# Daily Current Affairs



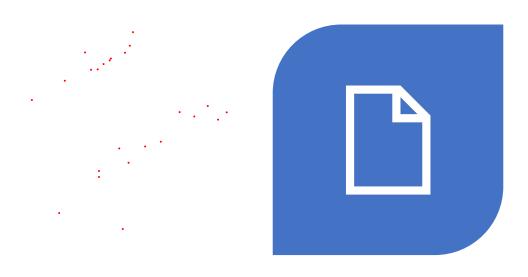








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**PDF** 

10 MCQ QUIZ

 "Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally, it comes from what you do consistently."

Identify and destroy synthetic drugs: Shah HEWS II PAGE 4





Unsafe care persists because of a two-way gap It requires integrated action across ecosystem



India needs a win to keep series alive SPORT II PAGE 16

### INSIDE

NEW DELIN Phore has been a dramatic increase in the drone-driven

NEW ORLES

The NE eshed a potent The SC asked a potitioner seeking a lear on "eleveridu" conversions who exactly will elocide whether an inter-faith marriage is frauchitent or not funitioner seek the pice was against conversion through

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Drug drops using

India-Pak, border

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Punjals, with the number of setsures obyrocketing from jus three cases in 2021 to 179 m 202A, stated a report, a PAGE of

Who will decide if a conversion is 'deceitful', asks SC

# 13 dead as rain, flash floods batter Dehradun

Swollen rivers and 192-mm rainfall swept away or severely damaged several homes and hotels Rescuers are working to evacuate 500 students trapped in the Dev Bhoomi Institute in Paundha Uttarakhand CM inspects damage, instructs

A i least 13 people were killed and 16 have been missing after overnight torrential rain and Bash Boods wreaked havoc in Dehra-Uttarakhand on Heavy rain battered the

Sahastradhara area, a tosi-rist apot in Debradon. Shops, amali hotels and homes in the market area tiones in the market area were wished away or hea-vily damaged. Teploidawer, a Shiva temple, was sub-merged. The India Meteri-ological Department, Deb-radun, issued a red alert on

Tuesday, According to the distract subministration. Salase tradhars received 192 mm of ramfull within five to as hours, while left mm was recorded in the Mail Davis area, July Grant Aspest, Atussuerie, Harbiburkala



got more than 90 mm rain during the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday. Debraciun District Ma-gistrate Savin Bunsal said than of the 13 victime, sight were passengers of a true

tor trolley that was stick in the Total river star Villan Nagar. Till Tuenday over-ing, these persons were critically injured in ruin-en-ined incidents. Agencies rescued more than 800 pr-epts and the rain left more than 23 roads blocked, and

than 23 roads blocked, and beidges damaged. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who rode an earthmover and impected the damage, directed offi-cials to step up relief ef-

the State government said that PM Navendra Modi-and Home Minister Amit Shah had offered full help in the rescue operations. An official involved in the efforts and, "Pams are working to evacuum 500

students trapped in the Dev Bloomi familiae in Paundha. Nx people were reserved from Hernage Ho-tol in Mussoorie. Around tel in Musicorie. Around 10-15 people stuck at Little Hissen Hotel in Musicorie "Sad news has been re-ceived that some shops were damaged due to beavy late at night in Sabas-tradhara, Debradun. The administration, SDRE, and police are on the scene, en-gaged in relief and rescue operations. I am in con-stant contact with the local administration and perso-nally monitoring the situa-tion. I pray to God for eve-

non. I pray to Grd he ever-ryone's actery, the Chief Minister wrote on X. Utterakhand has wir-mosed extensive damage in the moresoon season this year. The Garthou's region has been worst hit, where Rash floods engulfed Dha-rall village in Uttarkashi district, leaving one dead and 68 missing for the past

50 days. Prime Minister Modi has announced financial assi tance of \$1,200 coore for Ottorakhand although the State has assessed that Goods have caused a loss of

### Futile harvest



# Israel committing genocide in Gaza in a bid to 'destroy

Associated Press

The fernell military beams

its ground offensive in Gaza Gity on Tuesday, slowly closing in on the Palestinian territory's largest city. Thousands of people streamed out of

knowing Harman's October 7, 2022, attack inside Israel. The commission concluded that Israel authorities of the Control of Control o

farther out of reach.

the city in vehicles laden

with their belongings, but bundreds of thousands

more remain. The conflict has already decimated

much of the Gass Strip, and the new operation likely pushes any coasefire

raeli civilian and military

Israel launches ground

offensive in Gaza City

nians in the class strip as a group."

They conclusion that is the property of the property of

### Govt. picking 100 items India can produce locally

NEW DECKE The government is in the process of finalising a list of 100 products that inche 19th products that India-imports in targe amounts but has domestic capacity to manufacture, an efficial salit. The sim is to substitute imports with domestic production, or PAGE 13

### Ex-CM's son was controlling liquor syndicate: ED

BARPUR The Enforcement Orectorate (ED) has said that Chatteriya Baghet, son of former Chhattisgarh CM Illhupean Baghel, was the "controlle

# India, U.S. to 'intensify efforts' for early conclusion of a trade deal

India and the U.S. on Tues-day held "preditive and for-ward booking" discussions were all trades and the con-eral Trade Agreement bet-ween the two countries, the Commerce and indus-"The Ministery added that the two sidus decided to "intensity efforts" towards an early conclusion of a new programment of mis-greement of mis-greement of mis-

agreement.
A team of officials from
the office of the United
States Trade Representative, led by Brendan
Lynch, the chief U.S. nego-

tistor, held discussions with the Indian side, led by flagesh Agrawd, Special Secretary in the Department of Cammore.

The meeting lasted for about seven hours.
In a separate statement, the 1.8. Embassy spokes

### Trump dials Modi, extends greetings on 75th birthday

### Press Trust of India U.S. President Donald

1.5. President Donald Trump on Tump on

# Palestinians', says UN panel

## Aposec France-Press

United Nations investiga-tors on Tuesday concluded that brasil is committing genocide in tiaza in a bid to "destroy the Palastrians", securing lessel's Prime Mimister and other top offi-stals of incitement.

The UN independent in-ternational Commission of

inquiry, which does not speak on bullalf of the world body, found that 'genocide is occurring in Ga-sa", commission chief Navi Pillay said. "The responsi-bility lies with the State of Israel." The report, imme diately slammed by Israel marks the first time a UN mandated investigative ba-dy has concluded the country is committing generate.

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# 13 dead as rain, flash floods batter Dehradun

- Swollen rivers and 192-mm rainfall swept away or severely damaged several homes and hotels
- Rescuers are working to evacuate 500 students trapped in the Dev Bhoomi Institute in Paundha
- Uttarakhand CM inspects damage, instructs officials to step up relief efforts; PM offers help

### Ishita Mishra NEW DELHI

t least 13 people were killed and 16 have been missing after overnight torrential rain and flash floods wreaked havoc in Dehradun and surrounding areas in Uttarakhand on Tuesday.

Heavy rain battered the Sahastradhara area, a tourist spot in Dehradun. Shops, small hotels and homes in the market area were washed away or heavily damaged. Tapkeshwar, a Shiva temple, was submerged. The India Meteorological Department, Dehradun, issued a red alert on Tuesday.

According to the district administration, Sahastradhara received 192 mm of rainfall within five to six hours, while 141 mm was recorded in the Mal Devta area. Jolly Grant Airport, Mussoorie, Hathibarkala



Heavily hit: A residential building that was engulfed by rocks carried by flood waters in the Sahastradhara region of Dehradun, in Uttarakhand, on Tuesday, AFP

got more than 90 mm rain during the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday.

Dehradun District Magistrate Savin Bansal said that of the 13 victims, eight were passengers of a tractor trolley that was stuck in the Tons river near Vikas Nagar. Till Tuesday evening, three persons were critically injured in rain-related incidents. Agencies rescued more than 500 people and the rain left more than 23 roads blocked, and bridges damaged.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who rode an earthmover and inspected the damage, directed officials to step up relief efforts. A communique from the State government said that PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah had offered full help in the rescue operations.

An official involved in the efforts said, "Teams are working to evacuate 500 students trapped in the Dev Bhoomi Institute in Paundha. Six people were rescued from Heritage Hotel in Mussoorie. Around 10-15 people stuck at Little Heaven Hotel in Mussoorie were safely evacuated." "Sad news has been received that some shops were damaged due to heavy late at night in Sahastradhara, Dehradun. The administration, SDRF, and police are on the scene, engaged in relief and rescue operations. I am in constant contact with the local administration and personally monitoring the situation. I pray to God for everyone's safety," the Chief Minister wrote on X.

Uttarakhand has witnessed extensive damage in the monsoon season this year. The Garhwal region has been worst hit, where flash floods engulfed Dharali village in Uttarkashi district, leaving one dead and 68 missing for the past 50 days.

Prime Minister Modi has announced financial assistance of ₹1,200 crore for Uttarakhand although the State has assessed that floods have caused a loss of around ₹7,500 crore.

- Casualties: 13 people killed, 16 missing.
- Rainfall: 192 mm in Sahastradhara (tourist spot), 141 mm in Mal Devta area, >90 mm across
   Mussoorie & Hathibarkala.
- Damage: Shops, small hotels, homes washed away; Tapkeshwar Mahadev temple submerged.
- Blocked roads: 23+ roads and bridges.
- Rescue Ops: SDRF, Police, Army; >500 rescued.
- Students trapped: 500 in Dev Bhoomi Institute, Paundha.

# **Government Response**

- CM Pushkar Singh Dhami: inspected, directed relief efforts.
- PM Modi: announced ₹1,200 crore aid.
- Estimated loss: ~₹7,500 crore.

# Background & Context

# 1. Geography

- Uttarakhand = fragile Himalayan ecosystem, prone to landslides, flash floods.
- Sahastradhara → famous karst & limestone cave region, attracts tourists, highly erosion-prone.
- Tons River & tributaries prone to cloudburst flooding.

# 2. Climatic Factors

- Monsoon intensification: Heavy rainfall linked with climate change → erratic monsoon + extreme
  precipitation events.
- IMD data: 192 mm in just 5-6 hours = "cloudburst-like" intensity.

# 3. Disaster History

- 2013: Kedarnath floods → ~6,000 deaths.
- 2021: Chamoli glacier burst → 200+ deaths.
- Flash floods + unregulated construction = recurring risk in Garhwal & Kumaon.

### News

### III N BERREIT



### Five Bangladeshi students suspended at NFT, Assam

The National Institute of Technology (NIT) in Silchar, Anzam, has unspended the Bengdadeshi students for their alleged rule in campus violence on September 6. The NIT Register's Issued as "academic assepsention along with expulsion from footed for a period of two semisters from the institute with immediate effect." The asseptation is in effect until June 2006, the order read, The NIT officials on their by a semienrolled under the Indian Council for Cultural Belattons and study in Indian scholarships. The assault between students lasted for 30 minutes and they were seen carrying rods and linives.

### Ahmednagar railway station renamed Ahilyanagar

The Abroadmarer college station was on Tuesday The Alterndisagar railway station was on Tuesday renamed Alityahagar, honouring the legacy of Lokmata Devi Ahliya Bai Holkar. The change comes after the Union Home Ministry cleared a Maharashtra government's proposal issued has week. The station's name is now in syne with the listific, which was renamed. Aftiganagar earlier. district, which was renamed Afrilyanagar earlie this year, Cessiral Bailway officials suid. The station code will remain "ANC". The decision follows appeals by local groups and citizens as well at a letter by Deputy Chief Minister Ajir. Pawar to Bailway Minister Ashwini Vaishniaw.

# Top court asks who will decide that a religious conversion is 'deceitful'

Peritioner-advocate seeks a ban on such conversion; NGO's counsel seeks a stay of Freedom of Religion Acts, which, he says, are getting more and more strident as courts grant ball and bring relief to persons accused and arrested under them

The Supreme Court on Truesday asked at a complete bon on "decide full "religious conversions where the suprementation of the supreme

that a religious conversion was decenful or not?" Mr. Singh, appearing in the case along with senior advocate indica fairing and advocate. Vrinda Grover, said that States much as Utthe constitutionality of laws, and not to make laws. Petitioner-advocate Ash-wini Upadhyay said his pewint Opaultysy and his pe-tition was against religious emversion through allure-ment and duplicity. Mr. Upaultysy agued that one had the right to propagate religion under Article 25 of the Constitution, but not to convert through finald or-teres.

Highligisting the risk his tar Praciesh, Himachal Pra-slesh, Madbya Pradesh, Uttarakhand. Quiarat.

Faith and

by anti-conversion lows," Mr. Singh submitted. He sought a stay of these laws, which were getting more and more strident as courts grant ball and bring relief to persons accused and arrested under them.
The court scheduled the case after six weeks to con-

these laws included a "minimum 20-year sentence or a maximum of life imor a maximum of life im-prisonment". The ball con-ditions were on a par with the desconsan Unlawful Ac-tivities (Prevention) Act. tivities (Prevention) Act.
The burden of proof was an the voncent to prove that he or she was not forced or "allured" to change faith, senior counsel argued.
"For anybody who marries inter-fatth, ball becomes impossible. These are Constitutional challenges. It is not how married to the country of the proposed to the property of the

Mr. Singh had, however, argued that these State laws amounted to unidue interference in a person's description of the state of the stat

even opposed the forus standi of the NGO, Citizens for Justice and Peace, re-

presented by Mr. Singh, to move the court against

these laws.
Mr. Singh had, however,

At UNHRC, India

condemns violation

of Oatar's sovereignty

### Protests over 19-year-old's death rock Gorakhpur

### Mayank Kumar

Additional Rolletor
General K.M. Nataraj and
the case was coming up for
hearing after three years,
per three A 19-year-old student pre-parting for the National Eligibility-cum-lintrance Test (MKCT) was allogedly shot dead by suspected cattle smugglers in Go-rakhpur on Tuesday, leading to chose cattle sung-glers. Angry villagers in-tercepted one of the vehicles belonging to the

Later, villagers blocked the Gorakhpur-Pipraich road for hours, and threw stabulary were deployed to control the situation.

### Over 1.300 gifts received by PM to be auctioned

A Tandore painting of ham Durbar, a metallic status of Naturals and aports mem-cate and spent with the para-athletic will be among the over 1,300 gifts received by Prince Minister Sarendra Modi to be also tioned from Wednesday

Addressing the seventh ter's mementoes e-auction here, Union Culture Minishere, Union Calture Minis-ter Gagordae Strigh Shekha-wat said Herris that would be auctioned included to auctioned included but the control of the control of the butters, idols of gods and goddessees, and some sports stems. All princeds from the All princeds from the "Semanti Gange" peoples. The first auction of the Prims Minister's gifts was held in January 2019. The terms

# On WHO essential medicines list, GLP-1 drugs for diabetes, weight loss may become cheaper

Baniya Kannan

With the World Health Organization (WHO) updat-ing its Model Lists of Essen-ted Medicines (EMI) to add the CLP-1 class of drugs for diabetes with associated comorbidities such as obesity, access to these drugs might just become easier. Listing a medicine on the EML is one step in a series of actions that can lead to lower costs, better affordability, and greater

access.
The 25th meeting of the The 25th meeting of the WHO Rosper Committee on the Selection and the of Easential Medicines was held from May it to 3. It reviewed scientific evidence medicines called glucageoithe period of the pe



actions that can lead to lower costs and greater access, corry mucro

ghride, liragiuride, and traspatide would be ad-ded to the EML. These drugs are used as glucose-lowering therapy for adults with type 2 diabetes multitus and cardiovascular dis-ease or altronic kidney dis-ease and obesity.

High price According to the WHO, the rationale for including these drugs is very clear; diabetes and obesity are two of the most urgent

the world today. According to statistics from 2022, ov-er 800 million people live with diabetes, with half go-ing unreased. At the same

spending on noncommun-icable diseases goes to-ward medicines, including those classified as essential and that, in principle, should be financially access able to seveyous, Fennels-tor of Policy and Standards for Medicines and Brandards for Medicines and Brandards for Medicines and Health Products, says.

Good step forward While appreciating the move, Anosp Malus, head, Fortis C-DCC Hospital for Diabetes and Allied Sciences, New Della, lends a reality check: "It is a good a reality check: "It is a good move, however, in India these types of drugs will benefit only a small number of penglis, while other life-seving, low-cost essential threads a small population of the proposition of the prop

an energetic response-"I'm very happy that WHO has included the GLP-t class of drugs. The fact that Kallof Bhattacheries ewin a comer-side organi-sation like the WHO has in cluded these rather expen-sive drugs in their RML, shows how compelling the evidence is. Apart from the India on Toesday defendindia on Tuesday defend-ed Qatar's sovereignty at the UN Human Rights Coannoll. Addressing a UN/HBC session in Geneva-india's Permanont Repre-sentative Arindam Magchi referred to the Reppender 9 Israeli bombing of Doha, and said findia "unequi-cially" condemned the attack. glucose lowering effect, they have tremendous effect on weight reduction and obesity management.<sup>1</sup> He points out that recently, injectible semagnatide has

attack.

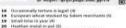
"India is deeply con-cerned about the recent at-tacks in Doba and their imheen approved for meta-holic dysfunction associat-ed steatotic fiver disease, associated with weight, and for improving cardio-metabolic health. pact on the security situation in the region. We unequivecally condemn membolic health.

II.M. Anjona, managing director, DMDSC, says: "It will surely help improve access and affordability. the violation of the sove-reignty of Qutar, Such ac-tions threaten peace, atbility, and security not escalation."
only in the region but in helia's first response across the world, said Mr. the External Affairs Minis lageful in his statement, which, however, did not name bruck. Inches reitera-tion of its position on the israeli strike on Qutur



Al/Thant and said, "India support resolution of is-sues through dialogue and diplomacy, and avoiding

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(3.6)

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Players hosting match, left passes for person facilitating the event (8)

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### SELED ADEAU



### B. VI.E.BE

### Temple visits are a must

Archa worship is important, because it belps us focus on an image and not get distracted. But even so, isn't it enough if one worships a vigraha or a salugrama at home? If these do not confer blessings on us, why do we have small vigrahax and salugramax at home? When we wor-

If these do not confer bleesings on us, why, de we have made signalized and subground as the other when we were small signalized and subground as the other when we were ferred to the deity, so why take the trouble to go to a temple? A temple work means we have to spend time confer auspiciousness on us. But there are special reasons to go to a temple, and technically interest and special reasons to go to a temple, and technically interest are special reasons. The deity in a temple is there for a special reason. The deity in a temple is there for a special reason. The testing the second control of the single have come down in arrival form to that place, because some great devotee lived there. For example, in straightours, the place where Andel and Lord Rangamanner, the second cause is from a sarple the Rangamanner, the total cause is from a sage who sexupled out the estimating in the steady of the second cause is from a sage who sexupled out the resulting in the covean. The Lord is seen reclaiming on the ground in this temple, without this scale bed. Can our homes be said to be sometained with and begendary superful in a temple there are transact every day. But do we have arresting on the grown of the temple without this scale and of the varieties of home for our areadona murithy? The decities in second entire the place of the second out the second of the case with our areadona murithy. So, even though one workships subgrounces at lonner, one must wist temples. one worships salagramas at home, one must visit temples

# Top court asks who will decide that a religious conversion is 'deceitful'

Petitioner-advocate seeks a ban on such conversion; NGO's counsel seeks a stay of 'Freedom of Religion' Acts, which, he says, are getting more and more strident as courts grant bail and bring relief to persons accused and arrested under them

## Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

he Supreme Court on Tuesday asked a petitioner seeking a complete ban on "deceitful" religious conversions who exactly will decide whether an inter-faith marriage is fraudulent or not.

Chief Iustice of India B.R. Gavai agreed with senior advocate C.U. Singh, appearing for an NGO questioning the validity of the increasingly stringent anti-religious conversion laws across 10 States, that the court sits to examine the constitutionality of laws, and not to make laws.

Petitioner-advocate Ashwini Upadhyay said his petition was against religious conversion through allurement and duplicity. Mr. Upadhyay argued that one had the right to propagate religion under Article 25 of the Constitution, but not to convert through fraud or force.

Highlighting the risk his plea posed to the freedom of conscience enshrined in the Constitution, Chief Justice Gavai pointedly asked, "But who would find out

# **Faith and** freedom

■ Some Senior advocate C.U. Singh, representing an petitioners have NGO, said that the States had enacted increasingly opposed the stringent laws that even make it possible for third parties to file criminal complaints validity of the anti-religious against interfaith couples conversion laws Additional Solicitoracross 10 States while others said that the laws work stay on the laws to prevent conversion through

General K.M. Nataraj, on behalf of some States, opposed the pleas for

 The court scheduled the case after six weeks to consider the question of stay after hearing from the States

that a religious conversion was deceitful or not?"

Mr. Singh, appearing in the case along with senior advocate Indira laising and advocate Vrinda Grover. said that States such as Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Harvana, Jharkhand, and Karnataka had enacted copycat "Freedom of Religion" Acts one after the other, with Rajasthan recently coming up with one.

"The batch of laws are characterised as Freedom of Religion Acts, but they contain everything but freedom. They are virtually anti-conversion laws," Mr. Singh submitted.

allurement.

fraud and

force

He sought a stay of these laws, which were getting more and more strident as courts grant bail and bring relief to persons accused and arrested under them.

The court scheduled the case after six weeks to consider the question of stay of the implementation of the Acts.

## Frivolous complaint

Mr. Singh said recent amendments made in these Acts empowered third parties to file criminal complaints against couples in inter-faith marriage. The punishment under

these laws included a "minimum 20-year sentence or a maximum of life imprisonment". The bail conditions were on a par with the draconian Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The burden of proof was on the convert to prove that he or she was not forced or "allured" to change faith, senior counsel argued.

"For anybody who marries inter-faith, bail becomes impossible. These are Constitutional challenges... It is not just marriages but any normal church observances or festivals, mobs may come..." Mr. Singh submitted.

Additional Solicitor-General K.M. Nataraj said the case was coming up for hearing after three years, "and suddenly they [the petitioners) are asking for stay".

In 2023, while hearing the case, the court had refused to refer to the Law Commission the question whether "forcible conversion" should be made a separate offence relating to religion under the Indian Penal Code.

The government had even opposed the locus standi of the NGO, Citizens for Justice and Peace, represented by Mr. Singh, to move the court against these laws.

Mr. Singh had, however, argued that these State laws amounted to undue interference in a person's right of choice of faith and life partner. He said each State's law was used by the other as a "building block" to make a more "virulent" law for itself.

The petitions have argued that these State laws have a "chilling effect" on the right to profess and propagate one's religion, enshrined in Article 25.

# 1) What happened in Court?

- Bench: CJI B.R. Gavai led the hearing.
- Core query: "Who exactly will decide whether an inter-faith marriage is fraudulent? Who will decide that a religious conversion was deceitful?"
- Matters clubbed:
  - PIL by Ashwini Upadhyay seeking a ban on 'deceitful' conversions (through allurement, fraud, force).
  - Petitions by an NGO (argued by Sr. Adv. C.U. Singh) challenging state 'Freedom of Religion'
     Acts across ~10 States.
- Status/Next step: Court posted the case after ~6 weeks to consider a stay on some provisions
  after hearing States.

- What is being challenged?
- State "Freedom of Religion/Anti-conversion Acts"—recent laws/amendments in (as cited in court):

Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, with Rajasthan reported to be bringing one.

- Commonly contested features (vary by State):
  - Prior notice/declaration to the DM before/after conversion.
  - Third-party complaints (any person can complain—often misused against inter-faith couples).
  - **Presumption/Reverse burden** on the convert to show the conversion was not forced/allured.
  - Criminalisation of conversion by "allurement, fraud or marriage," with stringent penalties.
  - Police/District Magistrate inquiry into proposed conversion.

# 3) Arguments before the Court

# (A) Petitioners (NGO & intervenors)

- Laws create a "chilling effect" on Article 25 (freedom of conscience) and choice of partner (Article 21—privacy, dignity, decisional autonomy).
- Third-party FIRs weaponise the law against inter-faith couples; arrests despite later grant of bail.
- Prior notices → public disclosure of intimate choice, against privacy (K.S. Puttaswamy, 2017).
- Reverse burden + stringent conditions → comparable to very harsh special laws; ease of arrest.
- Many provisions effectively make conversion by or after marriage presumptively suspect.

# (B) Petitioner (Upadhyay) in PIL for ban

Sought nationwide ban on "deceitful conversions" via allurement/fraud/force, arguing public order
 & social harmony.

# (C) States / Union (ASG K.M. Nataraj)

- Opposed interim stay; said petitions surface years after enactments; laws protect freedom of faith from coercion.
- Questioned locus of NGO; argued the Acts only regulate to prevent forcible conversion, which the Constitution does not protect.

- Constitutional & Legal Background (UPSC enrichment)
- Article 25(1): Freedom of conscience; right to profess, practice and propagate religion.
- Rev. Stainislaus v. State of MP (1977): SC held right to propagate ≠ right to convert another; States can curb forcible conversions (Public Order—List II).
- Shafin Jahan (Hadiya) 2018, Lata Singh 2006, Shakti Vahini 2018: Adult's right to choose a spouse is part of Article 21; State must protect such couples.
- Privacy (Puttaswamy 2017): Decisions on faith & marriage fall within decisional autonomy; forced disclosures need strong justification.

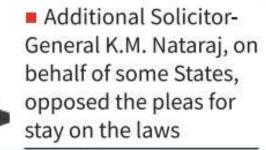
- Why these laws are contentious (common issues across States)
- **Prior notice/permission** → surveillance & potential mob pressure.
- Third-party locus → enables harassment.
- Broad/undefined terms ("allurement," "inducement," "by marriage") → vagueness challenge.
- Reverse burden & stringent bail/penalties
   → disproportionate limits on FRs.
- Effect on inter-faith marriages (even when lawful under the Special Marriage Act, 1954).

# Faith and freedom

The Supreme Court is hearing pleas that have raised questions on the right to faith, marriage and personal liberty in a democracy as State governments bring in strict legislation against unlawful religious conversion

Some petitioners have opposed the validity of the anti-religious conversion laws across 10 States while others said that the laws work to prevent conversion through allurement, fraud and force

 Senior advocate C.U. Singh, representing an NGO, said that the States had enacted increasingly stringent laws that even make it possible for third parties to file criminal complaints against interfaith couples



The court scheduled the case after six weeks to consider the question of stay after hearing from the States

# Ahmednagar railway station renamed Ahilyanagar

The Ahmednagar railway station was on Tuesday renamed Ahilyanagar, honouring the legacy of Lokmata Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar. The change comes after the Union Home Ministry cleared a Maharashtra government's proposal issued last week. The station's name is now in sync with the district, which was renamed Ahilyanagar earlier this year, Central Railway officials said. The station code will remain 'ANG'. The decision follows appeals by local groups and citizens as well as a letter by Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar to Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

- Renaming Decision
- Ahmednagar railway station renamed Ahilyanagar.
- Honours Lokmata Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar, an 18th-century queen known for her administration and philanthropy.
- Approved by the Union Home Ministry after Maharashtra govt. proposal.
- The district was already renamed **Ahilyanagar** earlier in 2023.
- Station code will remain 'ANG'.
- Political & Social Support
- Appeals came from **local groups, citizens**, and leaders.
- Deputy CM Ajit Pawar wrote to Railway Minister
   Ashwini Vaishnaw

# Who was Ahilyabai Holkar?

- Ruled Malwa kingdom (1767–1795).
- Known for good governance, infrastructure, social justice.
- Rebuilt/restored several **Hindu temples** (e.g., Kashi Vishwanath, Somnath).
- Promoted **trade**, **agriculture**, **law & order** → called one of India's greatest women rulers.
- Renaming of Places in India (Polity & History)
  - Part of larger cultural identity assertion and decolonisation drive.
  - Examples: Allahabad → Prayagraj, Gurgaon → Gurugram, Mughalsarai → Pt.
     Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn.
  - Criticism: may cause administrative costs and political controversies.

# Ahmednagar (Ahilyanagar)

- Located in Maharashtra, Deccan Plateau.
- Historically part of **Nizam Shahi dynasty** (1490s).
- Known for Ahmednagar Fort (used by British to imprison Nehru).

# **Economic Significance**

- Agricultural hub (sugarcane, cotton).
- Upcoming projects: defense establishments (Armoured Corps Centre).
- Renaming may boost tourism & cultural branding linked to Ahilyabai Holkar.



# On WHO essential medicines list, GLP-1 drugs for diabetes, weight loss may become cheaper

## Ramya Kannan

CHENNAI

With the World Health Organization (WHO) updating its Model Lists of Essential Medicines (EML) to add the GLP-1 class of drugs for diabetes with associated comorbidities such as obesity, access to these drugs might just become easier. Listing a medicine on the EML is one step in a series of actions that can lead to lower costs, better affordability, and greater access.

The 25th meeting of the WHO Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines was held from May 5 to 9. It reviewed scientific evidence showing that a group of medicines called glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists can help people with type 2 diabetes — especially those who also have heart or kidney disease — and concluded that semaglutide, dula-



Affordable medicine: The WHO move is one step in a series of actions that can lead to lower costs and greater access. GETTY IMAGES

glutide, liraglutide, and tirzepatide would be added to the EML. These drugs are used as glucoselowering therapy for adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus and cardiovascular disease or chronic kidney disease and obesity.

# **High price**

According to the WHO, the rationale for including these drugs is very clear: diabetes and obesity are two of the most urgent health challenges facing the world today. According to statistics from 2022, over 800 million people live with diabetes, with half going untreated. At the same time, more than one billion people worldwide are affected by obesity, and rates are rising fast especially in low- and middleincome countries.

The prices of these drugs are so high that access is limited. "A large share of out-of-pocket spending on noncommunicable diseases goes toward medicines, including those classified as essential and that, in principle, should be financially accessible to everyone," Deusdedit Mubangizi, WHO Director of Policy and Standards for Medicines and Health Products, says.

# Good step forward

While appreciating the move, Anoop Mishra, head, Fortis C-DOC Hospital for Diabetes and Allied Sciences, New Delhi, lends a reality check: "It is a good move; however, in India these types of drugs will benefit only a small number of people, while other life-saving, low-cost essential medicines for diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease, applicable to a large number of people, remain largely unavailable."

On the other hand, V. Mohan, chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialties Centre (DMDSC), provides

an energetic response: "I'm very happy that WHO has included the GLP-1 class of drugs. The fact that even a conservative organisation like the WHO has included these rather expensive drugs in their EML, shows how compelling the evidence is. Apart from the glucose lowering effect, they have tremendous effect on weight reduction and obesity management." He points out that recently, injectible semaglutide has been approved for metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease, associated with weight. and for improving cardiometabolic health.

R.M. Anjana, managing director, DMDSC, says: "It will surely help improve access and affordability. But will it be useful as a first line drug? This maybe not for everyone...as there are various subtypes of diabetes. But for those in whom it is indicated, it's a good step forward."

- WHO has updated its Model List of Essential Medicines (EML) (25th Expert Committee, May 5–9, 2024).
- Added GLP-1 receptor agonists (semaglutide, dulaglutide, liraglutide, tirzepatide).
- These drugs are used for type 2 diabetes with cardiovascular disease, obesity, or chronic kidney disease.
- Inclusion could lead to lower costs, better affordability, and greater access.

# 2. Why Important?

- Diabetes & Obesity Burden:
  - WHO (2022): 800+ million live with diabetes, many untreated.
  - Rising obesity → double burden of disease.
- Economic Angle:
  - 1/3rd of health spending on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) goes to medicines.
  - Prices of GLP-1 drugs currently very high, limiting access.
- Inclusion in EML → Governments may negotiate prices, increase generic competition, and expand insurance coverage.

# Global:

- GLP-1 agonists also approved for obesity management and weight loss.
- Recent trials show benefits in liver disease (metabolic steatohepatitis) and cardiovascular outcomes.

# India:

- India is the diabetes capital of the world (second highest diabetic population after China).
- Drugs like semaglutide available but expensive → limited to elite private care.
- Generic production in India could reduce global cost.

WHO EML: A guide for countries to prioritize essential medicines in public health systems.

**SDG 3 (Health for All)**: Universal health coverage requires affordable access to essential medicines.

India's National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM, 2022): Includes insulin and oral antidiabetic drugs, but not yet GLP-1.

Inclusion in WHO list may pressure India to **update NLEM** and bring **price regulation** via NPPA.

# Making health care safe for every Indian

n September 17, the world observes World basics promise of realistic safety Day. This basic promise of health care commune to elude us. Globally, estimates show that one in ten patients experience harm while ecsiving care during cospitalisation, and this number face to four in ten in outputtent

For India, where the burden of disease is rapidly shifting to chronic conditions such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and mental health disorders, the challenge is especially urgent. These conditions demand. long-term frequent treatment

Patients are usually vulnerable in more complex situations, such as hospital-acquired infections, bloo patient harm can also show up to parient harm can also show up in everyday situations, such as unintentional prescription of inappropriate medicine combinations, delayed diagnoses, or preventable falls.

Hospitals across India are

placing higher standards on delivery, by instituting quality audits, developing protocols, running staff (rainings, and strengthening infection control alongside patient safety. In practice though, systems designed practice (flough, systems designed to protect patterns are still valuerable to treakshown. From the health-case provider's side, dealers, surses, and staff often four the still respect to the still respect to the four artifon. heavy parkent loads, long shifts, and inadequate staffing mean that even when they want to orgage fully with every pattern, time and fullque become service mean that even persists because of a two-way gap persists because of a two-way gap



Sathya Sriram

In India, unsafe

providers and

passive uninformed

possive uninformed patients heatlant to ask questions. Closing this gap requires shifting mindeets, where patients must be empowered to become active partners in care, and health-care systems must welcome and enable their participation.

A shared responsibility Patient safety cannot rest on the shoulders of doctors and nurses alone. Panilles and patients themselves play a vital role, by asking questions, maintaining personal health records, reporting

personal health records, reporting advance drug reactions, and following safe practices at home, netuding not cell medicating. In recent years, hulls has taken important steps to build this ecosystem. The National Patient Safety Implementation Framework (2018-25) lays out a roadinian, from adverse event reporting to embedding aslety into clinical programs. Profusional networks like the Saciety of Pharmacovigillance, inclin monitor and report adverse drug reactions nationwide, The National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) has raised benchmarks for patient safety by auditing and embedding practices for infection control, patient rights, and medication management, Yet, far less than 5% of hospitals in India have earned full accreditation.

Givil society has also stepped up. The Patient Safety & Access Initiative of India Foundation works on strengthening regulator; clarity of medical devices. clarity of medical devices. Another non-profit, the Patients for Patient Safety Foundation reaches 14 high households weekly on safe health practices. It also equips over 1,100 hospitals and

equips over 1,100 hospitals and 82,000 professionals. This responsibility can extend further to the media to shape public understoneding by highlighting both failures and uncreasful safety models. Highes education institutions can brild safety awareness unity corporate can extend wareplace programs care persists because of overburdened nationis hesitant to ask questions

designing workflows that flag harmful drug latenizations or aut communication during care.

Building a culture of safety The WHO Global Patient Safety Action Plan provides a blueprint for integrating safety into all levels of health care systems. On proven mechanism is the establishment of Patient Advisory Councils (PACS) to bring patient voices into hospital voices into hospital decision malding. Case studies from high-income countries show PACs improving safety, communication and trust, india

communication and trust. Indi-ear pilot and scale this model, adapting them to local realities As India approaches the fina stretch of the National Patient Safery Implementation Framework (2018-25), Framework (2018-25), mobilise resources, iscorporate patient safety into medical and nursing education, and close the gap between policy and practice. Hospitals, too, must rise to the challenge, by meeting accreditation canadards, embracing PACs, and so-developing trobuology solutions for catching errors early.

This year's focus on safe care for every newborn and every child reminds us that we need to safeguard care from the very first breath of life.

True patient safety requires integrated action across the entire ecosystem. We need to move beyond isolated efforts and build a national patient safety movement on this World Puttent Safety Day, let us make this a shared mission, with governments, hospitals, patients, and civil society working patients, and civil accept which in logisther to make safe care an everyday reality of health care in india.

With inputs from Som billial,

Middle East, Horth

For non-U.5 data, this draws on nationally representative surveys of 28, 333 adults conducted from Jan. 8 to April 28, 2028

America and sub-Saharan Africa

wan tiquit from Son Milial, Chairperson, Patients for Patient Safety Frandation (PIPSF), Jorner Chairperson Nasscom and Nadira Chaturvedi, Co Chairperson, pP2SP

### Too many cooks, no one to stir the pot

Delhi at the crossroads of administration and accessibility

STATE OF PLAY

The year 2028 is shap-ing up to be a miles-tone for accessible (disabled-friendly) public Indidings in Delhi. The Central haldings in Delhi, The Central government's Sugamya Vatra Abhiyan for accessibility au-dits and awareness has reached the national capital. Meanwhile, the Delhi government has announced its ambi-tious "Purple City" plan to make public buildings accessithe state of the s

oversees the construction of the Parliament building, in-dian Railways administers rail-way stations, and Delha's Edublic works departments handle construction and mainte-

Report by Richard Wike, Janeil Fetteralt, Jonathan Schulman and Sohu Nersander Romanes.



basics is a department's role for ensuring accessibility even defined in law? Do officials within that department know they have such a responsibili-ty? Are the boundaries of their ty? Are the boundaries of their purishleties clear, or do they assume the task falls to anoth-er department? This is the cross of belie's public building accessibility knot. Here's an attempt to untarigle it.

is accessibility codified? In the ampiest forms, yes. The Rights of Persons with Disabi-ties Act, 2016 (019WA) man-dates all new constructions and existing public buildings to comply with accessibility standards set by the Gentral government. Further, Delhas Unified Building Byo-Laws, 2016 (URBL) also includes an entire chapter on accessibility. The UBBC requires local bo-dies (MCD, NDMC, and DDA) cation Department funds the construction of government fun certificates only after constituents only after configurations.

and contraction that the control of the control of

ra vi GNCTD GIOIRO, the Delhi awareness among civic auth-orities regarding the rights and challenges of persons with disabilities. Similarly, in a Delhi State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities not-ed that civil engineers and architects require basic training on accessibility.

furbalictional boundaries As recently as August 2025, the Delhi High Court, in a case concerning was regging, highlighted the absence of coordination and accountabil-ity among the MCD, Delhi Ial Board, Delhi Fublic Works De

while others under the Delhi PWD, resulting in fragmented and delayed implementation.

This may appear to be a common governance chal-lenge across India, but in the content of accessibility, the stakes are much higher, as in accessible public buildings limit participation of perwith disabilities in everyday activities. An efficient coord

# Indians blame the political system, not their politicians

Indians make up one of the highest shares of respondents who want complete systemic change

### The Hindu Data Team

recent survey by the New Research Center shows feet the need to be major changes in their political systems. On the officer of the new feet the need to be major changes in their political systems. On the officer of the new feet to be needed to needed to be needed t

complete reform, with 34% of peo-ple vouching for complete reform. (Chart t) Respondents differed when

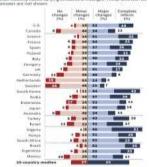
asked about their confidence in such changes taking place. For in-stance, while a large majority of respondents from South Rorea (97%) expressed a need for politi-cal reform, more than half of the people surveyed were not confi-dent that those changes could be made. However, of those respondents who want political change stents who want political change, indians make the largest share of those who are confident that these changes can be made. The share of respondents who were not confi-dent that their systems could change was the lowest in India-(Chart 2).

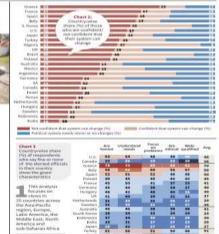
Chart 22
While sepressing a need for sys-temic change, a majority of in-dians held positive views shout their elected officials. The survey select characteristics among the elected officials in their country (Chart 3). There respondents from India, liquen, and the Nether-lands negariety stated their elected officials. It should be noted that analier shares of respondents reem liquen and the Keylerlands remained shares of respondents reem liquen and the Keylerlands mailler shares of respondents reem liquen and the Keylerlands mailler shares of respondents reem liquen and the Keylerlands mecinisms; contrary to India.

necessary, contrary to India.

THE ASSESSMENT

## Consensus on change





### FROM THE ARCHIVES The Mindu.

### PIPTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 17, 1975

### Soviet Support to Rights of Palestinians

From Batuk Gathani LONDON, Sept. 16. The Soviet leaders are making a fresh bid to

The Soviet leaders are making a fresh bid to unify the Arobs, push beke limited to pre-1967 hersbers and create a Palentine State. The Russians fresh populossly frustrated and in Kremilla's siyes, if the Rgyption Preakfart, Mr. Anwar Salad continues in power goes with Dr. Rissinger all the way then a final settlement in Wort Asia can weaken the Soviet position in this

arisa. While most West Europeanu regard the Sinal agreement initiated by the United States Secretary of State, pr. Statinger, a resentially "a fragile arrangement of a temperary nature," Moscow broadcasts in Arabic of the lass few days leave no one in doubt that Russia is calling upon figyptian inftints to stage a coup d'east in Cairo. Hence it is that Mr. Sadar rebuked Moscow last night for airring up Acab diamod. He accused the Russians of pulling the strings for all the "comedies" now being played out in the Arab world. The "comedies" were being acted by the Syrian

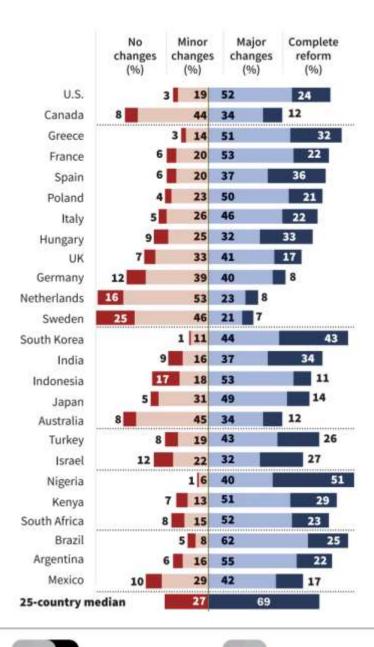
Baath Party to cover up its internal difficulties he said and added that the Syrians were using the Palestinian cause as a "placard". Mr. Sadat said that the Palestinian leader, Mr. Yasser Arafut, also fell for such a cornedy.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 16, 1925 NO ISSUE DATED SEPTEMBER 17

### The Currency Commission

Work to begin in London

LONDON, Sep. 15.
It is now arranged that Communeter Hilton
Young, Sir Honry Strankench, fire Registald Mant
and Mr. Preston will leave for Hombay on 8th
November and will be preceded by a formulat
by Mr. Baster, Joint Socretary. The six members
of the Currency Communication now in India will
joint them and the Commission will be formulay. constituted and a questionnaire issued. It is hoped that the taking of evidence in India will not last langer than (we working months, enabling the Commission to reach London in the latter part of Pebruary to take further evidence before reaching conclusions



India 10 59 Confident that system can change (%) Confident that system can change (%) Political system needs minor or no changes (%)

# Chart 3

Country-wise share (%) of respondents who say few or none of the elected officials in their country show the given characteristics

This analysis focuses on views in 25 countries across the Asia-Pacific region, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America and sub-Saharan Africa

For non-U.S. data, this analysis draws on nationally representative surveys of 28,333 adults conducted from Jan. 8 to April 26, 2025

	Are honest	Understand needs	Focus on problems	Are ethical	Well- qualified	Avg.
U.S.	53	54	48	48	40	48
Canada	33	26	29	23	20	26
Greece	78	73	69	68	63	70
Italy	56	62	60	56	57	58
Spain	52	51	52	46	48	50
Poland	49	45	45	42	42	45
France	45	50	41	37	33	41
Germany	45	44	39	34	37	40
Hungary	46	42	40	40	26	39
UK	41	40	39	31	31	37
Netherlands	31	30	32	25	27	29
Sweden	31	30	22	22	27	26
Australia	45	46	38	38	36	41
South Korea	38	34	33	34	34	34
Indonesia	37	34	30	23	26	30
India	33	31	27	27	23	28
Japan	28	32	27	25	24	27
Turkey	51	56	51	50	46	51
Israel	47	46	37	39	31	40
Kenya	63	64	58	56	55	59
Nigeria	68	56	62	48	48	56
South Africa	52	49	47	45	43	47
Brazil	67	60	62	64	56	62
Argentina	60	54	49	52	46	52
Mexico	56	52	47	52	44	50

Source: Spring 2025 Global Attitudes Survey

Report by Richard Wike, Janell Fetterolf, Jonathan Schulman and Sofia Hernandez Ramones.

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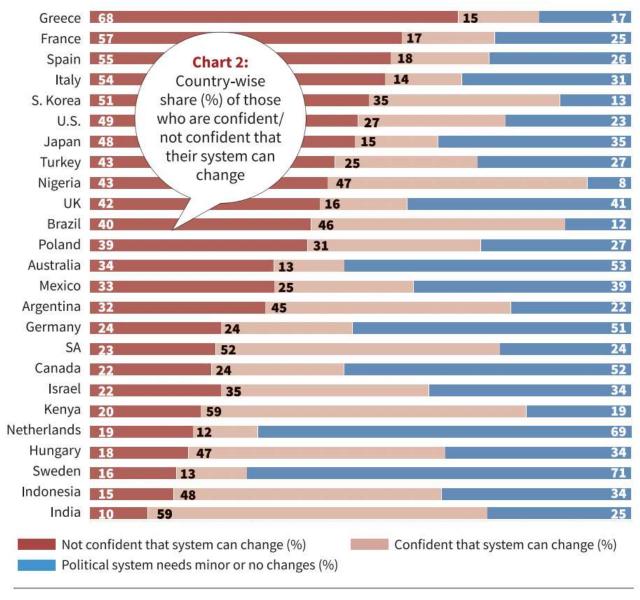
# **Consensus on change**

The data for the charts were sourced from PEW Research Center's survey titled, "People Around the World Want Political Change, but Many Doubt It Can Happen"



**Chart 1:** The share (%) of respondents who say the political system in their country needs varying amounts of changes. Those who did not answer are not shown

	No	Minor	Major	Complete
	changes	changes	changes	reform
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
U.S.		3 19	52	24



### ■ N 田本田本 田田(田)



### MSME welfare body demands cut in GST on pumpsets

The Laghu Udyog Bharati - Gujarat has sought a reduction of GST from 18% to 3% for submerable pumps. The Association said that more than 90% purings. The Association and that more uncorrect of substruction problems are used in the agricultural sector for irrigation and drawing water supply. The CRT Council has considered these pumps under traduct tal-use classification. But, submessible pumps have an industrial application and are used only to pump water from bore wells in rural scene.

### Saatvik Green Energy's ₹900-cr. IPO opens Sept. 19

Santvik Green Einergy Ltd. (SGEL) is set to hit the market with a 1900-crore initial public offering (IPO) on September 10. The price band is between 1442 and 1445 per equity above which will be issued in less of 32. SGEL plant to raise 1700 crore in fresh issue and the rest via offer for alle. The company plant to use the proceeds to repay horrowings and invest in the 4 GW solar PV module manufacturing facility at Ganjam. Odisha. The issue would close on September 23.

### Cylent arm Anora to set up chip test, validation facility

Cylent Semiconductors and Texas-headquartered semiconductor test and validation services firm Anora will setablish a semiconductor validation and production test floor in Bengaluru. A partnership the Breus anticumed in Thanday, in deliver expertise across the semiconductor value tener expertise across the semiconductor value closin spanning architecture, design, allicon bring up, qualification and testing, the facility would feature clean room capabilities and equipment to "productio" silicon to volume production.

### MMF sector demands lower GST on raw materials

M. Soundariva Procibe

Testile units recycling PET and the manufacturers of polyecter fibre will face in-verted thaty challenges with the revised UST rates as the entire textile indus-try is under S% GST while the raw materials for the manmade fibre (MMP) sec-tor - Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) and Mono Ethy-lene Glycol (MEG) and PET

leine Glycel (ABCC) and PECF scrap- are under EW dab. According to B.P. Sulta-nia, former president of the All India Recycled Pibre and Varn Manufac-turers Association, the PEC bottle recycling sector has 1,25,000 tenne a menth canadre. capacity.

Blackage of funds A majority of the recycled PET fibre is commend by the textile sector.
With PTA and MEG un-

der the BCK slab, the indus-try will face challenges as refund will take time and MSMEs will face blockage of funds, he said.

# To cut imports, govt. to pick 100 items for local manufacture

The Centre's move is aimed at encouraging private sector to expand its capacity so as to substitute imports with domestic production

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan

the government is in the precious of fina-lising a list of 100 products that India im-ports in large amounts but has domestic capacity to

has domestic capacity to manufacture, a Commerce Ministry official and.

The aim is to support these sectors — which in-clude engineering good, plastics, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals, among others — and endourage the private nester to see pand its capacity so as to authorities to the control of the particular to the control of the control and the control of the control of the particular to the control of the control of the particular to the control of the substitute ingerts with domestic production.

"We are focussing on reduring the dependency on certain geographies so that supply-chain disruptions would not happen," the of ficial said, on the condition at the same time we have



clse has not yet been com-pleted.
"We are trying to see that our dependency re-garding critical items should not be adversely impacted," the official said,
"We have identified about 100 products where we have luge imports and some domestic capacity," he added. "We feet that those imports could be re-placed by the domestic ca-pacity by improving the ca-pacity utilization of those manufacturing facilities within the country."

The idea, he added, was to focus on the concepts of 'Swadeshi' and

'Atmunirbharta'.

### 'More crude coming from Western to our to our tale.

Hemisphere' The Hindu Bureau

india has developed resi-lience to navigate global urbulences, Petroleum Ministar Hardeep Singh Puri said, adding this has puri said, adding this has and more" crude oil com-ing into the global market from the Western He-misphare and more gas ex-pected to enter the market from 2026-87.

Referring to the geopol-tical scenario, Mr. Puri. stical aconario, Mr. Puri, speaking at RPMC's annual energy conclave ESPRich 2025, stured while the 2025, stured while the work twas undergoing tur-bulence, we Intellal deal with the issues that we have direct control over but stellay we have real-terior to makigate them partly because there is enough oil available in the world... India and its nil sector

have been facing head winds triggered by U.S. President Donald Trump's 80% tariffs imposed on Indian products this july.

### MARKETS

SARREST.

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## 2/3rds among subscribers: Bharti | DRL Introduces

The Hindu Bureau

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) introduced South Rorean firm HK mno.N Corporation's acid peptic

### Simple Energy makes | Cyberfraud financial losses fell country's first rare earth free motors

Press Trust of India

Initial public offering-bound electric scooter maker Simple Energy on

Tuesday said it has started Tuesday its anni-spam safe-guards led to a reduction in financial fraud complaints, and "this has been further endorsed by recent inforcommercially manufactur-ing the country's first rare earth-free motors at its Ho-sur, Tamil Nadu, produc-tion facility.

mation from the Indian Cyber Crime Coerdination Centre (14G) Junder theil Ministry of Home Affairs." Bhartt Airtel List, said on

Spain filtering The company had an-nounced its spain filtering system, which it said relies

on Al-based behavioural maniforing of lathonizal calls, her deptember. The firm said this led to a \*68.7% decrease in the value of financial losses. and a 14.3% drop in overall cybercrime incidents on the Airtel network\*.

## new acidity drug

### Pilot unions oppose DGCA's data-based fatigue system

Jagriti Chandra

Pilot bodies have rejected the aviation regulator's proposed airline-briven, data-based fatigue moni-

data-based fatigue mon-toring system, accusing it of alternpting to bypass court-mandated duty hours and compromising the property of the court of the mechanism of the court of part of replies submitted to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) fai-towing its beptomber 3 of the court of the court of the intions seeking responses umions seeking responses to a draft advisory on im-plementing the Patigue Risk Management System (FMMS). The system, based on alriline dails, monitors fatigue-related safety risks to ensure crew alertness. Each airline is to develop

Rach airline is to develop and monthly its own FIMS. "The IRICA'S proposal to introduce a parallel, flexible FIMS framework via a subordinate instru-ment like an Operations Circular is deeply discon-certing. The project and le-gally mandated instrument for such a fundamental change in spirty policy is a change in safety policy is a Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR), which ensures legis lative rigour, transparency and a statutory right for all stakeholders to be heard through a wide-body con-ultation process, the Fed-eration of Indian Pilota (FID) wrote in its reply, re-(FID) wrote in its reply, re-warned that such a move estud result in "degrade-tion of safety".

The object the "Defin High Court laid slown new hims for thaty and rest pe-riods, in its February 24 oc-der, the court mandated an through a wide-body con

Pilot unions warn DGCA's fathore system risks safety by bypassing

increase in weekly rest for pilots from 36 to 48 hours starting July 1, and curtail-ment of night flying from November 1. The FIP srapued the FRMS was "dangerously premature" for India, pointing out that the Inter-national Civil Aviation Crganisation requires well trained impectors and adequate oversight re sources, and has cautioned that without robust regula tions and regulatory sur port, FRMS safety benefit may be jeopardised. The union stressed that DGCs must first demonstrate

must first domainarate compliance with the court-iestered norms, which are yet to be fully implemented.

The Arthres' Pilots As-sociation of India (ALPAI) said sirlines developing FRMS tools had failed to demonstrate a "lust cuidemonstrate a "just cui ture", citing instance where pilots reporting fa-tigue were reclassified as "sick", resulting in loss of

statistical models used in FRMS, which combine or-FFMNs, which combine or-ganisational data such as shift length with research on sleep cycles to predict could be manipulated by utilines through selective use of filters. The union base de-trease of the could be to be to be a such as the could be part of every airlines. Fatigue Safety Action Group as well as DGCA-length of well oversight controllers.

## New eco-friendly technique



### 'India's education sector most prone to cyberattacks'

The Hindu Bureau

Organisations in India wit-nessed 3,237 cybersitacks and a cybersitack of the con-tropy of the cybersitack of the most of August with edu-cation being the top target, software for the cybersitack of the cybersitack, report at Check Fourt Research, of Check Point, a Tel Avie-naed cybersiccurity solu-tions company, as occur was the cybersitack of the cybersic way the most targeted also

was the most targeted glo-bally as well, experiencing an average of 4,178 weekly attacks per organisation in August itself reporting a 13% year-on-year increase in incidents. The sector's ongoing digitisation has created a wider attack sur-face and also education is

to our consumers effective Reptember 22. With the GST reduction, our entire partialia saw falls either under the exempted or nil or the lowest slab of 5%. In

ice creams, for instance, we recognise that the 110 -our lowest unit pack -



the education sector's ongoing digitalition has created a wide attack surface.

fences, making it an easy target for threat actors. Construction and engineering, telecom, IT, ener gy and utilities, financial services and biorech and pharma were the other in dian businesses most af-facted by cybarattacks in the last four weeks, accord-

# GST 2.0 rollout: FMCG firms cut prices, launch offers

Meenskahi Verma Ambwani New DELIII

panies gear up to transi-tion to the new CAT rates, players such as Parle Pro-ducts and Mother Dairy ducts and Mother Dairy are reducing prices net on-ty on bigger packs but also on smaller packs priced at popular paints such as ES and 210.

At the same time, some AC and LED TV makers and deulers have begun of fering pre-booking schemas with reduced pricing in line with the re-

pricing in line with the re-vised tax rates in the run-up to the September 22 rol-



Ioni of OFT 2.0.

Mayank Shah, Vice-Pre-sident, Parle Products, told BusinessLine, "We have be-gun gearing up for price re-duction in line with the new GST rates. FMCG com-

panies have an incentory of wrappers with printed labels for 2-3 months and we cannot diseard them. So, new MRPs will be dis-played through inkjet printing along with old

MRPs on the packs. This reduction of price will be done on both bigger and analler packs such as those priced at the and 110, as we want to ensure the benefits are passed on to communers. Over a period. we will restore the popula price points such as O and tio with higher grammage

to with higher grammage packs,"
Leat week, industry players had pointed to challenges in passing on OST bornoits on analier packs, citing coinage insues at the retail end.
Manish Bandlish, Ma-haging Director, Mother

our lowest unit pack serves as the sitty point for many consumers.

"By revising it to 25, we then the tax reduction is passed on equitably with 171 becoming the preferred mude of payment, we do not anticipate any aguilful consumers." naging Director, Mother Dairy, said, "We are pass-ing 100% of the tax benefit tory shead of GST 2.0,

for air-conditioners and LED TVs. Pre-booking offers

Hater India has rolled our pre-booking offers on air-conditioners with added

conditioners with added benefits during the kep-tember 10-21 period. Avnest Singh Marwab, GEG, Super Plastronies Pet Lett, ands, "We are in-troducing pre-brooking off-ers on LEO TVs across our licenses brands, with re-duced pricing in line with GET reforms."

The writer is with The (The writer is with The Hindu businessine)

# Apollo Tyres new BCCI lead sponsor with ₹579-cr deal

VENKATA KRISHNA B Chennai, September 16

APOLLO TYRES WAS on Tuesday named as the lead sponsor of India's men's and women's cricket teams after the BCCI announced a record ₹579 crore three-year deal with the the company.

After the government passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill 2025 in August, Dream11 had exited its sponsorship deal, forcing BCCI to look for a replacement. As perthenew deal, Apollo Tyres will pay ₹4.5 crore per game, higher than what Dream11 paid (₹4 crore).

When the BCCI floated the tenders earlier this month, there were doubts whether it would be able to receive a sum in the vicinity of what Dream 11 was paying. And despite BCCI making it clear that it won't entertain bids from companies in the gaming, betting, crypto, tobacco, sports wear, non-alcoholic cold beverages sectors, it received plenty of interest which proved that the Indian cricket team remains the most popular brand that top corporate houses want to partner.

Santosh N, managing partner of D&P Advisory, an independent valuation company which tracks brand IPL among others, said the restrictions put in place by BCCI as to who could bid would have played a big role.

"There is no shortage when it comes to Indian corporations. There are conglomerates like the Tatas and the Birlas. And new

# **HOT PROPERTY**

■ As per the new deal, Apollo Tyres will pay

₹4.5 crore

per game, higher than what Dream11 paid (₹4 crore)

After the govt passed the online gaming Bill in August, Dream11 had exited its sponsorship with BCCI

■Apollo Tyres bid was better than Australian software company Canva's ₹4.28 crore and JK Cement's ₹3.7 crore

BCCI's starting bid was

₹3.5 crore

stand-offs and plenty of large advertisers would obviously have been eyeing these rights every time. It is not that Apollo wasn't interested earlier. It's just that maybe, they did not participate earlier with the knowledge that there are others who were ready to burn more cash. They would have known they wouldn't be the highest bidder. Now, the list became smaller and the bidders became smaller.

Continued on Page 11



Delhi





- Apollo Tyres has been named the lead sponsor of India's men's and women's cricket teams.
- Sponsorship deal worth ₹579 crore for 3 years.
- Replaces Dream11, which exited after the passage of the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025.

# 2. Key Highlights of the Deal

- Sponsorship Fee: Apollo Tyres will pay ₹4.5 crore per game.
  - Higher than Dream11's ₹4 crore per game.
- Competition: Apollo Tyres outbid:
  - Canva (₹4.28 crore/game)
  - JK Cement (₹3.7 crore/game)
- BCCI Starting Bid: ₹3.5 crore per game.
- Despite restrictions (no bids from betting, crypto, alcohol, tobacco, etc.), the deal attracted huge interest → brand value of Indian cricket remains unmatched.

# Earlier major sponsors of BCCI:

Nike (jersey sponsor till 2020) **BYJU's** (title sponsor, later withdrew due to financial stress)

**Dream11** (replaced Byju's).



Cricket sponsorship has shifted from consumer brands (Cola, Pepsi) → to tech/startups (Byju's, Dream11) → to traditional corporates (Apollo Tyres).

Sex Sorted Semen Facility under Rashtriya Gokul Mission

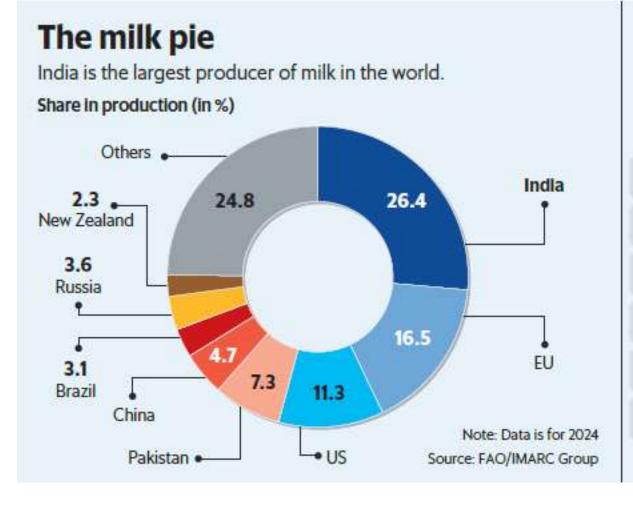
- The Prime Minister inaugurated the Sex Sorted Semen facility at Purnea, Bihar, under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission, aimed at improving the dairy sector in Eastern and North-Eastern India.
- The facility will produce 5 lakh doses of sex-sorted semen per year using the indigenously developed 'Gausort' technology.
- Sex Sorted Semen is aimed at increasing the birth of female calves, helping dairy farmers by reducing economic burdens and enhancing income, especially benefiting small, marginal, and landless dairy farmers.
- The Gausort technology, sorts semen to ensure a higher likelihood of female calves, with an accuracy of up to 90%.



- Rashtriya Gokul Mission
  - Background: Implemented since 2014 for indigenous bovine breed development & conservation. The scheme is also continued under the umbrella scheme Rashtriya Pashudhan Vikas Yojana from 2021 to 2026.
  - Implementing Agency: Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying).
  - Objectives: Aims to sustainably enhance bovine productivity and milk production, promote the use of high genetic merit bulls, expand artificial insemination (AI) coverage, and scientifically conserve and promote indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds.

# Achievements:

- Milk Production: Increased from 146.31 MT (2014-15) to 239.30 MT (2023-24) ( rise of 63.55% in 10 years).
- Artificial Insemination: 9.16 crore animals covered, 14.12 crore Als performed, 5.54 crore farmers benefited.



### Room to grow

US consumes nearly three times more milk a year compared to India.

Per capita consumption of milk (in litres per year)

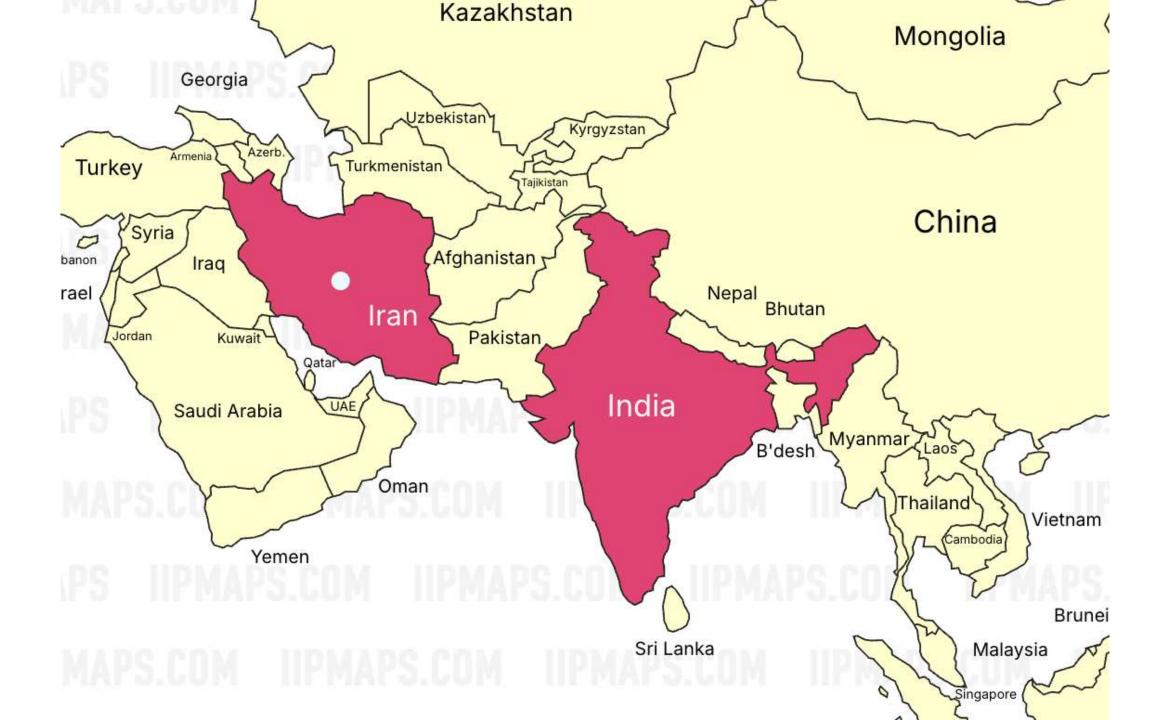


# First India-Iran-Uzbekistan Trilateral Meeting

• The first India-Iran-Uzbekistan trilateral meeting was held in Tehran focusing on enhancing cooperation against extremism and terrorism and promoting the use of Chabahar Port by Uzbekistan for trade with India.

#### About

- They also emphasized deeper connectivity via the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC).
- India-Iran-Armenia also held a trilateral focusing on INSTC and Chabahar use. Kazakhstan and Tajikistan have shown interest in using Chabahar, while India is pursuing an early harvest FTA with the Eurasian Economic Union to boost trade and access rare earth minerals from the region.







• India, Iran, Russia, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Belarus, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Ukraine, Syria.

Observer: Bulgaria.

- Potential Transport & Logistics Gains
- Shorter distances & faster deliveries → lower logistics cost
- Wider market access; creation of new markets
- Regional transit & logistics hubs development
- Higher trade volumes across Eurasia; better backward/forward linkages
- Sync with Ashgabat Agreement & BSEC; potential FTAs; future sync with Baltic/Nordic/Arctic corridors.

### **Indian Export Sectors Likely to Benefit**

Agri & allied: coffee, tea, spices, edible fruits, fish

**Apparel (non-knitwear)** 

**Engineering goods (incl. aircraft & parts)** 

**Organic chemicals** 

**Rubber & rubber articles** 

**Optical/photo/medical instruments** 

Project exports: petroleum, heavy engineering, hydrocarbons

# National Makhana Board



PM Modi launched the National Makhana Board in Purnea, **Bihar**, approving a development package of about **₹475 crore** for the makhana sector.



What is Makhana?



Makhana (Euryale ferox), also known as fox nut, is an **aquatic crop** cultivated in **stagnant ponds and wetlands**.

This plant is found in freshwater ponds throughout **South and East Asia.** 

- The edible part of the Makhana plant consists of **small, round seeds** that have an outer layer ranging from **black to brown**.
  - This has led to it being referred to as the 'Black Diamond.'
- Climatic conditions: For optimal growth and development, Makhana requires a temperature range of 20-35°C, relative humidity of 50-90%, and annual rainfall between 100-250 cm.
- In India, Bihar produces about 90% of the country's makhana, particularly the regions of Mithilanchal and Seemanchal.
  - In smaller quantities it is cultivated in the states of **Assam, Manipur, West Bengal, Tripura,** and **Odisha**, as well as in neighboring countries like **Nepal, Bangladesh, China, Japan, and Korea.**
- **GI Tag to Mithila Makhana:** In **2022**, 'Mithila Makhana' was conferred a Geographical Indication tag.

# Indian Navy's 'Androth'

- The Indian Navy has received 'Androth' an indigenously built anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft (ASW-SWC).
- About the ASW-SWC
- Named after Androth island (the largest island of the Lakshadweep archipelago), the warship is the second of eight ASW-SWCs being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- Constructed in line with the **Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) classification rules**, the project—with over 80% indigenous content—embodies the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.



- Armament: INS Androth is equipped with a lethal anti-submarine suite, including:
  - One RBU-6000 anti-submarine rocket launcher.
  - Two triple lightweight torpedo launchers.
  - Mine-laying rails.
  - One 30mm naval surface gun and two 12.7mm stabilized remote-controlled guns for surface warfare and self-defense.
- Sensors: Its advanced sensor suite features:
  - DRDO-developed Abhay hull-mounted sonar.
  - A low-frequency variable-depth sonar (LFVDS) for effective submarine detection in shallow waters.

- INS *Androth* is designed for a variety of missions in coastal waters, including:
- Anti-submarine warfare (ASW) operations.
- Coastal surveillance.
- Mine-laying operations.
- Search-and-rescue.
- Low-Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO).



# Sir M Visvesvaraya

- PM Modi paid homage to Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya on his birth anniversary, observed nationwide as Engineers' Day.
- About
- Born on September 15, 1861, Visvesvaraya is regarded as one of India's greatest engineers whose pioneering work revolutionised infrastructure development.
- He served as the Diwan of Mysore and President of the All-India Manufacturers' Organisation.
- He was conferred with the Bharat Ratna in 1955.

- Contributions of Sir M. Visvesvaraya
- Innovative Flood Management Systems: After the 1908 Musi River floods, Sir M.Visvesvaraya designed reservoirs like Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar and proposed systematic flood control solutions.
- **Pioneering Dam Construction and Irrigation:** As Chief Engineer of Mysore, Sir Visvesvaraya built the **Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS) Dam in 1932,** creating Asia's largest reservoir.
  - His automatic sluice gates improved water regulation at multiple dams.
- Literary Works: Reconstructing India (1920), Planned Economy for India (1936), and Unemployment in India: Its Causes and Cure (1932).
  - Autobiography: Memoirs of my Working Life (1951)

# Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan

## SWASTH NARI SASHAKT PARIVAR ABHIYAAN

17th September to 2nd October 2025

As part of the Abhiyaan, **75,000 health camps** will be organised across the country providing healthcare services, focused on specific needs of women & children at the Ayushman Arogya Mandirs & CHCs etc. along with Poshan Maah celebrations at all Anganwadis.

Let us strengthen our collective efforts for a Viksit Bharat.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Service is the resolve, India First the inspiration...75 years

#### Aim:

- •Achieve early detection and timely treatment of NCDs, cancer, TB, anaemia, sickle cell disease.
- •Promote nutrition awareness, menstrual hygiene, healthy lifestyles, and mental well-being.

#### **Key Features:**

- •Nationwide Health Camps: Over 1 lakh camps from 17 Sept 2 Oct 2025 in CHCs, district hospitals, Ayushman Arogya Mandirs.
- •**Specialist Services**: Gynaecology, paediatrics, eye, ENT, dental, dermatology, psychiatry.
- •NCD & Cancer Screening: BP, sugar, BMI checks, breast & cervical cancer screening, oral cavity checks.
- •Anaemia & Nutrition: Hb testing, IFA supplements, deworming, Annaprashan, recipe demos, FSSAI Eat Right campaign.
- Maternal & Child Health: ANC, growth monitoring, immunisation, MCP card distribution.

## Frontier 50 Initiative

• Niti Aayog announced the 'Frontier 50 Initiative' to implement frontier technology solutions in 50 Aspirational Districts/Blocks, fast-tracking India's march towards Viksit Bharat 2047.

### What it is?

• A **flagship program** by NITI Aayog to deploy **frontier technologies** (AI, IoT, drones, blockchain) in **50 Aspirational Districts/Blocks** to improve service delivery, productivity, and citizen well-being.

Launched By: NITI Aayog under its Frontier Tech Hub.

### Objective:

- Fast-track adoption of **proven frontier tech use cases** from the **Frontier Tech Repository**.
- Achieve saturation of government services (health, education, skilling, welfare delivery).
- Bridge the digital and development divide in under-served regions by 2047.

## Word of the day

### Quotidian:

Found in the ordinary course of events; a placid everyday scene

Synonyms: Everyday, mundane, routine

**Usage:** In the midst of her hectic schedule, she found solace in her quotidian rituals, like sipping tea and reading a book.

### **Pronunciation:**

newsth.live/Quotidianpro

# International Phonetic Alphabet: kwp'tɪdɪən

