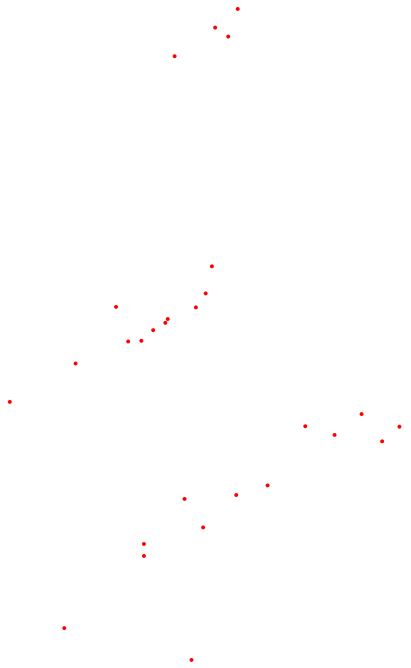


Daily Current Affairs





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10 MCQ QUIZ

- 
- “I was smiling yesterday, I am smiling today and I will smile tomorrow. Simply because life is too short to cry for anything.”



POLITICAL INNERING
Azharuddin sworn in as Minister in Telangana
NEWS • PAGE 3



COVID-19 SELF-ENUMERATION
Trial run to begin in select areas from today
NEWS • PAGE 3



CLIENT ADVICE
SC bars agencies from summoning lawyers
NEWS • PAGE 3



FATAL BURN
Trapped in a burning bus
Safety lapses by private operator under lens after 19 deaths
GROUND ZERO • PAGE 7



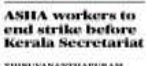
1-6 LEAD
Hazlewood sets up Australia's win at MCG
SPORT • PAGE 14

INSIDE



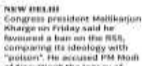
Britain's Prince Andrew to lose his royal titles

LONDON
Britain's Prince Andrew will lose his titles and honours, Buckingham Palace announced on Thursday. The ex-prince had been accused of having sex with a minor, and having links to an offshore and American financier, Jeffrey Epstein, who died in 2019. **» PAGE 13**



ASHA workers to end strike before Kerala Secretariat

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
Kerala's Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), striking for the last 268 days for increased pay and retirement benefits, on Friday decided to end their strike in front of the Secretariat. They will take their protest to the streets. **» PAGE 5**



Kharge slams PM for insulting Patel over stand on RSS

NEW DELHI
Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday said he favoured a ban on the RSS, comparing its ideology with "extremism". He accused PM Modi of "insulting" the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel by allowing association of govt. staff with the group. **» PAGE 8**



No proof linking us to Delhi riots, say three activists

NEW DELHI
Activists Umar Khalid, Gulshira Fatima and Sharquel Imam told the Supreme Court on Friday that they had been in jail for over five years without any evidence of their involvement in the 2020 Delhi riots, and it amounted to "persecution without trial". **» PAGE 3**

India, U.S. sign pact to enhance defence ties

The framework charts ties across all the defence domains — land, sea, air, space, and cyberspace

The India-U.S. partnership will ensure an open, rules-bound Indo-Pacific region, Singh says on X

Hegseth says coordination is being stepped up, and defence ties have never been stronger

Saurabh Tiwari
NEW DELHI

India and the United States have unveiled a 10-year defence framework, marking a new phase in their strategic cooperation aimed at "advancing peace, security, and stability in the Indo-Pacific".

The "Framework for the U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership" was signed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on the sidelines of the 12th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Meeting-Plus (APEC-M+P) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Friday. The development came amid strained ties due to Washington's slapping of 80% tariffs on Indian goods.

According to the Ministry of Defence, both sides appreciated the continuing momentum in bilateral defence cooperation and



Sealing the deal, Rajnath Singh and Pete Hegseth shake hands after signing a 10-year defence partnership framework in Kuala Lumpur on Friday. **AP**

reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the partnership.

Progress review
They reviewed ongoing defence engagements, addressed emerging challenges, and discussed progress in defence industry

and technology collaborations, the Ministry said. Mr. Singh said the 2016 recognition of India as a Major Defence Partner (MDP) by the new framework is critical for ensuring a free, open, and rules-bound Indo-Pacific region.

Building on the 2013 Joint Principles for Defence Cooperation and the 2016 recognition of India as a Major Defence Partner (MDP), the new framework charts a 10-year road map to deepen collaboration across all defence domains — land, maritime, air,

space, and cyberspace, a senior Defence Ministry official said.

The framework focuses on maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific, enhancing interoperability, and strengthening maritime security to ensure the free flow of commerce. It also seeks to expand cooperation with the allied partners through mechanisms such as the Quad, prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and foster defence industrial innovation through advanced technology partnerships, the official said.

Both sides had already initiated the COMPACT initiative catalysing opportunities for Military Partnership, Development, Commerce and Technology to drive transformative projects in key areas of defence cooperation.

The new framework underscores a shared intent to respond jointly to com-

mon security threats, deter conflict, and uphold the sovereignty and autonomy of regional partners, while laying the foundation for collective peace and prosperity in the region.

"Priority partner"
The U.S. Secretary of War on Friday reiterated that India remains a priority partner for Washington in defence cooperation.

In a post, Mr. Hegseth stated that the framework advances the bilateral defence partnership, a cornerstone for regional stability and deterrence. "We're enhancing our coordination, info sharing, and tech cooperation. Our defence ties have never been stronger," he wrote.

The defence framework expected to give unified policy direction to transform and expand the partnership between the two countries over the next decade, the Ministry added.

The Ministry further said that India and the U.S. continue to expand their defence relationship through regular military exercises, intelligence sharing, industrial collaboration, and joint mechanisms for strategic coordination with regional and global partners.

The meeting on Friday included delegation-level discussions followed by one-on-one interaction between the two leaders. In May this year, Mr. Singh and Mr. Hegseth held a telephonic conversation to review ongoing and upcoming initiatives aimed at strengthening defence cooperation. During that exchange, Mr. Hegseth had invited Mr. Singh to visit the U.S. for in-person discussions to advance bilateral defence ties. Mr. Singh's planned visit in August was postponed amid tariff-related developments.

Back to sea



A lone tourist catches a fisherman fish in their nets at Shanganigum beach in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday as fishing resumes after the rains. (AP Photo/Anand Baskaran)

As Centre lifts ban, Sikh pilgrims get Pak. visas

Surbhuti Baidar
Nisha Vaidya
NEW DELHI • CHANDIGARH

Weeks after he was told his pilgrimage to Sikh shrines in Pakistan, including Nankana Sahib, had been cancelled, Harjinderpal Singh's disappointment turned to unbridled joy on Friday as he received his passport and Pakistani visas. The Harjinderpal resident is one of 2,100 Sikh pilgrims who were issued visas by the Pakistani High Commission in Delhi after the Indian government reversed its stand, allowing the groups to travel.

"In September, when I received the news that the government was not allowing pilgrims to Nankana Sahib, I was taken aback and disappointed. I had been



Sikhs bound for Pakistan on a 10-day pilgrimage to Nankana Sahib collecting their passports after visa processing on Friday. **AP**

travel to Pakistan since Operation Bluestar. Welcoming the government's decision to reverse its earlier ban, SCPRC secretary Partap Singh thanked both the Indian and Pakistani governments for facilitating the "smooth" issuance of visas to the pilgrims. Of the 2,100 pilgrims issued visas, 1,796 pilgrims are from Punjab, while others are from Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu, and Uttar Pradesh, an SCPRC official said.

Corridor shut
Meanwhile, confusion prevails within the Centre over whose decision it was to stop and then restart the pilgrimages now, with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs silent on the reason for the decision.

From as the Pakistan government said that the group would be facilitated to travel to Kartarpur Sahib as well, the Kartarpur Sahib corridor inaugurated by both countries in 2020 remains closed, indicating they will take a longer road route to reach the shrines.

The MHA website for the Kartarpur Corridor states that, "considering the extant security scenario, the services of Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor is suspended till further directions". It is unclear whether other religious travel between the two countries, suspended since the India-Pakistan conflict in May, will now be permitted as well. **(With inputs from Varun Singh)**

1 crore jobs, aid for women among key pledges in NDA manifesto for Bihar polls

Anil Shukla
PATNA

The National Democratic Alliance on Friday released its 69-page manifesto for the upcoming Bihar assembly election, outlining 25 promises.

The key promises include creating one crore jobs and one crore Lokshiksha (skill) centres, pursuing higher education, Metro rail projects in four cities, four new international airports, and seven expressways.

Other pledges were assistance of up to ₹2 lakh for women under the Chief Minister's Women's Employment Scheme, a guarantee of Minimum Support Price for all crops, 10 units of free electricity, free medical treatment up to ₹5 lakh, construction of 50 lakh new houses, and an investment of ₹1 lakh crore to promote industrialisation.

The manifesto was released in the presence of Bharatiya Janata Party's national president J.P. Nadda, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Bihar BJP election in-charge Bhupendra Prasad, Hindustani Awam Morcha (secular) founder Ram Kant Mahto, Lok Jan Shakti Party (Ram Vilas) president Uday Kumar, Rashtriya Lok Morcha president Upendra Kushwah, Janata Dal (United) working president Jayaprakash Narayan, Chief Minister Ram Kishore Prasad (BJD), and Bihar BJP State president Dilip Kumar. The manifesto was released at the venue except Mr. Choudhary, who briefed



Presenting an NDA manifesto for Bihar polls, in Patna on Friday. **PTI**

Tejashwi Yadav confident of win, rules out tie-up with JD(U)

Anil Shukla
PATNA

In an interview with *The Hindu*, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav said the RJD-led Mahagathabandhan will win as people want those who prioritise education, irrigation, medicine and

the media. "The NDA has promised more than one crore government jobs and employment opportunities. We will conduct a 'skills census', create skill-based employment, and establish Bihar as a global learning centre with mega learning centres in every district."

"Special focus on ERDC"
He added that special focus has been given to the Extremely Backward Class (ERDC), who constitute over 36% of the population. "Various occupational groups within ERDC will receive aid of ₹10 lakh. We will constitute a high-level committee headed by a re-

jobs to rule Bihar. The chief ministerial face of the Opposition bloc categorically ruled out any post-poll tie-up with Nitish Kumar, and claimed that the JD(U) will cease to exist after the election.

FULL INTERVIEW
» PAGE 8

leased Supreme Court judge to assess the social and economic status of various castes of the ERDC and recommend the government to take appropriate steps for their empowerment," Mr. Choudhary said. The manifesto also included modernisation of 3,600 km of railway tracks, free ration, and expansion of the social security pension scheme.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav said for the first time in history, a joint manifesto was released in just 36 seconds. "The NDA should not come out with a 'chhoti chhoti' (small) manifesto, but a 'Bharat Bharat' for the people of Bihar."

India, U.S. sign pact to enhance defence ties

The framework charts ties across all the defence domains – land, sea, air, space, and cyberspace

The India-U.S. partnership will ensure an open, rules-bound Indo-Pacific region, Singh says on X

Hegseth says coordination is being stepped up, and defence ties have never been stronger

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

India and the United States have unveiled a 10-year defence framework, marking a new phase in their strategic cooperation aimed at “advancing peace, security, and stability in the Indo-Pacific”.

The “Framework for the U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership” was signed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on the sidelines of the 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Friday. The development came amid strained ties due to Washington’s slapping of 50% tariffs on Indian goods.

According to the Ministry of Defence, both sides appreciated the continuing momentum in bilateral defence cooperation and



Sealing the deal: Rajnath Singh and Pete Hegseth shake hands after signing a 10-year defence partnership framework in Kuala Lumpur on Friday. ANI

reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the partnership.

Progress review

They reviewed ongoing defence engagements, addressed emerging challenges, and discussed progress in defence indus-

try and technology collaborations, the Ministry said.

Mr. Singh posted on X: “Defence will remain the major pillar of our bilateral relations. Our partnership is critical for ensuring a free, open, and rules-bound Indo-Pacific region.”

Building on the 2013 Joint Principles for Defence Cooperation and the 2016 recognition of India as a Major Defence Partner (MDP), the new framework charts a 10-year road map to deepen collaboration across all defence domains – land, maritime, air,

space, and cyberspace, a senior Defence Ministry official said.

The framework focuses on maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific, enhancing interoperability, and strengthening maritime security to ensure the free flow of commerce. It also seeks to expand cooperation with like-minded partners through mechanisms such as the Quad, prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and bolster defence industrial innovation through advanced technology partnerships, the official said.

Both sides had already launched the COMPACT initiative (Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce and Technology) to drive transformative changes in key areas of defence cooperation.

The new framework underscores a shared intent to respond jointly to com-

mon security threats, deter conflict, and uphold the sovereignty and autonomy of regional partners, while laying the foundation for collective peace and prosperity in the region.

‘Priority partner’

The U.S. Secretary of War on Friday reiterated that India remains a priority partner for Washington in defence cooperation.

In a post, Mr. Hegseth stated that the framework advances the bilateral defence partnership, a cornerstone for regional stability and deterrence. “We’re enhancing our coordination, info sharing, and tech cooperation. Our defence ties have never been stronger,” he wrote.

The defence framework is expected to give unified policy direction to transform and expand the partnership between the two countries over the next decade, the Ministry added.

The Ministry further said that India and the U.S. continue to expand their defence relationship through regular military exercises, intelligence sharing, industrial collaboration, and joint mechanisms for strategic coordination with regional and global partners.

The meeting on Friday included delegation-level discussions followed by one-on-one interaction between the two leaders.

In May this year, Mr. Singh and Mr. Hegseth held a telephonic conversation to review ongoing and upcoming initiatives aimed at strengthening defence cooperation. During that exchange, Mr. Hegseth had invited Mr. Singh to visit the U.S. for in-person discussions to advance bilateral defence ties. Mr. Singh’s planned visit in August was, however, postponed amid tariff-related developments.

India and the United States have signed a **10-year defence framework** titled **“Framework for the U.S.–India Major Defence Partnership”**.

Signed by **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** and **U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth** on the sidelines of the **13th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)** in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**.

The move marks a *new phase* in India-U.S. strategic cooperation aimed at ensuring **peace, security, and stability in the Indo-Pacific region**.



Objective of the Framework

To advance defence cooperation across **all five domains — land, maritime, air, space, and cyberspace —** ensuring an **open, free, and rules-based Indo-Pacific.**

Domain / Area

Focus

Military & Security Cooperation

Maintain a **free and open Indo-Pacific**, enhance interoperability, and strengthen maritime security to safeguard global trade routes.

Technology & Industry Collaboration

Promote **joint defence innovation**, industrial partnerships, and advanced technology co-development.

Collective Security

Encourage cooperation with **like-minded partners** (e.g., **Quad** nations) to deter coercion and uphold sovereignty.

Exercises & Intelligence

Regular joint military exercises, intelligence sharing, and joint mechanisms for crisis response.

Long-Term Roadmap

10-year vision for strategic coordination, ensuring stability and deterrence in the Indo-Pacific.

AGREEMENT	YEAR	PURPOSE
LEMOA (Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement)	2016	Mutual access to bases for logistics support
COMCASA (Communications Compatibility & Security Agreement)	2018	Secure communication and data sharing
BECA (Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement)	2020	Geo-spatial intelligence and mapping cooperation



Aspect

Significance

Maritime Security

Ensures freedom of navigation in the Indian Ocean & South China Sea amid China's assertiveness.

Defence Industry

Boosts "Make in India" in defence; supports co-production & R&D under **INDUS-X** initiative.

Technology Access

Facilitates collaboration in AI, drones, jet engines, cyber & space warfare.

Geopolitical Balance

Strengthens India's position within **QUAD** and broader Indo-Pacific alliances.

Economic Linkage

Defence partnership expected to temper trade frictions caused by U.S. tariffs.





Mamata to lead protest against SIR on Nov. 4

ROLEATA
West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee will hit the streets in Kolkata on Nov. 4 to protest against the ongoing Special Intensive Restriction (SIR). She will be joined by party general secretary Abhishek Banerjee in a protest rally from Red Road to Jorabanku n. **page 2**

Kerala becomes first State to declare itself free of extreme poverty

The Hindu Bureau

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan declared Kerala 'free from extreme poverty' at a special session of the Assembly on the occasion of the State Formation Day (Kerala Piravi) on Saturday, making it the first State to do so.

The Opposition United Democratic Front walked out of the session questioning the propriety of convening a special session just for the Chief Minister to make a statement under Rule 300 of the House procedures. Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan also called it a "hollow proclamation".

Mr. Vijayan, who called

this year's Kerala Piravi the birth of a new era, spoke at length about the four-year long process that led to the declaration. Refuting the Opposition charge that the declaration was a publicity stunt ahead of the local body elections, he said that the implementation of the Extreme Poverty Eradication Programme was a decision taken in the first Cabinet meeting of the Left Democratic Front in 2021.

Programme process

"We only make promises we can fulfil and we have fulfilled what we promised," he said. "This proud achievement belongs to the entire people of Kerala. We are witnessing a historic moment," the

Chief Minister said. He said that the process of identifying the extremely poor families began within two months of that decision, with active public participation, including local body representatives, Kudumbashree workers, volunteers and officials.

The families identified through data collection at the local body level were scrutinised and recommended by ward committees. This was subjected to another check and a draft list was prepared. This list was presented to the grama sabhas and from it, 1,03,099 individuals from 64,006 families were identified as extremely poor. Considering food, health, housing and income as the



Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan giving the report declaring Kerala free from extreme poverty to actor Mammooty. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

critical factors for identifying the extremely poor, micro plans were prepared for each family.

In the first phase of the project, essential documents were provided to

21,263 people, who were struggling without even the basic documents. Regular supply of food has now been ensured through Kudumbashree for 20,648 extremely poor families.

Health services, access to medicines, vaccinations, palliative care and organ transplants have been ensured, he said.

MGNREGS roped in

Houses were provided under the LIFE mission for 4,677 families, while 2,713 families were provided land and houses. Livelihood support was provided to 4,394 families. A total of 35,041 families were made part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

A scheme to provide special attention to 5,583 children through the Education Department and free travel for educational purposes was implement-

ed. Scholarships were provided to 331 students. A total of 28 single-member families were shifted to safe shelter homes.

"The process of eradicating extreme poverty is a continuation of the steps taken earlier for the universal public distribution system and for the eradication of landlessness and homelessness. Kerala has made remarkable progress in the Sustainable Development Index envisioned by the UN by eradicating extreme poverty. Our State is a laboratory for many welfare activities. In terms of extreme poverty alleviation too, we can hope our experiments will become a model other States can benefit from," he added.

Stage	Description
Identification	Began 2 months after Cabinet decision (2021) with help of <i>Kudumbashree</i> workers, volunteers & local reps.
Data Collection	1.03 lakh individuals from 64,006 families identified as <i>extremely poor</i> using indicators like food, health, housing & income.
Verification	Draft list checked by <i>ward committees</i> and <i>gram sabhas</i> .
Micro Plans	Tailored welfare plans prepared for each family focusing on essentials and livelihood.

Area of Support

Initiatives Taken

Food Security

Regular food supply ensured for **20,648 families** via *Kudumbashree*.

Health

Access to medicines, vaccination, palliative care, and organ transplants.

Housing

4,677 families given homes under *LIFE Mission*; 2,713 given land & houses.

Livelihood

4,394 families assisted with jobs under *MGNREGS*.

Education

5,583 children given special attention, 331 students awarded scholarships, and 28 single-member families moved to safe homes.

Social Inclusion

35,041 families integrated into *MGNREGS* labour network.

Indicator

Kerala's Rank / Achievement

Human Development Index (HDI)

1st in India

Literacy Rate

96% (highest)

Life Expectancy

~75 years

Poverty Headcount Ratio

<1% (NITI Aayog Multidimensional Poverty Index, 2023)

SDG India Index 2024

Among top 3 performing states



They say devotees started to rush out suddenly and fell on those waiting to enter the temple; survivors recount scenes of people gasping for breath and struggling to find a way out; some allege that temple management failed to inform police

They say devotees started to rush out suddenly and fell on those waiting to enter the temple; survivors recount scenes of people gasping for breath and struggling to find a way out; some allege that temple management failed to inform police

One of the eyewitnesses, Ginni Swathi from Chirukupalli village, described how she had a narrow escape. She said that a group of around 25 people from her village entered the queue at approximately 9.30 a.m. It took them over two-and-a-half hours to complete their darshan due to the rush of devotees, in view of Karthika

Terrifying ordeal
While coming out after the dash, she witnessed the heart wrenching scenes. It was terrifying. People were trapped, struggling to find a way to get out. Many were gasping for breath, while others tried desperately to help those who had fallen unconscious. Some devices which were pulled out of the crowd were being administered CPR on the spot," she said.

by some devotees."

5. Ravi from Palasa said the crowd was calm till around 11.30 a.m. "All of a sudden, devotees started to rush out and fell on

those waiting to enter inside, he said. They in turn fell on the steel railings and from there to the ground."

Another devotee, K. G. Usha Rani, a resident of Kashtapur, said public management was being made at the temple asking the devotees to maintain cabin and move slowly. Devotees seemed to be in a hurry as they came from far-off places, they were observing a fast and it was getting hot," she said.

Another devotee, K. Krishna, said while the temple management did not inform the police, those present at the site tried to gauge the situation. "One or two constables were posted in the vicinity while just two others controlled traffic," he said.

AIADMK general secretary Elappadi K. Palaniyandam alleged on Saturday that expelled AIADMK leader K.A. Sengottayan never spoke against the DMK in the State Assembly or anywhere else.

Mr. Palaniyandam, who participated in a meeting with AIADMK party functionaries in Salem, told the media that for the past six months, Mr. Sengottayan's activities had been "anti-party".

Invitation row
Farmers' associations conducted a referendum for the election of representatives from various political parties were involved. But Mr. Sengottayan said that then the invitation for the function was not sent to photographs of former Chief Ministers Jayalathia and M.G. Ramachandran. He said that in this case, he did not participate in the function. This, despite the fact that nearly 30% of the lakes in Gobichettipalayam constituency benefited from the Ashirvadi-Avinashi scheme," Mr. Palaniswami went on to claim that Mr. Sengottayan handed over free bicycles to schoolchildren in his constituency. He said that where banners of former Chief Minister M. Karunanithi and Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran were pasted, Mr. Palaniswami alleged that Mr. Sengottayan was

Regarding Mr. Sergettaiyan's demand to reintegrate expelled AIADMK

neerselvam, back into the party, he said that Mr. Panneerselvam was expelled from the party for general corrupt members. But since Mr. Sengottayan had now joined hands with expelled AIADMK leaders, the party had decided to expel him as well.

He never spoke against the DMK in the Legislative Assembly during his meetings. Last year, he met Mr. Nalin at the Secretariat for 20 minutes, "Mr. Nalin said he added, "These people" referring to Mr. Panneerselvam, Mr. Dhanakaran, and Mr. Sengottayan had formed a team for the DMK in the team for the 2026 Assembly election."

Regarding Mr. Sengottayan, he said that Mr. Ponnuswamy was a "temporary" general secretary, the latter said that he was resigning from the post, the Election Commission, and the media.

The magistrate court in Pathanamthitta on Saturday remanded former Saharimala Executive Officer D. Sudheesh Kumar in judicial custody for 14 days in connection with the Saharimala gold theft case. He is the third person arrested in the case.

The Special Investigations Team (SIT) is requiring the removal of all gold-plated copper moulds at the Sabarwalam Ayyappa Temple. The temple has two separate cases, pertaining to the theft of gold from the deities and the removal of copper moulds of gold from the 'Prasannaakali' idols.

After the temple received a demand report, Mr. Kumar, despite being fully aware of the temple's financial problems, was covered in gold, conspired to create false records and to remove the copper sheets.

After the temple further received a demand report, Mr. Kumar, to ensure the presence of the Thiruvattararam Commission, conspired to remove the gold during the dismantling of the gold panels. He is also alleged to have given misleading recommendations that the panels be handled by the temple's own staff for renovation work.

The report also alleged that Mr. Kumar had ordered the purchase of gold-plated copper moulds for the temple under the name of the temple, which is present at the site. The SIT is expected to file a custody petition against Mr. Kumar in court on Monday.

Palakkad MLA Rahul Mathkootathil, who was suspended from the Congress recently following allegations of sexual misconduct, made his presence at the conclusion of the sit-in by Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) in front of the Kerala Secretariat on Saturday, sparking political heat. Mr. Mathkootathil arrived early on the venue and said the cause of the ASHAs was close to his heart. He left before Congress leader V.J. Sasheenan arrived at the venue. Mr. Sasheenan told the ASHAs that the UDF would redress their grievances when voted to power.

The Telugu police of Andhra Pradesh arrested it in an international 'digital arrest' fraud, on Saturday. IGP Ake Kavi Krishna said the accused made a phone call to a 66-year-old lawyer of Eluru, threatening that her Aadhaar card was used in criminal activities. "The woman was confined for 72 hours under 'digital arrest'. She was forced to transfer ₹8.90 lakh to the gang," he said. Officers located the scam servers in China, Singapore, Hong Kong and the U.S. Over 400 cybercrime cases were solved after the racket was unearthed, said police.

In a major operation against illegal structures, the Hyderabad Disaster Response & Asset Protection Agency (HYDRADA) has pulled down a five-storey structure raised on government land in Miyapur. The builder, Bhanti Constructions, had raised the structure on land under the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority. HYDRADA confirmed the encroachment and demolished the part built on government land.

Cultural showcase: Artists perform on the Vidhana Soudha premises in Bengaluru during the Karnataka foundation day (Rajyotsava Day) celebrations on Saturday. PTI

Renowned poet K.G. Sankaran Pillai has won the G. Subramaniam Parakkaram for the year 2023. Kerala's Minister for Culture Kapil Suresh announced the award ceremony here on Saturday.

The prize honours eminent literary figures who have made outstanding contributions to the growth of Malayalam language and literature.

The jury headed by writer and last year's winner N.S. Madhavan described poet Pillai as an extremely gifted poet who enriched Malayalam literatures.

He has written 100 and E.M. Ashwari were the other members of the jury.

Poet Pillai's poetry is known for its freshness and presents the exhilarating pace of modern Malayalam poetry and its distinct sensibility. Poetic excellence is the hallmark of his work even when they resort to stream of consciousness. In this sense, the poet often uses

The Telangana Health Department has ordered an inquiry following reports that a man was locked inside the mortuary of the Government General Hospital (GGH) on Wednesday night and walked out the next morning.

Hospital authorities have dismissed these rumours as baseless. "We do not have a mortuary inside a freer in mortuary in medically impossible," said a senior official.

Denies rumours

According to hospital superintendent Dr. Srinivas Rao, the incident occurred on October 30, when a 45-year-old man, identified as Vendi Raju, collapsed near the hospital's mortuary. He was pronounced dead during heavy rain.

The hospital and the mortuary are located on opposite sides of the road, he clarified.

Raju, a former truck driver and a devotee of a religious leader from Jayaram village of Gudlavallabhpet, fell in front of a bus carrying his wife and two children. His in-laws, bystanders, noticed him

The Karnataka government is committed to preparing Kannada for the challenges of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) era to ensure that technological advances do not lead to job losses in the State, said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Speaking on Saturday at the 70th Karnataka Rajyotsava celebrations, Mr. Siddaramanah said, "We are committed to preparing Karnataka for the new technological challenges so that our people are not left behind in the AI revolution".

With over four lakh persons abstaining from the Social and Educational Survey that concluded on Friday, the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes will use secondary data available to understand their employment, education, and economic condition. "We have secondary data of people with us on government employment, admission to higher education and on those who have gone abroad. We will use that for analysis," commission chairman Machiraju Nalk said.

Pillai wins Kerala's highest literary prize

The Hindu Bureau

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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Writer K.R. Meera and K.M. Anil were the other



K. G. Sankara Pillai

members of the jury.

Prof. Pillai's poetry represents the exhilarating pace of modern Malayalam poetry and its distinct sensibility. Poetic excellence is the hallmark of his works even when they react strongly to contemporary issues, the panel observed.

Aspect	Details
Award Name	<i>Ezhuthachan Puraskaram</i>
Year	2025
Conferred by	Government of Kerala
Announced by	Saji Cherian, Minister for Culture
Named After	<i>Thunchaththu Ezhuthachan</i> — father of Malayalam language
Significance	Kerala's <i>highest literary honour</i> , given for outstanding contribution to Malayalam language and literature
Components	Citation + ₹5 lakh cash prize + plaque

Field	Malayalam Poetry & Literary Criticism
Full Name	Prof. K.G. Sankara Pillai
Recognition	Eminent poet and scholar who enriched <i>modern Malayalam poetry</i>
Literary Style	Known for his <i>modernist voice</i> , poetic experimentation, and engagement with <i>contemporary socio-political issues</i> .
Contribution	Played a crucial role in shaping <i>post-independence Malayalam poetry</i> ; integrated philosophical depth with realism.

IN BRIEF



Lucknow declared UNESCO 'Creative City of Gastronomy'

Lucknow has officially been declared a UNESCO 'Creative City of Gastronomy' during the 43rd session of the UNESCO General Conference, currently under way in Lubbock, Texas. The recognition celebrates the city's centuries-old Awadhi cuisine, living food traditions and inclusive cultural heritage. The government said it marks a milestone for the state, positioning it among the world's top gastronomic destinations and showing how food heritage can become a symbol of cultural diplomacy and sustainable tourism. Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged people from around the world to visit the city.

Centre flayed for dissolving Panjab University senate

Opposition parties, including the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the Congress, and the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), on Saturday cornered the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led central government on its decision to dissolve the senate and the syndicate of the Panjab University. The move by the Centre trampled on Punjab's hard-earned autonomy, academic freedom, and Constitutional rights, state education Minister and AAP leader Harjot Singh Bains said. The proposal was an "attempt to subvert a historic institution like Panjab University", Panjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring said.

Foundation stone laid for semiconductor unit in Odisha

The foundation stone was laid for a silicon carbide semiconductor production plant approved under the India Semiconductor Mission here on Saturday. The project entails an investment of ₹2,067 crore. IISCTech Private Limited, a subsidiary of Archem Chemical Industries Limited, will set up the facility. The estimated facility, expected to be operational by 2027-28, will have the capacity to process 60,000 sq. cm. silicon carbide wafers annually. The package approximately 96 million units, according to the company. The project is expected to create over 1,000 direct jobs, and several indirect employment opportunities.

BJP MP Tigga accuses Bengal official of bias in flood relief

A video of Bharatiya Janata Party's Alpothar MP Manoj Tigga was viral on social media on Saturday, where he was seen misbehaving with the Madarhat block Development Officer (BDO) over the distribution of flood relief materials. As controversy erupted, Mr. Tigga said that biased flood relief by the BDO and the mismanagement of the opposition triggered his reactions. In the viral video, Mr. Tigga is seen banging the BDO Amit Kumar Choudhary's table and screaming at the government official and accusing him of playing favourites with the ruling Trinamool Congress leaders and supporters. They are depriving the poor flood-affected people, he added.

SUDOKU

		1	2	6				
			7				9	2
2							1	7
3	9			1	2	7		4
4	7	3	8		2			1
9	4							3
8	7							
			6					
			8	3	1			

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku
5 6 2 3 1 9 8 7 4
3 4 9 1 8 7 5 6 2
7 8 4 5 6 3 2 9 1
4 2 7 5 3 9 6 1 8
9 5 6 8 1 2 3 4 7
1 3 8 4 7 6 9 5 2
1 7 4 3 9 8 2 5 6
2 3 8 7 6 5 1 9 4
6 9 5 4 2 1 8 7 3

Few regions in India have suffered as much pain as Bastar, and now today show as much promise. For decades, this tribal heartland of Chhattisgarh lived under the shadow of violence and isolation. Today, the conversation is changing. Farmers can reach markets, children attend school without fear, and families access welfare benefits that once seemed out of reach. This change has been made possible by joint efforts. The Centre, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has extended full support to end Maoist violence. Bastar's developmental revival is both a state and national achievement.

The return of peace was the first condition for change. Month that once carried fear now carry buses to markets. Police camps, earlier men as custodians of authority, are turning into spaces where health camps, sports events, and cultural programmes take place. It is no longer unusual to see children playing football alongside jews, or villagers gathering for ration distribution. Such human connections have broken down old walls of mistrust and weakened the influence of Maoism.

But peace is not just the absence of conflict; it is also the presence of opportunity. People measure change in terms of whether their children can study, whether their mothers can receive medical and nutritional care, and whether their own labour finds dignity. In Bastar, these aspirations are beginning to find answers. For years, the lack of schools denied tribal children the chance to imagine futures beyond survival. Now anymore. Anganwadis centres are



Vidisha Dasa, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister

Peace and development are reaching Chhattisgarh's tribal heartland, which faced Maoist violence and isolation for decades

turning again, providing food and care. Girls are studying in Rabaya Model schools and hostels. Scholarships are opening doors to colleges. Skill training in ITIs and centres across the region is preparing youth and women for dignified work. When I meet students in Bantewada or Narayanpur, their confidence speaks louder than any report. They no longer dream of leaving Bastar - they dream of shaping it. Women are at the centre of this new Bastar. Self-help groups are selling tendu leaves, tamarind, and other forest produce at fair prices. Community buses or markets are also again, linking artisans and buyers. Small businesses in food processing, tailoring, and crafts are being run with quiet determination.

Healthcare access Healthcare was once the greatest gap. Villagers often walked for days to reach a hospital. Today, sub-health centres and mobile units are reaching deep into the forest. Poshan Vatika in Bantewada and Bilaspur are spreading awareness about healthy diets. Telemedicine is linking tribal families to doctors miles away.

Electricity is illuminating lives in places where darkness once symbolised fear. On January 26, 2023, People's Day, Bilaspur's Chhatrapati village got electricity for the first time. In March 2023, villages like Timmar and Pankajura were connected, followed by Handawa in Abujmahad in April.

Access to water and connectivity has been another turning point. Jal Kranti Mission has brought tap water to villages even in the remotest

parts like Abujmahad. Roads are steadily improving, but it is digital access that has transformed the younger generation. For the first time, the Tricolour was hoisted in remote villages - a historic milestone of integration and pride.

Behind every statistic is a life. In Kordalagan, young entrepreneur Ragini Jaiswal runs a nutrition unit, ensuring meals for women and children. In Narayanpur, tribal girls trained in tailoring are supplying uniforms to schools. There are not isolated cases but part of a larger wave of self-reliance. Bastar is not waiting for outsiders to define its future; its people are leading from within. With growing stability, the region is also signalling its readiness for responsible economic investment that complements local strengths.

As Chief Minister, I see it as my responsibility to ensure that the state's role is to support and empower, while people themselves carry the dream forward. Our target of eliminating Maoist violence by March 2026 will not be achieved solely through security operations, but by expanding opportunities and welfare.

As Chhattisgarh completes 26 years, Bastar too is stepping into a new chapter. Its story - from conflict to confidence, from fear to dignity - is proof that democracy, when combined with peace and inclusive development, can heal even the deepest scars. For our State, it is the lifting of a long shadow. For the nation, it is an assurance that one of its most fragile regions is turning into a centre of strength. Bastar's peace is not only our State's achievement - it is India's gain and the success of our democracy.

Eliminating Maoism made the impossible possible: PM

inaugurating several development projects and a tribal museum in Chhattisgarh, Modi says the number of districts affected by Maoism in the country has fallen from 125 to three in past 11 years

Shubhomoy Sikdar, RAPUR

Highlighting that the number of districts affected by Maoism in the country had come down from 125 to three in the past 11 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said eliminating Maoist terrorism had made the impossible possible.

Mr. Modi was addressing a gathering at the Chhattisgarh Rajat Mahotsav, an event marking 26 years of formation of the state of Chhattisgarh. He was on a visit to the state during which he took part in various events, including the inauguration of the new Chhattisgarh Legislative building and a tribal museum, and the foundation stone laying for development projects worth over ₹4,260 crore.

During his address, the prime minister asserted that the day was not far when Chhattisgarh and the entire nation would be completely free from Maoist terrorism. Without naming anyone, he attacked his opponents and their political plank for the problem.

'Crocodile tears' 'Whatever you have endured for 50-55 years of darkness to Naxalism is what I have endured for the last 11 years,' he said. 'On the recent gains made by the Centre in the conflict zone of Maoism, Mr. Modi said many individuals in Chhattisgarh who had once taken the path of violence were now turning away from it. 'This is a challenge to Maoist terrorism that a few days ago, more than 20



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Chhattisgarh Rajat Mahotsav, organised to mark the 26th anniversary of the formation of Chhattisgarh, in two halves on Saturday, Nov

Naxalites in Kanduk returned to the mainstream, and earlier, on October 17 in Bastar, over 200 Naxalites surrendered. In recent months, many associated with Maoist terror across the country have laid down arms,' he said.

Mr. Modi urged everyone to imagine how far Chhattisgarh had progressed over the past 26 years despite the challenge of Naxalism, "and how much faster the pace will be once the challenge is fully overcome".

He said, "The total citizen engagement (physical and digital) reached over 49 lakh visitors, pushing up the number of physical visits from approximately seven lakh before the COVID-19 pandemic to over 26 lakh in 2024, data shared with The Hindu show."

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India had no role in stopping Nepali woman's travel: MHA

The Hindu Bureau, NEW DELHI

Days after a public health professional from Nepal alleged on social media that she was stopped and deported from Delhi airport by Indian officials while on her way to Germany from Kathmandu, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said it is a statement on Saturday that "Indian immigration authorities have no role to play in this entire episode". The MHA added that "the incident has been wrongly portrayed as black-and-white against Indian immigration authorities".

Earlier this week, the Nepalese citizen, Shanti Devi Adhikari, shared on Facebook that she was stopped at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport while she was transiting to Berlin to attend the World Health Summit.

"I held a Nepali passport. I was denied because I was from a small country, I was seen as a potential risk, not as a young delegate," she said.

The MHA said that the passenger arrived from Kathmandu by Air India. "It was a surprise while boarding the com-

Ministry says it was the airline's decision, considering her visa validity, to stop her journey to Berlin

necting flight of Qatar Airways. It was the airline which decided not to let her undertake her onward travel to Germany considering her visa validity and flight back to Kathmandu. This is usually undertaken in accordance with the destination country requirements, she then reached her travel dates and later travelled taking another route from Kathmandu," the MHA said.

Transit passengers It added that international transit passengers are not required to approach Indian immigration for their onward journey and this is a matter between the airlines and the passengers with absolutely no role of Indian immigration authorities.

"India values its strong relationship with Nepal and no Indian authority has any bias or discrimination against rapidly growing immigration of Nepal," the MHA said.

Rajnath stresses on open, rules-based Indo-Pacific region

Press Trust of India

India's emphasis on rule of law and freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific is not against any country, but to safeguard interests of all stakeholders, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday amid mounting global concerns over China's aggressive military posturing in the region.

In an address to a convocation of Defence Ministers of ASEAN member states and the bloc's dialogue partners in Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Singh said India believes that the Indo-Pacific should remain open, inclusive, and free from any form of "coercion". He also pitched for an approach of "collective security" to ensure sove-



Rajnath Singh

As Presidential estates welcome visitors, citizen engagement soars

Hindu Bhawan, New Delhi

To maximise access and engagement with the public, the President's Estate expanded from a single location in Delhi with the opening of its new branches in Hyderabad, Shimla, and Dehradun to the public. This resulted in a surge in visitors, pushing up the number of physical visits from approximately seven lakh before the COVID-19 pandemic to over 26 lakh in 2024, data shared with The Hindu show.

The total citizen engagement (physical and digital) reached over 49 lakh visitors, pushing up the number of physical visits from approximately seven lakh before the COVID-19 pandemic to over 26 lakh in 2024, data shared with The Hindu show."



The number of visitors to the Rashtrapati Bhawan in Delhi registered a significant rise from 21.23 lakh in 2022 to 26.14 lakh in 2023, the report said.

Office of the President of India said. The number of visitors to the main building of the Rashtrapati Bhawan in Delhi also registered a significant rise from 21.23 lakh in 2022 to 26.14 lakh in 2023, the report said. The number of visitors to the main building of the Rashtrapati Bhawan in Delhi also registered a significant rise from 21.23 lakh in 2022 to 26.14 lakh in 2023, the report said.

for public viewing for six days a week, from Tuesday to Sunday, beginning June 1, 2023, increasing capacity by 200%.

Rashtrapati Nilayam (Hyderabad) and Rashtrapati Nilayam (Shimla), were opened to the public for the first time in March 2023, and Rashtrapati Nilayam (Dehradun) was opened to the public in June 2023.

"At each estate, new attractions and thematic experiences have been added to increase capacity, and create diverse avenues for citizens' participation," the official said. With enhanced accessibility, revamped ceremonies, including the Change of Guard, visitors can engage with the historical, and institutional importance of the republic's highest office, the official added.



Lucknow declared UNESCO 'Creative City of Gastronomy'

Lucknow has officially been declared a UNESCO 'Creative City of Gastronomy' during the 43rd Session of the UNESCO General Conference, currently under way in Uzbekistan. The recognition celebrates the city's centuries-old Awadhi cuisine, living food traditions and inclusive cultural heritage. The government said it marks a milestone for the State, positioning it among the world's top gastronomic destinations and showing how food heritage can become a symbol of cultural diplomacy and sustainable tourism. Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged people from around the world to visit the city.

Lucknow has officially been declared a UNESCO Creative City of **Gastronomy** during the **43rd Session of the UNESCO General Conference** held in **Samarkand, Uzbekistan**.



Reasons for Inclusion: The recognition honors **Lucknow's rich Awadhi cuisine**, known for **kebabs, biryanis, kormas, and sheermal**, reflecting its **culinary artistry, hospitality, and cultural heritage**.

Lucknow is now the **2nd Indian city** after **Hyderabad (2019)** to achieve this distinction.



Criteria for Creative City of Gastronomy: A city must have

A rich culinary heritage, traditional ingredients and skills,

Promote **sustainability and food education**,

Foster **community participation and cultural exchange** through food,etc.

- 
- **UCCN Network:** The **UCCN** comprises **408 cities from over 100 countries**.
 - For the **first time**, the **UCCN** welcomes **Creative Cities of Architecture** — a **new creative field** in addition to the seven existing ones: **Crafts and Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts, and Music**.
 - **Indian Cities in UCCN:** India now has **9 cities**, including **Lucknow**, recognized under the **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**.

City	Category	
Jaipur	Crafts and Folk Art	2015
Varanasi	Music	2015
Chennai	Music	2017
Mumbai	Film	2019
Hyderabad	Gastronomy	2019
Srinagar	Crafts and Folk Art	2021
Gwalior	Music	2023
Kozhikode	Literature	2023
Lucknow	Gastronomy	2025

Strange spider web 'decor' revealed to boost prey detection

The Hindu Bureau

A new study in *PLoS One* has revealed that the mysterious silk decorations in some spider webs may be sophisticated tuning devices that enhance the spider's ability to locate its next meal by controlling how vibrations travel through the web.

For centuries, the thick, zigzag patterns of silk, known as stabilimenta, spider webs don't always build common garden spiders and other species, have been a

matter of debate. Some scientists proposed that they act as a visual lure, reflecting UV light to attract unsuspecting insects. Others suggested they serve to camouflage the web, making it harder for birds to accidentally destroy the web or perhaps as camouflage to conceal the spider lying in wait.

The evidence for these ideas has often been contradictory, and the fact that spiders don't always build them has only deepened the mystery.

The authors of the new study, from Denmark, Italy, Sweden, and the U.K., identified a crucial gap: spiders are masters at sensing vibrations, yet scientists hadn't explored how the stabilimenta might affect how vibrations travel through the web.

"Negligible effect" The researchers first observed and categorised the various shapes of stabilimenta shapes built by the orb-weaver spider, *Argiope bruennichi*. Then, they

used this real-world data to create sophisticated computational models of spider webs, simulating prey getting trapped at various points and analysing how the resulting vibrations travelled to the centre.

The simulation revealed that for vibrations travelling directly towards the spider along the web's base or moving perpendicular to the web plane, the stabilimenta had a negligible effect on signal travel time. But for vibrations that moved sideways along the

web's threads, they made a big difference. In webs with a stabilimenta, these vibrations were able to reach many more out-put points at the web's centre. This suggested the "decoration" enhanced the spider's ability to quickly locate its prey.

For the study, the findings have many implications for biology and for engineering. Among biologists, the newly understood role of the vibrations that explain the complex ba-

lance spiders need to strike between the need to detect prey and the risk of being detected by predators. Engineers could add simple geometric features to control the flow of wave energy in materials of the future.

Biogenic structures that can dampen unwanted noise, highly sensitive acoustic sensors that can pinpoint a sound's origin, and advanced protective gear that efficiently guides the force of an impact away from the body.

SNAPSHOTS

Humans threaten Kilimanjaro more than climate

A new study on Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro has found that the biggest threat to its biodiversity isn't climate change but adverse human activity. After analysing 100+ years of data, researchers found that the expanding human population on the lower slopes turned savannah into farms and towns, resulting in a staggering 75% loss of native plant species since 1900. The study suggested creating protected nature reserves and restoring traditional, multi-layered agroforestry systems could protect the remaining ecosystem.



Discarded cigarette butts can foster superbugs

Discarded cigarette butts are breeding grounds for drug-resistant bacteria, per new research. Cigarette filters in urban parks were found to contain more potential pathogens and antibiotic resistance genes compared to soil or plant litter. The plastic filters are perfect homes for microbes from smokers' mouths and the environment, and the toxic environment on the butt helps select for the toughest, most-resistant bacteria. These bacteria can easily share their resistance genes with other bacteria, making them harder to kill.



'Activated' gold nanoparticles may fight obesity

Scientists have found that when gold nanoparticles are injected into fat tissue and jolted with ultrasound, gentle heat from the particles helps convert energy-storing white fat into energy-burning brown fat. The particles also released nitric oxide gas, which reduced harmful inflammation and asked the enzymes to clean up damaging molecules and reduce stress in fat cells. In mice, this reduced body fat by 60% and relieved type 2 diabetes and high cholesterol.

Question Corner Swept along

Why can't we feel the earth moving?

We don't feel the earth moving even though it's spinning on its axis and racing around the Sun because everything around us is moving with it at the same constant speed. The earth rotates once every 24 hours, which means that at the equator we're actually moving at about 1,600 km/hr. It also travels around the sun at about 1,072,000 km/hr. But since the motion is smooth and constant, there's no change in speed or direction that our bodies can sense. Our inner ears and bodies detect motion only when there's acceleration, such as when a car starts, stops or turns. When a car moves steadily on a smooth highway, you can't feel the motion unless you look outside. The same idea applies to the earth's motion. We move with the planet, the air, the oceans, and everything else on it. We also can't see the motion directly because distant stars and the sun appear fixed from our perspective. It's only through scientific observation, like watching the stars rise and set or measuring time differences, that we know the earth is in motion.

Images may need their captions / answers to questions may be in a box

Scientists detect brain response to rhythm in preterm babies

Researchers using near-infrared brain imaging found that rhythmic sounds activate both auditory and motor regions in premature infants, indicating that rhythm processing begins before birth and helps wire early pathways for learning

Anitha Mahalingam

Scientists have long wondered when sense of rhythm first takes shape in the developing brain. It's been a difficult question to answer because studying this in fetuses is almost impossible. But when instead scientists turned to premature newborns, whose brains are at roughly the same stage as fetuses in the final weeks of gestation, they found a surprise.

According to a new study in *Science*, when these preterm infants hear rhythmic sounds, their brains light up not only in areas that process hearing but also in regions involved in movement, hinting that the connection between sound and motion begins earlier than anyone had confirmed before.

"Auditory rhythm processing begins very early in development," the study's corresponding author, Sarah Moghimi, a researcher at the University of Picardy Jules Verne in France, said. "Even before the third trimester, the auditory system becomes functional and starts encoding external sounds."

The researchers used a noninvasive imaging method called functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) to record brain activity in premature infants while they slept. The babies were around 36 weeks of gestational age. They were exposed to sequences of rhythmic and irregular sounds. The team found that rhythmic

Let the beat drop

Rhythmic sounds activate more of the brain than expected in preterm babies

Researchers used functional near-infrared spectroscopy to record brain activity in premature infants as they slept. See L1 p. 10

■ Rhythmic sounds activate both hearing and movement areas in the brain

■ This suggests the brain begins linking sound and motion weeks before birth, earlier than previously confirmed

■ Using fNIRS imaging, researchers observed stronger brain responses to regular beats than irregular sounds

sounds activated the baby's hearing area as well as those areas that plan movement.

"The brain is already responding to rhythm much before birth — the same ability that later helps shape language and social communication," Dr. Moghimi said. Rhythmic sounds also activated more of the brain than expected. The areas that plan and control movement responded more strongly to regular beats, suggesting the brain had already begun linking sound and movement in preparation for the synchrony that researchers know emerges months later.

Even without the beats, a focus in a sound is already immersed in rhythm from the steady pulse of the mother's heartbeat to the cadence of her voice.



■ Exposure to rhythmic sounds may help wire the fetal brain, strengthening learning and coordination networks early on

■ Experts say rhythm perception likely arises from pre-wiring neural circuitry, tuning long before and inside systems

■ The findings imply rhythm is fundamental to building tools for learning and communication, forming even before birth

the study's authors reasoned that this exposure may be helping wire the baby's auditory system and build the brain's sense of timing.

"Exposure to auditory rhythms may be important for the development of other brain regions beyond hearing areas," Dr. Moghimi said. The observation is truly exciting," said Anitha Mahalingam, who studies autism at the University of Montreal in Canada. He said research has already shown that newborns only weeks old can detect constant rhythmic patterns and that infants a few months later are able to sense the differences between beats such as a march or a waltz when rhythmically moved to music.

What makes the new study distinctive, he said, is that it captures this coordination before birth, when the motor system is only beginning to mature. He added that the work reinforced the idea in rhythm research that the motor system isn't just something that moves after we learn to hear but an active partner in shaping perception from the beginning.

Edward Large, who studies auditory neuroscience at the University of Connecticut in the US, said the findings strengthen evidence that the brain's rhythm circuits are active long before voluntary movement appears. However, he also said that the imaging method used in the study (fNIRS) is too slow to track the rapid brain waves that underlie rhythm perception.

Even so, he added, the results fit with a growing view that rhythm perception also leads to cancer. The much-lauded Mediterranean diet is cited to be very good, although the use of fish, chicken, and red wine is 20% of the Mediterranean region. None that vegetarian or vegan diets, which exclude any animal-based diets, also have lower greenhouse gas emissions. While vegans use milk and occasionally eggs, vegetarians strictly avoid even milk, which is an animal product.

Situation in India Turning to India, about 35% of the people are vegetarians, and the rest eat meat. The proportion of animal products (including meat, fish, and eggs) consumed here is estimated to be about 35% of the total diet. The researchers were able to associate a higher adherence to a healthy plant-based diet with a lower risk of cancer and cardiovascular diseases (including hypertension, stroke, heart attack, and type 2 diabetes).

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Plant-based foods reduce the burden of cancer, diabetes



SEPARATING THE
D. Balasubramanian

A report in July 2024 by V. Viallon and coauthors in *Scientific Reports* 14, 16320 discussed the use of a healthy lifestyle index (HLI) to investigate prospective disease outcomes. The authors studied how individual lifestyles were associated with disease outcomes. They used data from the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) and the risk of diseases like type 2 diabetes, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases, causing premature death. Some of these lifestyles also involved unhealthy practices like smoking, excess alcohol consumption, dietary ha-

bits, adiposity (excess fat in the body), and excessive sleep.

In the same vein, a paper by Reynaldo Cordero of Spain and coauthors from Denmark, South Korea, Northern Ireland (U.K.), and Denmark, titled "Plant-based dietary patterns and age-specific risk of multimorbidity of cancer and cardiometabolic diseases: a prospective analysis" appeared in the August 2025 issue of *The Lancet - Healthy Life*.

The researchers examined data of about 2.3 lakh individuals with such multimorbidity cancer from the EPIC data bank and 1.6 lakh individuals from the UK Biobank. Based on analysing this data, they pointed out the crucial role and

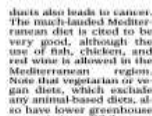


About 35% of Indians are vegetarians; they use fewer animal products and many vegetables in their daily food. See L1 p. 10

mechanism of insulin resistance in metabolic disease. Upon comparison of specific cohorts of people aged 35-70 and/or with characteristics such as excess weight, the researchers concluded that a healthy plant-based diet might reduce the burden of multimorbidity of cancer and cardiometabolic diseases.

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mechanism of insulin resistance in metabolic disease. Upon comparison of specific cohorts of people aged 35-70 and/or with characteristics such as excess weight, the researchers concluded that a healthy plant-based diet might reduce the burden of multimorbidity of cancer and cardiometabolic diseases.

The study also reported evidence of how plant-based diets are also linked to a lower risk of cancer and cardiovascular diseases (including hypertension, stroke, heart attack, and type 2 diabetes).

The use of tobacco products also leads to cancer. The researchers were able to associate a higher adherence to a healthy plant-based diet with a lower risk of cancer and cardiovascular diseases (including hypertension, stroke, heart attack, and type 2 diabetes).

Plant-based foods reduce the burden of cancer, diabetes



**SPEAKING OF
SCIENCE**

D. Balasubramanian

A report in July 2024 by V. Viallon and coauthors (*Scientific Reports* 14, 16330) discussed the use of a healthy lifestyle index (HLI) to investigate specific disease outcomes. The authors studied how individual lifestyles were associated with disease outcomes. They used data from the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) and the risk of diseases like type 2 diabetes, cancer, and cardiovascular disorders, causing premature death. Some of these lifestyles also involved unhealthy practices like smoking, excess alcohol consumption, dietary ha-

bits, adiposity (excess fat in the body), and excessive sleep.

In the same vein, a paper by Reynaldo Cordova of Spain and coauthors from Denmark, South Korea, Northern Ireland-U.K., and Denmark, titled 'Plant-based dietary patterns and age-specific risk of multimorbidity of cancer and cardiometabolic diseases: a prospective analysis' appeared in the August 2025 issue of *The Lancet - Healthy Longevity*. The term 'multimorbidity' refers to the presence of two or more long-term (chronic) health conditions in a single person.

The researchers examined data of about 2.3 lakh individuals with such multimorbid cancer from the EPIC data bank and 1.81 lakh individuals from the UK Biobank. Based on analysing this data, they pointed out the crucial role and



About 35% Indians are vegetarians; they use foodgrains and many vegetables in their daily food. DAN GOLD/UNSPLASH

mechanism of insulin resistance in metabolic disease. Upon comparing specific cohorts of people aged 35-70 and/or with characteristics such as certain dietary habits, the researchers concluded that a healthy plant-based diet might reduce the burden of multimorbidity of cancer and cardiometabolic diseases.

The study also reported evidence of how plant-based diets are also envi-

ronmentally more sustainable than diets with a higher proportion of animal products (including meat, fish, and eggs).

The researchers were able to associate a higher adherence to a healthy plant-based diet with a lower risk of cancer and cardiovascular diseases (including hypertension, stroke, heart attack, and type 2 diabetes).

The use of tobacco pro-

ducts also leads to cancer. The much-lauded Mediterranean diet is cited to be very good, although the use of fish, chicken, and red wine is allowed in the Mediterranean region. Note that vegetarian or vegan diets, which exclude any animal-based diets, also have lower greenhouse gas emissions. While vegetarians use milk and occasionally some eggs, vegans strictly avoid even milk, which is an animal product.

Situation in India

Turning to India, about 35% of the people are vegetarians; they use foodgrains and many vegetables in their daily food, as well as milk; some of them use eggs as well. About 10% are vegans, who don't even use milk.

The presence of two or more long-term (chronic) health conditions in an in-

dividual is worrisome. It is estimated that 16.4% of the urban population is diabetic, while 8% of rural people are pre-diabetic. About 26% of urban Indian men and women are insulin-resistant with metabolic disorders. Unfortunately, about 29% of them smoke bidis, cigarettes, and hookah, and the tobacco in them causes cancer. The rural population doesn't only smoke: many of its members also chew betel nuts, an excess of which can lead to oral cancer. Those over 60 years of age account for 13% of people with diabetes and further suffer from age-related disorders such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

It is high time that our medical community, society, political leaders, and State and Central governments take note of this alarming situation and find ways to overcome it.

Aspect	Details
Primary Study	V. Viallon et al., <i>Scientific Reports</i> (July 2024)
Follow-up Study	Reynaldo Cordova et al., <i>The Lancet – Healthy Longevity</i> (Aug 2025)
Countries Covered	Denmark, South Korea, Spain, Northern Ireland (U.K.)
Data Sources	EPIC (European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition) and UK Biobank
Sample Size	2.3 lakh (EPIC) + 1.81 lakh (UK Biobank)

-
- **Healthy Lifestyle Index (HLI)** examined link between lifestyle & chronic diseases.
 - Plant-based diets significantly **reduce multimorbidity** — i.e., the presence of *two or more chronic diseases* (cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease) in one person.
 - Mechanism:
 - Improved **insulin sensitivity**
 - Reduced **body fat** and **oxidative stress**
 - Lowered **cholesterol & inflammation**

Health Benefit

-  **Improves insulin resistance**
-  **Protects cardiovascular system**
-  **Reduces cancer risk**
-  **Environmentally sustainable**

Explanation

- Prevents Type-2 diabetes and obesity
- Reduces risk of hypertension, stroke, and heart attack
- Lowers exposure to carcinogenic compounds and improves metabolism
- Less greenhouse gas emissions than meat-based diets

- **Situation in India**
- 🖐️ **Tobacco and betel nut chewing** worsen oral & throat cancer rates.

Indicator	Data
% Vegetarians	~35% of population
% Vegans	~10%
Diabetes prevalence (Urban)	16.4% diabetic, 8% pre-diabetic
Insulin Resistance	26% of urban Indians
Tobacco use	29% adults (smoking + chewing)
Elderly (60+) with chronic diseases	13% with diabetes, many with dementia or Alzheimer's

- **Public Health Implication**

- Chronic diseases (non-communicable diseases) form **major health burden** in India.
- Need for policy interventions:
 - Promote plant-based & low-processed diets
 - Regulate tobacco, alcohol, and junk food
 - Strengthen awareness through National Health Mission (NHM)

U.S. STAMPEDE
'Crowd control norms
soon in temples'
SOUTH • PAGE 5

PM's CAMPAIGN
Jobs will be
brought to
Bihar only by
NDA: Modi
NORTH • PAGE 5

INCIDENT IN U.S. TRAIN
Two held over mass
stabbing attack
WORLD • PAGE 14

EXPLAINING THIS
Engage the
Taliban, don't
recognise them
India should adopt a
long-term approach
EDITORIAL • PAGE 5

DETE. HARRIS
'U.S., China plan direct
military channels'
WORLD • PAGE 14

INSIDE

U.S. may attack to
save Christians in
Nigeria: Trump

WEST PALM BEACH
U.S. President Donald Trump threatened on Sunday to send the military into Nigeria to "give a message" to the militant Islamist country that it was not what he described as the killing of Christians by Muslims. He said he would be asking the Pentagon to keep such a possible plan of attack in mind.

15 people killed as van
crashes into trailer truck

RAIPUR
At least 15 people were killed and 100 injured when a van carrying devotees collided with a stationary trailer truck in Phulki of Bhopal on Sunday. The victims, including 10 teenagers, were in a bus that was returning from the Rajmahal temple in Bhopal after offering prayers at the Rajmahal temple.

Battling floods,
Kharagpur voters
demand change

KHARAGPUR
Flooded by heavy rains, and battling floods frequently, Kharagpur is asking for a change in the way the Assembly constituency, which is a high, is being run. It is asking for a change in the way the Assembly constituency is being run. It is asking for a change in the way the Assembly constituency is being run.

Barring MP, Leh has
no elected
representatives

LEH
No Leh district in Ladakh region to have any elected representatives from October 15, elections to the local body. The district is being run by the central government. The district is being run by the central government.

Indian women script history, win World Cup

Harmangeet Kaur's rampaging women defeat South Africans by 52 runs in dominant fashion

The victory in today's final is testimony to the progress made by this Indian women's squad

Shafiq Verma makes a sensational comeback, with a 50, two wickets to seal the coronation



Indian women's cricket team celebrate after winning the ICC Women's World Cup final 52-run victory over South Africa, at the Centurion Cricket Ground, on Sunday.

ANANDA L. KARTHIK

Indian women created history before a packed ICC World Cup final on Sunday, winning the Women's ODI World Cup defeating South Africa by 52 runs. It was a momentous day for the Indian women's team, who had been playing against Australia on the same day. The victory was a testament to the progress made by this Indian women's squad.

Steady progress
In the eight years since, the team has made significant progress. The team has been playing in the top tier of international cricket, and has been a consistent performer in the Women's Premier League.

Shafiq Verma
Shafiq Verma made a sensational comeback, with a 50, two wickets to seal the coronation.

Shafiq Verma
Shafiq Verma made a sensational comeback, with a 50, two wickets to seal the coronation.

India's run was far
from perfect, with
three losses in the
group stage

India's run was far from perfect, with three losses in the group stage. The team's performance in the group stage was not as strong as in the final.

Meeting of parties from Tamil Nadu decides to move the SC against SIR

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

A meeting of various parties in Tamil Nadu, chaired by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, decided to approach the Supreme Court against the Siruvani Irrigation Project. The meeting was held in Chennai on Sunday.



Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Tamil Nadu, addressing a meeting on Sunday.

A resolution adopted
at the meeting said
the SIR should be
held after the
elections are
concluded

The meeting decided to approach the Supreme Court against the Siruvani Irrigation Project. The meeting was held in Chennai on Sunday.

The meeting decided to approach the Supreme Court against the Siruvani Irrigation Project. The meeting was held in Chennai on Sunday.

ISRO launches advanced GSAT-7R, India's heaviest communication satellite

Sourabh Jyoti

CHENNAI

The Indian Space Research Organisation on Sunday successfully launched the heaviest communication satellite, GSAT-7R, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

GSAT-7R
GSAT-7R is the heaviest communication satellite launched by ISRO. It is the heaviest communication satellite launched by ISRO.

GSAT-7R
GSAT-7R is the heaviest communication satellite launched by ISRO. It is the heaviest communication satellite launched by ISRO.



GSAT-7R satellite being launched by a rocket.

GSAT-7R is the heaviest communication satellite launched by ISRO. It is the heaviest communication satellite launched by ISRO.

Indian women script history, win World Cup

Harmanpreet Kaur's rampaging women defeat South Africans by 52 runs in dominant fashion

The victory in today's final is testimony to the progress made by this Indian women's squad

Shafali Verma makes a sensational comeback, with a 50, two wickets to seal the coronation



Exultation: India's players celebrate after winning the ICC Women's World Cup final ODI cricket match between India and South Africa, at the DY Patil Stadium, in Navi Mumbai, on Sunday. PTI

Lavanya L.
NAVI MUMBAI

Indian women created history before a packed D.Y. Patil Stadium here on Sunday, winning the Women's ODI World Cup defeating South Africa by 52 runs.

If the team's astounding run to the final in 2017, slaying giant Australia en route, is often cited as the cornerstone of a revolution, the maiden championship win is the fulfilment of a gritty effort to match promise with performance.

Steady progress

In the eight years since, progress was agonisingly slow but steady. India's ambitions to dominate world cricket slowly made room for the women.

Parity in match fees, more fixtures, and the lucrative Women's Premier League helped India rub

shoulders with Australia and England.

At the D.Y. Patil Stadium, with trailblazers like Diana Edulji, Mithali Raj, and Jhulan Goswami in attendance, India – with a squad featuring veterans pining for victory and youngsters eager to succeed – clinched its maiden world crown.

Roller-coaster run

A roller-coaster run for the home side in the tournament saw different members come in the clutch. If youngsters Amanjot Kaur and Richa Ghosh bailed India out early on, seniors Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, and Deepthi Sharma helped traverse the ravines of knockout cricket. Destiny's child Shafali Verma scripted a sensational comeback story, with a half-century and two key wickets in the final to seal India's coronation.

Harmanpreet Kaur and

India's run was far from perfect, with three losses to the other semifinalists in the league stage

team are often held to the standards set by that 2017 campaign.

Its run now was far from perfect, with three losses to the other semifinalists in the league stage. But as the captain admitted before the summit clash, only the big picture mattered – what a win could do for a side that always buckled and fell short of the podium.

"We know how it feels to lose. We look forward to seeing how it feels to win," Harmanpreet said.

Her team and the billion Indian hearts they carry with them now know.

RELATED REPORTS ON

» **PAGE 16**

- **Origin and History:**
- **First held:** 1973 in England — two years before the first men's World Cup.
- **Initially organized by:** International Women's Cricket Council (till 2005).
- **Format:** Round-robin and knockout stages, featuring top women's cricketing nations.
- **Dominant teams:** Australia (7 titles), England (4), New Zealand (1), India (1 – 2025).
- **India's hosting years:** 1978, 1997, 2013, and 2025(along with Sri Lanka).

ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup 2025 Highlights:

Category	Details
Host Nation	India and Sri Lanka
Venue (Final)	Dr. DY Patil Stadium , Navi Mumbai
Winner	India (First-ever title)
Runner-up	South Africa
Margin of Victory	India won by 52 runs
Player of the Match	Shafali Verma
Player of the Series	Deepti Sharma
Captain (India)	Harmanpreet Kaur
Captain (South Africa)	Laura Wolvaardt

ISRO launches advanced GSAT-7R, India's heaviest communication satellite

Saurabh Trivedi
Vasudevan Mukunth
NEW DELHI/CHENNAI

The Indian Space Research Organisation on Sunday successfully launched the Indian Navy's advanced communication satellite GSAT-7R (CMS-03) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

The indigenously designed and developed satellite, weighing approximately 4,400 kg, is India's heaviest communication satellite to date and marks a major milestone in strengthening the Navy's space-based communications and maritime domain awareness.

The ISRO launched the rocket aboard its most powerful launch vehicle, the LVM3, on its M5 mission. The lift-off took place at about 5.26 p.m. from the second launch pad, and mission control soon confirmed that the satellite had been successfully inserted into a geosynchronous transfer orbit (GTO).

This is the heaviest Indian-built communications satellite launched from Indian soil so far. Because of the high mass of the GSAT-7R, the launch vehicle targeted a standard GTO; once there, the satellite will raise and circularise its orbit using its on-board propulsion systems.

Boost to self-reliance

The Navy said that equipped with state-of-the-art indigenous components, the GSAT-7R would provide robust and secure telecommunication coverage across the Indian Ocean Region. Its advanced payload features transponders supporting



LVM3-M5 lifts off carrying the GSAT-7R communication satellite from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Sunday. X/@ISRO

voice, data, and video links over multiple communication bands, ensuring seamless connectivity between the Navy's ships, submarines, aircraft, and Maritime Operations Centres.

The launch highlights India's growing self-reliance in space technology and the Navy's commitment to safeguarding national maritime interests, it said.

It stands as a testament to Aatmanirbhar Bharat, enabling the armed forces to operate with enhanced situational awareness and secure, high-capacity communication links in complex maritime environments, it added.

The launch also demonstrated the capacity of the

LVM3 rocket to routinely handle four-tonne-plus satellites to GTO from India, reducing dependence on foreign launchers for heavy communications satellites as well as feeding directly into ISRO's preparations for Gaganyaan, its maiden human spaceflight programme, which plans to use an evolved LVM3 variant.

"ISRO has successfully launched the heaviest GEO communication satellite from Indian soil," ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan posted on X following the successful launch. "The Indian space sector is soaring high to provide valuable services to the user community in and around the Indian region," he added.

Aspect	Details
Launched by	ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)
Date of Launch	Sunday (from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota)
Mission	LVM3-M5 — India's most powerful rocket
Satellite Name	GSAT-7R (CMS-03)
Weight	≈ 4,400 kg — <i>India's heaviest communication satellite</i>
Orbit	Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO)
User Agency	Indian Navy
Mission Type	Communication & Maritime Domain Awareness

- **Objective & Significance**

- Designed to **strengthen the Indian Navy's space-based communication network**.
- Ensures **secure, high-capacity communication links** for:
 - Naval ships, submarines, aircraft, and Maritime Operations Centres (MOCs).
- Improves **situational awareness** and **network-centric warfare** capability.
- Supports India's goal of **Atmanirbhar Bharat** (self-reliance in defence tech).

Feature	Description
Type	Advanced military communication satellite
Mass	4,400 kg
Payload	High-capacity transponders (voice, data, and video links)
Orbit Type	Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO)
Launch Vehicle	LVM3 (Mark-3) — ISRO's most powerful rocket
Indigenous Components	Fully Indian-made — step towards reducing foreign dependence

Feature	Details
Full Name	Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3)
Nickname	“Bahubali Rocket”
Payload Capacity	4+ tonnes to GTO
Notable Missions	Chandrayaan-2, Chandrayaan-3, Gaganyaan prep
Significance	Capable of carrying large payloads for strategic defence and commercial purposes

IN BRIEF



PM to launch ₹1 lakh cr. fund at science conclave today

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch a ₹1 lakh crore fund on Monday to promote private sector-driven investments in research and development, as he inaugurates the first Emerging Science and Technology Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2025 in the capital. ESTIC has been described as a flagship government event in the field of science and technology and will be held annually. The three-day conclave will bring together more than 3,000 participants from several sectors, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement on Sunday. Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said ESTIC would align innovation with national goals.

7 militants linked to various outfits arrested in Manipur

Seven militants linked to various banned outfits were arrested from Imphal East, Imphal West, Bishnupur, and Kakching districts, police said on Sunday. Security forces apprehended two cadres of the banned People's Liberation Army (PLA) from Imphal West on Saturday. A 32 pistol with a loaded magazine, an IED, and a detonator were recovered from them, officials said. On Sunday, a juvenile and two active PLA cadres were detained from different areas in Imphal East and Imphal West. A PREDAK militant was arrested from his residence in Bwaketih, Imphal West, while another cadre of the outfit was held from Thanga Chingha Khwarapam in Bishnupur district on Saturday, police added. A Kangleipak Communist Party (PKP) militant involved in extortion was also arrested from Koro Khongnang Khong area in Imphal West on Friday.

Experts join hands for Ramsar site tag for wetlands in Assam sanctuary

Rahul Karmakar,
GUWAHATI

Conservationists, wildlife officials, academics, and students have got together to push for the Ramsar site tag for two internationally important wetlands in central Assam's Nagaon district.

The Rowan-Dandawa wetland complex in within the 70.12 sq. km Lakhowa Wildlife Sanctuary, which is a part of the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. This complex has been recording more birds than the only two Ramsar sites in the northeast - Assam's Doober Beel and Manikur's Lokat Lake.

A Ramsar site is a wetland designated as one of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental



Joint initiative: Birds at the Rowan-Dandawa Wetland Complex in central Assam's Nagaon district. (SPIC/ANANDKUMAR)

treaty signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971.

"Lakhowa and the adjoining Barhachapuri Wildlife Sanctuaries function as connectivity corridors for wild animals migrating between the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and Orang National Park (Orang landscape)," said So-

Barring MP, Leh now has no elected representatives

The five-year term of the hill council came to an end on October 31 and fresh elections may be held only after talks between civil society groups and Union Home Ministry take a decisive turn

Vidya Singh
NEW DELHI

A Leh district in Ladakh ceases to have any elected representatives from October 31, with the five-year term of the hill council coming to an end, elections to the local body are likely to be held only after ongoing talks between civil society groups and the Centre take a decisive turn, officials said. Ladakh MP Mehraj Hansela is now its only representative.

On October 22, a month after four people were killed in police action against protesters seeking Statehood, the civil society groups - Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) - representing the two districts in Ladakh - resumed talks on the region's status with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

The groups were asked by the government to prepare a draft framework including a road map for constitutional safeguards for Ladakh. Though the hill council's functions are yet to be announced, the LAB and KDA have taken the help of legal experts to argue their case for self-governance, including inclusion under the Sixth Schedule



Delay in elections: The election to the 30-member LAHDC, Leh was held in 2020. (PII PHOTO)

of the Constitution (tribal status) and Scheduled Tribes. It also highlighted the need for implementation of the LAB and KDA are drafting a memorandum and would share notes to present a common proposal," said Sajid Kar-gil of the KDA.

Special provisions At the October 22 meeting, MHA officials indicated to the two groups that special provisions guaranteed under Article 371 of the Constitution can be considered for Ladakh.

The order delegated the hill council's functions to the Deputy Commissioner until a new council is constituted following fresh elections. The new district was announced in 2024 and

women's reservation was notified on June 3 this year.

Detrimental effect Ronchok Stanjin, former councillor of Chushul along China border, said barring an MP, there were no public representatives in Leh. "This is particularly detrimental to people living in the region bordering China. If they have an issue, they will have to come to the district headquarters in Leh city, hundreds of kilometres away. Most people do not have the resources for that. As a councillor, I need to take care of their demands for connectivity, education, health, and livelihood, among others," Mr. Stanjin told *The Hindu*.

He said the hill council is empowered to take decisions on 40 functions and 400 sub-functions, but a development fund of ₹1.5 crore.

The election to the 30-member LAHDC, Leh was last held in 2020, with the MP winning 16 seats and the Congress nine. Four councillors are nominated by the Lieutenant Governor.

The LAHDC for Kargil district was constituted in 2023 and its term will come to an end in 2026.

For 2025, the Leh hill council was allocated ₹255 crore by the MHA.

ICMR seeks partners to develop antibody against Nipah virus

Hindu Shajan Perappan
NEW DELHI

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has invited expression of interest (EOI) from eligible organisations, companies, and manufacturers for the development and production of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) against Nipah viral disease.

The Nipah virus (NV) has emerged as a major zoonotic threat in India, with repeated outbreaks recorded since 2001. Case fatality rates range between 40% and 75%, depending on the level of clinical care available.

"The importance of having monoclonal antibody stocks ready for deployment in India cannot be overstated, given the very high case fatality and absence of licensed vaccines, mAbs represent the only currently feasible biomedical countermeasures," the ICMR said.

Antibodies serve as PEP It added that monoclonal antibodies could also serve as post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for high-risk contacts such as health-care workers exposed without adequate protection, family members in close contact, or laboratory personnel with accidental exposure. Administered early, they can prevent dis-

ease onset, as demonstrated in animal models.

The council further noted that in patients presenting early during infection, monoclonal antibodies may offer therapeutic benefit by reducing viral load and limiting disease progression.

The ICMR said this initiative aims to build India's indigenous medical countermeasures against Nipah.

The Nipah virus (NV) has emerged as a major zoonotic threat in India, with repeated outbreaks recorded since 2001. Case fatality rates range between 40% and 75%, depending on the level of clinical care available.

"The importance of having monoclonal antibody stocks ready for deployment in India cannot be overstated, given the very high case fatality and absence of licensed vaccines, mAbs represent the only currently feasible biomedical countermeasures," the ICMR said.

As per the latest order, the ICMR and its institutes will provide expert guidance and technical support in R&D for developing monoclonal antibodies against Nipah viral disease at all phases. "This technical oversight by ICMR will accelerate the development of the product and its commercialisation," it said.

Tri-services exercise Trishul begins today, to strengthen joint combat preparedness

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The tri-services exercise Trishul will commence on Monday, with the Indian Navy leading the large-scale exercise, alongside the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force across the creek and desert sectors of Rajasthan and Gujarat, extending into the northern Arabian Sea.

The 12-day exercise is being coordinated by the Western Naval Command.

According to the Navy, the tri-services exercise participating in the exercise include the Army Southern Command, Western Naval Command, and South Western Air Command, supported by the Indian

20,000 troops, tanks, helicopters, fighter aircraft, frigates, and destroyers will take part in the exercise.

Coast Guard, Border Security Force, and other Central agencies, underscoring robust inter-agency coordination in a multi-domain integration.

Boost interoperability More than 20,000 troops, supported by T-90 and Arjun tanks, attack helicopters, missile systems, Rafale and Sukhoi-30MKI fighters, as well as a fleet of frigates and destroyers, will take part in the exercise, said sources. The exercise aims

to validate joint operational procedures, enhance interoperability, and strengthen network integration among the services.

It will feature extensive maritime operations, including amphibious landings using *INS Jaladisha* and Landing Craft Utility vessels, alongside carrier operations and air-sea coordination missions with the Air Force, the Navy added.

A key focus of Trishul, 2025, is to foster confidence, intelligence, and reconnaissance, electronic warfare, and cyber warfare operations.

The drills will also emphasise the use of indigenous systems and refine strategies to meet emerging security challenges.

Elephant dies after being hit by train in Odisha

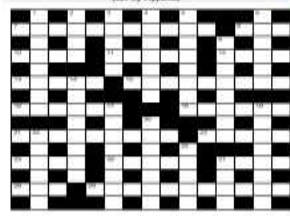
Press Trust of India,
CUTTACK

A 25-year-old tusker died after being hit by a train at Agra level crossings under dense forest range in Odisha, forest officials said on Sunday.

The incident occurred around 11.50 p.m. on Saturday when the Shalimar Baripada Express train crossed the Agra railway station.

Baripada Divisional Forest Officer Girdhar Chandra Nayak visited the spot on Sunday and said the carcass had been sent for an autopsy. An investigation is under way, he added.

Local people said the elephant could not run away as the level crossing gate was closed.

THE CROSSWORD 14629
(set by Hippo)

- Across**
- One in long run even marks time for milestone (13)
 - Active engagement for a musician from East or West (3)
 - Expected follow from back row (14)

- Down**
- Time in seconds that man had to crack cryptic clue (8)
 - Ten, ultimately hedged by reversing bleak judgment (4)
 - Tourism not uniform's a lot (4)
 - Hairy accepted some introducing most primitive (17)
 - Central printer I originally suspected (8)
 - Robust shaggy irrational judge (9)
 - Overlooked hat worn by bear cutting pit of red flower (8)
 - Say, boring local's pessimistic (9)
 - Secretly trafficked note taken for money held closely (9)
 - Winks their help to regularly set up work in theatre (8)
 - Oriental rug hosted in cycles (7)
 - Rat, perhaps climbing up plate (6)
 - Drunk stranger dropped in theatre (13)
 - Skiffed person badly tonight up (6)

SUDOKU
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

2	3	4		1				
				1	6	8	3	
1	6		5		2	9	8	
	8	7		2				
4		8	9				1	
9	7	4	1					
	5			4	8	2		

7	9	5	1	2	6	3	4	8
6	1	8	4	3	5	9	2	
3	9	2	1	8	7	4		
1	6	5	2	9	8			
4		8	9				1	
9	7	4	1					
	5			4	8	2		

FAITH
Acharya's divine outlook

A guru is a friend, guide and exemplar reimagined. One of the best examples of this is Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Swami, popularly known as Maha Periyava, the 18th Pontiff of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Math. A saint who is an example of high standards through his personal life, he also brought into limelight the (lost) glory of Changanachari Chozhuparam and pioneered the Aippas Pournami annual abhishekam to the lingam at the famous Brahadeswara temple, said Damodhara Desikathurai.

It was Maha Periyava who three light on the centuries-old temple, built by the great Chola ruler, Rajaraja Chola in 1036 AD, after his victorious conquest of north India. The king consecrated the deity with water carried from the Ganga by the rulers defeated by him. A number of poets have sung on the glory of this temple. After three centuries of glorious reign, during which time this temple was a pivot, it fell into obscurity. When the war with the Moghuls reached near Kanchi in 1686, the 18th and 19th Pontiffs of the Math left the place, in search of a safe spot and chose to camp in Thanjavur, under the patronage of Usayapalayam zamindar. The Math functioned, thanks to funds from the Brahadeswara temple. Maha Periyava felt the decline itself had to be repaired. With unswerving belief the foremost charitable deed, he initiated the massive annual abhishekam for the huge idol at this temple, with the great distributed to one and all. Maha Periyava merely sought the holy ash as prasadam from the abhishekam, a wish fulfilled in 1889 by Jagadguram Rahu Desikathurai. Thousands of devotees gather every year for this special annual event (November 3 this year).

Barring MP, Leh now has no elected representatives

The five-year term of the hill council came to an end on October 31 and fresh elections may be held only after talks between civil society groups and Union Home Ministry take a decisive turn

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

As Leh district in Ladakh ceases to have any elected representatives from October 31, with the five-year term of the hill council coming to an end, elections to the local body are likely to be held only after ongoing talks between civil society groups and the Centre take a decisive turn, officials said. Ladakh MP Mohammad Haneefa is now its only representative.

On October 22, a month after after four people were killed in police action against protesters seeking Statehood, the civil society groups Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) – representing the two districts in Ladakh – resumed talks on the region's status with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

The groups were asked by the government to prepare a draft framework, including a road map for constitutional safeguards for Ladakh. Though dates for the next meeting are yet to be announced, the LAB and KDA have taken the help of legal experts to argue for their existing demands, including inclusion under the Sixth Schedule



Delay in election: The election to the 30-member LAHDC, Leh was last held in 2020. FILE PHOTO

of the Constitution (tribal status) and Statehood, members of the groups said. "The LAB and KDA are drafting their suggestions and would share notes to present a common proposal," said Sajjad Kargili of the KDA.

Special provisions

At the October 22 meeting, Ministry officials indicated to the two groups that special provisions guaranteed under Article 371 of the Constitution can be considered for Ladakh.

On October 31, an order by the Ladakh administration cited ongoing process for creation of new districts and the consequent need for redrawing boundaries of council areas and

constituencies, for the delay in holding elections. Besides, it also highlighted the need for implementation of the amendment to the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDC) Act, 1997, providing one-third reservation for women in the LAHDCs, and said "holding elections to constitute a new LAHDC, Leh, is not practicable at this stage, as it would lead to representational anomalies and administrative inconsistencies".

The order delegated the hill council's functions to the Deputy Commissioner "until a new council is constituted following fresh elections".

The new districts were announced in 2024 and

women's reservation was notified on June 3 this year.

Detrimental effect

Konchok Stanzin, former councillor of Chushul along China border, said barring an MP, there were no public representatives in Leh. "This is particularly detrimental for people living in the regions bordering China. If they have an issue, they will have to come to the district headquarters in Leh city, hundreds of kilometres away. Most people do not have the resources for that. As a councillor, I used to take care of their demands pertaining to connectivity, education, health, and livelihood, among others," Mr. Stanzin told *The Hindu*.

He said the hill council is empowered to take decisions on 40 functions and each councillor has a development fund of ₹1.5 crore.

The election to the 30-member LAHDC, Leh was last held in 2020, with the BJP winning 15 seats and the Congress nine. Four councillors are nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor. The LAHDC for Kargil district was constituted in 2023 and its term will come to an end in 2028.

For 2025-26, the Leh hill council was allocated ₹255 crore by the MHA.

Aspect	Details
Location	Leh district, Union Territory of Ladakh
Issue	The five-year term of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC–Leh) ended on October 31, 2025 , leaving no elected local body in Leh.
Current Status	Elections postponed — to be held only after talks between civil society groups (LAB & KDA) and the Union Home Ministry (MHA) .
Only Representative Left	Ladakh MP Mohammad Hanefa (Lok Sabha).

What is LAHDC (Leh)?

Feature	Details
Established under	Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Act, 1997
Total Members	30 (26 elected + 4 nominated by LG)
Powers	Functions as local self-government — controls 40 administrative subjects including roads, health, education, water supply, and land use.
Development Fund	₹1.5 crore per councillor
Recent Term	Last election in 2020 → BJP won 15 seats, Congress 9. Term ended Oct 31, 2025.

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- **Why No Elections?**
 - **Delay Factors:**
 - Ongoing talks between **civil society groups** —
 - **Leh Apex Body (LAB)** and **Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA)**
 - Demanding **constitutional safeguards** under **Sixth Schedule / Article 371** for Ladakh.
 - **Boundary changes** and creation of **new districts** delayed the election schedule.
 - Centre awaiting **draft proposals** from LAB & KDA for special status and administrative reforms.

2 desi lads among youngest self-made billionaire trio

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: In a stunning testament to the boom in Artificial Intelligence (AI), three 22-year-old high school friends from Silicon Valley, including two Indian-Americans, have become the world's youngest self-made billionaires.

Brendan Foody, Adarsh Hiremath and Surya Midha, co-founders of the San Francisco-based AI recruiting platform Mercor, achieved the staggering feat after their company recently secured



(From left): Adarsh Hiremath, Brendan Foody & Surya Midha

\$350 million in funding, valuing the firm at \$10 billion. This milestone dethrones Meta co-founder Mark Zuckerberg, who became a billionaire at 23.

► **Continued on P 8**

1 Background

- **Three 22-year-old school friends** from Silicon Valley — **Adarsh Hiremath, Surya Midha, and Brendan Foody** — have become the **world's youngest self-made billionaires**.
- They co-founded **Mercor**, a San Francisco-based **AI-driven recruiting platform**, now valued at **\$10 billion** after raising **\$350 million** in its latest funding round.
- Each founder holds roughly **22 % equity**, giving them an **individual net worth of over \$2 billion**.

2 About Mercor

Founded	2022 (by university sophomores)	
Headquarters	San Francisco, USA	
Core Product	AI-powered recruitment & global labour-matching platform	
Clients	OpenAI, Anthropic, Google DeepMind, and six of the “Magnificent Seven” tech giants	
Employees	~30, average age 22	
2025 Revenue Run-Rate	\$500 million annualised	

Name	Role	Origin / Education
Brendan Foody	CEO	Georgetown University (Economics)
Adarsh Hiremath	CTO	Harvard University (Computer Science); parents from Karnataka
Surya Midha	Chairman of Board	Georgetown University (Foreign Service); family from New Delhi

Stage	Funding Amount (USD)	Valuation (USD)	Notes
Series A	\$32 million (Sept 2024)	\$250 million	Seed expansion phase
Series B	\$100 million (Feb 2025)	\$2 billion	Rapid VC growth
Series C	\$350 million (Mid 2025)	\$10 billion	Billionaire milestone
Acquisition	\$14.3 billion buyout of Scale AI's main rival	Enabled AI-talent synergy via Meta deal	

Delhi Government Launches 'Pink Saheli Smart Card' for Free Travel



Swachh Survekshan 2025: Madurai Tops List of Dirtiest Cities



- Madurai emerged as India's dirtiest city with a score of 4823, followed closely by Ludhiana, Chennai, Ranchi, and Bengaluru. The results underscore how rapid urbanisation, insufficient waste disposal systems, and civic indiscipline have led to poor sanitation in large cities.
- **Metros Among the Worst Performers**
- Bengaluru, India's technology hub, ranked fifth among the dirtiest cities, signalling the strain of unchecked growth on basic civic infrastructure.
- Chennai and Delhi also performed poorly, placing third and tenth respectively.
- Greater Mumbai and Faridabad joined the list, showing that even financially strong cities continue to grapple with garbage management and drainage inefficiencies.

Russia Becomes India's Top Supplier of Sunflower Oil



- According to industry data, Russian shipments to India have surged twelvefold over the past four years, now accounting for nearly 56% of India's total sunflower oil imports.
- Sunflower oil is India's third-most consumed edible oil after palm and soybean oil. The country imports nearly 60% of its total cooking oil requirement, as domestic production remains low.
- Palm oil accounts for about half of these imports. Interestingly, sunflower oil gained popularity in 2023–2024 when its prices fell below palm oil, narrowing the price gap with soybean oil. H

Gogabeel Lake Declared India's 94th Ramsar Site

- India has expanded its network of internationally recognised wetlands with the inclusion of Bihar's Gogabeel Lake as the country's 94th Ramsar site.
- The announcement marks another milestone in India's ongoing commitment to wetland conservation under the global Ramsar Convention.
- The oxbow lake, located in Katihar district between the Ganga and Mahananda rivers, is Bihar's first community reserve and a vital ecological habitat managed by local communities.

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- With 94 Ramsar sites, India continues to lead Asia and ranks third globally, after the United Kingdom (176) and Mexico (144). The nation has added 67 wetlands to the list over the past 11 years, covering an area exceeding 13.6 lakh hectares.

Shenzhou-21 – China Launches Youngest Astronaut and Lab Mice to Tiangong Space Station



- **China successfully has launched the Shenzhou-21 mission to its Tiangong space station, carrying a three-member crew that includes the country's youngest-ever astronaut and four laboratory mice.**
- **The mission marks another stride in China's rapidly expanding space programme, which aims to send astronauts to the Moon by 2030.**



FIDE World Cup 2025 Begins in Goa, Trophy Named After Viswanathan Anand



PM Modi to Inaugurate India's First Digital Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Memorial and Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum in Chhattisgarh on the state's 25th foundation day.

- The event will mark the launch of India's first fully digital museum dedicated to tribal heroes, along with infrastructure projects worth over ₹14,260 crore.

- The grand celebration will take place in Naya Raipur, where the Prime Minister will also unveil a statue of Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the newly constructed Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly.

Maldives Enforces World's First Generational Tobacco Ban

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- The Maldives has become the first country globally to impose a generational ban on tobacco and vaping, marking a historic step towards a smoke-free future. The law, effective from November 1, 2025, prohibits anyone born after January 1, 2007—including tourists—from purchasing or using tobacco products.

- **Comprehensive Ban on Vaping and E-Cigarettes**

- Unlike similar policies elsewhere, the Maldives' law extends to all electronic smoking devices.

- The import, sale, possession, and use of vaping products are banned across every age group. Violations attract heavy penalties: retailers selling to underage buyers face fines up to 50,000 Maldivian rufiyaa (around ₹2.9 lakh), while individuals using e-cigarettes risk fines of 5,000 rufiyaa (about ₹29,000).

India to Triple Rare
Earth Magnet
Incentives to \$788
Million



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- India plans to expand its rare earth magnet manufacturing incentive scheme to over ₹7,000 crore (\$788 million), nearly tripling the earlier allocation.
 - The move seeks to secure critical materials for electric vehicles, renewable energy, and defence as the country works to reduce reliance on China, which dominates the global supply chain.

Celebrating State/UTs Formation Day

State	Formation Date	Formed By	Status Before Formation
Andhra Pradesh	1st November 1953	Andhra State was created in 1953 and the state of Andhra Pradesh was formed in 1956 under States Reorganisation Act, 1956.	Part of Andhra State and Hyderabad State
Karnataka	1st November 1956	States Reorganisation Act, 1956 (as Mysore State)	Parts of Bombay State, Coorg State, Hyderabad State and Mysore State
Kerala	1st November 1956	States Reorganisation Act, 1956	Part of Madras State and Travancore-Cochin
Madhya Pradesh	1st November 1956 (reorganised)	States Reorganisation Act, 1956	Central Provinces and Berar, princely states of Eastern States Agency
Tamil Nadu	1st November 1956 (as Madras State), renamed in 1969	States Reorganisation Act, 1956	Part of Madras State and Travancore-Cochin
Haryana	1st November 1966	Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966	Part of East Punjab
Punjab	1st November 1966 (current form)	Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966	Part of East Punjab
Chhattisgarh	1st November 2000	Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000	Part of Madhya Pradesh

Union Territories

Union Territory (UT)	Formation Date	Formed By	Status Before Formation
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1st November 1956	States Reorganisation Act, 1956	Part D State
Delhi	1st November 1956	States Reorganisation Act, 1956	Delhi (Part C State)
Lakshadweep	1st November 1956	States Reorganisation Act, 1956	Part of Madras State
Puducherry	1st November 1954 (de facto), 1963 (UT status)	Treaty of Cession with France and Government of Union Territories Act, 1963	French India territories
Chandigarh	1st November 1966	Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966	Part of East Punjab



- What are the Provisions Related to Formation of States/UTs in India?
 - **Part I of the Indian Constitution:** It is titled “*The Union and Its Territory*” and comprises **Articles 1 to 4**.
 - It defines India as a “**Union of States**”, specifies the names and territories of States and Union Territories, and empowers Parliament to admit or establish new States and to alter the area, boundaries, or names of existing States.
 - **Article 1:** It declares India as a Union of States, which includes all States, Union Territories, and any territories that may be acquired in the future.
 - This reflects the idea of a strong Union with an indestructible centre but flexible units.



- **Articles 2:** Empowers **Parliament to admit new States into the Union** or establish new States on such terms and conditions as it deems fit.
- **Article 3:** It gives Parliament the authority to form a new State by separating territory from any existing State or by merging two or more States or Union Territories.
 - It also allows alteration of the area, boundaries, or name of any existing State.
 - However, a Bill for this purpose can be introduced only with the **prior recommendation of the President**, who must refer it to the concerned State Legislature for its **views**.
 - The **State Legislature's opinion is not binding on Parliament**, and **no such reference is required in the case of a Union Territory**.
 - This provision has enabled major reorganisations such as the creation of **Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand (2000) and Telangana (2014)**.



- Articles 4: Any law made under Articles 2 or 3 may amend the First Schedule (list of States and UTs) and the Fourth Schedule (Rajya Sabha seat allocation). Such a law is not treated as a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368.



SC Upholds Minors' Property Right

- In K.S. Shivappa vs Smt. K. Neelamma Case 2025, the Supreme Court (SC) ruled that after attaining majority, a person can repudiate a property sale made by their guardian without court sanction, either by filing a suit or through clear conduct, such as reselling the property.
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- **Legal Framework:** The **laws on property** acquired by minors through their guardians are determined through **3 pieces of legislation**:
 - **Indian Contract Act, 1872:** Only persons of **majority age and sound mind** are competent to contract. Contracts by minors are **void ab initio**—invalid from the beginning.
 - A valid contract requires **consent**, a **lawful object**, **legal consideration**, and **competent parties**—the last being crucial when a **minor is represented by a guardian**.

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- **Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956:** Natural guardians must act for the **minor's benefit**. Guardians **cannot sell, mortgage, or lease** a minor's immovable property **without court permission**.
 - Any sale without permission is **voidable at the instance of the minor**.
 - **Guardian and Wards Act, 1890:** A guardian cannot dispose of a ward's **property** without the **court's sanction**.
 - **Limitation Act, 1963:** It grants a person **3 years after attaining majority** to **challenge or set aside** such a **property transfer**.

India Crosses 500 GW Power Capacity Mark

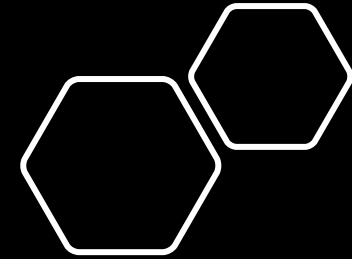
- India has achieved a significant milestone with the nation's **total installed electricity capacity surpassing 500 GW**. More than **51%** of this capacity now originates from **non-fossil fuel sources**.
- **Breakdown of India's Power Capacity:**
 - **Total Installed Capacity:** 500.89 GW
 - **Non-fossil fuel sources:** 256.09 GW ($\approx 51\%$) including Solar(127.33 GW), Wind (53.12 GW), Hydro (30.29 GW) and Nuclear (45.25 GW).
 - **Fossil-fuel-based sources:** 244.80 GW ($\approx 49\%$)



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER



The total installed electricity generation capacity has increased.



Renewables Hit Record High: India has emerged as a **global renewable energy leader**, ranking:

- **3rd** in **solar power capacity**,
- **4th** in **wind power**, and
- **4th** in **overall renewable energy capacity** globally.

Meeting National Targets Ahead of Time: With this progress, India has already achieved one of its major **COP26 (Glasgow, 2021) Panchamrit goals** — to have 50 % of installed electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030, five years early.

Panchamrit of India's climate action



Reduce total projected carbon emissions by **1 billion tonnes by 2030.**



Cut carbon intensity of the economy by **less than 45% by 2030.**



Fulfil 50% of energy requirements from renewable sources by **2030.**



Create **500 GW** of non-fossil **fuel energy capacity by 2030.**



Achieve net-zero emissions by 2070.





Thank you 😊

