matches away be necessarily and the search Knight Riders, Apart from finding con-statency with the bat, RCB will also want leg-spinner for revenge On a tacky pitch in then-galuru, the RCB batters Suyash Sharma to step up after a rather average per-formance on Friday.

distantic man





half at the hulfway stags. Despite nonking a win in their last genues, neither test for that's reach to chai-lenge for a place in the Platfit yet. The intervention of the stag-strain of the stage of the stage day's strap leating a tacky four against toyal challen-four against toyal challen-ting contrast.

RECORD-BREAKER

At 14, Suryavanshi becomes the youngest to make IPL debut



PTI

Rajasthan Royals' Vaibhav Suryavanshi became the youngest player to make his debut in the IPL. The 14-year-and-23-day-old left-hander bettered the record of Prayas Ray Barman (16 years, 157 days) when he took the field against Lucknow Super Giants. Suryavanshi smashed a first-ball six as he made 34 off 20 balls.



Five feared dead in J&K in cloudburst havoc

Govt, yet to issue official number of people dead or injured; more than 100 rescued in Ramban after landslips, flash floods leave people stranded; IMD forecasts inclement weather till Tuesday, five places along the Srinagar Jammu National Highway at Ramban were blocked, CM Omar Abdullah says the focus now is on managing situation

Peerzada Ashio

amban district.

Summer fleet

States Hope

Selfs: Cheef Minister Rehha Gapta Ragged aff 1.111 Iosation evabled farme

Vande Bharat trains have weak defences

Constant of the local day

where trains were operat-

Engineer says train safe Asked for his comments, Shuddranshu, former Prin-cipal Chief Mechanical Ka-gineer, Integral Coach Fac-tory, Chemnai, said the front nose cone of these isains was designed to

ed at 160 kmph.

The report by the Commissioner of Railway Safety explains safety

eration of high-speed

trains. Asking the Ministry of Railways to ensure prov-sion of study heacing to prevent trespossing ty her-mans and cattle, which posed a threat to the trains, the report said level crossing gates should be eliminated on routes

measures to be taken for operation of high-spaced trains. In reserve

against even cattle, says new safety report

and an

Govt. panel slams Hindi in schools in Maharashtra

ALMINA A

INSIDE

The givenment appointed Language Consultation Committee hes opposed the Mahamahma povernment decision to make Hoot compulsory from

Sanjay Bhandari opposes ED's plea in Delhi court

NEW DELES NEW DELM Arms dealer Sanjay Intendari hes opposed ED's plea before a Delhi court seelong to declare hen a "fugilise" in a black returning salars, saying his stay in the U.H. was legal alone his extradition to India was denied by a Condon court. In Page 4

India, EU can tie up to frame space policy, says envoy

NO. 10 41418-101

Expressing contain over debris in space, European Union Special Envoy for Space Marphips van Deelen has sald India and the European Unior can cottaborate to develop a framework for responsible behaviour in space to ease a

25 killed in Israeli air strikes across the Gaza Strip

elevable total ter fill, 2412. or events and

The mach-colebrated flag-ship train of the Indian Railways - the Vande Bha-

rat Express - is prode to serious accidents even in

cases of a cattle run-over, sugs a report on railway as fery. The report, accessed by *The Hindu*, says the

by The Hindu, asso, the loading coach of the Vande Blazat Uation was much of regulate trains and hit-ting any obstruction in event cattle trains and hit-ting any obstruction of the at higher speeds. The report generated by the Commissioner of Ral-the Commissioner of Ral-the Actions, explains the after y measures to be the speede for op-

ALC: ACCOUNTS

GARA CITY Gaza's civit detence agency reported that tradit or strikes men dawn on Sunday have killed at teast 25 people acruss the Gaza Strip, including children, taking the overal

5. Vilay Kumar



been three casualties and loss of property for a cou-ple of fumilies," The MP said he was in "constant touch with De-puty Commissioner Bathe highway that connects the Kashmir Valley with the Jammu division. Jack from April 20, with im-provement expected from April 22. It warned of thun-derstorms, lightning, hail-storm and gusty winds, es-procially across the Fif-Danial Range, Jammo Dis-tion, and the middle and higher reaches of Kashmir Dr. provide the subject to the provide the subject to the subject the subject to Hescue and relief "We are in fouch with the puty Commissioner Ba seer-ul-Haq Ghaudhary". The district administra local administration to en-sure immediate rescae of-forts wherever needed, La-ter today, 1 will be The serves approciation for deserves approciation for timely and prompt ac-tion, which helped awe serveral precious lives, he said, adding that every kind of reflect, both finanreviewing restocation, re-lief, and repair plans. For new, the focus remains on It urged the public to avoid visiting riverbanks, streams, and other water bodies. "Do not travel to higher reaches unless ab solutoly necessary. Secure loose items and avoid takmanaging the situation on the ground. Citizens are advised to follow travel ad-visories and avoid non-esvial and otherwise, is being provided. The DC has been told that whatever more is sential movement in vul-nerable areas." Mr. required can be provided from the MP's personal re-sources as well. "The reing shelter under trees during thunderstorms, Farmers are advised to verable areas," Midullah aaid. Abdollah said. Uriton Minister and BiP MF for Udhampur Jiesofa ingip poted on X. "There was a heavy hallstorm, multiple landalides and fast winds throughout the right in the Rambar se-ministrownelling the Rambar nown. The Rational High way stands blocked and unfortunistely there have quest is not to panic. We shall all together overcome this natural calamity," Mr. take necessary precau-tions to protect crops and livestock," it added. Singh unid. In view of the inclement Bad weather forecast The India Meteorological

In view of the inclement weather and heavy rain, cassing flash floods, all go-vernment and private schools, colleges and tech-nical education institu-tions in Ramban district Department's centre in Sri-nagar issued a fresh weath-er advisory regarding an active Western Diaturwill remain closed on Apri 31, officials said. bance expected to affect

All eyes on a likely policy statement as Vance arrives today on 'rare' U.S. V-P visit

Nahasini Haidar.

U.5. Vice-President J.D. Vance will arrive in Deflui on Monday with his family on a "sare" four-day trip by an American Vice-Frei dent that will take them to ad. Aburtoan Vice Press and Aburtoan Vice Press Arra and Jappur as well. Mr. Vance is dos to land in Delit on Monthly merris under the Aburtoan State Usin Chinkesi, and diete gation of U.S. government Units Chinkesi, and diete gation of U.S. government Units Chinkesi, and diete gation of U.S. government Units Chinkesi, and diete gation of U.S. government U.S. Pendern Da-nald Trump will be given and the argomethics mu-ment to U.S. Pendern Do-nald Trump will be given at the argomethics in a the argomethics in a the argomethic of the same presents Machine Na-tion and the same present of a gataney at his residence

a dinner at his residence a the evening.

Mr. Vance will be the first U.S. Vice President to October 2016. The rake was named Vande Bharat visit India in 12 years after joe Biden in 2013 when he was serving as deputy to Barack Obama.

Jaishankar may meet Esternal Affairs Minister 5 Benerati Affairs Miniater & Johnstaffar may call on Mr. Vance on the day as well-menter the Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs nor the U.S. Embasis to Dehlt released vy order details of Ministry voties the details of Ministry voties of the Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs nor the U.S. Embasis of Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs nor the U.S. voties of the Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs and the Ministry voties of the Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs and the Ministry voties of the Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs and the Ministry voties of the Ministry of Ea-ternal Affairs and the Ministry will deliver an address at the Edible to Table a physics

111.000



18k from April 20, with im

J.B. Vice: President is due to land in Debi on Munday m alteria with his family and a U.h. an statement on India-U.S. Andrews. There is no sche



-

ar could prove useful for lies. The last U.S. Vice-Prosi-dent to visit was Mr. Biden in 2013, whic was later Pre-sident of the United States (2001-2025).

-

....

mately there have

is un Sunday. The largers that can be tracked from the Jat Board

record 10 months' time in

Express and flagged off between Delbi and Varana-

si by Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi in Pebruary 2019

and was considered as one of the most successful pro-ducts of the 'Make in India'

and the black in the black in the black in the black is a second s

imple and absorb some

of the impact energy. Also, the cattle guard at the front

was made to scoop and de-flect the obstruction. He said the leading

coaches of Vande Bharat trains were well within the average weight of the coaches. "It is light com-

machine. "It is here to be a locarisettee, but that is how train are busenesses at the front and the propulsion power is during a start of the train, train sets advertee to the world have similar arran-gements. Is duesn't nable that second, here similar arran-titis account, he said. Mr. Shubbarantha led the frame.Cff that made the for trains to a due to the second second second the second second second second the second second second second the for trains to a



FIR filed against movie director over controversial remark

that the director poste

Press Trust of India

that the director posted abusity words about truth-ming while replying to a so-ical mostle user. Naihyap's upcoming the Phule, based on the ple portiss Phule and Savi-rihal Phule, had courted controversy over its por-trayal of care. The direc-tor allegedly made the care tentions remark after rounding the movie, kahr your antibusted in Satur An FIB was registered against movie director Anagainst movie director An-erag Kaalyap at Bajal Na-gar police station have for-his remarks on Brahmins on a social media platform, an officer audio on Sunday. The case was registered based on a complaint ledged by Anii Chaturvadi, Barkat Nagar centilent, on Saturday night. According to Bajaj Nagar sub-inspector Ram Krtpal, the complainant alleged yap applogised on Satur-day after being widely trolled for the comment.

TH ANNOUS

India can be a vory active player in developing an in-termational framework for responsible behaviour in production framework for playedal framoyana Union appecial framoyana Union Anristatellia (ASAT) wea-pon testing and Bender-hon GRUCO that threaten satellites as major concerna. As India and EU look to

deepen strategic coopera-tion, they are also looking to hold a "space dialogue" as a first step for collabora-tion in the space sector.

Dinahar Peri

India can be a very active

ulate, in a way, these RPOs., to have interna-tional agreements on what Arrow the set of the

"I think it would be in-

portant to jointly look at how we would want to reg-

opported in the UN con-ceed a ban on destructive SAT testing. The work of the second second second manual second second second manual second - 2 - 4000000

tion of debris by ASAT

Low Earth Orbit of around whom we do not have friendly relations, and es-pecially if our satellite is a is something that should concern all states and 300 km with a new three stage interceptor missile in we've spoken about that and that's why the EU has supported in the UN cona "fut to kill" mode. sensitive one... that's so-mething we need to talk king of the top con-Speaking of the top con-cerns, the envoy, whose viabout. So these are the curris, the envoy, whose vi-sit followed the historic vi-sit of EU College of Commissioners led by Pre-sident Ursula von der threats that we see, maybe the key coses on the sectority side." "The KU is set to bring in

And in case of the local division of the loc

sident Ursula von der Leyen, noteil that neverati constrates had tested ASAT wengonk. "But we also nes en der bestehen der bestehen der ing in space, which are threats to delivering servic-as fo our eliberen. We also net delivering servic-as fo our eliberen. We also net delivering servic-as de und service and the service of the service of the get very close to your satel-lite, and if that is without point foration and if that is done by a generative with The RI is set to bring in a Space Art in the next lew months, which the envoy termed is an instrument designed for European competitiveness. While competitiveness. While reducating that it does not regulate third parties, she said the Act tries to ensure RU companies cooperate RU comparies cooperate more closely so that the bloc does not "get 27 individual space programmes, but do that more jointly",

.....

ACCREASES.

India, EU can collaborate on space policy, says envoy

Dinakar Peri

NEW DELHI

India can be a very active player in developing an international framework for responsible behaviour in space, says Marjolijn van Deelen, European Union Special Envoy for Space, while flagging debris from Anti-Satellite (ASAT) weapon testing and Rendezvous and Proximity Operations (RPO) that threaten satellites as major concerns.

As India and EU look to deepen strategic cooperation, they are also looking to hold a "space dialogue" as a first step for collaboration in the space sector.

"I think it would be important to jointly look at how we would want to regulate, in a way, these RPOs... to have international agreements on what is okay and what is not okay. And for that, we are setting up this framework for norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour and India and the EU could cooperate on setting out how we think they should be regulated in a way that does not pose a threat to us," Ms. van Deelen said, while speaking to The Hindu. "RPOs in themselves are not necessarily a problem. You don't want a solution that also kills all the programmes and the

-



Marjolijn van Deelen

civilian benefits we can have from them."

RPOs refer to a spacecraft intentionally manoeuvring to dock or operating close to another space object.

Asked if India's ASAT test was a matter of concern, the envoy said, "The creation of debris by ASAT is something that should concern all states and we've spoken about that and that's why the EU has supported in the UN context a ban on destructive ASAT testing. The word 'destructive' is key here."

To a follow-up question on whether there had been a conversation with regard to India's ASAT programme, she replied there have not been any discussions yet and her conversations here will be "about how we cooperate".

In March 2019, India announced the successful demonstration of ASAT capability, after destroying a live-orbiting satellite in the

Low Earth Orbit of around 300 km with a new threestage interceptor missile in a "hit to kill" mode.

Speaking of the top concerns, the envoy, whose visit followed the historic visit of EU College of Commissioners led by President Ursula von der Leven, noted that several countries had tested ASAT weapons. "But we also see cyber jamming and spoofing in space, which are threats to delivering services to our citizens. We also see RPOs, which basically involves having a satellite get very close to your satellite, and if that is without notification and if that is done by an actor with

whom we do not have friendly relations, and especially if our satellite is a sensitive one... that's something we need to talk about. So these are the threats that we see, maybe the key ones on the security side."

The EU is set to bring in a Space Act in the next few months, which the envoy termed is an instrument designed for European competitiveness. While reiterating that it does not regulate third parties, she said the Act tries to ensure EU companies cooperate more closely so that the bloc does not "get 27 individual space programmes, but do that more jointly".

Area	Key Highlights (One-liners)
Trade & Investment	Bilateral trade crossed \$137.5 billion in 2023–24; FTA talks ongoing; 6,000+ EU firms in India.
Technology & Innovation	TTC launched in 2023; cooperation in AI, semiconductors, and Horizon Europe research program.
Climate & Sustainability	Collaboration on green hydrogen, solar energy, and clean tech under EU Green Deal.
Connectivity & Infrastructure	IMEC corridor and Global Gateway aim to boost Indo-EU digital and transport links.
Security & Defense	Cooperation in Indo-Pacific maritime security, cybersecurity, and counter- terrorism.
Education & Mobility	Joint academic exchanges, Erasmus+ programs, and skill development initiatives.
Multilateral Cooperation	Shared goals on global health, democracy, and rules-based international order.

Aspect	Details
Full Name	European Union
Established	1 November 1993 (by the Maastricht Treaty)
Headquarters	Brussels, Belgium
Number of Member States	27 countries
Major Institutions	European Commission, European Parliament, European Council, European Court of Justice
Official Currencies	Euro (€) (used by 20 of 27 countries – the Eurozone)
Official Languages	24 official languages
Population	Approx. 448 million (2024)
Area	About 4.2 million square kilometers
GDP (Nominal)	Approx. \$18 trillion USD (2024) – 2nd largest globally
Major Policies	Single Market, Customs Union, Common Agricultural Policy, Environmental Policy
Common Foreign Policy	Coordinated foreign and security policy among member states
Key Treaties	Treaty of Rome (1957), Maastricht Treaty (1993), Lisbon Treaty (2009)
Flag	Blue field with 12 golden stars in a circle
Anthem	"Ode to Joy" (from Beethoven's 9th Symphony)
Motto	"United in diversity"

India's ASAT Test (2019):

- Destroyed a satellite in Low Earth Orbit (~300 km)
- Used a three-stage interceptor missile in a "hit-to-kill" mode
- Marked India's entry into elite group of ASAT-capable nations (US, Russia, China, India)

EU's Viewpoint:

- Supports ban on "destructive" ASAT tests via UN resolutions
- Recognizes India's technical capability, but calls for rules-based framework
- Emphasizes on non-threatening RPOs and civilian use of space assets

5 What is the EU Planning?

Initiative	Objective
EU Space Act (Upcoming)	Ensure competitiveness of EU in space tech
Internal Coordination	Avoid 27 separate space programs; push joint missions
Norm-Setting	EU wants to lead global discussions on safe space practices

THE HINDU Opinion

Policy (NRP). The NEP also has a finished agencia of him-ing the second second second second infinite urb pushes Hindi as a mandatory language. We have rightly rejected this database government has kept Tamil Nadrig government has kept Tamil Nadrig above of 22.500 correr in heyeance, with accast regard for the welfare of nearby 42 fable gatabane. This

Ensuring a fair federal balance

-

and the second

M.K. Stalles

Chief Minister Government of Yamii Nedu

manuteed

rights and

automony

SCEUPE

or nearly a century, the Dravidian movement has been strongly advocating the need for de-centralisation of powers to accelerate growth and implement a development model that benefit a development model that benef sveryone. Hence, my announcement in the Legislative Assembly – on constituting a three-member high-level committee to review the movisions of the Constitution, laws and policies regarding Country State volation ING. MINE recommend appropriate steps to strengthen the States' autonomy strengthen the States autonomy and ensure a fair fasteral hadrone – quest to paul back the ever internanting intrausiveness of the Constitution of India Charly attest that India is "Union of States". This presentable of States". This presentable that are versel with the States. Our party's founder, C.N. Superstyle founder, C.N. speeches, had repeatedly highlighted the need for the Union government to devolve adequate powers to the States. The fundamental principle of the Dravida Munnetra Kashagam (DMDC) is 'Self-rule in the States two rule at the Union', to this regard, our leader Kalaigna fformer Chief Minister M. Karunanidhii formed a beaded by histice P.V. Rajamannar to realise this goal.

Trampling on rights

+

Today, we witness a scenario that is much worse than what it was when Kalaignar raised his voice for fair distribution of somer, in those days, some powers were grabbed from States. However, today, under the hyper-contributing fiberativa januar Party (BFP) at power in the Union, there is a clear attempt to immobilise the States and make down dystanceional by ruransing an their cights. The Union government intends to currait the legislative power of the States and oday, under the

reduce the States to heing advancesion to the Union endoted the States unique rendicate the States unique inquisite and cultural heritage. The Constitution has a clear demarcation of powers through three stall lates, the Union Late, the unes stall lates, the Union Late, the hust in the last decade, many unbjects histed under the aubjects listed under the Concurrent Lie, by default and practice, have been buschtonally moved to the Union List. There is also little regard for the forms, listed in the State List. The BUP-last Union government has been Union government has been beneared variating have in a subject to be another the subject of the subject of the last. Compounding the issue Author, the Union is also creating the subject of the subject of the issue of the subject of the subject of the constitutional official of the encoded of the subject of the subject intervent issues that the subject of the subje It is improved the now that States reclaim their

A contemptuous attitude The Tamil Nado government's state Education Policy is based on social justice, inclusiveness, and access to all, in contrast to the Union's elitist National Education



sume rathless behaviour was displayed by the Union recently when it withheld presidential assent for our NEET exemption Bill. The Union's deeds on these two vital issues exemplifies its mpinums attinude contemptuous attitude. A struggie for rights We have also listed out the harms that will boild india if any impar-definitiation sourcive is carried our benealing performing states and neartiveling non-performing. States and the states of the source of the world States are connect only such bipsides innew and to india the side of a continues to there. Tanil Niels will never allow the concept of cooperative fielderalize to be organize that the side of a continues to there. Tanil Niels will never allow the concept of cooperative fielderalize to be over fielder of the side of a set of the side of a set of the side of a cooperative fielderalize to be the set of the side of a the side of the set of the set of the side of a set of the set of the side of a set of the side of a set of the set of the side of a set of the side of a set of the side of the s the plurality of the country. The time has come to reset the balance in Centre-State relations. Structuring a robust mechanism will ensure that the inherent rights of the States cannot be trample on by the Union. At this critical on by the Union. At this critical juncture, Tamil Nudu will once again rise to fulfil its historic duty, as it has always done in the past. Turnil Nadu will fight and Turnil Nucle will fight and Turnil

Empowering the most marginalised

The prospects of the Telangana Congress may be bolstered by recent decisions

STATE OF PLAY M. Baleny ettinalia. tet. itand week. Telangana became the first State of Scheduled Castes (SCs) after the Supreme Court's tast Tuinngana mark judgment last year uphotoling the constitutional-ty of sub-classifying 8Cs and scheduled Tribes OTED to bras had disproportionately benefited from 8C reserva hemefined from RC reserves toons. They recommended and stansification of RCs into the reserves reserves the reservestion for the and consideration of reserves the reservestion benefits to them accordingly. The one-man commissions. It has based for a second reserves of of four, as recommended by the earlier commissions. It has bated 15 of the 59 SC commun-ties as the momental backward and with Ps reservation, 18 and with Ps reservation, 18 and sources and reservation and the reservation of the reservation of the reservation of the source of the reservation of the reservation of the source of the reservation of the reservation of the source of the reservation of the source of the reservation of grant separate quotas for the most marginalised groups within these communities. within these communities. Soon also the Court's ver-dict, the 'telangana govern-ment haadsed by Chief Minte-monitories and the second second paub-classification in accor-lance with the Court's orders. It constituted a Cableor sub-tion Minister M. Utans Rimmer Redsby and co-chaired by Health Minister G. Damodar Gapanazinho to examine the foreward. The commutee health order and go consisting the forward. The commutee health castes as receiving marginal benefits and classified them benefits and classified from under Group-H with 9% const-vation, and 20 sub-castes as classified by the placed with classified the placed with classified them under Group-H with 55 construction. Assides Adhuar Resourced im-base concept, but this has been rejected by the govern-ment on the grounds that as gregating some people could the government, according to wide-ranging consultations with various stakeholders and favoured the constitution of a one-man judicial commission. ome-man judicial commission. The government appointed mean Akhtar as the one-man commission and asked him to assess intra group disparities among the various castes properte a rottomal redistribu-tion of reservation benefits. Institue Akhtar convoned The government, according to Mr. Uttam Rumar Reddy, also took note of the Court's obsermeetings with individuals and voluntary organisations such as the Madiga Reservation Po-tra annuit headed by Manda-rica annuit, headed by Manda-na and Santary and Santary Ingo of the 1997 Ramachandra Raju Commission of 1997 anni the 2007 Usha Melan Gammission. Both these reports found that Malas and All-And vation emphasizing the diffe-rence between sub-classification and sub-categorisation and cautioned against using these classifications for politithese classifications for politi-cal appearsment rather than for the genuine uplifi of margi-nal communities. Mr. Rajanansiniha and thar 33 of the 59 sub-cases would continue to the same groups

as recommended by earlier as recommended by earlier commissions and that only 26 sub-cases constituting 3.42%, of the 50 population would be resbuffled. The caste survey reshuffled. The casts survey conducted by the Congress po-vernment said that the SC population was 54.09 lakh, constituting (7.42% of the total population, and that 3.43% among the SCs will be affected by the categorisation. The Cabinet panel as well as the one-man commission factored in the Supreme Court's ruling that sub-classifi-cation should be based on emcation should be based on em-pirical data and historical evi-dence of systemic discrimination rather than ar-bitrary or taken due to politi-cal considerations. The go-vernment studied the social, economic, educational, em-phymem, and pelitical status of \$6 communities during the of SC communities during the caste census while caregoris-ing 8Cs into three groups. The Cabinet panel has announced that recruitment to govern-ment jobs will from now be based on the categorisation of based on the categorisation of RC commuttee, Categorisa-tion will not be applicable to for jobs relating to the Contral government, and for educa-tional institutions run by the Central government. Recalling that the govern-ling for SCs based on the 2011

Cenaus, the government said that it would enhance reservation once the 2026 Cenaus is conducted. The issuance o the gazette notification on 80 classification, as well as the poverturningt's move to enhance receivation for backward classes to 42% (which is await-ing assert from the Union go-verturniant and will likely run into legal lastes), could bol-ater the prospects of the Gon-gress, which has been trying to brand itself as a champion of social inselice. vernment's move to enhi

U.S. visas issued to Indian students decline by 30%

The decline in the number of visas issued to Indian students was the highest among the top source countries by a significant margin

DATA POINT Sambayi Parthasarathy Vignesh Badhakrishnar

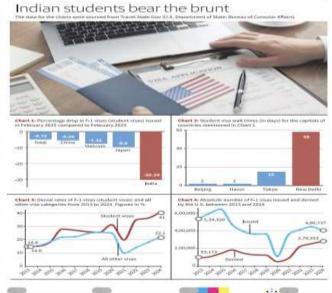
Pobriaary 2028, the firs month of the second Donahl Trump administration, the number of student visus issued to indiana by the U.S. dropped by 30% compared to the same month the previous year. This decline was notably higher than the overall notably bigher than the overall 4.25% decrement in atmixed viana combined. Moreover, the drop in indent viana issued to Industre was much sharper than the decline in mens, and papanose students. This worrying statistic somes at of over 1.000 international atto-dents, including Indiana, across revelad without much notice. Ac-

revoked without much notice. Ac cording to the Associated Press, a cording to the Associated Press, at least 1,000 students across 170 col-leges across the U.S. have been at lawscist against the terminations. Associated Press quoted the name Manihant's admits the terminations. Associated Press quoted the name of a denses at River Galaxy and the state of a denses at River Galaxy and the state of a denses at River Galaxy and the state along with famir other students at along with famir other students and along with famir other students and along with famir other students and along with famir other students at along distribution of the students at the student students at the students at along and the students at the students at along and the students at the students at the student student students at the students at the student student students at the students at the student student student s dian government too has shifted its stance, from advising the students to "follow the law" to "offering them support by reaching out to the affected students. Officials of the External Affairs Ministry are now advising affected students to

new advising affected students to pursue the "legal nume". The pursue of the "legal nume" adopting the students of the presenting profile. Baffore the pursue the Perturary 2023 compared to Perturary 2023, for a pursue of the presenting profile and 2024, rows to Perturary 2023 to approximate of that received the most number of student vision in Perturary 2024. The presenting profile and 2024, rows had a similar students were do-tuted in vision in Perturary 2024. The presenting profile and 2024, the student vision in Perturary 2025, for 14 vision in the presenting of the students of the student vision in Perturary 2025. The presenting profile and 2024.

ALM MARKED

new sweet instant in total - a 4.7% sas were instead in total – a 4.72%. drop from the 7.443 visua instead in Petronary 2024. During the same period, the normbor of P1 visus is used full from 1.197 to 1.197 (a 5.2% drop) for Chinese students (a 9.4% drop), and From 128 to 302 (a 7.4%) for Visitagenese students. The for Vietnamese students. The number of F-1 visas issued for In-dian students dropped from 590 to 411 (a 20% decline). Moreover, the waiting time for a student visa is the longest in Delbi atudent visa is the longest in Delbi compared to the waiting lime in meter of the limit of the second second limit of the second second second second visiters wait 50 days for a U.S. vi-and heights face an average wait me of just two days (Chart 2). While the recent overall decline in student vises, and its dispec-In student visue, and its dispro-portionate impact on Indian stu-portionate impact of Indian stu-erunging factor of the student students are not new. During the students are not new. During the sharp decline in applications for international student pro-grammen. As a result, there was a guardennic years, which had to a sig-mundentic system. Change and illicant increase in rejections. Chang 3 compares the denian categories from 2013 to 2020. ategories from 2013 to 2024. rom 2013 to 2021, the denial rates r both categories remained rela tively similar, but a sharp diver-gence emerged in the post-pan-demic years. In 2024, 41% of nervice years, in accel, 475 or student visa applications were de-nied, compared to the 22.15 of all other types of visa applications that were denied - a gap of martly



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Mindu. FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 21, 1975

Satellite sending messages: reception good at Sriharikota

Siduarlieria space centre, April 20: "The equipment carried by the first brillian satellite Aryabbata, is in perfect condition and transmitting regularly the results of experiments. The reception here is very good," aida beaming Dr. Y. Jaiardhana Ruo, Project Engineer or the Sitharikous Recket Launching

Station (SHAR) in an interview to-day. The only tracking and monitoring station in the country which is here, monitored the the country which is here, monitored me antellite when it passed over the 5HAB at 13-18 hours to-day and again at 14-59 hours. When tracked at 13-16 hours the surellite was in its 16th orbit and the tracking was done for the fourth

time. As the satellite lifted off yesterday aftermoon from the team Launching station in the Roviet Union, scientisis and engineers here were anatons to establish contact with the satellite. "Unfortunately we missed the first orbit, as we could not trace the satellite. But later we got on could not trace the autofilite. But later we got on the track, the orbit was over French Chaptana in the Non-Anton we was a set of the set in block of the set of the index of the set of t

A HUNDRED YEARS AGD APRIL 21, 1925 Race to north pole

What will really resolve itself into a race between lighter-than air and heavier than air. herveen lighter shar air and heavier ban air machines is forthcoming in the attempt to reach the North Pole in an expedition led by the wenty finit year-old explorer. Eventie Agarsson. Liverpund in the briganitur "bland," which is the marklest vessel which less ever been fitted for such a heaveform undertailing. A heavier of the the the series of the the the form pole all costs, "type intend to use an attempt from the ship to the Pole. Algarsson's chart costs of the the the the the the form Amundism, have chosen a weap of aeroplanes for the fitted press.

Indian students bear the brunt

The data for the charts were sourced from Travel.State.Gov (U.S. Department of State: Bureau of Consular Affairs)



Chart 1: Percentage drop in F-1 visas (student visas) issued in February 2025 compared to February 2024

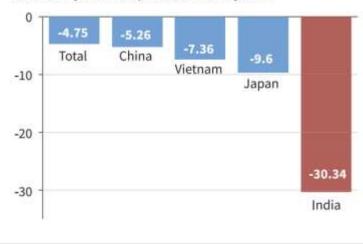
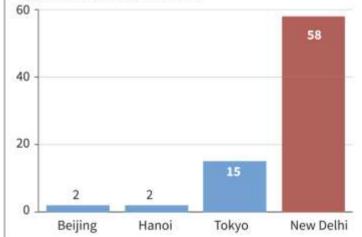


Chart 2: Student visa wait times (in days) for the capitals of countries mentioned in Chart 1



6,00,000-40 Student visas 41 5,34,320 Issued 4,00,737 30 4,00,000-22.1 2,78,553 20 14.8 2,00,000-14.6 10 93,173 All other visas Denied 0 0 -01, 018, 019, 020, 022, 021 2013 ,079 6 023 2024

Chart 3: Denial rates of F-1 visas (student visas) and all other visa categories from 2013 to 2024. Figures in %

Chart 4: Absolute number of F-1 visas issued and denied by the U.S. between 2013 and 2024

IBCA Headquarters in India

India's Role in Big Cat Conservation



Governance includes Assembly, Committee, and Secretariat.

Establishment and Operation of IBCA

Launch of IBCA

IBCA is launched by India on the 50th anniversary of Project Tiger. tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar, and cheetah.

Ratification by Five Countries

IBCA gains full legal status after ratification by five countries.India, Liberia, Eswatini, Somalia, and Nicaragua.

India Joins IBCA

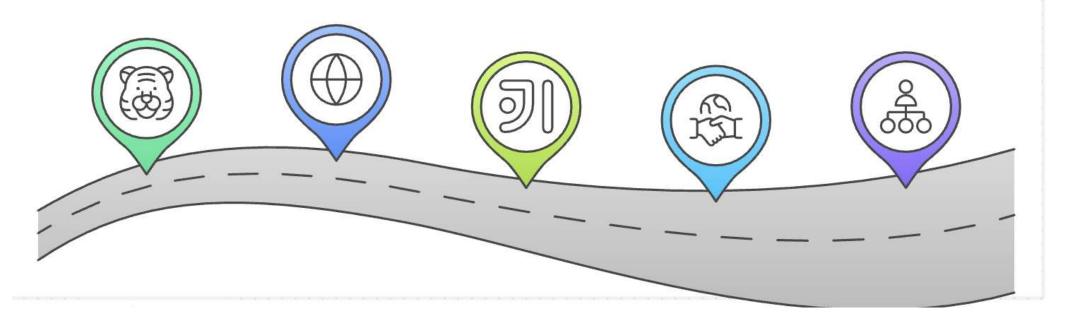
India officially joins IBCA in September 2023.

Membership Open to UN States

Membership is open to all UN member states, including range and non-range countries.

Governance Structure Established

IBCA's governance structure includes an Assembly, Committee, and Secretariat.



INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE

The International Big Cat Alliance is a multi-country, multi-agency coalition aimed at conserving big cat species and their habitats.

Launched by

India (2023)

Headquarters India

Member states | Structure

countries Consists of Asser Standing Commit

Structure Consists of Assembly of Members Standing Committee & Secretariat

FUNCTIONS

- Secure the future of big cats (Tigers, Lions, Leopards, Snow Leopards, Pumas, Jaguars, and Cheetahs)
- (b) Mitigate the adverse effects of climate change
- Advocate for policy initiatives
- Attain the United Nations-mandated Sustainable Development Goals

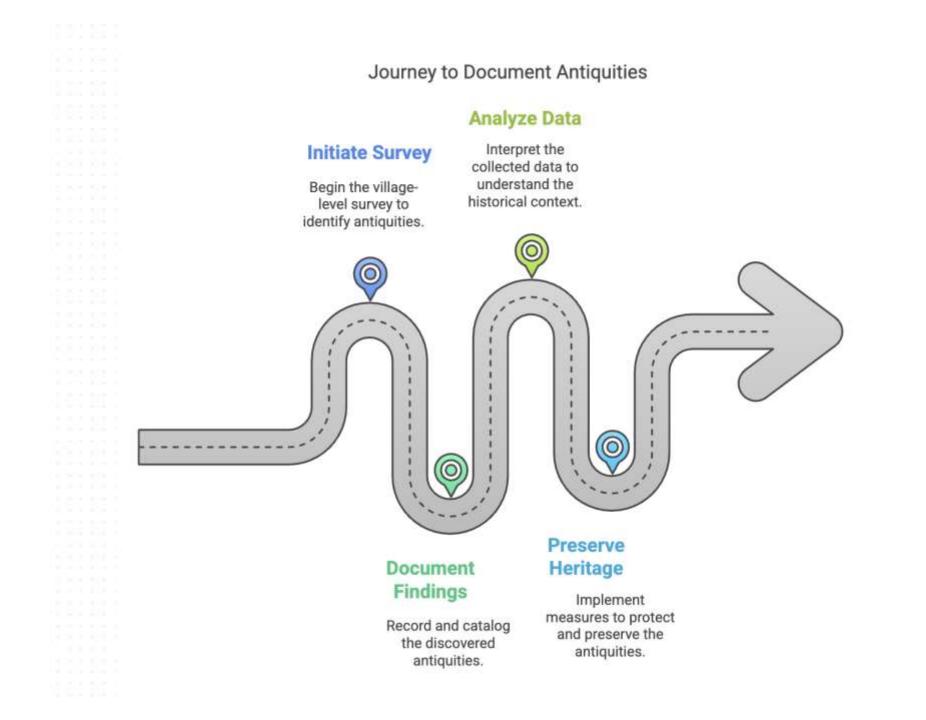
THREATS

- Poaching
- Habitat loss & fragmentation
- Human-Leopard conflict
- Olimate change & Deforestation

Conservation Status of Big Cats

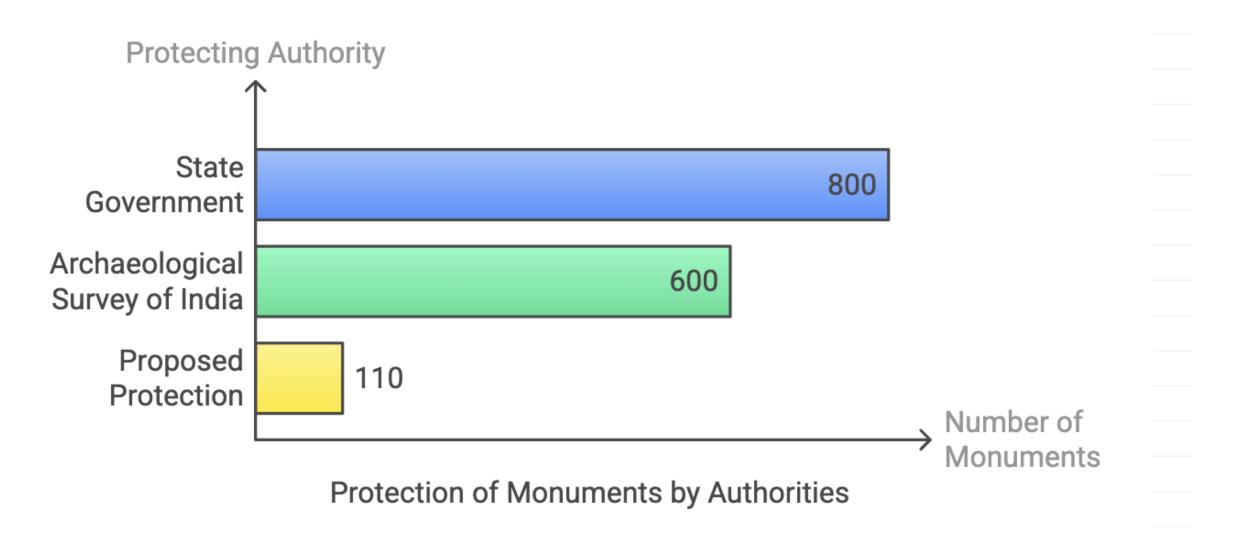
Species	Scientific Name	IUCN Red List	CITES	Indian Wildlife (Protection Act, 1972
Tigers	Panthera tigris	Endangered	Appendix-I	Schedule-I
Lions	Panthera leo	Vulnerable	Appendix-I	Schedule-I
Leopards	Panthera pardus	Vulnerable	Appendix-I	Schedule-I
Snow Leopards	Panthera uncia	Vulnerable	Appendix-I	Schedule-I
Pumas	Puma concolor	Least Concerned	Appendix II (P. c. Costaricensis and cougar: Appendix-I)	NA
Jaguars	Panthera onca	Near Threatened	Appendix-I	NA
Cheetahs	Acinonyx jubatus	Vulnerable	Appendix-I	Schedule-I

Karnataka set to be the first State to finish village-level antiquities survey



Karnataka's Pioneering Archaeological Heritage Survey

World Heritage Day	Geo-tagging Implementation	
Announcement by Department of Archaeology	Karnataka becomes first state with detailed inventory	
Detailed Documes Begins Inscriptions sculptures, monuments recorded	s, and	

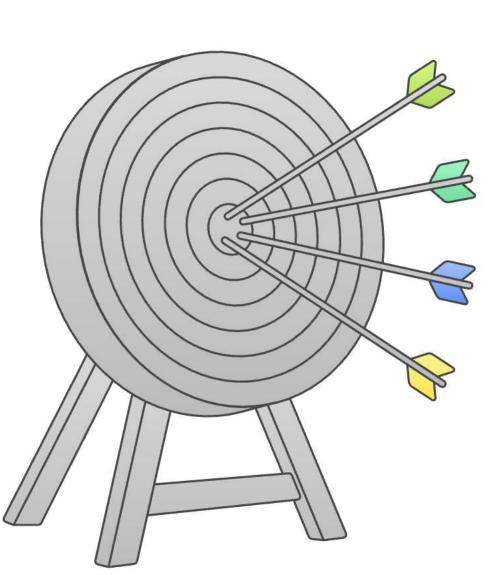


Collaborative Conservation Model



Operation Atalanta

Operation Atalanta Structure



Maritime Security

Core mission of Operation Atalanta



EU Member States

Primary contributors to the operation,s hipping routes off the coast of Somalia and the Western Indian Ocean.

Associated Partners

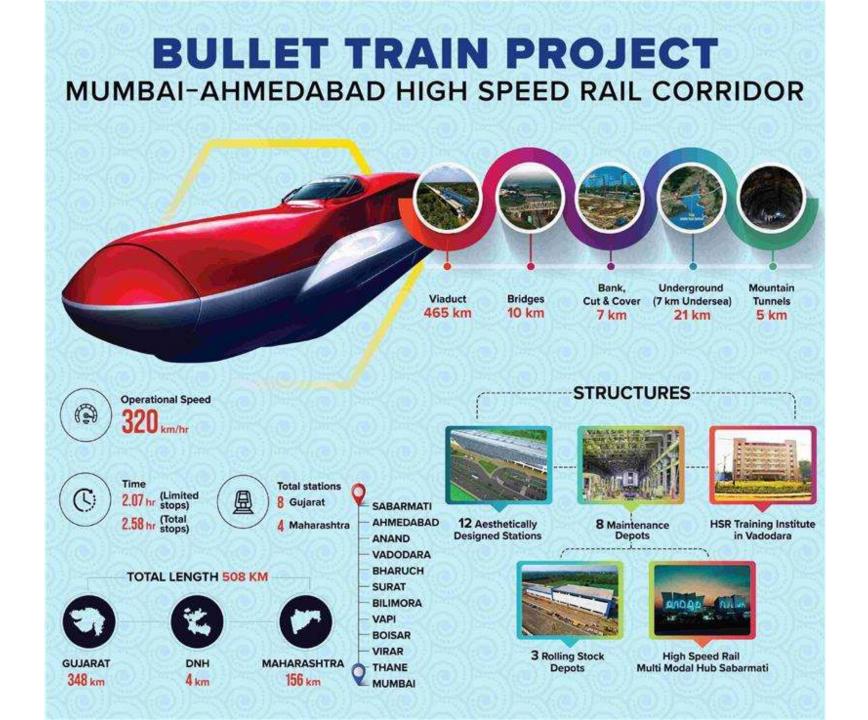
Supporting nations in the mission

) CSDP

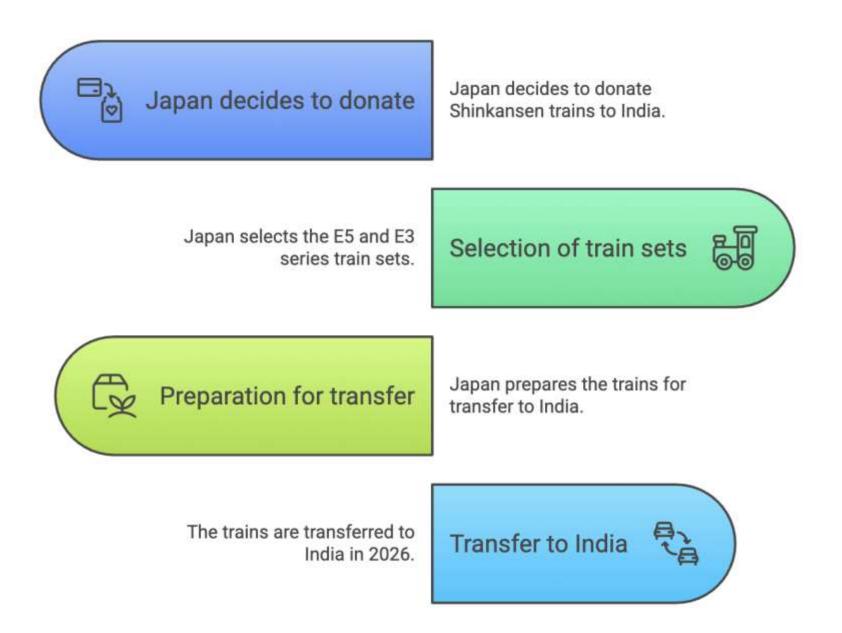
Framework under which the operation functions



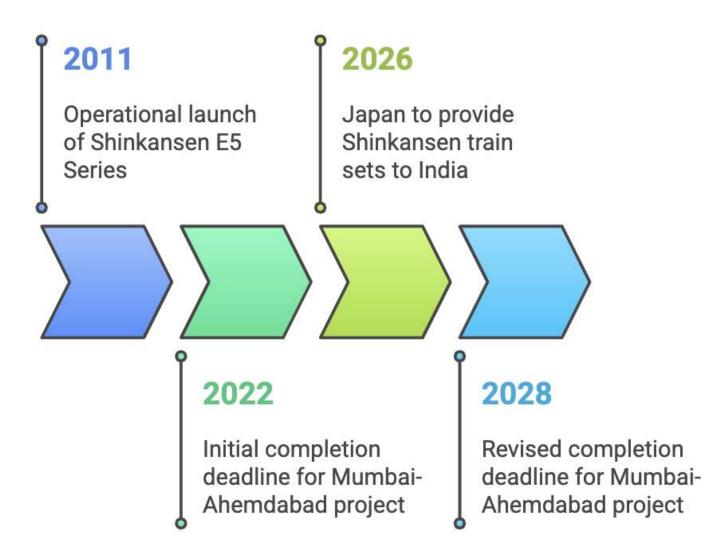
Shinkansen Trains and Bullet Train Project



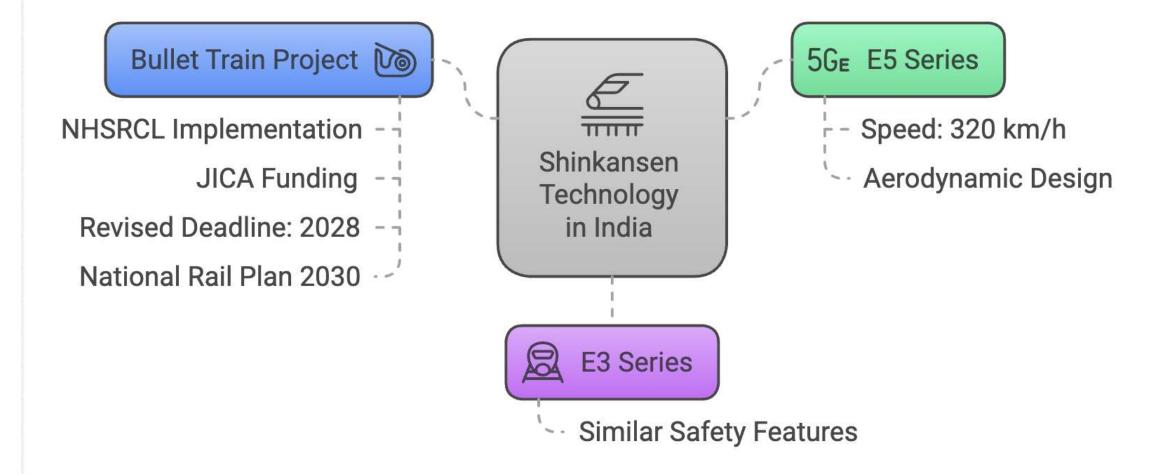
Japan-India Shinkansen Train Donation



India's High-Speed Rail Journey with Japan



Japan's Shinkansen Technology in India



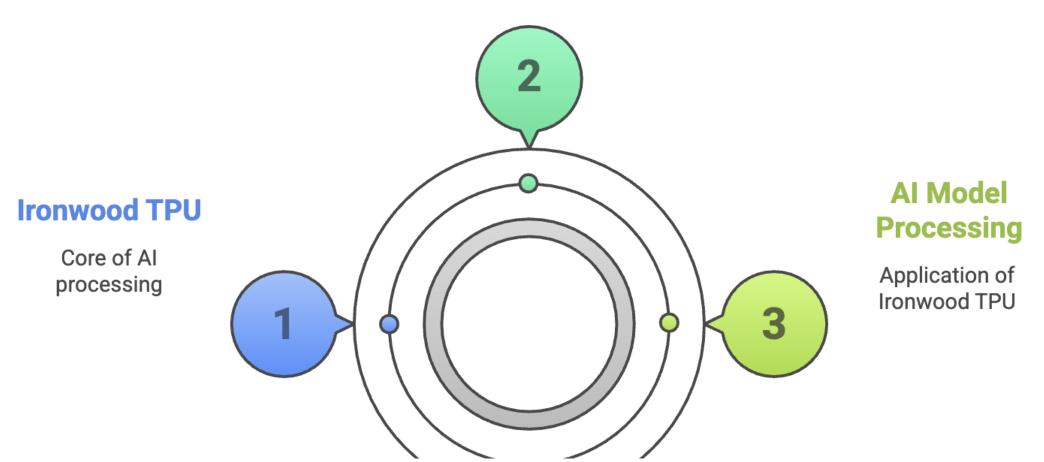
Ironwood: 7th Generation TPU



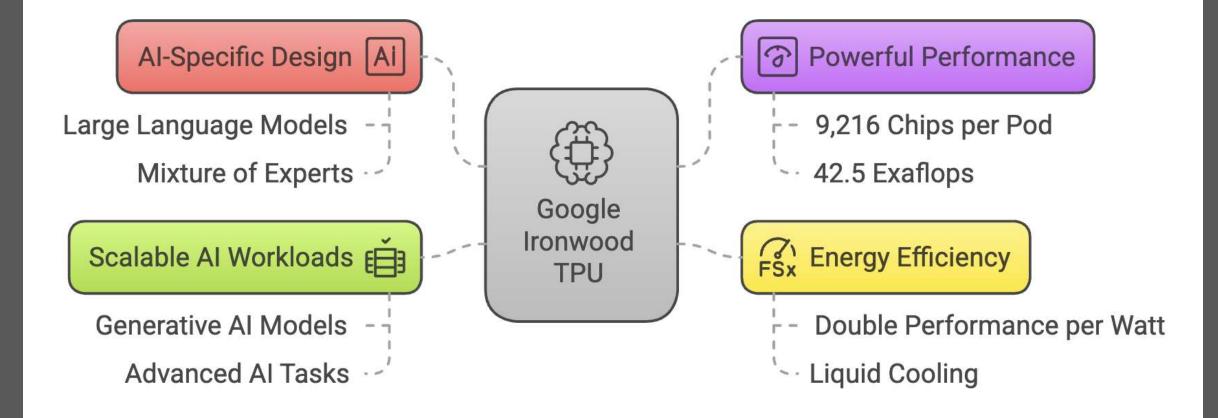
Google Ironwood TPU Architecture

7th Generation

Evolution of TPU technology



Google Ironwood TPU: Key Features and Capabilities



What is the Difference between CPU, GPU and TPU?

Feature	CPU	GPU	TPU
Primary Function	General-purpose computing	Parallel processing, graphics rendering	Accelerating machine learning workloads
Processing Type	Sequential processing (can also include some parallelism in modern CPUs)	Parallel processing	Parallel processing (optimized for Al tasks)
Number of Cores	1 to 16 cores (can be more in advanced CPUs)	Thousands of cores	Specialized cores optimized for tensor operations
Performance for AI	Not optimized for AI	Good for Al tasks, especially for large datasets	Highly optimized for deep learning and neural networks
Efficiency	Versatile but less efficient for parallel tasks	Highly efficient for parallel tasks (e.g., deep learning training, large-scale data processing)	Extremely efficient for AI, especially neural network training
Real-World Applications	Personal computing, business applications, software development	Autonomous vehicles, facial recognition, video processing, Al model training	Healthcare AI (e.g., diagnostics), autonomous systems speech recognition, image recognition

DPS Wetland





Location features

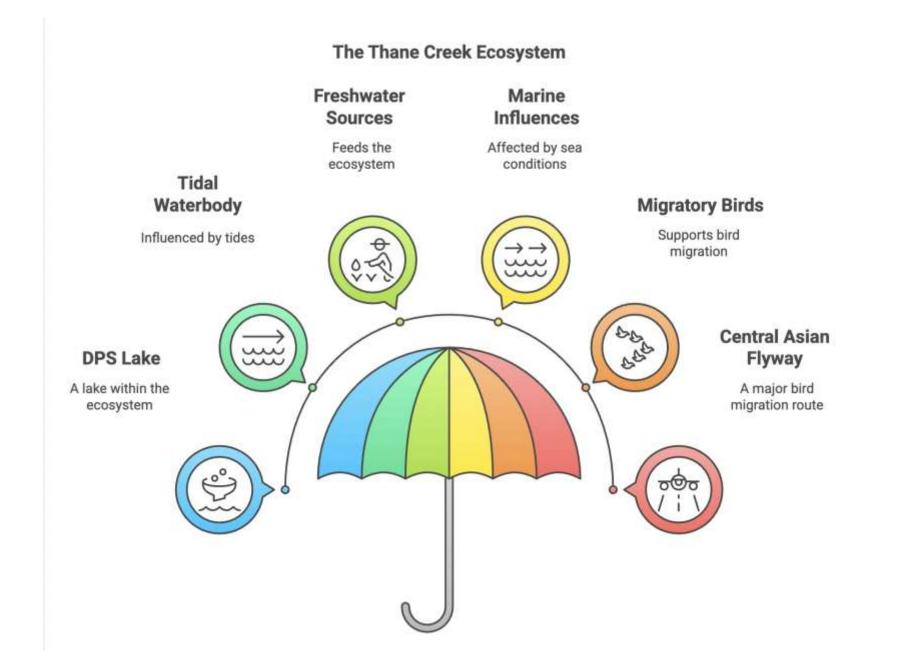
Location

Situated in Seawoods, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.

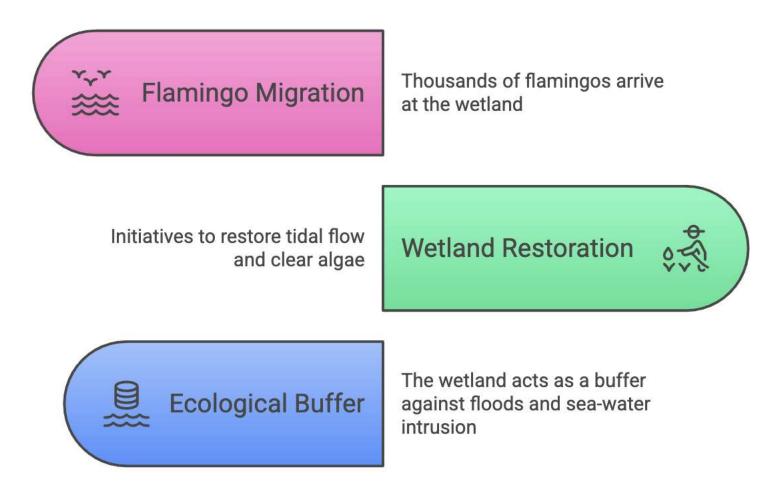
Area



Spread over 30 acres, adjacent to the Thane Creek Ramsar site.



Flamingo Migration and Wetland Restoration

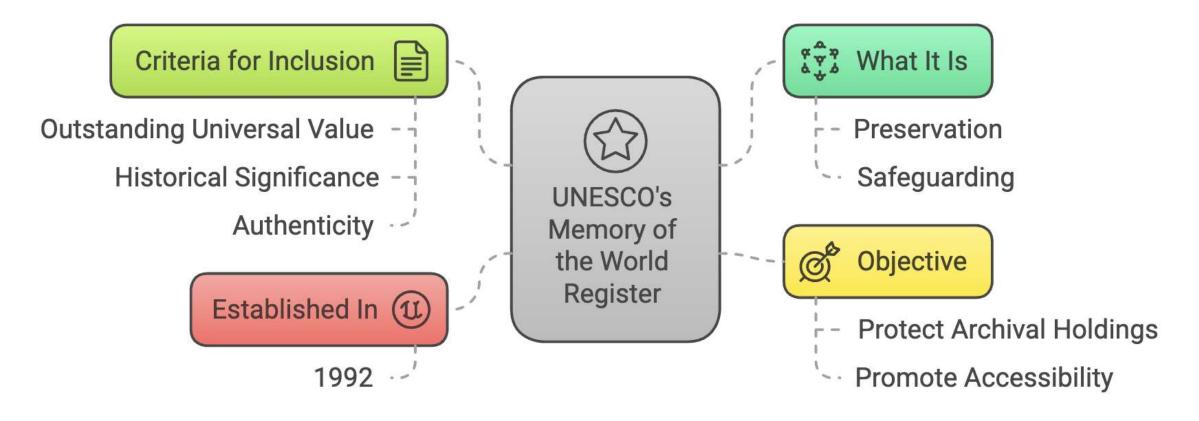


Gita and Natyashastra added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Register

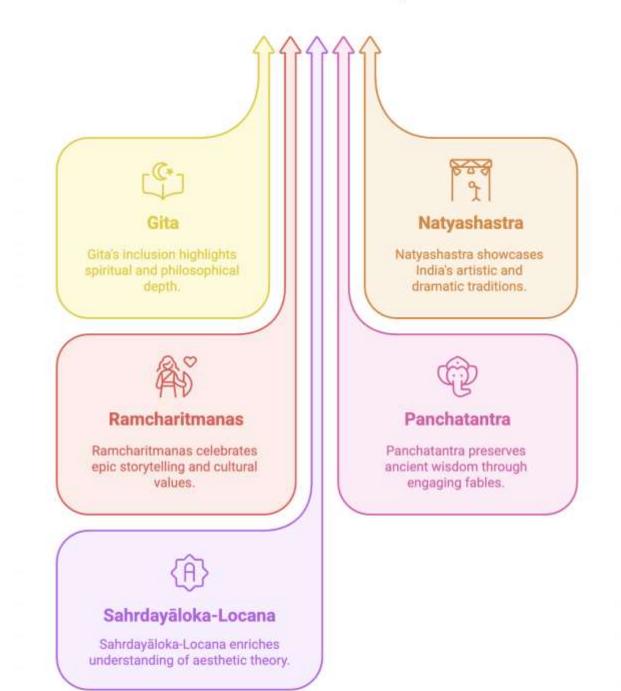




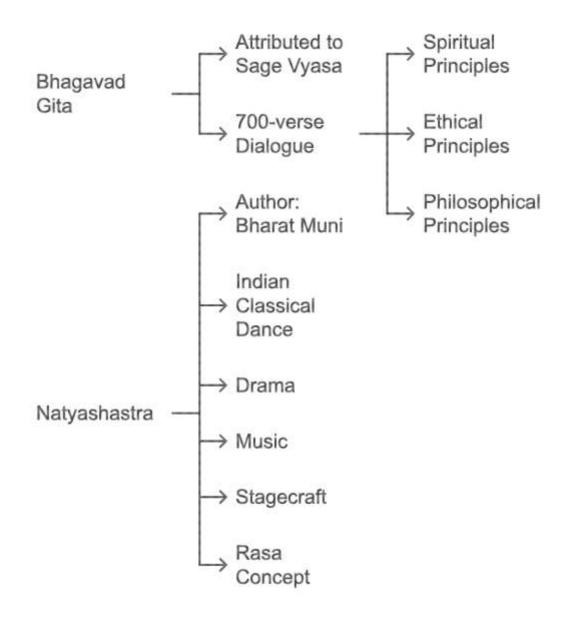
UNESCO's Memory of the World Register



India's Global Cultural Recognition



Key Features of Bhagavad Gita and Natyashastra



Word of the day **Talisman**:

a trinket or piece of jewellery usually hung about the neck and thought to be a magical protection against evil or disease

Usage: Every time he travelled, he held on to his watch like it was his talisman.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/talismanpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈtæl.ɪsˌmæn/

Thank you guys.