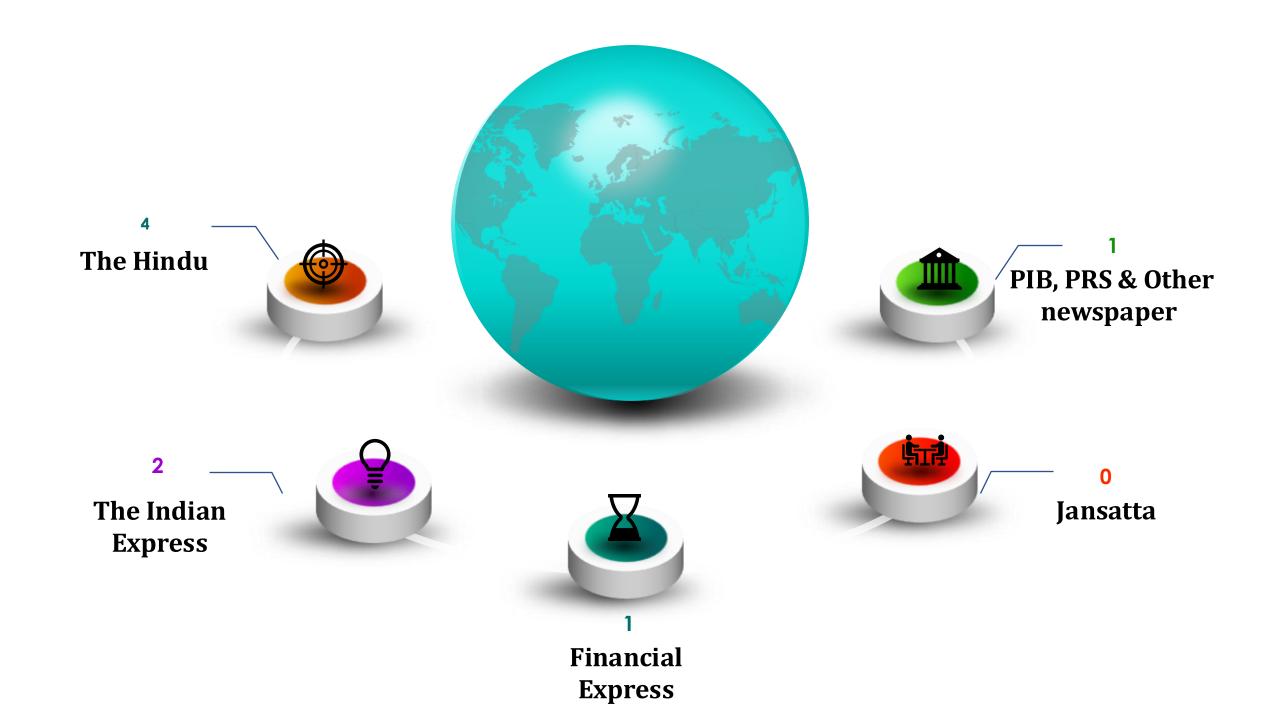
Daily Current Affairs











Download class24





PDF

10 MCQ QUIZ

• "Don't study for hours, study for impact. A single focused hour with full attention is worth more than a distracted day."

Congress Whip alleges 'vote theft' in V-P polls NEWS » PAGE 5

Airports may face fee cuts for poor service NEWS > PAGE 6



Poland downs Russian drones in its airspace

Way forward on Katchatheevu, Palk Strait issues They can become symbols of cooperation



Kuldeep spins a web as India crushes UAE SPORT » PAGE 16

INSIDE

Trump, Modi signal trade talks may resume

Both leaders to speak directly in the 'upcoming weeks', which could restart ruptured relations

Countries still on track to meet the fall deadline for a deal, a commitment that was made in February

Dialogue with the U.S. continues and ties could not be one-sided, says Union Minister Goyal

'Investigation at

Chemmani mass grave to continue

and National Integration has refuted recent media reports claiming that the exhumation at the mass grave site in Chemmani, in the northern Jaffna district, has been halted due to a "lack of funds." The Ministry of Justice also reaffirmed its *firm

commitment* to supporting the judicial process. to PAGE

Kerala to float medical cover for expatriates

THIRTIVANANTHAPURAM The Kerala government we float a medical insurance Keralites in a network of over

EC holds meet to plan nationwide voter list revision

ncluding around 470 hospital n Kerala. » PAGE 3

NEW DELHI

on Wednesday held a conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all States and Union Territories to assess the preparedness for rolling out a nationwide special inter ision (SIR) of voter lists. Th planning to roll out the SIR es in the poll body

rade negotiations between India and the U.S. are set to resume, President Donald Trump has announced, as he and Prime Minister Na-rendra Modi exchanged cordial messages on social media

The leaders will speak directly in the "upcoming weeks", which could indicate a restart to relations that were ruptured over the imposition of 50% tariffs on India, demands for India to stop importing Russian oil, and conflicting versions on the Operation Sindoor ceasefire. While no date has been

announced for the formal resumption of talks for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), government sources the fall deadline for the deal", referring to the com-mitment made by both leaders at their White House meet in February. Mr. Trump was the first to nost overnight on Truth

to post overnight on Truth Social, four days after he told presspersons at the White House that India-U.S. tensions were "noth-ing to worry about". "I am pleased to an-nounce that India and U.S.

are continuing negotia-tions to address Trade Barriers between our two Na-tions," Mr. Trump said. "I look forward to speaking with my very good friend, Prime Minister Modi, in the upcoming weeks," he added, promis-

ing a "successful conclu-sion" for both countries. sion" for both countries.

Hours later, Mr. Modi
quoted the U.S. President's
post on social media platform X, saying that he was
"confident that trade negotiations will pave the way

negotiations to address trade barrier Look forward to speaking with my very good friend Modi



for unlocking the limitless potential of the India-U.S. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & "Our teams are working to conclude these discus-

sions at the earliest," Mr. Modi said, adding that he too looked forward to the too looked forward to the call with Mr. Trump. "We are in active dia-logue with the U.S.," Com-merce Minister Plyush Goyal said. Speaking at an

past month, apart from think tanks, media organi-sations, and State depart-ment officials, even as Defence and Space exchanges continued "as normal". India also hosted three U.S. lawmakers, including Brian Fitzpatrick, who had earlier moved a Bill calling for heavy sanctions on India for its dealings with Russia during the Ukraine

war.

According to a Washing-ton-based source, a "high-level" Indian outreach was Industry on Wednesday, he said that no business also made to U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio in late August, proposing a return to the FTA negotiations.

ne said that no business partnership or friendship could be "one-sided". Asked how the trade talks were brought "back on track", government offi-cials pointed to a number of initiatives by New Delhi to the FTA negotiations.
According to the source,
the White House said that
the "ball is in India's
court", referring to an
elimination or at least a re-

Sanjeev Satgainya

ter two days of protests led by Gen-Z members which resulted in the deaths of

over two dozen people, even as the Army took con-

trol of security and issued

estrictive orders and a

statement, updated the death toll to 30, with 1,033

people receiving treatment at various hospitals.

With no clear structural

...

duction in India's import of oil from Russia. The External Affairs Mi-nistry declined to respond to a written request from The Hindu about the al-The Hindu about the al-leged outreach to Washing-ton by a senior member of the government, but it did not deny the claim either. India has thus far reject-ed U.S. calls to cut Russian oil, asserting it as a "sove-reign decision" based on market positions.

'No official directions' India's oil importers and major public sectors undertakings (PSU) said there have been "no official di-

rections" on future pur-chases from Russia, which amounted to 2 million bpd (barrels per day) in August. However, a senior offi-However, a senior offi-cial in one of the top oil im-porting Indian companies, told *The Hindu* that "no new orders" had been placed for Russian oil by

after days of violent unrest

far. "The oil that has so far entered the country from Russia has been from those orders that were placed bebe orders placed in Sep-tember," the official, who asked not to be named,

explained.
Sources also said there
was still no clarity on
whether Mr. Trump would travel to India for the Quad summit later this year. However, officials on

both sides indicated tha rea for the Asia Pacific Eco (APEC) on October 31 and November 1, where he is expected to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping, could serve as a potential presur-

Nepal Army takes charge, as an uneasy calm returns

Sculpted wonder



SC flags Governors sitting on Bills for years as Central govt. terms dispute a 'false alarm'

vernor) had powers. He ar-

Krishnadas Rajagopal NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, heading a five-judge Presidential Reference Bench, on Wednesday pointed to Governors sit-ting on Bills for years together even as the Union zovernment referred to disputes raised by non-BIP ruled States such as Tamil Nadu and Kerala over inex plicable gubernatorial de-lay as a "false alarm".

"How can you say that en Governors are sitting when Governors are sitting over Bills for four years," Chief Justice Gavai asked the Centre, represented by Solicitor-General Tushar

SM CON

of the court in the Tamil Nadu Governor case, which prescribed a three-month timeline for the Pre-sident and the Governor to decide Bills.

decide Bills.

Tamil Nadu had approached the court after the Governor sat on 10 Bills for four years, since 2020.

'Act collaboratively' Mr. Mehta reasoned the Centre was not justifying

Governors delaying assent to Bills "endlessly". He had only meant to say that a State and its Governor must act "collaboratively"

assent. "The Governor cannot tion. Mr. Mehta said "collabobe reduced to an ornamen-tal head of State. We may have had some aberra-tions, but for the past 55 The Reference had fol-wed an April 8 judgment with parties (State and Go-

years, every Governor has acted in a way expected of them, in a collaborative manner, Mr. Mehta submitted.

submitted.

He objected to the argu-ment by non-BJP-ruled States that instances of Go-vernors delaying Bills had increased after the NDA go-vernment came to power in 2014 at the Centre. Justice Vikram Nath ob-served that the Reference

gued there was no room for collaboration if the Gothe court was answering the questions of law
raised by the President in
the Butternee. Bench was not tracing what happened before or the line of the State Cabi-net and mechanically sign Bills put before him for

ing the questions of law raised by the President in the Reference.

Justice P.S. Narasimha tested the Centre's submission that the measure a Centre of the Proposed Section 1 of the Proposed Section 1 of the Proposed Sec

Bill in the first instance un-der Article 200, the pro-posed law would fail. The judge asked how a Bill passed by both Houses of the State legislature, after due consultation, could be failed by the solitary action of the Governor withhold-

ing assent.
"Should there not be a leadership among the Gen-Z protesters, the next consultative process by which the Bill is returned course of action remains unclear. Protester groups held meetings with Nepal Army Chief Gen. Ashok Sigto the State legislature for reconsideration. This way, both the State Assembly del on Tuesday evening and Wednesday to discuss

tested the Centre's submis-sion that the moment a Go-vernor withheld assent to a was an "expression of pol-itical will".

Smoke billows out from a hotel, which was set on fire by pro

night-time curfew. Soldiers fanned out across capital Kathmandu and other regions of the country from early Wed-nesday, in accordance with backing former Chief Jus-tice Sushila Karki, while the decision taken by the others support Balendra Shah, the Mayor of Kath-Army leadership in consul-tation with President Ram Chandra Poudel late on mandu. Protestors gath-ered in front of the Army Chandra Poudel late on Tuesday, following K.P. Sharma Oll's resignation as Prime Minister.

After 19 people were killed in police firing on the streets demanding 'an end to corruption and misgovernance", the prot-ests turned violent on Tuesday. Demonstrators orched major government for the design of the pro-tess of the protection of the Minister of the pro-tess of the pro-t headquarters in Kathman-du late on Wednesday, af-ter failing to reach a con-sensus. Ms. Karki is widely sensus. Ms. Karki is widely seen as a clean and upright figure who could have broad public acceptance. Mr. Shah, who is popular among Nepali youth, has already set a precondition that Parliament should be dissolved first.

Flights resume

Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu res-umed operations from Wednesday afternoon after remaining shut for over 24 hours. In view of the spiralling

protests on Tuesday, it was widely expected that the Army would step in imme-diately. But the consultation between the President and the Army leadership and Wednesday to discuss possible next steps.
Disagreement has emerged among the Gen-Z campaigners, who have been holding internal diseemend of the discussion of the drive leaf that even ing. The discussion of the discussion of the drive leaf that even ing. The discussion of the drive leaf that even ing. The Army, which said that even ing. The Army leafership on the drive leaf that even ing. The Army leafership on the drive leafership cussions on the digital plat-form Discord, over who should lead an interim ad-should lead an interim ad-

Prime Minister Jhala Nath Khanal, is undergoing treatment after being in

treatment after being in-jured in an aron attack at their residence. Earlier false rumours of her death residence and the second of the As soon as the Army took control of security on Wednesday, if faced the work of the second of the work of the second of the mates of the Dillibazaan prison, in the heart of Kathmandu, from fleeing Kathmandu, from fleeing began on Tuesday after Ra-bi-Lamichhane, chief of the Rastriya Sweatantra Party. In prison on the outskirts hu prison on the outskirts of Kathmandu, citing security reasons.
Officials estimated that

close to 1,500 inmates fled the prison. While the Army managed to secure the Dillibazaar prison, over 3,000 inmates from the Bhadra Detention Center in Kathmandu have escaped. (Sanjeev Satgainya is a journalist based in Kath-

» PAGE 4 » PAGE 8

Trump, Modi signal trade talks may resume

Both leaders to speak directly in the 'upcoming weeks', which could restart ruptured relations

Countries still on track to meet the fall deadline for a deal, a commitment that was made in February

Teams working

Dialogue with the U.S. continues and ties could not be one-sided, says Union Minister Goyal

Suhasini Haidar
T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

rade negotiations between India and the U.S. are set to resume, President Donald Trump has announced, as he and Prime Minister Narendra Modi exchanged cordial messages on social media.

The leaders will speak directly in the "upcoming weeks", which could indicate a restart to relations that were ruptured over the imposition of 50% tariffs on India, demands for India to stop importing Russian oil, and conflicting versions on the Operation Sindoor ceasefire.

While no date has been announced for the formal resumption of talks for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), government sources said on Wednesday they were "still on track to meet the fall deadline for the deal", referring to the commitment made by both leaders at their White House meet in February.

Mr. Trump was the first to post overnight on Truth Social, four days after he told presspersons at the White House that India-U.S. tensions were "nothing to worry about".

"I am pleased to announce that India and U.S. are continuing negotiations to address Trade Barriers between our two Nations," Mr. Trump said.

"Ilook forward to speaking with my very good friend, Prime Minister Modi, in the upcoming weeks," he added, promising a "successful conclusion" for both countries.

Hours later, Mr. Modi quoted the U.S. President's post on social media platform X, saying that he was "confident that trade negotiations will pave the way

India, U.S. [are] continuing negotiations to address trade barriers. Look forward to speaking with my very good friend Modi... certain of successful conclusion DONALD TRUMP U.S. President

to conclude discussions at the earliest. Looking forward to speaking with Trump... will work together to secure more prosperous future...

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

for unlocking the limitless potential of the India-U.S. partnership".

"Our teams are working to conclude these discussions at the earliest," Mr. Modi said, adding that he too looked forward to the call with Mr. Trump.

"We are in active dialogue with the U.S.," Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said. Speaking at an event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry on Wednesday, he said that no business partnership or friendship could be "one-sided".

Asked how the trade talks were brought "back on track", government officials pointed to a number of initiatives by New Delhi to Washington, including by Indian Ambassador to the U.S. Vinay Kwatra, who has met nearly 30 U.S. Representatives and about 10 influential Senators in the past month, apart from think tanks, media organisations, and State department officials, even as Defence and Space exchanges continued "as normal".

India also hosted three U.S. lawmakers, including Brian Fitzpatrick, who had earlier moved a Bill calling for heavy sanctions on India for its dealings with Russia during the Ukraine war.

According to a Washington-based source, a "high-level" Indian outreach was also made to U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio in late August, proposing a return to the FTA negotiations.

According to the source, the White House said that the "ball is in India's court", referring to an elimination or at least a reduction in India's import of oil from Russia.

The External Affairs Ministry declined to respond to a written request from *The Hindu* about the alleged outreach to Washington by a senior member of the government, but it did not deny the claim either.

India has thus far rejected U.S. calls to cut Russian oil, asserting it as a "sovereign decision" based on market positions.

'No official directions'

India's oil importers and major public sectors undertakings (PSU) said there have been "no official directions" on future purchases from Russia, which amounted to 2 million bpd (barrels per day) in August.

However, a senior official in one of the top oil importing Indian companies, told *The Hindu* that "no new orders" had been placed for Russian oil by

his company in September so far.

"The oil that has so far entered the country from Russia has been from those orders that were placed before the additional tariffs were imposed. The oil that will come in November will be orders placed in September," the official, who asked not to be named, explained.

Sources also said there was still no clarity on whether Mr. Trump would travel to India for the Quad summit later this year.

However, officials on both sides indicated that his likely visit to South Korea for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) on October 31 and November 1, where he is expected to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping, could serve as a potential precursor to a broader Asia tour that may include other countries.

Diplomatic Engagement

- Indian Ambassador Vinay Kwatra has engaged with nearly 30 U.S. lawmakers and about 10
 Senators on the issue.
- India also hosted U.S. lawmakers and defense officials, signaling that cooperation continues "as normal" despite disputes.

Oil Imports from Russia

- Public sector oil companies clarified that no new orders for Russian oil were placed after additional U.S. sanctions in September.
- Existing orders placed before sanctions continue, with deliveries expected in November.

Global Diplomacy Context

- Trump may travel to India later this year for the G-20 summit.
- Modi likely to visit the U.S. for the APEC summit in San Francisco (Oct 31 Nov 1), where he
 will also meet Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Nepal Army takes charge, as an uneasy calm returns after days of violent unrest

Sanjeev Satgainya KATHMANDU

An uneasy calm returned to Nepal on Wednesday after two days of protests led by Gen-Z members which resulted in the deaths of over two dozen people, even as the Army took control of security and issued restrictive orders and a night-time curfew.

across capital Kathmandu and other regions of the ministration. Some are reported that Ravilakshmi

torched major government dissolved first. buildings. The Ministry of Health and Population, in a Flights resume at various hospitals.

leadership among the hours. possible next steps.

been holding internal dis- ed deploying soldiers on EDITORIAL cussions on the digital plat- the streets only on Wed- » PAGE 8 form Discord, over who nesday morning. should lead an interim ad- Meanwhile, local media » PAGE 9



Smoke billows out from a hotel, which was set on fire by protesters Soldiers fanned out amid the violent protest in Kathmandu on Wednesday. ANI

country from early Wed- backing former Chief Jus- Chiratkar, wife of former

death toll to 30, with 1,033 Airport in Kathmandu res- of Kathmandu, citing sepeople receiving treatment umed operations from curity reasons. With no clear structural remaining shut for over 24 close to 1,500 inmates fled

3 Gen-Z protesters, the next In view of the spiralling managed to secure the Dilcourse of action remains protests on Tuesday, it was libazaar prison, over 3,000 unclear. Protester groups widely expected that the inmates from the Bhadra held meetings with Nepal Army would step in imme- Detention Center in Kath-Army Chief Gen. Ashok Sig-diately. But the consultamandu have escaped. del on Tuesday evening tion between the President (Sanjeev Satgainya is a and Wednesday to discuss and the Army leadership journalist based in Kathonly began late that even- mandu) Disagreement has ing. The Army, which said emerged among the Gen-Z it was taking over security RELATED REPORT campaigners, who have from Tuesday night, start- » PAGE 4

nesday, in accordance with tice Sushila Karki, while Prime Minister Jhala Nath the decision taken by the others support Balendra Khanal, is undergoing Army leadership in consul- Shah, the Mayor of Kath- treatment after being intation with President Ram mandu. Protestors gath- jured in an arson attack at Chandra Poudel late on ered in front of the Army their residence. Earlier Tuesday, following K.P. headquarters in Kathman-false rumours of her death Sharma Oli's resignation as du late on Wednesday, af- spread on social media. ter failing to reach a con- As soon as the Army

After 19 people were sensus. Ms. Karki is widely took control of security on killed in police firing on seen as a clean and upright Wednesday, it faced the Monday, when Gen Z took figure who could have challenge of preventing into the streets demanding broad public acceptance. mates of the Dillibazaar "an end to corruption and Mr. Shah, who is popular prison, in the heart of misgovernance", the prot- among Nepali youth, has Kathmandu, from fleeing ests turned violent on already set a precondition custody. The prison break Tuesday. Demonstrators that Parliament should be began on Tuesday after Rabi Lamichhane, chief of the Rastriva Swatantra Party. was "released" from Nakkstatement, updated the Tribhuvan International hu prison on the outskirts

> Wednesday afternoon after Officials estimated that the prison. While the Army



Violent Protests

- Triggered by Gen Z members' demonstrations.
- Led to over 24 deaths and 1,033 injuries.
- Escalated after **police firing killed 19 protesters** on Monday.

Army Intervention

- Deployed across Kathmandu and other regions on Wednesday.
- Declared night-time curfew and restrictive orders.
- Took control after **PM K.P. Sharma Oli resigned** following unrest.

Leadership Dispute

- No clear consensus on next Prime Minister.
- Names in contention:
 - **Sushila Karki** (former Chief Justice) seen as clean & upright.
 - Balen Shah (Mayor of Kathmandu) popular among youth.
- Opposition parties demanding Parliament dissolution.

Protester Demands

- Action on corruption and misgovernance.
- Broad-based leadership acceptable to the public.

Law & Order Breakdown

Prison Breaks

- Over 3,000 inmates escaped from multiple jails.
- **Dillibazaar prison** (Kathmandu) saw a major breakout.
- Government cited "security reasons" for losses.

Civilian Safety

- Attacks on property: hotels, government buildings, private houses.
- High-profile attack on the residence of former PM Jhala Nath Khanal (his wife injured).

Economic & Logistical Impact

Flights Suspended

- Tribhuvan International Airport shut for over 24 hours.
- Flights resumed on Wednesday evening.

Tourism Hit

 Hotel burnings and violent protests threaten Nepal's already fragile tourism economy (≈7% of GDP).

States

T.N. Police lay down 23 conditions for TVK campaign

The Hindu Bureau

campaign of Tamilaga Vet-tri Kazhagam (TVK) foun-der and actor Vijay at Ma-rakkadai junction on September 13. Mr. Vijay is scheduled to begin a State-wide tour from Tiruchi on that day.

The permission was ac-corded following a petition submitted by party func-tionaries to the Deputy Commissioner of Police

(North) on Tuesday. Vhile granting permission, the police have laid down 23 conditions. Mr. Vijay's campaign on board a vehicle will be from 10.35 a.m. to II a.m. on Septem-

r 13. The roadshow has not

been allowed. Police sources said one of the conditions was that of the conditions was that the organisers should en-sure basic medical assis-tance and provision of drinking water at the ve-nue. Party members and supporters should have assupporters snown 100 sembled at the vent

sembled at the venue an hour before.

The organisers have also been instructed to avoid bringing pregnant women, children, elderly persons and persons with disabilities for the proposed event. The designated route specified by the police for the party leader's work and the proposed of the proposed of the police for the party leader's work and the proposed of the police for the party leader's warm of the proposed of the police for the party leader's warm of the proposed of t bringing pregnant women, children, elderly persons, and persons with disability of the control o

Kerala govt. plans medical insurance for expatriates

The policy is expected to enhance medical tourism in the State; it will provide cashless medical services of up to ₹5 lakh to non-resident Keralites in a network of over 17,000 hospitals in India

insurance policy providing health cover for Keralites abroad and within the country. The policy is also expected to enhance medi-cal tourism in the State. The insurance policy will provide cashless medi-cal services of up to ₹5 lakh to non-resident Keralites in a network of over 17,000

hospitals in the country, in-cluding around 470 hospi-The policy, to be jointly Assurance, offers a perso-nal accident claim of ₹10

hospitals nationwide

It provides TJD bilk) personal

accident cover, aiding, seven million

Policy covers per existing dineases
with a 131,600 premium for a
function of the covers of

Care assured

ountry. Aiith Kolasserv, Chief Executive Officer of NoR-KA-Roots, said the project, NoRKA Care, aimed to

her family. The policy is expected to benefit over seven million Keralites abroad and within the country. The NoRKA-Roots is a field agency under the State government's Department of Non-Resident Ker-alites Affairs (NoRKA).

Policy offers ₹5 lakh cashless medical services in over 17,000 hospitals nationwide
 It provides ₹10 lakh personal

children. In countries like United Kingdom and Canada, the NoRKA Care will be done by Chief Minister Pinarayi lakh to the insured or his/ bring all expats under af- waiting period for insu-Vijayan on September 22.

rance coverage is too long and the cost of medical cover too high. The new policy offers in-surance coverage for all pre-existing diseases with-out any waiting period at a out any waiting period at a premium of ₹13,400 for a family unit of four, includ-ing two children, says Mr. Kolassery.

Further, all non-resident Keralites in the age group of 18 to 70 with an identity proof issued by the NoR-KA-Roots can join the policy, while there is no age restriction for dependent ildren. The global launch of

Mr. Raja said that India communist movement."

Democracy under attack, EC has failed in its duties: D. Raja

D. Raja

The Hindu Bureau

Democracy is under attack in the country, Communist Party of India (CPI) general secretary D. Raja has said. Inaugurating the delegates' conference during the CPI State meet in Alappuzha on Wednesday, Mr. Raja, referring to Bihar, and people's right to yote was being "snatched waws."

away."
"The Election Commission has failed to guarantee the right to vote for all eligible voters in Bihar. It can happen in any State. The Election Commission is a constitutional body. It should act as a neutral body and guarantee people's right to vote. Unfortunate-ly, it has failed to ensure free and fair elections," he said.

Conservancy workers approach Madras HC

The Hindu Bureau

A group of 12 women con-servancy workers have filed a joint writ petition in the Madras High Court seeking a direction to the State Human Rights Com-mission to hold an inquiry into police excesses while quelling their protest out-cuelling their protest out-cuelling their protest out-corporation headquarters at Ripon Ruidings on Au-at Ripon Ruidings on Auat Ripon Buildings on August 13.

The writ petition has

been listed for hearing be-fore the first Division Bench of Chief Justice Maand Justice G. Arul Muri also sought a direction to the Tamil Nadu State Com-

sought a direction to the Home Secretary to initiate thome Secretary to initiate the secretary to increase the secretary to the secretary to the secretary to the secretary to find the secretary to the secretary to the violations and sexual harassment of the women conservancy workers benetary compensation to the victims.

In the secretary to the secretary the secretary to the se

Vedan held, police yet to verify allegations in second complaint

Vedan was released on bail after completing the bard after completing the bail and the bail and the bail and the bail in the case. "The arrest was recorded as the investigators substantiating the allegations in the complaint. The investigation will proceed in its normal course," the completion of the bail of the bail

very confident, you all don't have to worry. I will say everything once I'm and the satement of the complainant was yet to be rewould be taken only after verifying the allegations in the complainant. "We have contacted the complainant." We have contacted the complainant received any reply," the of-Coming out of the police station, Vedan said, "I'm ficer said.

Police deport Pakistani national who was illegally staying in India

A Pakistani national, who was illegally staying in In-dia for over a decade, was a police on Tuesday, officials confirmed. Muhammad Usman allas Md Abbas Ikram, 48, was repatriated through the Attari border in Pun-

unlawfully entered India from Nepal in 2011 and was subsequently involved in subsequently involved in the served varying prison terms ranging from one terms ranging from one following the comple-tion of his sentences and legal proceedings, Usman was placed in the Deten-nation (CCS), Hyde-Crime Station (CCS), Hyde-

jab. Crime Station (CCS), Hyde-rabad, on September 7,

2024. After due coordina-tion between the Hydera-bad City Police, the Minis-try of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Af-fairs, he was formally handed over to the Pakis-tan Rangers. The CCS detention facil-ity, established in August 2018. has accommedized

grave threats. The right-wing forces have captured power... They are trying aggressively to transform India into a fascist State. They are working to change the character of the Indian State and make it a religious based one."

religion-based one," he said. Noting that the Left

parties were shrinking as

an electoral force in the

country, Mr. Raja called for "serious introspection on how to strengthen the

2018, has accommodated 158 foreign nationals from 19 countries to date, with 150 deportations already

INBRIEF



Police high-handedness: Cong. protests rock Kerala

The Congress protests over "police highhandedness, custodial torture, and corruption" reverberated across the State on Wednesday, even as more allegations of maltreatment of citizens at police stations surfaced on social and cor arguably to the chagrin of the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government. Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president Sunny Joseph, MLA, inaugurated the Congress march to the Kunnumkulam police station in Thrissur.

FIR against Facebook user for disrespecting Gandhi

The cybercrime police have registered an FIR against a Facebook account holder for allegedly disrespecting Mahatma Gandhi in his post on Teachers' day. Based on a complaint by the staff of the social media monitoring cell, the police, or Monday, booked the accused who runs the account "Akhanda Hindustan", charging him under Section 66 (C) (identity theft) of the IT Act and also under Section 354 (coerced or

HC refuses to interfere with KU Registrar's suspension

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday refused to The Kerala High Court on Weenesday Februser interfere with the suspension of Kerala University Registrar K.S. Anilkumar. It went on to direct the Vice-Chancellor to convene a meeting of the university Syndicate, through the Registrar in-charge, to take a call on revoking the suspension. The decision taken by the Syndicate will necessarily be binding on the V-C and the V-C. Ravi. The Registrar was suspended on July 2 following a row over displaying a photo of 'Bharat Matha' at an event.

Festive crafting



An artisan prepares an idol of Goddess Durga ahead of the Navratri festival in Bengaluru on Wednesday. Navratri is a nine-night Hindu

Karnataka BJP chief seeks judicial probe into Maddur violence

The Hindu Bureau

Karnataka BJP president B.Y. Vijayendra, on Wed-nesday, criticised the State government, holding it res-ponsible for the clashes that occurred on Sunday that occurred on Sunday during the Ganesha festival procession in Maddur. He sought a judicial inquiry in-to the matter.

to the matter.

Speaking to presspersons in Maddur, Mr. Viljayendra said that the intelligence and the police should have anticipated the violence and deployed adequate security measures to thwart it. He challenged the State government to invoke the provisions of the Goonda

dulged in stone pelting during Sunday's proces-

sion. He also condemned the FIR registered against the Hindus, including a wo-

involved in the violence.
Referring to Home Minister G. Parameshwara's statements that the class was a minor incident, Mr. Vijayendra urged the former to pay a visit to Maddur to apprise himself of the ground situation.

ground situation.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, R.

Ashok, spoke in a similar
vein. He alleged that Congress was letting the perpe trators of violence go scot free, and hence, there was a recurrence of stone pel-ing incidents.

HC sets guidelines for issuing FIRs over social media posts

such guidelines were ne-cessary to prevent invok-ing of criminal action me-case was made out.

Marri Ramu HYDERABAD

The Telangana High Court, on Wednesday, set guide-lines for police officials and lines for police officials and with cases relating to social media posts, quashing three cases registered his comments made through 'X' against Chief Minister A. Rewarth Reddy. Minister A. Rewarth Reddy. Joven the Court of the petitions filed by BUS work. Shashidhar Goud, said that such guidelines were ne-

chanically or arbitrarily. "In the absence of statu

"in the absence of statu-tory ingredients of the al-leged offences, the regis-requisite inquiry or judicial approval is unaustainable in law. it would amount to judge said.

The first guideline by authorities must ensure the complainant was qual-fied to be the 'person ag-plaint.'

math Magar division work.

The police officer mast conduct a preliminary inquiry to ascertain if prima facie a case was made out.

The Hindu Bureau 1000

Bharar Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K.T. Rama Rao accused Te-tal Rama Rao accused Te-tal Rama Rao accused Te-tal Rama Rao accused Te-ward Rama Rama Rama Rama watcopy in the Judice shift which was a substitution of the lang massive amounts of the pulse of "HYDRA" demolitions. The Rama demolitions of "HYDRA" demolitions of the Rah-math Nagar division work-Bharat Rashtra Samithi Min.

which has failed to fulfill its promises and is shifting the blame on to the debts due to its own inefficiency. Accusing the govern-ment of using HYDRAA solely to target the houses of the third whether HYDRAA would dare to demolish

Jubilee Hills bypoll, alleges BRS er, Tirupati Reddy, in Dur

er, Tirupati Reddy, in Dur-gum Cheruvu, Rac unged minori. Mr. Rac unged minori. Mr. Rac unged minori. Mr. Revanth Reddy is acting like a BJP Chief Minister, ineating Prime Minister, ineating Prime Minister, ineating Prime Minister, in Recalling Pr

workers to reach every household by the 14th of this month, reminding voment of using HYDRAA to all the state of Gopinath's services stoned whether HYDRAA would dare to demolist units the alleged 'illegal house' built by Mr. Reddy's brother street immediately.

Congress is trying to buy votes in | Elephant electrocuted in Bandipur Tiger Reserve

The Hindu Bureau

An elephant was electro-cuted when it came in con-tact with a live electric wite contact with a live electric wite agricultural land at Manga-la in the Bandjur Tiger Re-serve on Wednesday. Helder was the same electric fence was illegally drawn by villagers to ward off wild airmals raiding est Department officials reached the spot after be-tacked the spot after be-ticient. Wildlife conserva-tionists have expressed

Kerala govt. plans medical insurance for expatriates

The policy is expected to enhance medical tourism in the State; it will provide cashless medical services of up to ₹5 lakh to non-resident Keralites in a network of over 17,000 hospitals in India

Dhinesh Kallungal

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

he Kerala government will float an exclusive medical insurance policy providing health cover for Keralites abroad and within the country. The policy is also expected to enhance medical tourism in the State.

The insurance policy will provide cashless medical services of up to ₹5 lakh to non-resident Keralites in a network of over 17,000 hospitals in the country, including around 470 hospitals in Kerala.

The policy, to be jointly launched by the New India Assurance, offers a personal accident claim of ₹10 lakh to the insured or his/

Care assured

The basic details of the medical insurance scheme for Keralites living within the country and abroad



- Policy offers ₹5 lakh cashless medical services in over 17,000 hospitals nationwide
- It provides ₹10 lakh personal accident cover, aiding seven million Keralites worldwide
- Policy covers pre-existing diseases with a ₹13,400 premium for a family of four

her family. The policy is expected to benefit over seven million Keralites abroad and within the country.

Ajith Kolassery, Chief Executive Officer of NoR-KA-Roots, said the project, NoRKA Care, aimed to bring all expats under affordable medical care and insurance coverage in the country. The NoRKA-Roots is a field agency under the State government's Department of Non-Resident Keralites Affairs (NoRKA).

In countries like United Kingdom and Canada, the waiting period for insurance coverage is too long and the cost of medical cover too high.

The new policy offers insurance coverage for all pre-existing diseases without any waiting period at a premium of ₹13,400 for a family unit of four, including two children, says Mr. Kolassery.

No age bar for children

Further, all non-resident Keralites in the age group of 18 to 70 with an identity proof issued by the NoR-KA-Roots can join the policy, while there is no age restriction for dependent children.

The global launch of NoRKA Care will be done by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on September 22.

Exclusive Medical Insurance Policy

For Keralites abroad and within India.

Offers ₹5 lakh cashless medical services in 17,000+ hospitals nationwide (including 470 in Kerala).

Jointly launched by Kerala Govt. & New India Assurance.

Additional Benefits

₹10 lakh personal accident cover.

Covers all pre-existing diseases with no waiting period.

Premium: ₹13,400 annually for a family of 4 (parents + 2 children).

No age bar for dependent children.

. Beneficiaries

Over **7 million Keralites abroad** (mainly in Gulf, US, UK, Canada).

Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs) aged **18–70 years** can enroll using **NoRKA ID card**.

Scheme executed by **NoRKA-Roots**, field agency of Dept. of Non-Resident Keralites Affairs (NoRKA).

3. Objectives & Significance

Affordable Medical Care: Reduce high cost of treatment for expatriates & dependents.

Medical Tourism Boost: Encourage NRKs to use Kerala hospitals.

Social Security Measure: Safety net for expatriates who lack insurance abroad.

Global Launch

Official launch: September 22, by Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan.

Target countries: UK, Canada, Gulf nations.

Kerala is known for its large diaspora (especially in Gulf countries since 1970s oil boom).

Remittances from expatriates = ~19% of Kerala's GSDP, among highest in India.

Economic & Social Aspects

Kerala contributes significantly to India's remittance inflow (~20% of India's total).

High dependency on Gulf countries makes NRKs vulnerable during global crises (e.g., COVID-19 layoffs).

Healthcare initiatives strengthen state— diaspora bonds and soft power projection.



- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR):
 6 per 1,000 live births
 (India average ≈ 27).
- Life Expectancy: 75 years (India average ≈ 70).
- Strong healthcare infrastructure makes it a hub for medical tourism (esp. Ayurveda + modern medicine).



Air India and IndiGo to

operate special flights

The Hindu Bureau

Air India and IndiGo will

following violent protests

afternoon. "Many home-bound

there and came back. We

but are cooped up in our hotel," said Shyam Mohan,

"As of now, we are safe

that resulted in the airport shutting down for over 24 hours since Tuesday

be operating special flights to Kathmandu to bring back stranded Indians

22 Nepal prisoners escape amid unrest. nabbed at U.P. border

Vijaita Singh

At least 22 inmates, who escaped from prisons in Nepal following the col-lapse of the government there, were apprehended by the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) along the Nepal-Uttar Pradesh border on Wednesday, a senior government official said.

The inmates were ap-prehended on the basis of lists of prisoners shared by the armed forces of Nepa with the SSB. They are at present in the custody of the Uttar Pradesh Police,

the Uttar Pradesh Police, the official said.

Thousands of prisoners are said to have escaped in Nepal following the mas-sive protests by young peo-ple across that country against corruption and ne-potism. The escapees were "illegal foreigners" and "illegal foreigners" and they would be caught and jailed, another govern-ment official said. The U.P. Police is likely to register a case under the Foreigners and Immigration Act, 2025 against the escapees, the official said. The SSB, a Central

Nepal, and the 699-km In-dia-Bhutan border. The of-

The escapees were on a list of prisoners shared by armed forces of Nepal

tially fallen after the cur few imposed by the Army. Nepal and India share

an open border, and residents of the neighbouring country are allowed entry without visas and pass-ports based on documents. including driving licences, and government-issued ID cards, among others. "The armed forces of

"The armed forces of Nepal have shared the list of inmates who fled the prisons in Nepal, and we apprehended the suspects based on that information. We have deployed person-nel at all checkpoints," the official said adding that official said, adding that the number of such esca-pees could go up in the coming days. The official said no addi-

tional deployment had been made but personnel had been moved closer to the border, and other pos-sible points had been fortisible points had been forti-fied along with the usual entry points. A watch is be-ing kept on the possible in-flux of people if the situa-tion deteriorated in the neighbourhood.

Tourists, pilgrims stranded in Nepal

600 pilgrims on Kailash Mansarovar Yatra stranded in Taklakot on the Nepal-China border; tourists take refuge in hotels in Kathmandu and Pokhara as they wait for situation to ease; State governments working with External Affairs Ministry to bring back people and reassure families of their safety

Kallol Bhattacherjee

early 600 Indian pilgrims who had gone for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through private tour operators have been stranded in Taklakot on the Nepal-China border A large number of Indian tourists are also stranded in Kathmandu. Pokhara and other locations across Nepal where the months

is considered to be the peak holiday season.

In view of the prevailing situation, the tourists stranded in Taklakot are unable to enter Nepal and most of them are facing problems due to a lack of accommodation and resources.

sources.
Sridhar, a pilgrim from
Andhra Pradesh, told *The*Hindu that the situation
was dire as many had fallen sick and were in need of urgent medical atten-tion. "We urge the Government of India to help us as there are hundreds of us here and the Nepal border is not yet open," Mr. Srid-har said.

har said.

The Ministry of External
Affairs said in an advisory
that the pilgrims should
take "necessary care and



orities as well as the Em-bassy of India in Beijing. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Wed-nesday wrote to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar seeking urgent inter-vention to ensure the safe

evacuation of a group of tourists from Kerala stranded in Pokhara. In the letter, Mr. Vijayan said that the anti-governsaid that the anti-govern-ment protests in Nepal had taken place near areas where most of the visitors from Kerala, including se-

made to urgently bring about a 100-km border them back home safely, he said. about a 100-km border with Nepal. "If you or someone you

West Bengal Chief Minis-ter Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said efforts were under way to bring back tourists from the State, who have been stranded in violence-hit Nepal. "We are also making ar-

rangements from the State government. You stay there for one or two more days. Do not be in a rush to get out and fall into any trouble," Ms. Banerjee said. West Bengal shares

know requires assistance for returning to India through Panitanki or Pashupati check post under Darjeeling district, please contact on the numbers gi-ven below. Mobile/WhatsApp: 9147889078 Lan-dline: 0354-2252057," the West Bengal Police posted

and confined to our hotel. There is no problem with There is no problem with regard to food and water. But we were terrified when we noticed a hotel about 500 yards away being burned down," he said. The Maharashtra goon social media. Several tourists from Telangana have been strand-ed in Kathmandu after the

were supposed to return to Hyderabad on Thursday

"Our top priority is to

in coordination with Air India & IndiGo, has

this evening & over the

Rammohan Naidu wrote

Kathmandu's Tribhovar

International Airport resumed flight operation and various airlines

for Civil Aviation K.

forts to ensure the safe re-turn of tourists from the State stranded in Nepal, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said.

bring every tourist from Maharashtra back home

According to prelimin v information, around ary information, around 100 tourists from Thane, Pune, Mumbai, Latur and

'Duped by agent, 15 Indians pinned down in Ukraine-Russia war zone'

Two Indian nationals have told *The Hindu* that they are caught in the battlefield in Ukraine, where they are peing forced to serve or the Russian side. The two

the Russian side. The two recruits claimed there were at least 13 more In-dians with them.

All of them went to Mos-cow on student or visitor visa in the past six months. They were hired by an agent to work as construc-tion workers but ended up in the war zone, the two men said on telephone men said on telephone from Selydove in Ukraine. Russia claimed Selydove, a key town in the Donetsk re-

gion, in November 2024. A response from the Ex-ternal Affairs Ministry is awaited. The Russian Em-bassy had said in a statement last year that it no longer recruited Indians into its Army. The assurance came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the issue with Russian Presi-dent Vladimir Putin during his visit to Moscow in July 2024. The External Affairs



struction work. I was instead asked to sign papers and enlist in the Russian Army. I came to the camp on August 20 and without any training, they have brought us to an occupied area in Ukraine and are not letting us leave," Mr. Shar-ma told The Hindu.

months ago and was pur-suing a language course at the Moscow State Linguis-are. The care extra money, I was looking for odd Jobs when a woman contacted me and assured me con-the fishing and the con-tent of the control

idea, the agent promised us good money."
The other residents of the camp released a video in Punjabi where they are seen urging the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) govern-

ment to rescue them Gursevak Singh, 26, from Gurdaspur in Punjab, who came to Russia on a student visa, is also among those stuck in the war

"Seven of us have been kept in a building in Uk-raine. They are saying they will send me to the forward

four days. He shot a video saying this could be his last. I do not want to meet the same fate," Mr. Singh said.

MG.

He said his mother lived in Puniab and before com ing to Russia, he used to tend to his fields.

tend to his fields.

On August 10, 2024, the
Russian Embassy said it no
longer admitted Indians into its Army. The embassy
added it was working in
"close coordination" with
Indian authorities to help
discharge Indian nationals
recruited for the war in Ukraine.

The External Affairs Mi-nistry informed the Rajya Sabha on July 24 that there were 127 Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces, of which the services of 98 had been discontinued 98 had been discontinued as a result of sustained en-gagement between the In-dian and Russian govern-ments. The Ministry said I3 Indians remained in the Russian forces, of which I2 were reported missing by the Russian side. The Hindu reported first

The Hindu reported first on February 20, 2024 that Indians who travelled to Russia on tourist visas were offered jobs as securi-ty helpers but were forced to fight alongside the Rus-sian military.

Navy strengthens maritime ties with France. Mauritius through joint exercises

hips of the Indian Navy's Ships of the Indian Navy's first training squadron (ITS), INS The and ICCS Sarathi, arrived at Rémino is reached Port Louis, Mauritus, on September 8, as part of their training deployment in the southwest polyment of the southwest ships were welcomed by French Navy ship FS Nivose with a 'passage exercise'. The visit features profesting cross-training visits,

ning cross-training visits, joint diving exercises, and sports fixtures, furthering the India-France naval partnership. The senior of-ficer of the ITS, also called on the French Naval Base Commander and the Commandant Supérieur des FAZSOI, with discussions centred on regional securi-ty, future joint exercises,

nd maritime cooperation The INS Shardul con The INS Shardul con-ducted joint patrolling and Exclusive Economic Zone surveillance with MCGS Victory and a Mauritius Coast Guard Dornier, be-fore arriving at Port Louis. During the port call, the

Manipur law to regulate issuance of certificates



INS Shordul, a landing ship tank of the Indian Navy, arrives at Port Louis in Mauritius. X/9/NDIANNOV

INS Shardul met the senior Mauritian leadership, reaffirming the strong bonds of trust and professional cooperation between India and Mauritius, the Indian

Navy said.
The concurrent port of calls of the ITS highlight India's commitment to "mar-itime collaboration, and re-gional stability, aligned with the vision of MAHAwith the vision of MAHA-SAGAR", and the Indian Navy's enduring role in building bridges of friend-ship across the Indian Ocean Region, the Navy said in a statement. The INS Surat, the In-

nous guided missile des-troyer, mission deployed in the north Arabian Sea, par ticipated in a passage exer cise with ITS Caio Duilio an Andrea Doria class destrover of the Italian Navy

on September 7. The exercise featured complex tactical ma-noeuvres, aircraft tracking, seamanship evolutions, communication drills, and

HC order to lodge FIR against two ex-CBI officers

The Hindu Bureau

sday unheld a Delhi lodge first information re-ports (FIRs) against two former Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) officers, Vinod Rumar Pandey and Neeraj Kumar, accused of irregularities and abuse of power in 2000. "Sometimes those who investigate must also be in-vestigated to keep alive the

vestigated to keep alive the faith of the public at large in the system... It is trite to point out that the offence is alleged to have been com-mitted in the year 2000. Till date the matter had not gated. It would be a dicho-tomy of justice if such an offence is allowed to go un

A Rench headed by Inc

to scuttle the registration of the FIR or the investigain exercise of its constitu tional powers had opined that prima facie, a cognisa-ble offence is made out against the two officers," the court observed.

While States like Mahaspector with the CBI and Mr. Kumar was the then Joint Director of CBI.

Umar Khalid moves SC against bail denial

The Hindu Bureau

Former INU student leader Former JNU student leader Umar Khalid has ap-proached the Supreme Court against a Delhi High Court decision denying jim bail in an Unlawful ac-tivities (Prevention) Act case related to the Febru-ary 2020 riots in the na-tional capital. onal capital.

A High Court Division

Bench had dismissed the bail pleas of Mr. Khalid, Sharjeel Imam, Mohd Sa-

leem Khan, Shifa Ur Reh-man, Athar Khan, Meeran Haider Abdul Khalid Saif Gulfisha Fatima and Sha

Guifisha Fatima, and Sha-dab Ahmed, who are in jail without trial since 2020. The prosecution had op-perature of the prosecution had op-get it was not a case of sponta-neous riots but planned "in advance" with a "ainis-ter motive". Mr. Khalid and the UAPA and provisions of the Indian Penal Code for allegedly being the "mas-terminds" of the riots.

to SC, OBC communities gets Presidential assent

Detailed vetting process

The Hindu Bureau

The law District of the law to regulate the issuance of caste certificates for the Scheduled Caste of the law to regulate the issuance of caste certificates for the Scheduled Caste of the law to reputate the processes for issuing caste certificates, according to the processes for issuing caste certificates, accordin

assent in July this year, pro-vides for the setting up of one or more Scrutiny Com mittees, which are meant to verify suspicious caste

set out procedures for ap-plying for caste certifi-certificates. Certificates certificates cer-tificates for issuing the certificates, and scrutiny committees to verify them, offences and penalties, offences and penalties, offences and penalties, to the particular to the particular to the Bill had added that most other States had already framed such provisions. Notably, the law, which

While States like Maharashtra and Andhra Pra-desh do have specific laws to regulate caste certifi-cates, several others regu-late through executive or-ders and circulars. Maharashtra also has pro-visions for setting up Scru-tiny Committees, but And-hra Pradesh has given this power of suo motu verificapower of suo motu verifica-tion to the District Collec-tor.

Navy strengthens maritime ties with France, Mauritius through joint exercises

<u>The Hindu Bureau</u>

NEW DELHI

Ships of the Indian Navy's first training squadron (ITS), *INS Tir* and *ICGS Sarathi*, arrived at Réunion island, while *INS Shardul* reached Port Louis, Mauritius, on September 8, as part of their training deployment in the southwest Indian Ocean Region.

At Réunion island, the ships were welcomed by French Navy ship FS Nivose with a 'passage exercise'. The visit features professional interactions, including cross-training visits, joint diving exercises, and sports fixtures, furthering the India-France naval partnership. The senior officer of the 1TS, also called on the French Naval Base Commander and the Commandant Supérieur des FAZSOI, with discussions centred on regional security, future joint exercises, and maritime cooperation.

The INS Shardul conducted joint patrolling and Exclusive Economic Zone surveillance with MCGS Victory and a Mauritius Coast Guard Dornier, before arriving at Port Louis. During the port call, the



INS Shardul, a landing ship tank of the Indian Navy, arrives at Port Louis in Mauritius. X/@INDIANNAVY

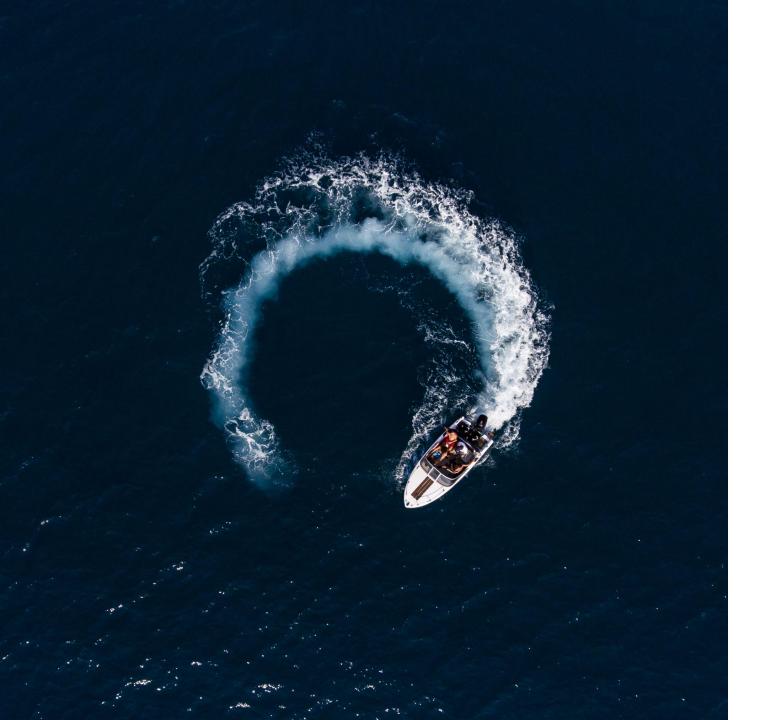
Commanding Officer of INS Shardul met the senior Mauritian leadership, reaffirming the strong bonds of trust and professional cooperation between India and Mauritius, the Indian Navy said.

The concurrent port of calls of the 1TS highlight India's commitment to "maritime collaboration, and regional stability, aligned with the vision of MAHA-SAGAR", and the Indian Navy's enduring role in building bridges of friendship across the Indian Ocean Region, the Navy said in a statement.

The INS Surat, the In-

dian Navy's latest indigenous guided missile destroyer, mission deployed in the north Arabian Sea, participated in a passage exercise with *ITS Caio Duilio*, an Andrea Doria class destroyer of the Italian Navy, on September 7.

The exercise featured complex tactical manoeuvres, aircraft tracking, seamanship evolutions, communication drills, and flying operations, including cross-deck helicopter landings. The PASSEX concluded with a ceremonial steampast, where the two navies exchanged traditional courtesies at sea.



Indian Navy Deployment

- Ships from First Training Squadron (1TS):
 - INS Tir, ICGS Sarathi → Réunion Island (French territory).
 - INS Shardul → Port Louis, Mauritius (Sept 8).
- Part of training deployment in Southwest Indian Ocean Region.

France-India Naval Cooperation

At Réunion:

- Welcomed by French Navy ship FS Nivose.
- Conducted Passage Exercise (PASSEX):
 - Cross-training visits, joint diving exercises, professional interactions, sports fixtures.
- Senior 1TS officer met French Naval Base Commander & Commandant Supérieur des FAZSOI.
- Discussions: regional security, maritime cooperation, future joint exercises.

India–Mauritius Naval Cooperation

Joint Patrolling & Surveillance

- INS Shardul collaborated with:
 - MCGS Victory (Mauritian Coast Guard).
 - Mauritius Coast Guard Dornier aircraft.
- Conducted Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance.

Diplomatic Engagements

- Commanding Officer of INS Shardul met senior Mauritian leadership.
- Reaffirmed bonds of trust, professional cooperation.

Other International Naval Ties

INS Surat, India's indigenous guided missile destroyer, in North Arabian Sea.

- Conducted PASSEX with **ITS Caio Duilio** (Andrea Doria-class destroyer of Italian Navy, Sept 7).
- Exercises included:
 - Tactical manoeuvres.
 - Aircraft tracking.
 - Seamanship evolutions, communication drills.
 - Cross-deck helicopter landings.
- Concluded with ceremonial steam-past.

INBRIBE



Digital platform to preserve tribal art, culture launched

The Union Tribal Affairs Ministry on Wednesday The Union Tribal Affairs Ministry on Wednesday launched the best version of "Aff Sanskrii", a launched the best version of "Aff Sanskrii", a berttage". Officials said it had been envisioned to become the "words first Digital University to become the "words first Digital University to great the state of the production of the production will have an online marketplace, opening up a digital market for products made by tribal artisans in components Aff Vishwardyslayed, Origital Tribal Art Academy, Adl Sampada (Socio-Calurnal Bepoolitory), and Adl Hata (Idigital marketplace).

Centre approves doubling of Bhagalpur-Rampurhat line

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday approved the doubling of the Bhagalpur-Dumka-Rampurhat railway line section spanning 177 km in Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal at a cost of ₹3,169 crore. The West Bengal at a cost of \$2,469 crore. The enhanced line capacity will improve mobility, providing enhanced efficiency and service reliability, a Fallways spokesperson said. The reliability a Fallways spokesperson said. The discretization of the control of the control of the reliability and the control of terms provided or items such as coal, cement, fertilizer, bricks and stones. The project covers line districts in the three States.

Airports face user fee cuts for poor passenger service

Regulatory body to devise uniform standards for all airports; parameters include wait time,

Jagriti Chandra NEW DELHI



rience.
"It is high time that
there was a mechanism to
evaluate airports on service delivery benchmarks,
especially when airport infrastructure is being funded by users to a large exed by users to a large ex-tent," Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AE-RA) Chairman S.K.G. Rahate said at a public con-sultation here on a paper on performance standards for airports.

Third-party audit in a first, the AERA plans appoint a third party to monitor the service deliv-

monitor the service deliv-ery. At present, airports carry out an audit of the services through a third-party hired by them. Service delivery param-eters that will be consi-dered include wait time at security queues at termi-nal gate, check-in time, se-



Performance standards: The draft focuses on key amenities, and has provided a checklist that airports will adhere. FILE PHOTO

velling economy class and ₹810 for business class tra-vel. The Bengaluru airport charges ₹550 for domestic travellers and ₹1,500 for in-

ternational passengers. The fee at the Mumbai air-

port is ₹175 for domestic travellers and ₹695 for those travelling abroad.

those travelling abroad.
Failure to meet performance metrics could result in a reduction of up to 5% on the tariff collected by airports such that it results in a reduced user development fee. In airports where user fees are not levied, the AERA proposes to lower

curity screening inside air-port, availability of help desks, time taken to travel between various termi-nals, cloakroom, sensory rooms for travellers with rooms for travellers with special needs, as well as availability of e-gates, Digi Yatra, and self-baggage drop. Cleanliness levels, conduct of airport staff, and availability of WiFi will also be looked into. The draft also focuses on amen-

draft also focuses on amen-tites for persons with re-duced mobility, and has provided a checklist that airports will have to follow, which includes accessible airport approach and washrooms, and designat-ed seating. At the Delhi airport,

termined after a six-month

High performance in certain parameters could result in a bonus of up to 1.25% on the tariff through a credit system that will be used to offset applicable

a creant system and was not been accounted by the concessionaire spenalises from the ARRA. While concessionaire ween the Altropas Authority of India (AAD and private entities (which are the concessional concessional private partnerships for operations, manage bit-private partnerships for operations, manage the concessional concessional have service benchmarks, this is the first attempt to create a uniform set of the concessional concessional Mr. Rahates told The Him-du that penalising airports become the concessional description of the concessional description of the concession description description of the concession description descr

lopment fee resulting in savings for air travellers was in line with the passenger focus of the entire move. Such a mechanism would be integrated into the tariff determination

the tariff determination process that is undertaken for a five-year cycle for ma-jor airports.

There are over 30 major airports in the country, which altogether handle more than 90% of the pas-

| Months-long delay in ST fellowship fund hits research scholars

Abhinay Lakshman NEW DELHI

Scheduled Tribe communi-ies across the country have reported months-long delays and irregularities in the disbursement of funds under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribes (NFST), a scholarship pro-

the control of the co ment. As a result, they are forced to pay out of their own pockets to conduct experiments and present papers at conferences, and borrow money for field

research.

The All India Research
Scholars Association on
Wednesday wrote to Union
Tribal Affairs Minister Jual
Oram and Secretary Vibbu
Nayyar about the issues
faced by NFST scholars, demanding the immediate re-



for setting up a grievance

lease of pending funds, and the streamlining of the dis-bursal process. The asso-ciation has also called for setting up a grievance re-dressal system for all fel-lowship-related issues. Officials told The Hindu told to the fund for the fund carranted for the five-year period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 was ex-suausted in September 2024 hausted in September 2024 "because the amount of scholarship was increased to ₹37,000". While the Ministry had sought an addi-tional budget allocation of ₹220 crore for the scheme the sanction for this came through only last month, the official said. "The pend-ing fellowships should come through in 10 to 15 days," the official added.

The NFST scheme offers 750 scholarships each year for candidates pursuing

ISRO inks agreement | RSS chief dedicated entire life to social change: PM with HAL for transfer of SSLV technology

+ Press Trust of India

The Indian Space Research The Indian Space Research Organisation signed a for-mal agreement with Hin-dustan Aeronautics Ltd. on Wednesday for the transfer of technology for produc-tion of small satellite launch vehicles (SSLV), marking a significant step in industry participation in the space sector. The agreement, the

the space sector.

The agreement, the
100th transfer of technology agreement facilitated by
the space sector promoter INSPACe, was inked in Ben-SPACe with HAL, which outbid a consortium led by Adani Group-backed Alpha

signing the agreement, a statement from INSPACe

said. During this period, the ISRO will provide train-

sort: Suita sand rAL.

sould build SSLVs so that
India could offer regular,
cost-competitive small-satellite launches to domestic
and global customers.

sort competitive small-satellite launches to domestic
strengthening the RSS
through personal sacrifice, or
strengthening the RSS
through personal sacrifice the sacrifice the research personal sacrifice the sacrification than the sacrification that the sacrificati

across Gujarat. "Such was Madhukarrao Ji's passion towards nation-building Rashtriya

wayamsewak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat as an "ex-traordinary" individual who has imbibed continui-

Describing

sald. During this period, the ISBN 0H provide train to the ISBN 0H provide the American training to the ISBN 0H provide the Agreement would allow the ISBN 0H provided the Agreement would allow the ISBN 0H provided the Agreement would allow the ISBN 0H provided to independently build the SSIV for both domestic and "We are homoured to be in this league to scale for a through the ISBN 0H provided in the ISBN 0H provided the ISBN 0H provid

that it groomed his son, Mohanrao, to work to-wards India's regeneration. It is as if Parasmani Madhu-



clarity of purpose and un-shakable commitment to Maa Bharti. Mohan Bi, in addition to doing full jus-tice to the enormity of the responsibility, has also brought to it his own strength, intellectual depth and empathetic lea-dershin, all of which is indership, all of which is inspired by the principle of Nation First," Mr. Modi said.

'Most transformative' He described Mr. Bhag-wat's tenure as the "most

SUDOKU

5

6

8 4 2 3

wat's cnaracter, ne saud that his ability to connect with people and youth had made many youngsters join the Sangh. He praised join the Sangh. He praised the RSS chief for encourag-ing the Sangh's volunteers to actively participate in mass movements such as the Swachh Bharat Mission

transformative" period in the 100-year journey of the RSS. He pointed out the changes brought by him in the Sangh such as a change in uniform and modifica-tions in the Shiksha Vargs (training camps). He out-lined Mr. Bhagwat's nature of addressing the evolving needs of society and re-called how during the CO-

Nurturing values "Earlier this year, during the inauguration of the Madhav Netra Chikitsalaya VID-19 pandemic, suggest-ed increased usage of technology to continue the in Nagpur, I had remarked that the RSS is like an Akshayavat, an eternal banyan tree that energises the na-

tive consciousness of our nation. The roots of this Akshayayat are deep and strong because they are an-chored in values. The dedication with which Mohan Bhagwat Ji has committed himself to nurturing and

himself to nurturing and advancing these values is truly inspirational," he said wishing Mr. Bhagwat a long and healthy life.

He halled the concept of Panch Parrivartan introduced by Mr. Bhagwat, which comprises oscial harmony, family values, environmental awareness, nurturing the said of the the Swachh Bharat Mission and Betti Bachao Betti Bachao Betti Padhao.

Calline R a pleasance withing Mr. Bhagwat along and healthy life.

He halled the concept of which you have been a player and and healthy life.

He halled the concept of which you have been a player and healthy life.

He halled the concept of which with you have a player and the RES central part of the halled the concept of the halled the players so cital harmony, family values, a realized with the halled the concept of the halled the concept of the halled the concept of the halled the leaders of the halled the location in the halled the concept of the halled the concept of the halled the leaders of the halled the leaders of the halled the concept of the halled the concept of the halled the leaders of the halled the concept of the halled the concept of the halled the leaders of the halled the concept of the halled the concept of the halled the leaders of the halled the properties of the halled the ha

required is both clear vi-sion and decisive action. Mohan Ji embodies both these qualities in abun-dance," he said. He hailed Mr. Bhagwat for being a vo-tary of Ek Bharat Shresh-tha Bharat and a firm be-

THEROSSWORD+14586 To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site.

Across

8 Mimicry artist in diapers (4)

SM ()

Memicry artist in dispers (4)
 Smell some blood ourselves (3)
 Smell some blood ourselves (3)
 Smell stand? Fathercated lies (4)
 Smell stand? Fathercated lies (4)
 Mythical (1)
 Mythical

- 19 Boredom may be ridiculous in this place (7)
 22 Inventor's horrible noise around commencement of dinner (6)
 24 A small volume it spread around lair results in mishap (6) 26 Its milk may help you go... (8) 28 Reply, "American news is incorrect, right?" (6)
- 30 Prison agitation (4)
- 31 Take away weapons from peacekeeper having a registered musket initially (5)
 32 Bone bits missing in Istanbul crash (4)
- Yes, I hear 3 consecutive letters carried on Roman standards Crees too manufactured coal tar product (8)
- At first, greatest of all times gets East European heard (6)
- Wrongty blame rep for foreword (8) n's wife follows Kipling character to get oriental dress (6)
- Lennon's wife follows Kipling character to get oriental Dash and change lane (4) 4 Insect found in photograph identified (5) 6 Recognised king at present, no? (5) 8 Arranging raid on US for producing extinct reptile (8) 0 Dries leaves on a horse, perhaps (5,3) Ones teaves on a horse, perhaps (5,3) California's legendary king at last gives up a mobile home (7) Guard from southern gate designated for going in (6)
- 45 Alleges setter is surrounded by many shellfish (6) 27 Drink sourced from Samastipur (4) 29 Mountain having alien name setter ignored (4)

work of the RSS. Sharing different traits of Mr. Bhag-

8 9

3

2 9 6 7

8

9

Avoid blaming others

When King Pareekshit sees a bull and a cow being beaten by a man dressed like a king, he says, "Why do you tor-ment these creatures? Did you think that because the Pandavas are no more, you can do so? I, as their representa-tive, will ensure that justice is done." The bull praises Pareekshit for following in the footsteps of the Pandavas. The bull has only one leg, and Pareekshit asks it who is responsible for its state. The bull is, in fact, Dharma devata, said Valayapet Ramachariar in a discourse.

said Valayaper Ramachariar in a discourse. Instead of blaming anyone, Dharma devata says different people have different theories about his suffering. The atheists do not believe in papar or pump. But there are some who say the bull suffers because of its karma. Some say it is just subshawa (nature) doing its job. Thus, the bull does not point fingers at anyone, further reinforcing the fact that it is the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said the Sastras of the devata of Dharma. It is said the Sastras of the Dharma. The Dharma and Dharma. It is said the Sastras of the Dharma. The Sastras of the Dharma and Dharma. The Dharma and Dharma and Dharma. The Dharma and Dharma and Dharma. The Dharma and Dharma and Dharma and Dharma and Dharma. The Dharma and Dhar fact that it is the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sauras that we must avoid baining others for something that happens. The built acts in accordance with this dharmar rule, who knows that may be a supported to the property of the control of



Digital platform to preserve tribal art, culture launched

The Union Tribal Affairs Ministry on Wednesday launched the beta version of "Adi Sanskriti", a digital platform for "tribal artforms and heritage". Officials said it had been envisioned to become the "world's first Digital University to preserve and promote the culture and knowledge of tribal communities". The digital platform will have an online marketplace, opening up a digital market for products made by tribal artisans in India. The platform consists of three components: Adi Vishwavidyalaya (Digital Tribal Art Academy), Adi Sampada (Socio-Cultural Repository), and Adi Haat (digital marketplace).

To build roads is to build peace

n India's tribal hinterlands, especially those affected by Maoist insurgency, roads are not just a matter of transport. They are emissaries of the state, carving a path not only through forests and hills but also through histories of marginalisation and neglect. In regions where formal institution

regions where formal institutions are barely visible, a newly built road often marks the first arrival o governance itself.

A growing body of research shows that road development in conflict-affected areas has a stabilising effect. In Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Odisha, core States in the "Red Corridor," the associated with improvements in electricity access, employment opportunities, and security. Road help reclaim governance from non-state actors who thrive in isolation. When the state is abser insurgent groups often step in with slogans and systems. Across conflict zones, insurgents have se up parallel institutions that mimic functions, Diego Gambetta's classic study of the Sicilian Mafia illustrates this: extralegal actors strates this: extralegal act ume roles such as conflic governance gaps in remote areas by running informal courts and levying their own "taxes." The demand and supply logic applies to governance. An undersupply of formal governance leads to opportunistic entrepreneurship seeking to pick up the slack in

ippiy. In some tribal regions, it is reported that extralegal outfits have even dispensed rudimentary medical aid where clinics are absent - an act that blurs the line absent – an act that blurs the line between care and coercion. Research by Alpa Shah (2018) and Human Rights Watch (2009) notes that the Naxalite presence in villages often includes some health services and welfare activities, though always underwritten by the threat of violence. As actobar Zachariah



s Director, Centre fo

strategic. The aim is not just survival but legitimacy. Legitimacy cannot rest on coercion alone. Extralegal

governance, while sometimes filling the gaps left by the state, not bound by constitutional punishments, including executions, without due process. This is justice without appeal, correction, or accountability-more

Mampilly (2011) observed in other insurgent contexts, such services are not charitable - they are

This is why infrastructure matters. It is the physical precondition for the presence of lawful authority. Jain and Biswas (2023) have shown that mad connectivity correlates with a decline in crime and increases Prieto-Curiel and Ronaldo Menezes (2020) demonstra Menezes (2020) demonstrate that violence is higher in poorly connected areas, whether in cities or rural zones. Infrastructure, they argue, is not merely functional; it is political. Formal state institutions, though imperfect, operate within a framework of laws shaped by democratic consensus. These laws

democratic consensus. These law are debated, refined, and subject to public scrutiny. When schools, police stations, clinics and courts are introduced in conflict-prone areas through road development, they bring not only services but a system that is, at least in principle accountable to citizens. It is the rule of law, not rule by fiat.

This contrast is critical. While formal institutions are subject to electoral oversight, bureaucratic accountability, and legal restraint, informal justice systems are not

absence of courts, entire communities can be targeted. Accusations of collaboration with security forces have, in some cases, led to mob reprisals under the guise of justice.

The Indian state has recognised this. In Chhattisgarh, former top official and current NTII Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam led a thoughtful strategy that placed infrastructure at the heart of recognizations are not as a superior of the cominfrastructure at the heart of governance renewal. Roads came first, followed by schools, clinics, and law enforcement. Each road had a message: that the state has come in, and is here to stay.

afeguards are needed too

But infrastructure alone cannot resolve conflict. Roads can carry relief or repression. Without institutional safeguards such as justice mechanisms, health-care access, and community consultation, they risk becoming symbols of control rather than inclusion. A road should not simply be laid through a village but built with the village as this is but built with the village as this is essential to legitimacy. Moreover, we must be mindful that informal social norms, even outside insurgent control, can be just as exclusionary. It is said that in some parts of rural India, hhap panchayats and caste councils operate alongside or in place of formal institutions. These bodies of the place o they may have provided swift resolution, they did so without the protections of equity or legality. Development, therefore, must aim not only to replace insurgent authority but also to integrate pluralistic, rights-based governance rooted in India's constitutional values.

As India invests in its tribal heartlands, especially in regions like southern Chhattisgarh, road like southern Chhattisgarh, road development must be part of a broader effort to extend justice, dignity, and opportunity. The goal is not merely movement but belonging. To build roads, then, is to build peace.

The BRS's woes continue

CBI probe into Kaleshwaram lapses, rebellion by Kavitha spell more trouble

Ravi Reddy

he political drama in Telangana that unfold-ed with the suspen-sion of Kalvakuntla Kavitha last week is likely to trouble the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), the main Opposition party in the State, which is confronting one issue after another. Ms. Kavitha was the the Bharat Rashtra Samithi 68RS), the main Opposition 68RS), the main Opposition 68RS), the main Opposition 68RS, the main Op

Page HRS is already graphing with a probe by the Central Bureau of investigation, ordered by the Congress graph color into the Brass and the Congress and the Congres and the Congress and the Congres and the Congres and the Congres and the Congres and the Congre Rao.

The BRS is already grap-pling with a probe by the Cen-



ing to see whether Ms. Kavitha could embarrass the party by fielding candidates in the local

odies. While the sarpanch elec tions are held on a non-party basis, the ZPTC and MPTC part of Panchayat Raj bodies part of Panchayat Raj bodies are conducted using party symbols. After losing power in the Assembly elections in 2023, drawing a blank in the 2024 general election and shocked to have 10 of its MLAs defect to the Congress, the BRS can ill-afford to face more trouble.

former Irrigation Minister, T.
Harish Rao, and former Rajya
Sabha member Joginpally Sangress is now keen to bag a macies in 32 districts. The Con-gress is now keen to bag a ma-

Political instability, economic difficulties behind Nepal's rage

Nepal is the most unstable democracy and has the fourth highest remittance-dependency

India. This shift highlights both the

growing exodus of Nepali workers and diversification of destinations beyond India. Current remittance

sources show that Qatar (10%), Saudi Arabia (9%), Malaysia (8.6%), and the UAE (7.1%) are the

(8.6%), and the UAE (7.1%) are the most preferred non-Indian desti-nations for Nepali workers. Personal remittances have surged from just 1% of Nepal's GDP in 1990 to over 33% in 2024. By this measure, Nepal ranks as the world's fourth most remittance-

remittances.

These statistics show precisely why Nepal's youth had taken to the streets with such fury, even if the violent upheaval that followed

world's highest level of political in stability while simultaneously be

coming the world's fourth most-re

DATA POINT

Vignesh Radhakrishnan

he "Gen Z" protests in Ne-pal that began as a move-ment against the ban on social media outlets and corrup-tion on Monday, took a violent turn the next day, with attacks on all institutions. The proximate rea-sons apart, political instability marked by frequent changes in go-vernment and unethical alliances – has kept Nepal's stark societal in-equalities intact, especially among youth who are forced to emigrate due to soaring unemployment. This should explain their angry

rotests. When Khadga Prasad Oli – he When Khadga Prasad Oli – he has since resigned - formed a new government in 2024, it marked the 30th change in leadership in Nepal ever since it became an elected democracy in 1990. Despite transitioning from constitutional monarchy (1990-2008) to becoming a constitutional republic (2006 on wards), no Prime Minister has ever completed a full term. all tops the world in ever the most of the constitutional republic stops the world in every the most of the constitution of the constitu

1990. Excluding countries such as leadership changes are legally mandated, Nepal leads with 25 each lasting on average just a year and two months (Table 1).

These frequent changes have undermined the promise of stable, undermined the promise of stable, democratic, federal governance as ervisioned by Nepal's two Jan Andolans (1989-90 and 2006-2008). He had not seen that long-standing inequalities between rich and poor, rural and urban, educated and less-educated elements of the seen true from the seen to the seen that long-standing inequalities — the seen that long-standing inequali

Nepal's overall unemployment 1 es has risen sharply from 23.4% in ate stood at 12.5% in 2022-23, but rate stood at 12.5% in 2022-23, but the burden falls disproportionate-ly on the young. Among those aged 15-24, unemployment reached 22.7%, compared to 11.5% in the 25-44 group and 7.5% among those aged 45-64 (Chart 2).

Roads help

reclaim governance actors who thrive in

those aged 45-64 (Chart 2).
Inequality cuts across multiple dimensions. Some I7.2% of individuals from the poorest households were unemployed, as against 8.5% from the richest. Education creates stark differences: unemployment stands at 18.1% among those with early being exhability. ployment stands at 18.3% among those with only basic schooling, compared to just 6.3% among ba-chelor's degree holders. Geogra-phy adds another layer – while Kathmandu valley records the lowest rate at 7.6%, unemployment ex-

est rate at 7.0%, unemployment ex-ceeds 20% in many rural regions. Critically, labour force partic-poor, rural, and less-educated populations. Among the relatively the labour master, a sigher share cannot find work. This creates a double disadvantage — not only-ment, but many are not even actively seeking it due to lack of rele-vant opportunities.

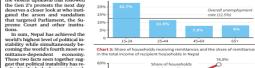
ly from disadvantaged groups, to seek work abroad. About one in four males in Nepal is absent from home, with a significant share liv-ing outside the country. The pro-portion of female-headed house-holds has increased dramatically from just 13.6% in 1995-96 to 37.1% in 2022-23, reinforcing this pattern of male out-migration.

democratic federal governance as envisioned by Nepal's two jan A. Securiorism is starkest in rural areas and among youth. About possible and 2005-2008. Political instability has also meant that long-standing inequalities—that long-standing inequalities—that long-standing inequalities—that long-standing inequalities—that long-standing inequalities—that long-standing inequalities—the sent from home, compared with just 87% in the Kathmandu valley, urban, educated and less-educate ded—remain entrenched. These divides are most pronounced among youth, the main cohort that led the demonstrations against political system that the sent of the second political instability has reduced to the second political instability has a second political instability has reduced to the second political instability has a second political instability has also Absenteeism is starkest in rural

Fire in the mountains



Table 1: Countries with the highest number of tenures their	Country	Tenures	Average tenure (months)
heads of governments have had between 1990 and August 2021	Nepal	25*	13.7
	Vanuatu	22	15.6
"The data excludes two tenuves of direct rule by former King Gyanendra. Countries where frequent leadership changes are legally mandated are excluded	Bulgaria	17	21.8
	Nauru	17	16.8
	Moldova	16	22.8
	Japan	15	23.1



FROM THE ARCHIVES The Mindu. FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 11, 1975

Madras Has Deepest Port

MADRAS, Sept. 10
Madras is the deepest port in India to-day with
the completion of dredging of the outer harbour
to receive ships 46 feet of draught last month.
The first oil tanker loaded up to 46 draught, was The Biff of the desired and a spice of the desired and a spice of Trainian crude of the Madrian refinery. The Shipping Corporation of India's ranker, M.T. "I alk balands hashard a rained and a spice of the Madrian refinery. The Shipping Corporation of India's ranker, M.T. "I alk balands hashard a rained on a spice of the spice o erthed in the Bharathi dock on August 13 with

trawlers and 500 more mechanised boats later In addition to 35 acres available on the shore to provide facilities like auction and packing halls, cold storage and processing plants. The harbour was designed to handle 40,000 tonnes of sea food per annum initially and 80,000

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 11, 1925 Abolition Of Slavery

Viscount Cecil's Proposals Submitted to League Committee (Reuter's Agency.) Viscount Cecil, on behalf of Britain. Viscount Ceil, on behalf of Britain, unexpectedly submitted to day at the League Committee, proposals for the eventual abolition of alwery, including domestic slawery in all parts of the world. No serious objections were raised. But Portuguese and other delagates emphassied the importance of more moving too rapidly. It is understood that the proposals are regarded to the proposal of the proposals are regarded to the proposal of the proposals are regarded to the proposal of the proposal of the proposal of the Brussels Act of 1890 and provides severe. assimilates slave trading with piracy and lays down that the slave vessel shall be treated as a

Frequent Leadership Changes

- Since 1990, Nepal has had 25 governments → average tenure ≈ 1 year 2 months.
- No PM has completed a full term (post-1990 democratic transition).
- Political instability stems from:
 - Transition from monarchy → constitutional republic (2008).
 - Two major Jan Andolans (1989-90, 2005-06).

Impact: Weak governance, entrenched inequalities, fragile democratic institutions.

2. Unemployment & Inequality

- Overall Unemployment (2022-23): 12.5%.
 - Youth (15–24 yrs): **22.7**%.
 - Ages 25–44: **11.5**%.
 - Ages 45–64: **7.5**%.

By Education:

- Only basic schooling: 18.1% unemployed.
- Bachelor's degree holders: 6.3%.

By Geography:

- Kathmandu Valley: 7.6%.
- Rural regions: 20%+ unemployment.

By Income:

- Poorest households: 17.2% unemployed.
- Richest households: 8.5% unemployed.
- Labour Force Participation: Lower among poor, rural, less-educated → many not even seeking jobs due to lack of opportunities.

. Migration & Remittances

- Male Out-Migration:
 - About 1 in 4 rural males absent abroad.
 - 56% of male absentees aged 15–29.
- Female-Headed Households:
 - Rose from 13.6% (1995-96) to 37.1% (2022-23).
- Remittances:
 - 1995-96: 26.6% of GDP.
 - 2022-23: 33% of GDP (world's most remittance-dependent economy).
 - Sources:
 - Within Nepal: 44.7%.
 - Abroad: 55.3%.
 - Qatar (10%), Saudi Arabia (9%), Malaysia (8.6%), UAE (7.1%).

. Socio-Economic Implications

Dependence on Migration:

- Families rely heavily on remittances → double-edged sword:
 - Supports consumption.
 - Reduces local labour availability.

Rural Distress:

- 20% of rural population absent vs only 8.7% in Kathmandu Valley.
- Rural youth more likely to protest due to unemployment + lack of opportunities.

Political Instability & Economic Fragility:

Weak state capacity + heavy dependence on external remittances = vicious cycle.

Fire in the mountains

The data for the charts were sourced from the National Statistics Office of Nepal and the Rulers, Elections and Irregular Governance dataset



office during the anti-government protests in Kathmandu, Nepal. PTI

Table 1: Countries with the highest number of tenures their heads of governments have had between 1990 and August 2021

*The data excludes two tenures of direct rule by former King Gyanendra. Countries where frequent leadership changes are legally

mandated are excluded

Country	Tenures	Average tenure (months)
Nepal	25*	13.7
Vanuatu	22	15.6
Bulgaria	17	21.8
Nauru	17	16.8
Moldova	16	22.8
Japan	15	23.1

Chart 2: Nepal's age-wise unemployment rate in 2022-23 (in %)

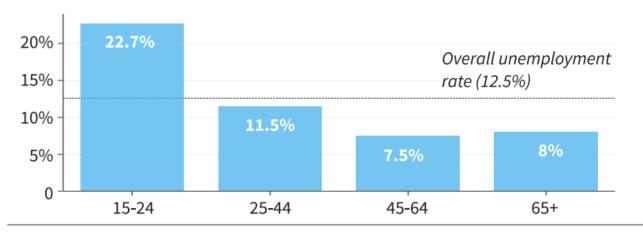
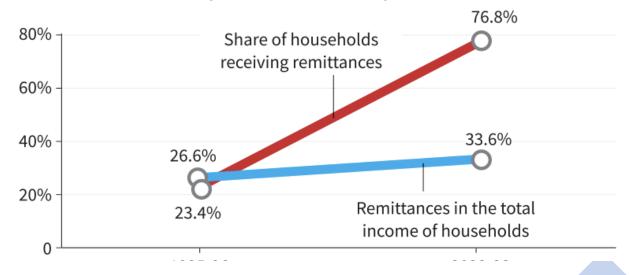


Chart 3: Share of households receiving remittances and the share of remittances in the total income of recipient households in Nepal



WASHINGTON

Trump issues rare rebuke to Netanyahu over Oatar strikes



on the wrist on Tuesday over Israel's strikes against Hamas in Qatar, as he insisted he played no role in the attack by one close U.S. ally

UN nuclear watchdog says new Iran deal covers 'all facilities'



Iran's new cooperation framework with the UN nuclear watchdog includes "all facilities and installations" in the slamic republic, the agency's head said Wednesday — though Iran said the agreement itself "does not create access". Iran agreed on a deal with the International Atomic Energy Agency on Tuesday, AP

Israel launches deadly strike on media arm of Yemen's Houthis



on Wednesday, killing and wounding an unspecified number of people, the group said. The Israeli military said it struck Huthi rebel targets in Kemen, including in Sanaa, in the latest of a series of attacks during the Gaza war. AFP

Pak, court sentences 17 supporters of Imran Khan over 2023 riots



Poland shoots Russian drones that entered airspace during Kyiv strike

Russia says it did not target Poland, while ally Belarus says it tracked some drones that 'lost their course' as they were

scribing the incursion as an "act of aggression" car-ried out during a wave of Russian strikes on Ukraine,

Russia's Defence Minisrus, said it tracked some drones that "lost their course" because they were European leaders said they



escalation by Russia of its sian troops have begun ar on Ukraine. Poland said some of the

This is the first such

group in Bangladesh since 1971

pled Sheikh Hasina's Awa-

mi League government and paved the way for No-bel laureate Muhammad Yunus' interim administra-

tion, failed to make an im pact amid internal splits. SAD candidate Abdul Qauder accused the un-

"Whenever the nation falls

into crisis. Dhaka Universi-

ty leads the way," he said.

victory for an Islamist student

NATO met to discuss the incident, which came three days after Russia's largest aerial attack on Uk-raine since the war began. "Russia's war is escalating, not ending," European Union foreign policy chief

Polish airspace has been violated many times since negative flexibility of the Russia's tillacelae linvasion there has been nothing on this scale in Poland or in any other Western nation NATO and the European Union. A NATO spokesman chain the European Chain the Eu

NATO met to discuss the incident, which came three days after Russia's largest aerial attack on Ukraine since the war began.

Chemmani mass grave probe will continue: Sri Lanka govt.

Meera Srinivasan

Sri Lanka's Ministry of Justice and National Integra-tion has refuted recent me-dia reports claiming that the exhumation at the mass grave site in Chem-mani, in the northern Jaff-na district, has been halted owing to a "lack of funds". "At no stage has there been a susension or delay

been a suspension or delay due to lack of funds," and media reports claiming so are "inaccurate and risk spreading misinformation among the public", the Mi-nistry said in a statement.

Last week, the Press Trust of India published a news report headlined 'Ex-cavation of Sri Lanka's intercepted some drones, the Netherlands' Defence Minister said.

Reaffirming its "firm Reaffirming its "firm



commitment" to supporting the judicial process, the Justice Ministry said funds for the excavations are allocated based on requests made by the Jaffna Magistrate's Court and the Judicial Medical Officer (JMO). In every instance, the full amount was re-leased based on such re-ber 8.

quests, it said, adding that the "imprest was released on time, in phases, and strictly according to neces sity". The budget for phase three, to be presented to the Jaffna High Court, will be forwarded to the Minis-

Jamaat-e-Islami wins Dhaka varsity polls

Press Trust of India

The student wing of Ja-maat-e-Islami swept the Dhaka University's stu-dents union elections, the results of which were declared on Wednesday, the first such victory for an Islamist student group since Bangladesh's indepen-dence in 1971.

dence in 1971.

The student front of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) rejected the results, alleging "planned manipulation" "manipulated the results and termed the polls a from inside the polling

"farce". The Jamaat-backed Isla-mi Chhatra Shibir (ICS) won nine of the 12 Dhaka won nine of the 12 Dhaka University Central Stu-dents Union (DUCSU) posts, the elections for which were held on Tues-day. ICS candidate Sadik Qayem as declared vice-president and SM Parhad General Secretary. The President's post remains reserved vice-Chancelor.

reserved for the vice-chancellor of vice-chan votes against 5,708 secured by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) candidate Khan,

by hisynarbadi Chharta Ball (not crisis, Phaka University Phaka University



Sri Lanka cuts perks for former Presidents

Meera Srinivasan

Sri Lanka's Parliament on Wednesday voted to cut perks and privileges ac-corded to former Presi-dents or their widows, as the ruling National Peo-ple's Power tries to keep its poll pledge of weeding out corruption and slashing ex-cessive state expenditure.

ruptions. "It's a bit exces-sive," said Bertrand Rivard,

an accounting worker on his way to a meeting in Pa-

cy and the people should not block the country because the government doesn't take the right deci-

ris, "We live in a democra-

1986 law that allowed pro-vision of a residence or a monthly allowance, secre-tarial allowance, official

transport, to a former Pre-sident or the widow of a former President; and monthly pension paid to the widow of a former Pre-sident. It came a day after Par-liamentary Speaker Learth

liamentary Speaker Jagath Wickramaratne informed the House of the Supreme Court's determination -half a dozen petition sought to challenge the go Two-thirds majority remnents move to repeal the law – that the President's Entitlements (Remount enjoys – the vote repealed the Presidents' Entitlements (Remount enjoys) and the some presidents' Entitlements (Art. a simple majority would suffice to enact it. "We are rence to enact it. "we are re-pealing the 1986 Act to save taxpayers' money," Minis-ter of Justice Harshana Na-nayakkara told Parliament.

French police arrest 250 during clashes with protesters as President Macron installs new PM

from inside the polling centres", while JCD worked from "outside". SAD's former spokes-person, Umama Fatema, who quit the group citing corruption among its leaders, also beycotted the polls after contesting underst Panel". She announced her withdrawal from the race in a predawn Facebook post. Associated Press

Protesters blocked roads, it blazes and were met with volleys of tear gas on Wednesday in Paris and elsewhere in France, heap-ing pressure on President Emmanuel Macron and making new Prime Minis-ter Sébastien Lecornu's first day in office a baptism

The Interior Ministry announced 250 arrests in the first hours of what was



6

Political instability France's prolonged cycle of political instability, with

Macron's minority govern-ments lurching from crisis to crisis, has fueled wides-pread discontent that

proad discontent that spilled onto the streets on Wednesday.

Parls protester Aglawen Parls protester Aglawen Parls protester Aglawen bediegste in a public hospital, said she wanted to de fend Prance's public ser"We're governed by robbers," she said. "People are suffering, are finding it hard to the fer and harder to last out der and harder to last out selves. We're becoming an Serves. We're becoming an Serves. We're becoming an Shady ground since he disthe first hours of what was a planned day of nation-wide demonstrations against Mr. Macron, budget in the Gase do broft ran station in Paris on Wednesday, intures:

Although falling short of its self-decard intention to "Block Everything;" the started offine over the summer caused widespread not spots of disruption, defying an exception-tion, defying an exception-tion, defying an exception-tion. The process appeared of depolation of the process of the

attacks in Congo kill at least 89 gripped France following its latest government collapse on Monday, when Prime Minister François Bayrou lost a parllament strike on Wednesday.

Associated Press

IS-affiliated

Congo by an Islamic State affiliated rebel group has risen to 89, Congoles

Puesday that 71 people were killed at a funeral in were killed at a funeral in Nyoto on Monday, and is others were killed in Beni in a separate attack on Tuesday, Both attacks took place in the North Kivu region of the country. The attacks, carried out by the Allied Democratic Force, or Alb, were the lattacks on civilians in the troubled region.

The region is best by a set of complex conflicts, in

French police arrest 250 during clashes with protesters as President Macron installs new PM

Associated Press

PARIS

Protesters blocked roads, lit blazes and were met with volleys of tear gas on Wednesday in Paris and elsewhere in France, heaping pressure on President Emmanuel Macron and making new Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu's first day in office a baptism of fire.

The Interior Ministry announced 250 arrests in the first hours of what was a planned day of nationwide demonstrations against Mr. Macron, budget cuts and other complaints.

Although falling short of its self-declared intention to "Block Everything," the protest movement that started online over the summer caused widespread hot spots of disruption, defying an exceptional deployment of 80,000



Flaring rage: A protester shouts during a demonstration in front of the Gare du Nord train station in Paris on Wednesday. REUTERS

police who broke up barricades and swiftly made arrests. Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau said that a bus was set on fire in the western city of Rennes. In the southwest, fire damage to electrical cables stopped train services on one line and disrupted traffic on another.

The protests appeared

so far to be less intense than previous bouts of unrest that have sporadically rocked Mr. Macron in both his first and ongoing second term as President.

Nevertheless, demonstrations and sporadic clashes with riot police in Paris and elsewhere Wednesday added to a sense of crisis that has again gripped France following its latest government collapse on Monday, when Prime Minister François Bayrou lost a parliamentary confidence vote.

Political instability

France's prolonged cycle of political instability, with Macron's minority governments lurching from crisis to crisis, has fueled widespread discontent that spilled onto the streets on Wednesday.

Paris protester Aglawen Vega, a nurse and union delegate in a public hospital, said she wanted to defend France's public services from privatization.

"We're governed by robbers," she said. "People are suffering, are finding it harder and harder to last out the month, to feed themselves. We're becoming an impoverished nation."

Ms. Vega said the anger

that fueled the 2018 Yellow Vest protests never went away and pushed her to strike on Wednesday.

Some criticized the disruptions. "It's a bit excessive," said Bertrand Rivard, an accounting worker on his way to a meeting in Paris. "We live in a democracy and the people should not block the country because the government doesn't take the right decisions," he said.

Lecornu, the new prime minister who previously served as minister of defense, now inherits the task of addressing France's budget difficulties, facing the same political instability and widespread hostility to Macron that contributed to Bayrou's undoing.

Macron's governments have been on particularly shaky ground since he dissolved the National Assembly last year.

Protests Across France (Paris, Rennes, etc.)

- Protesters blocked roads, set fires, clashed with police.
- Trigger: anger over budget cuts, privatization, corruption, and political instability.
- Protest slogan: "Block Everything".
- Police deployed tear gas; **250 arrests** made.

Scale of Security Measures

- Govt deployed **80,000 security personnel** nationwide.
- Fire damage in Rennes (bus set ablaze, electrical cables burnt).

ullet

Political Developments

New Prime Minister Installed

- **Sébastien Lecornu** → sworn in after resignation of PM **François Bayrou** (lost confidence vote).
- Lecornu previously served as **Defence Minister**.
- Faces challenge: public discontent, protests, budget issues.

Macron's Governance Crisis

- Macron's minority government = unstable, lurching "from crisis to crisis".
- Prolonged cycle of instability fuels discontent.
- Reminiscent of **2018 Yellow Vest protests** (triggered by fuel tax hike).

Nature of Protests

Public Sentiments

- Protesters = unions, nurses, public sector workers.
- Focus: **protecting public services** from privatization.
- Quotes:
 - "We're governed by robbers... People are suffering, finding it harder to feed themselves" (Paris protester).
- Some citizens criticized disruption: argued protests block economy & public life.

Social Anger

- Rising inequality & inflation.
- Long-term resentment since 2018 remains unresolved.

France = 2nd largest EU economy, but faces:

- High public debt (~110% of GDP).
- Unemployment ~7% (youth unemployment >15%).
- Inflationary pressures in recent years.

Comparative Angle

France vs Nepal (recent protests)

- Both reflect youth
 anger +
 unemployment + weak
 political leadership.
- Show how instability in democracies (developed & developing) can manifest through protests.

India-Israel Sign Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA)

India and Israel have signed a fresh bilateral investment treaty, making Israel the first OECD country to adopt India's new investment treaty model.

This replaces the older version of BIT signed between **India and Israel in 1996,** which was terminated in 2017

- BITs grant rights to investors, allowing them to seek remedies through investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanisms, or to home states, through state-to-state dispute settlement.
- Recognized under Article 38(1)(a) of the International Court of Justice statute, as a primary source of international obligations.
- India's BIT Evolution: Old Model BIT (1993) replaced by New Model BIT (2015) and recent BITs signed with Uzbekistan (2024), UAE (2024), and Kyrgyzstan (2025).

- Key Feature of India- Israel BIT:
 - **Investment Boost:** Expected to increase bilateral investments, currently worth around **USD 800 million**.
 - **Balanced Investor Protection:** The agreement safeguards investors against the risk of **government expropriation or nationalization of assets** and ensures that any such action must be accompanied by fair and prompt compensation.
 - **Dispute Resolution:** Includes an **arbitration-based mechanism** to settle disputes, promoting a stable investment environment.
 - **Transparency and Predictability:** Governments are required to maintain clear and predictable investment policies and regulations, reducing uncertainty and strengthening investor confidence.

- How Has the Bilateral Relationship Between India and Israel Evolved Over Time?
- Diplomatic Relation: Though India officially recognized Israel in 1950, both countries established full diplomatic ties only on 29th January 1992.
- Economic Ties: Bilateral trade between India and Israel reached USD 6.53 billion (excluding defense) in FY 2023-24, with India maintaining a trade surplus.
- Innovation & Technology: Initiatives like the India-Israel Industrial R&D and Innovation Fund (I4F) (2023–2027) aim to foster joint research and technological advancements.

- Regional Cooperation: The I2U2 Partnership, involving India, Israel, the UAE, and the US, held its first summit in 2022 to strengthen regional collaboration.
- Defense Cooperation: India is one of the largest importers of weapons from Israel, contributing to approx 40% of its annual arms exports.
 - The two countries have co-developed the **Barak-8 missile system**, and India conducts **regular port calls at Haifa**, Israel.
- Cultural Exchange Programs: Collaboration extends to cultural exchange programs, health and medical cooperation, and MoUs on agriculture and water resource management.



ZAPAD Exercise 2025

he Indian Armed Forces
contingent has departed for
Russia to take part in
the Joint multilateral military
exercise ZAPAD 2025, which
will be held in Nizhniy, Russia.

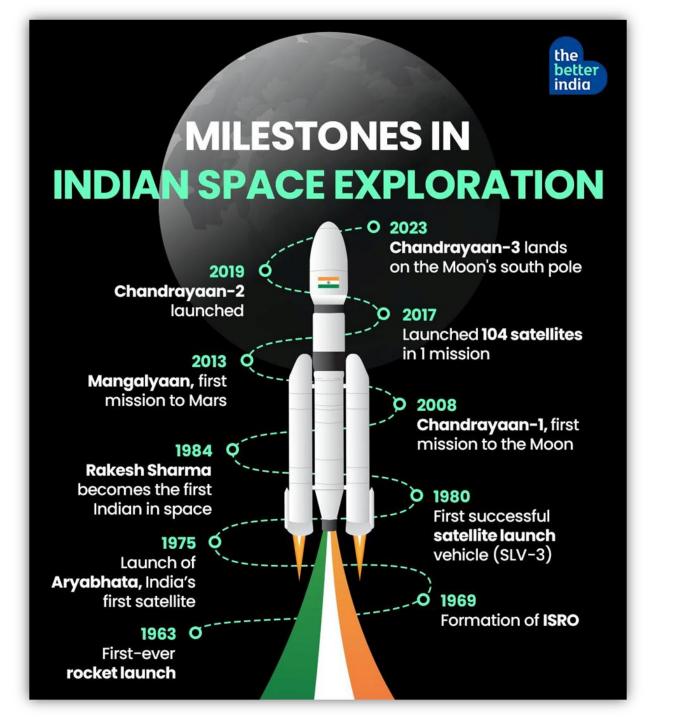
The Indian Army contingent is led by a battalion of the **Kumaon Regiment**, along with troops from other arms and services, comprising personnel from the **Indian Army**, **Air Force**, and **Navy**.



India inaugurated
the International Conference
on Space 2025, highlighting the
country's ambitious
space goals, its evolving space
strategy, and its future role
in global space exploration.

Theme: Harnessing Space for Global Progress: Innovation, Policy, and Growth.

- India's Major Space Ambitions
- To establish a Bharatiya Space Station by 2035 and send an Indian astronaut to the Moon by 2040.
- Future exploration missions to Mars, Venus, and asteroids are part of the roadmap
- . The Gaganyaan human spaceflight programmme is being developed as a priority.
- India's international collaborations include the NASA-ISRO NISAR mission with the United States and the upcoming Chandrayaan-5 mission with Japan, showcasing space as a platform for global engagement.



Word of the day

Conscientious:

characterised by extreme care and great effort; guided by or in accordance with conscience or sense of right and wrong

Synonyms: painstaking, scrupulous

Usage: It was a conscientious decision to speak out about injustice.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/

conscientiouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˌkɒnʃiˈɛnʃəs/

