# Daily Current Affairs



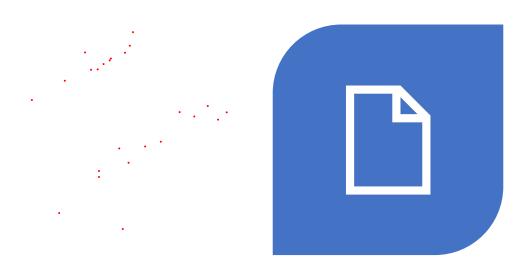








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**PDF** 

10 MCQ QUIZ

• "Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once it's lost, you can never get it back." — Harvey Mackay

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#### INSIDE

## strike kills at least 19 students

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#### SC to deliver verdict on plea on Waqf Act

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#### Another Maoist killed in Bijapur operation

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## PM calls for harmony in violence-torn Manipur

districts during his first visit since violence erupted

Modi atreases need for dialogue between hill, valley
districts during his first visit since violence erapted

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across imphal and Churuchandpur districts

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#### We need jobs. people tell PM

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cours has been made in bulping displaced people. Addinating within youth, the Frime hitotine and be sen. "sell pours of (their) theory and struggles". promising that various so between ore today worked out to address their cor-

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Highlighting that the Centre has significantly re-chared CRT, the Prime Mi parter said that would bring double beautity to the pro-

#### A first for Mizorum



## EC claims 'exclusive' power to decide on holding SIR

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## Impose tariffs on Russian oil buyers, U.S. tells G7

## Agence France Proper

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# PM calls for harmony in violence-torn Manipur

Modi stresses need for dialogue between hill, valley districts during his first visit since violence erupted

He inaugurates projects worth ₹7,300 crore across Imphal and Churachandpur districts

He meets internally displaced people, pledging assistance and construction of 7,000 homes

## Vijaita Singh

CHURACHANDPUR/IMPHAL

n his first visit to Manipur since ethnic violence erupted over two years ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday called for strengthening dialogue to build a strong bridge of harmony between the State's hill and valley districts.

The ethnic conflict that broke out in May 2023 is between the Meitei people, who dominate the Imphal valley, and the Kuki-Zo people, who dominate the surrounding hills.

After flying into Imphal airport from Aizawl in Mizoram, where he had inaugurated a railway project, Mr. Modi headed by road to the hill district of Churachandpur. Establishing peace is essential for development anywhere, he said, after inaugurating projects worth ₹7,300 crore and meeting internally displaced people.

On his return from the hill district, Mr. Modi addressed a gathering at Kangla Fort in Imphal city, 61 km from Churachandpur. He inaugurated projects worth ₹1,200 crore at Imphal.

## Rain hits schedule

Incessant rain forced lastminute changes in the Prime Minister's schedule and security arrangements. Though he was originally slated to travel by helicopter directly from Aizawl to Churachandpur before flying to Imphal, Mr. Modi was forced to travel by road from the State capital. The planned roadshow in Churachandpur had to be curtailed.

Buffer zones guarded by central security forces have been carved out between the State's Meitei and Kuki-Zo dominated areas. Travelling through one such buffer zone between Bishnupur and Churachandpur, Mr. Modi's motorcade crossed a damaged



Many worries: Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacting with the displaced people in Churachandpur on Saturday, ANI/PMO

bridge that was blown up by miscreants in 2023 and several homes and properties that were burnt during the conflict.

"Manipur is a land of hope and promise. Unfortunately, violence had gripped this magnificent area. A little while ago, I met the affected people who are living in camps. After speaking with them, I can say that a new dawn of hope and confidence is awaiting Manipur," Mr. Modi said in Churachandpur.

He said the Union government would continue to cooperate with the State government to help resettle displaced people in appropriate locations as soon as possible, and to establish peace.

More than 60,000 peo-

## We need jobs, people tell PM

CHURACHANDPUR/IMPHAL

People staying in relief camps requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi for help. "I told the Prime Minister that we need jobs, there is no regular source of income... Many people have committed suicide here. We cannot secure the future of our children. We have to depend on others for food or work as daily wage labourers to make ends meet," said one of the displaced

residents. » PAGE 4

ple were displaced during the violence and around 250 people have been killed.

## Illegal migration

Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla said that the State would have to address the challenges of illegal migration from across the international border.

"We as citizens have a

duty to safeguard our country and its interest. We cannot afford for our land to be encroached and illegally inhabited by people from beyond the borders. Both State and Centre are committed to take effective steps to address this challenge," the Governor said.

Manipur has been under President's Rule since February 13.

"I am pleased that recently dialogues have begun with different groups in the hills and valleys for reaching agreements. These efforts are part of the Government of Bharat's commitment to establishing peace through dialogue, respect, and mutual understanding. I urge all organisations to move forward on the path of peace, fulfil their dreams, and secure the future of their children," Mr. Modi said.

He said the government is providing assistance to construct 7,000 new homes for displaced families. Recently, a special package of nearly ₹3,000 crore has been approved for the State, while a special provision of ₹500 crore has been made for helping displaced people.

Addressing tribal youth, the Prime Minister said he was "well aware of [their] dreams and struggles", promising that various solutions are being worked out to address their concerns.

## Safeguarding interests

In Imphal, the Prime Minister emphasised that the interests of the people must be safeguarded and that those forced to live in camps should be able to return to their normal lives. "Our government is continuously working to ensure peace and stability in Manipur," he said.

Highlighting that the Centre has significantly reduced GST, the Prime Minister said this would bring double benefits to the people of Manipur.

- Event: PM Narendra Modi's first visit to Manipur since ethnic violence began in May 2023.
- Message: Urged dialogue between hill (Kuki-Zo) & valley (Meitei) communities to restore peace.
- Backdrop: Conflict displaced >60,000 people, with 250+ deaths.
- State Status: Under President's Rule since Feb 13, 2025.

## 2. Key Announcements

- Development Projects:
  - Inaugurated projects worth ₹7,300 crore (incl. ₹1,200 crore in Imphal).
  - Special package of ₹3,000 crore for Manipur.
  - ₹500 crore provision specifically for displaced people.
- Housing & Rehabilitation:
  - Construction of 7,000 new homes announced for displaced families.
  - Promised resettlement of displaced people in appropriate locations.
- Employment & Welfare:
  - PM interacted with camp residents who demanded jobs & livelihood support.
  - Emphasised skill development, self-reliance, and opportunities for youth.

## **Ethnic Divide:**

- *Meitei*: Majority in Imphal valley.
- Kuki-Zo: Dominant in surrounding hill districts.

## **Security Challenges:**

- PM's convoy rerouted due to damaged infrastructure and security threats.
- Buffer zones guarded by central forces.

## **Illegal Migration:**

- Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla flagged encroachment & migration from across international borders.
- Stressed on safeguarding state's demography & resources.

- Dialogue & Unity:
- Called for building a "bridge of harmony" through mutual respect & trust.
- Urged civil society & organisations to promote peace.
- Youth & Aspirations:
- Recognised tribal youth struggles & dreams.
- Promised inclusive solutions.
- National Duty:
- Said safeguarding Manipur's interest is a duty of both **State & Centre**.

- About Manipur Violence (2023)
- Trigger: Meitei demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status
   → opposed by Kuki tribes.
- Result: Ethnic clashes, mass displacement, internet bans, loss of life & property.
- Geographic & Demographic Context
- **Population**: ~3.1 million.
- Ethnic Composition:
  - *Meitei*: ~53%, mostly in Imphal valley.
  - Tribal groups (Naga & Kuki): ~40%, in hill districts.
- Borders **Myanmar** → issues of migration, insurgency, drug trafficking.
- Government Measures
- Deployment of **central security forces**.
- Relief camps for displaced.
- Peace committees & dialogue initiatives.

## A first for Mizoram



The first train that was flagged off from the newly built Sairang Railway Station in Mizoram on Saturday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Mizoram's first railway line, the Bairabi-Sairang stretch, which integrated the State with the nation's rail network. R.V. MOORTHY

## What it is?

- A 38 km broad-gauge railway line connecting Bairabi (railhead on Assam border) to Sairang (near Aizawl).
- This is part of Indian Railways' **North East connectivity mission** under the "Act East" policy.

## Origin:

- Project sanctioned under the Indian Railways Vision 2020.
- Construction started in phases, with the last section Hortoki–Sairang commissioned in **June 2025** after CRS safety clearance.

## • Objective:

- Provide direct rail access to Aizawl, reducing travel time and logistics cost.
- Improve **freight connectivity** for essential goods, boosting trade and regional integration.
- Fulfil **long-standing socio-economic demand** of Mizoram under <u>"Transformation of North East (TONE)" programme.</u>

## Key Features:

- <u>Cost:</u> ₹8,000 crore project.
- **Engineering Marvel:** 48 tunnels (12.85 km total), 55 major and 87 minor bridges.
- Bridge No. 196: 104 m tall taller than Qutub Minar by 42 m.
- Four Sections: Bairabi-Hortoki, Hortoki-Kawnpui, Kawnpui-Mualkhang, Mualkhang-Sairang.
- 5 road overbridges, 6 road underbridges for smooth traffic movement.
- Passenger trains designed for 100 kmph speed.

## THE HINDU Business

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#### U.S. FDA issues 5 observations to Dr. Reddy's Hyderabad unit

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (PDA) has issued five observations to the biologics manufacturing facility of generic drugmaker Dr. Reddy's Laboratories in Hyderabad. The observations followed a pre-approval inspection (PAI) of the facility in Bachupally, Hyderabad, the U.S. FDA conducted from September 4-12. "We have been issued a Form 483 with five observations, which we will address within the

#### Roche Pharma, GHs partner for clinical trial capabilities

Roche Pharma said it has partnered with 10 noche Pharma and it lun parmered with 10 government houghtal to sirrughten clinical stral government houghtal to sirrughten clinical stral government houghtal stral with the professionals have been trained as per global cloud Clinical Practice (CGO) stratedaris. <sup>18</sup>91 copulpting leading government houghtals with copulpting leading government houghtals with the professional strategies of the professi

#### Court bars Birla Corp from putting resolution to vote

Birla Corporation said a Kollasta court has passed an as partie order, restraining the company from putting to vote a resolution on adopting a new set of Articles of Association at its upcoming folds of Articles of Association at its upcoming folds filing, the firm said the injunction restrains the company from conducting any poll, including remote evoting, or publishing results in respect affects no. 5 under "special business" related to the new Articles of Association.

## to invest \$3 bn in 2,400 MW project in Bihar

Press Trust of India

Adani Power on Saturday said it will set up a 2,400 MW ultra super-critical power plant in Bihar at an investment of \$3 billion (around \$26,482 crore). The Adami group com-pany said that it has signed a 25-year Power Supply Agreement (PSA) with Bi-bar State Power General

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MW X 3) and its supporting infrastructure under the Design, Build, Finance, Own, and Operate (OBFOO) model. The company sinus to commission the plant in 60 months.

The coal linkage for the power plant has been allo-cated under the Centre's

pleyment for to,ou-t2,000 people during the construction phase and

## About 60% of India's outward | Dip in issue of FDI goes to 'tax havens'

An analysis of RBI data by The Hindu shows that nearly 56% of such investments in 2024-25 were in low tax jurisdictions such as Singapore, Mauritius, UAE, the Netherlands, U.K. and Switzerland

tions abroad to channel their foreign investments in a bid to increase their ing to data as well as tax and investment experts. An analysis by The Hin-

du of data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBD) which closely tracks out-which closely tracks out-ward investments by in-data companies, shows data companies, shows restments in 2024-25 were in few tax jurisdictions (commonly called rax ba-Mauritius, the United Arab Mauritius, the United Arab Mauritius, the United Arab Contracts, the Nether-cide of the Contract of the total CA468.5 crors of the total CA468.5 crors of the vestment (P10) by India in 2024-25, shout #1,946 crors went to those low

tax jurisdictions.
In fact, just three of these countries — Singapore (22.6%), Mauritus (10.9%), and the UAE (3.1%) — secounted for more than 40% of India's saward FDI in 2024-25.

mitward FDI in 2024-28.
Further, this trend seems to have increased in intensity in the current fr-nancial year. In the first quarter, these low tax, prindictions accounted for 63% of India's twist our ward FDI, However, while countries around the world, michaling India,

Investment Contracted FOI by Indian tirms are aredominantly parestratura

Reshaping

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Lalatendu Mishra

Mr. Thingus also point ed to the propensity of foreign companies to choose a low-tax jurisdic-

partner, a strategic partner from any other country
will be happing investing phaged 84% to 13,000 into the Singapore entity, or one in a similar periodic-

## MFs without avenue to park funds

tion to form a joint ven-ture rather than in India.

"If the Indian company is looking for a strategic bills and commercial pap

being the project of the set in the first profit to the first prof

## Emirates marks 25 years of operations in Chennai, its 'cornerstone market'

Murall N. Krishnaswamy

On September 1, 2025, Emirates, the worfal's Tar-ged International artifact-nucled the silver juddee of is air link with Chennal. What began on september 1, 2000, as 174-seat Art-bus Astio-300 service -four flights a week and the carrier's third destination in India – him now expand-ed to a three flights a day, 400-phis seat all-floeing 777-200KR service (currently, 21 flights a week). In October 1995, the airline October 1988, the airline launched its flights from Dubai to New Delhi and Mumbai, the foundation of its initial resust network. It new flies to six more destisident - India and Nepal, Emirates, said the airline continues to support Chen nal's expanding role in by offering the city's tra-vellers, seamless global connections through its hub in Dubat, and access to

He said the key metrics He said the key notices were 10.7 million-plus pas-serger traffic between Du-bal and Chennai, since 2000, on over 38,000 flights; 19,300 tonnes of cargo uplift from Chennai on the last financial year), consisting of feed from an expetables. Dhermicoust, and connectivity to the air-line's network across the we're 10.7 million-plus paeceoper rafile between Disbai and Chennai, sinee
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ed air freight division, nau facilitated the export of perishable goods and agri-cultural produce and the import of 16,400-plus tonnes of predominately general surgo and mised foodstuff.

ous investment in enhanc-ing products and services is a step that has helped Emirates retain customer loyalty in a very competitive market. Passenger experience service innovations include Artificial intelligence-enabled oper-ational analytics and amar-ter disruption recovery.

Mr. Sarban said Chennai stone market with a focus

ed air freight division, had inbound flows' from the

inbound flower from the same key markets, in addition to Kowaii.

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South finds, the sale that verification of regional compositor air press (South India), he sale that verification was a substantial to the sale of the s deepened its commitment to the local community through the Emirates Airline Foundation's partner-ship with the Community Health Education Society

Together, they have es-tablished the Endrates-CHES Home, which cares

## Exporters with high exposure' to U.S. seek support from banks

The Himbs Burson

Exporters who have high exposure to the U.S. market have urgot the Roserve hank of india and the treatment of india and the treatment of the same the carties such as longer duration for pre- and post-shipment credit and interest equals. Fankaj Chadha, chair man of HIPU: India, said in a press release that in the wake of the recent U.S. ta the carties of the recent U.S. ta the recent U

Corteva launches

pesticides for use

on potato, grapes

The Illinda Dureau

Clobal penticides company Corteva Agriscience has

Sorteva Agriscioner has laurelhed two pentiorles against thieases like 'Dow yo Mildow' in grapes and 'Late Bight' in potenous. The company claimed that both the chemicals will transform pointo, grapes cultivation in India. A release from Corteva said building on the global by secureful Zorvee test.

ly successful Zorvec tech-nology, this advanced solu-tion offers growers cation.

by lowering borrowing costs for exporters. The go-vernment should reinstate the scheme, particularly said, The cost business and. The cost business on MSMEs has increased as banks continue to recover the pre-shipment premium from the exporters. They continue to new diffi-tion of the continue to the continue to recover the pre-shipment premium from the exporters. industry was anticipating a algorificant loss. India's engineering exports to the U.S. averaged around \$20 billion. Access to affordanance from banks and fi-nancial institutions, where high collateral requireble export financing is a necessity for MSMIs. The Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES) that was allo-

ments trendst, he added. Recent data has indicated that due to the U.S. excontinued in 2024 earlier provided significant relief

The cost burden on

as banks continue to recover pre-shipment

MSMEs has increased

## india by bringing about mindset change at the guarrous level to empow-er communities to take common of their haures. There has been tangible results since the foundaformula since the framia-tion was started by them in 2012 with a clear mission to bring about social change at the village level. "From the very begin-ning, we were clear that our focus would be on ru-

tion by 2047. It must carry its 600 million rural citi-sens along," he told The Hinds, Someone who does not believe in shifting of millions of people to cities, ager Research, Morning-which are not designed to star investment Research withstand that level of mi- India. "The shift reflects a gration, he said "Rural pro-blems must be solved with-in rural India." cautious re-entry as global and domostic signals re-main miset." protection against the de-vastating diseases and will lead to healthier crops, higher yields and superior quality produce.

. . .

## After 8 weeks, FPIs turn net buyers, pump in \$168 mn

Anupama Ghosh

śwades Foundation, set up Swades Foundation, set up by entirepreneur couple formie and his wife Zarina Screwvale (the trest while sweets of UTV and Dianey India) and promoters of Unitader Ventures & Up-tical and producers of ma-sy films, is reshaping rural India by bringing about India by bringing about Marking a cautious shift in Marking a causious shift in-sentiment amid mixed glo-bal and demestic signals, Foreign institutional inves-tors (Fila) ended their eight-week selling streak and turned net buyers in Indian markets during the week ended September 12, though pumping in a mod-est \$168 million (net).

The weekly data from National Securities Deposi-tory Limited (NSDL) showed FPIs made not purchases of 11,484,398 cmrs chases of 11,484,398 cmrs chies.13 million) across all asset classes during the four-day trading period from September 9. This reversal comes af-ter sustained selling by

weeks of being net sellers buyers, albeit marginally, during the week, with a modest net inflow of \$168 million," said Himansho

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Data showed FPIs recorded \$1,485 cr. during Sept. 9-42

the primary support for the week's positive flows, with FPIs investing a net 64,337.64 crore (\$491.55

"On the positive side spectations of a U.S. rate expectations of a U.S. rate cut, SKBPs move towards single-window FPt clearance, calibrated rupes management, and clearer

The derivatives marke ments, index options dom

treojit investments Ltd., said, "Higher valuations in India vis-a-vis other mar-tens like China, Hong Kong

September 13. V.K. Vijayakumar, Chief

## **About 60% of India's outward** FDI goes to 'tax havens'

An analysis of RBI data by The Hindu shows that nearly 56% of such investments in 2024-25 were in low tax jurisdictions such as Singapore, Mauritius, UAE, the Netherlands, U.K. and Switzerland

#### T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan NEW DELHI

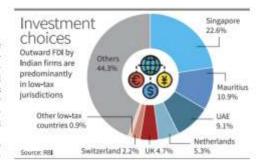
ndian companies are increasingly leveraging low-tax jurisdictions abroad to channel their foreign investments in a bid to increase their global presence, according to data as well as tax and investment experts.

An analysis by The Hindu of data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). which closely tracks outward investments by Indian companies, shows that nearly 56% of such investments in 2024-25 were in low tax jurisdictions (commonly called tax havens) such as Singapore, Mauritius, the United Arab Emirates, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland.

In other words, out of the total ₹3,488.5 crore of outward foreign direct investment (FDI) by India in 2024-25, about ₹1,946 crore went to these low tax jurisdictions.

In fact, just three of these countries - Singapore (22.6%), Mauritius (10.9%), and the UAE (9.1%) - accounted for more than 40% of India's outward FDI in 2024-25.

Further, this trend seems to have increased in intensity in the current financial year. In the first quarter, these low tax jurisdictions accounted for 63% of India's total outward FDI. However, while countries around the world, including India,



have sought to crack down on the trend of companies shifting profits to these tax havens, experts have said that choosing these low tax jurisdictions is also a strategic imperative for Indian companies, and not just a tax issue.

"If Indian companies are making investments outside India, then having them through a company set up in one of these jurisdictions makes a lot of sense," according to Riaz Thingna, Partner, Grant Thornton Bharat.

He said that, if an Indian company is looking to set up a subsidiary in Europe, the US, or any other country, then doing it through a special purpose vehicle in Singapore or a similar jurisdiction will help them in getting strategic investors, and in providing better tax positioning at the time of stake dilution.

"These jurisdictions are also more flexible in transferring funds and investments on a day-to-day ba-Thingna

explained. So, very often, these investments are not being made only to evade, regulations, our taxation avoid or reduce tax. They are often made because ments," Mr. Thingna these jurisdictions form platforms for investment in third countries."

#### First level

Vaibhay Luthra, Tax Partner at EY India, too, explained that the RBI data does not provide the ultimate investment destination, but only shows the first level of outward investments.

these low-tax or "tax effi- the belief that the high tacient" jurisdictions not riffs imposed by the U.S. only provide a tax advan- on imports from India tage, but also offer tax stability. Apart from this, they also come with other advantages for Indian companies looking to in- companies who will set up vest abroad.

things like fund raising, or the value addition is done, for an investor coming in, and accordingly escape they usually like coming in the harsher tariffs on Inat these intermediate ju- dia," Mr. Thingna said. risdictions," he explained. Also, having an entity in yet, as the tariffs are rethe middle also protects cent, but it could happen."

Indian company."

Mr. Thingna also pointed to the propensity of foreign companies to choose a low-tax jurisdiction to form a joint venture rather than in India.

"If the Indian company is looking for a strategic partner, a strategic partner from any other country will be happier investing into the Singapore entity, or one in a similar jurisdiction, than into the Indian entity because of our FDI and various other eleexplained.

The RBI data also points to this trend.

The data for July 2025, the latest available data on outward investment. shows that joint ventures accounted for almost 60% of the investments made by Indian companies in the low-tax jurisdictions.

#### Tariff outcome

According to Luthra, Mr. Thingna was also of could induce Indian companies to invest abroad, if they continue.

"There could be a lot of subsidiaries and other en-"A lot of the time, for tities outside India, where

"This has not happened

## About 60% of India's Outward FDI Goes to Tax Havens

## 1. Context

- Source: RBI data (2024–25).
- Finding: ~56% of India's outward FDI routed through low-tax jurisdictions (tax havens).
- Countries: Singapore, Mauritius, UAE, Netherlands, UK, Switzerland.

## 2. Key Data

- Total outward FDI (2024–25): ₹3,488.5 crore.
- Share to tax havens: ~₹1,946 crore (56%).
- Top three destinations:
  - Singapore **22.6**%
  - Mauritius 10.9%
  - UAE 9.1%
  - Together = >40% of India's outward FDI.
- Other hubs: Netherlands (5.3%), UK (4.7%), Switzerland (2.2%).
- Remaining: "Others" ~44.3%.

## 4. Expert Views

- Riaz Thingna (Grant Thornton Bharat):
  - Tax havens offer greater stake protection & flexibility.
  - Tariffs imposed on Indian goods abroad may push more firms to set up overseas subsidiaries.
- Vaibhav Luthra (EY India):
  - RBI data shows first-level investment, not final destination.
  - Funds may be further invested in US, EU via these hubs.
  - Jurisdictions provide fundraising advantages + "day-to-day flexibility."

## 5. Implications

- For India:
  - Reflects limitations of domestic investment climate.
  - Raises concerns of profit shifting, tax avoidance, round-tripping.
- For Global Trade:
  - High tariffs on Indian goods (esp. by US/EU) may worsen outward FDI trend.
  - Could reduce India's domestic job creation & tax revenue.

## FDI & ODI (Outward Direct Investment)

- FDI: Foreign capital flowing into India.
- ODI: Indian companies investing abroad (subsidiaries, JVs, acquisitions).

## India's Top ODI Sectors

IT services, pharma, steel, energy, financial services.

## Tax Havens (Features)

- Low/no corporate tax.
- Confidentiality of ownership.
- Popular for "round-tripping" (Indian money routed back as FDI).

## Regulation

- GAAR (General Anti-Avoidance Rule, 2017) to curb tax avoidance.
- India-Mauritius Tax Treaty (amended 2016) curtailed misuse of Mauritius route.



India should focus on food diversification NEWS - PAGE 6



MINSON BLEETIGH AIMIM knocks on reluctant INDIA's door

Removing import duty on cotton Industry has welcomed move while farmers have opposed it STORE OF STREET



SPORT I PAGE 10

#### Calling the shots



parties at a blaff. Reddeen Various who took there wis here, celebrates a stormwall with bulls alimen Yaday and two wither beroes Axar Potel and Jasprit Burnish sharing their Asia Cup match is

## PM alleges conspiracy to change population mix of border areas

In Assam, he says the conspiracy is a grave threat to security, necessitating a demography mission across the country; the PM said, the Congress has been shielding infiltrators, he said lakhs of *highus* grabbed by infiltrators, have been taken back

he Union government is preparing to launch a mission to thwart a conspiracy to alter the composition of the population in the berder areas of the country with the help of "infiltration", Prime Minister Narusdia Medi said in Assam on Sunday.

on Sunday.

Addressing a meeting at Mangaldoi in Darrang district, he said those bent upon abeltering infiltrators had been waging such a conspiracy in the areas bordering Bangladesh. Mangaldol is about 70 km northeast of Guwahati.

"This is a grave throat to national escurity, necessi-tating a demography mis-sion across the country." Mr. Modi said, underscor-



Biswa Serma in Barrang, Assam on Sunday, erro ou sorwas

ejecting infiltrators to asse-indian citizens from them. "I want to tell the force

will see how you use your strength to protect the in-filtrators and how we put our lives on the line to re-move them. Let there be a contest. Those protecting the infiltrators will suffer,

them," Mr. Modi and.

He said the Congress
had supported infiltration
and apported infiltration
Congress warsa the infiltrators to stay in Bharar permanently and decide its fu"Congress" promoted
the enconcentrum of the
land of our favious, without
study of the congress
them of the congress
that is congres Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, lakhs of bighas (one highe is about 0.13 hectare) of land, grabbed by infiltra-

turs, have been taken back. These include Darrang dis-trict's Gorulduti," be said. Accusing the Congress of standing by anti-India in-dividuals and ideologies, he said the country had

to plague the SC as backlog

**Delayed justice** 

hits all-time high of 88,417

88.417

69,553

000

ing to vote-bank politics.
"Today, sur-forese bave
uprocted the leaders of ter-orism during Operation
Sindoor, but the Congress,
untotal of standing by the
indian rulliary, stood by
the Pakhstan initiary, Gon
gress people take forward
the agenda of those whe
nutrate terrorism, he
said.

Prime Minister Jawaharia Nehru had abandoned As sam during the Chinese ag gression in 1962, "The Conof the Northeast that is yet to heat? he said.

Earlier, the Prime Miniter laid the foundation stones for health and in

#### RIVISITEDE



#### LeT diverting flood aid fund

DESCRIPTION NEW TELLIS Banned Leathker e-Tarbe is resigning flood relief funds to rebuild its headquartiers in Muridle bit by Indian air strikes, sources sald, a PAGE 6

#### 'No water dispute with T.N. this year

Kamalaha Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday said that this year there will be no shortage of electricity or disputes with Terril Nadu over the sharing of Cauvery water is traine of

## Centre reopens PLI scheme for white | Case pendency continues goods till Oct. 14, cites market growth

#### The Hindu Bureau

The Union government has reopened the application window for the production window for the production of the schome. The application white goods (Air Conditioners and LED lights) to being reoperad based on to invest more under the

to invest more under the scheme, which is an ess-come of the growing ma-ket and combletice gener-ated due to manufacturing of key components of ACs and LED lights in India un-der the PLI for white goods

## Switching on

The Union positioned in reope for the Production Lindael Incom

m Scheme goal to broad marketering of AC and LED light components, including these not

with can apply that new applicants and existing beneficiartes who

scheme," the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said on Sunday.

More investments The application window for the scheme will remain The Union Cabinet had

that, in order to avoid any discrimination, both new applicants as well as exist-ing beneficiaries of the scheme who want to invest mented over seven years more would be sligible to apply, subject to the guidelines. from the financial year 2021-22 to 2026-29, with an

ted investment of \$10,406 crore have been selected as crore have been selected as beneficiaries undor the scheme. "The investments will lead to inaunifacturing of components of Air Con-ditioners and LEO lights across the complete value chain including compo-tents which are not manu-factured in India presently with sufficient quantity," it said.

fire or attacked are now being discovered," Health Mi-

nistry spokesperson Pra-kash budathoki said.

The pendency of cases in the Supreme Court has reached an all-time high of court is the court in the supreme Court in the court is currently functioned padicial strength of 34. The Court has 69,585 civil cases and 19,488 civil ca given its approval for the PLI scheme for white goods for the manufacture of components and sub-us-semblies of ACs and LEO lights in April 2021. The scheme was to be impleof fresh cases in August surpossed the disposal rate. A total of 7,080 cases were instituted in the court. In Aiguat. The court has managed a disposal rate of 5,667 cases in the month, that is, 80,04% of the cases field. The escalation in pendency is despite Chief Justice B.R. Gaval's decision to have more fleenches working through the long aumaner recess of the court. very instituted in the cour

## The escalation is despite decision to have more Benches

ponding period in 2024 had seen a similar climb in pendency to a then peak of over \$2,000 cases. The in-Working on holidays The Cli had renamed the summer holidays from May 23 to July "partial working days". The Cli and five sertior-most judges of the court had presided ovcrease in pendency per-sists despite successive Chief Juntiers, from Juntice D.V. Chandrachust to Jus-tice Gavat, taking care to or the first batch of Bench-es hearing cases during the summer recess. A total of 21 Benches sat in batches

## 52,630 7,080 46,309 5,667 80.04

tice Giavai, taking care to maintain judicial vacarey in the top court to a minima. The unceasing increase in backlog has become a in backlog has become a cince the punternic years, and especially since 2023. The preferency had continue the punternic years, and especially since 2023. The preferency had continue to the continue of th

their own collegiums to promptly recommen

vertine of the flooriest and seem collegium resolutions, have raised the inne of "huge workleast". A Nevember 2022 collegium resolution had mentioned the bars truth that the court cannot afford even one vacancy, taking mounting pendency of cases". "The workload or judges has increased con siderably. Bearing in mind the above, it has become judge-strength leaving n underscored.
The recent months have

The recent months have seen the government ap-prove collegium recom-mendations for appoint-ment to the Supreme Court without delay, often within 48 hours. Ver, the backlog continues to rise situality.

## Nepal's new Prime Minister pledges to follow Gen Z protesters' demand to 'end corruption'

## Agence France Press

Nepal's new leader vowed on sunday to follow protes-ters' demands to "end corruption" as she began work as interim Prime Mi-nister, after "Gen 2" youth

Sushija Karki, the 73year-old former Chief Jus-tice, has been tasked with restoring order and ad-dressing protesters' de-mande for a corruption-free future ahead of elec-tions in six months. "We have to work ac-cording to the thinking of the Cien 2 generation," Ms.

Racki said in her first pu-blic comments strice taking office on Friday. She said that these in-volved in violence and des-traction accurs the cosmity

Matalling She Fortz Sushila Racki across to lake charge of the Promi

ployed, according to the World Bank, with GDP per capita standing at just 81,447, in the Himalayan nation of 30 million people.
"What this group is de-manding is the end of cor-

ruption, good governmen and economic equality. At least 72 killed

At least 72 killed
At least 72 people were
killed in two days of prorsuts, and 191 injured, the
government's Chief socretary Eakmanyan Aryal said
on Sunday, increasing an
earlier toll of \$1.

"Bodies of many people
what slind in shopping

main dudathost said.
The Ministry's latest updated data showed at least
2,443 people were injured.
It was the worst unrest
since the end of a decadelong siyl war and the abslition of the monarchy in
2008. lition of the monarchy in 2008.
The appointment of Ma-Karks Came after intense negotiations by army ching General Azhok Raj Sigdel and President Ram Chan-dra Paudel, including will representatives of "Gen 2". With inputs from featers)

2d Benches art in bacches throughout the "partial working days". hearing and disposing of teases, the disposition of the dispos

# Centre reopens PLI scheme for white goods till Oct. 14, cites market growth

## The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Union government has reopened the application window for the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for white goods, it said on Sunday, citing market growth and growing industry confidence following the success of earlier rounds of the scheme.

"The application window for the PLI Scheme for white goods (Air Conditioners and LED lights) is being reopened based on the appetite of the industry to invest more under the scheme, which is an outcome of the growing market and confidence generated due to manufacturing of key components of ACs and LED lights in India under the PLI for white goods

## Switching on

The Union government is reopening the application window for the Production-Linked Incentive scheme for white goods

- Application window: Sept. 15 to Oct. 14
- Scheme goal: To boost manufacturing of AC and LED light components, including those not currently produced in sufficient quantities in India
- Who can apply: Both new applicants and existing beneficiaries who wish to invest more



■ Current status: 83 applicants with a committed investment of ₹10,406 crore have already been selected

scheme," the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said on Sunday.

## **More investments**

The application window for the scheme will remain open between September 15 and October 14. The release further said that, in order to avoid any discrimination, both new applicants as well as existing beneficiaries of the scheme who want to invest more would be eligible to apply, subject to the guidelines. So far, the Ministry said, 83 applicants with committed investment of ₹10,406 crore have been selected as beneficiaries under the scheme. "The investments will lead to manufacturing of components of Air Conditioners and LED lights across the complete value chain including components which are not manufactured in India presently with sufficient quantity," it said.

The Union Cabinet had given its approval for the PLI scheme for white goods for the manufacture of components and sub-assemblies of ACs and LED lights in April 2021. The scheme was to be implemented over seven years, from the financial year 2021-22 to 2028-29, with an outlay of ₹6,238 crore.

- Govt. Decision: Reopened application window for Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for white goods.
- Period: Sept 15 Oct 14, 2025.
- Reason: Strong market growth, rising industry confidence, success of earlier rounds.

## 2. Scheme Details

- Launched: April 2021.
- Duration: 7 years (FY 2021-22 to 2028-29).
- Total Outlay: ₹6,238 crore.
- Coverage: White goods sector mainly Air Conditioners (ACs) and LED light components.

## Goal

- Boost domestic manufacturing of AC & LED components.
- Reduce imports of items not currently produced in sufficient quantity in India.
- Build complete value chain in India.

## 3. Current Status

- Beneficiaries: 83 applicants already selected.
- Committed Investment: ₹10,406 crore.
- Impact:
  - Manufacturing of AC & LED components, including those not produced domestically.
  - Support for "Atmanirbhar Bharat" by cutting import dependence.

## 4. Eligibility

- New Applicants: Fresh investors can apply.
- Existing Beneficiaries: Those wishing to invest more are also eligible.
- Ensures no discrimination between new and existing players.

## Significance

Encourages **FDI** + **domestic players** in electronics.

Enhances India's manufacturing ecosystem.

Boosts **employment** and technology transfer.

Contributes to **export competitiveness**.

## About PLI Scheme

- Launched: 2020, across 14 key sectors (e.g., electronics, pharma, auto, solar, textiles).
- Objective: Incentivise incremental sales of goods manufactured in India.
- Method: Direct cash incentives linked to production levels.
- White Goods Sector
- India's AC and LED market is expanding rapidly due to urbanisation & energy-efficiency demand.
- High reliance on imported components (esp. from China).
- PLI seeks to localise production and reduce trade deficit.

## Case pendency continues to plague the SC as backlog hits all-time high of 88,417

Krishnadas Rajagopal NEW DELHI

The pendency of cases in the Supreme Court has reached an all-time high of 88,417, even when the court is currently functioning with its full sanctioned judicial strength of 34 judges.

The court has 69,553 civil cases and 18,864 criminal matters pending currently, the National Judicial Data Grid shows. The filing of fresh cases in August surpassed the disposal rate. A total of 7,080 cases were instituted in the court in August. The court has managed a disposal rate of 5,667 cases in the month, that is, 80.04% of the cases filed. The escalation in pendency is despite Chief Justice B.R. Gavai's decision to have more Benches working through the long summer recess of the court in a bid to decrease the case log.

#### Working on holidays

The CJI had renamed the summer holidays from May 23 to July "partial working days". The CJI and five senior-most judges of the court had presided over the first batch of Benches hearing cases during the summer recess. A total of 21 Benches sat in batches throughout the "partial working days", hearing and disposing of cases, till the court reopened in July.

In 2025, 52,630 cases were filed while 46,309, nearly 88%, were disposed of during a year which has already seen two Chief Justices of India with a third, Justice Surya Kant, expected to be sworn in in late November. The corres-



The escalation is despite decision to have more Benches working during the SCs summer recess

ponding period in 2024 had seen a similar climb in pendency to a then peak of over 82,000 cases. The increase in pendency persists despite successive Chief Justices, from Justice D.Y. Chandrachud to Justice Gaval, taking care to maintain judicial vacancy in the top court to a minimum, if not zero.

The unceasing increase in backlog has become a perennial phenomenon since the pandemic years, and especially since 2023. The pendency had continued to rise steadily despite Justice Chandrachud, when he was CJI, acting swiftly to fill vacancies in the top court. His successors to the top judge post, Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Gavai, have spearheaded

their own collegiums to promptly recommend names of judges to the government.

Past Chief Justices and even collegium resolutions have raised the issue of "huge workload".

A November 2023 collegium resolution had mentioned the bare truth that the court cannot afford even one vacancy, taking into account the "ever mounting pendency of cases". "The workload of judges has increased considerably. Bearing in mind the above, it has become necessary to ensure that the court has full working judge-strength leaving no vacancy at any point of time," the collegium had underscored.

The recent months have seen the government approve collegium recommendations for appointment to the Supreme Court without delay, often within 48 hours. Yet, the backlog continues to rise steadily.

- Record Pendency: SC case backlog at **88,417 cases** (2025) highest ever.
- Breakup:
  - Civil cases: **69,553**
  - Criminal cases: 18,864
- Despite full sanctioned strength of 34 judges, pendency continues to rise.

•

- 2. August 2025 Data
- Cases filed: 7,080
- Cases disposed: 5,667
- Disposal rate: ~80%
- Filing > disposal → net backlog rise.

## • . Annual Data (2025)

• Cases filed: 52,630

• Cases disposed: 46,309 (~88%).

Backlog increasing despite higher disposal efficiency.

•

## 4. Judicial Measures

- CJI B.R. Gavai: Converted summer recess (May–July) into "partial working days."
  - 21 Benches functioned during recess.
- Successive CJIs (D.Y. Chandrachud → Khanna → Gavai) acted swiftly to fill vacancies.
- Collegium urged: SC must function with zero vacancy at all times.

•

- Reasons for Rising Pendency
- **Higher institution rate** (more cases filed than disposed).
- Complexity of cases (Constitutional, PILs, interstate disputes).
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic: Delays since 2020 worsened backlog.
- Ever-increasing litigation culture in India.

•

- 6. Implications
- Justice delayed = justice denied → undermines public trust.
- Impacts economic cases, reforms, governance.
- Adds pressure on lower judiciary & tribunals.

- Recommendations
- Strengthen Benches: Constitution of more regular & Constitution Benches.
- **Technology**: e-Courts, Al-assisted case management, virtual hearings.
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Mediation, arbitration, Lok Adalats.
- Judicial manpower: Increase judge-to-population ratio (India ~21 judges/million vs US ~107).
- Process reforms: Strict adjournment rules, case categorisation, fast-tracking.

- Case Pendency in India (2025)
- Supreme Court: ~88,000 cases.
- **High Courts**: ~62 lakh.
- District & Subordinate Courts: ~4.2 crore.
- Total pendency: ~4.9 crore cases.
- Judicial Strength
- SC sanctioned strength: 34 judges.
- Judge-to-population ratio: India  $^2$ 1 per million; global avg  $^5$ 0 per million.
- Article 142
- Empowers SC to pass orders for "complete justice" but pendency weakens delivery.

#### ■ 7% 医性凝胶 面積化面が



#### ED summons ex-MP, actor in illegal online betting case

The Enforcement Directorate has summoned The Enforcement Directorate has summoned former Prinamod Congress MP Mint Chalmberty (in photo) and Bollywood actor Urvashi Raudeal in connection with the tablet to be supported by the constraint of the sources. Ms. Chalmberty has been asked to join the investigation at the ED's Debth headquarters on Monday and Ms. Rautela the near day. The ED had onlite recorded the statements of former inclian cricketer Shilishar Dhawan and Sureah Rains in the same case.

#### Top court set to consider SIT report in Vantara case today

The Supreme Court is scheduled on Monday to consider a confidential report submitted by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) chaired by special investigation ream (ST) chaired by former top court judge lustice). Chelamonway (reid.), which was tasked with conducting an "independent factual appraisas" or complaints and aflegations of violations against Vantara, a acological rescue and rehabilitation centre conceptualised by Abant Ambani at junnagur. conceptualised by Anam Anthani at Janinggir.
The court's decision on August 25 to constitute a
SIT was based on two petitions alleging Vantara's
involvement in the unlawful acquisition of animals from India and abroad, nativeatment of

#### Odisha teacher suspended for beating 31 students

An assistant schoolteacher has been susper in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha for beating students because they did not touch her feet after morning prayers. The incident occurred or eptember II at the Government Upper Primary chool in Khandadeula, under Betnoti block, when the teacher, Sukanti Kar, reportedly arrived late and expected respect from students. "Ms. Kar probably felt offended as the students did not touch her feet as a mark of respect," said hipfals Kar-Block Education Officer (BEO) of Remot. He idded that the students were beaten with a bamboo stick and were found with several bruises on their hands. One child had to be given first aid and a girl even lost consciousness briefly.

#### Maoist killed in gunfight with security forces in Jharkhand

A Mariet was killed in a goodight with eccurity forces in Harkhand's Palanu district on Senday morning, the police said. The deceased was identified as Mukhdev Yadav, 40, alias Toofan ji, a self-styled sub-sonal commender of the banned a set-syreo sur-sona commence of the owned Maoist splitter group Tritiya Sammelan Prastuti Committee (TSPC), Superfrendent of Police Beechma Ramean said. The encounter broke out in a forest area bordering Manatu and Tarbasi in the district, Inspector-General (Operations), Michael Raj S. said. He added that the body of the red rebel, along with an INSAS rifle, a pistol and

## PM inaugurates India's first bamboo-based ethanol plant

Golaghat facility billed as world's first green bamboo bioethanol plant. ₹7,230-crore polypropylene project also initiated at Numaligarh Refinery, the facility aims to reduce dependence on fossil fuels

#### The Hindu Bureau

rime Minister Narendra Modé on
rendra Modé on
ren

mboo. Terming the bioethanol plant a step toward emur-ing energy security, Mr. Mods said the facility atmed to prisente clean energy and reduce depen-

energy and reduce depen-dence on fault fuels.

"Assum is a laind that supports india's energy ef-ficiency. The perroleum products from Assum are accelerating the develop-ment of India. The IJP ge-verroment is trying to take this capacity of Assum to a now level," he said at a pu-blic event.



the world now. Our energy the worth now. Our energy needs have been increas-ing with our Viksit Bharat dream. We spend energy of rupees on imports as we are dependent on other countries for energy. We want to change this by try-ing to achieve self-suffi-ciency in energy," the Prime Minister said.

Deep-water exploration. "While we are finusing on hydrocarbon exploration, we are also laying stress on green energy like solar," he asid, highlighting the country's national deep-water exploration initiation to

der the sea, Referring to the bioethanol plant, Mr. Modi said it would benefit local farmers and tribal communities.

"The government will help them grow and pre-cure the products to en-aure a win-win situation," he said. He criticised the

Numaligarh Refinery Li-mired (NRL) officials said five laski tennes of green bamboo would be sourced yearly from four northeast ern states, including Arunachal Pradesh and As-sam, to produce 48,900 tonnes of ethanol, 6,000 tonies of ethanol, B.000 tonies of acete, acid, 15,000 tonies of furfural and 31,000 tonies of footgrees by the second of footgrees between the second of th he said. He criticized the crativitie Congress govern-ments for penalising peo-ple for cutting bandaon, which was earlier categor-seed as a tree, He said the MP government removed the ban on hamboc cutting and stressed that the deci-ation was helping the locals

## Revenue procurement process for armed forces to be simplified

Press Trust of India

ew framework to stream ne, simplify, and rationalthe the revenue procure-ment process for the armed forces, with an overirmed forces, with an over-ill focus on making availa-ble required resources without any delays.

The Defence Propure

The Defence Promise mers Manual (DPM), 2025 lays down the guiding prin-ciples and provisions for in-revenue procurement in the Defence Ministry wa-ked around 21 labb crore for the current fiscal, an of-ficial readout said.

"It will Boster juinteness among the three Services and belts in manualing

and help in maintaining the highest level of military preparedness through so-peditions decision muk-ing, the readout said. The DPM will "ensure timely availability of requi-

site resources to the armed forces and at appropriate cost", the Ministry said in

coef." The Ministry said in the readout.

The now Farnework was released after it was ap-received to the said of the received to the new manual is aimed at achieving self-reliance in miniting effections. It is released in miniting of the Procurement of goods and services by the defence ser-vices and of other organi-sations moder the Ministry auton under the Ministry



is regulated by the DPM. II

is regulated by the DPM, II was last promispated in 2009.
"Euse of doing business has been further arrengthesed in the document, which aims to beent Astanish and the defence naunfacturing and technology," the Minister of the defence naunfacturing and technology, the defence naunfacturing the n

try said. The revised documen has been aligned with the updated provisions of the manual for progressions of goods troucd by the Fi-nance Ministry. "This will help in the in-

"This will help in the in-digensisation of defence items/spares through in-house designing and deve-lopment in collaboration, with public/private indus-tries and academia," it mited.

"Provision has been in-rechard not to levy Li-quidity Damages (LD) dur-ing the development phase," the Ministry furth-er said.

## India must invest more in accelerating diversification of food production: FAO Chief Economist Maximo Cullen

About 40.4% of the Indian

start to invest more in ac-celerating the diversifica-

Be careful in European park when syrling (2,5)
 Worspann brasis this, untilly (6)
 Leave dun in retreat centrally stud in West Asian country (6)
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Mills producer following excentibly "Davine gund" (9)
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Place to be over cuttery for terminal advisors (17,7)

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Stall sections carrying national flags (8)

24 Customers and essents leaving hotel (6)

tion of the country.
"Reduction of funger in bulls affects the world and affects, of course, North affects, of course, North a funge role to play. That's why we believe it as our-portant that they continue and accelerate the trans-formation, but the research that is access to healthy diets, which right new is 40.4% of the population. 50 we need to improve that ways to useure this today ways to useure this today

ways to assure this today and tomorrow," he said.

and tumerrow, he said.
"The Green Revolution
played its role, but now it's
time to do more alo don't
forget about it, but do
more, but now it's
more, Pr. Gullen said.
On the FAO's assessment in 2023 that 74.95 of
India's population was unalte to afford a healthy dies

2021, he said that in

the previous year's num-ter but yes, there is a sig-nity way, there is a sig-uill it's new high. Irealthy diet is theersty. It means ruits and vegstables, pro-teins, and also means ev-ter country's population cannot afford a healthy diet, 50 Hz a minimum sant in healthy diet," the PAO Chief Economies said.

Address the situation Dr. Culber added that the immediate step the Indian government should take to address the situation was

diversification.

"India needs to start to invest more in accelerating the diversification of prothe divertification of pro-duction. To move from ce-reals to high-value com-modities. Pulses could be an option because they are more nutritious, they also have promine. So pulses is

im option and this is very consistent with your cul-ture. Dut Initia should move move to fruits and regetables and that re-quires an effort because you will need to substitute it some point," he said,

cient in the way you move commodities. Because before you were optimising the world, now the world is segmented. The world that wants low tariffs, but the world that has now high turiffs. The second Issue is uncertainty. The changes uncertainty. The changes of tariffs every day has created a lot of uncertainty and that complicates mar-lors. Although markets have already learned how to manage this uncertain.

but smarth," he said.

His, however, said the impact of food inneuerity due to fail in exact the impact of food inneuerity due to fail the most so had been as the first that it is not so had been as the first that a situation where you play ti-for-tax, then this could be very dangerous, and the could be very dangerous.

Tariff war On the turiff war, he said the first problem of turiffs was trefficiencies. "You will be more meffi-

point, countries are not responding. So let's see how it evolves, but uncer-tainty and inefficiencies will make us less resilient for sure, because we will have less places where to have four places where in have food access because of the tariffs. It will affect farmers, it will affect the smallholders, especially will affect the farmors who are more linked to the mar-lots, But what will happen

# Abous 40.4% of the Indian population (approximately 60 crore people) are unable to afford a healthy able to afford a healthy Collen, Chief Economier. Pool and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The Hindu Dr. Cullion said the number was a significant decrease from the FAO's assessment in 2023 they 41 st of Indian 12023 they 41 st of Indian.

population was unable to afford a healthy dist in

He said India needed to

tion of frost production, for Cullen said India played a crucial role in achieving the sustainable Development Goals of zero hunger by 2020 because of

THEROSEWORD + 14589 to solve this perceit orders.



# in 2021, he said that in 2024, the percentage of the population that could not afford a healthy meal was 40.4. "The methodology is improved, so yes, there is an important decrease, for the number to compare to basically to look at the

## SUDOKU

#### 28 4 7 5 1 43 6 6 3 8 1 26 3 2 6



#### Krishna, the miracle

The birth of Lord Krishna is the most joyons thing one can laten to on earth. Only those who have led a virtuous life are blessed enough is lisen to Krishna awar, the intra-ulous manifestation of Mahavishnu as Krishna in the month of Avani, under the Robini star and Ashrami tithi,

and Damal Perundevi.

Krishna appeared on earth after promising the earth delty that He would protect everyone. "I will be been in the Yadava slynasty," He declared. Hearing the hirsh story. of Krishna is nothing short of a miracle, and one has to be blessed to hear it, said sage Suka to King Parikeliit, the

blessed to hear it, and sage Suba to King Parifields, the Narrating the Bhagawantham to Parifields, inside scenarically said a miracle had descended, sporting a yellow all cally said a miracle had descended, sporting a yellow all children and said to be supported by the parifield of the parifield as were, spoke of a miracle, but nowhere did you say Devasit's som was born (norther the Ramayama, where it is street it's norther to be some the said of the said o racle are one and the same

## Acres: 1. Fity from Stern via Teheren (b) 2. Spooner says boy, drum, is an unsporting person (1,5) 3. She has no hope in new shats having energy to cut obsetty (b) 1. Surregist about to point india's ope. (5) 13 Heart patient's endless worry about nursing help after CM COL

## PM inaugurates India's first bamboo-based ethanol plant

Golaghat facility billed as world's first green bamboo bioethanol plant; ₹7,230-crore polypropylene project also initiated at Numaligarh Refinery; the facility aims to reduce dependence on fossil fuels

## The Hindu Bureau

**GUWAHATI** 

rime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday underscored the need for India to be self-sufficient in energy. He was speaking after inaugurating the country's first bamboo-based ethanol plant in eastern Assam's Golaghat district.

He laid the foundation stone for a ₹7,230-crore polypropylene plant at the Numaligarh Refinery. The project will be established near the ₹5,000-crore bioethanol plant, a "zerowaste" facility described as the world's first to produce ethanol from green bamboo.

Terming the bioethanol plant a step toward ensuring energy security, Mr. Modi said the facility aimed to promote clean energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

"Assam is a land that supports India's energy efficiency. The petroleum products from Assam are accelerating the development of India. The BIP government is trying to take this capacity of Assam to a new level," he said at a public event.

"India is one of the fastest-growing economies in



Clean energy: Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the inauguration of Assam Bio-Ethanol Private Ltd. (ABEL), Numaligarh Refinery Plant, in Golaghat on Sunday, PTI

the world now. Our energy needs have been increasing with our Viksit Bharat dream. We spend crores of rupees on imports as we are dependent on other countries for energy. We want to change this by trying to achieve self-sufficiency in energy," the Prime Minister said.

## Deep-water exploration

"While we are focusing on hydrocarbon exploration, we are also laying stress on green energy like solar," he said, highlighting the country's national deep-water exploration mission to look for hydrocarbons under the sea. Referring to the bioethanol plant, Mr. Modi said it would benefit local farmers and tribal communities.

"The government will help them grow and procure the products to ensure a win-win situation," he said. He criticised the erstwhile Congress governments for penalising people for cutting bamboo, which was earlier categorised as a tree. He said the BJP government removed the ban on bamboo cutting and stressed that the decision was helping the locals in this part of the country.

Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) officials said five lakh tonnes of green bamboo would be sourced yearly from four northeastern States, including Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, to produce 48,900 tonnes of ethanol, 11,000 tonnes of acetic acid, 19,000 tonnes of furfural, and 31,000 tonnes of foodgrade liquid carbon dioxide. A joint venture of NRL and Finland's Fortum and Chempolis OY, the plant is expected to give a ₹200crore boost to Assam's rural economy.

- Event: PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first bamboo-based ethanol plant in Golaghat,
   Assam.
- Global Milestone: Billed as the world's first green bamboo bioethanol plant.
- Aim: Reduce fossil fuel dependence, promote clean energy, support rural economy.

## 2. Key Project Details

- Bioethanol Plant:
  - Cost: ₹5,000 crore.
  - Type: "Zero-waste" facility producing ethanol from green bamboo.
- Polypropylene Plant:
  - Foundation stone laid at Numaligarh Refinery.
  - Cost: ₹7,230 crore.
- Feedstock:
  - 5 lakh tonnes of green bamboo sourced annually.
  - States: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland.

## Annual output:

- 48,900 tonnes ethanol.
- 11,000 tonnes acetic acid.
- 19,000 tonnes furfural.
- 31,000 tonnes food-grade CO<sub>2</sub>.

## Expected impact:

- ₹200 crore boost to Assam's rural economy.
- Benefit for local farmers & tribal communities (procurement of bamboo).
- Employment generation & rural livelihood support.

- Strategic Importance
- Energy Security:
  - India spends billions on energy imports.
  - Ethanol blending supports Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Deep-Water Exploration & Renewables:
  - Govt also investing in offshore hydrocarbons & solar energy.
  - Part of integrated energy diversification strategy.
- Policy Shift:
  - Earlier: Bamboo classified as a "tree," restricting cutting.
  - Now: Reclassified as a "grass" under **Indian Forest Act amendments (2017)** → easier farmer participation.

## **Ethanol Blending Program (EBP):**

- Target: 20% blending by 2025-26.
- Reduces import bill & emissions.

### **North-East Development:**

- Assam → petroleum hub via Numaligarh Refinery.
- Bamboo industry 

   major rural economic driver.

- Bamboo in India
- India: 2nd largest bamboo producer after China.
- North-East states account for >60% of India's bamboo reserves.
- Bioethanol Advantages
- Cleaner burning fuel → reduces CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- Promotes circular economy (zero-waste).
- Supports Paris Climate Agreement commitments.
- Related Initiatives
- National Bio-Energy Mission.
- SATAT (Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation) scheme for CBG & biofuels.

### Two world boxing golds, two Haryana districts celebrate their daughters

#### PAGE 1 ANCHOR

#### NITIN SHARMA

BHIWANI, SEPTEMBER 14

A STAR-STUDDED WhatsApp group of Bhiwani's boxing stalwarts has been buzzing since early Sunday morning with congratulatory messages for threetime national champion Parminder Lamboriya, whose niece, Jaismine Lamboriya, upheld the region's proud boxing legacy by winning the gold medal in the 57-kg weight category at the 2025 World Boxing Championships in Liverpool, England, early on Sunday moming (India time).

Among the first to send a text applauding the tall 24-year-old, who stunned Paris Olympic silver medalist Julia Szeremeta of Poland with a commanding 4-1 verdict, was Bhiwani's most famous son — the 2008 Beijing Games bronze medalist Vijender Singh. Olympians Akhil Kumar (2006 Commonwealth Games champion) and Jai Bhagwan also welcomed the latest entrant to Bhiwani's Hall of Fame with happy emojis.

Not too far from Bhiwani, another Haryana district was readying for festivities. Minakshi Hooda, another lanky 24-yearold from Rurkee Kiloi village in Rohtak district, climbed to the top of the podium at Liverpool in the 48-kg category, out-punching Paris Olympics bronze medallist Nazym Kyzaibay from Kazakhstan, later in the day.

For Minakshi, whose father ferries passengers in his secondhand auto-rickshaw in Rohtak to make ends meet, it was a fairytale ending, "Meri chhori duniya jeetegi (My daughter will conquer the world)," her father, Srikrishan, said after her win in the quarter-finals earlier. And Minakshi, a constable with the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), did exactly that.





Jaismine Lamboriya from Bhiwani district won gold in the 57-kg category; (right) Minakshi Hooda from Rohtak district won gold in the 48-kg category in Liverpool. World Boxing Back in Bhiwani, Parminder was happy that Jaismine achieved what he couldn't. He is excited that his famous friends reached out to him. "Vijender and others are like family. When Jaismine won the title in the World Boxing Championships, they were all celebrating as if it was their own medal. With this medal, my niece has once again stamped Bhiwani's name on world boxing," he told The Indian Express.

Jaismine's mother, Joginder Kaur, overwhelmed by the crowd that descended at her place, said she's been busy all morning. Every guest has been taking pains to explain to her what Jaismine has achieved. "People tell me that she is one of the strongest in the ring and is a world champion in her weight category. But I tell them, for me, she will always remain Chinu... it's what everyone calls her at home. She has been a lucky child for me. She was born after I lost an infant son; after her birth, I lost two daughters because of some ailments," she recalled. "Apart from her medals, the proudest day for us was when she joined the Indian Army's Corps of Military Police," she said.

Like her mother said, Jaismine was lucky to be born in Haryana's boxing hub and to have an uncle who was a reputed pugilist. It was in the late 1990s that Parminder, along with Vijender, joined the Bhiwani Boxing Club, which would later become a nursery for world-class pugilists, With the success of boxers from the region, the sport caught the fancy of youths — first boys, and then girls, who, by 2002, could be seen sparring in the ring.

It was around this time that a reputed woman boxer, Meena Kumari, shifted base to Bhiwani to train with the area's illustrious coach, Jagdish Singh of the Bhiwani Boxing Club, who had spotted the early spark in Vijender.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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New Delhi





- Event: 2025 World Boxing Championships, Liverpool (UK).
- Winners:
  - Jaismine Lamboriya (Bhiwani, Haryana) Gold in 57-kg category.
  - Minakshi Hooda (Rohtak, Haryana) Gold in 48-kg category.
- Historic achievement for Indian women's boxing and Haryana's boxing legacy.

### 2. Jaismine Lamboriya (Bhiwani)

- Age: 24 years.
- Defeated: Julia Szeremeta (Poland) Paris Olympics silver medallist.
- Victory margin: 4-1 verdict.
- Comes from Bhiwani, often called "Little Cuba of India" for producing world-class boxers.
- Uncle: Parminder Lamboriya, three-time national champion, runs Bhiwani Boxing Club.
- Emotional family background: survived as a lucky child after her mother lost two daughters.

### 3. Minakshi Hooda (Rohtak)

- Age: 24 years.
- Defeated: Nazym Kyzaibay (Kazakhstan) Paris Olympics bronze medallist.
- Family background: Father is an auto-rickshaw driver; she works as a constable with Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).
- Famous father's quote: "Meri chhori duniya jeetegi" (My daughter will conquer the world).

### 4. Haryana's Boxing Legacy

- Bhiwani Boxing Club:
  - Founded in late 1990s by Jagdish Singh.
  - Produced Vijender Singh (2008 Beijing Olympics bronze) & many others.
  - Called the cradle of Indian boxing.
- Rise of women boxers: Post-2000, Bhiwani also became a hub for female boxing talent.
- Notable: Meena Kumari, national champion, also trained here.

# SAMBHAV Secures Military Communicati

India has made leap in defence technology with the deployment of SAMBHAV, its first fully indigenous secure mobile communication system.

This development was prominently showcased during Operation Sindoor in 2025. '

The Indian Army used SAMBHAV-enabled smartphones instead of foreign apps, ensuring secure and encrypted communication free from external surveillance.

This marks a milestone in India's journey towards technological sovereignty and digital security in defence.

What is SAMBHAV?

Launched in 2023,
SAMBHAV is India's first
secure mobile
communication platform
designed specifically for
defence use.

It operates independently of commercial networks and supports real-time connectivity through 5G-enabled devices.

The system uses multi-layer encryption to prevent hostile surveillance or cyberattacks.

Its core application, M-Sigma, offers encrypted messaging, file sharing, and multimedia exchange.

SAMBHAV is networkagnostic, meaning it works securely across different communication infrastructures without compromising data integrity.

# Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, 2027

Pakistan Prime Minister
Shehbaz Sharif announced that
Pakistan will host the Shanghai
Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
Summit in 2027 and has
directed authorities to begin
preparations in Islamabad.

The next SCO summit is scheduled to take place in 2026 in Bishkek

### • Establishment & Headquarters:

- Established: June 15, 2001, in Shanghai, China.
- <u>Charter Signed:</u> 2002 (St. Petersburg), entered into force on **19 September 2003**.
- **Headquarters:** Beijing, China.



### Membership:

- 10 Full Members: China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Belarus (latest).
- <u>2 Observer States:</u> Afghanistan, Mongolia.

### **Annual Rotation:**

- The Chairmanship of the SCO rotates annually among member states, following the Russian alphabetical order of country names.
- The member holding the Chairmanship hosts the Council of Heads of State (CHS) Summit that year.

# Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary

<ul> <li>Madhya Pradesh has initiated a cheetah mating programme in Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary to create a second viable home for cheetahs after Kuno National Park.</li> </ul>



### What It Is?

- A protected sanctuary known for its rich biodiversity and mixed deciduous forests.
- <u>Location</u>: Situated on the northern boundary of **Mandsaur and Neemuch districts**, Madhya Pradesh, adjoining Rajasthan.
- Established: Notified in 1974 and expanded in 1983.
- <u>Geography:</u> Spread over **368.62 sq. km**, bisected by the **Chambal River**, with grasslands and dry forests ideal cheetah habitat.

### Flora & Fauna:

- Dominated by Khair, Salai, Kardhai, Tendu, Palash trees.
- Fauna includes chinkara, sambar, nilgai, leopard, wild dog, otter, peacock and mugger crocodile.

# Government Announced Annual Licensing Policy for Cultivation of Opium Poppy

• The annual licensing policy for opium cultivation is announced under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Rules, 1985.

### About

- India is the world's only country legally producing opium gum for medicinal and scientific purposes under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.
- Cultivation is strictly regulated by the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
- States permitted: Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh (specific notified tracts).

### **Conditions:**

- Farmers must obtain a license each year.
- Required to achieve Minimum Qualifying Yield (MQY) of morphine content in latex.
- Entire produce must be tendered to CBN; government fixes procurement price

Opium and derived alkaloids (morphine, codeine, thebaine) are critical for palliative care, pain management, and essential narcotic drugs

## F404-IN20 Engine

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has ordered **99 F404-IN20** engines from the US firm **GE Aerospace for the LCA Mk-1A fighter** aircraft.
  - India signed a **contract in 2021** with GE for F404-IN20 engines for HAL to use in the Tejas Mk1A.
- About F404-IN20
- The F404-IN20 is a variant of the GE (General Electric) F404 family of afterburning turbofan engines. It is tailored for India's LCA Tejas Mk1/Mk1A fighter jets.
  - It is the highest thrust version in the F404 line.

## Disaster Risk Index (DRI)

• Himachal Pradesh CM urged reframing of the **Disaster Risk Index (DRI)**, arguing the Himalayan region faces unique hazards not captured adequately.

### Disaster Risk Index (DRI)

 The Disaster Risk Index (DRI) generally refers to a measure combining hazard exposure, vulnerability, and capacity/resilience of geographic units.

•

In India, the DRI is used to identify which states/UTs are most vulnerable to disasters — not just based on natural hazards but also:

- how many people are exposed,
- how much population/agriculture/economy might be affected, infrastructure preparedness, etc.

Prepared by the 15th Finance Commission (2017–2025).

14 hazard types considered: Earthquake, Cyclone, Flood, Drought, Landslide, Tsunami, Avalanche, Heat Wave, Cold Wave, Coastal Erosion, Forest Fire, Fire, Industrial Hazards, Lightning.

The indices are worked out at the district (census district) level (640 districts, per Census 2011) and then aggregated to State/UT level.

### Word of the day

### **Rescind:**

cancel officially

Synonyms: reverse, revoke, vacate

**Usage:** The company decided to rescind the job offer.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/rescindpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /rɪsɪnd/



