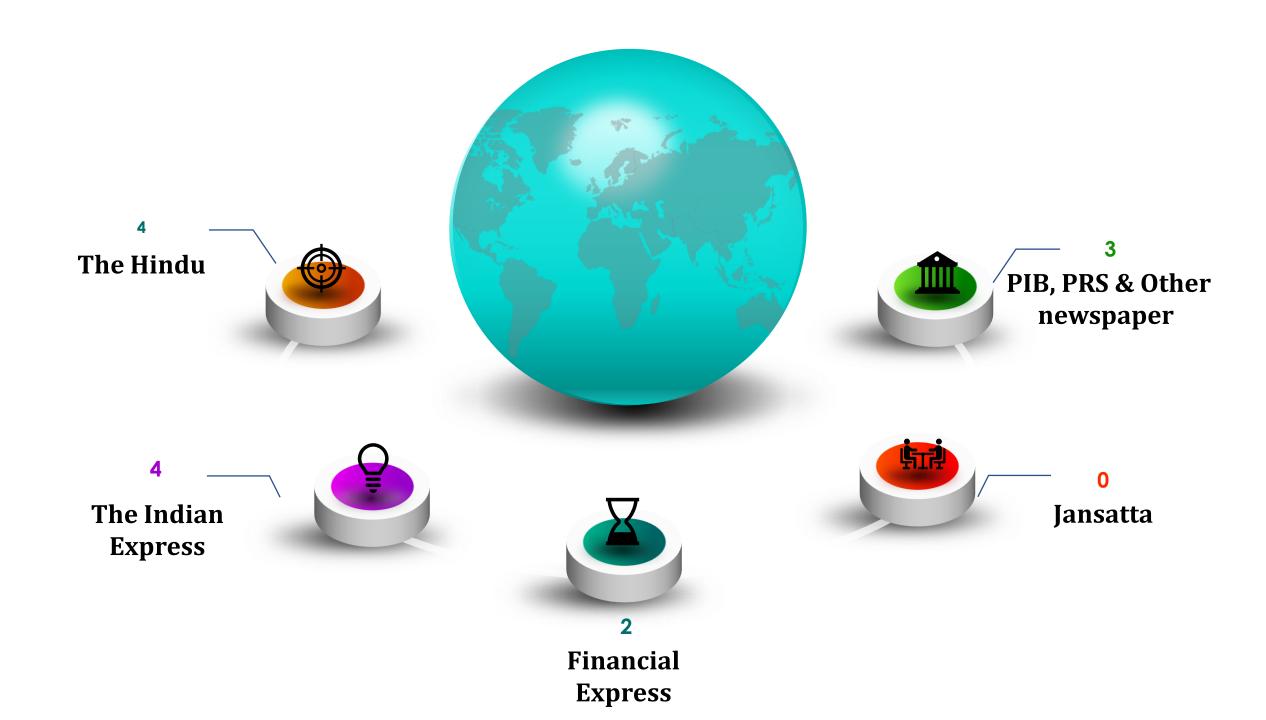
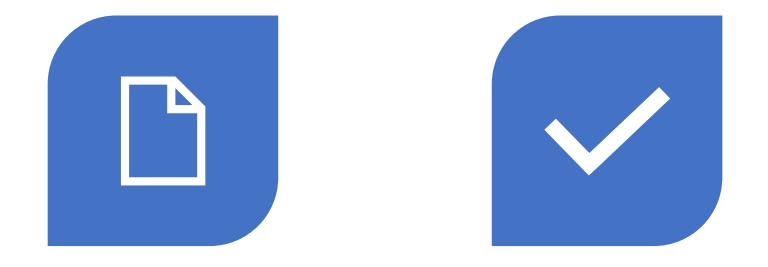
Daily Current Affairs







Download class24









Home Partner with

Exams ~

Current Affairs



About us



Daily Current Affairs PDF, GK Updates & Quizzes 2025 Class24 – PDF Downloads & Key Topic Updates

Daily Current Affairs by Class24: Download PDFs, Attempt Quizzes, and Learn Current Affairs Across Various Regions and

Sections

Attempt Daily Current Affairs Quiz

- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 17, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 16, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 15, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 14, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 12, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 11, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 10, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 09, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 08, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 07, 2025
- Daily Current Affairs Quiz Apr 05, 2025
- Older Date Current Affairs Quiz

🔽 18 April



Trending Current Affairs

- Budget MCQs 2025-26, Download Free PDF
- Decline in Harvana Sex Ratio at Birth 2024
- Haryana Unveils 'Samman Sanjeevani' App on National Girl Child Day for Women's Empowerment
- Assam to Host the World Largest Jhumur Festival
- Sahitva Akademi Recognizing Exce Literature

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD

FREE RESOURCE NOW!



Padma Awards 2020. Full LISCOR cipients and Key Highlights

> a Skills Report 2025: Unlocking blovability and Bridging the Skills



Download Daily Current Affa PDF

CIASS24

Daily Current Affairs News, PDF : Stay Prepared with Class24's Daily Updates

Stay ahead in your exam preparation with Class24's Daily Current Affairs PDF. Our expertly curated PDF documents provide you with a comprehensive summary of the latest national and international news, covering important topics for exams like SSC, Banking, UPSC, and RRB. Download the PDF daily and get a quick overview of crucial current affairs, ensuring you're wellprepared for the General Knowledge section of your competitive exams.

p Daily Current Affairs in PDF: Boost Your GK Knowledge Competitive Exams

top daily current affairs delivered to your device with Class24's PDF This resource highlights the most essential news from politics,

Boost Your Preparation with the 2024 Solved Question Paper & Expert Answers 👉















States



"We accept the love we think we deserve."

- Stephen Chbosky, The Perks of Being a Wallflower

tags: inspirational, love



Averted nuclear conflict

Will mediate on

nounced the "understand-

nounced the "understand-ing" to pause firing and military action, Mr. Trump had said in a post on Truth Social on May 10 that the U.S. had mediated bet-ween India and Pakistan, leading to a "full and im-

mediate ceasefire". The an-

India asserts J&K stand after U.S. claims

Kashmir a 'bilateral' issue to be addressed within the framework of India-Pakistan ties, says MEA U.S. held against the backdrop of Operation Sindoor a possible escalation involving a nuclear scenario

Clearing the air | India rebuts Trump's statements against the backdrop of Operation Sindoor, the understanding between India and Pakistan

I No hvo

nouncements from the In-

nouncements from the In-dian side were made by Foreign Secretary Vikram Minister S. Jaishankar the-reafter. Pakistan's Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar an-nounced the "ceasefire with immediate affoct" the

with immediate effect" the

Agreement directly via DGMOs; it was requested by Pak, due to 'effective' IAF str

Talks will be bilateral, and topic will be

No such discussion planned

assion on trade with U.S. during



Callol Bhattacheriee

R President Donald Trump's remarks on the Kashmir issue, India on Tuesday reiterated its

"long-standing national position" that regards Jam-mu and Kashmir as a "bi-lateral" issue to be ad-dressed within the framework of India-Pakis-tan ties.

tan ties. External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jais-wal said the only subject India wished to raise was Pakistan-occupied Kash-mir (PoK) and that the mat-ter of India-U.S. trade did wor forgue in the relephone

ter of india-U.S. trade did not figure in the telephone conversations the leader-ship of India and the U.S. held against the backdrop

Back to school

Suhasini Haidar KEW DELHI

Saudis bet on U.S. arms as Trump basks in welcome

RIYADH

Saudi Arabia on Tuesday promised billions of dollars in deals with U.S. from defence to Al as it threw a lavish welcome for President Donald Trump o the first state visit of his ond term. to PAGE 14

BJP set to start 'Tiranga Yatra' across Bihar

The BJP is all set to start a The BJP is all set to start a nine-day 'Tiranga Yatra' across Bihar from Wednesday to celebrate Operation Sindoor. It drew criticism from Opposition for ''politicising'' the military response to the Pahalgam terror attack. >> PAGE 2

Pollachi sexual assault case: nine get life sentence

COIMBATORE The Mahila Court in Coimbatore on Tuesday found all nine accused in the Pollachi sexual assault case guilty and entenced them to life ment for the rest of their lives. » PAGE 2

Israeli strike on hospital in Gaza kills journalist

KHAN YOUNIS ael's military said it struck a Gaza hospital housing militants, in a raid on Tuesday that, according to Hamas, killed a journalist being treated after an Israeli attack last th. > PAGE 14



against them.

21 dead, 10 hospitalised in critical condition after drinking spurious liquor in Amritsar

of Operation Sindoor, which targeted nine terror locations inside Pakistan and Pok on May 7. "We have a long-stand-

ing national position that any issues pertaining to the Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir have

to be addressed by India and Pakistan bilaterally. That stated policy has not

changed," Mr. Jaiswal said, adding, "The outstanding matter is the vacating of il-legally occupied Indian ter-

legally occupied Indian ter-ritory [PoK] by Pakistan." Mr. Trump, who has been speaking on his be-hind-the-scene role in bringing the hostilities bet-ween India and Pakistan to a pause, doubled down on the same in a speech in

the same in a speech in Saudi Arabia capital Ri-yadh on Tuesday.

Shortly before India an-

Ishita Mishra

As many as 21 people bet-ween 26 and 80 years of age died and 10 have been ospitalised in critical conditions after they consumed spurious liquor in Maiitha in Amritsar distric of Puniab on Tuesday, the police said.

The deaths have been The deaths have been reported in Patalpuri, Kar-nala, Marari Kalan, Bhan-gali, and Therewal villages in the intervening night between Monday and Tuesday.

Tuesday. The district administra-tion deployed medical teams, which went door-to-door in the affected vil-lages to check on people suspected to have con-sumed the brew. Preliminary investiga-

In tears: Relatives grieve after the death of a man v spurious liquor in Amritsar, Punjab, on Tuesday. ANI n who consumed

anala, Marari Kalan, Bhan-gali, and Therewal willages in their several bank in manuface. Purplet, on Diseder and Distribution deployee medical earns, which went door door in the affected vii-tion deployee medical manual secured in the spurious lips. The several back is an ob-door in the affected vii-ting the several local distribu-tion several local distribution several local

firm is in transit, the officer Station House Officer Avtar Singh have been suspend-ed for gross negligence in added. Excise and Police teams have been dis-patched to retrieve and discharging duties, which seize the consignment as resulted in the fatal incisoon as it arrives Punjab CM Bhagwant dent. Departmental inqui-ries have been initiated

Mann said those responsi-ble for the deaths would Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Amritsar not be spared. He stressed that such crimes could not be carried out without the (Rural), Maninder Singh eaid that local distributor political patronage of po-werful politicians, and ad-Prabhjeet Singh had re-ceived methanol filled in werful politicians, and ad-ded that this angle was be-ing investigated. "These are not deaths but mur-ders", the added that links had been traced up to Del-hi and every person in-volved in this crime would be put behind the bars. "The CM announced a beat to the families of the deceased.



T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan

same evening

Retail inflation in India eased for the sixth straight month in April 2025, fall-ing to 3.16% – its lowest le-vel in 69 months. The fall in prices has been driven in large part by sharply easing food prices, especially those of vegetables and pulses. The monthly Consumer Price ased for the sixth straight monthly Consumer Price Index released by the Ministry of Statistics and Pro-gramme Implementation stood at 3.34% in March 2025, and had been falling consistently since Octobe 2024, when it had hit a 14-month high of 6.21%.

PULL REPORT

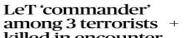
Southwest monsoon advances into Andaman Sea

Iacob Koshy NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) an-nounced on Tuesday that the southwest monsoon has advanced into some parts of the south Bay of Bengal, the south Andaman Sea, Nicobar Islands, and parts of the north An-daman Sea.

Usually, the monsoon system takes about 10 days to reach mainland India from this region, although the agency has not yet re vealed a date for the monvealed a date for the mon-soon's onset over Kerala. The agency is expected to announce an official date later this month.

FULL REPORT 111 (



clear missiles," Mr. Trump said in a speech at the Sau-di-U.S. Investment Forum,

He praised Secretary of State Marco Rubio and

Vice-President J.D. Vance for the pause in military ac-tion between India and Pa-kistan. However, Mr. Jais-

wal pushed back on the

reference to trade. He said Operation Sindoor was



eeping vigil: CRPF vehicles are seen at the site following an iter with terrorists in Shopian on Tuesday. AN

Heerpora on May 18, 2024. Press Trust of India On April 26 last month days after the Pahalgam at A top Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander was among three terrorists killed in an encounter with tack, authorities razed the residential house belonging to Kuttay. Kuttay, active for the last security forces in Shopian district of Jammu and three to four years, is in-volved in many anti-na-Kashmir on Tuesday, offitional activities, the officiple said cials said. Shafi, a resident of Wan-Based on a specific in-put about the presence of terrorists in the Shakroo Kashnir district, security forces launched a cordon-terrorist of the station. Op-eration turned into an en-counter after the terrorists counter after the terrorists sonnel who retailated. In the exchange of fire, three counter after the terrorists have been been been been been longed to Leff. He identi-commander Shahid Kattay Based on a specific in-Shafi, a resident of Wan-duna Melhora area of Sho-pian, joined the terror ranks in October 2024 and was a category "C" terro-rist. He was involved in the killing of a non-local la-bourer at Wachi, Shopian on October 18, 2024, the official said. Lookout posters

Posters have appeared in different parts of Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district announcing a reward of ₹20 lakh for information about three terrorists in-volved in the Pahalgam tercommander Shahid Kuttay and Adnan Shafi. The iden ror attack that left 26 civitity of the third terrorist is being ascertained. lians dead, mostly tourists. officials said on Tuesday

Kuttay, a resident of Chotipora Heerpora area of Shopian, joined the ter-ror ranks in March 2023. The posters, pasted at several places in the south Kashmir district, have photographs of the three terro He was a category "A" ter-rorist and a top comman-der of the outfit, the official rists who are believed to have carried out the April der of the obtain, me said. He said Kuttay was in-volved in several terror in-cidents and anti-national activities, including the killing of a https://arpanch.at

have carried out the April 22 attack in Baisaran mea-dows in the tourist resort in south Kashmir. The posters said, "those who killed the innocents do not have a place in our country".

ABX











trade. If you don't stop it, trade. If you don't stop it, we're not going to do any trade," Mr. Trump said. "I think it could have been a bad nuclear war. Millions of people could have been killed. So I'm very proud of that," he added.

Mr. Trump, who reached Saudi Arabia on Tuesday,

'Historic ceasefire'

reiterated his offer to pro-mote trade and said his ad-ministration brought about a "historic ceasefire" bet-"entirely in the conven tional domain", denying Mr. Trump's claims of a possible escalation involv-

Clearing the air I India rebuts Trump's statements against the backdrop of Operation Sindoor, the understanding between India and Pakistan

	Trump/Rubio statements	MEA response	5		
	U.S. brokered India- Pakistan ceasefire	8			
	Averted nuclear conflict	Military action in conventional domain only	100		
	Threatened to stop trade	atened to stop No discussion on trade with U.S. during Operation Sindoor			
	Will mediate on Kashmir	Talks will be bilateral, and topic will be PoK's return	N		
	Hyphenated India and Pakistan	No hyphenation; international community stands with India on terrorism	9		
	India and Pakistan to talk at neutral venue	No such discussion planned	-		

THE HINDU News

Top court seeks Uttarakhand's reply to contempt plea

THE R P. LEWIS CO.

the order dated April 17,

the respondents/alleged contemnors have demol-

contemnors have demol-ished the dargah in ques-tion in the dark of the night without even granting an opportunity of hearing or any notice," the plea said. It claimed that the of-

fending action was under

taken on a drive conducted

by the authorities in Dehra dun. The plea also referred

to the apex court's Novem-ber 13, 2024 verdict which

ber 13, 2024 verdict which laid down pan-India guide-lines and barred demoli-tion of properties without a prior show-cause notice and 15 days' time to the ag-grieved party to respond. The plea contended that the action of the State offi-cials was in direct contra-

cials was in direct contra-vention of the April 17 or-der which recorded the

statement given by Solici-tor General Tushar Mehta,

who was appearing for the Centre in the matter relat-

ed to the Waqf (Amend-ment) Act, 2025.

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday decided to exa-Tuesday decided to exa-mine a contempt petition filed against the Uttarak-hand Chief Secretary and other State officials for the alleged demolition of a waqf property in breach of an undertaking given to the court on April 17. The Union generation

The Union government had, on April 17, underta-ken to ensure that there ken to ensure that there would be no change in the status or character of waqf properties during the pen-dency of a challenge to the Waqf Amendment Act of A Bench of Justices B.R.

Gavai and A.G. Masih issued notice to the respon dents, including Uttarak-hand Chief Secretary Anand Bardhan and other district and municipal officers

The petitioner, Mehfooz Ahmed, claimed that the Dargah Hazrat Kamal Shah in Uttratkhand was demol-ished without any prior mumming or nettoo on the warning or notice on the intervening night of April 25-26. He claimed the dar-gah was registered as a waqf property in 1982, not-ified as a waqf in 1986 and mapped in Waqf Asset Management System of In-

"In teeth of the above undertaking as recorded in

Feeling the heat



ty of summer picks up. G.N. RAO

Southwest monsoon has advanced into Andaman Sea: IMD

Heavy rainfall, accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning, expected over Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu this week



Weather forecasts predict heavy rain in south peninsular India over the week, FILE PHOTO

monsoon rainfall, defined as 5% more than the historover central India and sus tain the southwest monsoon until the end of

ical average of 87 cm. If this prediction holds true, it would be a second September. "Rainfall accompanied true, it would be a second year of "above normal" rain. Last year, India re-ceived rainfall 8% above the historical average from June to September. In 2024, the southwest monsoon set in over Kerala on Meri 20 true dwor hofes "Rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning will likely conti-nue over south peninsular India and adjoining central India for the next five days, with heavy rainfal also ex-pected over Andhra Pra-desh. Karnataka, Kerala, on May 30, two days before the normal date and a day desh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu this week. before the forecast date of May 31. It was also unusual Heavy to very heavy rain-fall accompanied by thunin that both branches of

tail accompanied by thun-derstorms and lightning is likely over northeast India during the next five days," the IMD said in a statement on Tuesday. the monsoon simultane-ously set in over northeast India and Kerala. The two

PM calls for targeted | Push for dams intervention in TB elimination efforts

Bindu Shajan Perappadan NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday under-scored the importance of targeted interventions and the fight against taberculo-sis, while chairing a high-level review meeting on the National TB Elimina-tion Programme (NTEP) at his official residence.

The Prime Minister em-hasised the need to anaphasised the need to ana-lyse TB patient data based on urban-rural distinctions and occupational catego-ries. "This will help identiceives tes. "This will near sec-ly vulnerable groups re-quiring early testing and treatment, especially setruction.

workers in construction. mining, textile and other high-risk sectors," Mr. Modi observed. Highlighting the curabilper lakh population bet-ween 2015 and 2023 - dou-

Highlighting the curabil-ity of TB with regular treat-ment, the Prime Minister said the public must be made more aware, with less fear and more sup-port. He called upon Nikshay Mitra – volunteers woolcompe digital plat-form and interactive bechforms and interactive tech

nologies to engage with pa-tients effectively. He reiterated the role of public participation and cleanliness in the elimina-tion strategy, and stressed

the importance of ensur-ing that each patient re-

at Arunachal Cabinet meet near border

Rahul Karmakar

The Arunachal Pradesh Ca

binet, in its first meeting near the China border or near the China border on Tuesday, went a step closer to implementing five mega hydroelectric power pro-jects, it approved the for-mation of NEEPCO Aruna-chal Hydro Power Corporation Ltd., a joint venture of the State go-werment and the North 6 een 2015 and 2023, there vernment and the North Eastern Electric Powe Corporation Ltd., a Centra uninterrupted beroes uninterrupted treatment. During the meeting, the Prime Minister reviewed encouraging data from the World Health Organiza-tion's Global TB Report 2024, which notes an 18% reduction in TB incidence in India - from 237 to 195



PSU. The company i tasked with implementin tasked with implementing five projects in Shi-Yom district – Heo, Hirong Naying, and Tato I and IL. Chaired by Chief Minis ter Pema Khandu, the Ca binet meeting was held at Kibithu, India's eastern-most town, about 15 km from the Line of Actual Control separating the State from Tibet, in Anjaw ween 2015 and 2023 - dou-ble the global pace. TB mortality in India fell by 21%, and treatment cover-age rose to 85%. Officials also presented updates on key infrastruc-ture the parts and end district. The choice of Ki district. The choice of Ri-bithu, at more than 4,000 feet above the mean sea le-vel, as the venue was signif-icant in light of the India-Pakistan conflict. The Cabinet approved modifications in the State these Berger Bellen, 2000

ture enhancements under NTEP, including the expansion of the TB diagnostic network to 8,540 NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplifica-tion Testing) laboratories Hydro Power Policy, 2008, and the Local Area Development Fund Guidelines 2022. This would allow and 87 culture and drug susceptibility testing labs. The current diagnostic in-frastructure includes over 26 200 X rescutite. contribution of 1% of frepower by producers on be half of the State govern half of the State govern ment to local area develop

+nontron the second s

Issue of duplication of EPIC numbers resolved, says Election Commission

Sreeparna Chakraba

The Election Commissio The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday said it had resolved the long-pending problem of duplication of voter ID card numbers and issued fresh elector photo identity cards (EPIC) to those who faced the issue. The 10-digit EPIC num ber is issued by the EC to each elector. The number is a unique alphanumeric code assigned to each re-gistered elector to prevent npersonation. West Bengal Chief Miniswest Bengai Chief Minis-ter Mamata Banerjee had earlier alleged that multi-ple voters in the State had the same EPIC number.

The Congress too had raised the issue EC sources said that in order to resolve the pro-blem of duplication of numbers, the entire data-

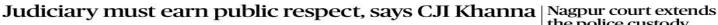
On average, about one voter in four polling stations faced the duplication issue, sources said. base of over 99 crore elec-

the EC told The Hindu. Flagging the issue of EP-IC number duplication in Your State of the State of the Contre, "with the blessings of Election Commission of thers from other States in the West Bengal voters" list. base of over 99 crore elec-tors was searched by the Chief Electoral Officers (CEO) of all the 36 States and Union Territories and electoral registration offic-ers of all the 4,123 Assemb-base entities in all the ly constituencies in all the 10.5 lakh polling stations. It was found that on average, about one voter in four polling stations faced the poining stations faced the issue of EPIC number du-plication, they added. There are nearly 1,000 electors per polling station. said that irrespective of the EPIC number, a person can cast vote only once at their designated polling stations in their respective consti-

"During the field-level verification, it was found that holders of such similar EPIC numbers were ge-different polling sta-different polling sta-tions. All such electors have since been issued new EPICs with new num-bers," a senior official of Elector the issued of ED.

er-up" and it was impossible for voters in two different constituencies to have the same EPH number, citing the panel's own handbook.

"Will not impact results" Every voter's name is on the electoral roll of the polling station where she is an ordinary resident. Having similar EPIC numbers never enabled any such Two days later, the EC person to vote at any othe polling station. Thus, the issue of duplication of EPIC numbers could not hav impacted the results of any elections, it said.



Krishnadas Rajagopal

Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna indicated on Tues-day that a simple process of weighing the pros and cons, being decisive and letting posterity determine for itself whether he took the right call of duty helped the Supreme Court steer through the two sepasteer through the two sepa-rate controversies of judi-cial misconduct by High Court judges during his te-nure as top judge. In an informal interac-tion with journalists at the Sourcemen Court Broset

Supreme Court Press lounge after he held court for the last time on his final day as top judge, Chief Jus-tice Khanna said the judicion Chief Justice Khanna's achievements as top judge during a short six-month tenure, which also saw the court deal with the controtice knanna said the judici-ary had to earn public res-pect, not try to command it. He spoke later in the day about the worrying aspect of "truth deficit" in the le-gal profession, saying it onversy over Allahabad High Court judge Justice Shek-har Yadav's allegedly com-

CM



"Chief Justice Khanna showed firm and princi-pled leadership in addressing instances of judicial misconduct. In two such instances, he acted with discretion and resolve, tak-Disclosure of assets discretion and resolve, tak-ing appropriate steps to uphold the dignity of the court while maintaining the confidence and trust of Disclosure of assets Listing the reforms intro-duced by Chief Justice Khanna, Justice Gavai re-ferred to the collective de-



Courts. In his own speech at his farewell, Chief Justice Khanna conveyed his relief about the apex court havabout the apex court nav-ing achieved a case clea-rance ratio of over 100%, reaching 106.6%. "In sim-ple terms, the Supreme Court disposed of more cases than were filed, al-

lowing us to reduce the backlog for the first time in four years," he explained. "Chief Justice Khanna has demonstrated that im-pact is not measured by the length of time in office but the day that of one room but the day that of one room but the day that the second but the day the second but the but th not about creating a spec-tacle or making noise for tacle or making noise for the spectrum of the spectrum escape of the spectrum escape of the spectrum and in his address. Attorney-General R. Vochstaramment spectrum change of the spectrum change of t not about creating a spec-Justice Gaval, who is tak-ing oath as the SZnd Chief Justice of India on May 14, said the role of a Chief Jus-tice of India was not one of power but of profound du-ty.

the police custody of Kerala journalist

said on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Vinaya Deshpande Pandit moved an application seek A Nagpur court on Tues-day extended the police custody of Kerala-based ining that the transcripts of the documents in the remand papers be provided dependent journalist Rejaz M. Sheeba Sydeek for two to him in English. "The police said that af M. Sheeba Sydeek for two days after the Nagpur pol-ice said that seizures made from the accused necessi-tated his custodial probe. "The alleged offence is serious in nature. There-fore, for the purpose of in-terior distance of the term of the purpose of the said for proper investigater searches and seizure ter searches and seizures at his home town, they had found mobile phone, pen drives. They also said that they needed to probe him about the fresh seizures," a lummer composer that Mr. Su and for proper investiga-tion of the crime, a sufficient opportunity needs to

cient opportunity needs to be given to the investigat-ing officer. Hence, I am in-clined to extend police cus-tody remand of the accused," Nilesh Patil, Judi-cial Magistrate, First Class,



gued that Mr. Sydeek was an independent journalist that the seizures had no been made in his presence and that his custodial in quiry was not required.

he has

said India is likely to re-ceive "above normal"

10 days to reach mainland

India from this region, although the agency has not yet revealed a date for

the monsoon's onset over

The agency is expected

The agency is expected to announce an official date later this month, and uses a custom forecast mo-del for this purpose. The normal onset date of the monsoon over Kerala is

June 1. Meteorologists have stated that an early arrival in the Andaman Sea would not necessarily mean the

monsoon would reach Ker-

month, the IMD

une 1.

ala earlier.

acob Koshy

PM calls for targeted intervention in TB elimination efforts

<u>Bindu Shajan Perappadan</u> NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday underscored the importance of targeted interventions and technology-led outreach in the fight against tuberculosis, while chairing a highlevel review meeting on the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) at his official residence.

The Prime Minister emphasised the need to analyse TB patient data based on urban-rural distinctions and occupational categories. "This will help identify vulnerable groups requiring early testing and treatment, especially workers in construction, mining, textile and other high-risk sectors," Mr. Modi observed.

Highlighting the curability of TB with regular treatment, the Prime Minister said the public must be made more aware, with less fear and more support. He called upon *Nikshay Mitra* – volunteers who support TB patients, to leverage digital platforms and interactive technologies to engage with patients effectively.

He reiterated the role of public participation and cleanliness in the elimination strategy, and stressed the importance of ensuring that each patient reBetween 2015 and 2023, there has been an 18% reduction in TB incidence in India.

ceives uninterrupted treatment.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister reviewed encouraging data from the World Health Organization's Global TB Report 2024, which notes an 18% reduction in TB incidence in India - from 237 to 195 per lakh population between 2015 and 2023 - double the global pace. TB mortality in India fell by 21%, and treatment coverage rose to 85%.

Officials also presented updates on key infrastructure enhancements under NTEP, including the expansion of the TB diagnostic network to 8,540 NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing) laboratories and 87 culture and drug susceptibility testing labs. The current diagnostic infrastructure includes over 26,700 X-ray units.

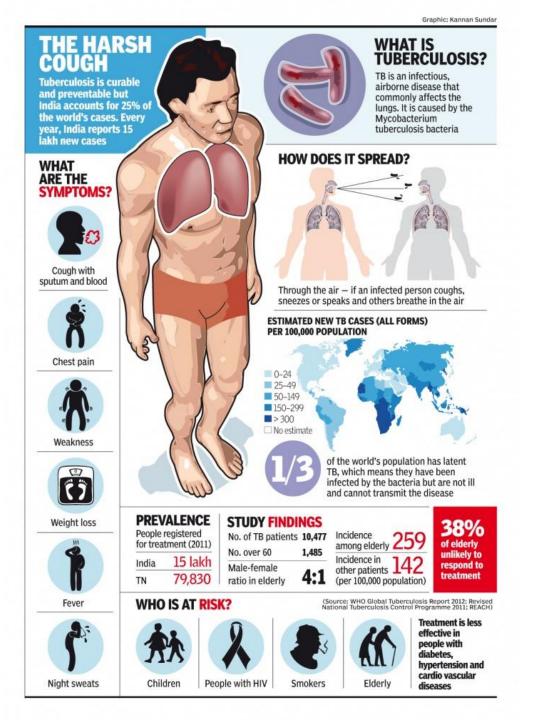


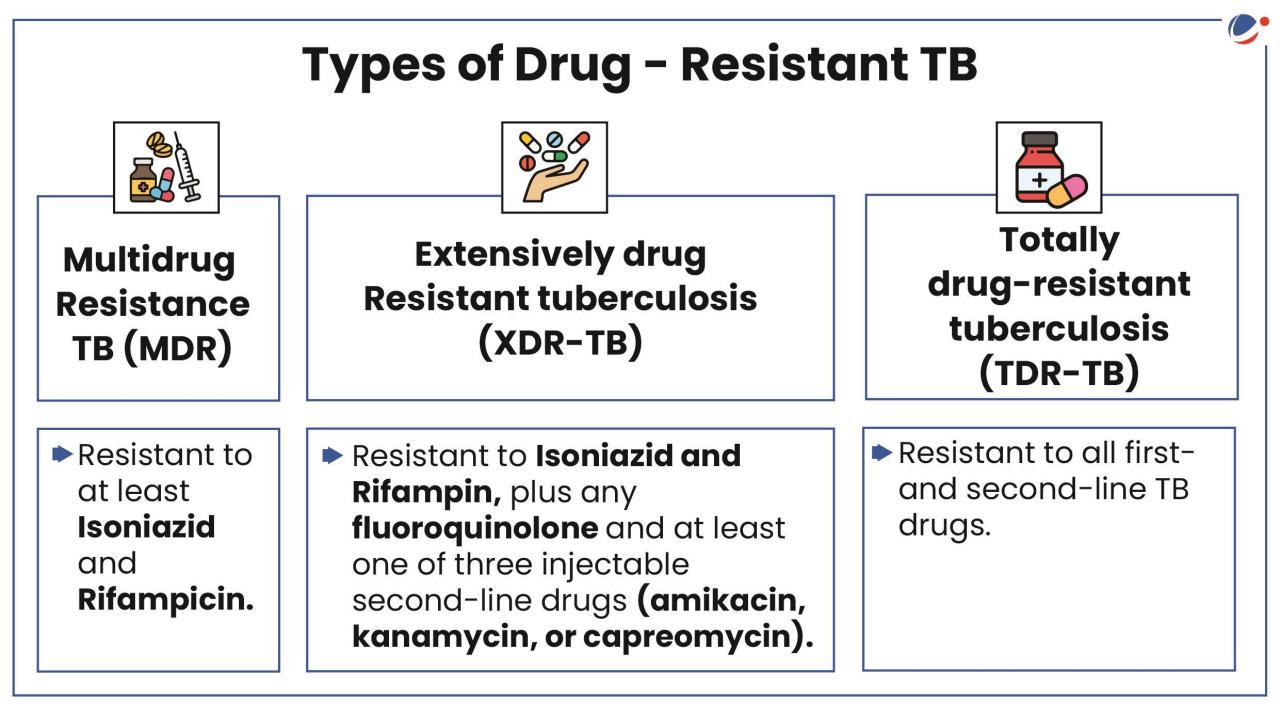
Key Points:

- 1. Prime Minister's Emphasis on Targeted Intervention:
 - PM Narendra Modi stressed the importance of targeted interventions and technology-led outreach to combat tuberculosis (TB).
 - Chaired a high-level review meeting on the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).
- 2. Focus on Data-Driven Approach:
 - Emphasized the need to **analyze TB patient data** based on:
 - Urban-Rural Distinctions
 - Occupational Categories
 - Aimed at identifying vulnerable groups that require early testing and treatment.

- 3. Vulnerable Sectors Identified:
 - Workers in construction, mining, textile, and other high-risk sectors are more prone to TB infection.
- 4. Importance of Awareness and Community Support:
 - Highlighted TB's curability with regular treatment.
 - Called for increased **public awareness** to reduce fear and promote support.
 - Urged the public to support the Nikshay Mitra initiative, involving volunteers helping TB patients.
- 5. Digital and Community Involvement:
 - Encouraged the use of **digital platforms** and **interactive technologies** for better engagement.
 - Stressed the role of **public participation and cleanliness** in TB elimination.

- 5. Digital and Community Involvement:
 - Encouraged the use of **digital platforms** and **interactive technologies** for better engagement.
 - Stressed the role of **public participation and cleanliness** in TB elimination.
- 6. Progress Achieved (2015-2023):
 - 18% reduction in TB incidence (from 237 to 195 per lakh population).
 - 21% reduction in TB mortality.
 - Treatment coverage increased to 85%.
- 7. Infrastructure Enhancements:
 - Expansion of the TB **diagnostic network** to include:
 - 8,540 NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing) labs.
 - 87 culture and drug susceptibility testing labs.
 - 26,700 X-ray units nationwide.





6

THE HINDU News

India notifies WTO of plan to impose

This comes in retaliation for the imposition of 25% import duties on steel and aluminium by US; India says that proposed measures will be in form of a suspension of concessions or other obligations on selected products originating in the U.S.

India's reciprocal

SUDOKU

7

2

9

Δ

6

2

94

З

5

49

2

6

1

4

VUL

5 7

DIFFICULTY RATING:

date it sent its notification to WTO

retaliatory tariffs on U.S. imports

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

JCI increases MSP of jute to

stop distress selling of crop

The Hindu Bureau

INBRIDE



Air India starts using Mongolian airspace

Air India has started using Mongolian airspace for a few of its North America flights from the national capital as an alternative route for reducing operational costs that have jumped due to the Pakistan airspace closure last month, sources said on Tuesday, Besides, the carrier is busines a mechanical steam biolity of the carrier is having a technical stop in Kolkata for some North America flights from Delhi, they added. With such an arrangement in place, the airline does not have to make a stop in a European city while operating certain long-haul and ultra-long-haul flights from Delhi to North America. pm

IndiGo flights connecting six airports will resume today

IndiGo on Tuesday said scheduled flights from six airports, including Jammu and Amritsar, will progressively resume from Wednesday. On Monday, the airline had cancelled its flights to Monday, the airline had cancelled its flights to and from Jammu, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Leh, Srinagar, and Rajkot for Tuesday. "Each flight is being reinstated with meticulous coordination -ensuring every journey is seamless, secure and on track," IndiGo said in a post on X. These six airports are among the 32 airports that were reintered for certils ablights on Monday after eing temporarily shut. m



While the U.S. had de-clined overtures from In-dia in April for talks over the matter, saying these higher tariffs were not safe-guard measures but were taken in the interest of na-tional security, India has maintained that they are safeguard measures. "The measures have not been notified by the United States to the WTO, but are, in grance, safemuard meain essence, safeguard mea-sures," India asserted in its communication to the WTO. "India maintains ond term, he modified

0 000 that the measures taken by the United States are not consistent with the Gener-al Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1994 (GAT 1994) and Agreement on Safeguards (AoS).² Further, and Agreement on Safeguards (AoS).² further, and the Agreement on under Article 12.3 of the AoS, India had the right to retaliate.

serves the right to suspend concessions or other obli-gations... that are substantially equivalent to the ad-verse effects of the verse effects of the measure to India's trade". India further said that its proposed measures would be in the form of a

measures could kick in 30 days from the suspens on of concessions or other obligations on se-lected products originating in the U.S., which would in effect result in an increase in tariffs on these items.

in tariffs on these items. "India reserves its right to suspend concessions or other obligations after the expiration of thirty days from the date of this notification (May 9, 2025)," it added.

The communication further said that the U.S.

hat the measures taken by easures would affect \$76 billion worth of imports in-to the U.S. from India, on to the U.S. from India, on which the duty collection would be \$1.91 billion. "Accordingly, India's proposed suspension of concessions would result in an equivalent amount of duty collected from pro-ducts originating in the U.S.," it added. India said it would in-form both the Council for retaliate. It added that "India reform both the Council for Trade in Goods and the Committee on Safeguards of the WTO on "the next appropriate steps".

which starts on July 1 fo middle grade jute, and th Not the first time prices for other grades will If India does go ahead with its retaliatory measures, it would not be the first time. In June 2019, India imalso increase in parity. "For the past three or four years, we have been working with the Indian posed higher tariffs on 28 products from the U.S. af-Space Research Organisa tion to help understand products from the U.S. af-ter the U.S. removed India from its Generalised Sys-tem of Preferences (GSP) and refused to discontinue crop cultivation and env ronmental factors, check soil quality, moisture, pro-duction, and more," Moloy duction, and more," Moloy Chandan Chakraborty, Jute Commissioner, said. He said the authorities were doing active data col-lection through remote sensing to mitigate pro-blems and make positive

Girls outshine boys as CBSE declares Class 10, 12 results; marginal increase in pass percentage

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavar

The Hindu Bureau

The Class 10 Board exam The Class 10 Board exami-nation of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) recorded a pass percentage of 93.66 and the Class 12 examination 88.39%. The results were announced here on Tues-day.

lay. There is a marginal increase in the pass percen-tage from last year's in both classes, and girls have outshone boys. In 2024, 87.98% had cleared the Class 12 examination and 93.6% Class 10.

Of the 17 regions in the country, Vijayawada topped the chart in the pass percentage, with 99.6% of the students who appeared for the Class 12 exams clearing all subjects. In the Thiruyananthan uram region, which came second, 99.32% students passed the examination followed 97.39% in Chennai Bengah Delbi

West, and Delhi East re-

TH C R O S SWO R D + 14484

10

22

Husband with irritation about boundless love leading to spiritual awakening? (8)

12 It's a trivial sum, we hear to former Vice-President (8)

This formula was epic! Swear...amazing! (6)
 A hit is humbling (8)

Dry a wet Roan, tied on and off (6)

10

┢

27



School in New Delhi on Tuesday, SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

13

15 18

22 24 25

gions have a pass percen while 85.7% boys and 100% gions have a pass percen-tage of 95.95, 95.37, and 95.06, respectively. Of the 21,782 students who appeared from fo-reign schools, 20,964 passed. transgender students cleared the exam. "Girls have done better than boys by 5.94%," CBSE Examination Controller Sanyam Bhardwaj said in a release. As many as 16,92,794 As many as 24,867 stustudents had appeared for the examination. As much as 91.64% of the girls who dents (1.47%) scored more than 95% in the Class 12 examination In Class 10, the pass perthe Class 10 e

Sneer at casual top and soft shoe (6)

26 Research from broken nails, say (8) 27 Rebel maniac touts sandwiches (3,3)

Strangely | met Lear! Live... (4-4)

21 A short writer meets a biblical character (6) A short writer meets a biblical character (6) Ebenezer, for one has no love for a Spanish bum (8) Trend with each custom and disappear (4,4) Scan reets (intermittently fast forwarding) lol! Entertaining from the beginning (6) Research from broken nalls, say (8)

Spooper's usual chills in shared rides? (3.5)

Spooner's usual chills in shared rides? (3.5)
 Browney (3.7)
 Browney (3.7)
 Browney (3.7)
 Solicitor's nib (4)
 Leo say, reprogrammed 'Cheat with Food Sizing" (4,2,3,6)
 Request popular antioxidant perhaps (6)

Some stone dragon erected in park (6) A pass year, extremely tame for follower (7) Groan! Notice about credit (card history mainly) (7)

Groani Notice about credit (card history mainly) (7)
 Despicable person, say, controls neighbourhood's main croaker, briefly-going up and down (2,3,3)
 Supporte can be heard with e-book (8)
 Port city in Germany? Yes, couple of fellows naturally acclimatised from the beginning (6)
 Plain hard nutrneg bottles brought up (6)
 Ty one whose business is picking up? (4)

Sadly cut my lip, repeatedly in mass? (12) How to make tech order confidential? (3,3,6)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. # https://grgo.page.link/jjpTn



management committee In Class 12, 1.11, 544 can Purnima Sah A fact-finding committee

which was formed to inves-tigate the Goa stampede that occurred on the mornthat occurred on the morn-ing of May 3 during the Lai-rai Jatra festival in Shirgao, North Goa, has recom-mended that the Goa go-vernment dissolve the Shree Lairai temple man-asement committee. Show cause notices Show cause notices have been issued to eight former officials from the district administration, police department and the panchayat. The report made available on Tuesday said that the incident was entirely preventable. "The failure on the part of the organisers is concerned with planning and safety, and not taking cognisance of some untoward incinone in dents in the past. More par-ticularly there being wilful non-compliance with ad-

6

1

3

8

4

5

9

6

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

:::

4 7

Recommendations in Dhonds and lack of proper crowd control meast that location." the report aim to ensure that such incidents do not The committee said that occur in the future' tives, the committee strongly recommends that the government explore the possibility of dissolving the temple management committee, after following due process of law, if felt appropriate," the report read. "The recommenda-tions provided in the report aim to ensure that such incidents do not oc-cur in the future," it said. The report said, "The committee has found that the immediate cause of the stampede was overcrowdstampede was overcrowd-ing on the pathway from Tali to Homkhand, particu-larly at the upper end of the sloped gradient near the RBL Bank Branch, Shirgao, aggravated by the un-ruly behaviour of the trative safety direc

seeks dissolution of temple

The committee said that it was imperative for the organisers either to carry out a comprehensive rises exercise or to cooperate with the authorities and in-corporate their inputs in Pitowever, a review of the minutes of all pre-event meetings conducted re-veals that the organisers formation regarding the formation regarding th expected number of visi-tors, potential risks based on past incidents, or options for alternative routes The committee found that the organisers appear to have disregarded specific instructions issued by the revenue and police author-ities concerning crowd management, instead fo-cusing solely on the con-duct of religious activities." the report said.

FAITH Devi's sindoor

Sarada, Visalakshi, Kamakshi, Devi, Ambal, Amman, the many names by which our Jaganmata, Goddess, is known, is also representative of our country, especially since the very contour of the nation symbolises woman, with Kash-mir being the sindoor, the most auspicious and powerful symbol for a devotee, said Damodara Dikshidhar A fount of kindness, slokas celebrate Her as Vahanti sin

dooram (she has sindoor on her forehead), lalate kashmi ram. Her forehead is Kashmir and Her feet are Kanniyaku mari, and She embraces all devotees and offers Her protection to those who repose faith in Her. It is Amba who can offer peace, both inner and outer. Only when one has faith in Her can one develop inner strength required to face life's many challenges. Sastras tell us what pujas we should undertake and which deity to pray to, in order to merge victoriou

emerge victorious. The second second second second second second second second do during times of danger. The Acharya said think of Devi and sing her verses. Questioning further, the sishya asked, what such smarnam (finking of Her) would bring one, the second s done so

done's no. Chapter 12 of Devi Mahatmyam says, those who repose faith in Her will be freed from all afflictions and endowed work farther states that however difficult a war may be, it is a just one and if warriors and families pray to Her, She will assure them of complete victory.

A PG

The Jute Corporation of In-dia (JC3) has increased the SISD of the SIST of the Courage distress selling of crops by farmers for the The JC1 Officials have al-so asked farmers not to fail into the trap of middlemen and dealers and sell their sure the growth of the sure the growth of the industry. The new MSP will be ap-plicable from the crop year and refused to discontinue its 2018 steel and alumini-um tariffs. The duties – covering \$240 million in trade value – were withdrawn in Sep-tember 2023, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington. Goa stampede: probe panel



India notifies WTO of plan to impose retaliatory tariffs on U.S. imports

This comes in retaliation for the imposition of 25% import duties on steel and aluminium by U.S.; India says that proposed measures will be in form of a suspension of concessions or other obligations on selected products originating in the U.S.

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan NEW DELHI

t a time when India and the U.S. are in talks over a trade deal, fresh tensions have emerged as India has notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of its proposal to impose tariffs on \$7.6 billion worth of imports from the U.S. in retaliation for that country raising its import duties on steel and aluminium to 25%.

According to a communication from the WTO, India's reciprocal measures could kick in 30 days from the date it sent its notification to the WTO – May 9. The WTO said it was circulating the communication "at the request of the delegation of India".

The matter first became a point of friction during U.S. President Donald Trump's first term, when in 2018, he had first imposed higher tariffs on steel and aluminium imports. Then, in February 2025, with effect from March, at the start of his second term, he modified



India's move to impose tariffs on American imports is in response to the U.S. raising its import duties on steel. REUTERS

this by imposing tariffs of 25% on imports of steel and aluminium and removing all country-specific and product-specific exemptions that most countries had managed to obtain.

While the U.S. had declined overtures from India in April for talks over the matter, saying these higher tariffs were not safeguard measures but were taken in the interest of national security, India has maintained that they are India's reciprocal measures could kick in 30 days from the date it sent its notification to WTO

safeguard measures.

"The measures have not been notified by the United States to the WTO, but are, in essence, safeguard measures," India asserted in its communication to the WTO. "India maintains that the measures taken by the United States are not consistent with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1994 (GATT 1994) and Agreement on Safeguards (AoS)."

Further, it said that since the U.S. did not hold mandatory consultations under Article 12.3 of the AoS, India had the right to retaliate.

It added that "India reserves the right to suspend concessions or other obligations... that are substantially equivalent to the adverse effects of the measure to India's trade".

India further said that its proposed measures would be in the form of a suspension of concessions or other obligations on selected products originating in the U.S., which would in effect result in an increase in tariffs on these items.

"India reserves its right to suspend concessions or other obligations after the expiration of thirty days from the date of this notification (May 9, 2025)," it added.

The communication further said that the U.S.

measures would affect \$7.6 billion worth of imports into the U.S. from India, on which the duty collection would be \$1.91 billion.

"Accordingly, India's proposed suspension of concessions would result in an equivalent amount of duty collected from products originating in the U.S.," it added.

India said it would inform both the Council for Trade in Goods and the Committee on Safeguards of the WTO on "the next appropriate steps".

Not the first time

If India does go ahead with its retaliatory measures, it would not be the first time. In June 2019, India imposed higher tariffs on 28 products from the U.S. after the U.S. removed India from its Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and refused to discontinue its 2018 steel and aluminium tariffs.

The duties – covering \$240 million in trade value – were withdrawn in September 2023, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington.

Context:

- India plans to impose **retaliatory tariffs on \$7.6 billion worth of imports** from the U.S.
- This is in response to the U.S. imposing 25% import duties on steel and aluminum from India.

Key Points:

- 1. Reason for Retaliation:
 - The U.S. raised import duties on steel and aluminum to 25%, impacting India's exports.
 - India's response comes after the U.S. did not conduct mandatory consultations as per Article
 12.3 of the Agreement on Safeguards (AoS).
 - The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 also comes into consideration.
- 2. India's Stand:
 - India notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) on May 9 regarding its plan.
 - India maintains that the measures by the U.S. are not consistent with GATT 1994 and AoS.
 - India plans to suspend concessions or obligations on U.S. products to counterbalance the adverse effects.

3. Implementation Timeline:

- The retaliatory tariffs could take effect 30 days from notification to WTO.
- The effective date is May 9, 2025, if the U.S. does not address the issue.
- 4. Economic Impact:
 - Tariff imposition would impact \$7.6 billion worth of U.S. imports into India.
 - Expected **duty collection of \$1.91 billion** from these tariffs.
- 5. Procedure and Next Steps:
 - India will proceed with its retaliatory measures if no resolution occurs within 30 days.
 - India plans to inform both the Council for Trade in Goods and the Committee on Safeguards of the WTO for appropriate actions.
- 6. Past Instances:
 - This is not the first time India has taken such steps:
 - In 2019, India imposed tariffs on 28 products from the U.S. after the U.S. removed India from the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP).

Editorial

-

in m Mirle Surappa

is INSA Senior Scientist at the

ormer Vice-Chancellor, Anna

<u>Gautam R.</u> Desiraju

THE HINDU



8

Prime message India must mobilise global opinion

against Pakistan's nuclear threats rime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation on Monday night and his visit Force in Punjab on the frontlines with Pakistan on Tuesday were reassuring for the nation that Force in Punjab on the frontilines with Pakistan on Tuesday were reasuring for the taiton that Modi reiterated India's revised strategy of res-ponding to terrorism with clarity and resolve. For one, India is no longer willing to concede the fig-lead of an explanation offen off pelaistan pendently of the state. Operation Sindoor is on-going, but is is also a continuation of this new strategic approach which earlier manifested, less successfully, in the surgical strikes of 2016 and tage with Pakistan diplomatically, but only on the central and relevant question of terrorism emanating from that country and the status of Pa-istar occupied Kashmir, Mr. Modi also made it sion to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty. Though with no suspend the Indus Waters Treaty. Though cion to at append the trady Waters Te stary. The ough Mr. Modi din ot directly join issue with U.S. Pre-sident Donald Trump on his claim that his admi-nistration brokered the understanding between his assertion that India would be guided entirely by its national interest in deciding its future course of action. Further moves by India will de-approach of India an Atbe new realities. Mr. Modi's visit to Adampur, 100 km from the border and also a site of India's Russian-made 5400 air defence system, disproved Pakistan's trary face of T. That staid, there is a need to insulate

itary face off. That said, there is a need to insulate strategy face off. That said, there is a need to insulate strategy from populist sloganeering and prime-time TRP wars. India's stakes are high, and they must not be held hostage by the designs of Pakis-tan's terrorists, which are of course unacceptable. Quiet diplomacy and covert operations may not be suitable for TRP media wars but can be ex not be suitable for TRP media wars but can be ex-tremely useful in the pursuit of the country's stra-tegic interests. While India should not be unset-tled by Pakistan's nuclear sabre-ratiling, it is also time India took the lead with other partner coun-tries to start a paw global conversion on the time India took the lead with other partner coun-tries to start a new global conversation on the risks of nuclear weapons. The dangers of a nu-clear conflict are far too serious to be lignored, should be cognisant of that. While India's posi-tion against third-pary interference in India-Pa-kistan relations is a historically established posi-tion, it must also build global opinion against "Pakistan's strategy of terrorism and nuclear blackmail.

Big deal The U.S.-China trade deal will have

implications for India

The trade agreement between the U.S. and China, the two biggest economies in the China, the two biggest economies in the vise tense global trade environment. The U.S. has agreed to temporarily lower, for 90 days, its overall tariffs on Chinese goods, from 145% to

30%, while China will cut its tariffs on American

30%, while China will cut its tariffs on American imports from 125% to 10%. Markets across the world cheered the announcement, jumping between the second second

community heating to me plon harden in my trans-of their bilateral economic and trade relation-ship". However, another view is that his heavy-handed approach has succeeded in convincing China to come to the negotiation table. Tariffs of 145% were unsustainable but served their pur-

pose. The fact also is that Mr. Trump's main grie-vance, of a ballooning trade deficit with China, remains unaddressed. The two sides have agreed

remains unaddressed. The two sides have agreed to continue talks, which will be key in determin-ing whether this seemingly intractable problem can be worked around or result in tensions again. Certainties. If further talks between the U.S. and China are successful, investors who have moved to other countries will likely start viewing China favourably again. The advantages of manufactur-ing there – scale and costs – are still significant. not been able to leverage adecunately. Which start

not been able to leverage adequately, might start to lose its sheen. The other uncertainty is around India's own trade talks with the U.S. It has now in-formed the World Trade Organisation of poten-

tial reciprocal measures to the U.S.'s increased duties on steel and aluminium imports. Even though talks on a U.S.-India trade deal are ongo-

though talks on a U.S.-india trade deal are ongo-ing, this latest statement shows that tensions re-main high. The certainties are two-fold. The first vast and rising, and the U.S.-china agreement will not reduce this. Make in India' is currently inextricably linked to 'import from China'. The second certainty carries over from the first. The second certainty carries over from the first. The bour and land reforms that can allow scalable manufacturing to become cost-effective heres, without this, India will remain dependent on Chinese lupper use dealings with the rest of the terms.

n defending the educational policies of the present government, it has been claimed that education has been freed from the that education has been freed from the shackles of previous governments. Atal Tinkering Labs, coding right from middle school, the recruitment of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled middle Caste/Scheduled Caste/Scheduled stational Education Policy (NEP) 2020 "will enable an educational renaissance". In all these utterances, the seminal point that is forgotten is that our educational system murkerbales. - anamosk the employability of our

marketplace – namely, the employability of our graduates as a workforce. Education has many purposes. It enables, it enervates and elevates. As Vivekananda said, Dehradun, with a citations-to-publications ratio of 102.5

The evaluation of the provided of the stand of the second second

bepti and bepatin. Depti above imparts the technical expertise for employability. Breadth provides flexibility in a rapidly changing Artificial Intelligence-driven ecosystem, where those in the job market need to constantly re-train themselves sold extinctic

A high is note of educated unemployment A high is have, buy editate. Durphores at har any of the NIP recommendations have been put into effect. In 2025, India's overall graduate employability rate is 42.0%, which is practically knowledge-intensive employment in the year 2023 only stands at 11.73%. Multiple entries and estis, a hallmark of NIP, have only created plane and plane and plane and plane and plane.

exits, a hallmark of NEP, have only created low-quality and poorly paying e-commerce jobs. The high rate of educated unemployment today shows that education in India is actually disempowering students. The NEP is a retreat to the Vannevar Bush model of the mid-20th century U.S. without its financial cushioning. The NEP is outdated and financially unviable in the India of 2025. With lip service paid to 'new' ideas such as Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS), mother

tongue learning, changing history textbooks, flexible curricula and a complete absence of methodology to effect its recommendations, the NEP is a dead fish in the water. It depends on controlling the state of the correspondence its eff may be unworkable. It is noteworthy that there was not a single member from industry or the business sectors in the committee that drafted the A good university and the state of the sta is Professor Eme Indian Institute o Science and Distinguished Professor, UPES

In India, education without employment

A good university seamlessly integrates breadth with depth. It is claimed that there has breadth with depth. It is claimed that there has been a remarkable improvement from the past in that II Indian universities are ranked in the top QS World University Rankings (WUR) 500, clearly echoing the selective narrative of Nunzio Quacquarelli, CEO of QS, who was generous in his The second secon government has failed to recognise and understand the commercial implications of QS, THE and similar agencies and the reasons for their skewed and deceptive analyses

A missing transparency on projects Mega research projects were carried out with great fanfare and amidst a media blitz in the pas These included the New Millennium project great funfare and amids a media blitz in the past. (CSIR-NMTL), the \$10 Akash tablet project, and the IMPRINT (IMPacting Research INNovation and Technology) project (MHR). Technology) project (MHR) the public is were in the innerligence of the intended products or processes from these projects, on which hundreds of corres of taxpayer money has been spent. It does not matter a

value for money. India's Global Innovation Index (GII) represents the innovation capabilities of India. Our ranks in 2014, 2015 and 2024 were 76, 81, and 39. Malaysia and Türkiye lead India in GII with ranks of 33 and 37, respectively. The GII reveals

the world's top S&T clusters in two innovation metrics: published patent applications and published scientific articles. India has four positions is precisioned a set of position of an ar-chasters with ranks of 56 (thergalaru), 63 (Oehb), 52 (Chenna) and 84 (Mumbab). The Bengalaru 53 (Chenna) and 84 (Mumbab). The Bengalaru 54 (Chenna) and 84 (Mumbab). The Bengalaru 56 (Chenna) and 19 (Mumbab). The Bengalaru 56 (Chenna) and 19 (Chenna) and 19 (Chenna) 56 (Chenna) and 50 (Chenna) and 50 (Chenna) Francisco (Silcow Maley) at 2 and Cambridge at 19 (Chenna) and Scientific publication Francisco (Silcow Maley) at 2 and Cambridge at 19 (Chenna) and Scientific publication provide a set of the set of the set of the set of the provide and scientific publication and scientific publications and 521, respectively. The corresponding per capita for the Silicon Valley cluster are 7885 and 9211, respectively. The corresponding numbers for the Bengaluru cluster are 313 and 1077, Samsung Electronics (South Korean) is the leading patentee in Bengaluru. No further comment is necessary.

The subject of start-ups

The subject of start-ups There is no point talking about start-ups, when we do not know what they mean. Start-ups in China, the U.S. and Israel tackle semiconductor technology, how to refine rare earth elements with ecological sensitivity and how to make metformin cheaper. In contrast, our governmer lawor way pp that hawk food products. India cannot have start-ups without indigenous technology. It cannot have indigenous technology without indigenous science. It cannot have indigenous science without indigenous quality education, sans political agendas. Two-wheeler kiranas are not startups.

kiranas are not startups. Contrary to the thinking of the Education Ministry, the University Grants Commission (UGC) remains an instrument of control. It always has been and there is no justification for this has been and there is no justification for this antediluvian organisation to have both regulatory and financial control over universities. Can the that changes in pecdagogy and sylabas have had a positive effect? In other words, how relevant are these changes, if any, to industry, skilling, and employability? India would probably be better off if the UGC was shut down. Sitting UGC chairs, not appear in national dailles peddling their policies and propaganda and nauseam. Their job is non-appear in nauonal daines peddling their policies and propaganda ad nauseam. Their job is to execute policy, not talk about it, and to ensure decent employability for the youth. It is our job, as independent academics, to write in the newspapers, if they do not do their job. "When stupidity is considered patriotism, it is unsafe to be intelligent" – Isaac Asimov

The views expressed are personal

Ecology is the world's permanent economy

he phrase, "Ecology is the permanent economy", made popular by environmentalist Sunderlal Bahuguna, is much more than a slogan. It is a profound reminder of the foundational truth that humar prosperity is inextricably linked to ecological health. It is true that economic development without exploiting natural resources and without exploiting natural resources and economic stability without conserving them are impossible. As we face serious challenges such as climate change and the rapid loss of biodiversity, we must ask ourselves whether we have truly

d and embraced this ide

Striking the right balance Understanding nature's comproved by is at the heart Understanding nature's comproved the set made tremendous efforts through observation, experimentation, and modelling, as this understanding is crucial for addressing and for informing unstainable practices. While these scientific discussions are valuable, there is an even more urgent and fundamental truth we need to focus on; ecology is the real economy – our survival, security and progress depend on it. In simple terms, this might be the clearest way to define sustainability – finding the right balance define sustainability – inding the right balance between protecting the environment and supporting economic development. Without this balance, neither the environment nor the economy can thrive in the long run.

economy can thrive in the long run. Despite being part of the animal kingdom, human evolution, through the course of from nature. This disconnection with nature has been identified as a reason for the ongoing biodiversity loss (the recent Intergovernmental Science-Polley Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Scives or IPBES Transformative

Change report). In the early stages of human history, a nomadic lifestyle compelled individuals to rely on and exploit natural resources solely for their basic, day-to-day survival needs. Over time, this

ndividual-centric resource use evolved into collective consumption aimed at meeting the needs of growing communities. As human societies expanded and organised themselves into nations, this demand scaled further to cater to the needs of entire countries. Eventually, this P. Ragavan progression gave rise to global competition, where nations began to exploit nature not only is a scientist with an interest in taxonomy, ecology and the biogeochemistry of mangroves and seagrasses. He is working on the satisfy present demands but also to secure satisfy present demands but also to secure resources for future development. Unlike humans, no other species in the animal kingdom sublotistom partern of large-case, anice failung sublotistom partern of large-case, anice failung live in harmory with their environments, taking only what they need for immediate survival, without disturbing the long-term balance of the ecosystems they inhabit. working on the conservation and management of mangroves and carbon dynamics the blue carbon habitats of India

Acknowledging this principle will lead to a focus on ecological health as the basis for human survival,

economic

climate resilience

stability and

New complications The ever-intensifying cycle of human consumption and global competition has placed onsumption and global competition has placed ecosystems and significantly accelerated the pace of climate change – a natural phenomenon now dangerously amplified by human activities. In response to these growing environmental challenges, nature-based solutions have been changed here and the every seven the hierent widely advocated in global conservation efforts. These approaches aim to leverage the linkerent impacts, restore biodiversity, and support sustainable development. However, a paradox emerges: we continue to exploit nature to satisfy on nece and greed, while simultaneously a exploitation. This dual dependence risks creating deepler ecological imbalances and may further effectively. fectively. In this context, rather than merely attempting

to understand the intricate complexity of ecological systems from a scientific standpoint, it is far more critical to recognise a fundamental truth – that ecology is the permanent economy.

Acknowledging this principle shifts our perspective from short-term exploitation to long-term stewardship, positioning ecological health not as a constraint, but as the very foundation of human survival, economic stability. and climate resilience. This realisation is not just timely – it is

essential to confronting the ongoing environmental crisis and shaping a sustainable future. It is only through this reframing that huture. It is only through this reframing that humanity can move from reactive conservation to proactive planetary sustainability. The climate crisis is not just a scientific challenge. It is a moral and existential reckoning with the ecological foundations of our environment foundations of our existence.

The near to reconnect with nature Climate damps and their sin detribution patterns of biological diversity are not new for planet earth. However, the trate at which it is now occurring is detrimental to the planet's biological unsustainable developmental activities by humans. Therefore, the change we need must come from within.

come from within. Since all developmental activities across the globe are almed at fulfilling human needs, individual's responsibility in order to ensure the success of global austainability initiatives. To achieve this, we must realise that humans are an integral part of nature

Integral part of nature. Though technological advancements have distanced modern lifestyles from nature, one unique natural trait that humans possess is the second second second second second second (which still lives within us). Thus, future conservation efforts should be designed to strengthen our emotional bond with nature. To gnite this, a realisation that "ecology is the human second permanent economy", is more imperative than merely understanding the ecological complexity that exists in nature.

The views expressed are personal

n	LETTERS TO TH	IE EDITOR				
- ststyee h	Media coverage in the lead-up to Operation Sindoor, during its conduct should have shown — and even now — more restraint, reven now — more restraint, reven during the state of the should have shown — and even now — more restraint, reven during the state should have shown — and should have shown — and even now — more restraint in the sequence of the about the weapons systems about the weapons systems what Operation Sindoor has done is enough and	satisfactory. We do not need to go in for an overkill and think of 'destroying the enemy'. The fact is that Pakistan is a state spill between the political leadership, the tapparatus. Operation Sindoor has taught Pakistan a hard lesson. Added to this is the Indian Prime Ministers' lime that has	outlined india's future response. 5. Kamat, Mysuru Online toxicity It is histocking and this histocking and trolls seem to spare no one. Such behaviour not only reflects the toxic side of online discourse but also endanges the very idea of	free and peaceful expression in our democracy. Such toxic behaviour should not be normalised or ignored. It is time that the authorities take stringent merchants of hate who encourage online harassment. Md. Sabir Hussain, Arah, Silar	Court's time. The line of the Supreme Court, that if two adults have a long-standing live-in relationship one can presume an implied consent of the parties in the relation of the parties in be right. The right conclusion would be that the relationship had blossomed into a marriage. Otherwise the relationship	may degenerate into a licentiousness with hardly any protection to the woman and dignity to such a relationship. This is the bilind spot in the Court's line. It must be revisited with the court's line. It must be revisited the the subscription N.G.P. Prosecutiny. N.G.P. Prosecutiny. Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.
						ANX

Vice-Chancellor, Ar University, former Director, IIT Ropar and former Dean, Indian Institute of Science A good education is one with an optimum of depth and breadth. Depth alone imparts the

The educational system is clueless about the employability of India's graduates as a workforce

whether these projects were initiated or shut down by the Congress or the BJP. What we, as taxpayers, want to know is if these projects were

Context:

- The article critically examines the **educational policies in India**, focusing on the gap between **education and employability**.
- Despite improvements and reforms, youth unemployment remains high, indicating a disconnection between education systems and job market needs.

Key Points:

- 1. Problem Statement:
 - The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aims to revamp education, but employability is still a significant challenge.
 - The focus on academic excellence rather than practical job skills has created a gap.
 - Unemployment rates remain high, even among highly educated youth.

- 3. Statistics Highlighting the Issue:
 - Youth Unemployment Rate:
 - 2023: **17.2%**.
 - 2025: **44.3%** for graduates.
 - High Educational Attainment, Low Employment:
 - Even high-quality educational hubs fail to translate learning into jobs.
 - Skill-Based Sector Deficiency:
 - India lacks specialized clusters like those in the U.S. or South Korea.

/ Deet Oerrees

- 4. Root Causes:
 - Educational Mismatch:
 - High-quality theoretical knowledge but lack of practical application.
 - Inadequate focus on entrepreneurship and start-up culture.
 - Policy Gaps:
 - Slow adoption of **industry-specific curricula**.
 - Bureaucratic hurdles in **research funding and innovation**.
- 5. Global Comparisons:
 - Successful educational models in countries like the U.S. and South Korea integrate innovation with employability.
 - Indian policies are often **bureaucratically driven**, stifling **grassroots innovation**.

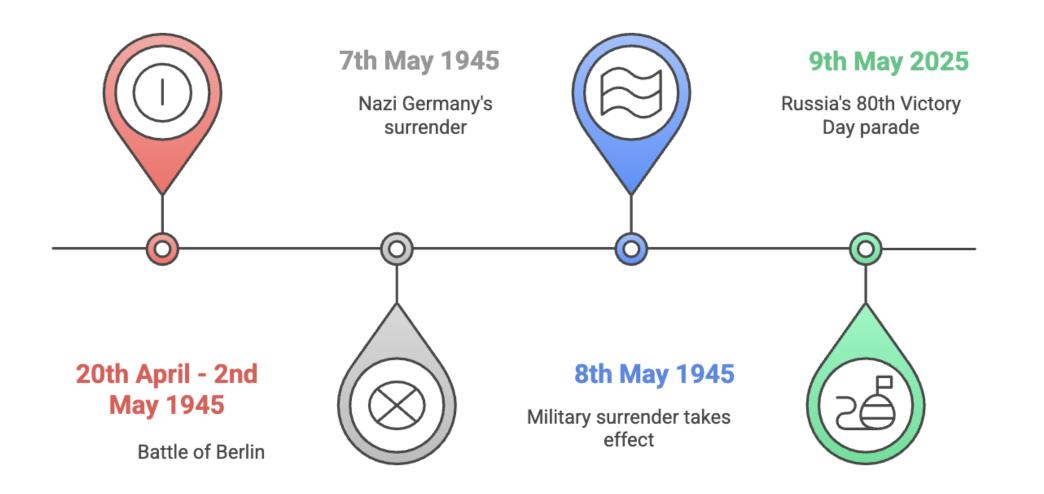
- 6. Recommendations:
 - Skill-Oriented Education:
 - Include technical and vocational training within mainstream education.
 - Encourage **industry partnerships** in curriculum design.
 - Promoting Start-Up Culture:
 - Develop incubators and support structures within universities.
 - Reduce **regulatory bottlenecks** for emerging businesses.
 - Holistic Policy Execution:
 - Align academic goals with market needs.
 - Foster innovation ecosystems akin to Silicon Valley clusters.

7. Expert Opinions:

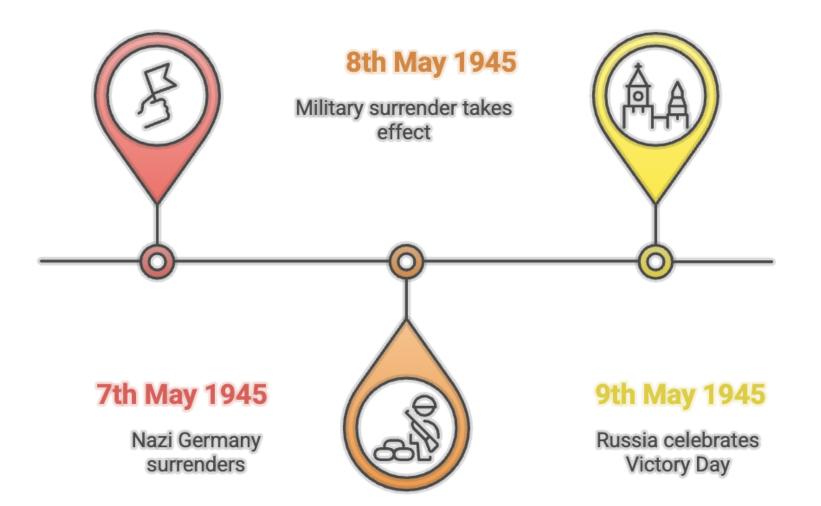
- Gautam R. Desiraju (Educationist):
 - Emphasizes critical thinking over rote learning.
 - Suggests retraining teachers for skill-based instruction.
- Mirle Surappa (Scientist):
 - Advocates for innovation-driven education.
 - Points out lack of practical research integration in Indian academia.

80th Anniversary of World War II

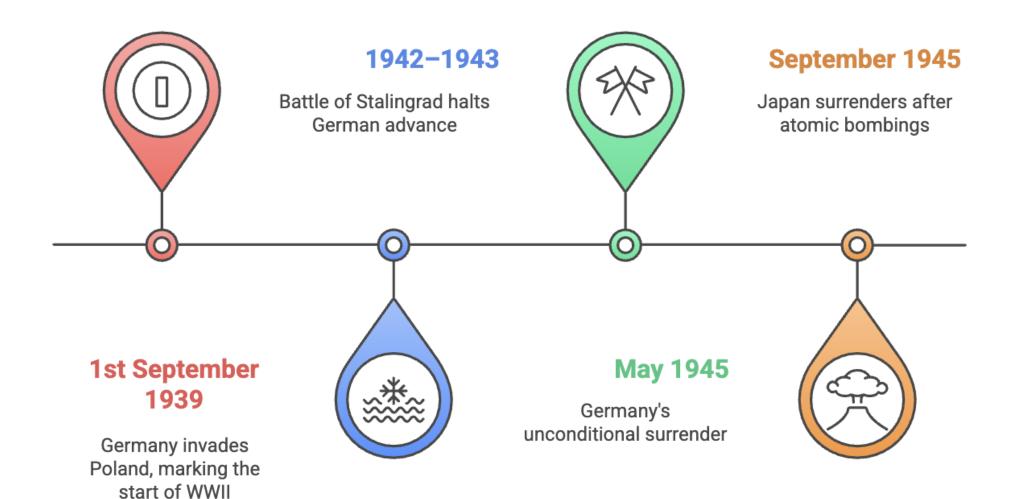
Commemorating Victory in World War II



Key Events of World War II's End



Key Events of World War II



Italy Germany •Mussolini's •Hitler's Nazi Party believed in all-powerful state, territorial expansion, and ethnic

 Cooperated with Germany from 1936 onward

the state

Invaded Poland in 1939, France in 1940, and the USSR in 1941

Allies

Japan

- Military leaders pushed for territorial expansion
- Attacked Manchuria
 in 1931

Invaded China in 1937

•Attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941

United States

- Passed Neutrality Acts in 1935, 1937, and 1939
- •Gave lend-lease aid to Britain, China, and the USSR

•Declared war on Japan in 1941

Great Britain

•Tried to appease Hitler by allowing territorial growth

•Declared war on Germany in 1939

 Resisted German attack in 1940

•Received U.S. aid through lend-lease program and cash-and-carry provision

France

- •Along with Great Britain, tried to appease Hitler
- Declared war on Germany in 1939 after Poland was invaded
- Occupied by Nazis in 1940

USSR

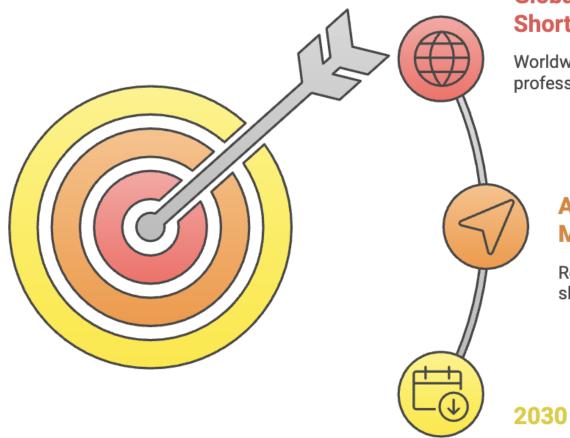
 Communists, led by harsh dictator Joseph Stalin, created industrial power

• Signed nonaggression pact with Germany in 1939

•Received U.S. aid; eventually fought with Allies to defeat Germany

State of the World's Nursing 2025 Report

Global Nursing Shortage



Global Nursing Shortage

Worldwide lack of nursing professionals

Africa and Eastern Mediterranean

Regions facing severe nursing shortages

Year of expected peak shortage

SUMMARY **OF WHO** NURSING REPORT 2025:

2

3

4

5

6

7

Global nursing workforce in 2023: 29.8 million nurses, projected to grow to 36 million by 2030.

Global shortage: Despite growth, a shortfall of 5.8 million nurses persists; 70% of this will impact Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean by 2030.

Inequitable distribution: 78% of nurses are concentrated in countries with only 49% of global population

Nurse density: In Europe, 76.9 nurses/10,000 population vs. only 14.1/10,000 in Africa.

Migration concerns: 23% of nurses in high-income countries are foreignborn, mostly from low- and middleincome countries.

Working conditions: Wage gaps, poor mental health support, and unequal access to leadership hinder retention.

Leadership gaps: Only 66% of countries report nurse leadership development programs; Africa lags with 43%.

Word of the day

Fester:

a sore that has become inflamed and formed pus; ripen and generate pus; become worse or more intense (of feelings)

Synonyms: maturate, suppurate

Usage: *His feelings of abandonment have been festering for years.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/festerpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈfɛstə(ɹ)/















24 States

Thank you guys.