

Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता



The Indian EXPRESS

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS



8
The Hindu



0
**PIB, PRS & Other
newspaper**



4
**The Indian
Express**



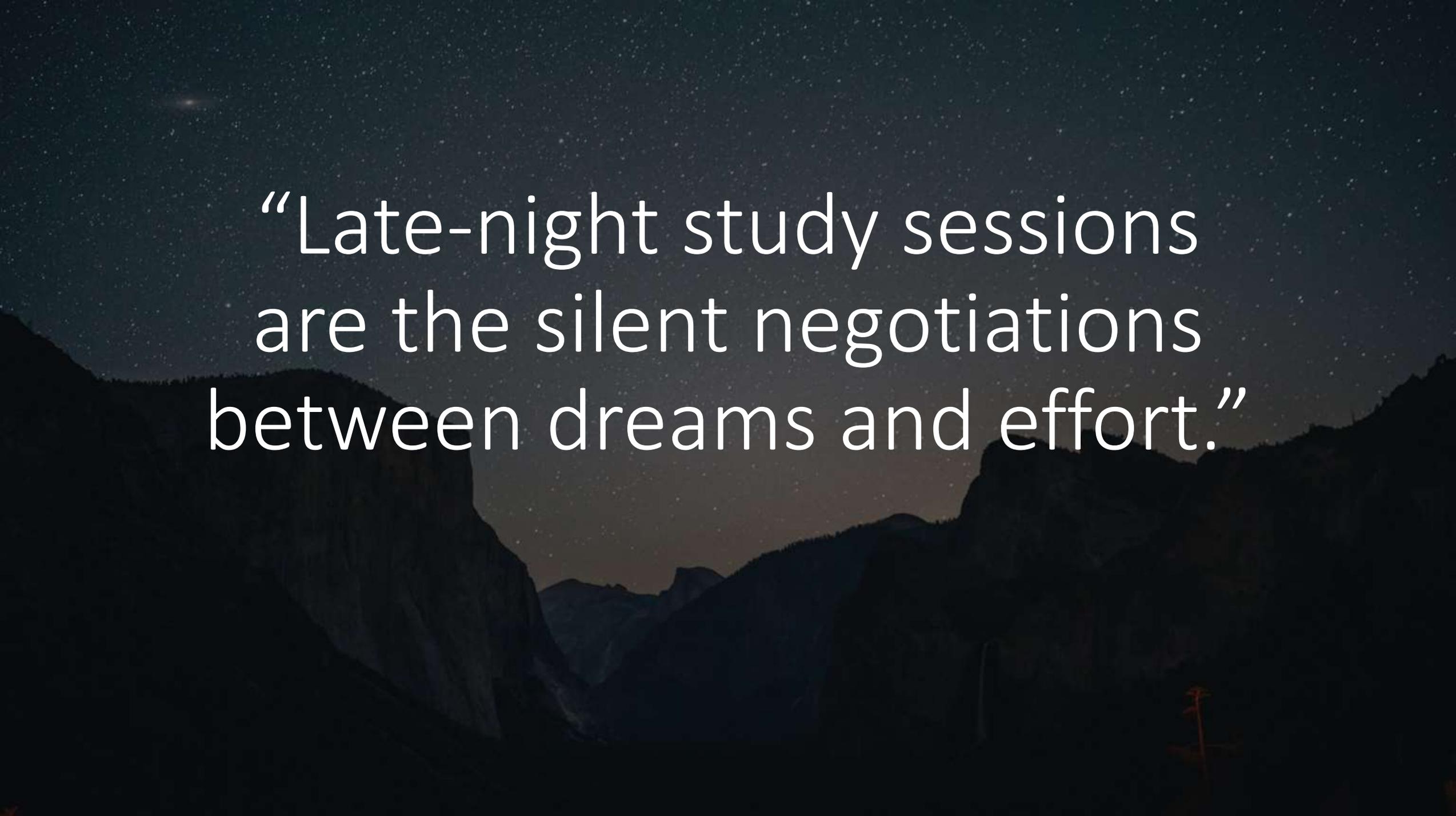
0
Jansatta



2
**Financial
Express**



- 01** **ECONOMY** **Centre Sets Aside ₹57,381 Crore to Address 'Global Headwinds'** The Hindu
- 02** **POLITY** **INDIA Bloc MPs Submit Notice in Parliament for Removal of Chief Election Commissioner** The Hindu
- 03** **SOC. JUSTICE** **Paid Menstrual Leave May Hurt Women's Careers: SC** The Hindu
- 04** **POLITY** **Maharashtra Govt Tables Controversial Anti-Conversion Bill** The Hindu
- 05** **INT. RELATIONS** **Tehran: Will Allow Indian Ships to Pass; Modi Says Iran a Friend** Times of India
- 06** **INT. RELATIONS** **U.S. Bombs Kharg Island; Iran Hits Back — Rising Tensions in West Asia** The Hindu
- 07** **ECONOMY** **Red Alert: Investors Lose ₹34 Lakh Crore in 2 Weeks of West Asia War** Times of India
- 08** **SCI & TECH** **Shantanu Narayen, Longtime CEO of Adobe, to Exit Amid AI Disruption** Times of India
- 09** **SCI & TECH** **Atomic Clock on NavIC Satellite Calls Time; ISRO's 'GPS' Weakens** The Hindu

A dark, starry night sky over a mountain range silhouette. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

“Late-night study sessions
are the silent negotiations
between dreams and effort.”

NO TO MANDATORY LEAVE
Menstrual leave may hurt careers, says SC
NEWS 2 PAGE 9

STARTLED MARKET
Benchmark indices down 2% as crude stays high
BUSINESS 2 PAGE 11

POLL INITIATIVE
Mamata announces development boards
NEWS 2 PAGE 3

VULNERABLE CIVILIANS
Indians caught in the crossfire
War in West Asia leaves thousands stranded across the region
GROUND ZERO 2 PAGE 7

SPORTS ETAS AWARDS
Contractor, Valsamma win lifetime honours
SPORT 2 PAGE 14

INSIDE



Rupee settles at new record low against U.S. dollar

RUHRAI
The rupee depreciated to a fresh low of 69.3 a dollar after the Iran's new Supreme Leader Ebrahim Raisi said that the Strait of Hormuz would remain closed, keeping oil prices sticky at over \$100 a barrel. ■ PAGE 11



Sena (JTF) flags SC order over NCERT textbook

NEW DELHI
Sena (JTF) Rajya Sabha MP Prityasha Chaturvedi on Friday slammed the Supreme Court's latest directives over a chapter referring to "terrorism in solidarity" as "judicial overreach". The SC imposed a ban on the Class 8 Social Science textbook. ■ PAGE 3

NO need for CBI probe in gold 'heist' case: HC

BOMBAY
Stating that the Special Investigation Team (SIT) was carrying out a satisfactory probe in the case pertaining to the misappropriation of gold from the Sabarwal temple, the Kerala High Court on Friday observed there was no need for a CBI probe. ■ PAGE 2

Cong questions PM's silence over Khamenei's death

NEW DELHI
The Congress on Friday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "hesitancy" in criticising the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei by the United States and Israel, while endorsing the Centre's condemnation of Iran over its attacks on other Gulf countries. ■ PAGE 4



Anti-conversion Bill introduced in Maharashtra

MUMBAI
The Maharashtra government introduced the Freedom of Religion Bill, 2019 during the Budget Session of the State Assembly on Friday. The Bill has strict provisions, including imprisonment of up to 10 years and fine of up to ₹7 lakh for "forcible conversion". ■ PAGE 8

Centre sets aside ₹57,381 crore to address 'global headwinds'

Lok Sabha clears grant with around ₹2 lakh crore cash outgo, the 'Economic Stabilisation Fund' from supplementary grants will provide fiscal space amid global uncertainties, including 'unanticipated supply chain disruptions', say Finance Minister

N. Chandrababu Naidu
NEW DELHI
A mid the \$100-per-barrel oil shock and fears of energy shortages and supply chain disruptions across the West Asia conflict, the Centre has allocated ₹57,381 crore for an Economic Stabilisation Fund that would provide it fiscal space to address global headwinds, including "the recent crisis of unanticipated supply chain disruptions". Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in the Lok Sabha on Friday. She was referring to the debate on the Second Supplementary Demand for Grants the government placed before Parliament. The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Centre's demand for a net cash outgo of ₹2.01 lakh crore, including the ₹57,381 crore allocation. Mr. Sitharaman said the Centre would meet its fiscal deficit target for 2025-26 even after taking these fresh allocations into consideration. The Centre had sought approval for spending around ₹2.81 lakh crore extra in the current fiscal. With additional receipts of around ₹90,000 crore estimated in the supplementary, the net additional cash spending will be ₹2.01 lakh crore. "Steering Framework" The Minister said policy initiatives undertaken post COVID-19 "made sure the economy recovered well" and helped the government strengthen the macroeconomic framework. This has enabled the country to absorb economic shocks without deviating from the fiscal consolidation roadmap, she said. "But I want to highlight the point that the proposed Economic Stabilisation Fund will provide the fiscal headroom to allow India to respond to the global headwinds, such as the recent crisis, unanticipated supply chain disruptions, unexpected shocks to sub-sectors in the Indian economy and any other event that may have significant fiscal implications," Mr. Sitharaman said. She added that the extra expenditure would not entail the Centre's fiscal deficit target being missed. In her budget speech on

Emergency response
The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Centre's second Supplementary Demand for Grants.
■ Approved ₹57,381 crore for Economic Stabilisation Fund.
■ Approved ₹2.01 lakh crore net cash outgo for additional expenditure.

I want to highlight
the point that the proposed Economic Stabilisation Fund will provide the fiscal headroom to allow India to respond to the global headwinds.
NIRMALA SITHARAMAN
Union Finance Minister

February 1, Mr. Sitharaman had stated that the government was targeting a fiscal deficit target of 4.4% of India's GDP. "I wish to reiterate that with all these extras that we are coming up with, whether it is technical supplementaries or cash supplementaries, I don't want any Ministry of Parliament to wonder if I will be able to reach the fiscal deficit number that I have said while placing the Budget," Mr. Sitharaman said on Friday. "The commitment given to this House, inclusive of the second supplementary demand for grants, will be within the fiscal deficit target that had been presented in this Parliament on February 1, 2020," she added.

Six U.S. personnel killed as refuelling plane crashes in Iraq

Since the start of the West Asia war, the Islamic Resistance has been claiming daily attacks on U.S. interests in Iraq and across the region, but it rarely names its targets.



The KC-135 is at least the fourth U.S. military aircraft lost during the war. AP

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON
A U.S. KC-135 aerial refuelling aircraft crashed in western Iraq on Friday, killing all six crew members, the military said on Friday, adding that the incident was not caused by "hostile fire or friendly fire". A second plane involved in the incident, which the military said occurred at 2 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday landed safely. Iran's military said in an earlier statement carried by state TV that an allied group in Iraq had downed the aircraft with a missile, killing all six crew, while the Islamic Resistance in Iraq, a loose alliance of Iran-backed factions, claimed to have downed a KC-135. They also said they had targeted another plane that escaped.

'SECRET CONCERN'
PAGE 4

The crash brings the U.S. death toll in Operation Epic Fury to at least 13 service members, with the seven others killed in combat. About 140 U.S. service members have been injured, the Pentagon said earlier this week. An investigation was under way into the crash, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), which is responsible for American forces in West Asia, said.

"All six crew members aboard a U.S. KC-135 refuelling aircraft that went down in western Iraq are now confirmed deceased," the command said in a statement on X, adding that "the loss of the aircraft was not due to hostile fire or friendly fire".

Planes down
The KC-135 is at least the fourth U.S. military aircraft lost during the war, after three F-15s were shot down by friendly fire over Kuwait. KC-135s, which have been in operation for more than 60 years, generally have a crew of three—a pilot, a copilot, and a third who operates the boom used to refuel other aircraft, according to the U.S. Air Force. But some KC-135 missions require a navigator, and the aircraft can carry up to 37 passengers, an Air Force spokesman said. Early in the war—which began on February 28—Kuwaiti forces mistakenly downed three American F-15K fighters, but all six crew members were able to eject, according to CENTCOM. That incident occurred during combat including "attacks from Iranian aircraft, ballistic missiles, and drones," the military command said at the time.

IRAN RALLY AGAINST ISRAEL
PAGE 12

Smooth wheeling



Prash Photo: Children at the newly inaugurated roller skating ground in Chhagananandam of Tamil Nadu on Friday. ■ SCHEENASOORY

Trump plans SIR-type voter proof review

Varghese K. George
U.S. President Donald Trump is pushing hard to reverse the rules of the electoral system before the November midterms. A Bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives proposes a requirement for each voter to provide documented proof of citizenship. The proposed measure resembles the Apsara Internet Revolution (AIR) currently under way in India. Mr. Trump believes that a sweeping overhaul of the electoral laws will ensure Republican dominance for a "long time".

FULL REPORT ON
PAGE 12

INDIA bloc MPs submit notice in Parliament for removal of Chief Election Commissioner

Subhansu K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The INDIA bloc MPs on Friday submitted a notice in India's House of Parliament seeking the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar. "This is the first time that such a notice has been formally submitted in Parliament." The 10-page notice lists seven charges against Mr. Kumar, ranging from "partisan and discriminatory conduct in office" to "deliberate obstruction of investigation of electoral fraud" and "misfeasance in public office". Opposition parties have accused the CEC of aiding the ruling BJP on several occasions, particularly during the special legislative revision (SAR), which they allege is being used to benefit the ruling party. They have cited examples from West Bengal, Bihar, and other States where the BJP has been done.

that Mr. Kumar had "humiliated" the delegation. Article 324(5) of the Constitution states: "Provided that the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be to his disadvantage after his appointment." Under the Judges (Regulation) Act, 1968, if notices for such a motion are submitted in both Houses on the same day, no further consultation may be required. Under the motion is admitted in both Houses. "Opposition members have already moved to sign the notice to remove the CEC's recent actions," a senior leader said.

Indian-flagged LPG carrier crosses Strait of Hormuz: tracker

M. Kalyanasundaram
CHENNAI

The *Shivalki*, an Indian-flagged LPG carrier with a cargo-carrying capacity of more than 54,000 tonnes, has crossed the Strait of Hormuz since the conflict started on February 28. At a briefing on Friday, a senior government official said that of the 28 Indian-flagged ships in the Persian Gulf-Gulf of Oman region that had stopped moving since the start of the West Asia conflict on February 28, one oil tanker bound for Africa, *Ag Prakash*, had started moving. The LPG carrier is owned by the Shipping Corporation of India.

FULL REPORT ON
PAGE 4

Centre sets aside ₹57,381 crore to address 'global headwinds'

Lok Sabha clears grant with around ₹2 lakh crore cash outgo; the 'Economic Stabilisation Fund' from supplementary grants will provide fiscal space amid global uncertainties, including 'unanticipated supply chain disruptions', say Finance Minister

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Amid the \$100-per-barrel oil shock and fears of energy shortage and supply chain disruptions arising out the West Asia conflict, the Centre has allocated ₹57,381 crore for an Economic Stabilisation Fund that would provide it fiscal space to address global headwinds, including "the recent crisis or unanticipated supply chain disruptions", Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in the Lok Sabha on Friday.

She was replying to the debate on the Second Supplementary Demand for Grants the government placed before Parliament.

The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Centre's demand for a net cash outgo of ₹2.01 lakh crore, includ-

Emergency response

The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Centre's Second Supplementary Demand for Grants

- Approval sought for gross additional expenditure of around **₹2.81 lakh crore**
- Savings and receipts aggregates to around **₹80,000 crore**
- Around **₹2.01 lakh crore** net cash outgo for additional expenditures

I want to highlight the point that the proposed Economic Stabilisation Fund will provide fiscal headroom to allow India to respond to the global headwinds

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN
Union Finance Minister



ing the ₹57,381-crore allocation. Ms. Sitharaman said the Centre would meet its fiscal deficit target for 2025-26 even after taking these fresh allocations into consideration. The Centre had sought approval for spending around ₹2.81 lakh crore extra in the current fiscal. With ad-

ditional receipts of around ₹80,000 crore estimated in the supplementary, the net additional cash spending will be ₹2.01 lakh crore.

'Strong framework'

The Minister said policy initiatives undertaken post COVID-19 "made sure that the economy recovered

well" and helped the government strengthen the macroeconomic framework.

This has enabled the country to absorb economic shocks without deviating from the fiscal consolidation roadmap, she said.

"But I want to highlight the point that the proposed Economic Stabilisation Fund will provide fiscal headroom to allow India to respond to the global headwinds, such as the recent crisis, unanticipated supply chain disruptions, unexpected shocks to sub-sectors in the Indian economy and any other event that may have significant fiscal implications," Ms. Sitharaman said.

She added that the extra expenditure would not entail the Centre's fiscal deficit target being missed.

In her Budget speech on

February 1, Ms. Sitharaman had stated that the government was targeting a fiscal deficit target of 4.4% of India's GDP.

"I wish to reiterate that with all these extras that we are coming up with, whether it is technical supplementaries or cash supplementaries, I don't want any Member of Parliament to wonder if I will be able to reach the fiscal deficit number that I have said while placing the Budget," Ms. Sitharaman said on Friday.

"The commitment given to this House, inclusive of the second supplementary demand for grants, will be within the fiscal deficit target that had been presented in this Parliament on February 1, 2026," she added.

'SLIGHT CONCERN'

» PAGE 4

1. Economic Stabilisation Fund Allocation (₹57,381 crore)

आर्थिक स्थिरीकरण कोष (₹57,381 करोड़) आवंटन

- The Government of India has allocated **₹57,381 crore** to create an **Economic Stabilisation Fund** to tackle global economic uncertainties.
भारत सरकार ने वैश्विक आर्थिक अनिश्चितताओं से निपटने के लिए **₹57,381 करोड़ का आर्थिक स्थिरीकरण कोष** बनाने का प्रस्ताव रखा है।
 - The proposal was cleared through the **Second Supplementary Demand for Grants** in the Lok Sabha.
यह प्रस्ताव लोकसभा में **द्वितीय अनुपूरक अनुदान मांग (Second Supplementary Demand for Grants)** के माध्यम से पारित किया गया।
 - The fund will provide **fiscal space (budgetary flexibility)** to manage unexpected economic shocks.
यह कोष **राजकोषीय लचीलापन (Fiscal Space)** प्रदान करेगा ताकि अचानक आने वाले आर्थिक झटकों से निपटा जा सके।
-

2. Emergency Fiscal Response

आपातकालीन राजकोषीय प्रतिक्रिया

(A) Financial Details

वित्तीय विवरण

- Gross additional expenditure approved: ₹2.81 lakh crore
स्वीकृत कुल अतिरिक्त व्यय: ₹2.81 लाख करोड़
- Estimated savings and receipts: ₹80,000 crore
अनुमानित बचत एवं प्राप्तियां: ₹80,000 करोड़
- Net additional cash outgo: ₹2.01 lakh crore
शुद्ध अतिरिक्त नकद व्यय: ₹2.01 लाख करोड़

(B) Fiscal Target

राजकोषीय लक्ष्य

- Government reiterated commitment to maintain **fiscal deficit target of 4.4% of GDP (2025-26)**.
सरकार ने 2025-26 में GDP के 4.4% के राजकोषीय घाटे के लक्ष्य को बनाए रखने की प्रतिबद्धता दोहराई।

3. Why the Fund Was Needed

यह कोष क्यों आवश्यक है

(A) Global Economic Headwinds

वैश्विक आर्थिक बाधाएँ

- Oil price volatility (near **\$100 per barrel**)
तेल कीमतों में अस्थिरता (लगभग 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल)
- Supply chain disruptions due to **West Asia conflict**
पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के कारण आपूर्ति श्रृंखला बाधाएँ
- Energy security concerns
ऊर्जा सुरक्षा की चिंताएँ
- Inflationary pressures worldwide
वैश्विक मुद्रास्फीति दबाव

(B) Domestic Economic Impact

घरेलू आर्थिक प्रभाव

- Possible increase in **import bill**
आयात बिल में संभावित वृद्धि
- Pressure on **current account deficit (CAD)**
चालू खाता घाटे पर दबाव
- Fiscal spending needed to protect **growth and stability**
विकास और स्थिरता बनाए रखने हेतु सरकारी खर्च की आवश्यकता

Year	Event	विवरण
1991	Economic Crisis	भारत को IMF से सहायता लेनी पड़ी
2008	Global Financial Crisis	भारत ने राजकोषीय प्रोत्साहन पैकेज दिया
2020	COVID-19 Pandemic	₹20 लाख करोड़ का आत्मनिर्भर भारत पैकेज
2026	Economic Stabilisation Fund proposal	वैश्विक अनिश्चितताओं से निपटने हेतु नया कोष

6. Political Significance

राजनीतिक महत्व

- Demonstrates **government preparedness** for global economic shocks.
वैश्विक आर्थिक झटकों के लिए सरकार की तैयारी को दर्शाता है।
 - Helps maintain **investor confidence** in India's fiscal stability.
भारत की राजकोषीय स्थिरता पर निवेशकों का विश्वास बनाए रखता है।
 - Strengthens India's macroeconomic governance.
भारत के समष्टि आर्थिक शासन को मजबूत करता है।
-

7. Economic Significance

आर्थिक महत्व

- Ensures **counter-cyclical fiscal policy capability**.
चक्रविरोधी राजकोषीय नीति लागू करने की क्षमता देता है।
- Helps stabilise **growth, inflation and investment environment**.
विकास, मुद्रास्फीति और निवेश वातावरण को स्थिर रखने में मदद करता है।
- Enhances resilience of the **Indian economy during global crises**.
वैश्विक संकटों के दौरान भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था की मजबूती बढ़ाता है।



- Consider the following statements regarding the **Economic Stabilisation Fund**:

- It was proposed through the Second Supplementary Demand for Grants.

- It aims to provide fiscal space to manage global economic shocks.

- The allocation announced for the fund is ₹57,381 crore.

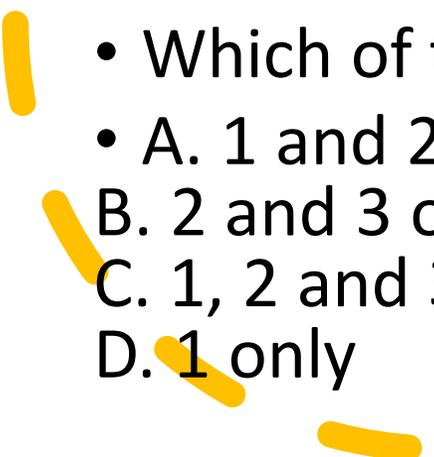
- Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only

- B. 2 and 3 only

- C. 1, 2 and 3

- D. 1 only



INDIA bloc MPs submit notice in Parliament for removal of Chief Election Commissioner

Sobhana K. Nair

NEW DELHI

The INDIA bloc MPs on Friday submitted a notice in both the Houses of Parliament seeking the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar.

This is the first time that such a notice has been formally submitted in Parliament.

The 10-page notice lists seven charges against Mr. Kumar – ranging from “partisan and discriminatory conduct in office” to “deliberate obstruction of investigation of electoral fraud”, and “mass disenfranchisement”.

Opposition parties have accused the CEC of aiding the ruling BJP on several



The rules require at least 50 MPs to sign the notice if it is moved in the Rajya Sabha and 100 if moved in the Lok Sabha. ANI

occasions, particularly during the special intensive revision (SIR), which they allege is being used to benefit the ruling party. They have cited examples from West Bengal, Bihar, and other States where the SIR has been done.

The Trinamool Congress is considering releasing the transcript of its delegation’s meeting with the Election Commission on February 2. After that meeting, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had told reporters

that Mr. Kumar had “humiliated” the delegation.

Article 324(5) of the Constitution states: “Provided that the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.”

Under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, if notices for such a motion are submitted in both Houses on the same day, no inquiry committee unless the motion is admitted in both Houses.

Once admitted, a committee must be constituted

jointly by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

The rules require at least 50 MPs to sign the notice if it is moved in the Rajya Sabha and 100 if moved in the Lok Sabha. The Opposition’s notice exceeds these requirements, with 130 signatures in the Lok Sabha and 63 in the Rajya Sabha.

According to sources, the Trinamool Congress, which spearheaded the effort, debated whether to move the notice in only one House.

“[But] Opposition members of both Houses wanted to sign the notice to register their protest against the CEC’s recent actions,” a senior leader said.

- MPs of the **INDIA opposition bloc** submitted a notice in both Houses of Parliament seeking the removal of **Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar**.
INDIA विपक्षी गठबंधन के सांसदों ने संसद के दोनों सदनों में **मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त ज्ञानेश कुमार** को हटाने के लिए नोटिस दिया।
 - This is **the first time in Indian parliamentary history** that such a formal notice has been submitted.
भारतीय संसदीय इतिहास में **पहली बार** इस प्रकार का औपचारिक नोटिस दिया गया है।
 - The notice reportedly contains **seven charges** against the CEC.
इस नोटिस में CEC के खिलाफ **सात आरोप** बताए गए हैं।
-

2. Allegations Mentioned in the Notice

नोटिस में लगाए गए आरोप

- Alleged **partisan and discriminatory conduct** in office.
कार्यालय में **पक्षपातपूर्ण एवं भेदभावपूर्ण व्यवहार** का आरोप।
- Alleged **obstruction in investigation of electoral fraud**.
चुनावी धोखाधड़ी की जांच में बाधा डालने का आरोप।
- Accusation of facilitating **mass disenfranchisement** of voters.
मतदाताओं के बड़े पैमाने पर मताधिकार से वंचित करने का आरोप।
- Issues raised regarding **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** of electoral rolls.
मतदाता सूची के विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण (SIR) को लेकर विवाद।

3. Parliamentary Procedure for Removal of CEC

मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त को हटाने की संसदीय प्रक्रिया

Constitutional Provision

संवैधानिक प्रावधान

- Article 324(5) of the Constitution protects the independence of the Election Commission.

संविधान का अनुच्छेद 324(5) चुनाव आयोग की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करता है।

- The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed only in the same manner and on the same grounds as a Supreme Court judge.

मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त को केवल उसी प्रक्रिया और आधार पर हटाया जा सकता है जैसे सुप्रीम कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश को हटाया जाता है।

Step

Process

इस प्रक्रिया में

1

Notice signed by MPs

MPs द्वारा दस्तावेज़ की शुरुआत

2

Minimum signatures required

कम से कम 50 हस्ताक्षर

3

Motion admitted by presiding officers

प्रेसिडिंग ऑफिसर द्वारा स्वीकार किया जाता है

4

Inquiry committee formed

जांच समिति का गठन

5

Parliament votes on removal

पार्लियामेंट द्वारा वोटिंग

Feature

Detail

श्रमत्रघर्

Constitutional Article

Article 324

१ श्रुक् 324

Appointment

President of India

घर्नक्शर्

Removal of CEC

Like Supreme Court Judge

दूरुहर्ष इङ्गर्नक्शर्नक्शर् न्चर्दुव

Removal of ECs

On recommendation of
CEC

CEC इह श्रुक् व्रषर्दु हघ

Step	Stage / Process	Detailed Explanation	Constitutional / Legal Basis
1	Notice of Motion	A removal motion must be initiated by Members of Parliament. The motion should contain specific charges such as proved misbehaviour or incapacity .	Judges Inquiry Act 1968 (same procedure as SC judge)
2	Minimum Signatures Required	The motion must be signed by: 100 MPs in Lok Sabha OR 50 MPs in Rajya Sabha .	Parliamentary rules
3	Submission to Presiding Officer	The signed notice is submitted to the Speaker of Lok Sabha or Chairman of Rajya Sabha depending on where it is introduced.	Parliamentary procedure
4	Admission or Rejection	The Speaker/Chairman examines the motion. They may accept or reject the motion after preliminary scrutiny.	Discretion of presiding officer
5	Formation of Inquiry Committee	If admitted, a three-member inquiry committee is constituted to investigate the charges.	Judges Inquiry Act 1968
6	Composition of Committee	The committee includes: 1. A Supreme Court Judge 2. A Chief Justice of High Court 3. A distinguished jurist	Judges Inquiry Act

7	Investigation of Charges	The committee conducts a detailed investigation into allegations against the CEC and gives the accused a chance to defend himself.	Principles of natural justice
8	Committee Report	The committee submits its report to Parliament stating whether charges are proved or not proved.	Parliamentary procedure
9	Parliamentary Debate	If charges are proved, both Houses of Parliament debate the motion for removal.	Constitution
10	Special Majority Voting	Removal requires special majority in both Houses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of total membership of the House • Two-thirds majority of members present and voting 	Article 124(4) procedure applied
11	Presidential Order	After Parliament passes the motion in both Houses, the President of India issues the order removing the CEC from office.	Constitution of India

- Consider the following statements regarding the **Chief Election Commissioner of India**:
- The CEC is appointed by the President of India.
- The CEC can be removed in the same manner as a Supreme Court judge.
- Other Election Commissioners can be removed by the President on recommendation of the CEC.
- Which of the above statements are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 2 and 3 only
 - C. 1, 2 and 3
 - D. 1 only



BRIEF

India and Seychelles carry out joint military exercise

The ongoing 10th edition of the India-Seychelles Joint Military Exercise (ASMITA)-2026, being conducted at the Seychelles Defence Academy from March 10 to 22, witnessed professional exchanges and joint training aimed at strengthening defence cooperation between the two countries. The exercise marks the first bi-lateral edition, bringing together personnel from the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force alongside the Seychelles Defence Forces. The training focuses on enhancing interoperability in sub-conventional operations in semi-urban environments, particularly within the framework of United Nations peacekeeping missions.

CBI questions Anil Ambani's son in bank fraud case

The CBI on Friday recorded the statement of businessman Anil Ambani's son Jai Anand Ambani in connection with an alleged ₹226-crore bank fraud case. Based on a complaint, the CBI registered a case on December 16 last year against Reliance Home Finance Limited (RHFL), its then director, Mr. Jai Anand, then chief executive officer, whole-time director Kapindra Sudhakar and others. It has been alleged that the loan account of RHFL, was declared as non-performing asset on September 30, 2015, and was classified as a "fraud" on October 10, 2014, by Union Bank of India (UBI) while Andhra Bank. The company had taken loans amounting to ₹5,572.35 crore.

IndiGo to levy fuel charges in the range of ₹425 to ₹2,300

IndiGo will start levying fuel charges ranging from ₹425 to ₹2,300 on domestic and international flight tickets from Saturday amid the steep surge in jet fuel prices due to the West Asia crisis. The decision will affect the airfare and comes three days after Air India Group announced the increase in jet fuel charges. Fuel flights within the Indian subcontinent, the fuel charge will be ₹425, while for West Asia services it will be ₹900, the airline said in a statement on Friday. The fuel charge will be ₹1,800 for South East Asia, China, and Africa flights, and ₹2,300 for Europe flights.

NHRC issues notice to 5 States over missing person cases

The National Human Rights Commission on Friday issued notices to the Chief Secretaries and Executive Officers of Police of Bihar, Odisha, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan, expressing concern over the growing number of missing persons reported in these States. The NHRC took cognizance of reports indicating that Bihar has recorded 2,000 to 3,000 missing persons cases annually since 2013, a significant proportion of them involving children. Reports suggest that only around 100 to 200 of the missing children have been traced. The NHRC has sought for agencies already taken or proposed to address the increasing number of missing persons, particularly children.

Paid menstrual leave may hurt women's careers: SC

CJI distinguishes between creating a legally enforceable statutory right and a spontaneous act or policy from employers towards their women employees; court encourages voluntary initiatives

Krishanada Rajasekhar
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday expressed apprehensions that a law mandating paid leave during menstrual pain compulsion may damage the careers of young women and deprive them of equal opportunities. "The moment you introduce this as a law and make it a compulsory condition, you may not be able to assess the amount of damage you may do to their careers. It may give them big responsibilities in judicial services, people may not assign trials to them," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, reading a bench comprising Justice Jayaprakash Narayan and Justice Sanjay Kumar, said in a judgment. "The moment you introduce this as a law and make it a compulsory condition, you may not be able to assess the amount of damage you may do to their careers. It may give them big responsibilities in judicial services, people may not assign trials to them," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, reading a bench comprising Justice Jayaprakash Narayan and Justice Sanjay Kumar, said in a judgment.



Justice Jayaprakash Narayan, part of the Supreme Court bench.

which give leave to students in State-run universities and institutions for up to 60 days annually for menstrual pain, and private entities. Chief Justice Kant distinguished between creating a legally enforceable statutory right and a spontaneous act or policy from employers towards their women employees.

plea seeks directions
The court was hearing a petition filed by advocate Shalini M. M. in support of a petition seeking a direction to the government to enact a uniform law for paid men-

strual pain leave to working women and students in State-run universities and institutions for up to 60 days annually for menstrual pain, and private entities. Chief Justice Kant distinguished between creating a legally enforceable statutory right and a spontaneous act or policy from employers towards their women employees.

complete agreement with the petitioner's cause, and the court for affirmative action was recognised. But it had to keep an eye on the "practical reality of the job market." "We see the 'light' regime, but look at it also from the business angle. Will an employer be happy with the competing claims from the other gender?" Justice Bharti asked. Mr. Tripathi's petition had stressed the fact that India had signed and ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which recognises the need for non-discriminatory practices and for treating women with dignity. "Countries like the United Kingdom, Wales, China, Finnish University, Israel, South Korea and Zambia have different policies or laws on the grant of menstrual leave," the petition had said.

SC steps in to save Chambal sanctuary from sand mining

Krishanada Rajasekhar
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday decided to step in to save the fragile forest ecosystems of the Chambal Sanctuary, home to several species, from being critically endangered by the critically endangered species, situated at the junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, from sand mining and illegal sand mining.

and control illegal mining. A comprehensive plan submitted for the conservation of the Chambal ecology in the NCF had alerted that "sand mining is the biggest threat to the sanctuary." The report submitted before the tribunal had said that the activity was not only degrading habitat for sand nesting species, but also affecting the morphology of the river and its water retaining properties. "Most of the sand mining is carried out by organised mafia that confront in the form of severe aggression against the forest department. Tractor-trolleys are mostly involved in excavation of sand from the river bed and dumping it in their fields around the villages, from where it gets exported by trucks. The mafia use vehicles which do not have their registration number displayed. This prevents the forest department from capturing the true culprit. Lack of support from other law enforcement agencies further aggravates the issue," the report had detailed.

Abhinav Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday introduced a Bill to amend the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, amid claims it takes away the rights of people with self-perceived gender identity and alters the definition of a "transgender person".

The move drew condemnation from the community and activists told The Hindu that the proposed amendments are in violation of the landmark 2014 NALJA judgment. Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Virendra Kumar, introduced the Bill. "The government said the 'existing vague definition of transgender person had made it impossible to identify the genuine oppressed persons to whom the benefits of the Act are intended to reach'," he said. "The Bill was meant to protect 'each transgender person who with various gender identities, self-perceived sex/

Maharashtra govt. tables controversial anti-conversion Bill

Yinaya Doshupande Dandli
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government introduced the Freedom of Religion Bill, 2026 during the Budget Session of the State Assembly on Friday. The Bill has stringent provisions, including imprisonment of up to 15 years and fine of up to ₹7 lakh for "forcible conversion". The Bill prohibits "unlawful conversion" from one religion to another. "The objective is to protect the right to freedom of religion. It also aims to prohibit unlawful religious conversions carried out through coercion, fraud, inducement, or marriage," Maharashtra Minister for Home Prakash Bhoysar said. The Bill, which was cleared by the Maharashtra Cabinet in its meeting last week, was controversial even before it was tabled. Several civil society leaders had sought public consultation on the Bill, expressing apprehensions over curtailment of women's and minorities' rights. They had also alleged that it will encourage vigilante activities. "Whenever controversies provisions of Section 3 shall be punished, with imprisonment for a term of seven years and shall also be liable to fine of one lakh rupees. Whoever contravenes provisions of Section 3 in respect of a minor or a person of unsound mind or a woman or a person belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of seven years and shall also be liable to fine of five lakh rupees or 10 years," it says. "Whoever has been previously convicted of an offence under this Act, shall be again committed an offence punishable under this Act, with imprisonment for a term of ten years and shall also be liable to fine of seven lakh rupees. The draft of the Bill, accessed by The Hindu, has the states.

Bill to redefine 'transgender person', drop 'self-perceived' identity tabled

Abhinav Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday introduced a Bill to amend the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, amid claims it takes away the rights of people with self-perceived gender identity and alters the definition of a "transgender person".

and person having such socio-cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aravani, and others."

The move drew condemnation from the community and activists told The Hindu that the proposed amendments are in violation of the landmark 2014 NALJA judgment. Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Virendra Kumar, introduced the Bill. "The government said the 'existing vague definition of transgender person had made it impossible to identify the genuine oppressed persons to whom the benefits of the Act are intended to reach'," he said. "The Bill was meant to protect 'each transgender person who with various gender identities, self-perceived sex/

and person having such socio-cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aravani, and others."

The proposed definition says transgender persons are people "having such socio-cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aravani, and others" and "people with intersex variations, and people who have 'constitutional variations' compared to the 'male or female' development in their 'primary sexual characteristics, external genitalia, chromosomes and sex-typing, gonadal development, endocrinology and other biological response or such other medical conditions'".

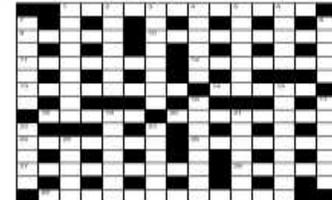
It goes on to say that any person or child who was a transgender person at one time "whose gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at birth and includes trans-male or trans-woman whether or not such person has undergone sex reassignment surgery or hormone therapy or laser therapy or such other therapy, person with intersex variations, genderqueer

and person having such socio-cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aravani, and others."

It goes on to say that any person or child who was a transgender person at one time "whose gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at birth and includes trans-male or trans-woman whether or not such person has undergone sex reassignment surgery or hormone therapy or laser therapy or such other therapy, person with intersex variations, genderqueer

and person having such socio-cultural identities as kinnar, hijra, aravani, and others."

THE CROSSWORD



- Across**
- One who found words like raven is found in need finally (getting essential) and in colour state (12)
 - Almost long-headed animal (8)
 - Fish comes at sea in the most negative circumstance (10-11)
 - Through over-creating group, said and long (7)
 - Deliberate with age, no science politics (7)

14741

- Down**
- Revolutionary fell includes internet upgrade (8)
 - Sponsor set eyes on stolen money in case (7)
 - Place for briefing latest or most abuse development (8)
 - Most unusual neck, right on top (8)
 - Maybe any time performance finally? Yes, no. Only days (8)
 - Breaks hand cuffs (5)
 - Researcher leads and punch quickly, that's type of hit in bridge (7)
 - Frays in function, lady boycotting tea (8)
 - He draws plans in theoretical school sacrificing love (8)
 - The discipline that assesses family's happiness if her gun (10)
 - 37 Maybe cardinal's hat is in dirty place (7)
 - Chemical from tiger mostly not going up in smoke (7)
 - Soldiers coping in mystical state (7)
 - Model wearing belt in store (8)
 - Become capital, very surprising work, largely say (8)
 - Reps listed primarily going into arterial vessel abruptly (8)

SUDOKU

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

Solution to previous puzzle

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

FAITH

Rama sets an example for all

Nature itself is blessed with discipline and dharma, and human life should be aligned with this natural order. This is what is reflected in the truth and expressed in his immortal work, the Bhagavad Gita. He declares that a person who leads a life of perfect conduct and virtue on earth is regarded as one among the gods in heaven (Bhag. 10.10).

Lanka Sri Jayaraj said in a discourse that the Ramayana teaches us how to descend to earth as Rama. Rama is the embodiment of all virtues and discipline. Through his life and actions, Rama set himself as an example for all.

Life is filled with ups and downs. A person should neither become excessively elated when good things happen nor sink into deep sorrow during adverse situations. The life of Rama teaches us this noble virtue. One day, Rama was informed of his impending coronation, but the very next day, he was asked to leave for exile in the forest. Rama accepted both situations with the same calmness and composure, thereby showing the world how one should remain balanced and unaffected by life's changing circumstances. When Dasha, the Duxter chief, came to meet Rama in the forest, he brought honey and milk as offerings. Fish is found in the deep waters of the sea, while Rama obtained high up in the trees on the hills. Through this imagery, the great poet Ramnarayan symbolically conveys that Dasha's devotion extends from the heights of the mountains to the depths of the sea - both high and profound. During the war, when Bharata lost his strength and weapons in battle, Rama asked Bharata to return the next day, prepared for battle, thereby displaying extraordinary compassion and adherence to the code of dharma.

Paid menstrual leave may hurt women's careers: SC

CJI distinguishes between creating a legally enforceable statutory right and a spontaneous act or policy from employers towards their women employees; court encourages voluntary initiatives

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday expressed apprehensions that a law making paid leave during menstrual pain compulsory may damage the careers of young women and deprive them of equal opportunities.

"The moment you introduce this as a law and make it a compulsory condition, you may not be able to assess the amount of damage you may do to their career. Nobody may give them big responsibilities. In judicial services, people may not assign trials to them," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, heading a Bench comprising Justice Joymalya Bagchi, voiced doubts.

The court, at the same time, encouraged "voluntary" initiatives in this regard by States like Odisha, Karnataka, and Kerala,



which give leave to students in State-run universities and institutions up to 60 days annually for menstrual pain, and private entities.

Chief Justice Kant distinguished between creating a legally enforceable statutory right and a spontaneous act or policy from employers towards their women employees.

Plea seeks directions

The court was hearing a petition filed by advocate Shailendra Mani Tripathi seeking a direction to the government to enact a uniform law for paid men-

strual pain leave to working women and students in consonance with their fundamental right to dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution. Mr. Tripathi said a judicial order was necessary to fill up this legal vacuum in the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.

Mr. Tripathi said various private entities and NLIU Bhopal and MNLU Aurangabad had implemented menstrual leave policies. Punjab University has also approved and granted menstrual leave to the students.

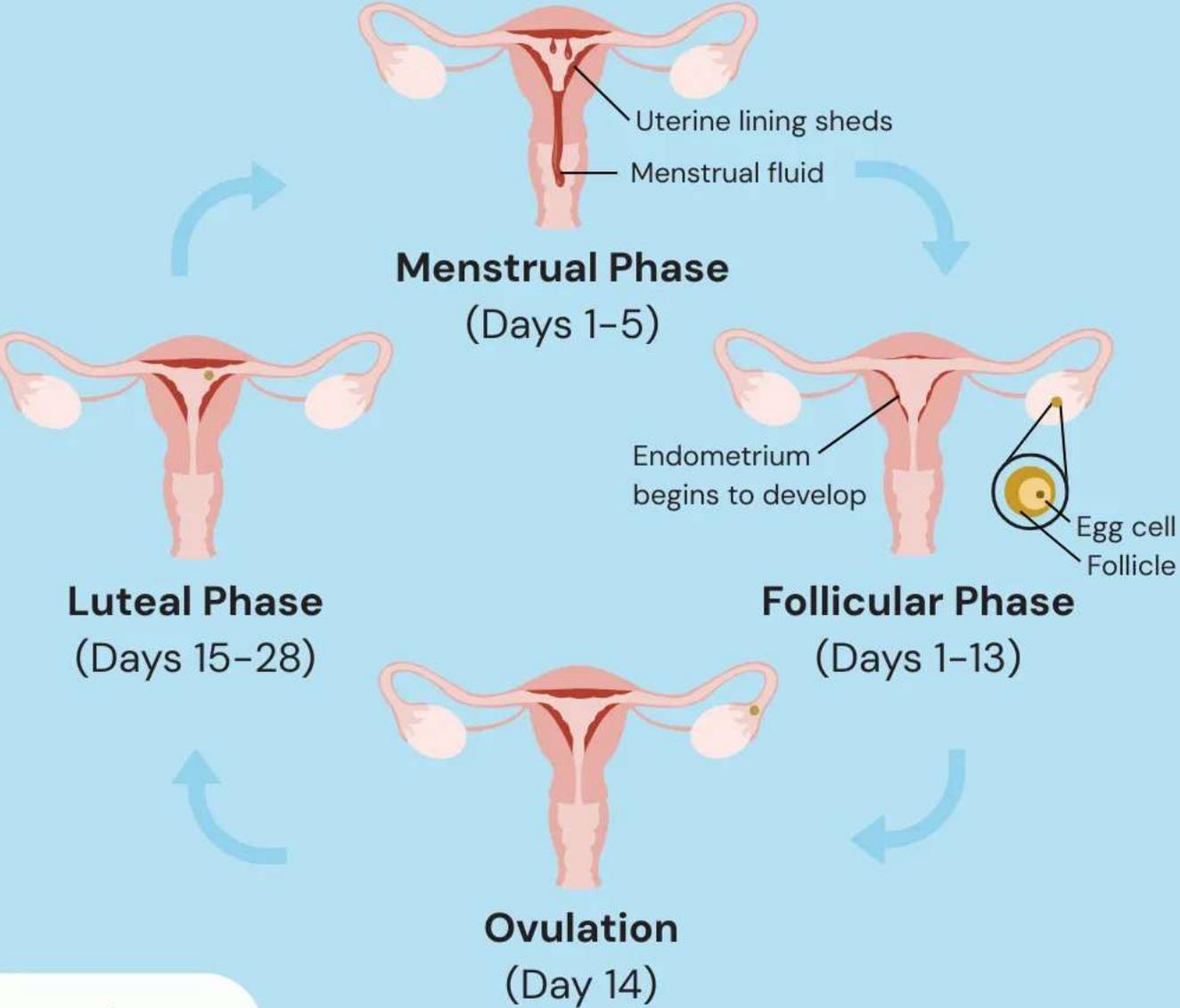
Justice Bagchi said the court was in principle in

complete agreement with the petitioner's cause, and the "cause for affirmative action was recognised". But it had to keep an eye on the "practical reality of the job market". "We see from the rights' regime, but look at it also from the business model. Will an employer be happy with the competing claims from the other gender?" Justice Bagchi asked.

Mr. Tripathi's petition had stressed the fact that India had signed and ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which recognises the need for non-discriminatory practices and for treating women with dignity.

"Countries like the United Kingdom, Wales, China, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, South Korea and Zambia have different policies or laws on the grant of menstrual leave," the petition had said.

The Menstrual Cycle



1. What is the Menstrual Cycle

मासिक धर्म चक्र क्या है

- The **menstrual cycle** is the monthly biological cycle in females that prepares the body for **pregnancy**.
मासिक धर्म चक्र महिलाओं में होने वाला मासिक जैविक चक्र है जो शरीर को गर्भधारण के लिए तैयार करता है।
- Average duration: **28 days (range 21–35 days)**.
औसत अवधि: 28 दिन (21–35 दिन सामान्य)।
- Controlled by the **hypothalamus–pituitary–ovarian hormonal axis**.
यह हाइपोथैलेमस–पिट्यूटरी–ओवरी हार्मोन प्रणाली द्वारा नियंत्रित होता है।

2. Hormones Involved in Menstrual Cycle

मासिक चक्र में प्रमुख हार्मोन

Hormone	Source	Function
FSH (Follicle Stimulating Hormone)	Pituitary gland	Stimulates ovarian follicle development
LH (Luteinizing Hormone)	Pituitary gland	Triggers ovulation
Estrogen	Ovaries	Builds uterine lining
Progesterone	Corpus luteum (ovary)	Maintains uterine lining for pregnancy

3. Phases of Menstrual Cycle and Hormonal Changes

मासिक धर्म चक्र के चरण और हार्मोन परिवर्तन

Phase	Days	Hormonal Change	Key Events
Menstrual Phase	Day 1–5	Estrogen & progesterone low	Shedding of uterine lining
Follicular Phase	Day 1–13	FSH and estrogen rise	Follicle development
Ovulation Phase	Day 14	LH surge	Egg released from ovary
Luteal Phase	Day 15–28	Progesterone high	Uterus prepared for pregnancy

4. Hormonal Changes and Behavioural Effects

हार्मोन परिवर्तन और व्यवहार में बदलाव

Phase	Hormonal Pattern	Behaviour / Psychological Changes
Menstrual Phase	Low estrogen & progesterone	Fatigue, irritability, low energy
Follicular Phase	Rising estrogen	Increased focus, better mood
Ovulation Phase	Peak estrogen & LH	Higher confidence, social behaviour
Luteal Phase	High progesterone	Mood swings, anxiety, cravings

5. Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS)

प्रीमेंस्ट्रुअल सिंड्रोम

- PMS occurs 1–2 weeks before menstruation.
PMS मासिक धर्म से 1–2 सप्ताह पहले होता है।

Common symptoms:

Physical	Psychological
Headache	Mood swings
Bloating	Anxiety
Fatigue	Irritability
Breast tenderness	Depression

6. Biological Mechanism Behind Behaviour Changes

व्यवहार परिवर्तन का जैविक कारण

1. **Estrogen increases serotonin activity** in the brain → improves mood.
एस्ट्रोजन मस्तिष्क में सेरोटोनिन बढ़ाता है, जिससे मूड बेहतर होता है।
2. **Progesterone affects GABA neurotransmitters** → relaxation or mood instability.
प्रोजेस्टेरोन GABA न्यूरोट्रांसमीटर को प्रभावित करता है।
3. Hormonal fluctuations affect **sleep, appetite and emotions**.
हार्मोन परिवर्तन नींद, भूख और भावनाओं को प्रभावित करते हैं।

- The Supreme Court observed that **making paid menstrual leave mandatory by law may negatively impact women's career prospects.**

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि मासिक धर्म अवकाश को कानून द्वारा अनिवार्य बनाना महिलाओं के करियर पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव डाल सकता है।

- The Court emphasized the difference between a **legally enforceable statutory right and voluntary employer policies.**

अदालत ने कानूनी अधिकार और नियोक्ताओं द्वारा स्वैच्छिक नीतियों के बीच अंतर को स्पष्ट किया।

- The Court encouraged **voluntary initiatives by employers and states instead of compulsory legislation.**

अदालत ने अनिवार्य कानून की बजाय नियोक्ताओं और राज्यों द्वारा स्वैच्छिक पहल को प्रोत्साहित किया।

2. Key Observations by Supreme Court

सुप्रीम कोर्ट की प्रमुख टिप्पणियाँ

- Making menstrual leave compulsory could create **discrimination in hiring women**.
इसे अनिवार्य बनाने से महिलाओं की भर्ती में भेदभाव बढ़ सकता है।
 - Employers may hesitate to hire women due to **additional workplace obligations**.
अतिरिक्त जिम्मेदारियों के कारण नियोक्ता महिलाओं को नौकरी देने में हिचक सकते हैं।
 - Policy decisions must consider **economic and workplace realities**.
नीति निर्माण में आर्थिक और कार्यस्थल की वास्तविकताओं को ध्यान में रखना होगा।
 - The court acknowledged that **menstrual pain leave aligns with dignity and health rights under Article 21**.
अदालत ने माना कि मासिक धर्म अवकाश अनुच्छेद 21 के तहत गरिमा और स्वास्थ्य अधिकार से जुड़ा है।
-

Aspect

Explanation

श्रीअधर्

Fundamental Right

Article 21 – Right to life and dignity

१ अर्क 21 – न्हअण ङ घ
णप्रधरकड्व १श्र१ ड्वघ

Petition Filed By

Advocate Shailendra
Mani Tripathi

१श्र१अअ ट्वघर् रकभ्र
श्व्टवभह

Demand

Uniform national law for
menstrual leave

रकभ्र ड् १रकभ्र अड्वट् पकभ्र
घनकभ्र ड्वकभ्र

4. Difference Between Legal Right and Voluntary Policy

कानूनी अधिकार और स्वैच्छिक नीति का अंतर

Factor	Statutory Right	Voluntary Policy
Implementation	Mandatory by law	Employer decision
Flexibility	Limited	Flexible
Business Impact	Higher compliance burden	Business-friendly
Risk	Hiring discrimination	Lower

5. Existing Examples in India

भारत में मौजूदा उदाहरण

Institution / State	Policy
Odisha Government	Menstrual leave for women employees
Kerala	Menstrual leave for university students
Karnataka	Discussions on workplace menstrual policies
Punjab University	Leave granted to female students



Country

Policy

Japan

Menstrual leave allowed since 1947

South Korea

Monthly menstrual leave policy

Indonesia

Two days menstrual leave

Taiwan

Up to three menstrual leave days

Zambia

“Mother’s Day” leave policy



Bihar: First Indian state
— 2 days/month
menstrual leave for govt
employees (1992)

Kerala: Period leave for
university students
(2023); Karnataka:
voluntary employer
guidelines

Zomato/ Class24: Private
sector pioneer — 10 -
12days/year menstrual
leave

Vishaka Guidelines
(1997): SC filling
legislative vacuum on
workplace harassment —
similar judicial activism

National Policy for
Women 2016: Endorses
safe, dignified work
conditions; gender-
responsive employment

Consider the following statements regarding **menstrual leave policy**:

1. The Supreme Court stated that mandatory menstrual leave law may impact women's employment opportunities.
2. The Court encouraged voluntary policies instead of compulsory legislation.
3. Menstrual leave policies already exist in some countries such as Japan and South Korea.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Tehran: Will allow Indian ships to pass; Modi says Iran a friend

Reports: 2 Ships Carrying Gas Crossed Strait

Sachin.Parashar
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In his phone conversation with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian late Thursday, PM Modi stressed that India is Iran's friend and that his govt will do all it can to advance diplomacy as escalation is



FULL COVERAGE
Pages 2, 6, 10-13

not in anyone's interest. This is the closest India has come to expressing solidarity with Tehran, which said Friday it would allow Indian ships safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz, after the war broke out with US-Israel attacks and Iranian reprisals.

The Iranian president also

FRIDAY RALLY IN TEHRAN TARGETED

Photo: NYT
> Six crew members aboard a US refuelling aircraft killed after it crashed over western Iraq on Thursday

> India facilitated return of nearly 100 members of the crew of Iranian ship IRIS Lavan, which docked at Kochi on March 4, say sources

> Explosion rocks an area of Tehran where senior govt officials joined thousands on Friday for an annual rally to support Palestinians. No immediate reports of casualties

> Sensex drops 1,471 pts or 1.9% to settle at 74,564.

appreciated India's "balanced and constructive positions" on international issues and its efforts to reduce tensions.

Iranian ambassador Mohammad Fathali answered in the affirmative when asked if Tehran would let India-flagged ships cross the Strait. "Yes, because India is our friend. You will see it within 2-3 hours. We believe India and Iran sha-



Smoke continues to billow in a Beirut neighbourhood 24 hours after an Israeli strike on Thursday

re common interests in the region," Fathali said Friday evening. Twenty-eight Indian ships are stranded in the Persian Gulf because of the Iranian blockade of the Strait.

There were reports late Friday that Iran had allowed two India-flagged ships carrying gas to cross the Strait.

Investors have lost ₹34L crore in 2 weeks of West Asia war

> Rupee closes at 92.46 after touching a record low of 92.48 against dollar

► Continued on P 11

Drone strike in Oman takes Indian toll to 5

New Delhi: Two Indian nationals were killed and 10 others injured in a drone strike in an industrial area in Oman's Sohar province Friday, taking the total number of Indian casualties in the ongoing war in West Asia to five.

Oman News Agency reported that two drones crashed in Sohar, one striking the Al-Awahi industrial area, resulting in the deaths of two expatriates and several injuries, and the other crashing in an open area, causing no damage.

Joint secretary (Gulf) in external affairs ministry, Aseem Mahajan, confirmed the killings. "We express our deepest condolences... Of the 11 injured, 10 are Indians. Five have been discharged and the others are receiving treatment in local hospitals," he said.

► Continued on P 11

- Iran assured India that **Indian ships will be allowed safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz** amid escalating tensions in West Asia.

पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते तनाव के बीच ईरान ने भारत को आश्वासन दिया कि भारतीय जहाजों को होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य से सुरक्षित गुजरने दिया जाएगा।

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** held a phone conversation with Iranian President **Masoud Pezeshkian** emphasizing India's balanced diplomacy.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने ईरानी राष्ट्रपति मसूद पेज़ेश्कियन से फोन पर बातचीत कर भारत की संतुलित कूटनीति पर जोर दिया।

- Reports indicated that **two Indian ships carrying gas successfully crossed the Strait** after Iran's assurance.

रिपोर्टों के अनुसार गैस ले जा रहे दो भारतीय जहाज जलडमरूमध्य पार करने में सफल हुए।

3. Impact of West Asia Conflict

पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष का प्रभाव

- Escalation between Iran, Israel and the United States increased regional instability.
ईरान, इज़राइल और अमेरिका के बीच तनाव से क्षेत्रीय अस्थिरता बढ़ी।
 - Several commercial ships were stranded in the Persian Gulf due to security concerns.
सुरक्षा चिंताओं के कारण फारस की खाड़ी में कई जहाज फंस गए।
 - Around 28 Indian ships were reported stranded earlier due to blockade fears.
पहले लगभग 28 भारतीय जहाज फंसने की खबरें थीं।
-

4. India's Diplomatic Position

भारत की कूटनीतिक स्थिति

- India maintained a **balanced diplomatic stance** in the West Asia conflict.
भारत ने पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष में संतुलित कूटनीतिक रुख अपनाया।
- Focus on **de-escalation and protection of Indian economic interests**.
तनाव कम करने और भारतीय आर्थिक हितों की रक्षा पर जोर।
- Ensuring safety of **Indian shipping and energy supply routes**.
भारतीय जहाजों और ऊर्जा आपूर्ति मार्गों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना।

5. Economic Impact on India

भारत पर आर्थिक प्रभाव

Oil and Gas Supply

तेल और गैस आपूर्ति

- India imports **around 85% of its crude oil needs.**
भारत अपनी तेल आवश्यकता का लगभग **85%** आयात करता है।
- Persian Gulf is a **major supplier of oil and LNG to India.**
फारस की खाड़ी भारत के लिए तेल और **LNG** का प्रमुख स्रोत है।

Financial Markets Reaction

वित्तीय बाजार की प्रतिक्रिया

- **Sensex dropped 1,471 points (1.9%)** amid geopolitical tensions.
भू-राजनीतिक तनाव के कारण **सेंसेक्स 1471 अंक गिरा**।
- **Rupee weakened to around 92.46 per US dollar.**
रुपया लगभग **92.46 प्रति डॉलर तक कमजोर हुआ**।

Shantanu Narayen, longtime CEO of Adobe, to exit amid AI disruption

Adobe Inc chief executive officer **Shantanu Narayen** will resign from his position atop the creative software giant amid scepticism about the company's ability to thrive in the AI era. Narayen, who was CEO for 18 years, will remain in the position until a successor is appointed, Adobe said Thursday. The 62-year-old Indian-American will stay on as board chairman.

The CEO change "adds questions around strategic continuity, capital allocation priorities and pace of innovation", Grace Harmon, an analyst at Emarketer, said in an email. "Investors will likely focus on whether incoming leadership maintains a balance between disciplined execution and aggressive AI investment, especially as competi-

tion in creative and enterprise AI intensifies."

The maker of Photoshop and other products for creative arts professionals is among a group of application software companies seen as struggling to win new customers in the face of AI upstarts. Adobe has worked to weave AI tools through its creative and marketing software and offers its own range of models.

Adobe's annual revenue multiplied almost six times to about \$24 billion since Narayen took over at the end of 2007. He is often credited with steering one of the first successful transitions in software to a business model in which customers bought recurring subscriptions to bundles of products, rather than one-time purchases of individual appli-

cations. Still, Narayen's direction has been questioned by investors. Generative AI has made it easier to create visual media without Adobe's products. Many of the AI creative tools are built by competitors.

Narayen was born on May 27, 1963 in Hyderabad. He got a bachelor's degree in electronics and communication engineering from Osmania University and a master's degree in computer science from Bowling Green State University. He also did an MBA at Haas School of Business at University of California.

"We are focused on selecting the right leader for this next chapter of the company's growth and are grateful for Shantanu's continued leadership to ensure a smooth transition," said Frank Calderoni, the board's lead independent director. AGENCIES



3. Adobe Under His Leadership

उनके नेतृत्व में एडोबी

- Narayen became CEO in 2007.
वे 2007 में एडोबी के CEO बने।
- Adobe shifted from **one-time software purchases to subscription-based model.**
एडोबी ने एक बार खरीद मॉडल से सब्सक्रिप्शन मॉडल में परिवर्तन किया।
- Company revenue increased nearly **six times to about \$24 billion annually.**
कंपनी का वार्षिक राजस्व लगभग छह गुना बढ़कर \$24 अरब तक पहुंच गया।
- Adobe strengthened its dominance in **creative software industry.**
एडोबी ने क्रिएटिव सॉफ्टवेयर उद्योग में अपनी प्रमुख स्थिति मजबूत की।

Product

Purpose

क्षेत्र

Photoshop

Image editing

चित्र संपादन

Illustrator

Graphic design

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक ग्राफिक्स

Premiere Pro

Video editing

वीडियो संपादन

Acrobat

PDF documents

PDF दस्तावेज़

6. Adobe's AI Strategy

एडोबी की AI रणनीति

- Adobe introduced **Firefly AI** for generative design.
एडोबी ने **Firefly AI** नामक जनरेटिव डिजाइन टूल लॉन्च किया।
 - AI tools integrated in **Photoshop, Illustrator and Premiere Pro**.
AI टूल **Photoshop, Illustrator और Premiere Pro** में जोड़े गए।
 - Company aims to combine **AI with creative professionals' workflows**.
कंपनी का लक्ष्य **AI और क्रिएटिव पेशेवरों के कार्य को एकीकृत करना** है।
-

7. Economic and Technological Significance

आर्थिक एवं तकनीकी महत्व

- Reflects **global shift toward AI-driven industries**.
यह **AI आधारित उद्योगों की वैश्विक दिशा** को दर्शाता है।
- Shows the challenge faced by **traditional software companies**.
यह **पारंपरिक सॉफ्टवेयर कंपनियों की चुनौती** को दर्शाता है।
- Leadership changes often occur during **major technological transitions**.
बड़े तकनीकी परिवर्तन के समय **नेतृत्व परिवर्तन आम होता है**।

No.	CEO Name	Company	Country of Company	Sector
1	<u>Sundar Pichai</u>	<u>Alphabet Inc. / Google</u>	USA	Technology / Internet
2	<u>Satya Nadella</u>	<u>Microsoft</u>	USA	Technology / Cloud
3	<u>Arvind Krishna</u>	<u>IBM</u>	USA	Technology / AI / Cloud
4	<u>Shantanu Narayen</u>	<u>Adobe</u>	USA	Software / Creative Tools
5	<u>Nikesh Arora</u>	<u>Palo Alto Networks</u>	USA	Cybersecurity
6	<u>Leena Nair</u>	<u>Chanel</u>	France	Luxury / Fashion
7	<u>Neal Mohan</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	USA	Digital Media
8	<u>George Kurian</u>	<u>NetApp</u>	USA	Cloud Data Storage
9	<u>Sanjay Mehrotra</u>	<u>Micron Technology</u>	USA	Semiconductor
10	<u>Reshma Kewalramani</u>	<u>Vertex Pharmaceuticals</u>	USA	Biotechnology
11	<u>Revathi Advaiti</u>	<u>Flex Ltd.</u>	USA	Manufacturing / Electronics
12	<u>Shailesh Jejurikar</u>	<u>Procter & Gamble</u>	USA	Consumer Goods

Red alert: Investors lose ₹34L cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Two weeks into the war in West Asia, investors in India have lost a staggering Rs 34 lakh crore worth of wealth due to the strong selloff in the stock market.

The turmoil has also shaved off a little over 5,250 points or 6.5% from the sensex, as foreign funds have doubled down on their selling in the domestic market.

The ongoing war has resulted in the price of crude oil surpassing the \$100/barrel mark, a multi-year high. It has also weakened the rupee to a historic low and forced foreign funds to take money out of India at a pace not seen in the last 14 months.

In Friday's market, the sensex started on a weak note with the index down nearly 500 points. It slid through the session to fall to an intra-day

Japan, India Worst Hit; US, China Pare Losses

Two Weeks In: How Global Markets Fared Since The War Began		
Nikkei (Japan)	-8.5	FPIs Net outflow at ₹57,953 cr (\$6.3bn)
Sensex (India)	-8.3	
Nifty 50 (India)	-8.1	DIIIs Net inflow at ₹70,527 cr (\$7.6bn)
FTSE 100 (UK)	-5.9	
Ibovespa (Brazil)	-5.2	> Total investor wealth lost was ₹34 L cr with BSE's market cap now at ₹429.4 L cr US Data as of 21:30 IST Source: BSE, ETIG
Dow Jones (US)	-4.7	
Hang Seng (HK)	-4.4	
S&P 500 (US)	-3.3	
Nasdaq Comp (US)	-2.3	
Shanghai SE (China)	-1.6	

low at 74,455 points and closed just a tad above that level, at 74,564 points, down 1,471 points or 1.9%. On NSE, Nifty too took a similar path to close at 23,151 points, down 488 points or 2.1%.

The day's slide came on back of the price of crude oil—India's biggest import item—trading above the psychologically important \$100/barrel mark. The rupee sank

to a record low of 92.48 against the dollar.

The day's slide in the market was led by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs). At close of session, foreign investors had net sold stocks worth Rs 10,717 crore, the biggest single-session net outflow by foreign funds since Feb 28, 2025, ETIG data showed.

On Friday, there were also talks of margin-related sel-

ling after several days of slide. Often, speculators borrow money to take positions in stocks against collateral, part of which is in stocks. If the value of collateralised stocks fall below a certain pre-set level, the lenders can sell off those stocks. In a falling market, such margin-based selling can aggravate the selling. "There were MTF (margin trade finance)-related selling in Friday's session," said people in the know. "In addition, given the volatile geopolitical situation, traders were not willing to carry their positions through the weekend and liquidated that which pushed stock prices further down," the people said.

At close of session, of the 30 sensex stocks, 28 closed in the red, with L&T, HDFC Bank and SBI contributing the most to the day's loss, BSE data showed.

Stock Index	Country	% Change
Nikkei	Japan	-8.5%
Sensex	India	-8.3%
Nifty 50	India	-8.1%
FTSE 100	UK	-5.9%
Ibovespa	Brazil	-5.2%
Dow Jones	USA	-4.7%
Hang Seng	Hong Kong	-4.4%
S&P 500	USA	-3.3%
Nasdaq	USA	-2.3%
Shanghai SE	China	-1.6%

3. Key Financial Indicators from the News

मुख्य वित्तीय संकेतक

Indicator	Data
Total investor wealth loss	₹34 lakh crore
BSE Market Cap	₹429.4 lakh crore
Sensex fall	1,471 points (1.9%)
Nifty fall	488 points
Rupee value	₹92.46 per US dollar

4. Role of Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)

विदेशी पोर्टफोलियो निवेशकों की भूमिका

- The market fall was mainly driven by **Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)** selling shares.
बाजार गिरावट का मुख्य कारण **विदेशी पोर्टफोलियो निवेशकों (FPI)** की बिकवाली रही।
- FPIs sold shares worth **₹10,717 crore in one trading session**.
एक दिन में FPIs ने **₹10,717 करोड़** के शेयर बेचे।
- Total FPI net outflow reached **₹57,953 crore (\$6.3 billion)**.
कुल FPI निकासी **₹57,953 करोड़ (\$6.3 अरब)** तक पहुंच गई।

5. Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs)

घरेलू संस्थागत निवेशक

Investor Type	Flow
FPIs	Net Outflow ₹57,953 crore
DIIs	Net Inflow ₹70,527 crore

Domestic investors attempted to **stabilize the market by buying shares**.

घरेलू निवेशकों ने शेयर खरीदकर बाजार को स्थिर करने की कोशिश की।

6. Reasons for Market Crash

शेयर बाजार गिरने के कारण

(1) Geopolitical Conflict

भू-राजनीतिक संघर्ष

- War escalation in **West Asia** increased global uncertainty.
पश्चिम एशिया युद्ध से वैश्विक अनिश्चितता बढ़ी।

(2) Oil Price Shock

तेल कीमतों में उछाल

- Crude oil crossed **\$100 per barrel**, affecting oil-importing countries like India.
कच्चा तेल 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल से ऊपर गया।

(3) Rupee Depreciation

रुपये की कमजोरी

- Rupee touched **historic lows against the US dollar**.
रुपया डॉलर के मुकाबले ऐतिहासिक निचले स्तर पर पहुंचा।

(4) Margin Selling

मार्जिन सेलिंग

- Falling prices triggered **margin trading finance (MTF) selling**.
गिरती कीमतों से मार्जिन ट्रेडिंग सेलिंग बढ़ी।

7. Margin Trading Explained

मार्जिन ट्रेडिंग क्या है

Concept	Explanation
Margin Trading	Borrowed money used to buy shares
Risk	If price falls, forced selling occurs
Impact	Amplifies market decline

8. Economic Impact on India

भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था पर प्रभाव

- Reduction in **household financial wealth**.
घरेलू वित्तीय संपत्ति में कमी।
- Impact on **investment sentiment**.
निवेशक भावना पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव।
- Increased **inflation risk due to high oil prices**.
तेल महंगा होने से मुद्रास्फीति का खतरा।

Year	Event	Market Impact
1992	Harshad Mehta Scam	Market crash
2008	Global Financial Crisis	Sensex fell ~60%
2020	COVID Crash	Sharp fall in markets
2026	West Asia War Impact	₹34 lakh crore wealth loss



Consider the following statements:

1. Sensex is the benchmark index of the Bombay Stock Exchange.
2. Foreign Portfolio Investors mainly invest in long-term infrastructure projects in India.
3. Margin trading can amplify stock market declines.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

TIGER DEATHS
A worrying count in Maharashtra
The State recorded 41 of the 166 tiger deaths reported in the country in 2019
NEWS PAGE 2



Atomic clock on IRNSS-1F stops functioning
NEWS PAGE 2

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei: The cleric with a gun
PROFILES PAGE 2

Antonelli becomes the youngest to clinch pole position
SPORT PAGE 24

INSIDE
Hindus becoming minorities, says PM in Bengal
KOLKATA Targeting the Trinamool Congress for "changing the demographic of most parts of West Bengal", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that Bengali Hindus were purposefully being turned into minorities. PAGE 2

U.S. bombs Kharg Island; Iran hits back

U.S. forces obliterated military targets on the island that hosts Iran's primary oil export terminal, says Trump while warning they could target oil infrastructure if shipping through the strait of Hormuz is disrupted; Iran threatens to strike oil, economic and energy facilities linked to the U.S.

Associated Press
DUBAI
An missile attack a helicopter inside the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad and debris from an intercepted Iranian drone hit an oil facility in the UAE, while U.S. President Donald Trump claimed that the U.S. destroyed military sites on an island vital to Iran's oil network.
Mr. Trump said U.S. forces on Friday "obliterated" targets on Iran's Kharg Island, which is home to the primary terminal that handles the country's oil exports.
The speaker of the Iranian parliament had warned that such strikes would provoke a new level of retaliation.

Rising tensions
The United States said it struck military targets on Kharg Island, a crucial hub in Iran's oil export network, as tensions escalate around the Strait of Hormuz.
■ Kharg Island hosts Iran's main means of international handling, most of the country's crude shipments.
■ Donald Trump said U.S. forces "obliterated" military sites on Kharg Island.
■ Trump warned Iran's oil infrastructure here could be targeted if shipping through the Strait of Hormuz is disrupted.
■ Tehran warned it could target sites in the UAE, including the U.S. oil tanking ports and docks in Ras Al Khaima.



Strikes that from an energy installation in Bahrain, UAE, hours after U.S. strikes on Kharg Island.
U.S. strikes did not target Kuwait's oil exports, but should have an impact on the Strait of Hormuz. I will immediately reconsider this decision.
DONALD TRUMP, U.S. President.

Santapani Ghosh
M. Kalyanasaraman
NEW DELHI/CHENNAI
Two liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) carriers, *Shivalki* and *Nanda Devi*, have crossed the Strait of Hormuz and are headed to India, Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Special Secretary at Ministry of Shipping and Waterways, said on Friday.
"Of the 24 vessels with an Indian flag operating in the Persian Gulf, LPG carriers *Shivalki* and *Nanda Devi* crossed the Strait of Hormuz early this morning safely, and are headed to India," Mr. Sinha said.
FULL REPORT ON PAGE 4

Armed inbound
Meanwhile, an American official said 2,500 more marines and an amphibious assault ship are being sent to West Asia. Iran has continued to launch widespread missile and drone attacks on Israel and neighbouring Gulf Arab states, and has effectively closed the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's oil is piped, even as U.S. and Israeli warplanes pursued military and other targets across Iran.
Elements from the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Unit and the amphibious assault ship *USS Tripoli* have been ordered to West Asia, according to the U.S. official.
Marine Expeditionary Units are able to conduct amphibious landings, but they also specialise in bolstering security at embassies, evacuating civilians, and providing disaster relief.
The deployment does not necessarily indicate that a ground operation is imminent or will take place.
The 3rd Marine Expeditionary Unit, as well as the *Tripoli* and other amphibious assault ships, carry the marines, are based in Japan and have been in the Pacific Ocean for several days, according to images released by the military.
The *Tripoli* was spotted by commercial satellites sailing alone near Taiwan, putting it more than a week away from the waters off Iran.

Iran warns that the attacks on the islands should cause Tehran to abandon all restraint
The U.S. strikes on Iran's Kharg Island in the Persian Gulf targeted military sites but left its oil infrastructure alone for now, Mr. Trump said in a social media post. But he warned that if Iran or anyone else interferes with the passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz, he will reconsider his decision not to "swipe" the oil infrastructure.
Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baghi Ghalibaf warned on social media on Thursday that at

On Saturday, the U.S. Central Command released a video of a showing the strike and said it destroyed naval mine storage facilities, missile storage bunkers and multiple other military sites.
Iran's semi-official Fars news agency said Saturday the U.S. strikes caused no damage to the island's oil infrastructure.
Multiple strikes
The agency said at least 15 explosions followed the strike, which it said targeted an air defence facility, a naval base, the airport control tower and an offshore oil company's helicopter barge.
On Saturday, the U.S. Central Command released a video of a showing the strike and said it destroyed naval mine storage facilities, missile storage bunkers and multiple other military sites.
Iran's semi-official Fars news agency said Saturday the U.S. strikes caused no damage to the island's oil infrastructure.
Multiple strikes
The agency said at least 15 explosions followed the strike, which it said targeted an air defence facility, a naval base, the airport control tower and an offshore oil company's helicopter barge.

On Saturday, the U.S. Central Command released a video of a showing the strike and said it destroyed naval mine storage facilities, missile storage bunkers and multiple other military sites.
Iran's semi-official Fars news agency said Saturday the U.S. strikes caused no damage to the island's oil infrastructure.
Multiple strikes
The agency said at least 15 explosions followed the strike, which it said targeted an air defence facility, a naval base, the airport control tower and an offshore oil company's helicopter barge.

2 LPG carriers cross Strait of Hormuz, says official
Parliamentary panel warns of fertilizer shortage

Cong. issues next candidate list for Assam election
NEW DELHI
The Congress on Saturday released its second list of 21 party candidates for the upcoming Assam Assembly election. It also left 13 seats for its alliance partners. PAGE 2

Indian airlines among worst hit in Gulf region
NEW DELHI
Flight restrictions and heightened military activity in the Gulf led to about 2,000 flight cancellations by Indian carriers in the first nine days after tensions between Israel and Iran escalated a week.

Wangchuk released after 170 days as govt. revokes his detention under NSA

Xiuhua Shuh
NEW DELHI
Ladakhi activist Sonam Wangchuk was released from Jodhpur Central Jail on Saturday, after the Union Home Ministry revoked with "immediate effect" his 170-day detention under the National Security Act (NSA).
Invoking its powers under Section 14 of the stringent Act, the Ministry revoked the Leh District Magistrate's order through which Mr. Wangchuk had been detained since September 26, 2018.
He has "already undergone nearly half of the period of detention" under the NSA, the Ministry said.
The Ministry is not known to have exercised this provision for any detainee in the past.
The 1950 Act enables detention of an individual for up to a year, based on executive orders and without a trial in a court of law,



Wangchuk at a protest. Activist Sonam Wangchuk has held several protests demanding the inclusion of Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule. His photo

Ladakh through discussion and dialogue.
In an interview with The Hindu on March 9, Mr. Wangchuk had said that Mr. Wangchuk would not pursue the legal path of agitation for his release, but would continue to be part of the movement to demand constitutional safeguards for Ladakh through discussion and dialogue.
Mr. Wangchuk conveyed through one of his social media accounts on March 12 that he has not stopped away from activism, but added that it would be a "calm, steady, and sincere dialogue."
"No space for agitation" The newly appointed Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Vinod Kumar Saxena welcomed the decision, but added that "there is no space for agitation under the NSA order," and on Saturday, he said "when violence erupted in Leh city."
Case background
Mr. Wangchuk and 15 others were on the 15th day of a 38-day "hunger strike" when violence erupted in Leh city.
At least four people, including a Kargil war veteran, were killed in police firing, and 160 others were injured.
This had been Mr. Wangchuk's 60th hunger strike over the past five years to draw the government's attention to the demands of the high-powered Buddhist monastic order (HBC) as well as other appropriate platforms.

Ladakh groups to hold stir despite activist's release
NEW DELHI
A protest planned for Monday demanding constitutional safeguards for Ladakh will not be called off even after the release of Ladakh's leader Sonam Wangchuk from detention, civil society groups in the Union Territory were also engaged with in dialogue with the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and on Saturday, he said on Saturday. PAGE 2

der against Mr. Wangchuk is being revoked, the MHA said.
It added that Mr. Wangchuk had been detained under the NSA with a view to maintaining public order, against the backdrop of the serious law and order situation that arose in the peace-loving town of Leh on September 24, 2018.
Case background
Mr. Wangchuk and 15 others were on the 15th day of a 38-day "hunger strike" when violence erupted in Leh city.
At least four people, including a Kargil war veteran, were killed in police firing, and 160 others were injured.
This had been Mr. Wangchuk's 60th hunger strike over the past five years to draw the government's attention to the demands of the high-powered Buddhist monastic order (HBC) as well as other appropriate platforms.

Parliamentary panel warns of fertilizer shortage
A.M. Jigeech
NEW DELHI
With the Kharif season setting in, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Fertilizers, led by Trinamool Congress MP Aashir Khatib, has warned of an acute shortage of essential fertilizers. Citing the seasons in West Asia, the committee underlined the need for a "forward-looking strategy" to safeguard fertilizer supply chain.
FULL REPORT ON PAGE 4

U.S. bombs Kharg Island; Iran hits back

U.S. forces 'obliterated' military targets on the island that hosts Iran's primary oil export terminal, says Trump while warning they could target oil infrastructure if shipping through the Strait of Hormuz is disrupted; Iran threatens to strike oil, economic and energy facilities linked to the U.S.

Associated Press
DUBAI

A missile struck a helipad inside the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad and debris from an intercepted Iranian drone hit an oil facility in the UAE, while U.S. President Donald Trump claimed that the U.S. destroyed military sites on an island vital to Iran's oil network.

Mr. Trump said U.S. forces on Friday "obliterated" targets on Iran's Kharg Island, which is home to the primary terminal that handles the country's oil exports.

The Speaker of the Iranian parliament had warned that such strikes would provoke a new level of retaliation.

Armada inbound

Meanwhile, an American official said 2,500 more marines and an amphibious assault ship are being sent to West Asia.

Iran has continued to launch widespread missile and drone attacks on Israel and neighbouring Gulf Arab states, and effectively closed the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's traded oil passes, even as U.S. and Israeli warplanes pummel military and other targets across Iran.

Elements from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and the amphibious assault ship *USS Tripoli* have been ordered to West Asia, according to the U.S. official.

Marine Expeditionary Units are able to conduct

Rising tensions

The United States said it struck military targets on Kharg Island, a crucial hub in Iran's oil export network, as tensions escalate around the Strait of Hormuz.

- Kharg Island hosts Iran's main export terminal, handling most of the country's crude shipments

- Donald Trump said U.S. forces 'obliterated' military sites on Kharg Island

- Trump warned Iran's oil infrastructure could be targeted next if shipping through the Strait of Hormuz is disrupted

- Tehran warned it could target cities in the UAE, accusing the U.S. of using its ports and docks to launch strikes



Smoke rises from an energy installation in Fujairah, UAE, hours after U.S. strikes on Kharg Island.

U.S. strikes did not target Kharg's oil infrastructure, but should Iran, or anyone else, do anything to interfere with the Free and Safe Passage of Ships through the Strait of Hormuz, I will immediately reconsider this decision.

DONALD TRUMP
U.S. President

amphibious landings, but they also specialise in bolstering security at embassies, evacuating civilians, and providing disaster relief.

The deployment does not necessarily indicate that a ground operation is imminent or will take place.

The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, as well as the *Tripoli* and other amphibious assault ships carrying the marines, are based in Japan and have been in the Pacific Ocean for several days, according to images released by the military.

The *Tripoli* was spotted by commercial satellites sailing alone near Taiwan, putting it more than a week away from the waters off Iran.

Iran warns that the attacks on the islands would cause Tehran to 'abandon all restraint'

The U.S. strikes on Iran's Kharg Island in the Persian Gulf targeted military sites but left its oil infrastructure alone for now, Mr. Trump said in a social media post. But he warned that if Iran or anyone else interferes with the passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz, he will reconsider his decision not to "wipe out the oil infrastructure."

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf warned on social media on Thursday that at-

tacks on the islands on Iran's southern maritime frontier would cause Iran to "abandon all restraint," underscoring how central they are to the country's economy and security.

On Saturday, Iran's joint military command reiterated its threat that it will attack the U.S.-linked oil and energy facilities in the region if the Islamic Republic's oil infrastructure is hit.

Ebrahim Zolfaghari, spokesperson for the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, warned they will target "all oil, economic, and energy infrastructures belonging to oil companies across the region that have American shares or cooperate with America."

The Iranian joint military command also threatened to attack cities in the UAE, saying the U.S. used "ports, docks and hide-outs" there to launch strikes on the islands.

It called on people to evacuate those areas where it said U.S. forces were sheltering.

Iran's semiofficial Fars news agency said Saturday the U.S. strikes caused no damage to the island's oil infrastructure.

Multiple strikes

The agency said at least 15 explosions followed the strikes, which it said targeted an air defence facility, a naval base, the airport control tower and an offshore oil company's helicopter hangar.

On Saturday, the U.S. Central Command released a video on X showing the strike and said it destroyed naval mine storage facilities, missile storage bunkers and multiple other military sites.

Israel earlier announced another wave of strikes in Iran targeting infrastructure, and said its air force had hit more than 200 targets in the last 24 hours, including missile launchers, defence systems and weapons production sites.

In Washington, U.S. Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth said that over 15,000 enemy targets have been struck - more than 1,000 a day since the war began.

Rising tensions

The United States said it struck military targets on Kharg Island, a crucial hub in Iran's oil export network, as tensions escalate around the Strait of Hormuz

- Kharg Island hosts Iran's main export terminal, handling most of the country's crude shipments
- Donald Trump said U.S. forces 'obliterated' military sites on Kharg Island
- Trump warned Iran's oil infrastructure could be targeted next if shipping through the Strait of Hormuz is disrupted
- Tehran warned it could target cities in the UAE, accusing the U.S. of using its ports and docks to launch strikes



Smoke rises from an energy installation in Fujairah, UAE, hours after U.S. strikes on Kharg Island.



U.S. strikes did not target Kharg's oil infrastructure, but should Iran, or anyone else, do anything to interfere with the Free and Safe Passage of Ships through the Strait of Hormuz, I will immediately reconsider this decision

DONALD TRUMP
U.S. President



Source: GRAPHIC NEWS

- The **United States conducted military strikes on Iran's Kharg Island**, a crucial hub for Iran's oil exports.

अमेरिका ने ईरान के खार्ग द्वीप पर सैन्य हमला किया, जो ईरान के तेल निर्यात का प्रमुख केंद्र है।

- Iran warned that the attack could force it to **abandon restraint and retaliate against U.S. economic and energy facilities**.

ईरान ने चेतावनी दी कि यह हमला उसे संयम छोड़कर अमेरिकी आर्थिक और ऊर्जा प्रतिष्ठानों पर जवाबी हमला करने के लिए मजबूर कर सकता है।

- The escalation is occurring amid rising tensions around the **Strait of Hormuz and West Asia conflict**.

यह तनाव होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य और पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के बीच बढ़ रहा है।

Feature

Details

अबुधब्

Location

Persian Gulf, off Iran's coast

अबुधब् इह् इरान् रब् अरब् इह्
इह् इह् इह्

Importance

Iran's largest oil export terminal

इह् इह् इह् इह् इह्
इह् इह्

Share in exports

Handles majority of Iran's crude exports

इह् इह् इह् इह् इह्
इह् इह्

Infrastructure

Oil terminals, storage facilities

इह् इह् इह् इह् इह्
इह् इह्

6. Economic and Global Impact

वैश्विक आर्थिक प्रभाव

Oil Market

तेल बाजार

- Crude oil prices crossed **\$100 per barrel**.
कच्चे तेल की कीमत **100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल** से ऊपर गई।
- Global energy supply concerns increased.
वैश्विक ऊर्जा आपूर्ति को लेकर चिंता बढ़ी।

Financial Markets

वित्तीय बाजार

- Global stock markets declined due to **geopolitical uncertainty**.
भू-राजनीतिक अनिश्चितता से वैश्विक बाजार गिरे।
- Energy-importing countries like **India are vulnerable to oil price shocks**.
भारत जैसे तेल आयातक देशों पर अधिक प्रभाव।

Countries surrounding the Persian Gulf:

Country

Iran

Iraq

Kuwait

Saudi Arabia

Bahrain

Qatar

United Arab Emirates

IN BRIEF



Amit Shah urges Punjab to give BJP a chance in 2027

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday accused the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Punjab of pushing the State into a spiral of corruption, drugs, unemployment, debt, crime and religious conversions, and urged people to give the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) a chance in the 2027 Assembly election. Addressing the party's 'Bhadre rally' in Moga district, Mr. Shah asserted, "To the 2027 Assembly election, the BJP will fight to form its own government." Taking a dig at the AAP, Mr. Shah said that the Chief Minister was serving as the pilot of AAP supreme IAS officer Kejriwal.

SIT to probe assassination attempt on Farooq Abdullah

The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday constituted a special investigation team (SIT) for a thorough investigation into the assassination attempt on former Chief Minister and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah at a mosque ceremony on March 11. The seven-member SIT, headed by a Deputy Inspector-General level officer, was formed. "Considering the seriousness and sensitivity of the case", Inspector-General of Police Him Singh Tuli said in an order, adding that the SIT "must complete the investigation promptly and thoroughly," and "adhering to the statutory procedure."

SC seeks status report on Ganga bank encroachments

The Supreme Court has directed the Centre and the National Mission for Ganga Authority to file a report detailing the status of encroachments on the banks of the River Ganga across all the States through which it flows. A Bench headed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala ordered the Union government and the Authority to provide details of the measures taken to implement an October 7, 2016 notification issued by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on the rejuvenation, protection, management and ecological flow of the river and its tributaries, which are checked by plant and animal life and riddled with illegal structures on the banks.

PM Unity Malls to boost LLPs traditional handicrafts

The Uttar Pradesh government on Saturday said products from 75 districts of the State will receive national and international platform through PM Unity Malls. The initiative, aimed at promoting national and international products and traditional craftsmanship, is being implemented through the projects in Agra, Varanasi and Lucknow. "This initiative will create artists, writers and youth to connect directly with larger markets. OOP One District One Product and GI tagged products from various districts will gain recognition at both national and international levels," an official statement said. The initiative is expected to revive traditional industries.

SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Rebillion to yesterday's Sudoku

6	2	3	2	4	1	8	5
4	9	3	7	8	4	5	2
1	8	9	3	6	2	4	7
4	5	6	0	1	7	2	3
9	7	8	1	5	4	3	6
0	2	6	8	4	7	1	5
7	1	4	2	6	3	0	9
8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Atomic clock on NavIC satellite calls time; ISRO's 'GPS' weakens

At least four satellites needed to keep NavIC functional. Centre says failure of IRNSS-1F's Swiss-made clock will bring number down to three; space agency to install indigenously developed rubidium clocks for next series of satellites

Jacob Koshy
 NEW DELHI

The last atomic clock aboard the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS-1F) has failed. The Indian Space Research Organisation has said in a statement. This further weakens the country's indigenous "GPS" system, called NavIC.

Atomic clocks are critical to satellites to offer positional, navigational, and timing services. Since the eight satellites in the IRNSS system were launched between 2013 and 2018, the Union government has encouraged Indian enterprises, including manufacturers of computer and electronic goods, having timing services, to rely on NavIC for determining the Indian standard time.

Currently, the U.S. GPS, with its 30 satellite system, is the reference standard for such purposes. "On 10th March 2023,



The second of the new navigation satellites, IRNSS-1G, failed to reach its intended orbit after launch in January 2023. (IIS/ISRO)

the procured on-board atomic clock stopped functioning. However, the satellite will continue to function in orbit for various societal applications to provide one-way broadcast timing services. IRNSS-1F satellite launched in March 2018 has completed its design mission life of 10 years on 10th March 2028," the ISRO said in a statement on its website on Friday. Nine IRNSS satellites have been launched since 2013. Eight of them are used for broadcast timing services. The last of this constellation of satellites (IRNSS-1I) was launched in 2018.

While equivalent Ameri-

can, Chinese and European systems provide global positioning services, NavIC is expected to do so only within India and with a radius of 1,400 km. This is, however, viewed more as a fallback system in case of future global conflicts in which India is denied access to these foreign constellations.

For the next series of satellites that will replace the failed and ageing fleet of IRNSS satellites — two of the three being used have passed their rated shelf life of 10 years though it's possible for these systems to function beyond — ISRO has decided to install indigenously developed rubidium atomic clock. The second, the NVS-02 satellite, launched in January 2022, failed to reach its intended orbit.

The ISRO had earlier said that it would be launching at least three satellites by the end of 2024 to replace defunct and ageing satellites.

41 of 166 tiger deaths in country last year reported in Maharashtra

Sudhakar Mishra
 MUMBAI

Of the 166 tiger deaths recorded in the country last year, 41 occurred in Maharashtra, the State government informed the Legislative Council during the ongoing budget session.

Forest Minister Ganesh Naik said the State recorded 41 tiger deaths in 2022, according to data from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). He was responding to queries from members regarding recent tiger deaths reported from the French Tiger Reserves in Nagpur district.

Members of the Legislative Council, including Rajyalakshmi and Parinyathi, raised concerns after the death of one adult tiger and two cubs from the reserve, after similar incidents in December and January. Responding to the queries, Mr. Naik said several measures are being taken to curb poaching and protect wildlife.

Mr. Naik said the Home that changes in animal behaviour and habitat patterns had intensified such poaching and habitat loss, entering agricultural fields. Referring to reports, he said that the State Cabinet had approved a proposal to change their protection category from Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, which provides the highest level of protection — to Schedule II, where penalties are less stringent, and the government has approached the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to formalise the change.

Environmentalists, however, have strongly opposed the move and urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reject what they described as a "retrograde" proposal. "The government should focus on protecting forests and preventing encroachments into wildlife habitats to reduce conflict between humans and animals. Effecting legal protection for leopards will send a dangerous signal at a time when wildlife habitats are



The Maharashtra government says the Special Tiger Protection Force and dog squad are monitoring poaching activities. (SA/ISRO)

already under immense pressure," said NatCommet director B.N. Kumar. He called for a comprehensive forest conservation policy that would increase forest cover while strictly regulating human intrusion into wildlife zones.

Legal safeguards for protected species would run counter to that vision. Environmentalists also noted that Maharashtra's leadership had emphasised the need to balance development with conservation, with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis repeating that "economy and ecology go together" and that "human-animal conflict should be addressed through thoughtful and community-driven policies."

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Poor diet is causing adult diseases in children: scientist

Abhinav Shrivastava
 NEW DELHI

With the recently released World Obesity Atlas placing India second globally after China in childhood obesity, nutrition scientist Zeehan Ali warned that the crisis could worsen sharply if left unchecked.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Dr. Ali, from the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine in Washington DC, said India could also see a steep rise in paediatric chronic diseases that were traditionally associated with adults. The report states that more than 41 million chil-

dren (aged 5-19) in India have a high body mass index (BMI), including about 14 million living with obesity. The number is projected to rise to 86 million by 2040, driven by poor diets, high consumption of sugary drinks, and low physical activity.

Packaged meals All India Rapid Urbanisation for these brands, high consumption of sugary drinks, and low physical activity. Referring to reports, he said that the State Cabinet had approved a proposal to change their protection category from Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, which provides the highest level of protection — to Schedule II, where penalties are less stringent, and the government has approached the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to formalise the change.

Environmentalists, however, have strongly opposed the move and urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reject what they described as a "retrograde" proposal. "The government should focus on protecting forests and preventing encroachments into wildlife habitats to reduce conflict between humans and animals. Effecting legal protection for leopards will send a dangerous signal at a time when wildlife habitats are

already under immense pressure," said NatCommet director B.N. Kumar. He called for a comprehensive forest conservation policy that would increase forest cover while strictly regulating human intrusion into wildlife zones.

can, Chinese and European systems provide global positioning services, NavIC is expected to do so only within India and with a radius of 1,400 km. This is, however, viewed more as a fallback system in case of future global conflicts in which India is denied access to these foreign constellations.

For the next series of satellites that will replace the failed and ageing fleet of IRNSS satellites — two of the three being used have passed their rated shelf life of 10 years though it's possible for these systems to function beyond — ISRO has decided to install indigenously developed rubidium atomic clock. The second, the NVS-02 satellite, launched in January 2022, failed to reach its intended orbit.

The ISRO had earlier said that it would be launching at least three satellites by the end of 2024 to replace defunct and ageing satellites.

India at crossroads, next step to define its future: Kamal

The Hindu Bureau
 NEW DELHI

Releasing a collection of essays by grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and former West Bengal Governor Gopalbhanu Gandhi, *India and Her Future* articulated that "economy and ecology go together" and that "human-animal conflict should be addressed through thoughtful and community-driven policies."

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Syed Ata Hasnain takes oath as Bihar Governor

Amir Bhatia
 PATNA

LL-166, Syed Ata Hasnain took oath as the Governor of Bihar on Saturday. Patna High Court Chief Justice Saroj Kumar Sahoo administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr. Hasnain at a ceremony at the Lok Sabha.

Mr. Hasnain took the oath as the 43rd Governor of Bihar since India's independence. He succeeded Afd Mohammad Khan who was appointed in January last year. Mr. Hasnain was named the Governor of Bihar on March 5, 2022 as part of major gubernatorial appointments effected by President Droupadi Murmu.

Mr. Hasnain remained active in national and academic roles even after retirement. In 2018, he was appointed chancellor of the Central University of Kashmir. He has been awarded six decorations by the President and two by the Army chief.

India at crossroads, next step to define its future: Kamal

The Hindu Bureau
 NEW DELHI

Releasing a collection of essays by grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and former West Bengal Governor Gopalbhanu Gandhi, *India and Her Future* articulated that "economy and ecology go together" and that "human-animal conflict should be addressed through thoughtful and community-driven policies."

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Nandakumar Pawar of Sage Shakti warned large-scale destruction of forests due to mining, industrial expansion and infrastructure projects for poaching conflict in human settlements. "Instead of addressing habitat loss, the government is talking about killing poachers and not the poaching," he said.

Atomic clock on NavIC satellite calls time; ISRO's 'GPS' weakens

At least four satellites needed to keep NavIC functional, Centre says; failure of IRNSS-1F's Swiss-made clock will bring number down to three; space agency to install indigenously developed rubidium clocks for next series of satellites

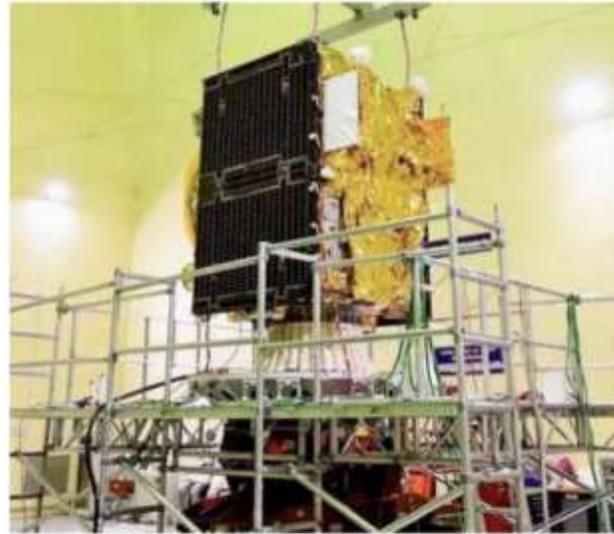
Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The last atomic clock aboard the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)-1F has failed, the Indian Space Research Organisation has said in a statement. This further weakens the country's indigenous "GPS" system, called NavIC.

Atomic clocks are critical to satellites to offer positional, navigational, and timing services. Since the eight satellites in the IRNSS system were launched between 2013 and 2018, the Union government has encouraged Indian enterprises, including manufacturers of computer and electronic goods having timing services, to rely on NavIC for determining the Indian Standard Time.

Currently, the U.S. GPS, with its 30 satellite systems, is the reference standard for such purposes.

"On 13th March 2026,



The second of the new navigation satellites, NVS-02, failed to reach its intended orbit after launch in January 2025. FILE PHOTO

the procured on-board atomic clock stopped functioning. However, the satellite will continue to function in-orbit for various societal applications to provide one way broadcast messaging services. IRNSS-1F satellite launched in March 2016 has completed its design mission life of 10 years on 10th March

2026," the ISRO said in a statement on its website on Friday.

Nine IRNSS satellites have been launched since 2013. Eight of them reached their intended orbit. The last of this constellation of satellites (IRNSS-1I) was launched in 2018.

While equivalent Ameri-

can, Chinese and European systems provide global positioning services, NavIC is expected to do so only within India and within a radius of 1,500 km. This is, however, viewed more as a fallback system in case of future global conflicts in which India is denied access to these foreign constellations.

RTI query

In July 2025, the ISRO revealed in response to a Right to Information request that five of the NavIC satellites were completely defunct, with all three clocks in each not working. In one of the three satellites with functioning atomic clocks, two of the three clocks had failed.

The atomic clocks in this constellation of satellites were imported by the ISRO from SpectraTime, a Switzerland-based maker of high-precision atomic clocks. Four working satellites could be relied upon for providing positional

and navigation services, Union Minister of State for Space Jitendra Singh has said in Parliament. With the failure of the IRNSS-1F's clock, their number is down to three.

For the next series of satellites that will replace the impaired and ageing fleet of IRNSS satellites – two of the three being used have passed their rated shelf life of 10 years though it's possible for these systems to function beyond – ISRO has decided to install indigenously developed rubidium clocks.

One replacement satellite, the NVS-01, launched in May 2023, hosts an indigenously developed rubidium (atomic) clock. The second, the NVS-02 satellite, launched in January 2025, failed to reach its intended orbit.

The ISRO had earlier said that it would be launching at least three satellites by the end of 2026 to replace defunct and ageing satellites.

PROVIDES INDIA WITH ASSURED NAVIGATION SERVICE FOR VITAL CIVILIAN & MILITARY APPLICATIONS WITHOUT HAVING TO DEPEND ON ANOTHER COUNTRY; FIRST SATELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED ON JULY 1; RZEMAINING 6 BY 2015

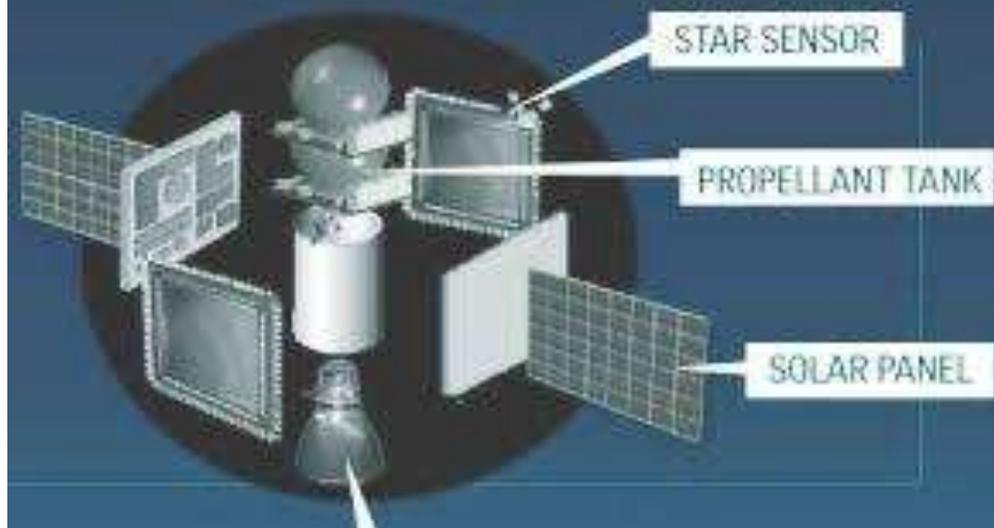
www.indiandefensenews.in

NAVIC : INDIAN REGIONAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEM

7 SATELLITES

3 GEOSTATIONARY
4 GEOSYNCHRONOUS

ORBIT ALTITUDE 36,000 KM
COST ₹ 1,420 CRORES



Covers India and up to 1,500 km beyond its borders	3 extremely accurate rubidium atomic clocks in each satellite	GPS receivers will not work; need special receivers (yet to be developed)
---	--	--

IRNSS provides Standard Positioning Service	Open to all users	Accuracy better than 20 metres
---	-------------------	--------------------------------

● **3** satellites in geostationary orbit – appear from ground to be at fixed positions in the sky

● **4** satellites in geosynchronous orbit – in pairs, move in two inclined orbits – appear from ground to travel in figure '8' – assist in accurate position determination

Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System

IRNSS (NavIC) is designed to provide accurate real-time positioning and timing services to users in India as well as region extending up to 1,500 km from its boundary

NAVIGATION CONSTELLATION CONSISTS OF SEVEN SATELLITES

3 in geostationary earth orbit (GEO) and **4** in geosynchronous orbit (GSO) inclined at 29 degrees to equator

Each sat has three rubidium atomic clocks, which provide accurate locational data

IT WILL PROVIDE TWO TYPES OF SERVICES

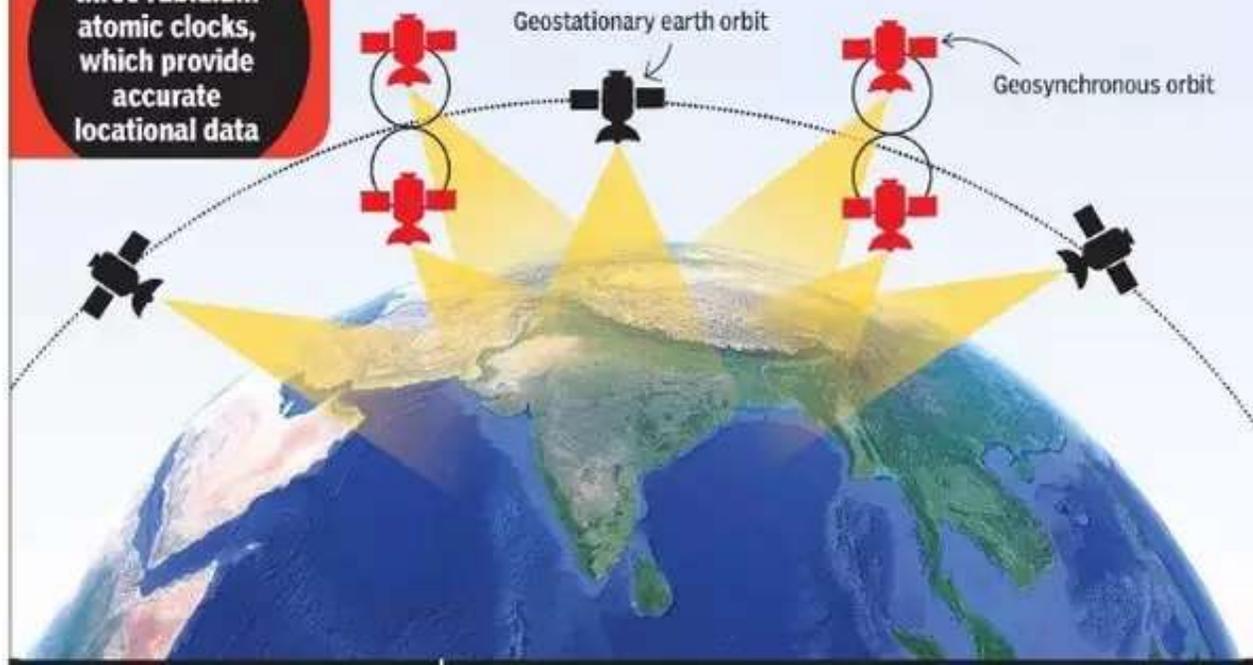
1 Standard positioning service | Meant for all users

2 Restricted service | Encrypted service provided only to authorised users (military and security agencies)

Applications of IRNSS are:

Terrestrial, aerial and marine navigation; disaster management; vehicle tracking and fleet management; precise timing mapping and geodetic data capture; terrestrial navigation aid for hikers and travellers; visual and voice navigation for drivers

While **American GPS** has **24 satellites** in orbit, the number of sats visible to ground receiver is limited. In **IRNSS**, **four satellites** are always in geosynchronous orbits, hence always visible to a receiver in a region **1,500 km** around India



IRNSS: INDIAN REGIONAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEM

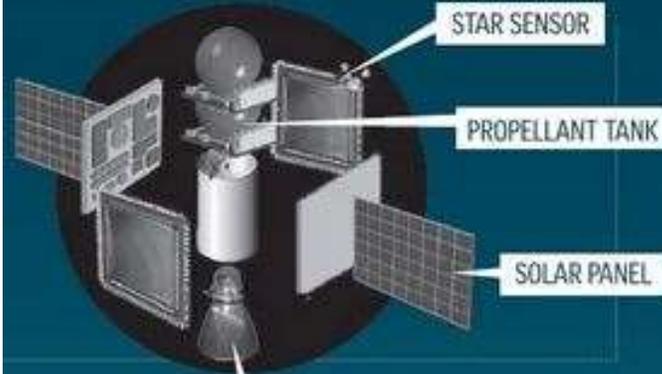
7 SATELLITES

3 GEOSTATIONARY

4 GEOSYNCHRONOUS

ORBIT ALTITUDE 36,000 KM

COST ₹1,420 CRORES



Covers India and up to **1,500** km beyond its borders

3 extremely accurate rubidium atomic clocks in each satellite

GPS receivers will not work; need special receivers (yet to be developed)

IRNSS provides Standard Positioning Service

Open to all users

Accuracy better than 20 metres

● **4 satellites** in geosynchronous orbit – in pairs, move in two inclined orbits – appear from ground to travel in figure '8' – assist in accurate position determination

○ **3 satellites** in geostationary orbit – appear from ground to be at fixed positions in the sky



Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) Comparison						
Feature	NavIC	GPS	GLONASS	Galileo	BeiDou	↑
Country / Organization	India (ISRO)	United States	Russia	European Union	China	↕
Full Name	Navigation with Indian Constellation	Global Positioning System	Global Navigation Satellite System	Galileo Navigation System	BeiDou Navigation Satellite System	
Coverage	Regional (India + ~1500 km around)	Global	Global	Global	Global	
Operational Year	2018	1995	1996	2016	2020	
Number of Satellites	~7 core satellites (with replacements)	~31 satellites	~24 satellites	~30 satellites	~35 satellites	
Orbit Type	Geostationary + Geosynchronous	Medium Earth Orbit (MEO)	Medium Earth Orbit (MEO)	Medium Earth Orbit (MEO)	Mixed (MEO, GEO, IGSO)	
Accuracy	~5–10 meters in India region	~5 meters	~5–10 meters	~1 meter (high precision)	~2.5–5 meters	
Primary Purpose	Regional navigation and strategic independence	Military + civilian navigation	Military + civilian navigation	Civilian navigation	Military + civilian navigation	
Military Control	Yes (Indian defence usage)	Yes (US military controlled)	Yes (Russian military)	Civilian controlled	Chinese military influence	
Special Feature	Better accuracy in Indian region	Oldest and most widely used system	Works better in high latitudes	High precision civilian system	Largest satellite constellation	

- The **last atomic clock onboard the IRNSS-1F satellite** of India's navigation system **NavIC has failed**, according to ISRO.

भारत की नेविगेशन प्रणाली **NavIC** के **IRNSS-1F** उपग्रह पर लगी अंतिम एटॉमिक क्लॉक खराब हो गई है, ऐसा ISRO ने बताया।

- This reduces the number of fully functional satellites required for reliable navigation services.
इससे विश्वसनीय नेविगेशन सेवाओं के लिए आवश्यक कार्यशील उपग्रहों की संख्या कम हो गई है।
- The government stated that **at least four operational satellites are required** for the NavIC system to function effectively.

सरकार के अनुसार NavIC को प्रभावी रूप से चलाने के लिए कम से कम चार सक्रिय उपग्रह आवश्यक हैं।

2. What is NavIC

NavIC क्या है

Feature	Details	विवरण
Full Name	Navigation with Indian Constellation	भारतीय उपग्रह नेविगेशन प्रणाली
Developed By	ISRO	इसरो
Coverage	India and 1500 km around it	भारत और 1500 किमी तक
Purpose	Positioning, navigation and timing services	स्थान, दिशा और समय सेवाएँ

NavIC is often called **India's indigenous GPS system**.

NavIC को अक्सर **भारत का स्वदेशी GPS** कहा जाता है।

3. Role of Atomic Clocks in Satellites

उपग्रहों में एटॉमिक क्लॉक की भूमिका

- Atomic clocks provide **extremely accurate time signals** required for navigation.
एटॉमिक क्लॉक अत्यंत सटीक समय संकेत प्रदान करती हैं।
- Satellite navigation systems calculate location by measuring **signal travel time from satellites**.
नेविगेशन प्रणाली उपग्रह से सिग्नल के आने में लगे समय के आधार पर स्थान निर्धारित करती है।
- If the atomic clock fails, **navigation accuracy decreases**.
एटॉमिक क्लॉक खराब होने पर नेविगेशन की सटीकता कम हो जाती है।

4. IRNSS Satellite Constellation

IRNSS उपग्रह समूह

Satellite Series	Launch Period
IRNSS satellites	2013–2018
Total satellites launched	9
Operational satellites needed	Minimum 4

Many of the early satellites have now **crossed their design life of 10 years**.

कई पुराने उपग्रह अब **10 वर्ष** की डिजाइन अवधि पार कर चुके हैं।

6. New NavIC Satellites

नए NavIC उपग्रह

Satellite	Status
NVS-01	Successfully launched in May 2023
NVS-02	Failed to reach intended orbit (Jan 2025)
Future launches	Planned by 2026

These new satellites will replace **aging IRNSS satellites**.

ये नए उपग्रह पुराने IRNSS उपग्रहों की जगह लेंगे।

7. Comparison with Global Navigation Systems

वैश्विक नेविगेशन प्रणालियों से तुलना

System	Country/Region
GPS	United States
GLONASS	Russia
Galileo	European Union
BeiDou	China
NavIC	India

Unlike others, **NavIC is a regional navigation system.**

NavIC अन्य प्रणालियों के विपरीत क्षेत्रीय नेविगेशन प्रणाली है।

8. Importance of NavIC for India

भारत के लिए NavIC का महत्व

- Provides **strategic independence in navigation services.**
नेविगेशन सेवाओं में रणनीतिक स्वतंत्रता देता है।
- Useful for **military navigation and missile guidance.**
सैन्य नेविगेशन और मिसाइल मार्गदर्शन में उपयोगी।
- Supports **transport, disaster management and mapping services.**
परिवहन, आपदा प्रबंधन और मैपिंग में उपयोग।
- Helps maintain **Indian Standard Time (IST) accuracy.**
भारतीय मानक समय (IST) की सटीकता बनाए रखने में सहायक।

9. Important Terms for Exams

परीक्षा हेतु महत्वपूर्ण शब्द

Term	Meaning
Atomic Clock	Extremely precise clock used in satellites
Rubidium Clock	Atomic clock based on rubidium atoms
Satellite Constellation	Group of satellites working together
Navigation System	System used to determine location

Consider the following statements regarding **NavIC**:

1. NavIC is India's indigenous satellite navigation system developed by ISRO.
2. It provides global navigation coverage similar to GPS.
3. Atomic clocks in satellites are essential for accurate positioning.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

To subscribe,
give a missed call at
022-26194777
or scan QR code

NEW RULES
SC nod must for delay in choosing State DGPs
NEWS 9 PAGE 4

'SYRMS OF EMPOWERMENT'
Rahul seeks Bharat Ratna for Kanshi Ram
NEWS 9 PAGE 4

RESPECTABLE DEATH
On the right to die with dignity
Constitutional morality advances through uncomfortable issues
OPINION 9 PAGE 5

PERFECT ONE
Antonelli wins maiden title in Mercedes I-2
SPORT 9 PAGE 15

INSIDE



TDP MP, BRS ex-MLA 'detained after drug raid'

HYDERABAD
Two persons, including TDP MP Putta Mahesh Kumar from Andhra Pradesh and a BRS leader from Telangana, were detained after narcotics were found at a farmhouse in Madanapalle, Telangana, on Saturday night. **9 PAGE 2**

Assam signs pact with Hmar, Kuki extremist groups

DIBRUGHAT
The Assam government on Sunday signed a memorandum of settlement with three Hmar extremist groups as well as a Kuki group and agreed to the formation of a Hima Welfare Development Council and a Kuki Welfare Development Council. **9 PAGE 2**

Push farmers to diversify crops, SC tells Centre

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court has asked the Union government to revise its existing policy framework and explore a better substitute under which farmers are incentivised to diversify from conventional crops such as wheat and paddy to pulses. **9 PAGE 4**

Question in U.P. exam for police posts sparks row

LAKHNOW
The use of the word "panch" allegedly in bad light in a question in a police recruitment examination in Uttar Pradesh triggered a row on Sunday, with critics alleging that it was aimed at disrespecting Brahmins in a derogatory way. **9 PAGE 5**

Iran wants to make a deal but terms not good enough, might hit Kharg 'for fun', says Trump

America France Press WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump warned that he is not ready to seek a deal to end the war with Iran, as U.S. ally Israel launched a new wave of strikes on Sunday and Tehran's Revolutionary Guards threatened to hunt down and kill Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Mr. Trump, in an interview with NBC News, said he thought Tehran was keen to come to the table but that Washington would fight on for better terms and might bomb targets on Kharg Island "a few more times just for fun".



Peak the Doves: Israeli soldiers gather at the site of a projectile impact from an Iranian strike in southern Tel Aviv on Sunday.

Interested in talks with the United States, pushing back on Mr. Trump's stance that Tehran wants a deal to end the war, he added that Tehran has "ample evidence" U.S. bases in the West Asia have been used to attack Iran, claiming missiles were launched from the UAE to attack the Kharg Island oil hub.

Tasty tradition



Marling sea food, a traditional delicacy associated with Odia, being prepared at a stall in Lucknow on Sunday as the holy month of Baramasi nears its end. For many in the city, fish celebrations are incomplete without Bawal. SANDEEP SHARMA

of strikes against targets in western Iran, after Iran's Revolutionary Guards branded Mr. Netanyahu a criminal and vowed that they would pursue and kill him.

Mr. Trump's appointment of China, France, Japan, South Korea, Britain and others to send warships to keep the Strait of Hormuz "open and safe", his country stepped forward with a commitment on Monday.

Meanwhile, the Israeli military announced a wave of strikes against targets in western Iran, after Iran's Revolutionary Guards branded Mr. Netanyahu a criminal and vowed that they would pursue and kill him.

Assembly polls for 4 States, 1 U.T. begin on April 9

Election will be held in Assam, Puducherry, and Kerala on April 9 and in Tamil Nadu on April 23 | West Bengal will vote in two phases on April 23 and 29; counting of votes will be held on May 4 | Election Commission also announces bypolls to eight Assembly seats spread across various States

Reserve Bank of India

The Assembly elections will be held in a single phase in Assam, Puducherry, and Kerala on April 9 and in Tamil Nadu on April 23, while West Bengal will vote in two phases on April 23 and 29. The Election Commission of India (EC) announced on Saturday.

State/UT	Seats	Last date for nomination	Date of poll
Assam	126 seats	March 20	April 9
Puducherry	12 seats	March 23	April 9
Kerala	30 seats	March 23	April 9
Tamil Nadu	234 seats	March 23	April 23

At a press conference here, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said around 17.4 crore electors would vote in 284 Assembly constituencies across the four states and one Union Territory on Bengal, 152 constituencies will vote in the first phase and 142 in the second.

The commission also announced by-elections to eight Assembly seats in various States. Five of the eight Assembly seats will vote on April 9 and the remaining on April 23. Baramati in Maharashtra will vote on April 23. The Tamil Nadu Assembly will complete its term on May 4.

Parties welcome fewer poll phases in West Bengal

KOLKATA
With the 2021 Assembly election having been held in eight on the Congress and United Democratic Front, which welcomed the two-phase Assembly polls announced for the State on Sunday. **9 PAGE 5**

'Bedrock of democracy'

Asserting that "space electoral rolls" are the "bedrock of democracy", Mr. Kumar said the process of special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was one of the 30 new measures under the term of the Assembly ends on May 20, while the 394-seat West Bengal Assembly completes its term on May 7. The term of the 30-seat Puducherry Assembly ends on June 16.

LDF swings into action in Kerala with list of names

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
The ruling Left Democratic Front in Kerala sought to start a search on the Congress and United Democratic Front, with its two major alliance partners announcing their candidates on Sunday. **9 PAGE 5**

Respectable death

On May 7, the term of the 30-seat Puducherry Assembly ends on June 16. Asserting that "space electoral rolls" are the "bedrock of democracy", Mr. Kumar said the process of special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was one of the 30 new measures under the term of the Assembly ends on May 20, while the 394-seat West Bengal Assembly completes its term on May 7.

Push farmers to diversify crops, SC tells Centre

The Supreme Court has asked the Union government to revise its existing policy framework and explore a better substitute under which farmers are incentivised to diversify from conventional crops such as wheat and paddy to pulses. The use of the word "panch" allegedly in bad light in a question in a police recruitment examination in Uttar Pradesh triggered a row on Sunday, with critics alleging that it was aimed at disrespecting Brahmins in a derogatory way.

LPG bookings fall to 77 lakh, hinting let-up in panic-buying

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

Bookings for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills have declined to about 77 lakh on Saturday from 88.9 lakh the day before, hinting some easing of panic-buying, even as the government said there is no shortage of petrol, diesel, or cooking gas, and supplies remain stable despite the West Asia conflict.

All domestic refineries are operating at high capacity and maintaining adequate crude oil inventories, the Centre said on Saturday. The daily updates on the impact of the West Asia crisis on the country remains self-sufficient in the production of petrol and diesel, and LPG supplies are being maintained regularly, it said.

Oil marketing companies have reported no dry-outs at fuel retail outlets or LPG distributors, and petrol, diesel, and LPG supplies are being maintained regularly, it said.

Officials of PSU oil marketing companies are conducting surprise inspections at LPG distributors to ensure smooth supply and prevent irregularities. Priority sectors continue to receive protected natural gas supplies, including ICDS, for physical natural gas (PNG or bottled gas) for household (for cooking purpose) and compressed natural gas (CNG), while supplies to industrial and commercial users have been regulated at about 60%.

Iran wants to make a deal but terms not good enough, might hit Kharg 'for fun', says Trump

America France Press WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump warned that he is not ready to seek a deal to end the war with Iran, as U.S. ally Israel launched a new wave of strikes on Sunday and Tehran's Revolutionary Guards threatened to hunt down and kill Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

LPG bookings fall to 77 lakh, hinting let-up in panic-buying

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

Bookings for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills have declined to about 77 lakh on Saturday from 88.9 lakh the day before, hinting some easing of panic-buying, even as the government said there is no shortage of petrol, diesel, or cooking gas, and supplies remain stable despite the West Asia conflict.

All domestic refineries are operating at high capacity and maintaining adequate crude oil inventories, the Centre said on Saturday. The daily updates on the impact of the West Asia crisis on the country remains self-sufficient in the production of petrol and diesel, and LPG supplies are being maintained regularly, it said.

Oil marketing companies have reported no dry-outs at fuel retail outlets or LPG distributors, and petrol, diesel, and LPG supplies are being maintained regularly, it said.

Officials of PSU oil marketing companies are conducting surprise inspections at LPG distributors to ensure smooth supply and prevent irregularities. Priority sectors continue to receive protected natural gas supplies, including ICDS, for physical natural gas (PNG or bottled gas) for household (for cooking purpose) and compressed natural gas (CNG), while supplies to industrial and commercial users have been regulated at about 60%.

Push farmers to diversify crops, SC tells Centre

The Supreme Court has asked the Union government to revise its existing policy framework and explore a better substitute under which farmers are incentivised to diversify from conventional crops such as wheat and paddy to pulses. The use of the word "panch" allegedly in bad light in a question in a police recruitment examination in Uttar Pradesh triggered a row on Sunday, with critics alleging that it was aimed at disrespecting Brahmins in a derogatory way.

LPG bookings fall to 77 lakh, hinting let-up in panic-buying

Bookings for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills have declined to about 77 lakh on Saturday from 88.9 lakh the day before, hinting some easing of panic-buying, even as the government said there is no shortage of petrol, diesel, or cooking gas, and supplies remain stable despite the West Asia conflict.

Iran wants to make a deal but terms not good enough, might hit Kharg 'for fun', says Trump

America France Press WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump warned that he is not ready to seek a deal to end the war with Iran, as U.S. ally Israel launched a new wave of strikes on Sunday and Tehran's Revolutionary Guards threatened to hunt down and kill Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

LPG bookings fall to 77 lakh, hinting let-up in panic-buying

Bookings for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills have declined to about 77 lakh on Saturday from 88.9 lakh the day before, hinting some easing of panic-buying, even as the government said there is no shortage of petrol, diesel, or cooking gas, and supplies remain stable despite the West Asia conflict.

Iran wants to make a deal but terms not good enough, might hit Kharg 'for fun', says Trump

America France Press WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump warned that he is not ready to seek a deal to end the war with Iran, as U.S. ally Israel launched a new wave of strikes on Sunday and Tehran's Revolutionary Guards threatened to hunt down and kill Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

LPG bookings fall to 77 lakh, hinting let-up in panic-buying

Bookings for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills have declined to about 77 lakh on Saturday from 88.9 lakh the day before, hinting some easing of panic-buying, even as the government said there is no shortage of petrol, diesel, or cooking gas, and supplies remain stable despite the West Asia conflict.

Iran wants to make a deal but terms not good enough, might hit Kharg 'for fun', says Trump

America France Press WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump warned that he is not ready to seek a deal to end the war with Iran, as U.S. ally Israel launched a new wave of strikes on Sunday and Tehran's Revolutionary Guards threatened to hunt down and kill Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.



Poll bugle

The elections to be held across four States and one U.T. will see around **17.4 crore** voters polling in **824** constituencies



ASSAM 126 seats

Notification	March 16
Last date for nomination	March 23
Date of poll	April 9

Total voters | **Before SR** : around 2.52 crore
Current : around 2.50 crore



PUDUCHERRY 30 seats

Notification	March 16
Last date for nomination	March 23
Date of poll	April 9

Total voters | **Before SIR** : around 10.21 lakh
Current : around 9.44 lakh



KERALA 140 seats

Notification	March 16
Last date for nomination	March 23
Date of poll	April 9

Total voters | **Before SIR** : around 2.78 crore
Current : around 2.70 crore



TAMIL NADU 234 seats

Notification	March 30
Last date for nomination	April 6
Date of poll	April 23

Total voters | **Before SIR** : around 6.41 crore
Current : around 5.67 crore



WEST BENGAL 294 seats

Phase one	152 seats
Notification	March 30
Last date for nomination	April 6
Date of poll	April 23

Phase two	142 seats
Notification	April 2
Last date for nomination	April 9
Date of poll	April 29

Total voters
Before SIR : around 7.66 crore
Current : around 6.44 crore
(With nearly 60 lakh additional names under adjudication)

Counting of votes for all seats **May 4**

On the right to die with dignity

It is an evening in 2013, 20-year-old Harish Rana fell from the fourth floor of his PG accommodation and sustained critical injuries. His condition confined him to a bed while tubes kept him on life support. Owing to his Persistent Vegetative State (PVS), he responded to no stimuli around him and was largely unresponsive to his parents' frequent visits to the hospital. Mr. Rana's closest friends and family, who fondly describe him as energetic and exuberant, were faced with the agonising pain of witnessing his stasis. His parents, along with the doctors, devoted 13 years to tending to Mr. Rana, but no improvement was seen.

Confronted with such despairing circumstances, the parents moved the Supreme Court to withdraw life support, so that nature can be allowed to take its course. What followed was a pivotal discourse on the impact of life under Article 21 of our Constitution.

A respectable death
The Constitution's right with 'right to life with dignity' was first laid down in *Gian Karo vs State of Punjab* (1994) where the Supreme Court held that 'life' under Article 21 included the right to live with dignity. However, in *Gian Karo*, the Court opined that Article 21 did not include a right to die.

Five years later, a similar case reached the Supreme Court when a young Aruna Shanbhag, owing to a brutal sexual assault, was left in PVS. Pankaj Vireni, journalist, and human rights activist, petitioned the Supreme Court as Aruna's friend for withdrawal of her life support. Although under similar circumstances, Vireni's plea was rejected, it culminated in the crucial decision in *Aruna Shanbhag vs Union of India* (2011). The Supreme Court drew assurance from foreign legal frameworks and recognised passive euthanasia in cases of patients with terminal illness and undergoing prolonged, but



Navika Varma is a senior advocate in family law with inputs from Shrikanth Parmer, advocate

ineffective treatment. Guidelines were framed to bridge the legislative gap, until Parliament passed the Assisted Dying Bill, 2018. Additionally, the Law Commission of India conducted an in-depth examination of the above-detailed issues and made extensive observations. It reported that withholding life support from terminally ill patients should not attract criminal liability if done in pursuance of the "best interest of the patient".

The watershed moment on the subject was the 2018 Constitution Bench's decision in *Common Cause vs Union of India*. Armed with developing jurisprudence on the subject, the Supreme Court unequivocally recognised and permitted the withdrawal of withholding of medical treatment to fall within Article 21. The right of refusal of medical treatment was held to be a manifestation of equality intersecting with privacy, autonomy, and self-determination.

The right of refusal of medical treatment was held to be a manifestation of dignity intersecting with privacy, autonomy, and self-determination.

support from Mr. Rana under the Common Cause guidelines. Since he relied on Clinically Assisted Reproduction and Hydration (CARH), the first question which required consideration was whether CARH qualified as "medical treatment". To answer this, the Court noted that the administration of CARH requires careful and experienced medical supervision. Since such skills are only available by drawing upon medical knowledge, and owing to its continuous periodic evaluation, emergency medical management and supervision, it was held to be "medical treatment". The second question was whether the withdrawal of CARH from Mr. Rana was in his best interests. It held that "best interests" must be reviewed from the lens of the stakeholders, who are the next of kin and medical boards. It was rightly opined that a doctor's duty to perform in treatment of terminally ill is not capable of "sundering sense therapeutic benefit". When withdrawal is impossible, the continuation of treatment merely prolongs biological existence before any benefits. It led to the sole conclusion - withdrawal of treatment which was noted to be, in Mr. Rana's best interests.

A definitive end
"For in that sleep of death what dreams may come, when we have shuffled off this mortal coil, must give us pause." Through his poem, the Bard cautioned that hesitation about death stems from the uncertainty of what comes after. However, what is definitive is that the ones who pause on tend to live. Dr. Harish Jain, who was also a judge, expressed the "pious hope" for passive intervention. This hope still lingers.

Case evaluation
The Harish Rana chronicle has now reached its end with the legislative will of Aruna Shanbhag's intervention by the Supreme Court. Speaking through two judges, who authored separate but concurring judgments, the Court allowed the withdrawal of life

Credit wars escalate as polls approach

Two parallel road inaugurations lay bare Kerala's friction with the Centre

STATE OF PLAY
The Hindu
the.hindu@thehindu.co.in

A 'Support row' by Kerala's Left Democratic Front (LDF) government overshadowed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the poll-bound southern State this month. For the political prude and the general public alike, it marked the latest episode among the long-running confrontations between Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Union government over Centre-state relations and fiscal federalism.

The Government Party of In (Marxist) (CP(M)) and the LDF sought to depict the exclusion of Kerala Padayatra Minister Mohammed Riyas from the inauguration ceremony of two National Highway (NH) roads as yet another attempt by the BJP to monopolise the spotlight and also credit for development projects in the run-up to the Assembly elections. The Prime Minister was in Kochi on March 11 to inaugurate a clutch of high-profile projects, which included the two stretches of NH-66, the main north-south artery.

Alfited over the fact that Mr. Riyas was not invited, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and the Minister for Local Self Government and Electricity, former BJP minister and now Lok Sabha member, also gave the event a spin. In battle-royale, the CP(M) organised a parallel inauguration of the arteries which reach the country at large. It is also through addressing uncomfortable issues that advance the cause for humanity, even if they concern just an indiscernible minority.



Public Works Minister, was kept out, the Union government had thought it fit to extend an invitation to Bajirao Chaudhary, the State president of the BJP.

Mr. Riyas and the CP(M) stated that had it not been for the LDF government, NH development in Kerala would have been a dead dream.

Price for a road
At the cue of the State government's grievance lies the fact that Kerala, in an unprecedented step, had decided to bear 25% of the land acquisition cost for the widening of the NH. According to the LDF government, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) had withdrawn from the project in 2014, citing a delay in the acquisition of the necessary land. The project was revived after the first LDF government led by Mr. Vijayan, which came to power in 2016, agreed to bear 30% of the land acquisition cost. Kerala had paid Rs.80,71 crore, making it the first State to do so. Kerala had sourced the amount through the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB), a special purpose vehicle that mobilises resources for large infrastructure projects. Mr. Riyas also recalled instances when Kerala's Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari had praised Mr. Vijayan's government for having sped up the acquisition of land. Inter-

ingly, Mr. Gadkari was also absent from the event.

Road development has been a perennially contentious issue in Kerala given its large population, geographical peculiarities and high demand for land. To be fair, the higher compensation payments enabled by the Centre's Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, has also had a hand in the revival of NH development in Kerala.

The debt problem
Beyond the political subtext, the latest row spins the spotlight back on a related issue - Kerala's objections against the restrictions imposed by the Union government on its borrowing ability (citing off-budget borrowings by the KIIFB and the Kerala Social Security Pension Ltd).

The State has repeatedly urged the Centre to expand its borrowing space by a sum equivalent to its NH spending. It was not that long ago when NH development was caught in the mud of a Centre-State blame game in Kerala after part of the newly-constructed highway collapsed, raising questions about its quality. Also, this is not the first time such a 'credit' for large undertakings or schemes has become a bone of contention. For instance, the Centre's insistence that housing construction under Kerala's LDF Mission housing project must display the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana logo had drawn sharp responses from Mr. Vijayan's government. It is to be expected that 'credit wars' would again take centre stage with Kerala moving into election mode. But while governments come and go, all that matters, ultimately, is whether taxpayers' money is being spent wisely.

Trump's tenure sees highest external attacks in a decade

Contrary to President Donald Trump's promises, U.S. interventions resulted in at least a thousand fatalities in 2025

DATA POINT
Nirika Francis
nirika@thehindu.co.in

When U.S. President Donald Trump came into power for the second time in January last year, he claimed that his proudest legacy would be that of a "peace-maker and quaffer". In the initial months after his inauguration, Mr. Trump also openly lobbied for winning the Nobel Peace Prize. Yet, contrary to his words, the legacy of Mr. Trump during his second tenure has seen an escalation in hostile actions, which are collectively termed "coercive diplomacy", the "Donner Doctrine" etc. Besides military operations that have exacerbated conflicts across the world,

Increase in attacks
In fact, data maintained by the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) show that Mr. Trump's second tenure has seen the highest number of external interventions by the U.S. forces and resultant casualties in the last 15 years. An analysis of external interventions by the U.S. shows that the first year of Mr. Trump's second term saw at least 100 military intervention events (air strikes, attacks, disruptions by weapons used in other sovereign nations). In 2025 alone, the U.S. external attacks surged by almost 50% compared to 2024.

This is even higher than the number of such interventions recorded during his first tenure, which spanned between 2017 and 2021. While the final year of the Joe Biden administration also saw a high number of such interventions with 453 events, the number saw a further under Mr. Trump, in stark contrast to his promises of ending foreign wars (Chart 1).

Data show that between 2011 and 2024, the highest share of U.S. involvement was seen in South Asia, specifically in Pakistan. Ho-

wever, in the last five years, the U.S.'s involvement increased dramatically in West Asia and eastern Africa, specifically in Yemen and Somalia (Chart 2). Yemen accounted for almost 60% of the U.S.'s external attacks in the last 10 years, resulting in more than 1,400 fatalities. While the U.S. began its attacks in January 2002, following the 9/11 attacks, the interventions increased after the collapse of the Yemeni government in early 2015.

In 2025, President Donald Trump initiated significant military strikes on the Houthis, marking the largest U.S. operation in the region since he took office. The U.S. also launched operations in eastern Africa as long as the Houthis conducted attacks on shipping lanes in the Red Sea.

The situation was more dire in Somalia, which accounted for close to 30% of the U.S.'s external attacks. Since 2018, the U.S.'s engagements have resulted in more than 4,000 fatalities.

In 2020, at the time of his first administration, Mr. Trump had ordered the Pentagon to withdraw most U.S. troops from Somalia, where they were deployed in an extended fight against the al-Shabaab, an al-Qaeda affiliate. Mr. Biden, who took office after Mr. Trump, reversed this order in 2022. However, the current administration under Mr. Trump has not shown any indication of ceasing to the earlier Trump order. The U.S. forces have engaged in more than 100 attacks in Somalia since 2023, almost half the total number of attacks carried out during Mr. Trump's entire first term.

In his inaugural speech last year, Mr. Trump said, "We will measure our success not only by the battles we win but also by the wars that we end and perhaps most importantly, the wars we never get into."

Blatant regime
Mr. Trump has only contradicted himself by getting the U.S. involved

in Israeli wars on Iran. Even Mr. Trump is unsure of how these hostilities will end.

An analysis by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies pointed out that though the recent U.S. military presence in West Asia is at its highest level since the 2003 invasion of Iraq, it is disproportionate in the size and capabilities required for major combat or regime change. Last August, claiming credit for settling the India-Pakistan tensions, Mr. Trump said, "I love saving lives. And you know, when you save lives, you really end up having a peaceful world."

Data contradicted this too. Mr. Trump's first year of his second term has left the country with more blood on its hands than any other President's term in the past 15 years.

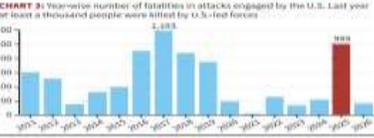
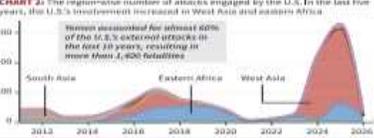
Last year was the most severe in terms of fatalities, with at least a thousand people being killed by U.S.-led forces (Chart 3). This is significantly higher than the death toll due to interventions in each of the preceding four years. The U.S.'s joint attacks with Israel too have come at a severe human cost with reports stating thousands of casualties.

Domestic sensibilities
Mr. Trump's lack of peace in unpopular events among Americans. A Reuters poll found that more than 40% of Americans disapproved of Mr. Trump's attack on Iran. A similar sentiment was observed earlier this year when American forces invaded Venezuela, the most dramatic U.S. intervention in Latin America since the 1989 Panama invasion, in which close to 200 American troops snored Caracas.

Earlier this year, Mr. Trump expressed his interest in intervening in Haiti, which was only limited to his power, and only he could stop him from asserting it. With data contradicting his many statements, this might be the one that still lingers.

War and turmoil

The data for the charts were sourced from the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project. For more info, visit: <https://www.acleddata.com/>



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu

Vijay Amritraj claims two titles: Smith beaten in final

FIFTY YEARS AGO MARCH 16, 1976
Memphis, Tennessee, March 15: India's Vijay Amritraj dominated the championship match of the World Championship Tennis 500,000 Memphis Club classic yesterday defeating Stan Smith of the United States 6-2, 0-6, 6-4.

The 22-year-old right-hander picked up \$17,000.

Amritraj broke Smith's service in the second set, struck eight aces and claimed the first set as claimed it at 6-2.

Smith double faulted on his first two points of the second game and had repeated trouble with his serve.

"I thought the key to the match was Stan's inability to serve," said Amritraj, who was introduced to a Boston that also included R. Neel R. Laha, J.D. Newcombe, A.J. Roche, and R. Tanner. "He was awful to serve, while I seemed to be returning his serves better than I usually do."

Amritraj swept through the first set with a blazing game, which provided comfort. He was true on his backhand in crucial situations. "My backhand was good to day," he said.

Amritraj seemed to lose concentration in the second set as the 29-year-old Smith broke over service in the first, third and fifth game on the way to victory.

In the final set, Amritraj however returned to form and swept through the set in no time.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MARCH 16, 1926

The imperial library

Calcutta, March 15: Under the presidency of Mahamahopadhyaya Parasurama Sastri, a public meeting was held at Albert Hall yesterday to protest against the proposal of the Government of India for removing the Imperial Library from Calcutta to Delhi. Messages of sympathy with the objects of the meeting, were read from the National Council of Education, the British Indian Association, the Calcutta University, the University Law College and most of the other educational institutions in Calcutta and the mohabbat. A Committee was formed to take the necessary steps for retention of the library in Calcutta.

The President pointed out that the library was a transferred subject and that, under the Library Act, the Government could not remove the Imperial Library from Calcutta.

War and turmoil

The data for the charts were sourced from the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project. Data for 2026 is as of March 8, 2026



CHART 1: Year-wise number of attacks engaged by the U.S. beyond its borders

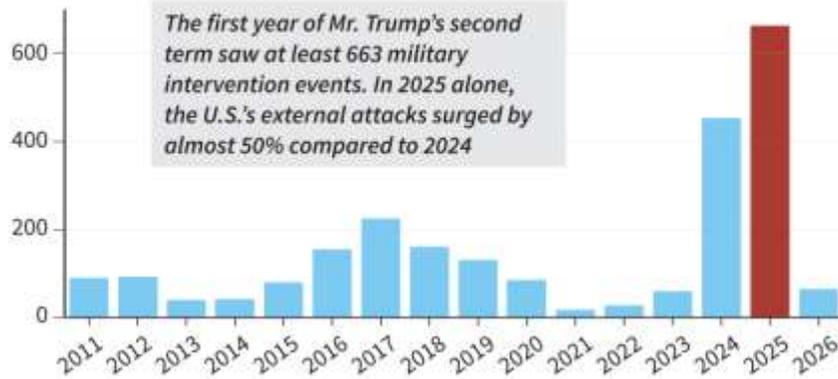


CHART 2: The region-wise number of attacks engaged by the U.S. In the last five years, the U.S.'s involvement increased in West Asia and eastern Africa

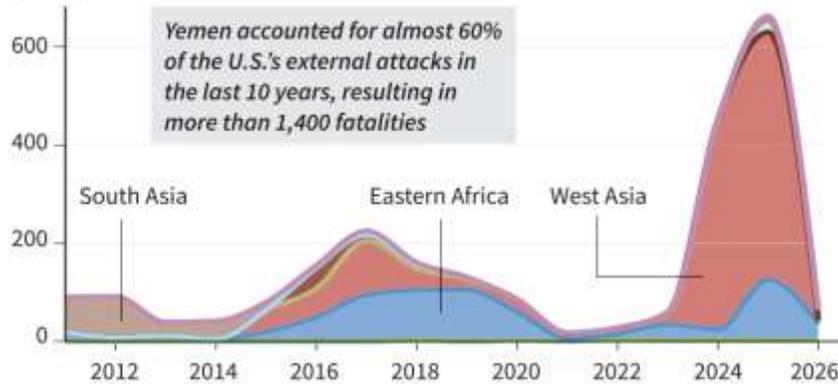


CHART 2: The region-wise number of attacks engaged by the U.S. In the last five years, the U.S.'s involvement increased in West Asia and eastern Africa

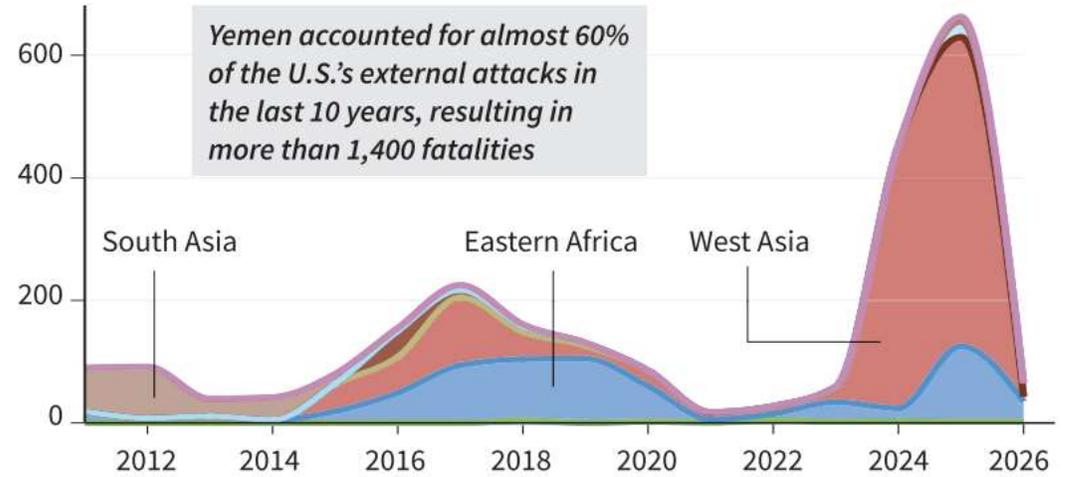
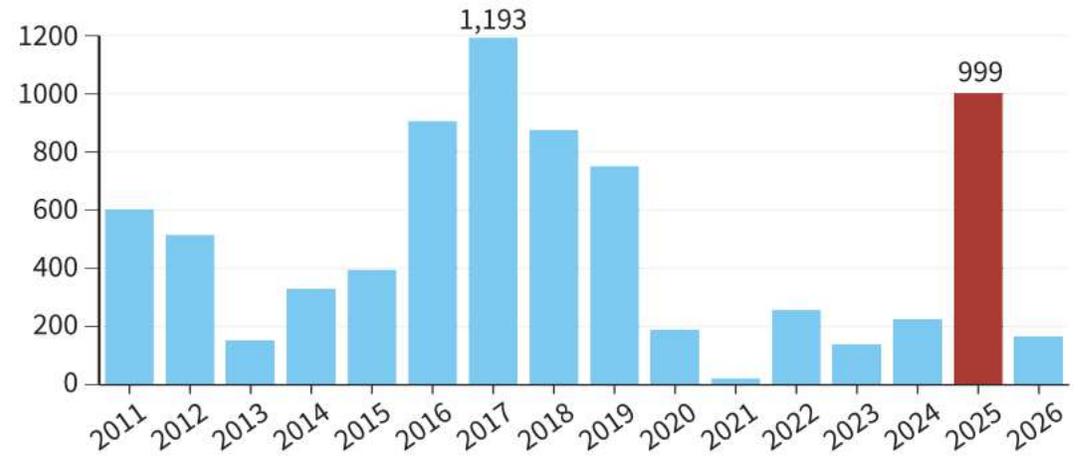


CHART 3: Year-wise number of fatalities in attacks engaged by the U.S. Last year at least a thousand people were killed by U.S.-led forces



Indicator

Republican Presidents

Democratic Presidents

Total major wars /
interventions

~6–7

~6–7

Largest wars started

Afghanistan War, Iraq War

Vietnam escalation

Largest global wars led

—

World War I, World War II

Military spending tendency

Generally higher

Moderate but still significant

Foreign policy approach

Often more interventionist
militarily

Often multilateral / coalition-
based

Year / Period	War / Military Intervention	U.S. President	Party
1917–1918	World War I (U.S. entry)	Woodrow Wilson	Democratic
1941–1945	World War II (U.S. entry after Pearl Harbor)	Franklin D. Roosevelt	Democratic
1950–1953	Korean War	Harry Truman	Democratic
1964–1975	Vietnam War (major escalation)	Lyndon B. Johnson	Democratic
1983	Grenada Invasion	Ronald Reagan	Republican
1989	Panama Invasion	George H.W. Bush	Republican
1991	Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm)	George H.W. Bush	Republican
1999	Kosovo War (NATO intervention)	Bill Clinton	Democratic
2001–2021	Afghanistan War	George W. Bush	Republican
2003–2011	Iraq War	George W. Bush	Republican
2011	Libya Intervention	Barack Obama	Democratic
2014–present	War against ISIS	Barack Obama	Democratic
2017–2020	Syria strikes / ISIS operations	Donald Trump	Republican

BREAKTHROUGH An emotional Antonelli thanks his team after realising dream



He has been defined as Lewis Hamilton's successor and George Russell's teammate at Mercedes. Now Kimi Antonelli is a Formula 1 race winner. "I am speechless. I am about to cry. Thank you so much to my team because they helped me achieve this dream," said the 19-year-old after his win at the Chinese GP.

HUNGRY FOR MORE Ferrari has its work cut out to beat Mercedes, admits Hamilton



It is really special to see Mercedes back at the front because it is a phenomenal team. I know that we have got our work cut out to beat it. Because when it is on form like this, it is not easy to beat it. Former driver Lewis Hamilton on competition with Mercedes for the rest of the Formula One season.

WAR FALLOUT Bahrain and Saudi F1 races to be a non-starter in April due to conflict



The Formula One races in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia have been cancelled as the West Asia war engulfs the region. "While several alternatives have been considered, it was ultimately decided that no substitutions will be made in April," said the International Automobile Federation (FIA), the motorsport governing body.

VICTORY TO SAVED Bangladesh edges Pakistan in a thriller, takes ODI series



Bangladesh won the three-match ODI series against Pakistan 2-1 after recording a thrilling 11-run win in the final match in Dhaka on Sunday. The series Bangladesh 2005 in 50 overs (Tasnuva Hasan 107, Litton Das 41, Towhid Hridoy 48 in a) in Pakistan 278 in 50 overs (Salman Agha 106, Tasnuv Arshad 47/49).

Antonelli drives an almost flawless race for maiden win

The Italian becomes the second-youngest to claim a Grand Prix after Verstappen. Mercedes' early dominance continues after another 1-2 finish. Hamilton secures his first podium with Ferrari, both McLarens fail to start the race

CHINESE GP **ARRIVES** **SHANGHAI** An emotional Kimi Antonelli won a Grand Prix for the first time on Sunday. In the Chinese GP, the 19-year-old finished ahead of Mercedes teammate George Russell and Lewis Hamilton, who secured his maiden podium for Ferrari. Antonelli converted being the youngest pole-sitter in Formula One history into victory after both McLarens dramatically failed to start the Shanghai race. The only driver younger than Antonelli to win a Grand Prix is Max Verstappen, who was 18 when he bagged his first victory in 2003. Antonelli briefly lost the lead at the start, but once he got back in front, he controlled the pace to cruise home by more than five seconds from Russell. Charles Leclerc was fourth in the second Ferrari. It was a flawless drive from the youngster, apart from one heart-fluttering moment when he touched up at the hairpin on his prelude lap. But he recovered to avoid anything too dramatic than a small secur-

Light to flag THE JOURNEY IN NUMBERS AFTER THE 56-LAP RACE IN SHANGHAI. 1. Antonelli in the first lap to win a Formula 1 race since... 2. Verstappen... 3. Hamilton... 4. Russell... 5. Leclerc... 6. Gasly... 7. Zhou... 8. Piastri... 9. Norris... 10. Albon... 11. Sainz... 12. Lindgaard... 13. Lawson... 14. Norris... 15. Piastri... 16. Zhou... 17. Norris... 18. Piastri... 19. Zhou... 20. Hamilton... 21. Norris... 22. Piastri... 23. Zhou... 24. Hamilton... 25. Norris... 26. Piastri... 27. Zhou... 28. Hamilton... 29. Norris... 30. Piastri... 31. Zhou... 32. Hamilton... 33. Norris... 34. Piastri... 35. Zhou... 36. Hamilton... 37. Norris... 38. Piastri... 39. Zhou... 40. Hamilton... 41. Norris... 42. Piastri... 43. Zhou... 44. Hamilton... 45. Norris... 46. Piastri... 47. Zhou... 48. Hamilton... 49. Norris... 50. Piastri... 51. Zhou... 52. Hamilton... 53. Norris... 54. Piastri... 55. Zhou... 56. Hamilton... 57. Norris... 58. Piastri... 59. Zhou... 60. Hamilton... 61. Norris... 62. Piastri... 63. Zhou... 64. Hamilton... 65. Norris... 66. Piastri... 67. Zhou... 68. Hamilton... 69. Norris... 70. Piastri... 71. Zhou... 72. Hamilton... 73. Norris... 74. Piastri... 75. Zhou... 76. Hamilton... 77. Norris... 78. Piastri... 79. Zhou... 80. Hamilton... 81. Norris... 82. Piastri... 83. Zhou... 84. Hamilton... 85. Norris... 86. Piastri... 87. Zhou... 88. Hamilton... 89. Norris... 90. Piastri... 91. Zhou... 92. Hamilton... 93. Norris... 94. Piastri... 95. Zhou... 96. Hamilton... 97. Norris... 98. Piastri... 99. Zhou... 100. Hamilton... 101. Norris... 102. Piastri... 103. Zhou... 104. Hamilton... 105. Norris... 106. Piastri... 107. Zhou... 108. Hamilton... 109. Norris... 110. Piastri... 111. Zhou... 112. Hamilton... 113. Norris... 114. Piastri... 115. Zhou... 116. Hamilton... 117. Norris... 118. Piastri... 119. Zhou... 120. Hamilton... 121. Norris... 122. Piastri... 123. Zhou... 124. Hamilton... 125. Norris... 126. Piastri... 127. Zhou... 128. Hamilton... 129. Norris... 130. Piastri... 131. Zhou... 132. Hamilton... 133. Norris... 134. Piastri... 135. Zhou... 136. Hamilton... 137. Norris... 138. Piastri... 139. Zhou... 140. Hamilton... 141. Norris... 142. Piastri... 143. Zhou... 144. Hamilton... 145. Norris... 146. Piastri... 147. Zhou... 148. Hamilton... 149. Norris... 150. Piastri... 151. Zhou... 152. Hamilton... 153. Norris... 154. Piastri... 155. Zhou... 156. Hamilton... 157. Norris... 158. Piastri... 159. Zhou... 160. Hamilton... 161. Norris... 162. Piastri... 163. Zhou... 164. Hamilton... 165. Norris... 166. Piastri... 167. Zhou... 168. Hamilton... 169. Norris... 170. Piastri... 171. Zhou... 172. Hamilton... 173. Norris... 174. Piastri... 175. Zhou... 176. Hamilton... 177. Norris... 178. Piastri... 179. Zhou... 180. Hamilton... 181. Norris... 182. Piastri... 183. Zhou... 184. Hamilton... 185. Norris... 186. Piastri... 187. Zhou... 188. Hamilton... 189. Norris... 190. Piastri... 191. Zhou... 192. Hamilton... 193. Norris... 194. Piastri... 195. Zhou... 196. Hamilton... 197. Norris... 198. Piastri... 199. Zhou... 200. Hamilton... 201. Norris... 202. Piastri... 203. Zhou... 204. Hamilton... 205. Norris... 206. Piastri... 207. Zhou... 208. Hamilton... 209. Norris... 210. Piastri... 211. Zhou... 212. Hamilton... 213. Norris... 214. Piastri... 215. Zhou... 216. Hamilton... 217. Norris... 218. Piastri... 219. Zhou... 220. Hamilton... 221. Norris... 222. Piastri... 223. Zhou... 224. Hamilton... 225. Norris... 226. Piastri... 227. Zhou... 228. Hamilton... 229. Norris... 230. Piastri... 231. Zhou... 232. Hamilton... 233. Norris... 234. Piastri... 235. Zhou... 236. Hamilton... 237. Norris... 238. Piastri... 239. Zhou... 240. Hamilton... 241. Norris... 242. Piastri... 243. Zhou... 244. Hamilton... 245. Norris... 246. Piastri... 247. Zhou... 248. Hamilton... 249. Norris... 250. Piastri... 251. Zhou... 252. Hamilton... 253. Norris... 254. Piastri... 255. Zhou... 256. Hamilton... 257. Norris... 258. Piastri... 259. Zhou... 260. Hamilton... 261. Norris... 262. Piastri... 263. Zhou... 264. Hamilton... 265. Norris... 266. Piastri... 267. Zhou... 268. Hamilton... 269. Norris... 270. Piastri... 271. Zhou... 272. Hamilton... 273. Norris... 274. Piastri... 275. Zhou... 276. Hamilton... 277. Norris... 278. Piastri... 279. Zhou... 280. Hamilton... 281. Norris... 282. Piastri... 283. Zhou... 284. Hamilton... 285. Norris... 286. Piastri... 287. Zhou... 288. Hamilton... 289. Norris... 290. Piastri... 291. Zhou... 292. Hamilton... 293. Norris... 294. Piastri... 295. Zhou... 296. Hamilton... 297. Norris... 298. Piastri... 299. Zhou... 300. Hamilton... 301. Norris... 302. Piastri... 303. Zhou... 304. Hamilton... 305. Norris... 306. Piastri... 307. Zhou... 308. Hamilton... 309. Norris... 310. Piastri... 311. Zhou... 312. Hamilton... 313. Norris... 314. Piastri... 315. Zhou... 316. Hamilton... 317. Norris... 318. Piastri... 319. Zhou... 320. Hamilton... 321. Norris... 322. Piastri... 323. Zhou... 324. Hamilton... 325. Norris... 326. Piastri... 327. Zhou... 328. Hamilton... 329. Norris... 330. Piastri... 331. Zhou... 332. Hamilton... 333. Norris... 334. Piastri... 335. Zhou... 336. Hamilton... 337. Norris... 338. Piastri... 339. Zhou... 340. Hamilton... 341. Norris... 342. Piastri... 343. Zhou... 344. Hamilton... 345. Norris... 346. Piastri... 347. Zhou... 348. Hamilton... 349. Norris... 350. Piastri... 351. Zhou... 352. Hamilton... 353. Norris... 354. Piastri... 355. Zhou... 356. Hamilton... 357. Norris... 358. Piastri... 359. Zhou... 360. Hamilton... 361. Norris... 362. Piastri... 363. Zhou... 364. Hamilton... 365. Norris... 366. Piastri... 367. Zhou... 368. Hamilton... 369. Norris... 370. Piastri... 371. Zhou... 372. Hamilton... 373. Norris... 374. Piastri... 375. Zhou... 376. Hamilton... 377. Norris... 378. Piastri... 379. Zhou... 380. Hamilton... 381. Norris... 382. Piastri... 383. Zhou... 384. Hamilton... 385. Norris... 386. Piastri... 387. Zhou... 388. Hamilton... 389. Norris... 390. Piastri... 391. Zhou... 392. Hamilton... 393. Norris... 394. Piastri... 395. Zhou... 396. Hamilton... 397. Norris... 398. Piastri... 399. Zhou... 400. Hamilton... 401. Norris... 402. Piastri... 403. Zhou... 404. Hamilton... 405. Norris... 406. Piastri... 407. Zhou... 408. Hamilton... 409. Norris... 410. Piastri... 411. Zhou... 412. Hamilton... 413. Norris... 414. Piastri... 415. Zhou... 416. Hamilton... 417. Norris... 418. Piastri... 419. Zhou... 420. Hamilton... 421. Norris... 422. Piastri... 423. Zhou... 424. Hamilton... 425. Norris... 426. Piastri... 427. Zhou... 428. Hamilton... 429. Norris... 430. Piastri... 431. Zhou... 432. Hamilton... 433. Norris... 434. Piastri... 435. Zhou... 436. Hamilton... 437. Norris... 438. Piastri... 439. Zhou... 440. Hamilton... 441. Norris... 442. Piastri... 443. Zhou... 444. Hamilton... 445. Norris... 446. Piastri... 447. Zhou... 448. Hamilton... 449. Norris... 450. Piastri... 451. Zhou... 452. Hamilton... 453. Norris... 454. Piastri... 455. Zhou... 456. Hamilton... 457. Norris... 458. Piastri... 459. Zhou... 460. Hamilton... 461. Norris... 462. Piastri... 463. Zhou... 464. Hamilton... 465. Norris... 466. Piastri... 467. Zhou... 468. Hamilton... 469. Norris... 470. Piastri... 471. Zhou... 472. Hamilton... 473. Norris... 474. Piastri... 475. Zhou... 476. Hamilton... 477. Norris... 478. Piastri... 479. Zhou... 480. Hamilton... 481. Norris... 482. Piastri... 483. Zhou... 484. Hamilton... 485. Norris... 486. Piastri... 487. Zhou... 488. Hamilton... 489. Norris... 490. Piastri... 491. Zhou... 492. Hamilton... 493. Norris... 494. Piastri... 495. Zhou... 496. Hamilton... 497. Norris... 498. Piastri... 499. Zhou... 500. Hamilton... 501. Norris... 502. Piastri... 503. Zhou... 504. Hamilton... 505. Norris... 506. Piastri... 507. Zhou... 508. Hamilton... 509. Norris... 510. Piastri... 511. Zhou... 512. Hamilton... 513. Norris... 514. Piastri... 515. Zhou... 516. Hamilton... 517. Norris... 518. Piastri... 519. Zhou... 520. Hamilton... 521. Norris... 522. Piastri... 523. Zhou... 524. Hamilton... 525. Norris... 526. Piastri... 527. Zhou... 528. Hamilton... 529. Norris... 530. Piastri... 531. Zhou... 532. Hamilton... 533. Norris... 534. Piastri... 535. Zhou... 536. Hamilton... 537. Norris... 538. Piastri... 539. Zhou... 540. Hamilton... 541. Norris... 542. Piastri... 543. Zhou... 544. Hamilton... 545. Norris... 546. Piastri... 547. Zhou... 548. Hamilton... 549. Norris... 550. Piastri... 551. Zhou... 552. Hamilton... 553. Norris... 554. Piastri... 555. Zhou... 556. Hamilton... 557. Norris... 558. Piastri... 559. Zhou... 560. Hamilton... 561. Norris... 562. Piastri... 563. Zhou... 564. Hamilton... 565. Norris... 566. Piastri... 567. Zhou... 568. Hamilton... 569. Norris... 570. Piastri... 571. Zhou... 572. Hamilton... 573. Norris... 574. Piastri... 575. Zhou... 576. Hamilton... 577. Norris... 578. Piastri... 579. Zhou... 580. Hamilton... 581. Norris... 582. Piastri... 583. Zhou... 584. Hamilton... 585. Norris... 586. Piastri... 587. Zhou... 588. Hamilton... 589. Norris... 590. Piastri... 591. Zhou... 592. Hamilton... 593. Norris... 594. Piastri... 595. Zhou... 596. Hamilton... 597. Norris... 598. Piastri... 599. Zhou... 600. Hamilton... 601. Norris... 602. Piastri... 603. Zhou... 604. Hamilton... 605. Norris... 606. Piastri... 607. Zhou... 608. Hamilton... 609. Norris... 610. Piastri... 611. Zhou... 612. Hamilton... 613. Norris... 614. Piastri... 615. Zhou... 616. Hamilton... 617. Norris... 618. Piastri... 619. Zhou... 620. Hamilton... 621. Norris... 622. Piastri... 623. Zhou... 624. Hamilton... 625. Norris... 626. Piastri... 627. Zhou... 628. Hamilton... 629. Norris... 630. Piastri... 631. Zhou... 632. Hamilton... 633. Norris... 634. Piastri... 635. Zhou... 636. Hamilton... 637. Norris... 638. Piastri... 639. Zhou... 640. Hamilton... 641. Norris... 642. Piastri... 643. Zhou... 644. Hamilton... 645. Norris... 646. Piastri... 647. Zhou... 648. Hamilton... 649. Norris... 650. Piastri... 651. Zhou... 652. Hamilton... 653. Norris... 654. Piastri... 655. Zhou... 656. Hamilton... 657. Norris... 658. Piastri... 659. Zhou... 660. Hamilton... 661. Norris... 662. Piastri... 663. Zhou... 664. Hamilton... 665. Norris... 666. Piastri... 667. Zhou... 668. Hamilton... 669. Norris... 670. Piastri... 671. Zhou... 672. Hamilton... 673. Norris... 674. Piastri... 675. Zhou... 676. Hamilton... 677. Norris... 678. Piastri... 679. Zhou... 680. Hamilton... 681. Norris... 682. Piastri... 683. Zhou... 684. Hamilton... 685. Norris... 686. Piastri... 687. Zhou... 688. Hamilton... 689. Norris... 690. Piastri... 691. Zhou... 692. Hamilton... 693. Norris... 694. Piastri... 695. Zhou... 696. Hamilton... 697. Norris... 698. Piastri... 699. Zhou... 700. Hamilton... 701. Norris... 702. Piastri... 703. Zhou... 704. Hamilton... 705. Norris... 706. Piastri... 707. Zhou... 708. Hamilton... 709. Norris... 710. Piastri... 711. Zhou... 712. Hamilton... 713. Norris... 714. Piastri... 715. Zhou... 716. Hamilton... 717. Norris... 718. Piastri... 719. Zhou... 720. Hamilton... 721. Norris... 722. Piastri... 723. Zhou... 724. Hamilton... 725. Norris... 726. Piastri... 727. Zhou... 728. Hamilton... 729. Norris... 730. Piastri... 731. Zhou... 732. Hamilton... 733. Norris... 734. Piastri... 735. Zhou... 736. Hamilton... 737. Norris... 738. Piastri... 739. Zhou... 740. Hamilton... 741. Norris... 742. Piastri... 743. Zhou... 744. Hamilton... 745. Norris... 746. Piastri... 747. Zhou... 748. Hamilton... 749. Norris... 750. Piastri... 751. Zhou... 752. Hamilton... 753. Norris... 754. Piastri... 755. Zhou... 756. Hamilton... 757. Norris... 758. Piastri... 759. Zhou... 760. Hamilton... 761. Norris... 762. Piastri... 763. Zhou... 764. Hamilton... 765. Norris... 766. Piastri... 767. Zhou... 768. Hamilton... 769. Norris... 770. Piastri... 771. Zhou... 772. Hamilton... 773. Norris... 774. Piastri... 775. Zhou... 776. Hamilton... 777. Norris... 778. Piastri... 779. Zhou... 780. Hamilton... 781. Norris... 782. Piastri... 783. Zhou... 784. Hamilton... 785. Norris... 786. Piastri... 787. Zhou... 788. Hamilton... 789. Norris... 790. Piastri... 791. Zhou... 792. Hamilton... 793. Norris... 794. Piastri... 795. Zhou... 796. Hamilton... 797. Norris... 798. Piastri... 799. Zhou... 800. Hamilton... 801. Norris... 802. Piastri... 803. Zhou... 804. Hamilton... 805. Norris... 806. Piastri... 807. Zhou... 808. Hamilton... 809. Norris... 810. Piastri... 811. Zhou... 812. Hamilton... 813. Norris... 814. Piastri... 815. Zhou... 816. Hamilton... 817. Norris... 818. Piastri... 819. Zhou... 820. Hamilton... 821. Norris... 822. Piastri... 823. Zhou... 824. Hamilton... 825. Norris... 826. Piastri... 827. Zhou... 828. Hamilton... 829. Norris... 830. Piastri... 831. Zhou... 832. Hamilton... 833. Norris... 834. Piastri... 835. Zhou... 836. Hamilton... 837. Norris... 838. Piastri... 839. Zhou... 840. Hamilton... 841. Norris... 842. Piastri... 843. Zhou... 844. Hamilton... 845. Norris... 846. Piastri... 847. Zhou... 848. Hamilton... 849. Norris... 850. Piastri... 851. Zhou... 852. Hamilton... 853. Norris... 854. Piastri... 855. Zhou... 856. Hamilton... 857. Norris... 858. Piastri... 859. Zhou... 860. Hamilton... 861. Norris... 862. Piastri... 863. Zhou... 864. Hamilton... 865. Norris... 866. Piastri... 867. Zhou... 868. Hamilton... 869. Norris... 870. Piastri... 871. Zhou... 872. Hamilton... 873. Norris... 874. Piastri... 875. Zhou... 876. Hamilton... 877. Norris... 878. Piastri... 879. Zhou... 880. Hamilton... 881. Norris... 882. Piastri... 883. Zhou... 884. Hamilton... 885. Norris... 886. Piastri... 887. Zhou... 888. Hamilton... 889. Norris... 890. Piastri... 891. Zhou... 892. Hamilton... 893. Norris... 894. Piastri... 895. Zhou... 896. Hamilton... 897. Norris... 898. Piastri... 899. Zhou... 900. Hamilton... 901. Norris... 902. Piastri... 903. Zhou... 904. Hamilton... 905. Norris... 906. Piastri... 907. Zhou... 908. Hamilton... 909. Norris... 910. Piastri... 911. Zhou... 912. Hamilton... 913. Norris... 914. Piastri... 915. Zhou... 916. Hamilton... 917. Norris... 918. Piastri... 919. Zhou... 920. Hamilton... 921. Norris... 922. Piastri... 923. Zhou... 924. Hamilton... 925. Norris... 926. Piastri... 927. Zhou... 928. Hamilton... 929. Norris... 930. Piastri... 931. Zhou... 932. Hamilton... 933. Norris... 934. Piastri... 935. Zhou... 936. Hamilton... 937. Norris... 938. Piastri... 939. Zhou... 940. Hamilton... 941. Norris... 942. Piastri... 943. Zhou... 944. Hamilton... 945. Norris... 946. Piastri... 947. Zhou... 948. Hamilton... 949. Norris... 950. Piastri... 951. Zhou... 952. Hamilton... 953. Norris... 954. Piastri... 955. Zhou... 956. Hamilton... 957. Norris... 958. Piastri... 959. Zhou... 960. Hamilton... 961. Norris... 962. Piastri... 963. Zhou... 964. Hamilton... 965. Norris... 966. Piastri... 967. Zhou... 968. Hamilton... 969. Norris... 970. Piastri... 971. Zhou... 972. Hamilton... 973. Norris... 974. Piastri... 975. Zhou... 976. Hamilton... 977. Norris... 978. Piastri... 979. Zhou... 980. Hamilton... 981. Norris... 982. Piastri... 983. Zhou... 984. Hamilton... 985. Norris... 986. Piastri... 987. Zhou... 988. Hamilton... 989. Norris... 990. Piastri... 991. Zhou... 992. Hamilton... 993. Norris... 994. Piastri... 995. Zhou... 996. Hamilton... 997. Norris... 998. Piastri... 999. Zhou... 1000. Hamilton... 1001. Norris... 1002. Piastri... 1003. Zhou... 1004. Hamilton... 1005. Norris... 1006. Piastri... 1007. Zhou... 1008. Hamilton... 1009. Norris... 1010. Piastri... 1011. Zhou... 1012. Hamilton... 1013. Norris... 1014. Piastri... 1015. Zhou... 1016. Hamilton... 1017. Norris... 1018. Piastri... 1019. Zhou... 1020. Hamilton... 1021. Norris... 1022. Piastri... 1023. Zhou... 1024. Hamilton... 1025. Norris... 1026. Piastri... 1027. Zhou... 1028. Hamilton... 1029. Norris... 1030. Piastri... 1031. Zhou... 1032. Hamilton... 1033. Norris... 1034. Piastri... 1035. Zhou... 1036. Hamilton... 1037. Norris... 1038. Piastri... 1039. Zhou... 1040. Hamilton... 1041. Norris... 1042. Piastri... 1043. Zhou... 1044. Hamilton... 1045. Norris... 1046. Piastri... 1047. Zhou... 1048. Hamilton... 1049. Norris... 1050. Piastri... 1051. Zhou... 1052. Hamilton... 1053. Norris... 1054. Piastri... 1055. Zhou... 1056. Hamilton... 1057. Norris... 1058. Piastri... 1059. Zhou... 1060. Hamilton... 1061. Norris... 1062. Piastri... 1063. Zhou... 1064. Hamilton... 1065. Norris... 1066. Piastri... 1067. Zhou... 1068. Hamilton... 1069. Norris... 1070. Piastri... 1071. Zhou... 1072. Hamilton... 1073. Norris... 1074. Piastri... 1075. Zhou... 1076. Hamilton... 1077. Norris... 1078. Piastri... 1079. Zhou... 1080. Hamilton... 1081. Norris... 1082. Piastri... 1083. Zhou... 1084. Hamilton... 1085. Norris... 1086. Piastri... 1087. Zhou... 1088. Hamilton... 1089. Norris... 1090. Piastri... 1091. Zhou... 1092. Hamilton... 1093. Norris... 1094. Piastri... 1095. Zhou... 1096. Hamilton... 1097. Norris... 1098. Piastri... 1099. Zhou... 1100. Hamilton... 1101. Norris... 1102. Piastri... 1103. Zhou... 1104. Hamilton... 1105. Norris... 1106. Piastri... 1107. Zhou... 1108. Hamilton... 1109. Norris... 1110. Piastri... 1111. Zhou... 1112. Hamilton... 1113. Norris... 1114. Piastri... 1115. Zhou... 1116. Hamilton... 1117. Norris... 1118. Piastri... 1119. Zhou... 1120. Hamilton... 1121. Norris... 1122. Piastri... 1123. Zhou... 1124. Hamilton... 1125. Norris... 1126. Piastri... 1127. Zhou... 1128. Hamilton... 1129. Norris... 1130. Piastri... 1131. Zhou... 1132. Hamilton... 1133. Norris... 1134. Piastri... 1135. Zhou... 1136. Hamilton... 1137. Norris... 1138. Piastri... 1139. Zhou... 1140. Hamilton... 1141. Norris... 1142. Piastri... 1143. Zhou... 1144. Hamilton... 1145. Norris... 1146. Piastri... 1147. Zhou... 1148. Hamilton... 1149. Norris... 1150. Piastri... 1151. Zhou... 1152. Hamilton... 1153. Norris... 1154. Piastri... 1155. Zhou... 1156. Hamilton... 1157. Norris... 1158. Piastri... 1159. Zhou... 1160. Hamilton... 1161. Norris... 1162. Piastri... 1163. Zhou... 1164. Hamilton... 1165. Norris... 1166. Piastri... 1167. Zhou... 1168. Hamilton... 1169. Norris... 1170. Piastri... 1171. Zhou... 1172. Hamilton... 1173. Norris... 1174. Piastri... 1175. Zhou... 1176. Hamilton... 1177. Norris... 1178. Piastri... 1179. Zhou... 1180. Hamilton... 1181. Norris... 1182. Piastri... 1183. Zhou... 1184. Hamilton... 1185. Norris... 1186. Piastri... 1187. Zhou... 1188. Hamilton... 1189. Norris... 1190. Piastri... 1191. Zhou... 1192. Hamilton... 1193. Norris... 1194. Piastri... 1195. Zhou... 1196. Hamilton... 1197. Norris... 1198. Piastri... 1199. Zhou... 1200. Hamilton... 1201. Norris... 1202. Piastri... 1203. Zhou... 1204. Hamilton... 1205. Norris... 1206. Piastri... 1207. Zhou... 1208. Hamilton... 1209. Norris... 1210. Piastri... 1211. Zhou... 1212. Hamilton... 1213. Norris... 1214. Piastri... 1215. Zhou... 1216. Hamilton... 1217. Norris... 1218. Piastri... 1219. Zhou... 1220. Hamilton... 1221. Norris... 1222. Piastri... 1223. Zhou... 1224. Hamilton... 1225. Norris... 1226. Piastri... 1227. Zhou... 1228. Hamilton... 1229. Norris... 1230. Piastri... 1231. Zhou... 1232. Hamilton... 1233. Norris... 1234. Piastri... 1235. Zhou... 1236. Hamilton... 1237. Norris... 1238. Piastri... 1239. Zhou... 1240. Hamilton... 1241. Norris... 1242. Piastri... 1243. Zhou... 1244. Hamilton... 1245. Norris... 1246. Piastri... 1247. Zhou... 1248. Hamilton... 1249. Norris... 1250. Piastri... 1251. Zhou... 1252. Hamilton... 1253. Norris... 1254. Piastri... 1255. Zhou... 1256. Hamilton... 1257. Norris... 1258. Piastri... 1259. Zhou... 1260. Hamilton... 1261. Norris... 1262. Piastri... 1263. Zhou... 1264. Hamilton... 1265. Norris... 1266. Piastri... 1267. Zhou... 1268. Hamilton... 1269. Norris... 1270. Piastri... 1271. Zhou... 1272. Hamilton... 1273. Norris... 1274. Piastri... 1275. Zhou... 1276. Hamilton... 1277. Norris... 1278. Piastri... 1279. Zhou... 1280. Hamilton... 1281. Norris... 1282. Piastri... 1283. Zhou... 1284. Hamilton... 1285. Norris... 1286. Piastri... 1287. Zhou... 1288. Hamilton... 1289. Norris... 1290. Piastri... 1291. Zhou... 1292. Hamilton... 1293. Norris... 1294. Piastri... 1295. Zhou... 1296. Hamilton... 1297. Norris... 1298. Piastri... 1299. Zhou... 1300. Hamilton... 1301. Norris... 1302. Piastri... 1303. Zhou... 1304. Hamilton... 1305. Norris... 1306. Piastri... 1307. Zhou... 1308. Hamilton... 1309. Norris... 1310. Piastri... 1311. Zhou... 1312. Hamilton... 1313. Norris... 1314. Piastri... 1315. Zhou... 1316. Hamilton... 1317. Norris... 1318. Piastri... 1319. Zhou... 1320. Hamilton... 1321. Norris... 1322. Piastri... 1323. Zhou... 1324. Hamilton... 1325. Norris... 1326. Piastri... 1327. Zhou... 1328. Hamilton... 1329. Norris... 1330. Piastri... 1331. Zhou... 1332. Hamilton... 1333. Norris... 1334. Piastri... 1335. Zhou... 1336. Hamilton... 1337. Norris... 1338. Piastri... 1339. Zhou... 1340. Hamilton... 1341. Norris... 1342. Piastri... 1343. Zhou... 1344. Hamilton... 1345. Norris... 1346. Piastri... 1347. Zhou... 1348. Hamilton... 1349. Norris... 1350. Piastri... 1351. Zhou... 1352. Hamilton... 1353. Norris... 1354. Piastri... 1355. Zhou... 1356. Hamilton... 1357. Norris... 1358. Piastri... 1359. Zhou... 1360. Hamilton... 1361. Norris... 1362. Piastri... 1363. Zhou... 1364. Hamilton... 1365. Norris... 1366. Piastri... 1367. Zhou... 1368. Hamilton... 1369. Norris... 1370. Piastri... 1371. Zhou... 1372. Hamilton... 1373. Norris... 1374. Piastri... 1375. Zhou... 1376. Hamilton... 1377. Norris... 1378. Piastri... 1379. Zhou... 1380. Hamilton... 1381. Norris... 1382. Piastri... 1383. Zhou... 1384. Hamilton... 1385. Norris... 1386. Piastri... 1387. Zhou... 1388. Hamilton... 1389. Norris... 1390. Piastri... 1391. Zhou... 1392. Hamilton... 1393. Norris... 1394. Piastri... 1395. Zhou... 1396. Hamilton... 1397. Norris... 1398. Piastri... 1399. Zhou... 1400. Hamilton... 1401. Norris... 1402. Piastri... 1403. Zhou... 1404. Hamilton... 1405. Norris... 1406. Piastri... 1407. Zhou... 1408. Hamilton... 1409. Norris... 1410. Piastri... 1411. Zhou... 1412. Hamilton... 1413. Norris... 1414. Piastri... 1415. Zhou... 1416. Hamilton... 1417. Norris... 1418. Piastri... 1419. Zhou... 1420. Hamilton... 1421. Norris... 1422. Piastri... 1423. Zhou...

Gill and Smriti win top honours at BCCI awards



Special occasion: Binny, Dravid, and Mithali receive the Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award from ICC chair Jay Shah on Sunday. BCCI

CRICKET

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

Shubman Gill and Smriti Mandhana were named the Best International Cricketers at the BCCI Naman Awards 2026 here on Sunday, recognising their outstanding performances in the 2024-25 season.

Gill won the prestigious Polly Umrigar Award, while Smriti received the honour for the fifth time. For Gill, it was his second Cricketer of the Year award after first winning it in 2023.

Legends Roger Binny, Rahul Dravid and Mithali

Major award winners

Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award: Roger Binny, Rahul Dravid and Mithali Raj.

Best International Cricketer (men): Shubman Gill.

Best International Cricketer (women): Smriti Mandhana.

Best International debut (men): Harshit Rana.

Best International debut (women): Shree Charani.

Raj were honoured with the Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award, the BCCI's highest honour.

Gill enjoyed a stellar 2025. On the tour of England, he led from the front in the five-Test series, finishing as the top run-get-

ter with 754 runs in 10 innings. The 26-year-old also played a pivotal role in India's Champions Trophy triumph last year. He made an unbeaten 101 against Bangladesh in India's opening match, and ended the tournament with 188 runs.

Smriti finished 2025 with 1,703 international runs, including 1,362 in ODIs, the most by any woman in a calendar year. In doing so, the left-hander also became the first batter in women's ODI history to score 1,000 runs in a calendar year. The Indian vice-captain aggregated 434 runs in nine matches during the team's maiden ODI World Cup title triumph.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a gold medal. The medal is circular with a decorative border and a central emblem. A red ribbon is attached to the top of the medal. The background is a soft, light blue gradient.

India Tops Medal Table at World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026

- India finished **first in the medal standings** at the **World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026 (New Delhi leg)**.

विश्व पैरा एथलेटिक्स ग्रां प्री 2026 (नई दिल्ली चरण) में भारत पदक तालिका में पहले स्थान पर रहा।

- The event was held at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi**.

यह प्रतियोगिता जवाहरलाल नेहरू स्टेडियम, नई दिल्ली में आयोजित हुई।

- India won a total of **208 medals** in the competition.

भारत ने कुल **208 पदक** जीते।

2. India's Medal Tally

भारत की पदक तालिका

Medal	Number
Gold	75
Silver	69
Bronze	64
Total	208

3. Other Countries' Performance

अन्य देशों का प्रदर्शन

Rank	Country	Medals
1	India	208
2	Russia	35
3	Bosnia & Herzegovina	3

4. Participation in the Event

प्रतियोगिता में भागीदारी

Feature	Details
Total Athletes	257
Countries Participated	8
Event Type	Track and Field para athletics

Event	Achievement
Tokyo Paralympics 2020	19 medals (India's best)
Asian Para Games 2023	Record medal haul
Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026	India tops medal table

10. Important Facts for Exams

परीक्षा हेतु महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

Topic	Fact
Governing Body	World Para Athletics
Stadium	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi
Medal Leader	India
Total Indian medals	208

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a gold medal. The medal is circular with a decorative border and a central emblem. A red ribbon is attached to the top of the medal. The background is a bright, clear sky. The text "R. Vairamuthu Awarded 2025 Jnanpith Award" is overlaid on the image in white font.

R. Vairamuthu Awarded 2025
Jnanpith Award

- **Renowned Tamil poet, lyricist and writer R. Vairamuthu has been selected for the 60th Jnanpith Award (2025).**

प्रसिद्ध तमिल कवि, गीतकार और लेखक आर. वैरामुथु को 60वां ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार (2025) प्रदान किया गया है।

- **The announcement was made by Bharatiya Jnanpith in March 2026.**

इसकी घोषणा भारतीय ज्ञानपीठ संस्था ने मार्च 2026 में की।

- **The award recognises his outstanding contribution to Tamil literature and poetry.**

यह पुरस्कार तमिल साहित्य और कविता में उनके उत्कृष्ट योगदान के लिए दिया गया।

2. About R. Vairamuthu

आर. वैरामुथु के बारे में

Feature	Details
Birth	13 July 1953
Birthplace	Tamil Nadu
Profession	Poet, lyricist, writer
Literary Career	More than four decades
Books Written	37+ books

3. Major Literary Works

प्रमुख साहित्यिक कृतियाँ

Work	Type
Kallikkattu Ithikasam	Novel
Karuvachi Kaviyam	Poetry
Thanneer Desam	Literary work
Moondraam Ulagappor	Novel

These works explore **human emotions, rural life, social realities and environmental themes.**

4. Contribution to Tamil Cinema

तमिल सिनेमा में योगदान

- Vairamuthu is also a celebrated lyricist in Tamil film industry.
वैरामुथु तमिल फिल्म उद्योग के प्रसिद्ध गीतकार भी हैं।
- He has won the National Film Award for Best Lyrics seven times.
उन्होंने सात बार राष्ट्रीय फिल्म पुरस्कार (सर्वश्रेष्ठ गीत) जीता है।

5. Other Major Awards

अन्य प्रमुख पुरस्कार

Award	Year
Sahitya Akademi Award	2003
Padma Shri	2003
Padma Bhushan	2014
Kalaimamani Award	Tamil Nadu Government

6. About the Jnanpith Award

ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार के बारे में

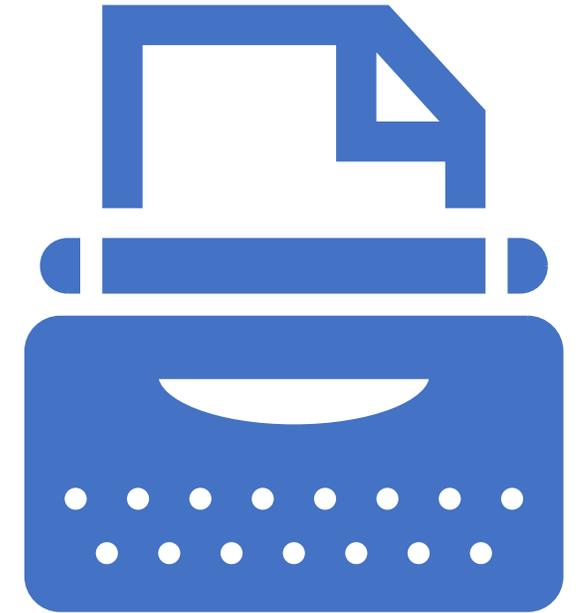
Feature	Details
Established	1961
First Award	1965
Awarded By	Bharatiya Jnanpith
Purpose	Highest literary award in India
Prize	₹11 lakh + citation + bronze statue of Saraswati

7. Tamil Writers Who Won Jnanpith

ज्ञानपीठ पाने वाले तमिल लेखक

Writer	Year
Akilan	1975
D. Jayakanthan	2002
R. Vairamuthu	2025

- Consider the following statements regarding the **Jnanpith Award**:
- It is the highest literary honour in India.
- It is awarded for works written in Indian languages.
- It is conferred by Bharatiya Jnanpith.
- Which of the above statements are correct?
- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 1 only



Word of the day

Abstruse:

incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge

Synonyms: deep, recondite

Usage: *The professor's lectures were so abstruse that students tended to avoid them.*

Pronunciation:

<https://newsth.live/E8Vonh>

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /əb'stɹu:s/

Word of the day

Folly:

the trait of acting stupidly or rashly

Synonyms: absurdity, blunder, foolishness

Usage: *Her folly cost the company a lot of money.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/follypro

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /fɒli/



Thank you 😊