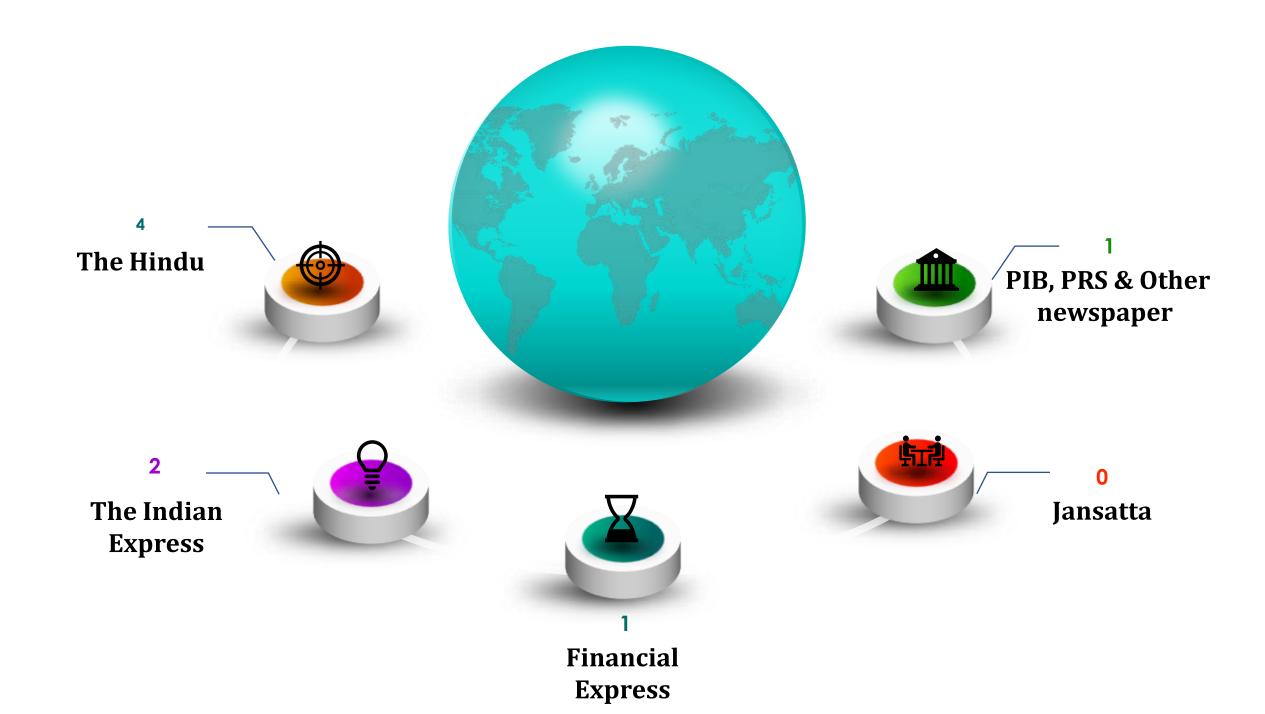
Daily Current Affairs











Download class24





PDF

10 MCQ QUIZ



"All you have to do is write one true sentence. Write the truest sentence that you know."

Ernest Hemingway

2 2 2 32 324 324

Amarnath Yatra routes

made 'no-flying zones'

Kerala HC orders curbs on single-use plastic items STATES IN PAGE 3



The third nuclear age The world is entering a period of self-inflicted nuclear insecurity DITORIAL - PAGE -



BN SHIPE:

WEWS II PAGE &



India should join global efforts for Gaza truce: Cong

Amid rising tensions in West Asia, Congress Working Committee member Anand Sharms urged the Centre to work with partners for a Gaza cesselire, ching imita's till abstantian as an example of weak diplomacy, is PAGE 5

Govt. to monitor the career path of

NAME AND ADDRESS OF transfer of Agressment to retire to medicary service under the Phoene Ministry has been tasked with coordinating activities for

'Israeli forces kill more than 50 aid seekers in Gaza'

STATE OFFI SAZA CETY Obaz's Curt defence agency asid on Tuesday that taraeti forces sided more than 50 aid seekers in the secultiem city of Khan Yaunis. The Gaza Strep fun been ravaged by over 20 months of war between travel and Hamana Page 14

Indians with 'own vehicles' told to leave Iran's capital

Embassy tella Indian nationals in Tehran to provide their location and contact details as the

midst reports of a possible widening of the terael-fron conflict, now in its fifth day, the Indian embassy in from her orged "all" Indian nationals and People of In-dian Origin (PIO) who are using "own" vehicles to leave the city for a safer location.
"All Indian Nationals and PIOs who can move

out of Tehran using their own resources, are advised to move to a safe location to move to a and boastion outside the City, said the Embassy of Itolia in the public amountment of the Embassy of Itolia in the public amountment of the first time in the last one week that the Itolian eminasy has urged people to out of Terbran, which is wisnessing a large-scale excellent of the Itolian emission of the Itolian emission of Itolians as the fear of a full-scale war with threat here constituting relocation of Itolians students and growlesshous from Terbran Stranger Strang through specially arranged buses in an urgent mea-sure to move them away that has been targeted re-pearedly by larness Air Force and missiles. "Some Indians have been facilitated to leave fran through the border with Armeetis," the Mine



Bush hours Videografs of vehicles moving out of helican only to a load state and true monthing to alload each other, no

try of External Affairs said in an anisomers on Tuesday morning, adding that further advisories will be issued depending on the "fluid situation".

Advising Indian nationals in Tehran who are not in contact with the embarsy to get in touch with it, the embassy said: "All in-dian nationals who are in

YESHAN Israel and on Yuesday that it targeted military abus in Irac and solinal benefit translan summanuter All Shadmani in fresh critics, preventions Tahean in free missiles in retailation on the fifth day of escalating ulashes between the arch ross states. In West Asia, is PAGE 14

Iran fires more

missiles after

Israel's attacks

for now: Trump WARRENGTOR on Tuesday that the U.S. would not kill tran's Supreme Leader Ayatoliah Ali Khamenei "for Ayatronah Ali Sharmone: "for rone" and appeared to demain Trinan's turrender, marking a dramatic escalation in his thatons appeared then and its Supreme Leader: in PAGE 24

Won't kill Iran's

'Supreme Leader'

leaving Tehran: +98-9010144557, +98-9128109915 and +98-9128109101. Separate non-bers were also issued for those in the southern tranian port of Bandar Abbas (+98-9177699036), and Za-hedan (+98-93963-56649).

TRACE, IN TOUCH MITH HEA!

Global South at G7: Modi Kallol Bhattacheries

India will highlight the priorities of the Global south at the G7 ammit in Canada, said Prime Minister Narendra Modil, who reached Calgary on Truevaled Calgary on Truevaled Summit, besides the Summit, Mr. Modil as especied to purelighet in with the leaders of Germanist Carman with the leaders of Germanist Carmanisms. with the leaders of Germa ny, Canada, Ukraine, and fialy. "Will be meeting va-

rious leaders at the Summit and sharing my thoughts on important glubal issues. Will also be emphasising the priorities of the Global South," said Mr. Modi.

Account of the reaching the venue of the summit in Kananaskin, Mr. Modi met South Korean President South Korean President Land President Claudia Sheuboum. The pull-adia meeting with Mr. Sheibtoum. The pull-adia meeting with Mr. Sheibtoum control of the President Claudia Sheuboum. The pull-adia meeting with Mr. Sheibtoum of the President Control Soon after reaching the

currently escalating tened-tran and Bussia-Ukraine conflicts. million. The conflicts left an ear-

ty impact on the manual as U.S. President Donald Trump left the event soon after the early interactions without waiting for the nurseach summit where



the guest leaders were to feature. The departure of the U.S. President took the U.S. Fresident took place against the backdrop of reports that the U.S. was mobilising the power and refueling platforms for an operation in the Gulf region.

Before leaving, Mr.

Will highlight priorities of

Trump also supported the idea that he would rather expand G7 into a possible '69' by including Russia

"Very big mistakes"
President Trump said that
t was a "very big missake"
to the president of the president
trump and that
trump and that
trump and trump and trump
trump and trump as war right
town I many a trump were President
trump and I to arguest
that trump and trump and
trump and I to arguest

Mr. Modi's meeting with watched closely as the meeting will be field alread of the expected visit of Rus-sian President Vladimir Putin of Russia to India for the

Earlier in May, President Putte accepted Mr. Modi's invite to visit New Delhi for

inveite to visit New Bellii for the annual aummit.

The Modi-Zobenskyy dis-cussion is likely to add to the consext of the India-tunata discussion that will taken place during the up-coming India visit of Rus-sian. President Sergey Layrov.

The G7 Outreach Sum-mit of this year being bost-ed by Canadian Frime Mi-tister Mark Carney is dismost around three core pillars of "Protecting our communities around the world". "Building energy world", "Building energy security and accelerating the digital transition" and "securing the partnerships of the beare".

Cannot have mobs taking over, law must prevail: SC in Thug Life case

Krishnadas Raisgopal The Supreme Court made

movies cannot be curtailed by threats of areon and vio-lence while underscoring that the Karnataka government ment ensure that Ka-mal Hassan's Thug Life is

"We cannot have mobs and vigilants groups take over our streets, fluic of law must prevail," Justice Ugal Bhoven, heading a Va-cation Broch including Justice Manmohan, addressed the Karnataka government

side.

The Bench was hearing a perition filed by Bergohi-ru resident M. Multesh Roddy, represented by advocate Athenam Velan,

socate Athenam Velan, seeking to ensure the safe and untumpeded accepting of the CoPC-certified Tamil of the CoPC-certified Tamil The movie came under a cloud following a utatarment made by Mr. Haasan about the Kaunada Iandon the Kaunada Iandon the Same Cope and the Cope of the Cop

CM attention



ing, counter it with writing. You cannot resort to threats of violence and aroon," Justice Bluryon said.

Rule of law says that you

cannot stop the release of a film. It is the duty of the film. It is the daty of the State to crowine a film is re-leased after it, gent the properties of the state of the the law we follow. People may not come to see the lin, but aron and ghe-come in the way of free-come in the way of free-ther follows the film of the State to file its response-by Wednesday and sche-tory of the state of the state to file its response-by Wednesday and sche-ton of the state of the state of the state to file its response-by Wednesday and sche-ton of the state of

on Thursday.
Mr. Velan for the pest-

400000

appeal the top court was necessitated by the fact that the Karnataka High Court had "distressingly appeared to priorities ap-peasement" in proceed-ings seeking the judicial protection of the fundamental right to free speech and expression.
"Instead of a clear direc-

"Intead of a clear direc-tive to the State to stop the illegal threats and protect a certified third schibition— certified third schibition— law and order—the discus-sion reportedly focused on whether Mr. Kamal Hassan reportedly focused on whether Mr. Kamal Hassan ry Brings belienents initial-dating him and threatening public order. This effective endorsement of coercive consurable by suggesting

compromise with perpetrators makes the high court pathway currently meffective for securing justice, compeling this ur-gent appeal in the Su-prems Court as the ultimate guardian of the Constitution," the petition bad submitted.

Teliran and not in touch with the Embassy are re-queeted to contact the Em-bassy of India in Tehran immediately and provide their location and contact

Emergency numbers

mumbers".

'Flagrant fallure' The petition aldo ques-tioned the Karnataka go-vernment's "flagrant faiture" to maintain law and order in the State and pro-tect

freedoms.
It said the "unconstitu tional extra-judicial ban" in: Karnataka stems not from any lawful process but from a deliberate cam-paign of terror and a chilling call for a repeat of past

"Let there be a debate if ammonie makes a statement. There would be something wrong in a system in which one person
in which one person
overyhout believes it as
gospel truth, "justice Manmohan sais."
The Benth also transmeter a petition filed by
ke Hight Court to the Sumene Court. "Let there be a debate if

Air India cancels 16 flights; DGCA finds no major safety issues with Boeing 787s

Institi Chandra

The Directorate General of Civil Assistion (DGCA) called a high-level meeting with Air India and Air India (Cupress officials on Tuesday after Air India international hights continued in the continued of the Civil Ci tion of factors, including technical gitches. The regulator later said

that the enhanced impec-tions of Air India's floring 787 fleet "did not reveal any major safety con-cerns" so far. The exercise, ordered by the regulator after the crash of Air India flight Al-171 on hane 12, has of the 33 Boeing 767s of the stellor.

On Tuesday, 16 Air India lights were sancelled that to unavailability of alecraft and glitches, the DGCA said. Thirteen of these were scheduled to be oper-ated using Boeing 787 air

83 flights cancelled "The recent surveillance conducted on Air India's Booing 707 flort did not re-veal any major safety con-cerns. The aircraft and as-notisted maintenance



According to Air Inda Tuesday's cancellation were due to increased to

systems were found to be

compliant with existing sa-fety standards," the DGCA

Since the crash in Ahrendelinal Iani week, 83 inglish operated on wide-dude Boeing 777s and been garriers, have been samelled. Of these, 65 Some of the services cancelled on Tuesday in-cluded Air India's Ahrendelina on the services cancelled on Tuesday in characteristics. Delhi-bubal, ritsar, Delhi-bubal, Bengaltur-London, Delhi-bubal, Bengaltur-London, Delhi-bubal, Manthal San Franzisco. were the to increased un-naround times because of a combination of factors, which included the on-dered by the tector and a second by the tector and a singuese. On Morelay, the times of the tector and the time there are second and being identified or ad-ditional checks andered by different personal and and alternal checks andered by the times of the times of the layer longer than unticipa-ted due to restrictions on tight flying at European alports.

victims likely to conclude today

the massive effort to identify detimas of the Air tedia flight Abromiahad Civil Hospital where Medical Superintendent Bakesh Joshs conformed the fuesday a case a

Indians with 'own vehicles' told to leave Iran's capital

Embassy tells Indian nationals in Tehran to provide their location and contact details as the Israel-Iran conflict widens; MEA says it will issue further advisories depending on 'fluid situation'

Kallol Bhattacherjee NEW DELHI

midst reports of a possible widening of the Israel-Iran conflict, now in its fifth day, the Indian embassy in Iran has urged "all" Indian nationals and People of Indian Origin (PIO) who are using "own" vehicles to leave the city for a safer location.

"All Indian Nationals and PIOs who can move out of Tehran using their own resources, are advised to move to a safe location outside the city," said the Embassy of India in the public announcement on Tuesday morning. This is the first time in the last one week that the Indian embassy has urged people to use "own resources" to get out of Tehran, which is witnessing a large-scale exodus of citizens as the fear of a full-scale war with Israel mounts. The embassy has been coordinating relocation of Indian students and professionals from Tehran since the last weekend through specially arranged buses in an urgent measure to move them away from the Iranian capital that has been targeted repeatedly by Israeli Air Force and missiles.

"Some Indians have been facilitated to leave Iran through the border with Armenia," the Minis-



Rush hour: Videograb of vehicles moving out of Tehran on Sunday night as Israel and Iran continue to attack each other. REUTERS.

try of External Affairs said in an announcement on Tuesday morning, adding that further advisories will be issued depending on the "fluid situation".

Advising Indian nationals in Tehran who are not in contact with the embassy to get in touch with it, the embassy said: "All Indian nationals who are in

Tehran and not in touch with the Embassy are requested to contact the Embassy of India in Tehran immediately and provide their location and contact numbers".

Emergency numbers

The embassy has put out phone numbers for those who want assistance while

Iran fires more missiles after Israel's attacks

TEHRAN

Israel said on Tuesday that it targeted military sites in Iran and killed senior Iranian commander Ali Shadmani in fresh strikes, prompting Tehran to fire missiles in retaliation on the fifth day of escalating clashes between the arch foes in West Asia. 3) PAGE 14

Won't kill Iran's 'Supreme Leader' for now: Trump

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that the U.S. would not kill Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei "for now" and appeared to demand Tehran's surrender, marking a dramatic escalation in his rhetoric against Iran and its Supreme Leader. » PAGE 14

leaving Tehran: +98-9010144557, +98-9128109115 and +98-9128109101. Separate numbers were also issued for those in the southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas (+98-9177699036), and Zahedan (+98-93963-56649).

'ISRAEL IN TOUCH WITH MEA' >> PAGE 4

1. Advisory by Indian Embassy in Iran

- Indian nationals and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) in Tehran advised to:
 - Leave the city using their own vehicles.
 - Relocate to safer areas amid rising Israel-Iran tensions.
- Part of India's contingency plan amid fear of full-scale war.

2. Ongoing Escalation

- Israeli strikes targeted Iranian military installations, killing top commander Ali Shadmani.
- Iran retaliated with missile strikes, marking Day 5 of active hostilities.

3. Embassy Measures

- Coordination ongoing for:
 - Evacuation of students and professionals via special buses.
 - Providing emergency phone numbers for assistance.

4. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Action

- Monitoring the "fluid situation".
- Committed to issuing further advisories.
- Urged all citizens in Iran to:
 - Contact the Embassy.
 - Provide location and phone numbers.

5. Emergency Contact Numbers

- Issued for various regions in Iran:
 - Tehran: +98-9010144557, +98-9128109115, +98-9128109101
 - Bandar Abbas: +98-9177699036
 - Zahedan: +98-93963-56649

Operation	Country	Year
Operation Raahat	Yemen	2015
Operation Ganga	Ukraine	2022
Vande Bharat Mission	COVID-19 Pandemic	2020–21
Operation Devi Shakti	Afghanistan	2021

🚀 2. India's Diaspora in West Asia

- Estimated 8.5 million Indians in Gulf and West Asia.
- Tehran, Bandar Abbas, Zahedan, and Mashhad have sizeable Indian communities.
- Emphasis on:
 - Safety
 - Communication with embassies
 - Quick response mechanism

3. Geopolitical Relevance

- Iran-Israel conflict has broader implications for:
 - Oil prices & Indian energy security.
 - India's Chabahar Port project.
 - Regional diplomacy through International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

WASHINGTON

Tom Cruise, Allen, Thomas, Parton to receive honourary Oscars 2025



Turn Cruise, Delhitie Allen, Wyne Thomas, and Delly Pertun will receive honourary Oscars at the 2025 Governors Awards for their Ulutime as hievements. Mr. Cruise, nominated four times, is recognised for his dedication to film making and atoms. Mr. Parto-

'N. Korea to send deminers, military construction workers to Russia



Bussian state rieses agency RM hassard cited buy Bussian security official Sergel Sheigis, during talks with Kim Jang-un in Pyongyang, as saying that Horth Korns will send 5,000 military con workers and 1,000 deminers to Russia's Runds region to aid

ANTANA

China, Central Asia sign 'eternal' friendship treaty in Kazakhstan



Treaty on Eternal Good Neighbourliness, Friendship and Conservation? during a summer in Kazaldustan, declaring their

tems overnight. Iranian media reported

U.K. slaps new sanctions on Russia shadow fleet, bans 20 more ships



shadow fleet, barening 20 more ships and blacklisting 10 individuals or critities linked in energy and shipping. The aging fleet hates Fusial arcain sanctions on oil experies. U.S. efficials say anneitures

On Day 5, Israel hits targets in Iran; Tehran continues its missile blitz

Explosions were heard over Tel Aviv and Jerusalem shortly after sirens sounded in many parts of Israel warning of incoming missiles, Tel Aviv says it killed a senior transan commander in an overnight attack in the heart of Tehran'

Agence France-Pressa

stast said on Tuesday it targeted military a senior commander in fresh strikes, prompting Tehran to fire missiles in retaliation on the fifth day of escalating clashes bet-ween the arch foes.

ween the arch foos.

Explosions were heard over 'bel Aviv and Jerusalem shortly after sizens outsided in many parts of
larged warning of incoming
misules, with the military
warning of another harrage in the afternoon.

Israell puline reported
that debris fell in the contrail 'bel Aviv area and the



fire brigade said it was tacking a blaze.

The travel military said it killed sentor trainan communder All Stadman killed in trare's surprise

Israel also said it target-ed multiple miselle and drone sites in western Iran overnight and again later on Tuesday, with black-and-white feetage showing

several explosions in the central city of Isfaban, home to a key modest facility. Residential areas in both countries have our fered, while foreign go-vernment acrambled to evacuate their clinens. A cyberattack on Tuesday crippled Sepah Bank, one of Irans main state-owned some of them exploding.

Despite mounting calls
to de-escalate, neither side has backed off from the missile blits that began on Friday, when terael bunched an unprecedented aerial campaign target-ing brunian nuclear and military facilities. banks, the Fars news agenbunks, the Fair news uper-cyreperand, haracl's military said it had intercepted "most" of a fresh barrage of misalles freed from tran on Thesekay after air raid sirens cound-ed in t'el Aviv and northern parts of the country.

military facilities.

A new wave of bruelt strikes on Tebran - including a dramatic hit on state tolevision headquarters that the breadcaster said killed three persons - prompted both sides to se-

Won't kill Iran 'Supreme Leader' for now: Trump

Agence France:Presse.

President Donald Trump said the United States would not kill Fran's as-preme Leader "for now" and appeared to demand Tehran's surrender, as U.S. ally breat readed fire with its arch toe for a fifth day on Tousday. The consuments marked a diamatte escalation in

Mr. Trump's rhetoric against fran and its leader Ayatoliah Ali Khamenei, fuelling questions as to fuelling questions as to whether: Washington would join tarach's stracks after insisting it had no hard to be a supported to the Days after a service U.S. official said Mr. Tramp had told israel to back down from plans to assassinate Mr. Rhamonel, the U.S. President appeared to put

the option back on the table with a post on his Truth Sucial platform. "We know esactly where the so-called 'Su-preme Leader' is hiding. He is an easy target, but is safe there "We use not ge-ing to take him out 0xillo, at least test for new," Mr. Thump said.

Trump said.

"But we don't want mis-siles shot at civilians, or American soldiers. Our pa-tience is wearing thin," be

HIGH HIVING "UNCONDI-

TDDNAL SUBREMENTHER!

Mr. Trump had sale earlier in the skey that he want
color as real ends. In the
color as the sale as the
color as th

Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth said the U.S. was deploying "additional cap-abilities" to the West Asia. Since Friday, at least 24

Since Friday, at least 24 people have been killed in tracil and hundreds wannided, according to Prime Minister Netanyahir office.

Fran said on Standay that Israeli strikes had killed at

Russia says Israel 'reluctant' to accept outside mediation

Agence France-Press

Buesta said Tuesday it was Hussia said Truesdey it was ready to act as a peace broker herween laread and tran, but that teroed was ready to the peace of the cept outside mediation. Iracel began lauriching attilises across fram on Fri-day, saying it aimed to pre-ceed the peace of the peace of the peace of the peace ing a madeay weapon a se-charge. Fram derries, fran has responsibled with outsiles. Transleton Pattin has

fory strikes on Israel.

"President Putin has said that Rossia is ready to provide mediation services if necessary," Kremlin spokeeman Dunttry Peskov told reporters in a daily briefing.

"At present, we see a re-luctories, at least on the

China accused Donald Trump of Touring off on the conflict between Iran and Israel

part of Israel, to resort to any mediation services or for embark on a peaceful path towards services French President En-manuel Macron sold Sun-day that Rissia was not in a position to mediate given in full sociale offensive its full scale offensive against Ukraine. Separately, China on Tuesday accused President

Donald Trump of "pouring off" on the mounting con-flict between Iran and is rael, after the U.S. leader warned Tehran residents

to "immediately rescupte". The sudden flare-up in the sudden conflict, with Me. Trump urging fran back to the negotiating table after issues at clear table.

Mr. Trump also issued a warning on hie Truth Social platform: "Kveryone unter Tables."

uase Tebrant"
Asked about Mr.
Trump's remarks, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokes-person Guo Jahan said: "Fanning the flames, pour-ing oil, making threats and mounting pressure will not help to promote the de-es-calation of the situation. but will only intensify and widen the conflict."

Riot in Nairobi



Civile servests fixed police throw lear gas at demonstrators during a protect in de

Associated Press

Tuesday to decriminalise abortion in England and Wales after a lawmaker ar-gued that it was cruel to

prosecute women for end

ing a pregnancy The House of Commons

15 killed, 131 injured in Russian attack on Ukraine

Associated Press

A night-time Bussian mis-sile and drone bombard-ment of Uraine killed its people and Injured 11 offi-homes, botal officials said on Tisesday, with the main barrage centring on Kylv. Bussia Brud more than 440 drones and 32 missiles at Ultraine, Ultrainan Per-sisys and 11 missiles and 11 missiles and 11 missiles and 12 missiles skyy and, calling the Kylv

skyy said, calling the Kyre attack "one of the most ter-rifying strikes" on the cap-ital. It was one of the desdilect attacks on Kylv recently and came after two rounds of direct peace talks failed to make progress.

Gaza rescuers say Israel army killed | U.K. to decriminalise abortion amid more than 50 people near aid site

Agence France Presse

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli forces on Tues-day killed more than 50 aid sectors in the southern ci-ty of Khan Younis, the latest deadly incident near an aid site in the Palestinian territory. The Gaza Strip has been

The Gaza Sirip has been ravaged by more than 20 months of war between is read and Pelestisian militarit group liamas, with the internal on the ground amid aborages of fixed, hiel and slean water.

Eivil defence spokesperson Mahmad has aid.

that at least 53 people were killed and some 200



wounded as thousands of falestinians gathered to re-ceive flour as a World Cen-tral Khohen (WCK) aid centre in the morning. "Israeli sirones firesi at eral shells at the citizens, which led to a large mum-ber of marryrs and wound-ed," he said.

The Israeli army said it was "aware of reports re-garding a number of in-jured individuals from Ilathe citizens, some minutes later, Israeli tanka fired sev-

militaryl following the crowd's ap-proach" in Khan Younis, and that the details of the incldent were funde

It said that "a gathering was identified adjacent to in aid distribution truck hat got stuck in the area of

that got statek in the area of shan Younies, and in proximity to [locate] troops upMr. Bassal said that four
additional people were
Milled by Iraseli fire on
Gana city of Bafati.

The Houlth Ministry said
pic have been killed since
pic laws been killed since
practice of the armondulum
tracel tracel research
tracel research
ments and the change was
needed. Because police
have Investigated move

Under current law. ettish lawmakers voted on

doctors can legally carry out abortions in England, Scotland, Wales till 24 weeks

than 102 western for sus-pectral flegal doctrions so-chiding some who suffered attual miscarriages and attual miscarriages and attual miscarriages and will only take women out of the criminal justice sys-nerable and they need our heigh, she said. That what public interest in this may exceed a supplied of the criminal public interest in this may exceed to the said. That what exceeding the said of the criminal public interest in this may exceed a supplied to the said.

379-37. The House of Com-mons will now need to pass the crime Bill, which is expected, before it goes to the House of Lords, where it can be delayed but not blocked.

but not blocked.
Under current law, doc-ton can legally carry our abortions in bugland, seek abortions in bugland, seek deepen and bug and the weeks, and beyond that under special circumstanc-us, such as when the life of the mother is in danger. Abortion in Northern fer abortion decriminated in 2019.

concern about women's prosecution

tand was decriminalised in 2019. Changes in the law im-plemented during the CO-VID-19 pandemic allow we-men to receive abortion pills through the mad and

nuncies at home within the first 10 weeks. That has led to a hundful of widely publicised cases in which women were pro-secuted for illegally obtain-ing abortion pills and using them to end their own pregnancies after 24 weeks or more.

Anti-abortion Anti-abortion groups opposed the measures, ar-guing it would open the door to abortion on de-mand at any stage of pregnancy.

"Univers babies will

have any remaining pro-tection stripped away, and women will be left at the mercy of abusers," said a member of a pro-life campalgo group.

WASHINGTON

Tom Cruise, Allen, Thomas, Parton to receive honourary Oscars 2025



REUTERS

Tom Cruise, Debbie Allen, Wynn Thomas, and Dolly Parton will receive honourary Oscars at the 2025 Governors Awards for their lifetime achievements. Mr. Cruise, nominated four times, is recognised for his dedication to film-making and stunts. Ms. Parton earns Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award for her philanthropy. AP

Category	Record Holder	Number of Oscars
Most Oscars won by an actor	Katharine Hepburn	4 (Best Actress)
Most Oscars won by a male actor	Daniel Day-Lewis	3 (Best Actor)
Most Oscars won by a film	Ben-Hur (1959), Titanic (1997), The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003)	11 each
Most Oscars won by a living person	Alan Menken (Composer)	8

Indians Who Have Won Oscars

Name	Category	Number of Oscars	■ Notable Work/Film □
A.R. Rahman	Best Original Score, Best Original Song	2 (in 2009)	Slumdog Millionaire
Resul Pookutty	Best Sound Mixing	1	Slumdog Millionaire (2009)
Bhanu Athaiya	Best Costume Design	1	Gandhi (1983)
Satyajit Ray	Honorary Oscar (Lifetime Achievement)	1	(1992) Contribution to World Cinema
Kartiki Gonsalves	Best Documentary Short Film	1	The Elephant Whisperers (2023)
Guneet Monga	Producer, Best Documentary Short Film	1	The Elephant Whisperers (2023)
M.M. Keeravani	Best Original Song	1	Naatu Naatu (RRR, 2023)
Chandrabose	Lyricist, Best Original Song	1	Naatu Naatu (RRR, 2023)

Film Name	Awards	Year
Slumdog Millionaire	8 Oscars (2 by Indians: Rahman, Pookutty)	2009
Gandhi	8 Oscars (1 by Indian: Bhanu Athaiya)	1983
The Elephant Whisperers	Best Documentary Short (Indian team)	2023
RRR	Best Original Song (Naatu Naatu)	2023

U.K. to decriminalise abortion amid concern about women's prosecution

Associated Press

LONDON

British lawmakers voted on Tuesday to decriminalise abortion in England and Wales after a lawmaker argued that it was cruel to prosecute women for ending a pregnancy.

The House of Commons approved an amendment to a broader crime Bill that would prevent women from being criminally punished under an antiquated law.

Labour MP Tonia Antoniazzi, the Labour Member of Parliament who introduced one of the amendments, said the change was needed because police have investigated more Under current law, doctors can legally carry out abortions in England, Scotland, Wales till 24 weeks

than 100 women for suspected illegal abortions over the past five years, including some who suffered natural miscarriages and stillbirths.

"This piece of legislation will only take women out of the criminal justice system because they are vulnerable and they need our help," she said. "Just what public interest is this serving? This is not justice, it is cruelty and it has got to end."

The amendment passed 379-137. The House of Commons will now need to pass the crime Bill, which is expected, before it goes to the House of Lords, where it can be delayed but not blocked.

Under current law, doctors can legally carry out abortions in England, Scotland and Wales up to 24 weeks, and beyond that under special circumstances, such as when the life of the mother is in danger. Abortion in Northern Ireland was decriminalised in 2019.

Changes in the law implemented during the CO-VID-19 pandemic allow women to receive abortion pills through the mail and terminate their own pregnancies at home within the first 10 weeks.

That has led to a handful of widely publicised cases in which women were prosecuted for illegally obtaining abortion pills and using them to end their own pregnancies after 24 weeks or more.

Anti-abortion groups opposed the measures, arguing it would open the door to abortion on demand at any stage of pregnancy.

"Unborn babies will have any remaining protection stripped away, and women will be left at the mercy of abusers," said a member of a pro-life campaign group.

1. UK Parliament Vote

- The House of Commons approved an amendment (by 379–137 votes) to a broader crime bill.
- Aim: Decriminalise abortion in England and Wales, and prevent women from being prosecuted for terminating pregnancies.

2. Current Law (Before Amendment)

- Legal abortion permitted up to 24 weeks in England, Scotland, and Wales.
- Beyond 24 weeks: Only under special conditions (e.g. threat to mother's life).
- Northern Ireland decriminalised abortion in 2019.

3. Reason for Reform

- Over 100 women investigated in the last 5 years for illegal abortions.
- Some involved miscarriages and stillbirths—raising human rights concerns.
- New laws will prevent criminalisation of vulnerable women.

4. COVID-era Policy Retention

- Legal to use abortion pills at home within the first 10 weeks.
- Originally introduced during the pandemic for safety and convenience.

5. Opposition from Pro-life Groups

- Argue that:
 - It could allow abortion on demand at any stage.
 - It removes protection for unborn children.
 - Women may be left vulnerable to abuse or coercion.



1. Global Abortion Laws Comparison

Country	Legal Status
India	Up to 20 weeks (24 weeks in special cases) under Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971 (Amended 2021)
UK	Legal up to 24 weeks; now proposed decriminalisation to avoid prosecution
USA	Supreme Court reversed Roe v. Wade (2022), legality varies by state
Ireland	Legalised abortion in 2018 after referendum
Poland	One of the most restrictive abortion laws in Europe







Time Since Conception	MTP Act, 1971	MTP (Amendment) Act, 2021
Up to 12 weeks	On the advice of one doctor	On advice of one doctor
12 to 20 weeks	On advice of two doctors	On advice of one doctor
20 to 24 weeks	Not allowed	On advice of two doctors for special categories of pregnant women
More than 24 weeks	Not allowed	On advice of medical board in case of substantial fetal abnormality
Any time during the pregnancy	On advice of one doctor, if immediately necessary to save pregnant woman's life	On advice of one doctor, if immediately necessary to save pregnant woman's life

- Q. With reference to the recent legislative reforms in the U.K., consider the following statements:
- Abortion is currently legal up to 24 weeks in England, Scotland, and Wales.
- The recent amendment seeks to criminalise women who take abortion pills after 10 weeks.
- Under the new changes, prosecution of women for abortion would end in most circumstances.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 1 and 3 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3



Tehran is caught between fear, resolve as air war intensifies

Agence France Presse.

As targett air strikes on Tehran show no sign of

As lensell air strikes on Tehran show no sign of abstring, many residents have field the transin cap-rial. But for others, escape is not an option. In the latest strike of the strike of the strike of the in western Tehran, "and Misia, a 37-year-old com-guier scientist, "I womed to leave, but I have sev-ced can and Learn's absultan inhera." Con Priday that has killed at least 224 people healing many parts of the transin capital to empty out. The ac-that has killed at least 224 people in trans, accord-ting to the lensel prime minister's office. I have a morthern district of the capital before striking the leadquarters of state television—an strake the lenselscatter said killed three people.

"opened a path to Telvan" by knocking out tran's air defences, that amid the enabling oxodius, those left behind are grappling with fear, shortings and a sense of defautt endurance. On Tuesday, long queues stretched outside baserles and petró itations as residents rushed to stock up on theil and hash equipments. Security checkpoints have been est up across Tehran, adding to the atmosphere of lengton as authorities monitor movement in and

out of key districts.
"The regime (brase) must await harsh punishment," read one banner in Tehran, displayed alongside portraits of slain feanian millitary commanders and scientists. Others quoted fran's supreme leader, Ayatellah Ali (hamenet: "The powerful hand of the Islamic Republic's armed

How Israel used spies, smuggled drones and AI to stun, hobble Iran

Israel stunned fran last week with a precision military operation years in the making the Mossad and the military have worked together for at least three years to lay the operational ground, say sources; it used latest Al models to analyse intelligence, a tactic earlier deployed in Gaza and Lebanon

srael summed and hobbled tran tast week when it pulled off an intelligence and military operation years in the making that struck high-level targets with precision. Guided by spies and ar-uncial intelligence, the la retrievable for the formal control of the fo

This account is based on conversations with 10 cur-rem and former brack in-telligence and military offictals, some of whom spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss clandestine

operations.
The former head of re-search at Israel's spy agen-cy, the Mossad, confirmed cy, the Mossad, portitioned the basic continues of the attack, saying site had in-side knowledge of how it was planned and executed. "This attack is the cul-mination of years of work by the Messad to target traris suclear program," said Sine Shire, the form-or Mossad research direc-



ter who is now an analyst at the institute for National Security Studies. Israel's element of sur-prise was enhanced by Ira-nian officials' apparent as-sumption that israel workers attack while talks over the exploity advancing incluse programme were singoing with the U.S.

Talks in Oman A sixth round of talks had been planned for last Sun-day in Oman, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Prime Miniater Benjamin Neranyabu activated "Op-eration Rising Llon" on Fit-day - after his country first notified President Fornald Trump.

Mr. Naturyahu has for years said neutralising harr's nuclear programmer. Sc. and Bood had revenue.

er intelligence officer who said he had knowledge of the strack. The attack built off

The attack built off knowledge brind gained during a wave of air attikes has October, which "high-lighted the weakness of ira-nian air defences," said Naysan Rafati, an Dan ana-byst at the International Crimore aggressive attack proved necessary, as Iran kept advancing its enrich-ment programme despite U.S. distonante efforts and warnings from U.N. watchdogs. Iranian Sigreme Leader Transan supreme Leader Ayatollad AB Khamsein has repositedly called for in-reach destruction. Iran's reposited for in-reach destruction in the insection process, though it was the only country without the bomb to en-rich unanium close to wea-the Mossea durch temilinary worked together for at least three years to lay the operational ground-work, according to a form sis tiroup. To further diminish Ira-

To Further diminish tra-nian air defences and mis-sile systems at the start of many transportation of the agents had amongled preci-cion weapons into Iran that were prepositioned to cording to two current security officials who spoke on condition of amonymi-cial properties of the county officials who spoke on condition of amonymi-de amail, armed decones, which agents stuck into the columny in whiches, ac-

Messad agents stationed weapons close to transar surface-to-air missile sites, The officer was tasked Shine said. The agency works with a mix of people, both locals and Israe-is, she said. To analyse information

gathered from various est artificial intelligence, or Al, technology, said an in-telligence officer involved

telligence officer involved with selecting individuals and sites to target. He said Al was used to help fazzello quickly sift through troves of data they had obtained. That effort begon last betoder according to the officer, it was one mouth before Mr. Netanyahu said he had ordered the attack plans.

Usage of Al models
An investigation by The Avvocated Freez earlier this
vocated Freez earlier this
vocated freez earlier this
vocated freez earlier this
vocated freez earlier this
raide Al models in war to
aff through intelligence
and intercept communications to learn the movemeets of its enemies. It's been used in the wars with Hamas in Gaza and with Heshollah in Lebanon.

Hediollah in Lefaamm.
The iritelligence officer involved in identifying the possible targets and options were first past into various groups, such as leadership, military, civilian and infrastructure. Targets were chosen if they were and infrastructure. Turgets were chosen if they were determined to be a threat to brand, such as being

deeply associated with tran's Revolutionary Guard - a paramilitary force that controls tran's balliatic

with putting together a list of franian generals, includworked and spent their

Among the high-level military officials killed since Priday's attack were Gen. Hossein Salami, the head of Iran's Revolution-

of staff of Iran's armed forces.
In addition to AI, the Mossaal relies on spires to identify top nuclear scientists and members of training Revolutionary. Chard, according to one security of the Gala. At least eight members of the Gaust, including the head of its missile programme, were missile programme, were

Another facet of the at-

Allure of Lure



Lake Lurs, a popular retreat in weatern fronth Carolina, remains closed as clean-up and recovery continue. Hunicane Helene dumped over a miliser eable yards of definis into the false, disrupting tourism and imparting the local economy, securies

Mali takes control of the Canadian mine Barrick Gold over unpaid taxes

Associated Press

A judge in Mali on Monday A judge in Mail on Monday ordered Barrick Cold's Leuko-Counketo gold compete by the placed under provisional administration for six months in an oragoing dispute between the Canadian mining company and the West African nation of the province of the place of the pla over unpaid taxes.

Zoumana Makadji, an accountant and a former Malian Minister of Health, has been appointed as the company's provisional ad-ministrator within 15 days, Judge Issa Aguibou Diallo

Barrick's website said the company is Africa's largest gold producer through its

ongo. Barrick Gold has been in harrick could has been in conflict with Malrix military rulers over alleged unpuid taxes and unlist contracts with past governments. The dispute culminated in cember for Barrick CRO Mark Bristow and the com-pany's offer to pay \$370 million to the government.

million to the government.
"While Barrick's subsidiaries remain the legal
owners of the mine, operatunal control has been
transferred to an excernal
administrator," Barrick
said in a statement. In Decomber, Barrick submitted a request for arbitration to the International Center for Settlement of Invest-

Mark Bristony

Gounkoto complex, where the mines are located. Despite this, the govern-ment took a series of esca-latory measures, including the arrest of Barrick Gold employees, who remain detained, and the suspen-

cletation, and the suspen-sion of gold exports. Barrick, which has been peasont in Mall for three decades, emphasised that the arbitration process was still ongoing and reaf-femed its commitment to

"engaging with the govern-ment of Mail, in parallel, is identify a constructive, mutually acceptable solu-tion."
The company's state-ment on Monday added.
"The onsgoing destination of lour! employees – who re-main unjustly imprincipal and used as leverage in this process - is deeply con-cerning and inconsistent with the trust, transparency and accountability re-quired for a genuine longterm partnership. Mali is one of Africa's

Mall is one of Africa's leading gold producers, but it has struggled for years with jihadi violence and powerty. The military selzed power in 2020, and the government has pieced foreign mining companies

In Venezuela's El Dorado, residents weigh gold to buy daily groceries

Agence France-Presse.

the majority of residents of cards or cash to pay for

They live in a town

riches - but most of them are poor.

Merchants use scales to carefully weigh the flecks people guard in plastic pill bottles or wrapped in pisces of paper, and market goods are priced in weight

For 0.02 grams, you can get a small pocket of maise meal, for one gram a prepackaged bag of groceries said Transpoint.

that includes flour, pasts, oil. margarine, ketchup and milk powder.

A gram of gold can pur-chase between \$85 and \$100 worth of goods, but takes hours of back-break-

takes hours of buck-break-ing work to amase. If you're in luck.

"Gods is a blessing given
"Gods is a blessing given
"Gods we can buy what we want, but you have to work hard," 48 year-old Jose Tobbas Transpaini and Gone Tobbas Transpaini and denis mostly employed in mining—legal and illegal.
"One day at the mine you might find nothing, have gotten up to a kilo G.2.

have gotten up to a kilo (2.2 pounds), but... I haven't had that kind of blessing. I've only gotten a little bit,"

El Dorado's residents ave limited access to Directors Functions have limited access to banking services.
They could sell their gold at one of the decess of dealers that dot the streets, but most prefer not to. Gold - unlike the hattered

Vonexuelan currency that has lost 50% of its value this year — does not depreciate.

No gold, no life El Dorado aruse as a mili-tary fort as Bitain and Ve-nezuella squared off in 1955 over the mineral- and oli-cicle region of Essequibo now at the center of an in-creasingly heated ferrito-rial dispute with Guyara, which has administered if for decades. now at the center of an in-gold emerged from the three course, and the population which has administered it or decades. Nowadays, the streets though poth-order, and the population the closes inhabitants. The olders inhabitants the course of the course of the course three closes inhabitants.



of the town remember that when it rained, particles of gold emerged from the hidda Carrero, a 73-year-

sighted.
It can be hard to make a living in a place where a living in a place where a common of the reserves of guid, thannonds. Bron, basaxie, quarts and colion have a tracted organized crime and guerring groups that mine illegally, and sow violence.

Exterrition of arnual busices owners a rife, and 217

Extertion of small business owners is rife, and 217
people were killed in the
finer years to 3020 in classe
as hereven rival criminal
mat which is chalten out to

Carrero sells care of wa-ter for 0.03 grams of gold

apiece – about \$1.50 – but business, like mining hauls, is erratic. Some days

she sells nothing.
"If I don't have gold I

and mine collapses have claimed dozens of lives.

Hazardous work Around 80 Dorado, there

Managed of this is agree in the survival of th

collect them.

the gold can be traded or sold.

H is hard work, and ha-"The danger of this is

It was a great day.

How Israel used spies, smuggled drones and AI to stun, hobble Iran

Israel stunned Iran last week with a precision military operation years in the making; the Mossad and the military have worked together for at least three years to lay the operational ground, say sources; it used latest AI models to analyse intelligence, a tactic earlier deployed in Gaza and Lebanon

Associated Press

IERUSALEM

srael stunned and hobbled Iran last week when it pulled off an intelligence and military operation years in the making that struck high-level targets with precision.

Guided by spies and artificial intelligence, the Israeli military unleashed a nighttime fusillade of warplanes and armed drones smuggled into Iran to quickly incapacitate many of its air defences and missile systems. With greater freedom to fly over Iran, Israel bombarded key nuclear sites and killed top generals and scientists. By the time Iran mustered a response hours later, its ability to retaliate - already weakened by past Israeli strikes - was greatly diminished.

This account is based on conversations with 10 current and former Israeli intelligence and military officials, some of whom spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss clandestine operations.

The former head of research at Israel's spy agency, the Mossad, confirmed the basic contours of the attack, saying she had inside knowledge of how it was planned and executed.

"This attack is the culmination of years of work by the Mossad to target Iran's nuclear program," said Sima Shine, the former Mossad research direc-



Smoke billows from an oil refinery following an Israeli strike on Tehran on Tuesday. AFP

tor who is now an analyst at the Institute for National Security Studies.

Israel's element of surprise was enhanced by Iranian officials' apparent assumption that Israel wouldn't attack while talks over its rapidly advancing nuclear programme were ongoing with the U.S.

Talks in Oman

A sixth round of talks had been planned for last Sunday in Oman, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu activated "Operation Rising Lion" on Friday - after his country first notified President Donald Trump.

Mr. Netanyahu has for years said neutralising Iran's nuclear programme was vital for Israel's security, and Israel had previously taken steps to set back Iran's ability to enrich uranium to weapons grade. But Mr. Netanyahu said a more aggressive attack proved necessary, as Iran kept advancing its enrichment programme despite U.S. diplomatic efforts and warnings from U.N. watchdoes.

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khameini has repeatedly called for Israel's destruction. Iran's political leaders say their nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes, though it was the only country without the bomb to enrich uranium close to weapons grade levels.

The Mossad and the military worked together for at least three years to lay the operational groundwork, according to a former intelligence officer who said he had knowledge of the attack.

The attack built off knowledge Israel gained during a wave of air strikes last October, which "highlighted the weakness of Iranian air defences," said Naysan Rafati, an Iran analyst at the International Crisis Group.

To further diminish Iranian air defences and missile systems at the start of last week's attack, Mossad agents had smuggled precision weapons into Iran that were prepositioned to strike from close range, according to two current security officials who spoke on condition of anonymity. Those weapons included small, armed drones, which agents snuck into the country in vehicles, according to the former intelligence officer.

Mossad agents stationed weapons close to Iranian surface-to-air missile sites, Shine said. The agency works with a mix of people, both locals and Israelis, she said.

To analyse information gathered from various sources, Israel used the latest artificial-intelligence, or AI, technology, said an intelligence officer involved with selecting individuals and sites to target. He said AI was used to help Israelis quickly sift through troves of data they had obtained.

That effort began last October according to the officer; it was one month before Mr. Netanyahu said he had ordered the attack plans.

Usage of AI models

An investigation by The Associated Press earlier this year uncovered that the Israeli military uses U.S.made AI models in war to sift through intelligence and intercept communications to learn the movements of its enemies. It's been used in the wars with Hamas in Gaza and with Hezbollah in Lebanon.

The intelligence officer involved in identifying the possible targets said options were first put into various groups, such as leadership, military, civilian and infrastructure. Targets were chosen if they were determined to be a threat to Israel, such as being

deeply associated with Iran's Revolutionary Guard – a paramilitary force that controls Iran's ballistic missiles.

The officer was tasked with putting together a list of Iranian generals, including details on where they worked and spent their free time.

Among the high-level military officials killed since Friday's attack were Gen. Hossein Salami, the head of Iran's Revolutionary Guard, and Gen. Mohammed Bagheri, the chief of staff of Iran's armed forces.

In addition to AI, the Mossad relied on spies to identify top nuclear scientists and members of Iran's Revolutionary Guard, according to one security official. At least eight members of the Guard, including the head of its missile programme, were killed in a single Israeli strike on an underground bunker.

Another facet of the attack was to strike Iranian vehicles used to transport and launch missiles.

Israel's blistering attack last week on the heart of Iran's nuclear and military structure didn't come out of nowhere, said retired Israeli Brig. Gen. Amir Avivi, who heads the Israel Defense and Security Forum think tank.

It was the result of "Israeli intelligence working extensively for years in Iran," he said.

Trump: Know where Khamenei is hiding, Iran must surrender

Abruptly Leaves G7, Seeks 'Real End' To Conflict

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: The United States knew exactly where Iran's "so-called" Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, was "hiding" but "we are not going to take him out (kill!), at least for now", president Donald Trump said Tuesday, urging "unconditional surrender" by Tehran. The veiled warning came on the back of Israel on threatening Khame-

► America's bunker buster bombs, P 18

nei with a fate "similar to" Iraqi president Saddam Hussein who was executed.

"Our patience is wearing thin," Trump said in a post on Truth Social. The fast unfolding ultimatums came after he abruptly left the G7 summit in Calgary Monday night and returned to Washington DC, scuppering among other engagements a bilateral with PM Modi, who

JS PREZ OVERRULES OWN INTEL HEAD ON TRAN NUKES

- > Trump overrules assessment of his own intel head Tulsi Gabbard, who testified in March that Iran wasn't building a nuclear weapon. Says, 'I don't care what she said. They were very close to getting a nuke'
- 'We now have complete and total control of the skies over Iran,' Trump says, hailing use of US-made weaponry
- > Israeli strike on Iran's nuclear complex at Natanz directly hit the underground uranium enrichment plant, UN nuclear watchdog IAEA says

- Israel claims to have killed Iran's wartime chief of staff Maj Gen Ali Shamdani, who took over only on Friday after his predecessor was killed
- ➤ Hacking group opposed to Iranian govt with potential ties to Israel claims it has destroyed data at Iran's state-owned Bank Sepah
- > Iran bans govt officials and bodyguards from using phones, smart watches, laptops. Suspects Israel uses digital signatures from electronics to launch strikes

Iran should have signed the 'deal' I told them to sign.
What a shame, and waste of human life. Simply stated,
IRAN CAN NOT HAVE A NUCLEAR WEAPON —President Trump

arrived for the meeting even as Trump was winding down.

In remarks to reporters on Air Force One on his way back, Trump swatted down talk of bringing about a ceasefire between Israel and Iran and instead warned that Teheran could face punitive action from the US if it did not completely give up its quest for nuclear weapons. "I'm not looking for a ceasefire, we're looking at better than a ceasefire...a real end," Trump said, seeking a total surrender from Iran and a "complete giveup" of its nuclear programme. "I'm not too much in the mood to negotiate," he added.

In Calgary, Trump alarmed the world by urging "everyone should immediately evacuate Tehran".

▶Continued on P 18



Indian students moved out of Tehran

road as vehicles move

westwards out of Tehran

Indian students in Tehran had been moved out through arrangements by the Indian embassy, the external affairs ministry said. While the govt is not looking to pull out diplomats for now, family members of embassy staff have been asked to leave. P8

1. Precision Attack by Israel

- Israel executed a multi-year intelligence and military operation targeting Iran's military infrastructure.
- Operation aimed to cripple Iran's air defense and missile systems.

2. Technology & AI Use

- Israel deployed:
 - Al models to analyze intelligence.
 - Armed drones smuggled into Iran.
 - Cyber and satellite-based data to identify targets.
- All used to sift data and identify targeted individuals/sites.

3. Use of Human Intelligence (HUMINT)

- Mossad deployed local agents and Israeli operatives inside Iran.
- Agents mapped surface-to-air missile sites and identified key scientists and generals.
- Information gathered over 3 years helped guide the attacks.

4. High-profile Targets Eliminated

- Among those killed:
 - Gen. Hossein Salami, head of Iran's Revolutionary Guard.
 - Gen. Mohammad Bagheri, Chief of Staff of Armed Forces.
- Scientists linked to Iran's nuclear and missile programs also assassinated.

5. Operational Timeline

- Planning began three years ago.
- Operation Rising Lion activated by Netanyahu in 2024.
- Final approval one month before strike; U.S. informed post-execution.

Term	Explanation
HUMINT	Human Intelligence – gathering via people (agents, spies)
SIGINT	Signals Intelligence – via electronic communications
Al in Warfare	Use of artificial intelligence for reconnaissance, targeting, decision-making
Mossad	Israel's external intelligence agency
IRGC	Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps – elite paramilitary force

Topic	Data
Operation Name	Rising Lion
Key Technology	AI, drones, HUMINT
Mossad Role	Data analysis, intelligence gathering, assassination coordination
Targets Hit	IRGC leaders, missile scientists
Planning Period	~3 years (since 2022)

- Q. With reference to the recent Israeli military operation on Iran, consider the following statements:
- Israel used artificial intelligence to select and prioritize targets.
- The operation resulted in the elimination of Iran's top political leadership.
- The Mossad coordinated with local operatives inside Iran to gather intelligence.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3

Rinderpest Virus

 India's ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal has been designated as a Category A Rinderpest Holding Facility (RHF) by World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) during the 92nd WOAH General Session in Paris.



Certificate

Rinderpest virus





World Organisation Organisation mondiale for Animal de la santé Health animale Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal

Rinderpest virus sequestration and destruction in India

This is to certify the designation of the Indian Council for Agriculture Research - National Institute for High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD) as a Rinderpest Holding Facility in Category A.

In line with the 2011 declaration by WOAH and FAO of Global Freedom from rinderpest, the provisions of WOAH Resolution no. 21/2017 "Guidelines for Rinderpest Virus Sequestration" and the mandate for Rinderpest Holding Facilities defined by WOAH Resolution no. 27/2023, NiHSAD shall comply with their directives, including the progressive destruction of all non-essential rinderpest virus containing material.

The example set by NIAHSD towards reducing the biological threat from rinderpest virus and safeguarding Global Freedom from rinderpest is recognised by the World Assembly of WOAH Delegates.



Paris, 29th May 2025

DA

Dr Susana Pombo President Dr Emmanuelle Soubeyran Director General

What is Rinderpest?

- Rinderpest (also called *Cattle Plague*) was a **highly contagious viral disease** affecting cattle and other ruminants.
- It belongs to the **Morbillivirus genus**, related to measles and canine distemper viruses.
- The disease had **100% morbidity and up to 90% mortality**, making it a major livestock killer historically.

Transmission & Vector:

- Spread via **direct contact**, contaminated water, and aerosols from infected animals.
- No insect vector and transmission is strictly animal-to-animal.

Clinical Features:

- Symptoms include high fever, nasal discharge, oral erosions, severe diarrhoea, and death within 10–15 days.
- No known zoonotic risk to humans.

Impact on Livestock and Economy:

- Led to massive cattle deaths, causing famine, rural poverty, and economic collapse in agrarian societies.
- Disrupted milk, meat, and manure supply critical for rural livelihoods.

Global Eradication:

- Rinderpest became the second disease ever eradicated (after smallpox).
- Declared globally eradicated by FAO-WOAH in 2011 after a century-long effort.

India's Recent Achievement:

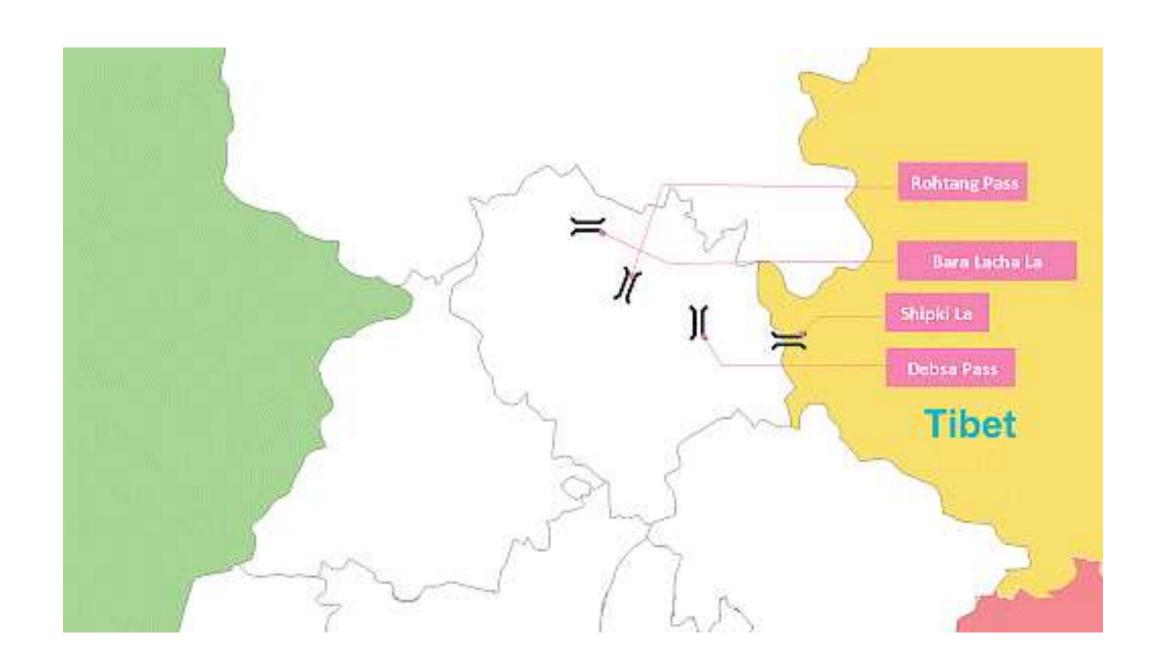
- ICAR-NIHSAD Bhopal is now a WOAH-FAO Category A RHF, securing India's role in RVCM containment.
- Recognised for robust biosafety, inventory control, and emergency readiness.

Shipki La Pass



 The Himachal Pradesh government has opened the Shipki La Pass in Kinnaur for domestic tourism, eliminating the need for permits, reviving hopes for cross-border trade and religious tourism.





What is Shipki La?

 Shipki La is a motorable high-altitude mountain pass located at 3,930 metres in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh, forming part of the India-China border.

Location:

- Lies on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and Tibet (China).
- The Sutlej River (Langqen Zangbo) enters India through this pass.
- Previously known as Pema La or "Shared Gate", signifying cultural unity.

Historical Background:

- Historically, it was a major Indo-Tibetan trade route, documented since the 15th century.
- Trade continued under a folk oath of mutual trust until the Sino-India war (1962).
- Later disruptions occurred during the Doklam standoff and COVID-19.

Features of Shipki La:

- Among the **highest motorable passes** in India.
- Serves as a **border outpost** managed by the **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**.
- No longer requires permits for Indian citizens—Aadhaar-based access introduced



Tug of war was once an Olympic sport!

Fun fact



It featured in the Olympics from 1900 to 1920. Imagine winning a gold medal... for pulling a rope.

Word of the day

Impute:

attribute or credit to

Synonyms: ascribe, assign

Usage: The teacher imputed the student's failure to his nervousness.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/imputepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪmˈpjuːt/

