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"You do not write your life with words...You write it with actions. What you think is not important. It is only important what you *do*."

Patrick Ness, A Monster Calls





The Hindu Bureau NEW DELIG

ndia's overall trade deficit contracted 9.4% to \$20.3 billion in

the first quarter (QI) of the current financial year, dri-

on by a nearly this growth

n services exports during

his period, according to

official data. Data released by the Mi-matry of Commerce and

industry on Tuesday showed that India's overal

showed that India's overall exports grew to \$20.3 bil-bon in the April-June quar-ter, up from \$198.5 billion in the corresponding pe-riod of the previous finan-cial year, rising about 6%.

INSIDE

Brazil, China,

hard by curbs'

India may be hit

WASHINGTON NATO Secretary General Marts

flutte warned on Wintreaday that countries such as brazil

China and India could be hit

hard by secondary sanctions

they continued to do business

Fall in women at

work in rural and

urban areas: data

with fromin to make an



trade deficit by 9.4% in Q1

Decline in deficit

600

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Around 11% growth in services exports helps overall trade deficit contract to \$20.3 billion: current export growth on track to beat last year's record figures of \$825 billion, says Commerce Secretary

The chart shows fully's expects and execution the April June quarter in the manufacturing and service vectors

Engentia

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support of the transition of the state of the second state of the second



ter of last year. Merchandiae exports in Q1 of this financial year grew junt 2% to \$162.2 bil-lion, However, Mr. Barth-wal emphasized that a store due to filling perro-learn prices, since India's neo-netroisum exports

non-petroleum exports grew 6% during this

period. India's total imports grew 4.4% in Qi of this h

Satyanundar Barik The 20-year-old atudent who had set herself ablaar who had set hernelf althau on a college campus in Od-taba, alleging that her re-peated complaints of sec-ual harasement by a teacher were ignored, died on Morslay night. The student, who was

The student, who was pursuing a 8.46, at Pakir Mohan Autonomous Col-lege in Balasore, ast herself after couside the principal's office on July 12.

"Despite adequate re-uncitation and all possible upportive management, netuding renal replace Including renal replace-ment therapy at Hurna EU, she could not be ruvived and was declared climically dead at 11.46 p.m. on July 14," says a bulletins of the All india thermats of Medi-cal Sciences (AIIMS), Bhu-baneswar, Odisha Chief Mi-

The cost of EU's overtourism Unregulated tourism in some cities is reshu housing markets in EU PINION - PAOL A

SERIES BAREEF Australia skittles out West Indies for 27 SPORT > PAGE 17

Services exports cut India's Execution put off, reprieve for Indian nurse in Yemen

Kallol Bhattacherjee NEW DIG.III



fame's amid efforts to reach a settlement in the case. For m the case, including the businessman, Talal Abdo Houthi administration in Mabdi. The ties soured over financial disputes. The case has drawn ar-

amid ongoing efforts to reach a settlement, Ms. Pri-ya, who hath from Kerala, has been on death row since 2018 following her conviction for the 2017 murder of her former business partner. Sources said negotia-tions were under way to The United States re-transmister was been seen as a second secon

appendie in



Houthi administration in the Verseni capital Sana's. Thespite this sensitivities in treatwork, Indian of the touch with the local juil authorities and the procee-utor's office, leading to ac-tering of the peak and farther reports had sug-general that Ma, Friya's mac-tering of the peak and farther reports had sug-general that Ma, Friya's mac-tering of the peak and farther reports had sug-general that Ma, Friya's mac-tering of the peak and farther reports had be been made available. Ma, Friya had sets by article of the peak and been made available. tention not only for its cir-constances but also due to the complex political stua-tion in Verman. The capital, the complex political stua-tion in Verman. The capital, was tried, is under the con-trol of the Houthi group. The Internationally Recog-ment operates from Aden. The Verman embases in and had point that Me. Priys had not been sen-tenced to death by the Go-vertances to Yearos.



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Happy homecoming for Shukla, 3 other astronauts after mission to the ISS

HENGALURU

Indian astronaut Shubhan-shu Shukla and his fellow crew members on the Astern Mission 4 (Ax-0) re-turned to earth on Tuesturned to earth on Tues-day, with their Spaces tragon capsule splashing down off the San Diago coast in the U.S. at 3.02 p.m. Dif.

point, DBT. They returned from an R-day superary on the la-ternational space station indication of the station indication over ambitions for human apaceflight, with Group Captain Stukks of the Indian Air Force having here nodecided as some of the attronaution on Indica's Cago-

AM ADDRESS

nyaan Mission. The Dragon's splashsameras nauts were assisted by the hasts were assisted by the team aboard the recovery vessel as they went for rou-tine medical chucks after spending nearly three down occurred nearly 25 hours after it departed from the 155 on Monday. The astronauts made their way out of the capsule 50 minutes later, helped by the medical crew aboard the space X recovery ves-sel, sharmon. weeks in microgravity con-ditions. According to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Group Captain Shukia will undergo a rehabilitation prounder the supervision of flight surgeons to help him adapt back to gravity.

The first to come out of Dragon was As-t mission Commander Peggy Whit-son of the L3, file was fai-toward by Group Captain for the mission, Mission for the mission, Mission Speciality Shwoos Uprana-ald Wisniewski of Polarati and Mission Speciality Thior Rappi of Hangay. 320 orbits of earth The four surrounds flow to the US on the Dragon after is was launched by the Fal-con 9 from the Konnedy Space Center in Florida on distant of the local distance



Hard generals Shalishandry Doubla torong tadped suit of the Dragon capitale that splached down off the San Diego coast on Tuesday, etc.

June 25. During the mis-sion which took off from Ploribla after multiple de lays, the crew completed

60 research activities and 23 outreach events. "Thanks for the great ride and safe trip and hap-py to be back." Ms. Whit-son said in her first message post splashdown. Early on Tuesday, spa-cex announced that the had a splastatown. Dragon was on track to re-enter the atmosphere and splash down as per sche-dale. At around 2.09 p.m. the deorbit burn phase of the splashdown com-menced, lasting for about was andr. **Modical** checks menood, latting for about Its minutes. Following the comple-tion of the deorbit burn, the triank was jeithemed, and the Dragon's mose come was secured for entry into the atmosphere. A few

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Odisha student who set herself ablaze on college campus dies

nister and BP leader Mohan Charan Majhi, is a poet on X, aid atringent action would be taken The death has already riggered a maastw politi-cal controversy with both the Riju Janath Dai (BD) and the Campros demand-the Campros demand-the Action of the State State Former Edisha Chief Mi-

minutes later, the Dragon's recovery vessel shannon approached the Dragon. two drogue parachates de-ployed above the Pacific Ocean, followed by deploy-The Dragon was then lifted to the recovery yeared ment of the four main pa-radiates, and the Dragon and placed on the recovery nest behave being moved to the hanger aboard the ship for the opening of the spa-cecraft hatch. After the target buses in Soon after splashdown. a couple of fast boats with recovery personnel ap-proached the Dragon to ensure that the spacecraft was subhatch was opened, the as-tronauts exited the Dragon one by one, completing their mission.

Burn mission, Aston Space solid that the crew will undergo their first medical checks on the second solid solid solid before flying on a helicop-tur back to land. From there, the crew will be flown to Houston where they will be reunited with their respective learns. Modifical checks The recovery personnel then completed milf checks to ensure there were its lasardous chemi-cals around the vehicle and after they picked up the main parachutes, the main

distant and

The last rikes of the stu-demt were performed in Balancee later on Tuesday. The accused teacher, Sa-mir Bahu, and the princi-pal, Dillip Ghosh, were ar-nested later.

matter by harriedly con-ducting the post-morrem and sending the body to Balasore. They were joined by Congress workers. The last rites of the stu-

bers of NSUI staging a protest demanding justice for the ext in front of Udsha Bhavan in New Delhi on Tuesday, and

nister Naveen Patnalk had said the student was she nied justice at every level. A ruckus broke out on the AllMk premises soon where the news of her death invice. A group of RJU lead-ers relad to block the read-while her post-moniton while her post-moniton that the government was composition to hush up the

Those in distress can dial Tele MANAS helpline at conspiring to hush up the

ARRESTORY.

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Provided Later. Deputy Chief Minister Pravail Parida and several BJP MLAs reached the campus to pay their last respects. respirets. Her last rites were per-formed in Bhogarst area of Balasere district in the pre-sence of thousands of

Odiaba Governor Hari Odiaba Governor Hari Balso Kanishampai on Monday hud seught a de-tabled report on the issue

wednesday, hily 16, 2025

Withdraw **Bihar SIR** immediately, says CPI(ML)

The Hindu Buceau

Communist Party of India Obarsist Lendolso general accretary Dipankar Rhatta-churya on Tuesday de-manded that the special in-tensive revision GHR1 in Bihar be withdrawn imme-Amarnaih Tewary diately and that the As-sembly election this year be conducted on the basis of the 2024 voter list. He raised concern about certain claims of the Bleccorruin claims of the Elec-tion Commission, quen-tioning how suddenly peo-ple from hangladesh, Myanmar and Negal were being found by EC sources. being found by RC sources. "This is a list Elections were held in 2024. Was there any such complaint regarding that voter list? How and from where did it appear authenty? In said, Mc. Bhattacharya Al-leged that ndgrauk ishour-ers and Madins of Bihar were being called banglo-ment werken from Bennel up his form and unfmitted is to the same worker when he visited the locality the least day. Dured the cloctoral enum-eration roll form to ever ryone in the locality to fill up and almost all of on sale mitted that form to him the provide the same and the method that form to him the local transmitted that form and almost all of a sale of the local transmitted that the same and the same and the local transmitted that the same and the same and the local transmitted that the same and the same and the same and the local transmitted that the same and the

grant workers from Bengal were also facing the same special intensive revision (UR) of electoral rolls in Re He said that the cam-

har, all residents have to submit enumeration forms for inclusion in the voter paign was being run by ter-rorising people. "Why is "Why is this atm this atmosphere of terror being created?" he asked. list. The last date for sub-mission of forms is july 25.

New fellowship

Jacob Konby

To tap into the expertise of retired scientists, the Ano-sandhan National Re-search Foundation (ANB)

search Fisundation (ANBP) - thu newly continued bo-dy for funding scientific re-learch – has announced the Prime Minister Fractionarchips. Each solected Professor will reselve an annual fel-lowing of KSO lakk, slowg grant for sonsamables, domestic travel, contingen-cies, essimment and other

cles, equipment and other expenses. An overhead of E lakh a year has also been

Il laida a year has alter been provisioned. The Science and Engin GORD, now milssimed un-der the ANRY, had earlies diministered the SERP. Has administered the SERP. Has administered the SERP. Has retired scientists. This science offers of a research num and a monthly follow-hip of fello, 600. Unlike provious follow-able open to overreas

aligo open to overseaa scientista, including Non-Besident Induan, Persona of Indian Origin, and Over-neas Calizens of India. Addi-tionally professionals fields

tionally, professionals from industry and experienced

Professors of Practice with

"distinguished record" of

research and innovation are eligible to apply.

to bolster research

in State universities

Unlike previous fellowships, the new

A key distinction of th

new programme is that re-ciptents must be based at

State universities that qual-ify us "spoke" institutions under Category A of the re-

under Gätegery A of the re-cently birduced Promot-ing Advanced and Inclu-birger mines of the ANRE. The PAIR Initiative lioks universities with nancent research secosystems to top-tier institutions in a mentorship arrangement. Solest Central universities,

Select Central universities, National intritutes of Titch-nology and Italian insti-utes of Information Fach-nology have been classified as "spoke". Institutions, while institutions ranked 28 or helses". Institutions, 28 or helses in the National Institutional Kanking Fra-Usabe". "Applicants with strong messarch condentials must

research credentials must be actively involved in re-search and innovation ac-tivities, and demonstrate a

strong commitment to mentor faculty at the eligi-

vation is still at a nascent stage?" stated a note an-neumening the fellowship.

State universities where research and inno-

millative by the ANBP is also open to

overseas scientists



atyanındar Barik BUBANESWAR

The Gongress-led Opposi-tion has called for an Od-ulia bandh on Thursdey, as grief and nurrage poured in from all quarters over the death of a student who had ast hereielf on fire after her complaint against a because over an element

harassment was ignored on the sampus of a college in Balasore. Taking to the social me-

dia platform 'X' early on Tuesday, Congress leader falsol Gandhi and the

death of a daughter seek-ing justice in Odisha amounted to munder by the bharatiya Janata Party-

led system. The courageous student proke out against second harasoment, he said, but instead of receiving justice, she was met with thesata, harasoment, and releations harding.

Accused shielded' "Those who were sup-posed to protect her were the ones who broke her spirit. As always, the BP system shielded she ac-cused - and pushed an in-nocent girl to the point where ahe sot herself on the other so herself on

a murder orchestrated by the system," he said.

plainant's counsel, hower

Anarest Rishorer, a resident of Pakna who says he received the enumeration form from a click worker spices antoxicitether

As per the Election Com mission norms, only buots lesse afficers (BLOo should distribute the forms should distribute the forms to residents. They should also liste acknowledge ment receipts once the forms are admitted. Mr. Jha has been living in a rested fast in the Kan-kerbagh locality of Patna for decades. He, like others anxious. "I do not know what value this enumerafor decades, the, like others in the locality, added that he "neither got any receipt from the weather, nor the form bow any bar code

"clear the doubt". Speaking to The Hindu, Ma. Devi was non-commit-tal. "I'm not aware if the municipal sweeper is dis-minuting the enameration form in the locality. "I deform in the locality. "I do not know," abs said. So the said of the same polling booth in a school and also as a corner area in polling booth in a school and also as a corner area in where one can go and sub-mit the form. "But, except the soweep-locality for distributing and collecting the electoral and collecting the desctoral contents and form." "Leave solid the set [QR code]". Mr. Jha said he had got a photograph of the filled ap form on his mobile phone for "future references and preset". Manilarly, his noighboan Anand Rishore, 58, too is anatoas "1 do not know "Leave aside the see-manchal (border) or the re-mote districts of 8/har where the 8LOs allogedly

Opposition calls for Odisha

bandh after student's death,

says the 'system failed her'

'Municipal workers distributing

EC norms say booth-level officers should hand over forms to residents and issue acknowledgement receipts those who got

enumeration forms in Patna'

are not reaching out to the residents to distribute the enumeration forms as per tion form has. Here in a lo-cality of the state capital guidelines of the Election Commission, here in Pai-na, sweepers have been distributing the form to the when a sweeper distri-butes and collects forms with no receipt, it creates serious doubts in our minds," said Mr. Anand, an residents and collecting it

THE DINDU

News

insurance agent. He said he planned to meet Booth-level Officer Margu Devi to

eafter for subs What more could be hila-rious than this?" Mr. Kishore said. 'Unnecessary hassle' "It's been an universe any maske for common people like or who doesn't know what is happening. What if we are told at the booth on the election day that we had not filled up our form had not filled up our form and our names bave been deleted from the electoral roll," he asked. Another resident of the fincality, askin Kumar, said he had filled up the bar-coded form after going to the booth. He toe admit-ued that he got the enumer-cit has he got the enumer-cit al worker. "How much cital worker. "How much

can the government do? It's our daity too to do so-mething on our own," he added. Of the total 7.89 crore voters in Bdba, the Else-tion Commission and en-tion Commission and enumeration forms of 83,66% been collected till July 14. The Assembly election is due in the State in October-Nevember this year.

The EC should not start an exercise like the NRC in the name of revision of The Hindu Bareau NEW DELIG Taking on the Election Commission (RC) over re-ports that lakhs of illegal electoral colls, it says persons from Bangladesh, Nepal, and Myanmar had been traced in the special intensive revision G400 of electoral rolls in Bibar, the what the Leader of the Op position in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, and the Congress had been saying - that there was a problem electoral rolls in Bibar, the Compress on Tusenday asked if the poll pamel would declare the previous elections "null and void". "If this is true, then the elections in which the DP has won, they did it with the votes of prosple from Hangladed, Myanmar, and with the electoral rolls, Mr. Rumar said. "If Rabul Gandhi is "I formal Gandhi is right, then the BC should give the Congress the data it has been asking for. First, they should accept this, and then adopt the right method to rectify it," Mr. Rumar said. the votes at beginner and height. These electrons about be disclared mil-and vold? Compress leader to the second second second provide the second second second term of the second second second electron second electron second second electron "If they have to revise, it should be done with tran-sparency and given proper time. What would be done in three months? It should be given 13 months or (car ried out) over three years.

Congress says SIR

should not be about

verifying citizenship

They should revise electo-ral rolls and not ask for proof of citizenship. That is the job of the Union Home Ministry," Mr. Kumar said. The Congress leader also expressed concern ov "the deteriorating law and poll panel had admitted to order situation in Nihar



Kharge meets RS Chairman. seeks debate

The Hindu Bureau Venugopal, and Chief Whips fatrum Ramesh and Kodikunnil Suresh were

About of the Mornison Ser present. The senior lead-ers present included P. Chision of Parliament, Con-gress president Mallikarjun Kharge met Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman apleep Dhankhar on Tuesday. The Opposition, he said.

is keen on ensuring a pro-ductive session. The month-long session is scheduled to commence

a productive Rajya Sabha enstion from July 21st. For that to happen, a numbe of strategic, political, fo reign policy and socio-ecc nomic issues that are of great public concern need to be debated and discussed," Mr. Kharge said in a post on the social media platform 'X' following the

present. The senior lead-ers present included P. Chi-dambaram, Manish Tewa-ri, and Pramod Tiwari. Lok Sabha member Shashi Tu-roor, whose views have been at odds with the par-ty's, was elscent as he was out of the country. Attackers not caught "The Pahalgam torror at tack, that wiped out the sindoor of our sisters, has been one of the biggest at-tacks. We had demanded a special session has the ge-vernment didn't agree. So, we will been our beaus on we will keep our focus on why the perpetrators of such a dastardly attack

have not yet been caught," Mr. Tiwari, Congress depo-ty leader in the Rajya Sab-ha, teld presspersons.

Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) and explore the possibility of holding a meeting of the bloc's leaders on July 19 or 20 and finalies a common seconds agenda. This was decided at a meeting of the parliamen-tary strategy group, presid-ed ever by Congress Parlia-Parlymentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi,

on Tuesday. Party chief Mallikarjan Khargo, who is the Leader

UGE probe Meanwhile, the University Grant Commission has constituted a four-member fact-finding committee to look hite case. The committee world

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examine the circumstanc-es surrounding the inci-dence, grievance redressal compromising punish-ment," he said. Earlier, Odisha Pradesh mechanism, anti-harass-ment measures adopted and snalem support













on key issues

Jakam Barnosh and Peams Tukari after the strategy meeting on Tuesday, A

The intelligence failure that reauted in the Pahaj-gam terror attack, the fai-lout of Operation Mindow and U.S. President Donald Trump's claim of achieving the causefue, india's fiesh engagement with China, and the vehicling in West Asia Invec been Identified Chanceses will like in vehic Congress will like to raise in the Brat week of the Monsoon Neusloh of Parliament. cretary tonganination), K.

Customering of grint: Wornin activists holding a candidight Bhubaneswar for the student, inswerances pour dent Bhakta Charan Das, along with leaders of Left parties, held a prime confic-The special intensive re-vision GHO of electoral rolls in Bilue will be a key focus area for the Congress. The party's leadership will now reach out to other

The Hindu Bureau

constituents of the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA)

of the Opposition in the Ra-lya Sabha, his Lok Sabha counterpart, Rabul Gand-hi, the party's general se-



The Hindu Bureau

Congress MP Rabul Gandhi was granted ball by the Jackhow on Treeday, which is hearing a case re-secting accountions that he men against the Indian mends farses during his mends and the Indian mends farses during his far Gandhi, who amree-dered in the court of Add-tional Chief Add- Magi-tent Add Carriers was

LA CONTRO

grantsed ball after the court allowed bin application; the Leader of Opposition in the Leak Sabita, was al-courted by the same second ball honds of r20,000 each and provide weather during the last second ball honds of r20,000 each and provide second the same second ball honds of r20,000 each and provide second ball honds of r20,000 each and alleged that the Con-s leader had hurt the greas leader had hurt the dignity and respect of the Indian Army and there-fore, should not be granted bail. This matter will next be heard on August 13. Mr. Gambh had reached Lucknew an Tuesday membra morning. Taith in judiciary Senior Congress leaders accompanied Mr. Gandhi to court, including Deputy Leader of the Opposition

4582

T.N. leader moves HC for re-issue of lost passport after refusal from RPO

in the Raiya Sabha Pramos The Hindu Bureau wort. "We have full faith and "We have full faith and respect for the justicity and the court process, Gur header will get pastes. I will be denote the second second court of the second second the Mindu High Court had rejected Mt. Gandhi's petition chal-lenging holt the defami-tion case inself, and the Lucknow MS/MLA court in Full Laws

The Regional Passport Office had reportedly cited NTK leader Seeman has approached the Madras NTK leader forman has approached the Madoa Hand Che Madoa Hand of the leaders have port office (04%) in Chen-mai to release his loar passgort, ading the offici rail cases pending against Justics N. Anand Venka-tesh on Tuesday dimeted Central government cour-ried to take notice on behalt of the RFO, accounter to the criminal cases pending against NTK eader Seeman

request made by a Tamil request make by a Tamil Nadu government adve-sate to grant time till July 22 for filing a status report on behalf of the Impestar of the Neelankarai police status in his affalavit, the peti-

L L L AMONINA

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tioner said he had been facing motivated criminal cases since 2008, and yet, a police complaint was lodged. Thereafter, he ap-plied for reissuance of the cases aims 2008, and yet, be had been visiting many foreign countries to meet the MPO refused to resistant the MPO refused to the court and obtained a fu-cut and the second and the court and obtained a fu-cut and the second and the court and obtained a fu-cut and the second and the court and the second and the s piloid for releasance of the passport in Networksy 2004, Dr. January 31, 2004 the passport. The participant of the sec-tion of the sec-dence of the sec-al sector of the sec-al sector of the sec-al sector of the sec-ption of the sec-tor of the sec-

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amphiling.

New fellowship to bolster research in State universities

Jacob Koshy NEW DELHI

To tap into the expertise of retired scientists, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) – the newly constituted body for funding scientific research – has announced the Prime Minister Professorships.

Each selected Professor will receive an annual fellowship of ₹30 lakh, along with ₹24 lakh as a research grant for consumables, domestic travel, contingencies, equipment and other expenses. An overhead of ₹1 lakh a year has also been provisioned.

The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), now subsumed under the ANRF, had earlier administered the SERB Distinguished Fellowship for retired scientists. That scheme offered a research grant of ₹20 lakh per annum and a monthly fellowship of ₹60,000.

Unlike previous fellowships, the new initiative is also open to overseas scientists, including Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian Origin, and Overseas Citizens of India. Additionally, professionals from industry and experienced Professors of Practice with a "distinguished record" of research and innovation are eligible to apply. Unlike previous fellowships, the new initiative by the ANRF is also open to overseas scientists

A key distinction of the new programme is that recipients must be based at State universities that qualify as "spoke" institutions under Category A of the recently introduced Promoting Advanced and Inclusive Research (PAIR) programme of the ANRF.

The PAIR initiative links universities with nascent research ecosystems to top-tier institutions in a mentorship arrangement. Select Central universities. National Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Information Technology have been classified as "spoke" institutions, while institutions ranked 25 or below in the National Institutional Ranking Framework are designated as "hubs".

"Applicants with strong research credentials must be actively involved in research and innovation activities, and demonstrate a strong commitment to mentor faculty at the eligible State universities where research and innovation is still at a nascent stage," stated a note announcing the fellowship.

Introduction

- New fellowship launched to enhance research in State universities.
- Initiated by the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).
- Key Features
 - Eligibility: Open to retired scientists, Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian Origin, Overseas Citizens of India, and industry professionals.
 - Funding:
 - ₹30 lakh fellowship, including ₹24 lakh as research grant.
 - Covers consumables, domestic travel, contingencies, equipment, and other expenses.
 - ₹1 lakh annually provided over 5 years.
 - Unique Aspect: Open to overseas scientists, unlike previous fellowships.
 - **Professorship**: Prime Minister Professorships announced.

Implementation

- Managed by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB).
- Extends the SERB Distinguished Fellowship for retired scientists.
- Research grant of ₹20 lakh per annum and ₹60,000 monthly fellowship.
- PAIR Program
 - Promotes Advanced and Inclusive Research (PAIR).
 - Links State universities with top-tier institutions (e.g., IITs, NITs, IIMs) for mentorship.
 - "Spoke" institutions include top 25 ranked institutions; others are "hubs".
 - Applicants must demonstrate research credentials and mentor faculty.

- India has a rich history of scientific contributions (e.g., Aryabhata, Susruta), but postindependence, research funding and infrastructure lagged.
- Establishment of SERB in 2007 and ANRF in 2023 reflects a renewed focus on indigenous research.

Geographical Context

- Program targets State universities across India, addressing regional disparities in research facilities.
- Focus on Non-Resident Indians and overseas citizens leverages global Indian diaspora, particularly from the US and UK.

Political Context

- Launched under the Modi government, aligning with the "Make in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives.
- Aims to strengthen State institutions, a key political promise for equitable development.

Question: Which of the following States is most likely to benefit from the ANRF fellowship program due to its large number of State universities and growing research ecosystem? A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Kerala

C) Rajasthan

D) Assam

THE HINDU Editorial

Pain remains Fall in food prices is only one part

of the inflation story Diffic Inflation story. The incomplete in inflation to a 77 menth low of 2.1% in June 2025 should policymakers. The general public, however, would not be two thrilled. There is some good uses for them, but also a duplicant takes of pain, ing, although that too is a suscent effect rather than a structural one. Food and bwergage prices contracted 0.2% in June 2028 on a high base of them, miles anter and part area meters differe in them, miles anter and part area meters differe in them. bles, pulses, spices and mear saw prices falling in june compared to their levels had year. But food is not all that people agend their money on. The data reveal that there were several items and serdata reveal that there were several terms and se-rices of common commission that any inflation regiment new inflation quicklen to 4.4% in jurg-the highest in 15 months. This was driven by a jump in the prices of school, college, and private mittion. Inflation in the health care category, too,

namp for the proteon of school, college, and private matters, indication in the beachcare category, too, matters, indication in the beachcare category, too, this, the personal care segment away inflation pumping to a bilineering 14.4% in know, the eighth and the school of the school of the school of the hormono and a sentiary tangbine. Increme of eighth or regular use and by no stretch heatman. Take the eighth and sentiary tangbines. Increme in dialty or regular use and by no stretch heatman. Take the eighth and the school of the school of the school of regular use and by no stretch heatman. There have the the school of the school of the school of the regular use and by no stretch heatman. These heat regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and by no stretch heatman of the regular use and the stretch heatman of the stretch heatman of the school of the school of the school of Cornamption. Expanditure surveys show the statistics and Programme traplementation in the facilitation and Programme traplementation in the statistics and Programme traplementation in the statistics and Programme traplementation in the stretch statistics and Programme traplementation in the school of the statistics and Programme traplementation in the school of Itations and Programme Implementation in the process of updating the CFC. The CFD heavy years to far set as 2011 42 – is being updated to a more rent congroups of the constraint of the up-date cannot happen fast enough, as even mome-tary policy is currently dependent on this instituted and interpretationative measure. In the mediated and interpretationative measure. In the operation of the average india to described in the details, and it is will a pointid one.

More than symbolic Legislative measures to curb unhealthy

food intake are a must

IDIO INTRACE ARE A THE AT MUMI two months attention of the client surveyed at animated schools to establish 'sugar locate's to monitor and reduce the sugar intake of children. These will first information on the recommended daily augus intake, this sugar content in commendy cont surreed foods, headly risks associated with high sugar consumption, and healther divisor hy sta-natives. The utilitatives have been driven by stanatives. The initiative have been driven by stu-dies that provide evidence of horizonian density increased from many 1958 to 2496 in men and from 128 to markly 15% to 2496 in men and from 128 to markly 15% to 2496 in men and in fielding markly and provide the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the information of the state of the state of the state in the absence of easiertid legislative measures.

In the absence of ensemble to taking a many many first Surprisingly, while the limit his history has tar-geted Indian stracts, nothing has been done over the years to introduce clear front of package la-bels to capiton propile about univality packaged food items, and regulate the advertising, marketing and promotion of unbealthy food to children. Also, levying additional tax on food products with high levels of fat, sigar, and salt (HFSD can orther reduce consumption, as seen in some countries. As in the national multisectoral action plan for prevention and control of com bin for prevention and control of continues non-terminative disease (2007-25), the Pool Marky in our control of exception of the second protocol and the second detailed marking the protocol and the second detailed mark and protocol detailed and the second detailed protocol detailed and the second detailed and the second detailed and protocol detailed and the second detailed and the second deta nicable disease (2017-23), the Food Safety

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he Rupreme Court of India's sentencing judgment in Re. Right to Privacy of Adolescents (May 2025) is a remarkable symple of the transfer adoutcents they acts is a remain example of the Court revisiting its atomics by prioritising the voice of the young person most impacted by the criminal case initiated for her protection.





provisions and semenced the accused to 20 years improvement. The approach the Colours High 2022, during the approach the Colours High 2022, during the approach the Colours High and the second second the balay and a motive in law with cancer, while fighting for the relates of the traces for the the balay and a constituted an offence. Taking a "humane view of the numer to be complete justice" the High Court constituted an offence. Taking a "humane view of the matter to be complete justice" the High Court ensity that "the approach solution where the POCED Act remains addisecterist vulnerable to behaviour," the High Court also made several problematic comments, including one that female addisecterists about "control courd argues at the gives in to enjoy the sensal pleasare of hardly was minutes".

Supreme Court, in December 2023 took up the matter suo motu in Re- the Right to Privacy of matter and more as for the Regist to Primary of Adorszenics. Is restored the accused's conviction and rejected the concepts of "non-exploitative" exiting accused with a minore agad 14 years, and the category of "older adorscents". Incidentially, both these concepts are recognized in international buruan rights law and medical parlance, respectively. General Comment No. 20 by the Committee on the Rights of the Child ry the Committee on the Rights of the Child under the UNCRC, exhorts states to "avoid criminalizing adolescents of similar ages for licitually consensual and non-explositative sexual activity". to be revisited

Top concrisinter vention Pollowing media outrage over these remarks, the The POCSO Act's blanket assamption that all soxual acts involvingadolescents are inherently

imploitative needs

Before finalising the sentence, in August 2024, the Court took a step, befitting the case's complexity, by directing the state to appoint an expert committee comprising a clinical psychologies, a social security, and a child welfare affluer to accertain whether the "vettim" - new an adult – wanted to continue living with new an adult - wanted to continue living with the assumed or preferred to accept benefits officied by the Atate Coverinnent. The control of the state Coverinnent. The the second of the state of the second second and financial toll that the legal batch had had on the finantly and the 'collective failure of the asymptotic filling of the collective failure of the second second second second second second the heart of this case. The young woman had sport her sparse resources fighting for the prepresentor's release, failing sind delta and mapping to routine with her family. It concluded that "sadty, true justice lists in protecting the

The issue with criminalising all adolescent relationships

'sadly, true justice lies in not sentencing the accused to undergo imprisonment", adding that "If we send the accused to jail, the worst sufferer will be the victim herself."

will be the victim hemself." Both the right Court and Suprems Court barred their cases from being (neated as precedent, with the top court describing this as an "estimationary" case. However, empirical studies suggest that adolescent relationships, especially above 16 years, is not agresordinary to a common coulty. An Enhald study of 1719

especially above 16 years, is not entroordinary but enormanic sectors. An Enable analysis of 7,758 economic sectors and the sector of the sectors POCRO pulpments in Assam, Mahanabira and West Bengg Detween 2018 to 2020, 24,756 involved romanile relationships, with R29, of the accursed. Another mays by Pinfold and P29A, on judicial trends in 264 cases under Sectors 0, POCSO AC from these Searces found the 25,956 POCSO AC from these Searces found the 25,956 POCSO AC from these Searces was never the edge calve of the POCSO Act, while scientific modules continues (2020 Act, while scientific modules (2020 Act, while scientific modules (2020 Act, while scientific modules) (2020 Act, and (2020 Act, relationships under POCSO Act. This judicial reluctance reveals the limitations of case-by-case receptions and the urgent need for structural eform.

The system that continues to fall With remarkable candour, the Supreme Court With iterariable candous, the supreme Conit acknowledged, "This case is an illustration of the complete failure of our society and our legal system." Community humiliation, family abaent child protection systems, corrupt legal practices and sensitionalist modes coverage unit filiatia to her seven year ordeat. However, the Court's assumption that implementation of the rehabilitative provisions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 histoci Care and Protection of Children's Act, 201 by the Child Welfare Committee would ensure that "so victim will face the attuation which the victim in the case had to face", belies the experience of many addictation girls, who routinely endore traffortunalisation, bomiliation and the deprivation of liberty in such cases.

and not top transform to non-ty in calculations, A viceting, but of wohnt? As the law sets the age of consent at 10 - a. As the law sets the age of consent at 10 - a. The Supermote Costri, in its initial judgment, did not envisage any non-exploitative consensual relationship involving an absolute over. This of the Calcular High Court that "the iaw undermines the destruct of adelescent gifts by casing them as with ecking", indicating a patternalistic approach instable to linguistic such adelescents at anything but Vienne. The supermutation is a super committee report emphasization is a super committee report emphasization is a super committee report

recovered, the expert comment report emphatically stated that "The law saw it as a crime, the victim did not... the legal crime did not cause any trauma on this particular victim. It was the consequences thereafter". Her trauma stermined not from the relationship itself but from police involvement, court proceedings, and her struggle to assure the partner's release while

struggle to ansure her partner's release while relating a child alone. This case expense the haskamental tensions within the PCISO Act and grownel realities of addessard ressulty. The girl's consent was associated to the series of the second second acceptability of child marriage, a lack of opportunities, and exposure and the culture lack of partners and the first second marriage. Nevertheless, it second thereaft on re-architectures and the culture needs to re-architecture and the culture acts involving addescents are inherently exploitative. Young people who choose to marry early are

Total geople who choses to harry saily as often asserting their ageocy through the very smitted options available within patriarchal annahres. While consent may be flawed in auch cases, it is crucial to interrogate state responses and whether they are support-oriented, shape the ability to exercise choice, and expand options. True pusice requires moving beyond criminalising all adolescent relationships. Instead it must recognise consent of those above 16 years with conditions in which consent will be invalid such as coercion, and sexual relationships with persons in positions of trust and authority. It also necessitates addressing the root causes of meconstance anteresting the roots cancers of undersage dispersions and prover industances in instinate relationships. The Court's direction to the central government to consider measures for comprobusise associative education, life-skills training, emergency assistance, coupselling services and comprehensive dates collection on these interventions, is a steep in this direction. +

The U.S. established and extinguished multilateralism

The Provident of the United States, Donald Trump, is the Visible part of the global states and the Visible part of the global states and the Visible part of the global states and the Visible states and the States Association and the Visible states and compare and the Visible states and the states Association and the Visible states and the Vis Mukul Sanwal

focus on South South cooperation. Essentially, unilateral tariffs are a means to bring individual countries to the table for seeking concessions,

not global cor

The U.S. sheets the U.S. same is assume that 2028 is not 1980 and the U.S. cannot shape a new common global harroward. The mainstant interest of the U.S. new influences through from the world's next con-products, which is the odder aids of the coint. Over the last 25 years, the world' has become trade and fhancial anteriotism provide a more effective management tool than leverage forough thow to respond as 75 years of diglormatic limitary. As a result. India needs to ow to respond as 75 years of diplomatic history has been erased by raw power. Where does this state of flux heave india with frame a new compass for tself and for the its young population having the potential to be the third largest economy in 2027 and overtake the U.S. by 2075, with global influence based on **Global South**

LETTERS TO

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a former Lester atiens diplomat

leadership of the Clobal Xouth? The answer lies in accepting the end of multitateralism. The answer lies in focusing on national prosperity and south South corperation. South South corperation. Universe the mental bimetics of a south can no impure the financial bimetics of a southy block in the UN. India needs their aupport in elections and positions in various committees for global influence, is that already lost the electical post of was a base of the Essenvilve Band of UNECCI in subsnoring? for what it is, harmely, munically between their of the to be and the financial for the between their of the source emunicaling its core autonomy: for what it is, namely, nonrainy between major powers and enuncialing its core interests in its own wolfur pattern. Second, the challenge for a continential size 'Atmanifoldar ilharat' of one billion people is to look east, and not west, for ideas. Trade concessions to the U.S. should be tuned to trade agreements with the Association of Southeast

agreements with the Annocustor of southeast ann Nations, is loss of exports to the U.S., for example, itsel, can be offset by a network of expressives, high speer rail, data cancers with assured electricity and science universities rewritening essessmption and exports, for 2013, China apent almost half its CDP on infratructure unit such some makes for substituties elastic

and digit growth. Third, indiara intrinsic sensingth is being at the forefront of the fourth industrial revolution, a new chapter in human development. According to the World Intullectual Property Organization, India has severaken the U.K. and Germany in the endiabate and hear and development. According to the World Intullectual world and the severation of the terminant of the endiabate and the severation of the terminant of the endiabate. number of GenAl patents published, and has a strong foundation for endogenous growth and coll-being.

being re-written for reliance on integrated air defence, autellites, missiles, drones and cyber.

Fourth, the world over, military doctrines are

and needs to path this to focus on growth. Union helevine Minister Kajath Singly's assertion that india and china should not "remain stuck in the path", achieve triat and work on the gool of each invourably received by China that is presoccupied with Taiwan and in reisponting is bit Trump. The indus Waters Treaty, where Fakistan is here to regarging, provides a new frame to achieve simpler with be a decisive step to setting the international border in jammia and Kadimir. The real becom from "operation Sindoor" is the oldest one in military history – wision the in knowing when not be a military solution. Summit as opportunity Last, the RRCS teammit in India in 2028 provides an opportunity to revealine the Global South around cooperation jettisoning the multilatoral practice of collective bargaining by the G-77 socking benefits from the G-7. The future lies in abactor provention for production for the future lies in having prosperity by reorienting tariffs and value halos to divert exports to meet growing

consumption in the South. It should be possibl at the low prices the South currendly gets, and done in a manner that complements, not threatens, local production. Certainly a selamic shift, but so was multilateralism in 1950.

In India, the dark reality at be graund level is that andinary people do not find food prices drapping for reports any inflation has come down (Page 1, July 15). The inflation rates released perhaps used only for the upward or the downward actors it.		with her acting brilliance. She leaves behind a monumental legacy that shaped the golden era of	be remembered for her screen presence. The saris and jowellery that she wore in films became a trend and	style in those days. She will live on in our hearts. M. Pradys, Kannar Kenta	The vesid will be difficult to fill. The Tamil film fraternity has last a commanding artist. B. Saroja Devi
	An eric ends in Indian Cinema with the passing of actor It. Seraja Devi. She indian cinema and one of Booth Indian cinema and one of Booth Indian cinema and actor indian cinema and beirwed female actors, who mesmeeted generations of audiences	Backh Indian (Ims. Rames) & Jakkwant, Rengalan. Indian Cinema has Jost one of its (Inest and most of the finant of sales), heaving and planet of sales, heaving and parse. Due of Indias andy pan-India heroines, ahe will	Concernition: A Classifications Altera Ana Section 2017 and a classification of the Altera and Altera (Section 2017) and Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Concerne and Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Concerne to India danages primer to defension here assumed: "Officient Party Concerne to India danages primer to defension here assumed and Altera Concerne to Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Altera Concerne to Altera Alter		remained an artist lill her retirement from the tinsel world, with her domineering presence and mature acting. Mare Neterengian, Chemie
					Letters provided to lettersproachinduces in most carry the postal address.

For the first time since balapendense, india is in a position to be a global leader in all domains, enabling a substantial reduction in costly ground forces and imported large platforms, giving factbilling in forcing noicley and spin-oth for

provents, Fifth, India is already revisiting the way it has framed border issues beforer from colonialism and needs to pash this to focus on growth. Union

The issue with criminalising all adolescent relationships

he Supreme Court of India's sentencing judgment in *Re: Right to Privacy of Adolescents* (May 2025) is a remarkable example of the Court revisiting its stance by prioritising the voice of the young person most impacted by the criminal case initiated for her protection.

The Court exercised its extraordinary jurisdiction, under Article 142 of the Constitution, and did not impose any sentence on a young man convicted of aggravated penetrative sexual assault under Section 6, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The case involved a 14-year-old girl from rural West Bengal who left her home to be with a 25-year-old man. The criminal justice system was set in motion by her mother. Although she stayed in a shelter and was restored to her mother, she left again to be with the man due to stigma, humiliation, and surveillance from her family. They got married and had a child in 2021 – when the girl was 17. He was arrested subsequently and tried for

kidnapping, rape, aggravated penetrative sexual assault, and child marriage.

Despite noting the helplessness of the girl in court, with the child on her lap, the POCSO Special Court was constrained by stringent legal provisions and sentenced the accused to 20 years imprisonment.

In 2022, during the appeal, the Calcutta High Court recognised her distress - cut-off by her family and left to care for the baby and a mother-in-law with cancer, while fighting for the release of her partner. It noted the socio-economic background of the couple who did not understand that their relationship constituted an offence. Taking a "humane view of the matter to do complete justice" the High Court reversed the lower court's conviction. While noting that "the approach adopted under the POCSO Act renders adolescents vulnerable to criminal prosecutions for normative sexual behaviour," the High Court also made several problematic comments. Including one that female adolescents should "control sexual urge/urges as in the eyes of society she is the looser [sic] when she gives in to enjoy the sexual pleasure of hardly two minutes".

Top court's intervention

Following media outrage over these remarks, the Supreme Court, in December 2023 took up the matter suo motu in Re: the Right to Privacy of Adolescents. It restored the accused's conviction and rejected the concepts of "non-exploitative" sexual acts with a minor aged 14 years, and the category of "older adolescents". Incidentally, both these concepts are recognised in international human rights law and medical parlance, respectively. General Comment No. 20 by the Committee on the Rights of the Child under the UNCRC, exhorts States to "avoid criminalizing adolescents of similar ages for factually consensual and non-exploitative sexual activity".



Swagata Raha is a legal researcher on child protection



Pattanayak

is a legal researcher on child protection

The POCSO

Act's blanket

assumption that

adolescents are

all sexual acts

involving

inherently

needs

exploitative

to be revisited

Before finalising the sentence, in August 2024, the Court took a step, befitting the case's complexity, by directing the state to appoint an expert committee comprising a clinical psychologist, a social scientist, and a child welfare officer to ascertain whether the "victim" – now an adult – wanted to continue living with the accused or preferred to accept benefits offered by the State Government. The committee's report and the Court's interaction with the woman revealed the heavy emotional and financial toil that the legal battle had had on the family and the "collective failure of the systems" in protecting her.

The Court recognised the profound irony at the heart of this case. The young woman had spent her sparse resources fighting for the perpetrator's release, falling into debt and moving from court to court in desperate attempts to reunite with her family. It concluded that "sadly, true justice lies in not sentencing the accused to undergo imprisonment", adding that "if we send the accused to jail, the worst sufferer will be the victim herself."

Both the High Court and Supreme Court barred their cases from being treated as precedent, with the top court describing this as an "extraordinary" case. However, empirical studies suggest that adolescent relationships, especially above 16 years, is not extraordinary but a common reality. An Enfold study of 1,715 "romantic cases" showed that out of 7,064 POCSO judgments in Assam, Maharashtra and West Bengal between 2016 to 2020, 24.3% involved romantic relationships, with 82% of victims in such cases refusing to testify against the accused. Another study by Enfold and P39A on judicial trends in 264 cases under Section 6, POCSO Act from these States found that 25.4% involved consensual relationships.

Various High Courts have emphasised that criminalising consensual sex was never the objective of the POCSO Act, while scientific studies confirm that sexual exploration is normal for older adolescents. However, recently the Bombay High Court in Aakash Waghmare vs State of Maharashtra (2025) refused to quash a case involving a consensual relationship, by stating that such petitions should wait until the government considers the suggestion of decriminalisation of adolescent sexual relationships under POCSO Act. This judicial relatcance reveals the limitations of case-by-case exceptions and the urgent need for structural reform.

The system that continues to fail

With remarkable candour, the Supreme Court acknowledged, "This case is an illustration of the complete failure of our society and our legal system." Community humiliation, family abandonment, paternalistic judicial language, absent child protection systems, corrupt legal practices and sensationalist media coverage contributed to her seven-year ordeal. However, the Court's assumption that implementation of the rehabilitative provisions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 by the Child Welfare Committee would ensure that "no victim will face the situation which the victim in the case had to face", belies the experience of many adolescent girls, who routinely endure institutionalisation, humiliation and the deprivation of liberty in such cases.

A victim, but of what?

As the law sets the age of consent at 18 – a development from 2012 before which it was 16 – the Supreme Court, in its initial judgment, did not envisage any non-exploitative consensual relationship involving an adolescent. The Supreme Court dismissed the observation of the Calcutta High Court that "the law undermines the identity of adolescent girls by casting them as victims, thereby rendering them voiceless", as "shocking", indicating a paternalistic approach unable to imagine such adolescents as anything but victims.

However, the expert Committee report emphatically stated that "the law saw it as a crime, the victim did not... the legal crime did not cause any trauma on this particular victim. It was the consequences thereafter". Her trauma stemmed not from the relationship itself but from police involvement, court proceedings, and her struggle to secure her partner's release while raising a child alone.

This case exposes the fundamental tensions within the POCSO Act and ground realities of adolescent sexuality. The girl's consent was undeniably flawed, given her age, poverty, lack of a supportive environment and the cultural acceptability of child marriage, a lack of opportunities, and exposure and life choices beyond marriage. Nevertheless, it exemplifies the need to re-examine the blanket approach under the POCSO Act and its assumption that all sexual acts involving adolescents are inherently exploitative.

Young people who choose to marry early are often asserting their agency through the very limited options available within patriarchal structures. While consent may be flawed in such cases, it is crucial to interrogate state responses and whether they are support-oriented, shape the ability to exercise choice, and expand options. True justice requires moving beyond criminalising all adolescent relationships. Instead it must recognise consent of those above 16 years with conditions in which consent will be invalid such as coercion, and sexual relationships with persons in positions of trust and authority. It also necessitates addressing the root causes of underage elopements and power imbalances in intimate relationships. The Court's direction to the central government to consider measures for + comprehensive sexuality education, life-skills training, emergency assistance, counselling services and comprehensive data collection on these interventions, is a step in this direction.

Introduction

- Article discusses the Supreme Court of India's sentencing of a juvenile (May 2025) for a relationship with a 14-year-old girl, raising concerns about criminalising adolescent relationships.
- Key Issues
 - Legal Context: Under Article 142 of the Constitution, the court convicted the juvenile, citing the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) 2012.
 - Case Details: Involved a 14-year-old girl and a 15-year-old boy in a consensual relationship, leading to a conviction despite mutual consent.
 - Court's Decision: High Court reversed the lower court's conviction, but the Supreme Court upheld it, emphasizing POCSO provisions.

- Arguments
 - Pro-Criminalisation: Protects minors from exploitation, aligning with international conventior (e.g., UNCRC).
 - Anti-Criminalisation: Criminalising consensual adolescent relationships violates privacy and autonomy, especially when both parties are close in age.
- Judicial Perspectives
 - High Court and Supreme Court: Differing views—High Court favored consent, while Supreme Court prioritized POCSO strictness.
 - Criticism: Legal experts argue POCSO's broad application may harm adolescent development
- Systemic Concerns
 - POCSO Act's blanket approach fails to distinguish consensual relationships from abuse.
 - Lack of age-specific guidelines leads to unjust convictions.

Recommendations

- Need for revisiting POCSO to accommodate consensual adolescent relationships.
- Emphasis on education and awareness over criminalisation.

Contextual Facts for UPSC CSE Exam

- Historical Context
 - POCSO Act 2012 was enacted post-Nirbhaya case (2012) to strengthen child protection laws, reflecting India's response to rising sexual violence.
 - Evolution of juvenile justice from the Juvenile Justice Act 1986 to the JJ Act 2015 shows a shift toward rehabilitation.
- Geographical Context
 - Case occurred in West Bengal, highlighting regional variations in legal interpretation and enforcement.
 - Urban-rural divide affects awareness and application of POCSO.

Question: In which State was the case discussed in the article, involving the criminalisation of adolescent relationships under POCSO, adjudicated? A) Maharashtra

B) West Bengal

C) Tamil Nadu

D) Karnataka

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

THE HINDU Opinion



The nodal intercontrary to the PTAA, but the lotter violated grant sathios: statistical authority to sathios: statistical authority to umanagement plans in their community forest resource (CPR) orces by institution on a model plan areas by institution on a model plan of MoTAA. This is nor negatived by departments or MCDs from reproducing this sather any possible of the sather any possible of the sather or provide the sather any of the sather the same sate of the sather any satisfies of the sather any sather the sather any sather the sather any satisfies of the sather any satisfies of the sather any sather the sather any sather the sather any sathe anagement planning. The letter was withdrawn after a spirited grassroots mobilisation by gram sabhas, local elected representatives, and Adivasi right groups. Still, the persistent attack on gram sabhas' autonomy in managing their forests demands a closer look at how forests should be managed under the FRA.

Porest management Historically, forests under

Historically, forests under gevennismet centrol (sinchalting wildlife aanotuaries or national parko have been mutuged through forest departments' working plane. These plane are rooted in the colonial missoner of "scientific Investry", i.e., planning and harvesting to maximise timber production. Ecologists, starting with Midhay Gadgil, quesidoned this approach, especially since early working plans even included clearfellin natural forests and replacing them with single-species plantations. The decline in India's forests, evidenced by the spread of

consider restruction and widdline conservation objectives, they remain products of house ratio independent activation of the independent activation of the independent activation of the relation of the independent of local communities in the "warp virtual activation of the independent of local communities in the "warp virtual activation of the independent of local communities in the "warp virtual activation of the independent of local communities in the "warp and the independent of the independent of local communities in the "warp independent of the independent of local communities in the "warp and the independent of the activation with warphing under the the activation with warphing under the independent of with working plans by the gram sabha. In other words, working plans will no longer apply in CPI areas, because communities will manage forests with a different objective and at much finer scale Over 10,000 gram subhas have received CPRR titles in India, but perhaps less than 1,000 have prepared their CPR management

perparted their CPR management plans, Even their implementation is constrained by the reducat of their legitimacy and appendix pro-nabhas. Instead, they have partned a trategy of attrition, delaying or rejecting CPRR claims, attempting to reveals CPRR dise, attempting correspondences, attempting correspondences, attempting correspondences, attempting correspondences, attempting constraints, attempting constraints, attempting constraints, attempting colonial power is aim to retain colonial power is concealed under arguments that commanifies lack the ability to manage forests scientifically. Community forest resource rights demands MoTA's vacilitating responses have not helped. In 2019, it issued guidelines that grain sabhas can use simple formats for their plans, but later came under pressure to after its stand. A 2024 joint letter shedding historical baggage and embracing new possibilities

nows are personal

accomptioned on the company processies and data-thermsive formate that the NWPC present flow carry the hangover of makimaling timber yield. In contrast, forest management by grant addhas will likely parmie multiple livelihood needs, for witch the NWPC needs, for which the NWPC provides little guidance. Significant portions of working plans are devoted to cataloguing local conditions, but they abstract their complexities to facus on the format away four encoded on the format away four encoded on the the same because these insights are part of their lived experience. The variable impacts of climate change also challenge the linear trajectories of working plans, which need more adaptive which need more adaptive responses that gram sabhas offer. CPRR demands shedding historical baggings and embracing new possibilities. new possibilities. The path ferward is evident. The Dhait Aala Janjulija Claan United States and States and States Introduced an indicative framework for CFR management plans. While the fumework can be improved. It can be achieved through flocible and feasible may field any attempt to denal must reject any attempt to derail CPR management through the real herring of NWPC compliance. And forest departments must provide funds and protection when required and discard a timber-oriented science in favour of a different science of a people-friendly forest

The AIADMK and the BJP have contradictory positions and need to clear the air ternent of single-party rule in eensent of single-party rule in the State. Sumptic the cortflict-ing views of the two parties, the RJP State prostdemt, Nai-nar Nagendran, and Union Mi-nieter of Riste L. Martiggap par-ticipated in Mr. Palaninewani's campaign hunch. In one interview, Mr. Shah said that the nominee for the per from the ALADMIC, he did not mention Mr. Palaninewa Torreil Bandhi amounteed in April hat the between the Bharati-ya Janata Party (BJP) and the All Tadia Anna Dravida Many had been restored, there has been an attempt by either par-ty to conceal the apparent been an attempt by either par-ty to conceal the apparent of the second second second second jointly with the AIADMS gen-oral ascretary, Bidappadi K. Pa-lantewarni, M. Shab said, "We he leadership of Edappadiji." He also added that there would be a "coalition govern morth, it is not just this annuance ment. If is not just the AIADMS gene the fulfing the AIADMS gene the fulfing the AIADMS gene an ensurement. compulsion, political circles discussed whether the party would be able to obtain a simnot mention Mr. Palaniswa mfs name. This did not go un noticed in the DMK circles. would be able to obtain a sing ple majority of its own. The AIADMS isochood to secure ID AIADMS isochood to secure ID AIADMS isochood to secure ID AIADMS isochood to the able of the secure ID be concept of sharing power in the State. However, the par-ticle concept of sharing power in the State. However, the par-ity had no reuse to worry is it is a single majority as it wood of a sit wood of a single majority as it wood of a single majority The party sought to corner the ALADMK general sourceary and saw Mr. Shah's statement and anw Mr. Shah's statement as a lack of confidence in Mr. Palaniawann's Toadership qualities. Heentually, it was left to Mr. Faigendran to clarify that the ALADMK leader would head the government. Yet, specialition is rife that the Union Minister may have mented to the Mr. Manager and the Mr. Manager and the Mr. Alaman Minister may have mented to the Mr. Manager and menter and the Manager menter and the Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager Mr. Alaman Mr. Manager Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager and Mr. Manager Mr. Manager and Mr. Manage three weeks ago, the AIADMR strongman shared the stage with Rashtriya Swayamsevak to the idea of a coalition go-vernment in Tamil Nadu. In the 1960 Assembly electhat the DME patriarch man-aged to form the government without sharing power with Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat and senior BP leaders at the birth cemenary celebration of In the 1290 Assembly else-tions, the BMK-Congress con-tinue failed to capture power-tion consistent an equal num-ber of seats. After a round of wornging with the proset that the these DMK chair, M. Karto mainlich, would be projected and the these DMK chair, M. Karto the these DMK chair, M. Karto the these DMK chair, M. Karto the these the coalition that the theorem, the coalition that the ALADMK, which subha chectons earther that without sharing power with the Congress. After making the comment fair position in many inter-views to the media. However, the ALDMK is charafy not on Union Minister's samp-Charan Minister's samp-charant and the sample of a confliction government would "never ever," find ac-ceptance among the people of injewards, web launched a the portfiff of Perur Matt, Shandtallings Ramasamy Adi-galar. He later explained that he attended the event, which he attended the event, which he termset as "apdifical", eatly as a level legislator. Prior to the announcement on the the there were reports of diffe-rences of opinion between the AIADMK Chief and some of his ensity of bilaguus, including bir. Vetumiani. Sabha elections earlier that year and aubsequently lost power in Tamil Nada, staged a spectacular conschack in the Assembly polls. niswami, who launched a State-wide tour from July 7 in the run-up to the 2020 Asture of government could spoil the narrative for the Op-position parties, it would be in the interest of the alliance to not out the issue scient. Having said that, it remains inexplica-ble that this debate is even ragsembly elections, has been as-serting that the AIADME will Assembly polls. In 2001, when the AIADME contested the Assembly elec-tions from H1 seats – the low-est number it has ever contest-ed – in view of coalition serting that the AIADME was form the government after gaining a majority on its own. When asked to comment on Mr. Shah's position, he said he interpreted them as an endoring given that the composition of different alliances has not even been finalised yet.

More tourist beds, fewer homes: cost of 'overtourism' in EU

Unregulated tourism in some European cities is reshaping housing markets by pricing out residents

Niraniana V.B.

The second secon

DATA POINT

it is rooted in structural issues, Da-ra shows that ourison, when ur-regulated, reshapes housing marinvesta accommodations in worth-ern Kurope highlights how deeply kets in those cities, prices our residents, and creates jobs that offor little accurity

er little ascurity. The GOVB-DB pandemis caused a dip in the contribution of tou-rism to the GDP of all countries. But by 2023, the sector rebounded rapidly. In general, in Fully. Portu-gal and Spain, tourism coriethnuss close to 6% or more of the comu-tries' GDP, which makes it a signif-icant source of revenue. In compa metric commonly used to measure the values of inorial activity. The latest Rucostat report shows that most tourist spending icant nource of revenue. In compa-rison, tourism contributes to only 2% of India's GDP (Chart I).

While tourism is a maney-spin-ner, increasing dependency on the sector puts those who govern these hotspots in a dilemma -should they prioritise tourists over their residents economically, spa-30% in Luxembourg (Chart -D. As a result of this pattern of overnight tourism, homes are turned into

their realistics accountically, apa-itally, and socially? mised hules of Commence Prices 010371 – an inflation measure which eachules hume sownership and convertions could – bowership and convertions, could – bowership and convertions, and a convertion and provide the convertion of the contrast, the Owner-Occupied Hausing Price Index (OCHIP) – an burding, rencovating, and owning a "stays", thus causing greater pres-sure on the housing markets and other long-term spatial strains. Of all tourism-related business-Of all Contrim-related business-es in the KL 375 are in Spain, Its by and Fortugal (Chart S). This un-event contentration positions destinations, but also as key pillars of Europe's tourism economy. Ho-wever, locals in these countries are shouldering the bidden costs of a sector that, through prohitable, int-them, has also become a triver of them, has also become a triver of buying, renovating, and owning a bonne - was already bovering around the 3-4% mark from 2018 to 3020, only to aplie to 11% in them, has also become a driver of 2022. Simularly, the Housing Price

The additions

Index (HPI), an inflation measure which tracks how prices in the soluting market charge, also double, market charge, also 2022 (**dhart** 3). Fut simply, hou-generation of the solution of the generation of the solution of the dents. It has become more than it is for the tourists to come and stay in them temporarily. The protests against tourists are ound for used with the solutions and portugal, which together ac-count for over 40% of all tourism class of the solution of the EU of Box 3. They fut so results also be EU (**dhart** 3). The year is cale of the EU (**dhart** 3). The year is cale of Unregulated tourism, mass unrest The data for the charts were sourced from Eurostat, the Itabids at office of the European Union, and Our World In Data. The Latest available data was taken for all the charts. AREA 10310 the EU (Chart 3). The vast scale of Churt 2: The Ite mer's Harmanitani India of Consumer Prices (HEP), Piter India (GOMP) and Handing Price Index (HPI) as all Church 34 Houts, Contactual and Second S. ern Kaurope highlights how deeply the exponents is heing shaped aroand tourists. As per Karoslat, in 2022, tourists apont nearly 450 in 2022, tourist apont nearly 450 bion in Spain. Meanwhile, Portu-al, which has a population of 10 million and just over 8,000 two-rim-related establishments, host-ed nearly 85 million oversights metric contrained was on measure ----Printer allering -----2010.0.000 1010101 Elearth Schlassound Goodchire suspended Barte, bearlists who same along of atoms (%) for salaret coverteres to the Eleto the Bir for the year 2025 Report of Altane of Report of Altane of comes from overnight visitors 93% in Italy, 97% in Portugal, and interest (forerright statters (%) interest herre-day whitten (%) art & Role, Pursugal and Spain's above 69% in Belgium as opposed to just Gai reneat and other bootness ****************** Travel agencia, less operators and other manuality anticip In Hindo Gala Team

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FROM THE ARCHIVES. The Mindn.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 18, 1975 Shortage of stenos even in

Tamil Nadu

Madras, July 15: Tamil Nadu, breeding ground of Mantas, navies, Tamu Machi, ereading ground of steno-typisit, is in abort supply of these masters of the "winged att". According to an official review of the employment situation in the State during April 1975, siene typists who have passed review of this employment situation in the State during april (20%, sites: typics who have justed hyper spectra in the state of the state of the state representing, were not available for neuritiment. The employment sucharges had none such their registers possioning the higher grade such as a state of the state of t

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 16, 1925 Heavy rains in Bombay

Froma, July 15: Owing to heavy rains, it is reported that the maxomy dain built by Mesner-indenni, was breached your set of the second data of which a hage quantity of water was blear and and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the rever roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the roze roze 20 been in half an elberrated and the roze roze 20 been in most of the water, has the stated by prophe arriving from Lanaka and the adjacent stations that several women and shifter have been discovered. 0000

+ 2 + distantion



Unregulated tourism, mass unrest

The data for the charts were sourced from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, and Our World In Data. The latest available data was taken for all the charts



Chart 2: The European Union's Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), Owner-Occupied Housing Price Index (OOHPI) and Housing Price Index (HPI) — all measures of inflation — for the 2011-2022 period



Chart 4: Inbound tourism expenditure, tourists who stay overnight, and same-day visitors (%) for select countries in the EU for the year 2022

Chart 1: The contribution of tourism to the GDP in select European countries



Chart 3: Italy, Portugal and Spain's share in the EU's tourism-related accommodations, hotel beds and tourist nights spent (2023)





Wednesday, July 16, 3025

THE HINDU Sport

ALS IN WI

IN BREAK BEIGH



Fauja Singh, world's oldest marathoner, passes away

Fauja Singh, the widely admired D4-year-old whose career as a marathon runner began when he was 89 and propelled him to the status of a global icon, passed away on Monday night. It was a heartbreakingly abrupt end despite his age. He was hit by a yet to be identified vehicle while out for a walk at Beas Pind, his native village in Jalandhar. Fauja run marathena, including the Tanusl ones in London, New York and and Hor Tannel other in London, New York and and Hong Kong, and happter awe for clocking some brilling timings for a 90-plas man born with weak leap. In the process, he also became a forch-bearer at the 2012 London Olympics and was honourad by the late Queen Elizabeth I for his contribution to sport and charity.

India U-20 women begin with a draw against Uzbekistan

The India U20 women's national team drew 1-1 against Uzbekistan in the first of two first-first nutches at the Do'stlik Stadium, in Tashkent, Mexribon Egamberellyeva (Si opersed the scoring for the hosts, but Sulanjana Raul (79) consultant for Incha

Rutaparna-Swetaparna duo bows out of Japan Open

The Indian women's doubles pair of Rataparna Painta and Sweiaparna Painta (set 2)-13, 21-7 Lapari's Kohana Jablawa and Mailas Kawaose in the opening rannal of the Japan Geo Maper 200 badminton fournament in Tokyo on Tuesday.



Real snaps up young left-back Carreras from Benfica

Beal Madrid reached a deal to sign Alvaro Carrivas from Benfica on Monday, bringing back the young field back who came through the Spanish child's youth squads. Real and the 22year-old Curreran is arriving on a sizy-set Castract. Phancial denials of the mansfer were instance. Phancial denials of the mansfer were int immediately released.

Starc, Boland shoot out West Indies for 27 as Australia sweeps series

The left-arm pacer claims six for nine and goes past the 400-wicket mark in his 100th Test while the first-change bowler completes a hat-trick

Agence France Press A ler Mitchell Starc tating opening spell as the West indice were demol-ished for 27, the second-lowest acore in Test histor ry, to suffer a humiliating day of the third and final game at sabina Park on Monday. Australia swept the se-ries in Barbados and Gre-nede to retain the Frank Worrell Trophy in style. Bare reached the land mark of 400 Test wishest and hot Record the bard day of the third and fina 1/ 20 100 share in ableft likers, left, and Baland, penter, conditioned to

the face of Stare's wrecking ball-type performance as he reached the break with figures of fee for six off fee overs, finabing with six for earne when he bowled last man layden fisals balf an boar into the second sea-tion to and the with. victory target of 204 after the tourists were dismissed for 124 in the second m-nings, their lowest text in-nings total against the West former for the second to the text just avoided New Zealand's record low of 26, set in 1955. Indies for 30 years. Everything else in the frenetic first selation laded West Indias was set a into irrelevance though in

Indian shooting gets ISSF coaching courses



Part algored: Dr. vera researce, Rarolina Nitarien, Rathesh Bingh Deo and Sultan Singh after formalising the partnership between NIRA and ISSR Academy, INSIA, WINNERSHIPT tion, Ratheish bingh

and the director of 1954 Sports Bureau Academy, Dr. Vesa Nissinen. The NRAI secretary-general Sultan Singh, the CEO of BOIP Academy, Ra-The National Rifle Associa-tion of India (NBAD has tion of India (NRAI) has signed a partnership with the ISSF Academy, the condung wing of the Inter-national shooting sport Federation (SSF), to host certified coaching courses in India. The Memorandum of rolina Nissinen, the direc-tor of NRAI Education Protor of NRAI Education Pro-gram, Pawarkumar Singh and Olympian Manuber Singh, member of the ISSF Shogun Coaches Commi-tive, were also present to mark the significant step inkon towards building a structured education sys-tem. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in the Capital on Tuesday by the NRAI pre-sident Kalikesh Singh Den

Resocts Burnau

The National Sports Policy (NMP) 2028 has to its credit the dual advantage of a so-lid foundation, while incor-porting sevelenters that are intrinsic to the growth of the modern sports zeo-system in India. The high light of the SSP 2028 is that the back policy structure attempts to mainteean ports in the country. The five key pillars that it is framed upon, takes the policy beyond the readm of just sports on the field and encapsulates a much big-ger sphere. While excelger sphere. While excel-lence in aperts remains at the centre, important addi-tions such as sports as a key element of social and economic development, nucking sports a people's movement and growing the culture of aperts in the economic and alignment with the stational Kontex-tem Policy (MEP) 3020.

sion to seal the win.

Lagan Maxang

The last time the N3P was framed was way back in 2001, the sports occess-turn was not as evolved as it is today. Therefore, under-standably, the guidelines were hasis in resture, with hitle focus on aspects such as the use of sports science, technology and in-novation to enhance performance or on the economic aspect of sports, which includes funding through Corporate Social Responsibility, building husinesses around sports, auch as sports tourtem, sports start-ups, sports equipment manufacturing These are immortant as.

NSP's basic policy structure attempts

to build a new sporting culture

V.CAN

These are important an-pects of sports that will ad-dress the ambitions of a nu-tion that is aspiring to heat the Commonwealth Carnes in 2020 and the Olympics in 2020. This will also build a self-meraining economy

tens, promoting "sports for all" and ourturing ta-lent early. One of the key will be to give equal will be to give equal will be to both sports and academics, which can parents and middents alike. The other inspursant ac-parents and middents alike. The other inspursant ac-parent is theat the policy alon, which is a key to creating more opportuni make it inclusive and re-lines. The last time the NBP was framed was way back in 2000, the sports scarper turn was not as every out in andobby the metallines because unions are observed. When the need of the scaleform, the metallines because unless we in-crease our bench strength and make sports a viable carbor option, we can nev-or smorge as a global sport-ing powerhouse. This poli-cy altempts to address that creating more opportud-ties as we move towards build a Vikalt Bharat. Unbusice as well by aligning it-self to the NEP 2020, which emphasizes on physical solucation, fit-ness, and sports as essen-tial parts of school curvicu build a Visat Bharat. Un-like the 2001 policy, which had included only rural and tribul areas as forus areas for special initiatives, tai parts of achool survise is arrive to instructuration of the same table about includ-sports tablent can happen in schools and structures. The begroomed through pro-fusional turining to excel for intru-about the economically rever in it. The NSP thus integrating sports into school and college sys-tem to the same table and the set for the subbar of the same the real transmission of the same the real transmission of the same the same table and the set for the subbar of the same the real transmission of the same the same transmission of the same the

promptly trapped the same batsman in front for his fifth wicket. Lowest Invings Initials In Tanta 1. Jil New Zealand vs England, Aushlavd, 1855 2. 27 West Indias vs Australia, Hingaton, 2020 He had taken junt 15 da ins, the fewent ever i Ringston, 2029 n. al locate Africa vs England, bostorina, 1098 4. 30 Sauth Africa vs England, Browingham, 1094 5. 35 Sauth Africa vs England, Capa Town, 1999 Test history, to complete a five-wicket haul. Skipper Roston Chase was then caught behind off Josh Haslewood to make

<text><text><text><text><text> mates fell for ducks

The scores: Australia 238 and 1931 in it? overs (Cameros Green 45, Algori Joseph 9/27, Shlamar Joseph 4/36) in West Index 148 and 97 in 14.5 overs (Mitchell Stern 1/9, Beland 3/2).

Post & Post Stark

the score an eye-popping II for six. Itoland then stole the

Isoland then stole the honours when he diamia sed justin threaves, Shama joieph and tomel Warricas off successive deliveries to complete a hat-trick. Greaves, who made it, was the hone batter is make it to double digits. while seven of his team

Railways wallops HUTN: IOC beats Malaysian junior team HOCKEY

K. Kenrihivaaan

Perhaps for the first time in the MCC Marigappa Geld Cup hockey tournament, Hockey Unit of Taunit Nadu OIUTIN) sensed that it could enter the knock-

make it to the semil

favour, posting a 6-0 victo-ry here on Tuesday to maintain an all-win record.

CM designed

Martin Con outo. Starting with a draw against Maharashtria, the team then recorded a huge win over Indian Army in its On targets thrownlost, right, second for Railways in the li2nd intrude its four matches, Tamil Nawho in turn, hoodwinked du's chances of making the last four depend on how the other two teams in contwo defenders and slammed a backbander home. Pankaj doubled the second match, followed by a thrilling draw with 8AI-NCOE Obopab giving the belief that the host might tention fare - NCoR four points from three matches) and Army Ohree from three) - in their last group But defending champion Indian Bailways did it no

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lead through a scorching grounder off a penalty cor-ner. ner. The third goal for Rail-ways resulted from a de-fensive luppe on pair of the bost, Patrus Titkey's pass was inferentiated for the was inferentiated on the Railways sourced three quick goals in the fourth suprematches. Two goals each from former International Cur-The Pool is finding to the posterior international Gar-barding to the posterior international Gar-barding to the posterior international Gar-barding and posterior international Garbarding and posterior international Garbar quarter.

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The results: Peol.A: Inclun Rolways 6 Courcehilor Singh LS. Int, Punkag Rowet 30, 46, Istmanyot Singh S2, Mayam Anarol 50 Int HUTH C Presid-Bi POC 2 Munjinder Singh 35, durreit Rumar Sib bit Malaysian National partner toaris 0. -



Mamallapuram to

host Asian surfing

kent, burling Federation of India, and J. Meghanisth ddy, member accretary, 50AY, with annue members of the Inde MARK W HARLY

the host State. Udhayanidhi Stalin, De-puty Chief Minister of Ta-mil Nadu and Minister for Mamaliapuram will play host to the fourth ASP Asian surfing champion-ships from August 3 to 12. The event will feature Youth Welfare & Sports De-velopment, said. "Bosting the ASP Asian Surfing top surfers from 20 Astan

ships will implie considers young surfers to desam bigger and ride higher."

the ANP Asian Surfing Championships highlights our commitment to mir-turing new sports like surf-ing, creating world-class opportunities for our ath-letes, and strengthening Tamil Nach's position as India's sports and alven-late tourism hub? top surfers from 20 Asian malians empoting arrows four aborthoard categories - Open men & women and Under-18 boys & guis. The competition gains simili-cance as it will serve as a gualification route for the 2026 Asian Games in Ja-ture. 2026 Asian Games in Ja-pan, Turnil Nadu'a robust grass-roots and elite train-ing programmas seems to have worked wonders as eight (out of 120 auffert in the National team are from Arun Vasu, president Surfing Federation of In-dia, said: "Honing the Asian Surfing Champton

disting

Indian Golf Premier League takes concrete shape

format, without a cut, in multiple cities from Sap-tember to December this year, as a produce to the SaPL. "This league will serve The Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) took con-crete shape on Tuesday, with the on-boarding of star cricketer Yuvnij Singh

"This longue will aerve as a laurch pad for many paning players. Golf is an expensive aport. There will win from the longue, and it will help players to com-port in qualifying swint-the guidance from profes-ing properties and the star-ney properties of the star-tant just playing soft? sudd Glas. The length will also far-pers Mithha Singh, Shir Ka-per, Mithha Singh, Shir Ka-per, Mithha Singh, Shir Kaas co-owner and brand am-bassador. The KPI, is ache-duled to be hosted for dided to be hosted for three weeks, featuring site basis of 10 players each avail be players to com-bination of 10 players and the second state of the second basis of 10 players and the second state of the second basis of the second state of the second state of the second state s

dates for all of us to com pete in the IGPL."



tor the next generation of golfers like Kartik Singh, le the first two months, there are not many international events, and it should not be an issue to find the right

Uttam Singh Munds CEO of IGPL, said that the event would also go globa in the first year theel, sug gesting the inclusion of in ternational players in the achemic of things

450000



111 (1997)

Sports Bureau



Lowest innings totals in Tests

1.26 New Zealand vs England, Auckland, 1955 2.27 West Indies vs Australia, Kingston, 2025 3.30 South Africa vs England, Gqeberha, 1896 4.30 South Africa vs England, Birmingham, 1924 5.35 South Africa vs England, Cape Town, 1899



Delhi leads in student affordability, Mumbai climbs to 98 in QS list

MANU KAUSHIK New Delhi, July 15

DELHI HAS EMERGED as the world's most affordable city for students, earning a nearperfect score of 96.5 out of 100 in the latest OS Best Student Cities Rankings. The annual rankings evaluate the best urban destinations for international students, with Delhi leading globally on affordability.

All four Indian metros featured in the 2026 rankings -Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and Chennai - have improved their positions compared to last year. Mumbai has re-entered the global top 100, climbing 15 spots to reach #98. Within the Indian cohort, Delhi rose seven places to rank #104, while Bangalore recorded the sharpest jump among Indian cities, soaring 22 places to #108. Chennai also advanced significantly, rising 12 positions to #128.

QS Best

Seoul

Tokyo

London

Munich

Mumbai

Delhi

Melbourne

Bangalore

Chennai

The OS Best Student Cities Rankings assess cities using six key indicators: QS university rankings, student mix, desirability, employer activity, affordability, and student view. Cities must have a population of over 250,000 and be home to at least two institutions featured in the latest QSWorld University Rankings to gualify.

Alongside Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore also performed strongly on affordability, placing all three cities within the global top 15 in this category. On the employer activity metric, Delhi and Mumbai have

said India's rise in the 2026 rankings reflects more than a statistical improvement."As we approach the fifth anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, its focus on global engagement, quality enhancement, and student-centric learning is starting to bear fruit on the international stage. In just ten vears, India has seen a 390% increase in the number of universities featured in the QS World University Rankings, That kind of trajectory is rare, and now we're seeing it reflected at the city level too." she said.

rankings also highlights a broader shift, with a majority of Asian cities climbing in the global standings. This year, 39 cities from the Asia-Pacific and New Zealand) were featured, including three newcomers. Among the 34 Asian cities ranked last year, 26 improved their positions in the 2026 edition.

achieved their highest-ever rankings, including Seoul (#1), Kuala Lumpur (#12), Beijing (#13), and Taipei (#14), reinforcing the region's growing prominence as a global hub for higher education.

indicating robust graduate ranked the world's best student city, overtaking London and Tokyo, which held the top ing 41 places to rank #59 spots in recent years. The globally, while Chennai United States and United climbed 29 spots, reflecting Kingdom continue to dominate in terms of representation, with 16 cities each in the latest rankings.

The latest edition of the

region (excluding Australia

Several Asian cities also broken into the global top 50,

Globally, Seoul has been



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employment prospects. Ban-

galore registered the steepest

rise in this dimension, jump-

increasing international

recognition of its graduates.

Jessica Turner, CEO of OS,

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113

111

130

140

- Delhi emerges as the world's most affordable city for students, scoring 96.5 out of 100.
- Mumbai climbs 15 spots to rank #98 in the QS Best Student Cities Rankings 2026.
- Performance of Indian Cities
 - Delhi: Leads globally in affordability, ranks #104 overall.
 - Mumbai: Re-enters top 100 at #98, up from 113.
 - Bangalore: Rises 22 places to #108.
 - Chennai: Advances to #128, up 12 positions.
 - All four Indian metros (Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai) improved over the last year.
- Ranking Metrics
 - Assessed using six key indicators: student mix, desirability, employer activity, affordability, and student view.
 - Cities with over 250,000 population and at least two institutions in QS World University Rankings qualify.

Global Context

- Indian cities break into the global top 50 for affordability.
- Bangalore registers the steepest rise, jumping 41 places to rank #59 globally.
- Chennai climbs 29 spots, reflecting increasing international recognition.
- Broader Trends
 - Asia-Pacific region, including India, shows significant growth, with 34 Asian cities ranked.
 - Seoul (#1), Kuala Lumpur (#12), Beijing (#13), and Taipei (#14) lead Asian rankings.
 - India's rise attributed to the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 focus on global engagement and quality enhancement.

India's First Digital Nomad Village Launch

The village of Yakten in Sikkim's Pakyong district was declared India's first digital nomad village. This initiative was launched to create a sustainable remote work hub in the Himalayas. It aims to support local homestay owners with steady income and attract digital professionals from across India and abroad.

India Launches First Weather Derivatives Market

India has taken a major step in climate risk management by launching its first weather derivatives market.

The National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) partnered with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to introduce these innovative financial instruments.

Weather derivatives allow farmers, businesses, and financial institutions to hedge against weather-related uncertainties. This initiative aims to enhance resilience, improve planning, and support investment in weather-sensitive sectors.

AH-64E Apache Helicopters

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- India is set to receive the first batch of AH-64E Apache attack helicopters from the US after a 15-month delay.
- The helicopters will be deployed at Jodhpur for border security operations



What is AH-64E Apache Helicopter?

• The AH-64E Apache is a multi-role combat helicopter developed by Boeing, built for high-intensity warfare, especially in network-centric and multi-domain environments. It is one of the most advanced and lethal attack helicopters in the world.

Developed By:

- Manufacturer: Boeing, USA
- Inducted by US Army: Since 1984 (Apache AH-64A)

• Key Features:

- <u>Sensor-Driven Targeting</u>: Equipped with Longbow radar, thermal imaging, and night vision; detects 256 targets, prioritises 16 threats in seconds.
- <u>Advanced Weaponry</u>: Armed with 30mm chain gun, 70mm rockets, and AGM-114 Hellfire missiles for anti-Armor and precision strikes.
- <u>All-Weather, All-Terrain Ready:</u> Operates in day/night, low visibility, highaltitude and extreme weather conditions.

- **Strategic Significance for India:**
 - <u>Boost to Border Security</u>: Enhances India's strike capability along western borders with Pakistan.
 - <u>Modernisation of Army Aviation</u>: Complements existing IAF Apache fleet and adds offensive capability to Army Aviation Corps.
 - Interoperability with Allies: Ensures seamless coordination in joint operations with the US and other QUAD forces.
 - <u>High-Precision, Low-Collateral Warfare:</u> Ideal for anti-armour missions, counter-terrorism, and close air support.
 - <u>Symbol of Strategic Defence Ties</u>: Strengthens India-US military cooperation under foundational defence agreements.





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Name

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Thank you guys.