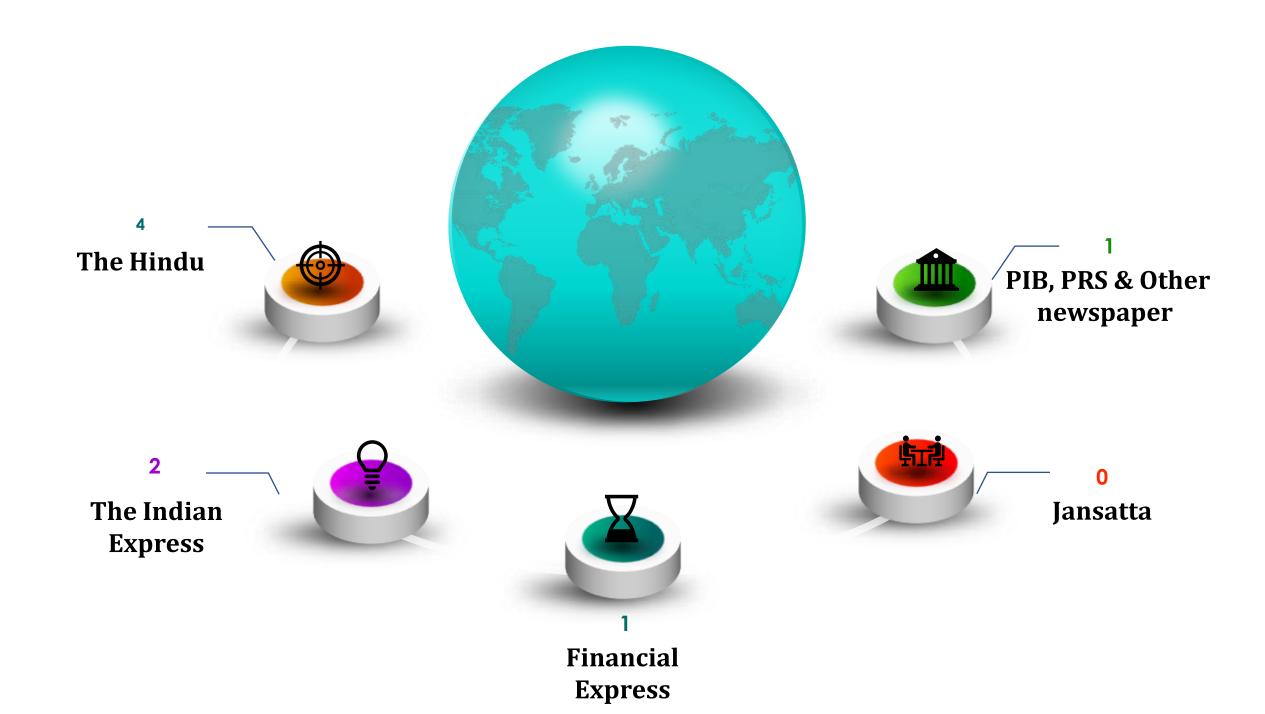
Daily Current Affairs











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"It is better to be hated for what you are than to be loved for what you are not."

- Andre Gide, Autumn Leaves

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VESSEL CINE Efforts hit as salvor ship runs out of fuel STATES IS PAGE 9





Concerns over the future of Bangladesh Is the country slipping into authoritarianism



Cummins takes six. but SA strikes back SPORT II PAGE 16

AI flight with 242 on board crashes in Ahmedabad

The tragedy in Airmodahad har stunned and saddened

7 Portuguese -53 Britons

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NARENDRA MODI

London-bound Boeing 787 aircraft crashes

Pilot issues 'Mayday' alert soon after take-off, goes silent before the crash

Passengers in Akk/k

8,000 had almost

Several casualties feared on the ground

One passenger survives miraculously he was identified as a British nationa

into medical college complex after take-off

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to London, carrying 239 passengers and 12
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ly, no one aboard the air craft could be rescued.
The Boeing 787-8 air-eraft took off from farster Vallabbbbhai Patel Interna-tional Airport in Abineda-bad at 1.38 p.m and was headed in Carwink Airport in Landon. Immediately af-ter take-off, it crashed in the residential area of

Meghant Nagar.

Pact turn of events
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captured by the CSS, the
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seconds of being airborne.
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Tragedy

on take-off

January

The crash marks the first deadly incident involvi

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were Indians, 53 British, and assen Portuguese, One was Canadian.

was canadian.
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Minister Vilay Impair was
Thursday's crash is the
first involving a variant of
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the other people on board
could be saved. That to the
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cued," he said. The Press Trust of India identified

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who lost their he is the tragedy. Air lindia is also organis-ing two rolled flights, one each from Delhi and Mum-hat, to Abmedahad for the next of kin of panningura for clues to understand what happened in the last crucial moments of flight.

and Air India staff.
Air India CEO Campbell were brought to civil hospi-tal in Ahmedabad, Deputy

Wilson said the airline was tal in Ahmiedabad, Depairy Commissioner of Police Kanan Desai told pressper-sons, suggesting that 24 pe-ople on the ground were killed in the crash.

Air India and Trau Sens-charman N. Chambaseka-row said the Trau Group-the families of each purson who lost their life in the trauedy. Wilson said the airline was actively working with rele-vant authorities on the emergency response and a special team of caregivers-way being despatched to Ahmedabad to provide ad-ditional support.

PM in Ahmedahad
"We will also cover the
medical expenses of those
injursed and ensure that
they receive all necessary
once and support. Addi-tionally, we will previde
support in the building up
of the M.J. Medical's lion-

tel," an official statement said. Shortly after the crash.

Shortly after the crash, Prime Minister Narendra Modi apoke to Union Mini-ter of Civil Aviation Ram-molain Nasida, who continued to the con-tinue the covering. Investigating teams from the Directorate Gen-eral of Civil Aviation and the Alectart In-trived in Ahmedabad later in the day.

in the day. (With P77 inputs) PAGES S.A.

Rupani's trip to meet his family in U.K. turns fatal

The Hindu Burons

or C.R. Pastil Minister de scribed the OHO HE HAD

HP family", Rupani, who held the post of Chief Mi-nister of Gujarar between 2016 and 2021 in two terms before being re-placed by the current Chief Minister Bhupenitra Patel, was en route to Lon-don to join his wife and other members of hi

family. Mr. Rupani de clared his retire ment from electors politics just before the 2022 election.

PULL REPRET OF E PAGE S

At least 5 MBBS students killed, says medical body

Press Trust of India

Retail inflation eases to

At least five MBBS atti-dents, one. PG resident doctor and the wife of a su-per probable from the per-pendide from the per-pendide from the per-tended in the plane of the mediadad were falled and over 8D mediada students injured. Ale India plane crashed into after easiden-ing the plane of the plane crashed into after easiden-ical college on Thursday, the Federation of All India Mediad Association sold. Over 100 MBBs midents were laveling briefs in the



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INSTIDE



Killed twelve Israeli-backed militia: Hamas

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police force and it sities 12
remembers of an street backled
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artier, ar brazel supported aid
group said Harrass attacked a
bus sarging its Palestenian
workers, a PAGE 14



Modi-Carney meet to focus on bilateral reset

NEW BRIDERS PAR Marrindra Modify musting Mark Carney will be an

India marks a relative decline in gender parity, ranks 131 worldwide

Press Trust of India

The World Reonomic Po-The World Rennomic Per-rum's Global Gender Gap Report 2028 has ranked in-dia at 131 out of 148 coun-tries, with a parity searce of just 64.1%. The report re-leased on Thursday puis india among the lowest-ranked countries in South Asia. India had ranked 129 out of 146 countries last year.

year.

The report said that while the global gender gap has closed to 68.8%, marking the strongest annual advancement since the COVID-19 pandemic, full parity remains 123 years away at current rates. Iceland leads the rankings for the 16th year run-ning, followed by Finland, Norway, the U.K. and New

aland. bangladesh emerged as the best performer in South Asia, jumping 75 po-sitions to rank 24 globally with notable gains in "pol-tical enpowerment and sconomic participation".

Four key dimensions The 19th edition of the re-port, which covers 148 eco-nomies, revealed both en-couraging momentum and

Race to The report said the global gooder gap has closed to Bs. #%. District and the makings of said the global gooder gap has



persistent structural bar-

persistent structural bar-riers facing woman worldwide.
The Global Gender Gap index measures gender includes economic parti-cipation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival, and political engineerines. So overall performance in-

460000

proved in absolute terms by 0.3 points.

"One of the dimensions where high intereases part ty is in Kontonia Participation in Kontonia Participation in Kontonia Participation where its notes improves by 1.9 percentage points to 40.7 per cent. While most indicator values remain the same, party in estimate the same, party in continuation of the party in the same of the same of the same of the party in the same of the same of

proved in absolute terms

per cent, positively impacting the submidee scene,"
the regord said, indica perthe regord said, indica perparticipation rate reparticipation rate reparticipation rate reparticipation rate reparticipation scene of 5.7%, reflecting possitive shifts in fremade shares for literacy
redirect, which remained in positive scene improvepositive score improvepositive score improve-ments for the subindex as a

whole, "India also revorts high-er parity in health and sur-vival, driven by improved sores in ses ratio at birth and in healthy life expec-tancy," it said. However, similar to oth-

er countries, parity in healthy life experiancy is obtained despite an overall reduction in the life expec-tancy of men and women, the report said. India recorded a drop in

India recorded a drop in parity in political empo-werment for the second year in a crow with female representation in parlia-ment falling from 14-7% to 13-8%, the report said. Nepal ranked 128, Sri Lanks 120, Blutan 119, Nat-thing 134 and Pakistan attenting all countries at 148.

india's retail inflation

bruary 2019.
Overall, retail inflation has averaged 2,99% in 2025-26 — based on the two mouths of data swallable—the lowest average for the first two months of a financial year since 2017-18. Inflation in the food and

beverages category eased to 1.5% in May 2025, down from 2.1% in April. This marks the seventh connec-utive month of slowing food inflation. Likely pause in rate cuts

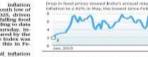
Deflation in key compo-nents such as vegetables, pulses, spices, and meat contributed to this decontributed to this de-cline," said Rajori Sinha, Chief Romomist at Ca-relidge Rutings, "However, double-digit inflation in ed-ible oils and fruits partially offset the broader modera-tion." Economists say that the the persistent rise in edible oil prices remains a con-corn, driven by a contrac-tion in oilseed sowing, rising global prices, and india' dependence on im-ports in this segment. "The government's recent move to reduce the hast customs duty on imported crude edible oils from 20%

crude edition out from 20% to 10% in expendent of fer some celler going forward, inflation in the page, to bacco, and other intoxicants category quickened marginally to 2.4% in May

cants category quickerned marginality no 2-49 in May from 2-19. In April.

Similarly, inflation in the housing segment inched up to 3-29. In May from 3-19. In April. Inflation in the cloribing and footwear the same in May as it was in Asril. at 2-679.

T.C.A. Shared Baghayan Price ease



six-year low of 2.8% in May

substantial easing of infla-tion and the BBD's recent interest rate cuts mean the central bank will likely pause further rate cuts in the short term. "While the overall infla-

tion trajectory is expected to remain benign, the re-cent frontloated policy ac-tions and the guidance of insited room for incremen instead room for incremen-tal easing suggests a pro-longed pause for now, with further actions being high-by data dependent," said Upsama libaritwal, Chiar Roomomist at Kotak Mahin-

Reconomist at Kortak Mahindra Hanking Law in Agus de Marking Law in Marking Law i

AI flight with 242 on board crashes in Ahmedabad

London-bound Boeing 787 aircraft crashes into medical college complex after take-off

Pilot issues 'Mayday' alert soon after take-off, goes silent before the crash

Several casualties feared on the ground with official count of those killed awaited

One passenger survives miraculously; he was identified as a British national

Jagriti Chandra AHMEDABAD

n Air India flight from Ahmedabad to London, carrying 230 passengers and 12 crew members, crashed shortly after take-off on Thursday afternoon. A towering plume of smoke was visible from afar following a massive explosion after the aircraft plummeted into a medical college hostel five kilometres from the airport as students were gathered for lunch.

Barring one passenger who survived miraculously, no one aboard the aircraft could be rescued.

The Boeing 787-8 aircraft took off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad at 1.38 p.m and was headed to Gatwick Airport in London. Immediately after take-off, it crashed in the residential area of Meghani Nagar.

Fast turn of events

According to CCTV footage captured by the CISF, the aircraft crashed under 40 seconds of being airborne. The aircraft was steered by pilot-in-command Sumit Sabharwal and co-pilot Clive Kunder. Government sources said the pilots gave a 'Mayday' call immediately after take-off, signalling a life-threatening emergency, but did not respond to subsequent calls made by

the airport traffic control. According to Air India, of the 230 passengers, 169



were Indians, 53 British, and seven Portuguese. One was Canadian.

Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani was among the dead.

Thursday's crash is the first involving a variant of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner series.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who met the sole survivor of the crash in hospital, said none of the other people on board could be saved. "Due to the huge amount of fuel at 1.25 lakh litres and high temperature from the explosion, no one could be res-

cued," he said. The Press Trust of India identified the survivor as Viswashkumar Ramesh, a U.K. citizen travelling in the All seat of the aircraft, heading to London with his brother.

Mr. Shah said that the process of retrieving bodies was almost complete, and that the official death toll would be released after DNA samples are matched bodies are and all identified.

The search was also on for the aircraft's black box for clues to understand what happened in the last crucial moments of flight.

As many as 265 bodies were brought to civil hospital in Ahmedabad, Deputy Commissioner of Police Kanan Desai told presspersons, suggesting that 24 people on the ground were killed in the crash.

Air India and Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran said the Tata Group would provide ₹1 crore to the families of each person who lost their life in the

tragedy. Air India is also organising two relief flights, one each from Delhi and Mumbai, to Ahmedabad for the next of kin of passengers and Air India staff.

Air India CEO Campbell Wilson said the airline was actively working with relevant authorities on the emergency response and a special team of caregivers was being despatched to Ahmedabad to provide additional support.

PM in Ahmedabad

"We will also cover the medical expenses of those injured and ensure that they receive all necessary care and support. Additionally, we will provide support in the building up of the B.J. Medical's hostel," an official statement

Shortly after the crash, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Union Minister of Civil Aviation Rammohan Naidu, reached the accident site in the evening.

Investigating teams from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau also arrived in Ahmedabad later in the day.

(With PTI inputs)

MORE REPORTS ON » PAGES 5 & 6

Rupani's trip to meet his family in U.K. turns fatal

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, 69. was among those who perished in the crash of Air India flight AI-171, Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil

confirmed on Thursday.

The Union Minister scribed the loss as one "deeply felt by the

BJP family". Rupani, who held the post of Chief Minister of Gujarat between 2016 and 2021 in two terms before being replaced by the current Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, was en route to London to join his wife and

other members of his family.

Mr. Rupani declared his retirement from electoral politics just before the 2022 election.

> **FULL REPORT ON** PAGE 5

At least 5 MBBS students killed, says medical body

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

At least five MBBS students, one PG resident doctor and the wife of a superspecialist doctor of the B.J. Medical College in Ahmedabad were killed and over 60 medical students injured Air India plane crashed into after residential quarters of the BJ Med ical college on Thursday, the Federation of All India

Medical Association said. Over 100 MBBS students were having lunch in the



Rescue efforts ongoing at the crash site, VLIAY SONEJI

mess when the flight crashed into the building.

STUDENTS MISSING

» PAGE 5

Air India AI-171 Crash: Key Facts

Parameter	Details	O
Flight	Air India AI-171	
Aircraft Type	Boeing 787 Dreamliner	
Crash Location	Shortly after take-off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Int'l Airport, Ahmedabad	
Date & Time	Thursday, 1:38 PM	
Passengers	Total: 230 (169 Indians, 53 Britons, 7 Portuguese, 1 Canadian)	
Aircraft Age	Nearly 12 years old (First flight: Dec 2013; Delivered: Jan 2014)	
Flight Hours	Over 41,000	
Cycles in 12 months	700+ out of 8,000 total	

About Boeing 787 Dreamliner Globally

Data	Figure
Global Variants in Service	1,148
Average Age Worldwide	7.5 years
Total Ordered Worldwide	2,598
In Air India Fleet (Post-crash)	33 units



First fatal crash involving a Boeing 787 Dreamliner.



The tail section struck a building of B.J. Medical College hostel, highlighting possible deviation from flight path or inability to gain height.



Emergency response was activated promptly, but incident raises issues about urban encroachment near airports and preparedness.

OPERATION Policy Recommendations for India

Recommendation	Justification
Strengthen aircraft aging and usage norms	Prevent mechanical fatigue-induced failures
Create buffer zones around airports	To avoid civilian casualties near crash sites
Upgrade emergency protocols	Improve survival chances and minimize chaos
Establish independent crash investigation agency	For unbiased assessment and global credibility
Integrate Al-powered flight anomaly detectors	Predictive tech for early warnings in high-cycle aircraft

Tragedy on take-off

Air India flight AI-171 crashed shortly after taking off from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

International Airport at **1:38 p.m.** on Thursday

.........

The crash marks the first deadly incident involving an aircraft from the Boeing 787 Dreamliner series

AIR INDIA

Passengers in Al 171

The tragedy in Ahmedabad has stunned and saddened us. It is heartbreaking beyond words

169 Indians

41,000 hours
The aircraft that crashed
on Thursday was nearly
12 years old with more
that 41,000 hours of

It had its **first flight** in December 2013 and was delivered to Air India in January 2014

The aircraft had almost 8,000 takeoffs and landings, including some 700 cycles in the past 12 months

There are

flying time

1,148
Boeing 787 variants in service globally, with an average age of 7.5 years

33
Air India presently has 33 Boeing 787
Dreamliner variant

has 33 Boeing 787
Dreamliner variants
in service after
Thursday's crash

2,598 Dreamliners have been ordered by more than 80 airlines around the world

Fatal flight: The tail of the Air India flight 171 protruding out of the hostel mess of B.J. Medical College in Ahmedabad on Thursday





MAJOR AIR TRAGEDIES IN INDIA

October 1976

An Indian Airlines plane crashed in Mumbai, killing all 95 people on board

January 1978

A Mumbai-Dubai Air India flight crashed into the Arabian Sea, killing 213

October 1988

An Indian Airlines flight crashed during landing attempt in Ahmedabad, killing 133 on board

August 1991

An Indian Airlines flight crashed during descent near Imphal, killing all 69

November 1996 🗶

Two planes collided midair over Charkhi Dadri in Haryana, killing around 350

August 2020

An Air India Express flight from Dubai to Kozhikode in Kerala crashed while landing, killing 21 people



May 2010

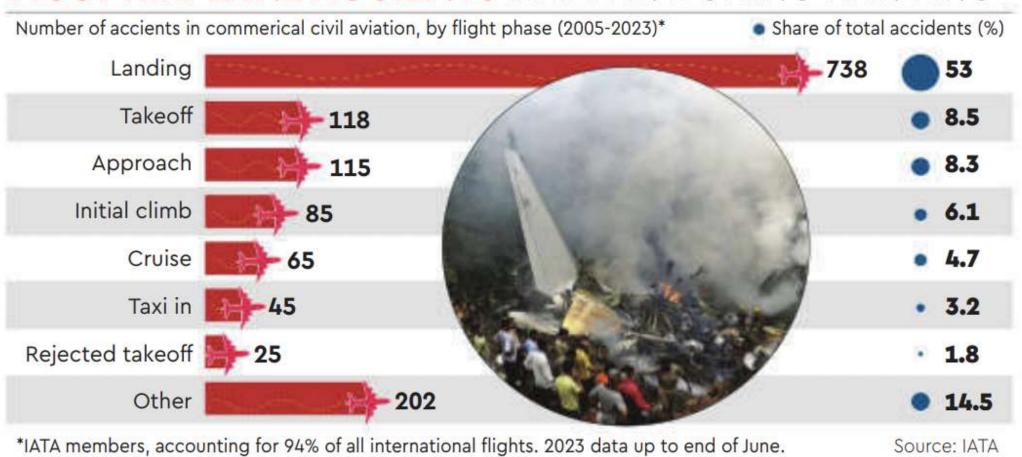
An Air India Express flight from Dubai to Mangaluru in Karnataka crashed while landing, killing 158

July 2000

An Alliance Air flight crashed in Patna, killing 55 people on board and 5 on the ground

COMPILED BY SWARAJ BAGGONKAR

MOST AIRPLANE ACCIENTS HAPPEN DURING LANDING



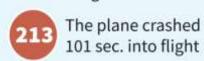
Disasters in the past

Some of the big aviation disasters in India

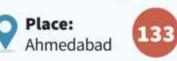
NUMBER OF DEATHS



Jan. 1, 1978: Air India Flight 855



Oct. 19, 1988: Indian Airlines Flight 113



Feb. 14, 1990: Indian Airlines Flight 605





Feb. 14, 1990: Indian Airlines Flight 605







Nov. 12, 1996 Collision of Saudia Flight 763-Kazakhstan Airlines Flight 1907



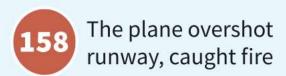
July 17, 2000: Alliance Air Flight 7412







May 22, 2010: Air India Express Flight 812



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0

By ground engineers:

Servicing, fuelling and hydraulic checks, tyre and brake inspections, etc to certify the plane as airworthy, which is done with a sign on the logbook.

What are a Dreamliner's safety checks?

Crew: Does in-flight checks like powering up aircraft systems and configuring and testing controls and instruments. This involves checking if the landing gear lever is down and flap and spoiler levers are in the right position, fuel pumps are on, and engine fuel switches cut off until engine start. Critical warning systems are tested, too.

Pilots: One pilot does an external walkaround to visually inspect the aircraft, everything from tyres and doors to fuselage and wings. Pilots also do an exhaustive check of the cockpit setup. Finally, the captain signs off on a formal 'aircraft acceptance' in the logbook.

was

WHAT ARE A DREAMLINER'S KEY WARNING SYSTEMS?

Dreamliner's integrated alerting system ensures that any parameter out of normal range generates an alert according to priority

EICAS (Engine-Indicating & Crew-Alerting System) is a Boeing plane's nerve centre and displays all engine parameters (thrust, temperature, pressure) and monitors hundreds of system sensors. For example, EICAS will notify if a door isn't properly closed.

GPWS/TAWS (Ground
Proximity Warning
System/Terrain
Awareness & Warning
System) alerts pilots to
imminent ground collision
or unsafe descent rates, critical
in low-visibility or nighttime
operations. If it senses danger, the
system issues callouts like 'terrain,
terrain" and "pull up".

TCAS (Traffic Collision Avoidance System) prevents mid-air collisions by scanning for other aircraft transponders. If another aircraft comes too close, it tells the pilots to climb or descend and the other plane to do the opposite.

SWS (Stall Warning System) continuously monitors airspeed and other parameters to warn of a stall or a loss of lift.



Windshear Detection notes any sudden changes in wind velocity, or windshear. This gives pilots critical advance



warning, enabling them to abort a takeoff or go around.

Enhanced Flight Vision & Alerts warn pilots if a plane is drifting from glidepath. Also has altitude alerters and autopilot disconnect warnings.



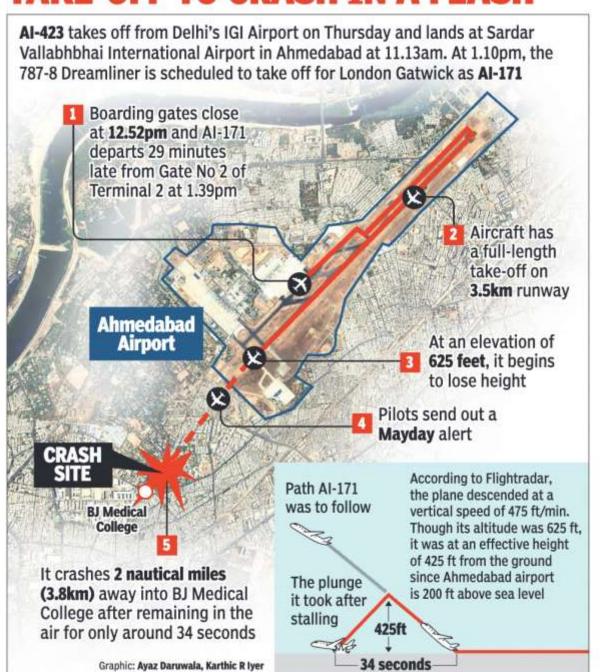
Fire & Smoke Alarms sounds warnings if there's smoke in the lavatories or avionics bay, or fire in an engine or cargo hold.



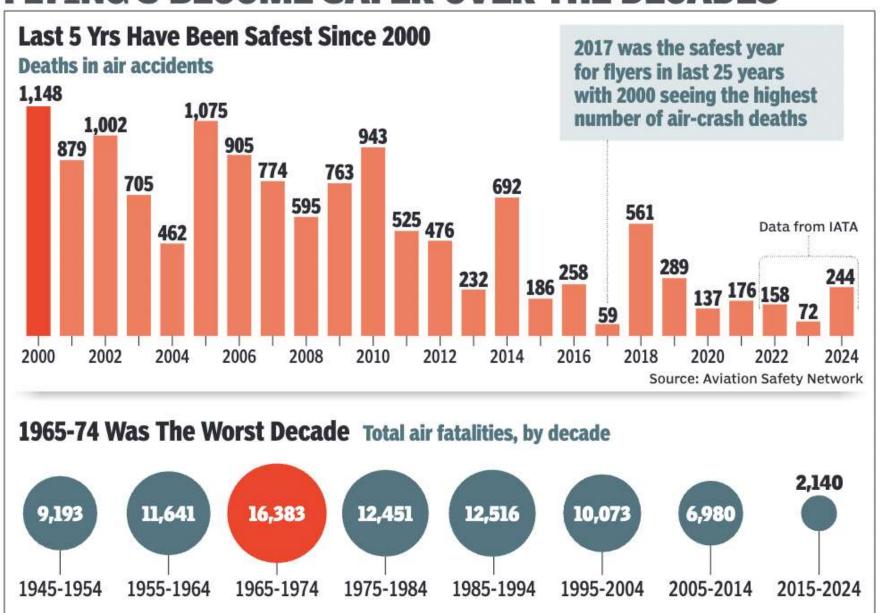
Tail-Strike Protection
alerts the pilots and logs
for inspection any strike or
near-strike detected by the
tail skid sensor during take-off
or landing.



TAKE-OFF TO CRASH IN A FLASH

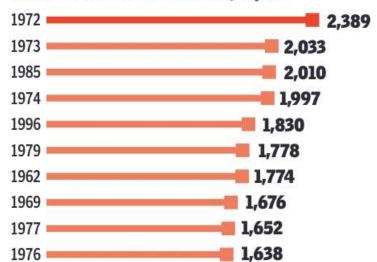


FLYING'S BECOME SAFER OVER THE DECADES



Highest Fatalities Happened In 1972

Years with most air fatalities, top 10





Firefighters try to douse the flames at the crash site near Ahmedabad airport on Thursday

Worst air accident was a runway collision Airline crashes by toll, worst 5

	Date	Type of aircraft	Operator	Fatalities	location	A KLM Boeing
1	Mar 27,	Boeing 747-121	Pan Am	583	Spain	√747 collided
1	1977	Boeing 747-206B	KLM	303	Spaili	during takeoff with a taxiing
2	Aug 12, 1985	Boeing 747SR-46	JAL	520	Japan	Pan Am 747 on Spanish island of
3	Nov 12,	Ilyushin Il-76TD	Kazakhstan Airlines	349	India	Tenerife, leaving behind a handful
)	1996	Boeing 747-168B	Saudi Arabian	347	IIIuia	of survivors
4	Mar 3, 1974	DC-10-10	THY	346	France	
5	23-Jun-85	Boeing 747-237B	Air India	*329	Atlantic Ocean	*Terrorist Attack

India marks a relative decline in gender parity, ranks 131 worldwide

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2025 has ranked India at 131 out of 148 countries, with a parity score of just 64.1%. The report released on Thursday puts India among the lowestranked countries in South Asia. India had ranked 129 out of 146 countries last year.

The report said that while the global gender gap has closed to 68.8%, marking the strongest annual advancement since the COVID-19 pandemic, full parity remains 123 years away at current rates.

Iceland leads the rankings for the 16th year running, followed by Finland, Norway, the U.K. and New Zealand.

Bangladesh emerged as the best performer in South Asia, jumping 75 positions to rank 24 globally with notable gains in "political empowerment and economic participation".

Four key dimensions

The 19th edition of the report, which covers 148 economies, revealed both encouraging momentum and

Race to equality

The report said the global gender gap has closed to 68.8%. Below are the rankings of select countries:



Top 10 countries

1	Iceland
2	Finland
3	Norway
4	United Kingdom
5	New Zealand
6	Sweden
7	Republic of Moldova
8	Namibia
9	Germany
10	Ireland

India and its neighbours

Bangladesh	24	Bangladesh,
Bhutan	119	with a
Nepal	125	ranking of
Sri Lanka	130	24, emerged as the best
India	131	performer in
Maldives	138	South Asia
Pakistan	148	

Report said full parity remains 123 years away at current rates

persistent structural barriers facing women worldwide.

The Global Gender Gap Index measures gender parity across four key dimensions: economic participation and opportunity; educational attainment; health and survival; and political empowerment.

The Indian economy's overall performance improved in absolute terms by 0.3 points.

"One of the dimensions where India increases parity is in Economic Participation and Opportunity, where its score improves by +.9 percentage points to 40.7 per cent. While most indicator values remain the same, parity in estimated earned income rises from 28.6 per cent to 29.9

per cent, positively impacting the subindex score," the report said. India's performance in labour force participation rate remained the same (45.9%) as last year. In educational attainment, the report said, India scored 97.1%, reflecting positive shifts in female shares for literacy and tertiary education enrolment, which resulted in positive score improvements for the subindex as a whole.

"India also records higher parity in health and survival, driven by improved scores in sex ratio at birth and in healthy life expectancy," it said.

However, similar to other countries, parity in healthy life expectancy is obtained despite an overall reduction in the life expectancy of men and women, the report said.

India recorded a drop in parity in political empowerment for the second year in a row with female representation in parliament falling from 14.7% to 13.8%, the report said.

Nepal ranked 125, Sri Lanka 130, Bhutan 119, Maldives 138 and Pakistan ranked at the bottom among all countries at 148.

India's Gender Gap Report 2025: Summary

Parameter	Detail
India's Rank	131 out of 148 countries
Parity Score	64.1%
Global Average	68.8%
India's Rank in 2024	129 out of 146 countries
Time to full parity globally	123 years (at current rates)
Top performer globally	Iceland (Rank 1), followed by Finland, Norway, UK, and New Zealand
Top performer in South Asia	Bangladesh (Rank 24)

India's Performance by Dimension

→ Economic Participation	Score improved by 0.3 points (female income from 28.6% → 29.9% of male income)
→ Labour Force Participation	Remained same at 45.9%
→ Educational Attainment	Scored 97.1% – higher literacy and tertiary enrolment
→ Health & Survival	Higher parity – improved sex ratio at birth and life expectancy gap
→ Political Empowerment	Declined again (female parliament share fell from 14.7% → 13.8%)

South Asia Comparison

Country	Rank (2025)	Remarks
Bangladesh	24	Best in South Asia, 75-place jump
Bhutan	119	Ahead of India
Nepal	125	Ahead of India
Sri Lanka	130	Just ahead of India
India	131	Among worst in the region
Maldives	138	Lower than India
Pakistan	148	Worst in the world

ORDITION Recommendations for Policy

Area	Suggestion
Political Empowerment	Speedy implementation of 33% reservation for women in Parliament & Assemblies
Workplace Inclusion	Tax incentives, maternity-friendly workplace, flexible work hours
Skill & Employability	Upskilling rural women in digital/green economy sectors
Health & Survival	Strengthen Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao + nutrition tracking at panchayat level
Data Transparency	State-wise Gender Gap Index for targeted governance

Race to equality

The report said the global gender gap has closed to 68.8%. Below are the rankings of select countries:



Top 10 co	untries
-----------	---------

1	Iceland
2	Finland
3	Norway
4	United Kingdom
5	New Zealand
6	Sweden
7	Republic of Moldova
8	Namibia
9	Germany
10	Ireland

India and its neighbours

Bangladesh	24	Bangladesh,
Bhutan	119	with a
Nepal	125	ranking of
Sri Lanka	130	24, emerged as the best
India	131	performer in
Maldives	138	South Asia
Pakistan	148	2

Report said full parity remains

123 years

away at current rates

STREET, STREET, ST

Israel's starvation of Gaza is a 'war crime': Sweden's Foreign Minister



weden's Foreign Minister Manie Malmer Stenengard on Thursday condemned tailed for blocking humanitarian aid and targeting aid points in Gaza, causing "starvation", which she called a "war crime". points in Gaza, causing "starretton", which she called a "war crime" She urged swift delivery of food, water, and medicine, highlighting

Hamas says its police force killed twelve Israeli-backed' fighters



A unit of Gaza's Hamas-run police force said it killed 12 members of on targeti-backed militia after detaining them early thursday. The militia said its fighters had attacked Hamae and hitled five milits but made no mention of its own casualties. Verification of the

WASHINGTON

Trump unveils website for \$5 mn 'Gold Card' U.S. residency visa



J.S. President Donald Trump (aunched a website, frumpCord.gov. for his 55 million "Gold Card" was, offering wealthy foreigners permanent U.5, residency and a just to observating. The card aims to attract investors, promising green card privileges and economic benefits amist angoing immigration debates, see

Sudan's RSF claims control of key border zone with Libya and Egypt



edanuse paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) claimed contri of a strategic border sone with Libya and Egypt amid engoing civil was. The military had an Turoday evacuated the area, accusing Libyan commander Whalife Hither's forces of supporting RSF attacks

IAEA board censures Iran for not complying with nuclear obligations

The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran and the Foreign Ministry state that Tehran has no choice but to respond to this political resolution. U.S. embassy in Jerusalem restricts staff movements due to security concerns amid heightened tensions

Assnce France Presse

he UN nuclear wanishdogs board True side grovernors on True side formally found with its nuclear obligations for the first time to 20 years, a move that could least to further tensions and set in motion as effort to restore UN stanctions on Iran reacted immediate

fran reacted immediate-by, anying it will establish a new enrichment facility "In a secure location" and that "other measures are also being planned". Minetees countries on the international Atomic

tran has no choice but to respond to this political re-solution," the franian Fo-reign Ministry and the Atomic Energy Organiza-tion of Iran said in a joint tion of Iran said in a joint statement, U.S. President Datald Trimin previously Trimin previously America Could carry out air articles targeting Iranian nuclear facilities if negotia-ing the present of the agreement — and some American personnel and their families have begun treations, which come alread of a new round of Tran-U.S. talks standay in



Tense presence: Acmounted volucies deployed outside the U.S. embassy building in Baghdad's linear Zone on Thursday. APP

Energy Agency's board, which represents the agen-cy's member nations, vot-ed for the resolution, ac-cording to diplomats who

nymity to describe the out-come of the closed-decra vote. Russia, China and Burkina Pass opposed it, 11 abstained and two did not U.K., Germany and the U.S.

Dangerous region Meanwhile, the U.S. em

Meanwhile, the U.S. orn-beasy in Jerusalem an-manished it was restricting staff movements after Pre-sident Donald Trump said U.S. personnel were being moved from the potential-by 'dangerous' West Asia. " Tue to the increased Tue to the increased proposal tensions, United States government to ployace and their family

members are restricted from travel outside the greater Tel Aviv (area)... Je rusalem, and Be'er Sheva areas until further notice," the emisance said.

On the draw

CHERL H

Israel should not strike Iran. as deal is 'close', says Trump

Agence France-Presse

Trump called on Thursday on Israel not to attack tran, saying a deal on its nuclear programme remained close, but Tehran defiantly vowed to increase its out put of enriched uranium

pat of enriched arranting abend of new talls.

Mr. Trainip acknow-ledged that an taraeld strike out fran "may very well happen," although he strike imminent, and said the risk of "massive con-dict" led the United States to draw down staff in the resist.

region.
"We are fairly close to a pretty good agreement, Mr. Trump told reporters. Asked about his discus-sions with Israeli Prime Mi-nister Benjamin Netanya-

HE LOVES ME ..

.....

HE LOVES ME NOT

Japan, China trade blame over latter's | Zelenskyy hopes to



hu, Mr. Trump said: "I don't want them going in, because I think it would blow it." Mr. Trump quickly ad-ded: "Might help it actual by, but it also could blow it."

Lipcoming talks
Mr. Trump's West Asia
pointman Steve Willoff is
set to hold a sixth round of
talks with fran on Sunday

mediated.
Mr. Trump again de-scribed himself as a man of

"I'd love to avoid the conflict. Iran's going to base to negotiate a link bis tougher - meaning they're going to have to give us some things that they're not willing to give us right now," he said.

Thousands join rally in Georgia after activist jailed over pro-Europe protest

Agence France: Presse

Thousands rallied on Thursday in Georgia after a youth activist was jailed for four and a half years for assaulting police during pro-Europe protests as authori-ties intensify a crackdown

tee intensity a crackdown in thisease.

Cacorgia has been in positical turnoil since disputed parliamentary elections in Ciciober triggered protests against what demonstrators call the government's authoritarian drift in favour of flavois and against the European Union.



Thillist city court con-victed 21-year-old musician and activist Mate Bevidge of assembling police with a stack on November 19 as of-ficers dispersed an arti-go-

intersection in the Geor-gian capital. Mr. Devidee, who had denied wrongdoing, said he had been participating in the protests "to peace

China says it issued rare earth export licences

Agence France-Presse

China said on Thursday 8 had issued a "certain number" of licences to export rare earths after U.S. Presi-dent Donald Trump halled this week's deal that would see the country provide the vital elements "up

this week's deal that would see the country provide the vital elements "up front". The economic superpowers said after talks in London that they had achieved progress in dialing down a brutal trade war that has threatened global supply chain chaos.

Japan and China blamed each other on Thursday af-ter Tokyo raised concern that a Chinese fighter jet came dangerously close to

The Chinese fighter jets took off from one of two Chinese aircraft carriers

that were operating togeth-er for the first time in the Pacific, Japan's Defence Mi-

nistry said. Chief Cabinet Secretary

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimsan Hayashi told re-porters that Japan on veyed his "serfous con-ern" to China that auch issue encounters could enuse accidental collisions. According to Japan, a Chinese J-15 lighter jet took off from the Shandary air-craft carrier on Saturday and chased a Japanese

in the professis "to peace-fully express opposition to (Excessed is maying from the accussed the judge of earlying out government without hearting the without hearting the without hearting the version. The sittering follows targesting Opposition lead-ers and activities, with the coming weeks.

Syria says one killed, seven detained in Israeli incursion

Syria's Interior Ministry on Thursday said the Israeli military killed one civilian and detained seven people thiring an overnight facur-sion, with the Israeli army saying it seized members of Palestinian militant group Hamas.

group Hamas.
The Israell army said on X that its solders solzed several suspected internecessary and the solders of the solder

denying military assets to

THE SERVICE

Since the overthrow of Bashar al-Assad in December, Israel has carried out hundreds of strikes in Syria

the blamist-led interim ad ministration, which it re-gards as libadist. It has also deployed

troops across the dentili-tarized zone on the Syrian side of the armistice line

Golan.

Syria's Interior Ministry
said in a stratement that
"Blease repeated province.

"Blease repeated province.

violation of the sovereignty
of the Syrian Arab Republic... those practises cannot load the region to stability and will only result in
further tension".



A Chinese J-15 Righter jet making an 'unusual approach' to a Japanese P-3C patrol aircraft above the Pacific Ocean Art

P-3C aircraft on reconnals P-3C aircraft on reconnals-sance duty, coming within an "abreconnily close dis-connected to the control of about 40 minutes. A Chimese jet also crossed 900 merces in about 80 minutes on sun-day, the Maniatry said. Chimese Foreign Minis-try spoksoperson Lin Jan

defended China's activities dafended China's activities as being fully consistent with international law and practices, and blamed lapanese vessels and shoraff for conducting close reconsistence of China's military activities.

The incidents occurred in the Pacific, where Japan's Self-Defence Force spotted the two carriers.

push Trump on U.S. jets flying close to Japanese aircraft Russia sanctions

the Shandong and the Linewing, almost simulations included propositing mea-ing the proposition of the for the first time. Alternat carriers are crit-ical to projecting power at a distance. China restrictly warships and warplanes around disputed feat China Sos Islands, but now China, Sas Islands, but now Ukrainian President Volc-dymyr Zeleniskyy said on Thursday he hoped to press his U.S. counterpart boriald Tsuring at the G-7 surmit this weekend to step up sanctions against Sania, as peace talks bet-worn the warring sides sail with the U.S. President blambar both sides Guam, a U.S. Pacific terri-tory with military bases. Both Chinese carriers

stall with the U.S. Presishers blaming both sides. In two rounds of nego-ciations in standad, Mos-cow and Syr have so far sorter exchanges. Russis has rejected calls to halt in three-year invasion. Mr. Trump has urged both sides to strike a peace frustration with both Mr. Zebrusky and Russian Freperated in waters off two

operated in waters off two plans, about 1,200 kilo-metres south of Tokyo. The Lisearing also sailed inside Japan's exclusive distribution of the coun-try's coaterrimous island, apian's Defonce Minister Cen Nakatani said. There was no violation of Japanese beritorial wa-ters, be sail. Zelenskyy and Russian Pre-sident Vladimir Putin for-not having found a way to



The U.S. Prevident has at times threatened new american on Russia, which has ramped on its arrial at the Common of The U.S. President has

WASHINGTON

Trump unveils website for \$5 mn 'Gold Card' U.S. residency visa



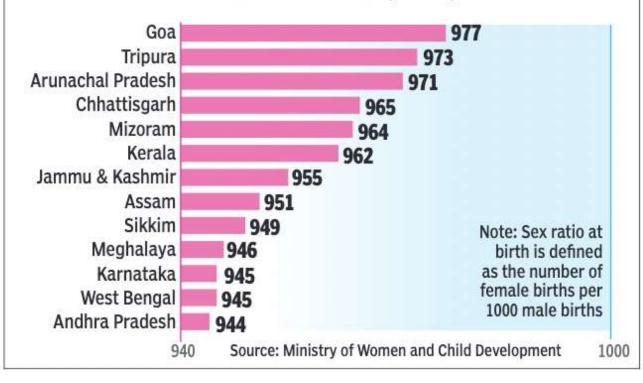
AFF

U.S. President Donald Trump launched a website, *TrumpCard.gov*, for his \$5 million "Gold Card" visa, offering wealthy foreigners permanent U.S. residency and a path to citizenship. The card aims to attract investors, promising green card privileges and economic benefits amid ongoing immigration debates. AFP

Six of Top States On Sex Ratio At Birth Are From The North-East

The evolutionary trend is that more boys are born than girls. The natural sex ratio at birth is about 943-952 girls per 1,000 boys. In 13 states/UTs, this ratio is equal to or better than this norm

Sex ratio at birth (2023-24)



UNESCO 'Creative City of Gastronomy'

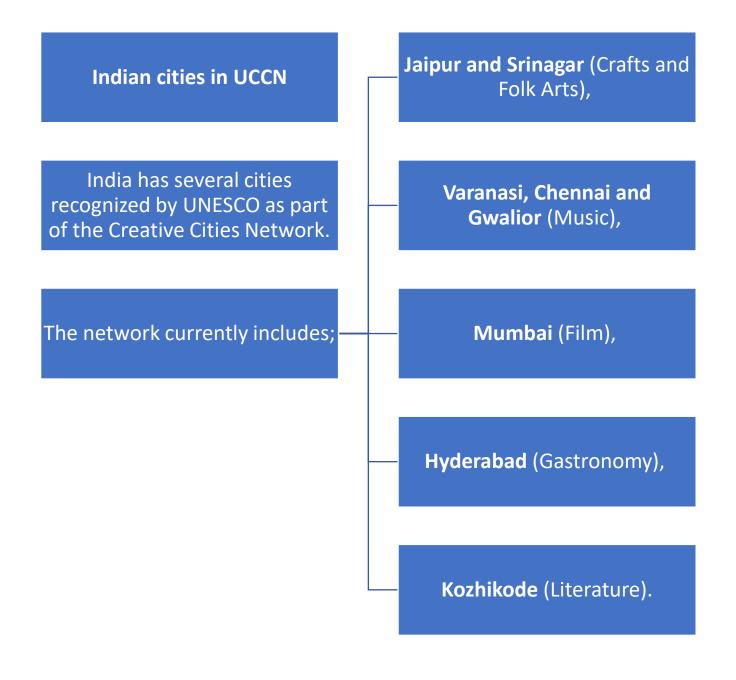
A proposal for Creative City Lucknow under the category Gastronomy for **Awadhi Cuisine** has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre recently.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)

The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) is a **global network of cities** that recognize culture and creativity as drivers of sustainable urban development.

• UCCN was created in 2004.

The network focuses on **seven creative fields:** Crafts and Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts, and Music.



Lokpal



The Full Bench of Lokpal of India has adopted a new motto "Empower Citizens, Expose Corruption". Legal Status: The Lokpal is not a constitutional body but a statutory body created through legislation Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act 2013. **Chairperson:** Retired Chief Justice of India or a Supreme Court judge. Appointment of Lokpal: Appointed by a selection committee consisting of Prime Minister, Chief Justice of India (CJI), Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha & One Eminent Jurist (appointed by the above members). **Tenure:** The Lokpal is appointed for a 5-year term or until they attain the age of 70 years.





The Allahabad High Court's **June 12, 1975** verdict invalidating then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's 1971 election for electoral malpractices led to the **proclamation of National Emergency on June 25, 1975.**



Constitutional Provisions for National Emergency



Grounds for Proclamation: As per Article 352, a
National Emergency can be declare by the
President if the security of India or any part is
threatened by;

War and External aggression (External Emergency)

Armed rebellion (Internal Emergency): Internal disturbance was substituted with **Armed rebellion** by the **44th Amendment Act, 1978.**

- Procedure and Safeguards
- Cabinet Advice Requirement: The 44th Amendment Act mandates written recommendation by the Council of Ministers before the President can proclaim Emergency.
- Parliamentary Approval: Approval needed by both Houses within one month.
 - If Lok Sabha is dissolved, Emergency continues until **30 days** after reconstitution, provided Rajya Sabha has approved.

If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the **emergency continues for six months,** and can be extended to an indefinite period with an approval of the Parliament for every six months.

Every resolution approving the proclamation of emergency or its continuance must be passed by either House of Parliament by a **special majority**, that is,

A majority of the total membership of that house, and

A majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that house present and voting.

- Revocation: The President can revoke Emergency by a subsequent proclamation.
 - Further, the President must revoke a proclamation if the Lok Sabha passes a resolution disapproving its continuation.
- In Minerva Mills Case (1980), the Supreme Court ruled that the validity of Emergency proclamation is subject to judicial review, if it is Malafide, Based on extraneous/irrelevant facts, or Perverse in nature.

Historical Instances of National Emergency in India

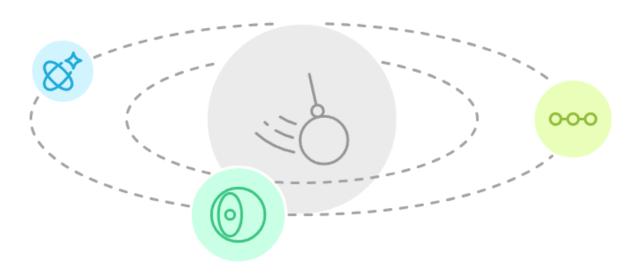
Grounds	Duration
External aggression (China)	1962-1968
External aggression (Pakistan)	1971-1977
Internal disturbance	1975-1977



- The Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino (KATRIN) Experiment closely analyzed the decay of molecular tritium to estimate the mass of the neutrino.
- Situated in **Germany**, the KATRIN Experiment is designed to measure the **absolute mass of neutrinos**, some of the most elusive particles in the universe.

- Neutrinos:
- About: They are subatomic particles often called "ghost particles", with no electric charge, no size, extremely small mass, and minimal interaction with matter.
- Key Features: They are the second most abundant particles in the universe after photons and the most abundant among all matter particles.
 - They are extremely hard to detect, as they interact only via the weak nuclear force.
 - They are unaffected by even the strongest magnetic fields and travel in straight lines from their source.

Types/ Flavors of Neutrino



Neutrino
Associated with
electrons and
produced in
nuclear fusion

and beta decay

Muon Neutrino

Linked to muons, produced in cosmic ray interactions

Tau Neutrino

Associated with tau particles, observed in accelerators and astrophysical events



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Word of the day

Hackneyed:

repeated too often; overfamiliar through overuse

Synonyms: worn out, common, cliche

Usage: He delivered a speech full of hackneyed phrases.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/

hackneyedpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈhækniːd/

