

Daily Current Affairs





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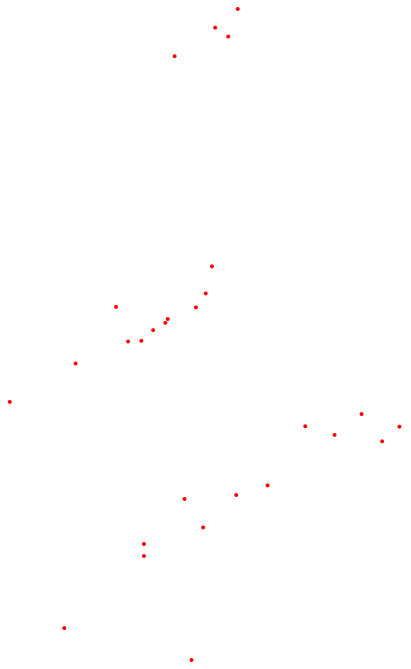
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10 MCQ QUIZ

There is always light.

If only we're brave
enough to see it.

**If only we're brave
enough to be it.**

Amanda Gorman

Centre sets up panel to frame air crash response guidelines

The committee headed by Home Secretary told to lay down Standard Operating Procedures and comprehensive guidelines for preventing crashes; the panel will not substitute enquiries by various bodies into the crash of flight AI-171, says Ministry

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Saturday announced the setting up of a high-level committee headed by the Home Secretary to suggest "comprehensive guidelines" to respond to aviation accidents against the backdrop of Thursday's crash in Ahmedabad of Air India flight AI-171.

The order issued by the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation says the committee will "focus on formulating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for preventing and handling such occurrences in the future" and publish its report within three months.

The order states that it will not substitute other enquiries by relevant organisations, referring to the main accident probe conducted by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) which recovered the black box of the aircraft on Friday.

Panel's tasks

The committee will also assess the emergency response by various stakeholders, including rescue operations and coordination among them, and suggest roles for various agencies and organisations to deal with post-crash incident handling and management. It will have access to all records,



Debris analysis: Forensic team checks wreckage of the aircraft in Ahmedabad on Saturday. VIJAY SONEJI

including flight data, cockpit voice recorders, aircraft maintenance details, air traffic control logs, and witness testimonies.

The committee will also conduct site inspections, and interview crew, air traffic controllers, and relevant personnel. It will also collaborate with relevant international agencies if necessary.

Apart from the Home Secretary, who will be the Chairperson, the high-level committee will include the Joint Secretary of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs; representatives of the State Home Department and the State Disaster Res-

ponse Authority of Gujarat; the Ahmedabad Police Commissioner; the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security; the Director General of Civil Aviation; the Director General of Inspection and Safety, Indian Air Force; the Special Director, Intelligence Bureau; and the Director, Directorate of Forensic Science Services.

Scope of the committee

The four-point scope of the high-level committee defined in the order states that it will "ascertain the root cause of the [flight AI-171] crash" and its contributing factors, including

mechanical failure, human error, weather conditions, and regulatory compliance.

The committee will also recommend necessary improvements, and formulate suitable SOPs to prevent such incidents in the future, including best international practices.

The committee will also suggest policy changes, operational improvements, and training enhancements to prevent such occurrences, and to handle post-crash incident situations.

MORE REPORTS ON
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19 identified through DNA testing: govt.

AHMEDABAD

A total of 19 victims of the flight AI-171 crash have been identified through DNA testing, Gujarat Minister Harsh Sanghavi said on Thursday. One more body stuck beneath the tail portion of the crashed aircraft was recovered on Saturday, said Dr. Rajnish Patel, Head of Surgery, at Ahmedabad Civil Hospital. However, there was still no official confirmation of the deaths beyond that of the 241 people who were on board the aircraft. » PAGE 4



Key Highlights:

Aspect	Details
Context	Aftermath of Air India Flight AI-171 crash in Ahmedabad
Action Taken	Centre has set up a high-level committee headed by the Home Secretary
Mandate	Formulate comprehensive guidelines and SOPs for future air crash responses
Timeframe	Report to be submitted in 3 months
Clarification	Committee will not substitute formal investigations by statutory bodies

Scope of the Committee:

Focus Areas (4 Points)

- 1 Ascertain causes of crash (AI-171) and contributing factors
- 2 Identify gaps in mechanical, weather, human or regulatory domains
- 3 Suggest global best practices for **SOPs** to manage crash events
- 4 Recommend post-crash coordination protocols and system improvements

Tehran will burn if civilians are hit, Israel warns Iran



Back and forth: Israeli rescue workers at an impact site in Rishon LeZion on Saturday after overnight attacks from Iran. REUTERS

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN/JERUSALEM

Israel on Saturday warned Iran against targeting Israeli civilians, saying that "Tehran will burn" if attacks continued and said that it now had control of the airspace till Tehran.

The threat came as both countries exchanged fire a day after Israel unleashed an unprecedented aerial bombing campaign on Iran said hit its nuclear facilities, "martyred" top commanders and killed dozens of civilians.

Iran had hit back with waves of drone and missile strikes, with a barrage of dozens lighting up the skies over Jerusalem and Tel Aviv overnight, killing three people and wounding dozens.

"We will hit every site, every target of the Ayatollah regime," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a video statement on Saturday, referring to Iran's Supreme

Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. "We have dealt a real blow to their nuclear programme" since Friday, he added.

'Heavy price'

"The Iranian dictator is turning the citizens of Iran into hostages and bringing about a reality in which they – especially the residents of Tehran – will pay a heavy price because of the criminal harm to Israeli civilians," Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz said, adding that "if Khamenei continues to fire missiles toward the Israeli home front – Tehran will burn".

The Israeli military said its raids had cleared the path to the Iranian capital. "We have created aerial freedom of action from west Iran all the way to Tehran... Tehran is no longer immune," said spokesperson Brigadier General Effie Defrin.

RELATED REPORTS ON
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Aspect	Details
Date	Saturday (exact date not specified)
Event	Israel warned Iran: "Tehran will burn" if Iranian strikes kill civilians
Trigger	Iranian drone & missile retaliation following Israeli aerial bombardment
Casualties	3 Israeli civilians killed, dozens injured in Iranian retaliation
Israel's Action	Unprecedented aerial bombing targeting Iran's nuclear and military assets
Commanders Killed	Israel claims to have "martyred" top Iranian military leaders



Arunachal declares 2025-35 as 'decade of hydropower'

Move aimed at harnessing the State's potential to generate 58,000 MW of electricity, creating stable and supportive regulatory framework for overall development of industrial ecosystem: CMO

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Cabinet headed by Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has declared 2025-2035 as the 'Decade of Hydropower' to harness the State's potential to generate 58,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity.

The special Cabinet meeting held on Friday termed the thrust on hydropower as a "strategic management of revenues generated through free power from the hydroelectric projects (HEPs).

Strategic measures

"During the Decade of Hydropower, the government aims to undertake strategic policy and governance measures not just to harness the hydropower potential through a judicious mix of mega, large, and small hydroelectric projects, but also to create a stable and supportive policy and regulatory framework for the overall development of the industrial ecosystem in the State," a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office said.

According to the agreement with power developers, Arunachal Pradesh will receive 12% free power from each HEP, and an additional 1% for a local area development fund.

Arunachal Pradesh expects ₹4,525 crore in annual revenue from 2035 onwards from projects in



Watt formula: According to the agreement with power developers, the State will receive 12% free power from each HEP. FILE PHOTO

Arunachal Pradesh expects ₹4,525 crore in annual revenue 2035 onwards from projects in various stages of completion

various stages of completion. These projects, riding cumulative investments of more than ₹2 lakh crore in the next 10 years, have a combined capacity of generating 19 gigawatts (GW) of electricity.

Escrow account

The State Cabinet approved the creation of an escrow account for "strategic management and effective utilisation of the revenue generated from the proceeds of free power" from these HEPs.

"By effective management of these benefits, the State can make strategic and financial decisions about investing in the over-

all development of the State. This initiative will not only streamline financial processes but also ensure that the benefits of free power are maximised for the State's long-term sustainable growth and prosperity," the CMO said in the statement.

Plans for Siang project

The Cabinet underscored the need to allay fears and build consensus among the people likely to be affected by the controversial Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP) that anti-dam activists said is targeted to generate 11,000 MW of electricity.

The Centre declared the SUMP as a national project in 2008, given its significance from the national security point of view.

The project is being pursued as a counter to China's proposed 60,000 MW project on the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Tibet

upstream.


The Cabinet sought regular and detailed interactions with the likely project-affected families (PAFs) regarding the urgent need to conduct the pre-feasibility survey for the SUMP. Villagers in three districts – Siang, East Siang and Upper Siang – have been resisting this survey. The Cabinet emphasised the need for continuous engagement with the PAFs to ensure fair, just, and equitable compensation and solatium, in case the SUMP is found to be feasible.

Alternate towns

The Cabinet directed the State's Department of Urban Development to constitute a New Yingkiong Development Authority and a New Geku Development Authority to pursue "future-ready alternate towns".

It accordingly approved the constitution of a committee to examine land and property compensation rates and suggest the mechanisms to be adopted for designing and implementing a robust rehabilitation and resettlement plan for the PAFs. Geku and Yingkiong are towns in the Upper Siang district.

The Cabinet further directed the Public Works Department to initiate a survey for a necklace road along the Siang River, above the likely submergence area.

Aspect	Details	
Initiative	Arunachal Pradesh Cabinet declares 2025-2035 as the Decade of Hydropower	
CM	Pema Khandu	
Objective	Harness hydropower potential to generate 58,000 MW electricity	
Revenue Expected	₹4,525 crore annually from 2035 onward	
Free Power Agreement	State to receive 12% free power + 1% local area development fund from each HEP	
Investment	₹2 lakh crore over the next 10 years	
Total Planned Capacity	19 GW from multiple hydroelectric projects (HEPs)	



Strategic and Policy Measures:

- Strategic governance and policy to promote **industrial ecosystem**.
 - Create an **escrow account** to manage revenue and improve fiscal discipline.
 - Regular interaction with **Project Affected Families (PAFs)** to ensure transparency and social justice.
 - Emphasis on **pre-feasibility survey** for Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (10,000 MW).
 - Development of **alternate towns** (Yingkiong and Geku) to reduce displacement impact.
 - Cabinet directed **Urban Development & Public Works** to plan for infrastructure in the Siang River region.
-

State	
	
Golden Pagoda, Namsai	Tawang Monastery
	
Tawang Gate, Tawang	Vijaynagar, Changlang
	
Mechuka	Ziro valley
	
Madhuri Lake	Sela Pass
	
Golden Jubilee Stadium	

Country	India
Region	Northeast India
Before was	North-East Frontier Agency
As union territory	21 January 1972
Formation	20 February 1987 ^[1]
Capital and largest city	Itanagar
Districts	28
Government <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Body	Government of Arunachal Pradesh
• Governor	Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
• Chief minister	Pema Khandu (BJP)
• Deputy chief minister	Chowna Mein (BJP)
State Legislature <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assembly	Unicameral <div>Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (60 seats)</div>
National Parliament <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rajya Sabha• Lok Sabha	Parliament of India <div>1 seat</div> <div>2 seats</div>
High Court	Gauhati High Court-Itanagar Bench
Area ^[2] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total	83,743 km ² (32,333 sq mi)
• Rank	14th
Elevation ^[3]	2,432 m (7,979 ft)
Highest elevation (Kangto)	7,060 m (23,160 ft)
Lowest elevation	44 m (144 ft)

Elevation ^[3]	2,432 m (7,979 ft)
Highest elevation (Kangto)	7,060 m (23,160 ft)
Lowest elevation	44 m (144 ft)
Population (2011) ^[4] <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total• Rank• Density• Urban• Rural	<div>▲ 1,383,727</div> <div>27th</div> <div>17/km² (40/sq mi)</div> <div>22.94%</div> <div>77.06%</div>
Demonym	Arunachalis
Language <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official• Official script	English ^{[5][6][7]} <div>Latin script</div>
GDP <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total (2025–26)• Rank• Per capita	<div>▲ ₹0.47823 lakh crore (US\$5.7 billion)</div> <div>31st</div> <div>▲ ₹307,161 (US\$3,600) (16th)</div>
Time zone	UTC+05:30 (IST)
ISO 3166 code	IN-AR
Vehicle registration	AR
HDI (2022)	▲ 0.683 medium ^[8] (16th)
Literacy (2024)	84.2% ^[9] (21st)
Sex ratio (2021)	997 ♀/1,000 ♂ ^[10] (5th)

Foundation day

Bird

Fish

Flower

Mammal

Tree

Arunachal Pradesh Day

Hornbill

Golden Mahseerref

Foxtail orchid

Mithun

Hollong



27-year wait: Bavuma's South Africa will relish the World Test Championship triumph which ended decades of heartbreak. GETTY IMAGES



VAISHALI DAR

BAREILLY-BASED MANU Bansal has been dealing with frizzy and hard-to-tame hair in extreme weather conditions for months. She tried natural remedies, shampoos and hair creams, but with zero results. At long last, a friend advised her to consult a scalp expert or a dermatologist.

While the treatment was taking its own course, an inherent reason indicating the cause was found to be a deficiency of biotin (vitamin H or B7), a water-soluble vitamin that helps the body metabolise fats, carbohydrates, and protein.

Biotin is an essential vitamin that plays an important role in the health of hair, nails, and skin. It promotes the production of keratin, a key protein to strengthen all the three tissues. A biotin deficiency can lead to issues like brittle nails, thinning hair, and dry, scaly skin. All in all, biotin is the champion ingredient essential to incorporate in diet or through supplements for overall beauty and wellness.

"Biotin deficiency can be detected

Biotin basics

What a deficiency of the water-soluble vitamin—a nutrient naturally present in food—can do to your hair, skin & nails

BENEFITS GALORE

FOR HAIR

Biotin is crucial for hair growth & strength; it helps in reducing hair thinning, breakage, and split ends while promoting healthier and shinier hair



FOR SKIN

While there are no highly specific symptoms, biotin deficiency can result in dull, dry, and less hydrated skin; biotin supports structure of skin by helping maintain moisture, giving it a healthy glow



FOR NAILS

Biotin is essential for maintaining nails that are strong and healthy. It helps prevent brittleness and splitting, making nails stronger, thicker, and shinier




cially the yolks, which comprise rich amounts of biotin. One whole cooked egg contains 10 mg (micrograms) of biotin; a serving of banana has 0.2 mg; a quarter cup of roasted almonds has 1.5 mg. Instead, one should disregard the synthetic supplement and opt for natural sources of obtaining and supplementing the body with biotin," she adds.

Plant-based biotin supplements such as those derived from extracts of *Sesbania grandiflora*, commonly known as agati or vegetable hummingbird, can be effective for a broader range of benefits. As per Mihir Gadani, biotechnologist and co-founder of clean nutrition brand Oziva, standardised agati leaf extracts have been clinically proven to improve hair density, and support healthy hair growth. "Supplements are beneficial for maintaining healthy skin and nails. But a balanced diet rich in plant-based biotin sources can promote stronger hair, healthier skin, and resilient nails," says Gadani.

So is there a particular age when one should start taking supplements? Not really, say experts, but it all depends on individual symptoms and nutritional needs. Dr Nahar says, "If a person has healthy hair, skin, and nails, there is generally no need for supplementation."

— Dr Raina Nahar, senior consultant, dermatology, Nanavati Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mumbai



Aspect	Details
What is Biotin?	A water-soluble B-vitamin (Vitamin B7 or H) that supports metabolism of fats, proteins & carbohydrates
Main Functions	Crucial for hair health, skin repair, and nail strength ; promotes keratin production
Symptoms of Deficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hair thinning or loss- Dry, irritated skin- Brittle, weak nails- Fatigue or cramps
For Hair	Helps reduce hair breakage, promotes shinier and thicker hair
For Skin	Maintains moisture, reduces dullness, acne-like eruptions
For Nails	Reduces brittleness, improves nail strength and smoothness



Dietary Sources of Biotin

Plant-based	Animal-based	
Nuts (especially walnuts, hazelnuts)	Eggs (yolks)	
Seeds (sunflower seeds)	Liver, dairy, meats	
Legumes (soybean, peanuts)	Salmon, sardines	
Whole grains (oats, brown rice)		
Mushrooms		

Note: Biotin is naturally produced in **gut microbiota** but can be insufficient during illness, antibiotic use, or aging.



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Helicopter crash kills 7 on Char Dham route

FIR filed against chopper company for not following DGCA rules on flying in bad weather; State government suspends chopper services to review operators, pilots, after fifth crash in two months; committee formed under Uttarakhand Home Secretary to draft SOPs for public safety; helicopter company announces ₹5 lakh for kin of deceased

Indira Shah
NEW DELHI

A helicopter ferrying pilgrims from the Char Dham route crashed near Guptkashi on Sunday morning, killing all seven people on board, a two-year-old child among them.

The accident likely occurred due to low visibility caused by bad weather, officials said. The exact cause of the crash will be determined through a detailed investigation by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).

The deceased passengers are Vikram Rawat, a representative of the Badrinath Temple Committee, who was returning to his home in Uttarakhand after official work at Kedarnath; Vinod Devi, 66, and her granddaughter, 39, who had served in the Army for over 15 years; Dr. from Uttarakhand; and Rajkumar Jaiswal, 41, his wife, Sharda, and their two-year-old daughter, Kashi, from Maharashtra.

The couple's son had stayed with his grandfather



Burned with rescue personnel at the site of the crash near Kedarnath in Uttarakhand on Sunday. PTI

or in Yamnat. The pilot of the helicopter was Lt. Col. Baber Singh, Chaudhary, 39, who had served in the Army for over 15 years.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) said the accident involved a Bell 407 helicopter (call sign VT-BKA) of Aryan Aviation operating in the Kedarnath temple sector.

It took off from Guptkashi at 5 a.m. and landed at Kedarnath at 5.40 a.m.

"At 5.18 a.m. it flew back from Kedarnath to Guptkashi but crashed near Guptkashi. The SDRF worked for five hours to retrieve the charred bodies from the debris of the chopper," said Arpan Baghel, SDRF chief in Uttarakhand.

One killed as landslide hits Kedarnath path

NEW DELHI
A person was killed and two sustained injuries after a landslide, triggered by incessant rain, hit the Jungleshabadi walking route of Kedarnath in Uttarakhand on Sunday. Authorities suspended the Kedarnath yatra from Sonprayag until further notice. Citing safety concerns, the police appealed to devotees coming to the temple to remain safe wherever they were, and said security was being provided. ■ PAGE 4

The Rudrapur police have filed an FIR against Aryan Aviation under Section 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and Section 10 of the Aircraft Act, 1934. The company is accused of not following the protocols laid down by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on checking

weather conditions before a flight.

Services suspended
The DGCA has announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the kin of each of the deceased. Sunday's crash marked the fifth such accident, and the second with fatalities on the Char Dham Yatra route in the state since the pilgrimages began on April 30.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has ordered an inquiry. "Helicopter services to Char Dham will remain completely suspended until Monday. Services will be resumed only after a comprehensive meeting with all operators," Mr. Dhami said. He also ordered a Command and Coordination Centre to be set up for better management and coordination of helicopter services. There are five helicopter operators running private services on the Char Dham route.

"Only those pilots with long-term experience of flying in high-altitude Himalayan regions will be allowed to operate," Mr. Dhami said. The DGCA will also post officers to oversee the airworthiness, safety and operations of all helicopter activity in the Kedarnath valley, and to check the functionality of the state aviation authority's functioning.

On May 18, six people died when their helicopter crashed in Uttarakhand. There was an averted crash

in Badrinath on May 12. On May 17, an air ambulance belonging to ADH Bhadrachal crashed in Kedarnath, but no casualty was reported. On June 7, a helicopter on its way to Kedarnath made an emergency landing on the highway after developing a technical snag during take-off, in which the pilot sustained injuries.

High-level inquiry
Following the incident, a high-level review meeting was convened by Mr. Dhami. It was found that two helicopters belonging to Transharp Aviation - VT-TBC, Capt. Yogesh Grewal and VT-TBF (Capt. Himanshu Harshad) had been airborne under similar conditions. Accordingly, the licences of both have been suspended for six months.

The government has also formed a committee under the chairmanship of the Uttarakhand Home Secretary to draft Standard Operating Procedures giving top priority to public safety.

INSIDE

App-based bike taxi services to stop in Karnataka

BENGALURU
Beginning Monday, app-based bike taxi operators are expected to come to a halt across Karnataka. Senior officials from the Karnataka Transport Department confirmed that they would not permit continuation of services beyond the deadline. ■ PAGE 6

Five devotees drown in the river Godavari

NIRMAL
Five devotees from Hyderabad drowned in the Godavari in the temple town on Sunday. Three of the deceased are siblings. Sources said five youngsters, part of an 18-member group, had drowned after getting caught in strong undercurrents while taking bath in the river around 11 a.m. ■ PAGE 5

Axiom launch scheduled for June 19, says Minister

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4), which is set to carry Indian astronaut Shubhanu Shukla and three others to the International Space Station (ISS), is scheduled to take off on June 19, "as of now", Union Minister for Space Science and Technology, Jitendra Singh said on Sunday.

This comes a day after the ISRO first declared and then deleted the date of the launch, which has been repeatedly postponed.

The played down perceived differences between ISRO and SpaceX on the threat posed by an "oxygen leak" discovered during an engine test on June 8. "As far as our understanding goes, there has been an optimum amount of mutual cooperation. As soon as the leakage was pointed out, both teams joined together and agreed to address that (the leakage)," the Minister said.

On June 10, the ISRO had said on its website that it "recommended" on-site repairs or replacement and a "low temperature leak test" before the vehicle was cleared for launch. A media report claimed that ISRO had to insist on such a test.

Former NASA astronaut and director of human spaceflight at Axiom Space, Peggy Whitson, will command the commercial mission, while Mr. Shukla, the ISRO astronaut, will serve as the pilot. (With PTI inputs)



Smoke rises from the Sheeran O2 depot after an Israeli attack in Tehran, Iran, on Sunday. AP/PTI

Iran vows severe response to Israel as regional crisis intensifies in West Asia

Beauca
JERUSALEM/DOHA

Israel and Iran launched fresh attacks on each other overnight into Sunday, killing scores and raising fears of a wider conflict.

While the Israeli military has warned Iranians living near weapons facilities to evacuate, Iran's armed forces on Sunday told residents of Israel to leave the vicinity of "vital areas" for their safety.

Israel's military said several sites were hit by the latest Iranian missile barrage on Sunday night.

In Iran, images from Tehran showed the night sky lit up by a huge blast at a fuel depot after Israel hit oil and gas sector - raising the stakes for the global economy and the functioning of the Iranian state.

Iranian President said that responses will grow 'severe' if Israel's hostile actions continue

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Sunday that the country's responses will grow "more decisive and severe" if Israel's hostile actions continue.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that armed forces have destroyed Iran's principal uranium enrichment facility at Natanz.

The U.S. President said Trump early on Sunday that the two sides will have peace "soon", adding that many unspecified meetings were taking place.

and the war by agreeing to tough restrictions on its nuclear programme, which Iran says is for peaceful purposes but Western countries say could be used to make bombs.

The latest round of nuclear negotiations between Iran and the U.S. due to be held on Sunday, was scrapped after Tehran said it would not negotiate while under Israeli attack.

Iran has not given a full death toll but said 79 people were killed on Friday and scores more have died since, including in a single attack that killed 60 on Saturday. The incident, which killed half of them, children, in a 14-storey apartment block flattened in Tehran.

Israeli rescue teams on Sunday combed through the rubble of residential buildings destroyed by Iranian missiles, using sniffer dogs and heavy sensors, to look for survivors after at least 10 people, children among them, were killed, raising the two-day toll to 13.

'Will pay a heavy price'
Israeli skies have been streaked with barrages of Iranian missiles and heavy interceptor rockets.

"Iran will pay a heavy price for the murder of civilians, women, and children," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said from a balcony overlooking a row of apartment buildings in the town of Be'er Yaakov, where six people were killed.

(With AP inputs)

IRANIAN STAFF IN ISRAEL
A group of Iranian staff working in Israel were taken to a hospital in Tehran after being injured in an attack on their residence in the town of Be'er Yaakov, where six people were killed.

(With AP inputs)

DNA profiling identifies 86 victims of AI crash; cockpit voice recorder retrieved

Abhinav Deshpande
AHMEDABAD

Authorities at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital have identified 86 victims of the Air India flight AI-171 crash through DNA profiling, Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghvi said on Sunday, while an official added that 31 bodies were already handed over to grieving families.

Rescue agencies also secured the cockpit voice recorder from the black box of the Boeing 787-9 aircraft on Sunday, two days after the flight data recorder was retrieved, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

The State Forensic Science Laboratory unit and the National Forensic Sciences University team are working to match more DNA samples.

"Progress continues in identifying victims. Our team is working with families," Mr. Sanghvi said.

While Air India said it had at least one survivor with the next of kin of all passengers and crew members, officials said over 400 family members have been asked to come to the next of kin is ongoing.

The mortal remains of former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, who was on board the flight, were scheduled to be taken to his hometown of Rajkot, where six people were killed.

Mr. Sanghvi said, "The body of the deceased has been identified, and we are continuing with the plans to transport his mortal remains to Rajkot," Mr. Pa-



Family members of a victim of the Air India crash, who lost his life in the crash, at his funeral in Ahmedabad on Sunday. AP/PTI

tel said, Rupani's son, Rishabh Rupani, had submitted his DNA sample on Saturday. The Minister also announced that the funeral of the former Chief Minister will be held at Rajkot on Monday with full state honours.

"The family will receive his mortal remains from the Civil Hospital at 11.30 a.m. tomorrow (Monday). The body will then be flown to Rajkot, arriving there by 2 p.m."

Personalised aid
Air India said that each affected family has been assigned at least one caregiver to provide personalised assistance. "The solemn process of handing over the mortal remains and meet personal efforts to the next of kin is ongoing.

Air India will be assisting in the movement out of Gujarat and repatriation into India, where appropriate," it said.

A total of 242 people - passengers and crew - were on board the London-bound Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner when it crashed minutes after take-off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport on Thursday afternoon. Only one passenger survived the accident. Several people on the ground, including 1000 students in a college hostel, were also killed in the incident.

Air India expressed gratitude to the Central and State governments for their support, as well as to the staff at Ahmedabad's Civil Hospital and Rajkot Hospital for their first-hand efforts. "Air India remains fully cooperative with the ongoing investigation led by the authorities and will continue to provide updates as verified information becomes available. Friends and Relatives Assistance Centre remains operational at Ahmedabad and Mumbai airports to support families seeking information," it said.

For support, families and streamline identification and logistics, authorities have deployed 23 teams across the country.

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Helicopter crash kills 7 on Char Dham route

FIR filed against chopper company for not following DGCA rules on flying in bad weather; State government suspends chopper services to review operators, pilots, after fifth crash in two months; committee formed under Uttarakhand Home Secretary to draft SOPs for public safety; helicopter company announces ₹5 lakh for kin of deceased

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

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The accident likely occurred due to low visibility caused by bad weather, officials said. The exact cause of the crash will be determined through a detailed investigation by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).

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The couple's son had stayed with his grandfath-



Burned out: Rescue personnel at the site of the crash near Kedarnath in Uttarakhand on Sunday. PTI

er in Yavatmal. The pilot of the helicopter was Lt. Col. Rajveer Singh Chauhan (retd), 39, who had served in the Army for over 15 years.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) said the accident involved a Bell 407 helicopter (call sign VT-BKA) of Aryan Aviation operating in the Kedarnath temple sector.

It took off from Guptkashi at 5 a.m. and landed at Kedarnath at 5.10 a.m.

"At 5.18 am, it flew back from Kedarnath to Guptkashi but crashed near Gaurikund. The SDRF worked for five hours to retrieve the charred bodies from the debris of the chopper," said Arpan Raghuvansi, SDRF chief in Uttarakhand.

The Rudraprayag police have filed an FIR against Aryan Aviation under Section 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and Section 10 of the Aircraft Act, 1934. The company is accused of not following the protocols laid down by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on checking

One killed as landslide hits Kedarnath path

NEW DELHI

A person was killed and two sustained injuries after a landslide, triggered by incessant rain, hit the Junglechatti walking route of Kedarnath in Uttarakhand on Sunday. Authorities suspended the Kedarnath yatra from Sonprayag until further notice. Citing safety concerns, the police appealed to devotees coming to the temple to remain safe wherever they were, and said security was being provided. » **PAGE 4**

weather conditions before a flight.

Services suspended

The company has announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the kin of each of the deceased. Sunday's crash marked the fifth such accident – and the second with fatalities – on the Char Dham Yatra route in the State since the pilgrim-

age began on April 30.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has ordered an inquiry. "Helicopter services to Char Dham will remain completely suspended until Monday. Services will be resumed only after a comprehensive meeting with all operators," Mr. Dhami said. He also ordered a Command and Coordination Centre to be set up for better management and coordination of helicopter services. There are nine helicopter operators running private services on the Char Dham route.

"Only those pilots with long-term experience of flying in high-altitude Himalayan regions will be allowed to operate," Mr. Dhami said. The DGCA will also post officers to oversee the airworthiness, safety, and operations of all helicopter activity in the Kedarnath valley, and to review the State aviation authority's functioning.

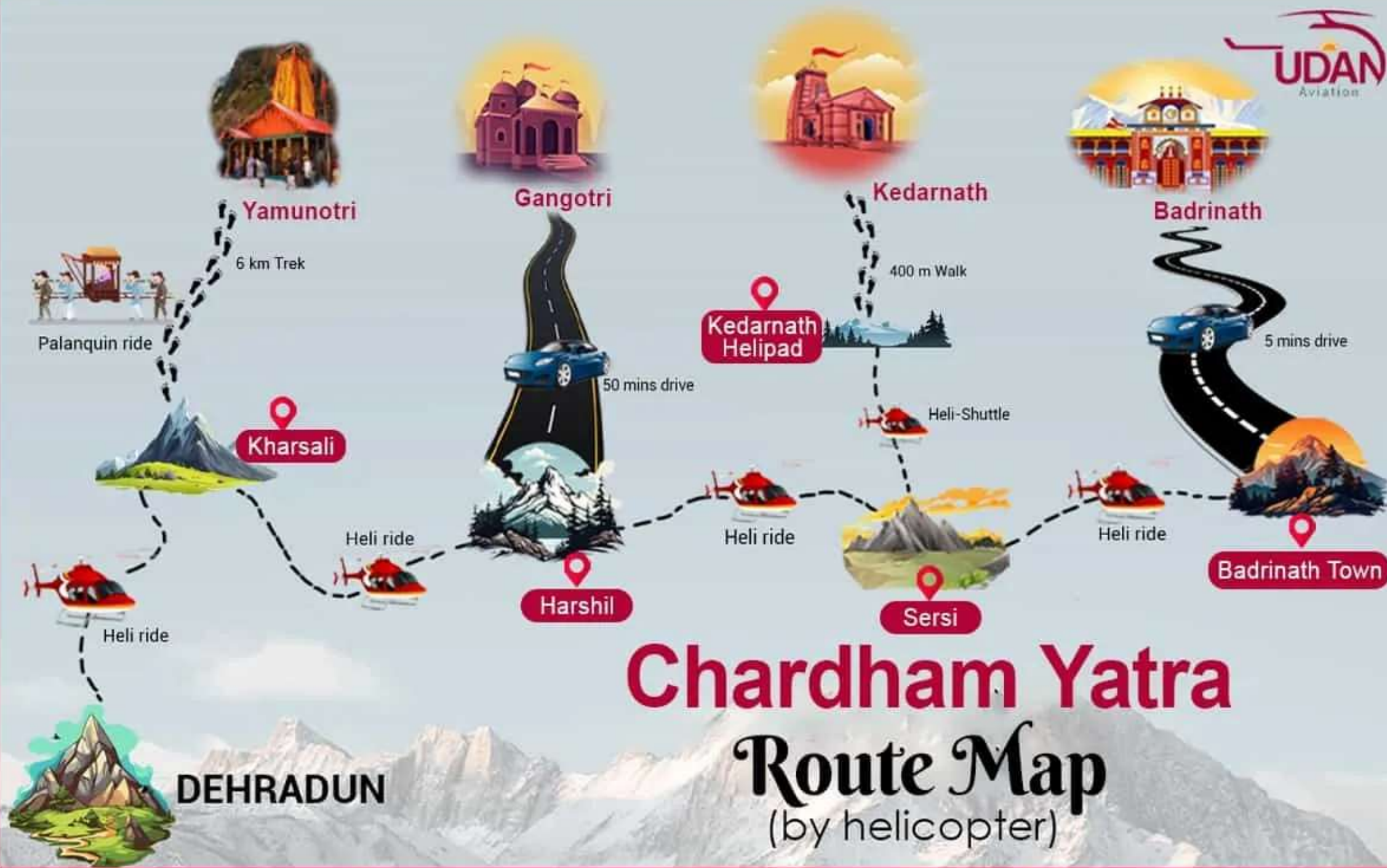
On May 8, six people died when their helicopter crashed in Uttarkashi. There was an averted crash

in Badrinath on May 12. On May 17, an air ambulance belonging to AIIMS Rishikesh crashed in Kedarnath, but no casualty was reported. On June 7, a helicopter on its way to Kedarnath made an emergency landing on the highway after developing a technical snag during take-off, in which the pilot sustained injuries.

High-level inquiry

Following the incident, a high-level review meeting was convened by Mr. Dhami. It was found that two helicopters belonging to TransBharat Aviation – VT-TBC (Capt. Yogesh Grewal) and VT-TBF (Capt. Jitender Harjai) – had been airborne under similar unsuitable weather conditions. Accordingly, the licences of both have been suspended for six months.








The government has also formed a committee under the chairmanship of the Uttarakhand Home Secretary to draft Standard Operating Procedures giving top priority to public safety.



Chardham Yatra

Route Map

(by helicopter)

Detail	Information
 Location	Near Guptkashi, Uttarakhand
 Date	Sunday morning
 Time of crash	Approx. 5:18 a.m.
 Aircraft	Bell 407 Helicopter (VT-BKA) operated by Aryan Aviation
 Mission	Ferrying pilgrims from Kedarnath Temple
 Casualties	All 7 on board died (including a 2-year-old child)
 Probable Cause	Bad weather/low visibility (to be confirmed by AAIB inquiry)







Administrative and Legal Actions

- **FIR Filed:**
 - Under Section 105 (culpable homicide) & Aircraft Act, 1934.
 - Allegation: Violation of **DGCA protocols** for flying in inclement weather.
 - **Compensation:**
 - ₹5 lakh announced by Aryan Aviation for kin of deceased.
 - **Services Suspended:**
 - Helicopter services for **Char Dham suspended till Monday** (by order of CM Pushkar Singh Dhami).
 - Kedarnath Yatra suspended from **Sonprayag** due to concurrent landslip.
-

Other Related Incidents

- This crash is **5th** since the Char Dham Yatra began (April 30, 2025).
- May 8: 6 people died in a similar **crash in Kedarnath valley**.
- May 17: AIIMS Rishikesh air ambulance crash (no casualties).
- June 7: Helicopter made emergency landing due to technical fault.

Key Government Responses

Action	Details
 SOP Committee	Committee formed under Uttarakhand Home Secretary to frame SOPs for aviation public safety
 Operator Review	All 9 chopper operators flying Char Dham to undergo review
 High-Level Review	Meeting chaired by CM, attended by top officials incl. DGCA & Transbharat/VYTB representatives
 Flight Restriction	Only pilots with long-term high-altitude experience allowed to fly in Kedarnath

Iran vows severe response to Israel as regional crisis intensifies in West Asia

Reuters

JERUSALEM/DUBAI

Israel and Iran launched fresh attacks on each other overnight into Sunday, killing scores and raising fears of a wider conflict.

While the Israeli military has warned Iranians living near weapons facilities to evacuate, Iran's armed forces on Sunday told residents of Israel to leave the vicinity of "vital areas" for their safety.

Israel's military said several sites were hit by the latest Iranian missile barrage on Sunday night.

In Iran, images from Tehran showed the night sky lit up by a huge blaze at a fuel depot after Israel began strikes against Iran's oil and gas sector – raising the stakes for the global economy and the functioning of the Iranian state.

Iranian President said that responses will grow 'severe' if Israel's hostile actions continue

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Sunday that the country's responses will grow "more decisive and severe" if Israel's hostile actions continue.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that armed forces have destroyed Iran's principal uranium enrichment facility at Natanz.

U.S. President Donald Trump early on Sunday said the two sides will have peace "soon", adding that many unspecified meetings were taking place.

The U.S. President has repeatedly said Iran could

end the war by agreeing to tough restrictions on its nuclear programme, which Iran says is for peaceful purposes but Western countries say could be used to make bombs.

The latest round of nuclear negotiations between Iran and the U.S., due to be held on Sunday, was scrapped after Tehran said it would not negotiate while under Israeli attack.

Iran has not given a full death toll but said 78 people were killed on Friday and scores more have died since, including in a single attack that killed 60 on Saturday, half of them children, in a 14-storey apartment block flattened in Tehran.

Israeli rescue teams on Sunday combed through the rubble of residential buildings destroyed by Ira-

nian missiles, using sniffer dogs and heavy excavators, to look for survivors after at least 10 people, children among them, were killed, raising the two-day toll to 13

'Will pay a heavy price'

Israeli skies have been streaked with barrages of Iranian missiles and Israeli interceptor rockets.

"Iran will pay a heavy price for the murder of civilians, women, and children," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said from a balcony overlooking blown-out apartments in the town of Bat Yam, where six people were killed.

(With AFP inputs)

INDIANS STUCK IN IRAN

» **PAGE 4**

TRUMP'S WARNING

» **PAGE 14**

Issue

Details



 Region

Israel–Iran–West Asia

 Crisis

Both countries exchanged heavy missile and drone strikes

 Warning

Iran's President: *"Responses will grow more severe if hostile actions continue"*

 Israeli Target

Iran's uranium enrichment facility at **Natanz** destroyed

 Iran's Retaliation

Missile barrage hit fuel depot, oil & gas infrastructure

 Death Toll

78 killed across two days (including women and children)







 Negotiation Fallout

Iran backed out of nuclear talks with US due to ongoing Israeli strikes

- **Israel's military** claimed to have destroyed major nuclear assets of Iran.
- **Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian** warned of "more decisive and severe" retaliation.
- **U.S. President Donald Trump** expressed hope for peace and hinted at backdoor diplomacy.
- **Nuclear Talks:** The U.S.-Iran dialogue scheduled for Sunday was **scrapped**.



Strategic Implications for India

Sector	Impact	
 Energy	Risk to India's oil supply, as India imports ~80% of its oil; price volatility expected	
 Diaspora	Indian nationals in Iran at potential risk; evacuation or assistance likely	
 Diplomacy	Balancing act between Israel and Iran—India has ties with both	
 Inflation	Crude oil and gold prices rising globally due to instability	
 Logistics	Suez Canal and Hormuz Strait access at risk, affecting India's trade routes	

Leakage of gas continued for the fourth day at an ONGC well in Assam's Morigaon district, where 70 families have been shifted to a relief camp, officials said on Sunday. A team led by ONGC director (technology and field services) Vikram Chandra, who arrived in the area to take control, they said. The well has not caught fire yet, and no one is injured in the incident, an official told PTI. A senior official of the district administration said that the gas leak has not yet been affected by the incident. "They are getting the smell of gas and are not able to light their stoves or burn anything. We are providing them with gas cylinders and are constantly monitoring the situation," he said.

A Border Security Force (BSF) jawan who allegedly shot dead his senior at a camp in West Bengal's Murshidabad district was arrested, officials said on Sunday. The incident took place around 10.30 p.m. on Saturday at the BSF camp in Dhuliyari, they said. Constable Shivan Kumar Mishra fatally shot his senior, Head Constable Itan Singh Shekawat, using his service rifle after a heated argument. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to probe the case. The prospects were worsened in a BSF unit that was deployed in the area following the recent communal clashes in Murshidabad, they said. *etc.*

Bimal Shrivastava, Perappan
NEW DELHI

The recently released report card on Rajasthan's Cash Plus model - India's first state-led pilot project - shows that the Transfers (DPT) with Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) for nutrition - indicates a 49% rise in infant breast-feeding (now reaching 90% of new-borns), a 20% increase in more receptive to home-based counselling, and improvement in dietary intake of primary school women, and 84% more women using cash species for nutrition.

The State Nutrition Scheme (SNS) and the Pradhan Mantri Matru Sahakari Yojana (PMMVY), which provides financial assistance to pregnant and lactating women, are the two main channels for the PMMVY scheme, in-

implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The scheme is aimed at improving the health and nutrition of mothers and their infants by providing them with a nutritious diet. The scheme was launched in 2004 and has since then been expanded to cover all states and union territories. The scheme is implemented through a network of Anganwadis, which are community-based centers that provide a variety of services, including health and nutrition services, to women and children. The scheme is a key component of the government's efforts to improve the health and nutrition of women and children in India.

Both nations to hold delegation-level talks today; Modi says visit will add significant momentum to bilateral trade and investment relations

Nalini Bhattacharjee
NEW DELHI

India will move ahead with its plans to strengthen ties with Cyprus, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Nicosia where he arrived Sunday evening.

Mr. Modi was greeted by Cyprus President Nikos Christodoulides at the airport. He met the resident Indian community in the island nation, which has been supportive of India's position on the Kashmir issue and has most recently expressed solidarity with India after the terror attack in Pahalgam in April.

"The visit will add significant momentum to India-Cyprus relations, especially in areas such as trade, investment and more," Mr. Modi said on arrival.

"I thank the Indian community for the love. India will continue its efforts to strengthen its ties with Cyprus in the future," said Mr. Modi after meeting the Indian community.

Following the welcome ceremony and the meeting with the resident Indians, Mr. Modi attended a Cyprus-India Roundtable Discussion, organized by the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The visit, which is significant for India as it sends a message to neighbouring Turkey, coincided with the Israel-Iran conflict.

As the airspaces over Iran, Lebanon and Israel were closed owing to the conflict, Mr. Modi's official aircraft flew over

for restricted talks as well as for delegation-level talks that will be followed by press statements.

After conclusion of engagements at Cyprus, the Prime Minister will leave for Calgary, Canada to participate in the G7 summit and then visit Croatia.

Prusa Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Taking a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his three-nation tour, the Congress on Sunday said he had all the energy, excitement and enthusiasm — "a lot" — for such visits and asked could he not sum up his trip to Malaysia by going to Malpura "where the people's suffering continues unabated".

The Prime Minister leaves for Cyprus, Canada and Croatia this morning. There was a hint when he spoke about his knowledge of algebra by spouting the $(a+b)^2$ equation as applicable to India and Canada, but things went horribly wrong thereafter," senior Congress leaders said in a post on X.

"When it appeared that Canada was dragging its feet on the invite to India, Mr. Modi's drum beaters proclaimed that he would not go even if invited. But like always, he stands exposed," Mr. Barnesh said.

The Opposition party said this was Mr. Modi's 35th trip abroad since May 2023 and it was "pathetic of the Prime Minister to treat Manipur in this awful manner".

Peperuda Antihistaminica

The offer of government jobs to the family of Syed Adil Hussain Shah, the local man killed in the Pahalgam terror attack, resulted in discord between the Raibhavan and the Chief Minister's Office on Sunday.

The two sisters bickered after Jannu and Kashnu, Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha visited the victim's family on Saturday in Hapatnar, Amritsar, and handed over the appointment letter to his wife, Gulnaz Akhter, "on compassionate grounds".

National Conference (NC) M.L.A. Tahir Sadiq took exception to the L-G's move to hand over the appointment letter.

"I thank L-G *sahab* for handling over the job order that was already prepared by the Pibhatesh Department. This reflects the maturity and responsibility shown by the elected government. We did not allow any to come in the way of Mr. Sadhu Singh."

To Mr. Singh's statement, the Raj Bhawan clarified that the appointment was made by the L-G by exercising the discretionary powers conferred under Clause 2A of the Jammu



JMR L-G Manoj Sinha gives an appointment letter to Guineas Akhter on Saturday eve

and Kashmiri Rehabilitation Commission Scheme 2022 with a relaxation in Ms. Akhter's educational qualification.

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had also promised to provide jobs to the family. However, on May 16 the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board handles the case, the victim turned to the brother of Shah.

"On one hand, the I-C says he only controls the police, and on the other hand, he tweets about protecting the rights of Muslims. This highlights the problem of the dual power system in Jammu and Kashmir, which can only be resolved through the restoration of Statehood," Mr. Sadiq said.

The Hindu Heritage
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

An F-35 Lightning II fighter jet of the British Navy made an emergency landing at the Thiruvananthapuram International Airport in Kerala on Saturday night.

part of the Royal Navy's Queen Elizabeth Class carriers, is believed to have taken off from a British aircraft carrier operating in the Indian Ocean region.

According to sources, the pilot issued a distress signal on Saturday night following low fuel. Soon after the request, the airport authorities declared a full-scale emergency, and the jet landed safely without any incident.

The British authorities later changed the crew of the jet. They brought in another

Truth be told, made: The British P-38 fighter jet seen parked at the Thiruvananthapuram airport on Sunday, instead, resembles

Across

3/20 What organ's swelling to play loudly will do to make every effort (4,3,1,3,5)

• Museum caps in stock on island (5)

• Planning stylish finale to entertain theatrogoers at premiere (9)

13 Dear wife enraptured by knocking back page, getting a little raucous in excitement (10)

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 at <http://www.jaggs-jaggs.co.uk/jaggs>



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10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Krishna, the world's guru

Adi Sankara says, "The one with curly hair, whose face looks like the full moon, who is adorned with great beaded earrings, I bow to you, Lord Krishna, the guru of the world." Lord Narayana manifested on earth as Rama and Krishna with a distinct purpose. He was born as Rama in Ayodhya, and led by example, a life of virtue despite being the son of a king. He was born as Krishna to be Incarnated Krishna for the purpose of establishing righteousness. In Chapter IV, verse 8 of the Bhagavad Gita, He says, "*Parthivāṁśaśubhānam, viṁśaśaśu dhūśhukratham, dharmamānāpāthānāthāyaśambhāsvat yuge yuge*. For the preservation of the world, for the destruction of the unrighteous, for the establishment of righteousness, I am born in every age."

The forested hill center, and says "I will be born in Mathura
near I still go elsewhere, live with the Yadava and see
myself as Krishna's friend, and to facilitate their marriage,
Vaki and Vasudeva, and to facilitate their marriage, he
enters the mind of Kamsa and makes him conduct the
wedding and drive his wedded sister's chariot.
He enters the mind of Kamsa and makes him conduct the
wedding and drive his wedded sister's chariot.
He enters the mind of Kamsa and makes him conduct the
wedding and drive his wedded sister's chariot.

na. He wanted to establish his status as the guru. In order
to do so, one has to have a shishya and Arjuna was the ideal
one, said Pannal S. Rautakrishnan. His idea upendran re-
turned to the temple, Krishna says, in Chapter IV, verse 10
of the Bhagavad Gita, "*yada yada hi dharmasya glani
bhuyadharata*. (Whenever there is a decline in righteousness
and increase in unrighteousness, I will manifest
Myself.)"

Cash Plus model pushes up early breastfeeding rate, dietary diversity among Rajasthan women

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The recently released report card on Rajasthan's Cash Plus model – India's first State-led pilot project to converge Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) with Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) for improving maternal and child nutrition – indicates a 49% rise in early breastfeeding (now reaching 90% of newborns), 44% of women being more receptive to home-based counselling, 49% improvement in dietary diversity among pregnant women, and 54% more women using cash specifically for nutrition.

The State government scheme augments the national Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), which provides financial assistance to pregnant and lactating women for their first living child. The PMMVY scheme, im-



Improving lives: The scheme scaled up from a district-wise pilot to a State-wide initiative has benefited over 3.3 million women. AFP

plemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, aims to improve the health and nutrition of mothers and their infants by offering cash incentives

Rajasthan carried out the assessment of its enhanced programme through a three-year field study starting 2021.

"Rajasthan is the first to combine cash support for pregnant women with social and behaviour change

interventions (SBCI), such as counselling, home visits, and sessions on nutrition and health. It also includes second-time mothers. This model is already showing a real impact on diet, early registration, and check-ups," said Om Prakash Bunkar, Director, Women and Child Development Department, Rajasthan.

The scheme was started at the end of 2020 in five districts: Udaipur, Banswa-

ra, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, and Baran, as a pilot project. It was scaled up to cover the entire State in 2022. The announced budget for the scaled-up version of the scheme is ₹210 crore, targeting around 3.5 lakh second-time pregnant women in the State per year, as per the budget announcement.

Through the programme, pregnant and lactating women are offered home-based and group nutrition counselling on maternal and child health and nutrition. The programme also includes community and social engagements to drive local behaviour change, and the use of digital media to target younger audiences and male household members.

Challenges faced

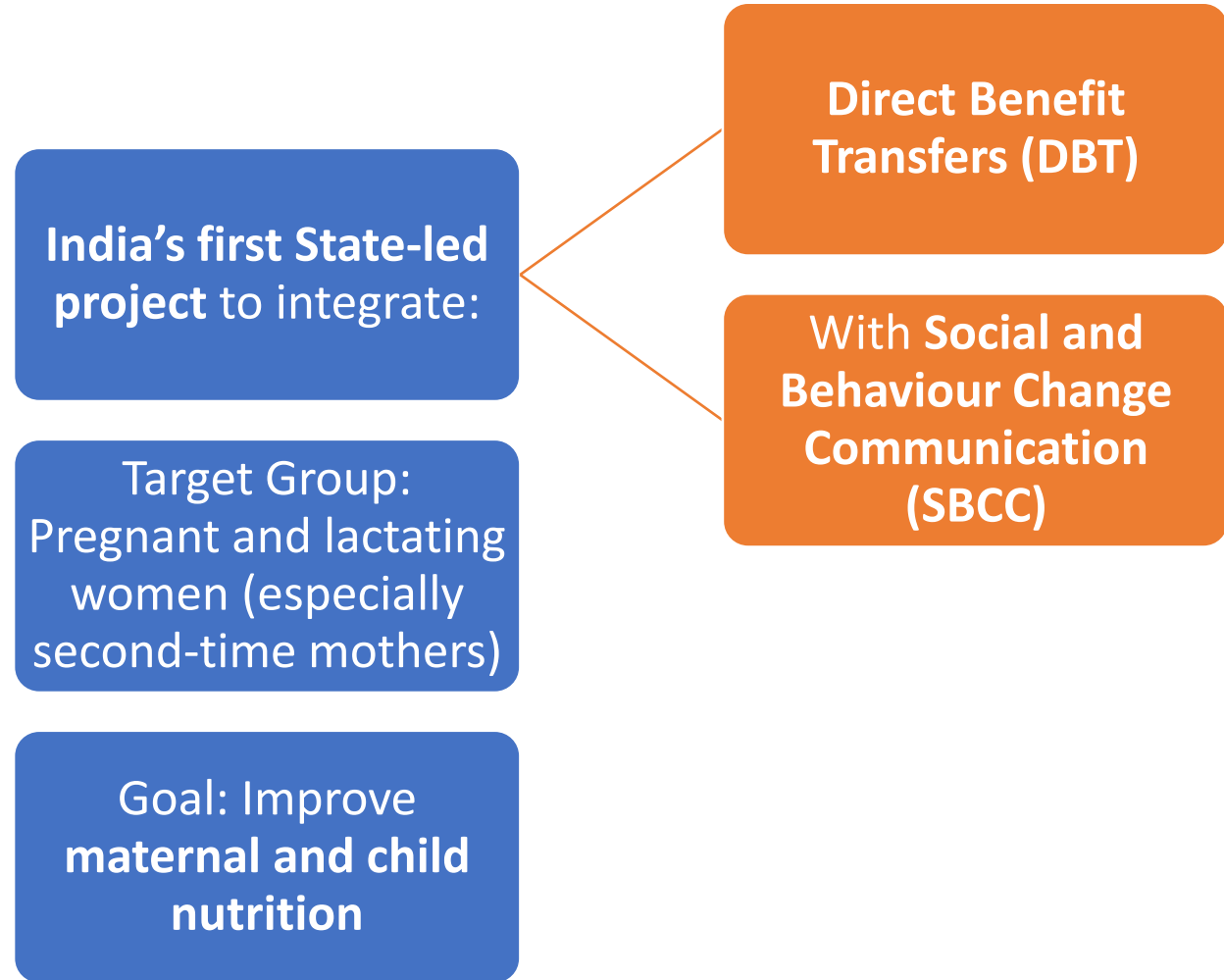
While Rajasthan is focused on reducing mortality rates and improving overall well-being, the challenges it fac-







es includes – incomplete data collection (maternal deaths), disparities in care with the large part of the densely populated State being rural, tackling poverty and lack of education cover.

To date, the initiative has directly benefited over 3.3 million women. As per the survey report, 80% of women reported improved affordability and access to nutritious food, attributing this to greater household awareness and counselling support.


Speaking about how the scheme has helped her, Raju Kumari from rural Rajasthan shared: "During pregnancy, the anganwadi worker registered me and ensured I got vaccinations and checkups. My anemia was detected early, and I was given iron treatment and nutrition advice. I had a normal delivery at a government hospital, and my baby weighed over 3 kg."

What is the Cash Plus Model?








Indicator	Impact
 Early breastfeeding	Increased by 49% (now 90% of newborns)
 Women accepting home-based counselling	Increased by 44%
 Dietary diversity during pregnancy	Improved by 49%
 Use of nutrition-specific cash	54% more women used it for nutritional purposes
 Beneficiaries	Over 3.3 million women impacted
 Awareness	80% reported better access to nutrition & counselling

Feature	Details
✔ Pilot Districts	Udaipur, Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, Baran
📅 Start Year	End of 2020
📅 Study Period	2021-2024
🏛️ Coordinating Bodies	Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of Rajasthan
💰 Budget	₹210 crore/year for 3.5 lakh women
🔄 Augments	Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)


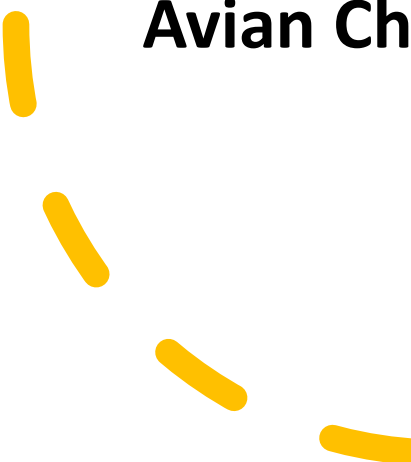
-  **Strategy Used**
- Home-based nutrition counselling
- Early registration of pregnancy
- Sessions on diet & health
- Use of digital platforms for awareness
- Cash transfers linked to nutrition compliance
- Focus on second-time mothers

Challenges Faced

Issue	Description
 Data	Incomplete collection (esp. maternal deaths)
 Rural Outreach	Poor access in remote tribal areas
 Education	Lack of awareness
 Socioeconomic Barriers	Poverty limits dietary choices
 Health Infrastructure	Limited follow-ups and anaemia detection



AviList

- 
- The launch of **AviList**, the world's first unified global checklist of bird species, is a major step towards **standardizing bird taxonomy**.
 - **About AviList**
 - It is the first-ever unified global checklist of bird species, launched after four years of intense collaboration by the **Working Group on Avian Checklists**, under the **International Ornithologists' Union**.
- 

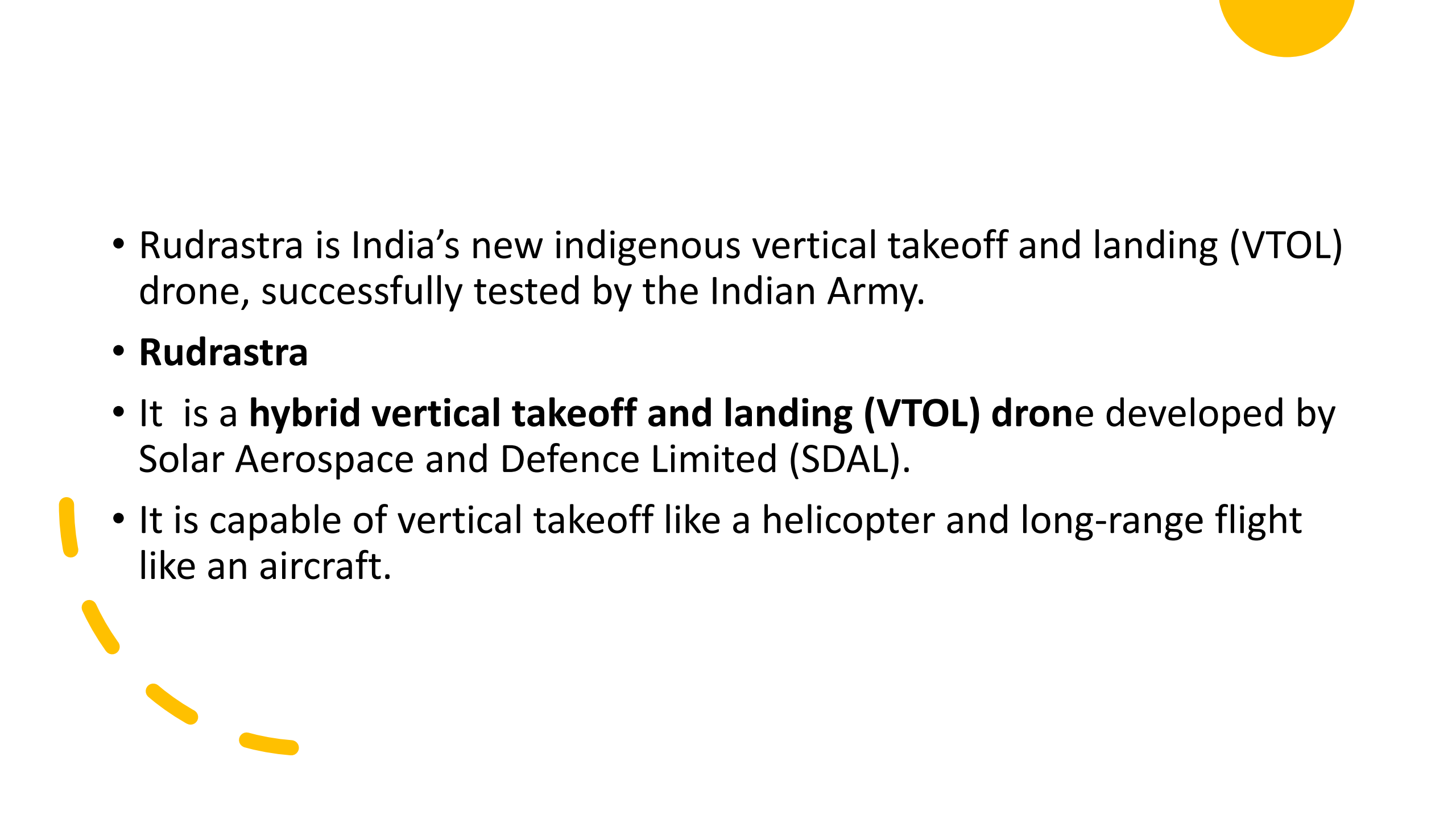
It replaces all **major existing lists (like the IOC and Clements)** to bring consistency and clarity to **avian taxonomy**.

It uses a combination of morphological traits, genetic data, vocalization patterns, ecology, reproductive isolation, and biogeography.

It is **downloadable in .csv and .xlsx formats** — open to scientists, students, and citizens.



Army Successfully Tests Rudrastra

- 
- Rudrastra is India's new indigenous vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) drone, successfully tested by the Indian Army.
 - **Rudrastra**
 - It is a **hybrid vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) drone** developed by Solar Aerospace and Defence Limited (SDAL).
 - It is capable of vertical takeoff like a helicopter and long-range flight like an aircraft.



It is Designed for precision anti-personnel strikes, it can hit targets over 50 km away and has a full range of 170 km.

It is Ideal for deep strikes on enemy camps or artillery and offers the Army a powerful stand-off weapon with no risk to soldiers.

Desi Drones for Cross-Border Strikes



Drones being developed for cross-border strikes to take down enemy artillery positions



Trials conducted at Pokhran firing range

Drones demonstrate ability to take down targets at a range of over 50 km



Drones can relay back live video and return to the launch position in automated mode



Army looking to acquire drones in significant numbers

Rudrastra has demonstrated a total range of 170 km, which included loitering over the target area and an endurance of close to an hour-and-a-half



Word of the day

Puerile:

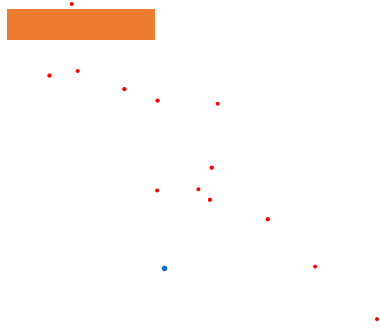
of or characteristic of a child; displaying or suggesting a lack of maturity

Synonyms: adolescent, juvenile

Usage: *I do not like his puerile jokes.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/puerilepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈpjʊə.ɹaɪl/



Thank you
guys.

