# Daily Current Affairs











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10 MCQ QUIZ

• The harder you work for something, the greater you'll feel when you achieve it."





SCIENCE P PAGE 10





# Rain fury causes massive damage in Kerala's Idukki

Water level in Mullaperiyar dam rises overnight, prompting T.N. to open all 13 shutters: flash floods

Sandeco Vellaram

he high-range vil-lages of the bill dis-idukti wirressed extreme-by heavy sainfall on Friday-night and Saturday morn-ing, causing widespread damage. The water lavel rose by nearly 6 ft in the Mullaperiyar dam, prompting Tamil Nachi to open all 13 shutters.

The rain that began or Friday night caused flash floods, landships, and mad slides in Eurnity, Chakku-paliam, Vandanmedu, Ka-runapuram, and Nedumkandam pan-

Neddinbandam pan-chayata, as well as the Kat-tappana municipality. Heavy rain fluoded ma-try shops and houses in the diarries, including at Cum-businestia, Halagram, Theokkupalam, Kumity, Balanpillai City, and Kontar. A reported landslip at Puttady, near Pullyanmala, disripted traffs on the Ku-mily-Mamnar route. Wides-prend damage was repor-ed from Kuruhalampura, near Kattappana, following a landslip.

on Friday night, the Sottarakkara-Dindigul Na-tional Highway was limit dated at Kumily. A four-member family trapped in a waterlogged house at Ku-mily was rescued after sig-



er. The water beset in the nificant efferts. At Monds

nificant effects. At Mundly yerums in Nedurinkandsm. local people rescued another lamby trapped in a waterlogged house. Five vehicles, including a parked one, were washed away at Koottar, near Nedumbandam, after the wa-ter level rose in the Koottar river. A bridge was also damaged in the area.

Brimming water level
The water level in the Mulinpertyar dam, which
stood at 132.9 ft at 11 p.m.
on Friday, rose to 136 ft by
3 a.m. on Saturday, it furth
er increased to 137.7 ft at 7
a.m. Tamil Madu opened
all 12 spillows shutters of
the dam, releasing 2,308
causes into the Periyar riv-

Light mosaic

es. The water level in the dam was 186.9 ft at 5 p.m. The water level in the labels reservoir on Satur-day morning stood of level is 2,308.00 ft. The shutters for the Kallar, Parolla, and Kallarkuity dams were also opened. According to the duriet

administration, Udumban chola faluk received rain-fall of 82.8 mm, Pearu-made raluk 28 mm, Devikulam taluk 28.4 mm, Idukki taluk 38.6 mm, and Thoshupurba taluk 86.4 mm in the past 24 boszs.

High range areas bit The high-range areas of Pathanamthitta, Ernaku-lam, and Kozhikode dis-

triets also witnessed brooy rainfall, resulting in flood-ing at many places. As a prevastionary measure, the shutters of the Kallar-leading around 800 cases, to addition, four shutters of the Kallar dam ower raised by 60 cm, releasing Local Control of the Con-part of the Con-ton-the Con-ton-the

people living along the banks of the Kallar and

banks of the Railar and Chimna rivers shout rising water levels.

Four abuters of the Ma-Four abuters of the Ma-remained open. The inflow remained open. The inflow to the dam depends on the water released after power geoderation at the Kerala State Electricity Buard's Moodamatom plant.

### Manufacturers pass on GST cut benefits across 54 daily use items: Finance Minister

Jagriti Chandra NEW DELMI

Two-wheelers, four-wheel-ers, and consumer durable items, including television sets, are among the 54 term of daily use where manufacturers have passed on the benefit of GST (Goods and Survices Tax) cuts, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sithara-

marcaid on Saturday.
"Since September 22, we have been getting infor-mation from zonal teams on all items, of which we have been monitoring 54 items, where we wanted to Items, where we wanted to ensure that the tax benefit to reaching the consumer. Not even in one term has the tax benefit not been passed to the commer." Ms. Sitheraman said at a press conference on the 'SST Bechet Utsev' (sev-tree berief).

trigs festival).
Three-wheeler des-patches grew by 8.5% to 84,000 units from 79,000 units, year-on-year. Two-wheeler sales increased by wheeler sales torseased by 2.600 labl, units, with Hero MotoGorp Limited report-ing the highest mouthly designated to the control of despatches touched 3.72 labl units in September, and tractor sales more than doubled, the sale than doubled, the sale of the government simplified the GBT regime, reducing the four existing two slabs— 57%, 12%, 10%, and 20%— in



addressing a press conference, in New Delhi, on Saturday, and

18%, with a special 40% rate for certain goods.
"There has been a flurry

rate for certain goods.

"There has been a flury of buying and selling in those wine days," the Fitting of the days," the Fitting of the mise days of New larger of

significant step towards me couraging savings and in-creasing disposable in-come for the people, Union Commerce Minister Plyush Goyal said, "When infrastructure surged. TV manufacturers reported 30% 30% 10% increase in sales, as did maler of FMCC flast moving response to the properties of the people, the control form the properties of the properties o

mand, and electronics ma-



'Centre's claim about holding talks not true

MINADAM

ammu and Kashmir Chie rester Omer Abdullab on Saturday disputed the Cepter's lains Instore the Tayonma Court about "holding consultation" with the JER

### Bring back II migrants from Oman: Bengal

### India will not buy oil from Russia

WARRINGTON

WARTHNEYCON

1.5. President Durald Triemp
refurated that india will not be
fuging all from Bussia, saying
that New Dethi has already

### Pakistan to hold talks with Taliban in Doha

Press Trust of India

The Pakistan governs on Saturday confirmed that a high-level delegation led by Pukintan Defence Minister Khawaja Asif will held talks with representa tives of the Afghan Taliban in Doha, where Quiar is fa-cilitating dialogue between the two sides amid rising

the Iwo sides amid rising bursler tensions.

The meeting, scheduled later in the day, comes amidis Pakistan launching fresh air scrikes targeting terrorist hideouts. In Ar-alter telanarhad and Kabul extended their two-day ceasefire. The negotiations ceasefire. The negotiations led by Mr. Asif will focus on "Immediate measures to end cross-border terrorism emanating from Afghanis tion and restore peace along the Pak-Afghan border", the Foreign Office said in a social media post.

Pressured by the United States, several member countries of the Interna-tional Maritime Organiza-

move the shipping indus-try away from the use of fould first and become het-zero by 2080. In April, a sub-committh April, a sub-commit-ter of the IMO had ap-proved a framework to bring in new first standard for ships and a global pric-

IMO vote on net-zero shipping plan postponed

ing mechanism for carbon emissions. It was decided then that countries would formally vote in a meeting in October to bring these in October to bring those menanies into force begin-ning 2027.

At that time, 63 count-tries voted 'yes' (including PAGES

India, Canada, the U.K., Korea and Japan) and In-including the United States, against 8.

# Every inch of Pak. within the reach of BrahMos: Rajnath

Mayank Kumar

Defence Minister Rajnath single said on Raturday that the Brahkee minishes were a symbol of India's growing indigenous averagh in de-fence manufacturing and every inch of Pakintan was within their result.

Mr. Singh and Ottar Pra-desh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath commissioned the first batch of BrahMos missiles made at the Luck-now unit of BrahMos Ae-rospace Ltd.

reap not left.

It is a matter of immosse joy for me that the
nate-of-the-art Braidon
booster building is being
nangurated in Lucknow.
The delivery of musicus on
Dhanterso signals a landmark in the country's selfrefluence in defonce, while also generating economic growth and employment,"

11.00000



Army, Navy, and Air Force,

Army, Navy, and Air Force, generating a lutricever of 12,000 crors and 1500 cross in 1287 revolution of 1287 revolutions and 1500 cross and 1 most advanced missile son-

\*During Operation Sin-"Darling Operations SinThalling the Lackshow & reven its technicoglosi object
Colly, inaugurated in May
2028 at a case of 6386 until a defence conductive conductive
duce approximately 100
missiles annually for the
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single, headership of Sajnath
Singh, he saids
Singh, he

asid the lainer contracts va-lue roughly 04,000 crore-with countries, signalling testian entergence as a gle-bal defence partner. Mr. Adityanath mid 'At-manichlar Bharat' is now a "reality taking shape" and tride. now stands "confi-

india now stands "confi-dently on the global stage for its defence production capabilities", "Today, India

### IN BEHREEN



### Chhattisgarh HC verdict on forest rights 'dangerous': Cong.

The Congress on Saturday criticised the Chhattingarh High Court's decision to set eside forest rights granted to a community, calling it a "dangerous" blow to the very foundation of the Forest Rights act URA, 2006. In a post on X. Forest Rights and trends, 2000; from the piece was Congress government secretary Communications of the communication of the communication reasons caused in the ruling was that strice the land had earlier been diverted for mining and in-legal challenge was made then, no claim for forust rights now survives. "There's no mystery about the beneficiary' be said, adding, "Medium fut to market had," hunting at Medi-Andmittee.

### Soldier posted in Assam saves eight-month-old on train

A soldier posted at a forward hospital on the A section posted as a forward hospital on the Aramacha Pradeab-Assam boundary awed in eight-month-old absord the Rajdhani Express o Cetaber 13. The Infinit had developed sudden respiratory distress and became surresponsive. respiratory distress and became surresponsive respiratory distress, and became surresponsive fainted. As the family passicled, the fathly's mother fainted, kepsy sund, who was estiming to his found that she had no pulse and was not becaming the instance paediatric from the fathly instance paediatric from the fathly instanced paediatric from t

### 3 Indians killed, five rescued in Mozambique boat accident

Three Indian nationals were killed, one was injured, and five were rescued after a boar accident off the coast of Reira in Mosambique on Thursday, the Indian High Commission said on Saturday. In a social media post, the Indian mission expressed "beartfift condolonous on the loss of lives", and said it is was in touch with the families of the deceased, in another pear, the High Commission said a Comular Officer visited an Indian national who survived the accident and was receiving medical attention in a hospital in Beira. The launch boar, carrying crew members of a tanker including left Indian nationals, capsized during crew transfer operations.

### Eight killed, 15 injured as truck falls into gorge in Maharashtra

At least eight persons were killed and 15 triarred when a mini-truck fell into a 200-foot-deep gerge in Nandarbar district of Maharashtra on Saturday, he police said. The accident occurred armund 10,30 a.m. is the Charledail gitat section within the jurisdiction of the Taloda police station. The mini-truck was returning from a pflertmage site with nearly 40 persons when its pugitings site with rearry 40 persons when its driver lost control of the vehicle, an official said. The injured persons, including the driver, are being treated at the sub-district hospital and Givil Hospital in Nandurbas. A case has been registered against the driver for righ driving, the official said.

### SUPPRICE

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DIFFICULTY PATINGS \* \* \* \* \*

### Gudalur's violet revival: the kurinji blooms again

Gudalur is shrouded in mist and kuring. These chasters of bell-shaped flowers have burst over the hills after eight years, painting them violet "What is special is that it has bloomed at Tamil Na-

what is special in the state of the state of

Ms. Sahu says the Tamil Ms. Satu says the Tamil Nada government is on a mission to create new for-est areas. "In the last four-states and years, over the new forests have been notified in Tansil Nadu which is unprecedented. These are legacy projects be-cause they have been noti-

fied under the Tamil Nadu Forest Act to increase the green cover of the State," she says. "These flowers have a let of meaning to the indigenous communi-ties who know the timing of the bloom. It's a fanta-tic sign of the biodiversity coming back to the area -something the indigenous communities can take

Can of the ratest flowers in the world, the neelshir tripi (Strobilanthes kan-thinto blooms once every 12 years in the high-altitude granulanted of the Western mass bloom is of another mass bloom is of another paperies of learning, Strobi-lanthes seesifits, which blooms once in eight years, shift toolated to different al-but toolated to different al-but toolated to different al-titudes: neelskurinji oc-One of the carest flowers tutides: neelakurinji oc-turs in grasslands of alii-tude above 1,300 metres, and sesalis in the lower alititudes. "Rurinji blooms are fas-

cinating," says R. Runhik-rishnan, an expert on the Western Ghats, adding that there are as many as 60 species of these flowers that are endemie to the Western Chats and they do the world. "While the neu-lakuring is the most fa-mous and charlemetic,



ten provides a feat for but-terflies. honeybees and other insects. The purple flowers hold a large amount of nectar, which especially affract the east-ers honeybee. N. Venka-tesh Prabha, District Por-ext Officer of Gudatur Gene Pool, a key biodiversity Pool, a key biseliversity conservation are, asya "Na-diagond is a thriving biseli-waisty ame with user 100 species of trees endemic to the Western Chairs. Sight-ings of elephant herek and tigers are common. It is a haven for bird watchers,

there is karinkurinji that blooms annually and sevblooms annually and sevthe persodulity of four
the persodulity of four
trees to specially set four
trees to specially, and 12.

The mass flowering often provides a feast for butterflies, honeybees and
other inserts. The purple
Gene Posh, the kurinji

blooms can be seen in pur-ple, blue, white, or pink colours. "For every single colour, there will be 10 shades varying from dark to light. There are 33 varie-ties of kurinji in the Nilgiris/ be adds. Mysterious flora

Mahiralist A.K. Pradeep from Kortayam in Kerala, who has a neelakurinji named after him tötrobi-

it a deeply mysterious and enticing floral species. He has followed leading flow-ers all the way to Tapti in Cigarot where the Western Chats taper and to Agasthya mountain ranger in Pontmidi, near Thiruvananthapuram, to photo-graph and document varaph and document va-ious species of kuring. His dy over two decades preved that of the 480 har ringl species the world ov-or, 180 were in India. He says, "Rodermion is the says, "Rodermion is the hard of the says of the hard of the says of the hard of the hard of the hard of the says of the hard of the says of the garden beams. Man blooms, Man blooming is indea, and a thriving widdiffe." Mr. Pradeep recalls how in 2011, Ushagamanda-tan'y Doddabeta, where that flower sweep 10.

that flowers every 10 years) bloomed in thou-sands, was reduced to a couple of plants in the next season in 2021. "It needs favourable conditions for germination. Climate change, uncontrolled tou-rism, and growth of inva-sive species have an ad-verse impact. The species we lost a major part of the grasslands because of the invasion of black wattle, a from Australia," says Pro-

nomenon seen in certain hamboo species that flow-ers only once in 40 or 60 tions for its survival. "The blooms help study the ecology, altitude, alpine climate at high elevations near the equator among others. The grasslands are unique, and a quick evolution is happening there. The plant's species diversi-ty indicates its ability is svolve and adapt. These

### At IMO, 57 nations vote for delaying framework for carbon-free shipping

Vote on implementation of the framework aimed at moving shipping industry away from fossil fuel has been postponed for a year amid U.S. President's 'outrage'; Trump administration had issued threats against countries that had supported it

resoured by the Un-tied States, mem-ber to countries of an Organization (IMO) post-poned a vote on a strangist plan to move the shipping industry away from the use of fosail risel and be-use of fosail risel and be-ton the countries of the IMO approved a framework to bring it a new first standard for mechanism for earthout in earth-

mechanism for carbon emissions, it was decided then that countries would formally vote in a meeting in October to bring these measures into force begin-ning 2027.

ning 2027.
At that time, 63 countries voted 'yes' (inchalling the 27 European Union members, Brazil, China, India, Canada, the U.K., Korea and Japan) and 16.



Contentions issue; in April, a sub-occurrence of the IMO approved a framework in tring in a new buil standard for ships, see

States, against H.

U.S. threats

U.S. threats
While countries such as
Saudi Arabia and Russia
bave been apposed to the
framework, the United States administration since then continues to issue explicit threats against coun-tries that had supported the framework.

Ahoad of the vote in

We will not tolerate in-

including the United London on Friday, U.S. President Donald Trump posted on Truth Social: "I am outraged that the Inter-national Maritime Organization is voting in London this week to pass a global Carbon Tax. The United States will NOT stand for this Global Green New Scam Tax on Shipping, and will not adhere to it in

creased prices on Americreated prices on Ameri-can Consumers OR, the creation of a Green New Scam Bureancracy to spend YOUR money on their Green dreams. Stand with the United Bates, and your NO in London face in light of accelerating climate change, Ralph Re-genvaru, Minister for Cli-mate Change, Republic of Varnatu, who was present at the meeting, said in a statement. "The IMC's failure to The BCCs failure to adopt the framework this week marks a failure of this United Notions agency to act decisively on climate change. This makes the more difficult. But we have there interna-tional law on our side and will continue to fight for our people and the pla-net," he added.

wide NO in London temorrous! London temorrous! When proceedings be-When proceedings to the Market State of the London temorrous temorrou

"We regret that IMO members followed Singapere's initial proposal to delay the adoption of the framework by 12 months, which Saudi Arabia called

### NHRC notice to check harassment of vendors

The Blinda Bureau

To ensure emooth business opportunities for roadside vendors, bawkers and pottery makers during the Deepavali festival, the National Human Rights Com

secretaries of all states and Union Territories, saking them to prevent the ha-rassment of the groups in the conclusion of the normal of the normal of the normal of the priyank Kanoongo cited a complainant who alleged that roadside various were being subjected to inha-pul authorities. The com-pul authorities. The compal authorities. The com-plaint stated that vendors were being evicted in the Shippoing embasions
The 2023 Biol Gilt's (greenthandrells framework – varstoages, in particular, a minimum 40% reduction in
national shippoing (to reduce CG: emissions partransport works by 2030).
Magistrates and municipal
authorities to rehain from
tamburlances. The commissorting of the commissions partransport works by 2030.

### Women form 49% of total hospital admissions with Avushman Bharat

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

Women account for 49% of total hospital admissions under the government's flagship bealth insurance scheme, the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yolana (AB-PMIAY), according to the armsal re-port for 2034-38 of the National Health Authority. This signals improved ac-cess to institutional healthcare for women, the report

Haemodialysis was the most availed treatment (455), 800wed by multiple packages (7%); treatment for acute fastive filmes (45%), acute gastroenteritis, and cataract and related procedures (27%). The B-PMAY, launched in 2018, is among the largest health tran-pance selection in the



world, siming to provide a health cover of \$5 lash for a family every year. He under \$5 lash for a family every year. He under \$5 lash for schemes implementation. Eccept West Bengal, 35 Mates and those Territor. Except West Bengal, 35 Mates and those Territors are sent to the second section of the section o

ste," the report said.

It added that under the nationwide Ayushman sard saturation drives, over 40.48 crore cards had been issued, covering 14.69 cross families. The Aapke Owar Ayush-man (ADA 3.0) initiative

achieved outreach through technology led, communi-ty-based, self-registration ampaigns, empowering itizens at the grassroots. To further facilitate inbits, the 2023 interi

Budget announced the in-clusion of 37 lakh families the flight (Al 138) was clusion of 37 lakh families of frontline workers, in-cluding Accredited Social Health Activins (ASHAS), Anganwall workers, and Anganwall belpers, into scheduled to take off from Milan at 9 p.m. local time. Anganwall helpers, into the AB-PAJAY. In October 2024, the scheme included all citt-zens aged 70 and above, ir-respective of income or so-cin committee status.

### Passengers stranded as glitch grounds Air India plane in Milan

Shipping emissions

Air India passengers re-turning to india for the Despavali holidays were stranded after their flight from Milan in Italy to Delbi on Friday was cancelled following a snag Young mothers ex-

pressed worries about food for their toddlers, and others were concerned about elderly passengers allegedly abandoned at the

No valid visa

At least some passengers
have been informed that
they will be accommodated on a flight four days later on October 21, leaving
them without a valid visa

or space cash.

While some of the pas-sengers were taken to a he-tel outside Milan, they were later told by the hotel to check out without not-ice, one passenger told The

Seat availability Air India, in a press state ment, said that passengers affected were provided ho-tel accommodation and were rebooked on alterna tive flights on or after Oc availability with Air India

availability with Air India and other airlines. In one case where a par-senger's Mchengon visa was due to expire on October to booked on another air-line's flight departing Mi-lan on October it's or ensur-compliance with her visa vailings.

# At IMO, 57 nations vote for delaying framework for carbon-free shipping

Vote on implementation of the framework aimed at moving shipping industry away from fossil fuel has been postponed for a year amid U.S. President's 'outrage'; Trump administration had issued threats against countries that had supported it

### Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

ressured by the United States, member countries of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) postponed a vote on a strategic plan to move the shipping industry away from the use of fossil fuel and become "net-zero" by 2050.

In April, a sub-committee of the IMO approved a framework to bring in a new fuel standard for ships and a global pricing mechanism for carbon emissions. It was decided then that countries would formally vote in a meeting in October to bring these measures into force beginning 2027.

At that time, 63 countries voted 'yes' (including the 27 European Union members, Brazil, China, India, Canada, the U.K., Korea and Japan) and 16,



Contentious issue: In April, a sub-committee of the IMO approved a framework to bring in a new fuel standard for ships. AFP

including the United States, against it.

### U.S. threats

While countries such as Saudi Arabia and Russia have been opposed to the framework, the United States administration since then continues to issue explicit threats against countries that had supported the framework.

Ahead of the vote in

London on Friday, U.S. President Donald Trump posted on Truth Social: "I am outraged that the International Maritime Organization is voting in London this week to pass a global Carbon Tax. The United States will NOT stand for this Global Green New Scam Tax on Shipping, and will not adhere to it in any way, shape, or form. We will not tolerate in-

creased prices on American Consumers OR, the creation of a Green New Scam Bureaucracy to spend YOUR money on their Green dreams. Stand with the United States, and vote NO in London tomorrow!"

When proceedings began on October 14, deliberations reportedly became fractious. Ultimately, Singapore brought in a proposal to delay a decision for a year. Saudi Arabia proposed a vote. This resulted in 57 countries voting in favour of delay; 49 against it; and 21 not voting.

The Hindu could not confirm which way India voted.

"We regret that IMO members followed Singapore's initial proposal to delay the adoption of the framework by 12 months, which Saudi Arabia called to a vote. This is unacceptable given the urgency we face in light of accelerating climate change," Ralph Regenvanu, Minister for Climate Change, Republic of Vanuatu, who was present at the meeting, said in a statement.

"The IMO's failure to adopt the framework this week marks a failure of this United Nations agency to act decisively on climate change. This makes the road to Bélem and beyond more difficult. But we know that we have international law on our side and will continue to fight for our people and the planet," he added.

### Shipping emissions

The 2023 IMO GHG (greenhouse gas) Strategy – the umbrella framework – envisages, in particular, a minimum 40% reduction in carbon intensity of international shipping (to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per transport work) by 2030.

- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) postponed adoption of a plan to make global shipping "net-zero by 2050."
- 57 countries voted for delay; 49 against.
- Decision followed **U.S. pressure** and threats against supporters of the carbon-reduction framework.

# Background

Aspect	Details
Framework origin	Approved April 2025 by an IMO sub-committee — aimed to set a <b>new fuel</b> standard and global pricing mechanism for carbon emissions.
Planned start	Implementation by 2027 after formal vote in Oct 2025.
Supporters	EU 27, China, India, Brazil, Canada, U.K., Japan, Korea etc. (≈63 countries).
Opposition / Delay bloc	U.S., Saudi Arabia, Russia + developing shipping-dependent nations (57 votes for delay).

# U.S. Position and Threats

- The U.S. administration under President Donald Trump called the IMO plan a "Global Green Scam Tax on Shipping."
- Trump warned countries supporting the plan of retaliation and urged them to vote NO in London.
- His post on Truth Social attacked the proposal as a "bureaucratic Green dream" that would raise costs for American consumers.

# Outcome of Vote

Result	Count	Implication
For delay	57	Vote to postpone framework implementation by 12 months to 2026 / 2027.
Against delay (Proceed now)	49	Wanted carbon pricing and fuel standards to begin 2025 itself.
India's vote	Not confirmed in the report.	

# Global Reactions

Ralph Regenvanu (Vanuatu Minister for Climate Change):

"IMO's failure to adopt the framework marks a failure of the UN agency to act decisively on climate change."

- Singapore initially proposed the delay as a "pragmatic step," later supported by Saudi Arabia.
- Small Island States criticized the decision as betrayal of climate justice since they face existential threats from rising seas.

# IMO's GHG Strategy (2023 Revision)

- Target: Net-zero GHG emissions from international shipping by 2050.
- Interim goal: 40% reduction in carbon intensity by 2030 and 70% by 2040 compared with 2008 levels.
- Means:
  - Low-carbon fuel standards (ammonia, methanol, biofuels)
  - Carbon-pricing mechanism (Carbon Levy per ton CO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Energy-efficiency index for ships.

# Reasons for the Deadlock

Category	Explanation
Economic concerns	Shipping costs may rise → trade impact on developing nations.
Political pressure	U.S. threatened to withdraw support from IMO programmes.
Equity debate	Developing countries demand funding support for green transition.
Technology gap	Alternative fuels still costly / limited availability for long-distance routes.

# Significance of the Delay

- Climate Impact: Postpones key decarbonization of global shipping sector that emits ~3% of world
   CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Diplomatic Impact: Shows fracture between developed and developing nations within IMO.
- Economic Impact: Delays green fuel markets and ship retrofits worth billions.

Parameter Data

International Maritime Organization (IMO),
Organisation
UN agency for shipping safety & pollution

control (Headquarters: London).

Framework Goal Net-zero shipping by 2050.

**Vote Result** 57 for delay

Major Opponents U.S., Saudi Arabia, Russia.

Major Supporters

EU bloc, China, India (expected), Brazil,
Japan.

**Implementation Year (if delayed)** 2026 / 2027.

**Shipping emissions share**  $\approx 3\%$  of global CO<sub>2</sub>.

## LARGEST FDI IN INDIA'S FINANCIAL SERVICES

# **Emirates NBD to buy** 60% stake in RBL Bank

Set to become new promoter via ₹26,853-cr issue

**FE BUREAU** Mumbai, October 18

EMIRATES NBD BANK PISC (Emirates NBD) is set to acquire a controlling 60% stake in RBL Bank through a ₹26,853-crore preferential equity infusion. The deal marks the largest foreign direct investment in India's financial services sector to date. Emirates NBD will be allotted up to 959 million equity shares at ₹280 per share, 6.5% lower than Friday's close of ₹299.50 per share.

The preferential allotment has also triggered a mandatory open offer under Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers Regulations, 2011. Emirates NBD will make a mandatory open offer for 415.5 million shares (26% of the expanded capital, including the preferential allotment) to existing shareholders, to acquire at least 51% of the paid-up share capital post-

### CONTOURS OF DEAL

- NBD will get up to 959 mn equity shares at ₹280 a piece
- NBD will make open offer for 415.5 mn shares to existing shareholders
- This is to buy at least 51% of paid-up share capital post-issue
- RBL Bank has proposed revised MOA to hike authorised share capital from ₹1,000 cr to ₹1,800 cr

■This will enable issuance of up to 1,800 mn equity shares of ₹10 each

issue. To ensure sufficient headroom for foreign investment, RBL Bank will seek approval to cap aggregate foreign ownership at 24% until the transaction is consummated.

In tandem with the capital raise, RBL Bank has proposed key amendments to its constitutional documents. The Memorandum of Association (MOA) will be revised to increase the authorised share capital from ₹1,000 crore to ₹1,800 crore, enabling the issuance of up to 1,800 million Continued on Page 2

equity shares of ₹10 each. The Articles of Association (AOA) will be restated to grant Emirates NBD special rights, including the ability to nominate all non-independent directors to the board, subject to minimum shareholding thresholds. These changes reflect the governance realignment that accompanies the new promoter's entry and are subject to shareholder and regulatory approvals.

Emirates NBD Bank PJSC (UAE's largest bank) will acquire a controlling 60% stake in RBL Bank Ltd through a ₹ 26,853 crore preferential equity infusion.

This becomes **India's largest FDI transaction** in the financial services sector to date.

After completion, Emirates NBD will become the new promoter, and RBL Bank will turn into a subsidiary of a foreign bank.

Details

Investor Emirates NBD Bank PJSC (Dubai Government-owned)

Indian Entity RBL Bank Ltd

Component

**Investment Value** ₹ 26,853 crore (~USD 3.2 billion)

**Type of Issue** Preferential allotment of equity shares

Share Price ₹ 280 per share (≈ 6.5 % below market price ₹ 299.50)

Shares Allotted 959 million equity shares @ ₹ 10 face value

Open Offer Additional 415.5 million shares to existing

shareholders

Post-Issue Stake Up to 60 % of paid-up capital

**Target Threshold** Minimum 51 % to qualify as "promoter ownership"

Authorised Capital Hike

From ₹ 1,000 cr → ₹ 1,800 cr (to enable 1.8 billion

shares issue)

Aspect

**FDI Milestone** 

**Capital Strength** 

**Foreign Bank Entry** 

**Banking Reform** 

**Geopolitical Context** 

# Impact / Rationale

Marks the largest foreign investment in India's banking sector.

RBL Bank to gain ₹ 26,000 + cr capital → meets Basel-III and growth norms.

Positions UAE as a major stakeholder in Indian financial ecosystem.

Demonstrates India's openness to foreign ownership in private banks with RBI oversight.

Reinforces India—UAE strategic partnership within the CEPA framework (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement 2022).

Parameter	Value	YoY Change
Net Profit	₹ 178.5 crore	▼ 20 % (vs ₹ 223 cr in Q2 FY 2025)
Net Interest Income (NII)	₹ 1,551 crore	▼ 4 % (vs ₹ 1,615 cr)
Reason	Slower loan growth and margin compression ahead of capital infusion.	

Date	Event
Oct 2025	MoU announced & preferential issue proposed.
Nov 12, 2025	Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to approve transaction.
2026 (Q1)	RBI and SEBI clearances expected.
FY 2026-27	Completion of allotment + possible amalgamation.

Parameter Data

Investor Emirates NBD Bank PJSC (UAE)

Target RBL Bank Ltd (India)

**Stake Acquired** 60 % (≈ ₹ 26,853 cr FDI)

**Share Price** ₹ 280 per share

Foreign Ownership Cap (before approval) 24 %

EGM Date Nov 12 2025

**Approving Bodies** RBI, SEBI, CCI, Shareholders

Nature of Deal

Preferential allotment + open offer + amalgamation plan

'INDIA bloc will decide on alliance partner' STREET OF PERSON A.





observation of moon

Record arrests. surrenders dent Maoist network Geographic spread of Insurgency has reduced ----



Australia cruises past India in the first ODI APORT & PROF 16



Trump cuts U.S. aid to Colombia over marcotics'

PROPERTY. U.S. President Sandri Tropp said on Sunday for would stank ALS, Sundrey to Committee



Maharashtra rolls have nearly 96 lakh fake voters'

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### Karnataka denies RSS permit to conduct murch

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Resident near decision fine Chyline admire at www.thehindu.com

# Pakistan, Afghanistan sign truce agreement in Doha

Both sides decided to establish mechanisms for lasting peace and stability, a statement said after talks between the Defence Ministers; the two neighbours also agreed to hold follow up meetings

Patiens and Al-glassitis have dure crassitie and esting up of mechanism's to se-ture losting peace after days of violent clades along the booder that left several midden, civilians, and becarries, dead on edly siden, officials and on

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### Monsoon wreaks havoc in Idukki, Theni, more water released from Mullaperiyar

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The torsis government had warned makings be-ing downstream of the Milliaguriyar date to man

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river in Kerala reported floodings rain also claimed life of a man in blacks

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### Happy Deepavali



# Israelis allege violation of ceasefire, launch new attacks in Gaza

### conclusion From

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Another under late a tour

# Pakistan, Afghanistan sign truce agreement in Doha

Both sides decided to establish mechanisms for lasting peace and stability, a statement said after talks between the Defence Ministers; the two neighbours also agreed to hold follow-up meetings

Press Trust of India ISLAMABAD

akistan and Afghanistan have agreed to an immediate ceasefire and setting up of "mechanisms" to ensure lasting peace after days of violent clashes along the border that left several soldiers, civilians, and terrorists dead on both sides, officials said on Sunday.

The breakthrough came following negotiations between Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif and Afghanistan's Acting Defence Minister Mullah Yaqoob in Doha, facilitated by Qatar and Turkiye, according to a statement issued by Qatar's Foreign Ministry.

"During the negotiation, both sides agreed to an immediate ceasefire and establishment of mechanisms to consolidate lasting peace and stability between the two countries," the statement read.

The two neighbours also agreed to hold "followup meetings" in the com-



Afghanistan's Acting Defence Minister Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob Mujahid and Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif after signing a ceasefire agreement in Doha on Sunday. REUTERS

ing days to ensure the "implementation" and "sustainability" of the truce "in a reliable and sustainable manner" to achieve security and stability in both countries, it said. The development comes amid heightened tensions along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, triggered by cross-border clashes after alleged Pakistani air strikes near Kabul last week.

The Doha talks began on Saturday with Pakistan urging the Afghan Taliban authorities to take "verifiable action" against the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which Islamabad accuses of launching crossborder terrorist attacks from Afghan soil.

The Foreign Office, in a statement on Saturday, said Pakistan had stressed the need for the Afghan authorities to honour their "commitments to the international community" and to address Islamabad's "legitimate security concerns" by taking verifiable action against terrorist entities. "Pakistan appreciates the mediation efforts of Oatar and hopes these discussions contribute to peace and stability in the region," it said.

Relations between the countries have remained strained since 2023.

Islamabad has been re-

peatedly raising concerns over the use of Afghan soil by militants carrying out cross-border attacks.

The situation further deteriorated following repeated terrorist attacks by TTP, including one in the restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Orakzai district recently, which claimed the lives of II military personnel, including a Lieutenant-Colonel and a Major.

The Foreign Office on Wednesday announced that a temporary ceasefire had been agreed with Afghanistan for the next 48 hours amid the recent border hostilities. Later on Friday, the ceasefire was extended.

However, hours after Islamabad and Kabul extended their two-day ceasefire, Pakistan launched fresh air strikes targeting terrorist hideouts in Afghanistan late on Friday. Three Afghan cricketers were among several people killed in the strikes, which followed a terror attack at a military installation in North Waziristan, claimed by TTP.

- Pakistan and Afghanistan have agreed to an immediate ceasefire and to set up mechanisms for lasting peace and stability after days of intense border clashes.
- The truce was signed in Doha, Qatar, facilitated by Qatar and Turkiye, following deadly exchanges between the two sides that left soldiers and civilians dead.

# Key Participants

Country	Representative	Designation	
Pakistan	Khawaja Muhammad Asif	Defence Minister	
Afghanistan	Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob Mujahid	Acting Defence Minister (Taliban govt)	
Facilitators	Qatar & Turkiye	Mediators	
Venue	Doha, Qatar	Neutral ground for peace talks	

# Terms of the Truce

- Immediate ceasefire along the Afghanistan–Pakistan border.
- Mechanisms established to ensure:
  - Verification of ceasefire violations,
  - Long-term peace implementation,
  - Sustainability and stability of security cooperation.
- Both countries agreed to hold follow-up meetings in the coming days to ensure effective monitoring and implementation.

# Background: Rising Tensions

- Relations deteriorated due to frequent cross-border clashes between Pakistan and Taliban forces.
- Pakistan accused Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militants of launching terrorist attacks from Afghan soil.
- Afghanistan accused Pakistan of border strikes near Kabul that killed civilians and Taliban fighters.
- Pakistan's Foreign Office cited "legitimate security concerns" and urged Kabul to prevent TTP attacks.

# Recent Violence Before Truce

- TTP attacks killed 11 Pakistani soldiers, including senior officers, in Orakzai district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- Pakistan retaliated with airstrikes targeting suspected TTP hideouts inside Afghanistan.
- Afghan officials accused Islamabad of violating Afghan sovereignty, further escalating tensions.

# Role of Mediators

- Qatar and Turkiye facilitated the talks in Doha.
- Their mediation aims to prevent escalation into a full-blown border conflict and maintain regional stability.
- The Doha platform continues to serve as a hub for diplomatic dialogue involving the Taliban.

# **Dimension**

**Implication** 

**Security** 

Reduces risk of escalation along the Durand Line.

**Regional Diplomacy** 

Strengthens Qatar and Turkiye's role as mediators in South–Central Asia.

Counterterrorism

Addresses Pakistan's long-standing demand to curb TTP operations from Afghan soil.

**Economic Stability** 

Stability along the border crucial for trade routes linking Central and South Asia.

# Historical Context

- Durand Line (1893) remains the contentious border dividing Pakistan and Afghanistan; never formally recognized by Kabul.
- Post-2021 Taliban takeover, border skirmishes and TTP insurgency increased sharply.
- Despite Taliban promises, Pakistan claims over 400 terror incidents traced to Afghan-based militants in the past two years.

# Global and Regional Reactions

- Qatar & Turkiye: Welcomed the truce as a "positive step toward sustainable peace."
- China & Iran: Called for "restraint and regional dialogue."
- UN & OIC: Urged both countries to "build on the ceasefire for long-term political engagement."

### LDF 'divided' over Kerala govt. move to seek PM SHRI funds

The Hindu Bureau

The ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) appears divid-ed over the Kerala govern-ment's move to sign a memorandum of under-standing with the Union government to access the Prime Minister's Schools for Raising India (PM SHRI) executions a chool maderisation hands, purported ly linked to compliance with the politically contro-versial National Education

cersial National Education Policy OLID). Kerale is among the sev-eral non-tilly-ruled States, including West Hengal and Tamil Nadu, that have not signed up for PM SHRI funds based on the perception that it would be tanta mount to complying with the NEP, which the nation-al Opposition views as the Centre's political tool for infringing on the parisdic-tion of State governments over general education, a Concurrent List subject.

However, General Edu-

cation Minuser V. Swankut-ty on Sunday signalised a modification in the LDF's political line. He stated that signing the MoU did not signal that the Kerala government would compily with the NSC audiolines.

Mr. Sivankutty said be advocated a pragmatic approach without compro-mising the LDF's opposi-tion to the NEP. The Minister noted that Rerela could ill afford to lose the f1,446 erore the Centre owed the State under the PM SHIII scheme. The State government



hore the entire cost of school eshwation, includ-ing the sularies of 7,000 teachers, with science help from the Contre.

The PM SIRI outlay would give Keralis a much-needed facat leg-up to ex-pedies the modernisation of government schools, post-matric hostels, fund educational research, and increase endowments for underprivileged students,"

CPI eries foul GPI erries faul
The Communist Party of
India (CPP) has cried foul.
CPI State Secretary Dinoy
Viswam told The Hitchit
that the government's lastonline decision to sign up
for PM SIBN funds was facally non-beneficial.
PM SIBN scheme would expetin 2036-27. If and entailed
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inflammatory ground

in 2020/27. It and entaned no retrospective compen-sation: "fairals would only receive meagre funds. Ho-wever, political rivals could construe the government's bid as a neal to the Eargh According to the report filed by the police, tension gripped Chittapur follow-ing an earlier incident in which an RSS worker alleg edly made derogatory re-marks and issued a life threat to Mr. Kharge. The incident, which led

# Permission denied for RSS march in Karnataka

Group had intended to take out the rally on Priyank Khange's turf, the police cite law and order concerns as multiple marches were also planned by Bhim Army, Dalit Panthers on the same route

pur taluk adminis-tration denied pernission to the Rashtriya wayamsevak Sangh (RSS) o hold its route march in he town on Sunday, citing ential law and order ges. The decision came after

the Chittapur police, in a report to tabsildar Nagayya Hiremath, expressed ap-prehensions that simultaneons processions planned by three organisa-tions – the R55, Bhim Ar-my, and Bharatiya balit Parthers – on the same route the same day could lead to clashes between

the groups.
Chittapur had attracted political attention as the RSS had planned to take out a route march in this Assembly constituency of Minister Priyank Sharge, who was instrumental in the government making it mandatory for all organisa-tions, including the 855, to take permission from the authorities before using any pubble permises for their activities.

The RSS had put up flags, banners across Chittapur for the march

### HC directs administration

The Karnataha High Court, in a The Karnataka Fight Court, in a procide disting on Sunsian, directed the Radaburage district admeniatration to admin a report by October 24 indicating the action taken in according permission for the revised proposal of the 85's to hold the route march in Chitapian on theyeriner? Emplant of Catestury 18, as was proposed earlier.

to a case being registered in Bengaluru's Sadashiva-nagar police station, had sparked protests across the State, including a bandh in Chitiapur two days ago in support of Mr. Kharge. The report further not-

### Constitutional rights are being taken away: BJP

Considerating the should of premissions for the NES, replace energy, but "State president BA, View and the should be accessed the Consideration of Auctionisms promoting of "audiocraption" marrier. He alleged that constitutional rights were being "snatched away by those whis claim to suphisid the Constitution." Constenning the dental of

State youth wing and the Bharatiya Dalit Panthers had also sought permis-sion to conduct their own route marches along the same path on October 19. The police feared that si

public peace.
Accepting the police re commendation, the tabul-dar, in his order issued late on Saturday, said permis sion for the RSS route march could not be granted so as "to prevent any untoward incident and to

unroward incident and to ensure maintennance of peace and public order. To Copies of the order have been because the trans-tion of the control of the peace of the control of the laborate of the control and the Chitaque Police inspector for information and the Chitaque Police inspector for information and necessary action.

Authorise action Meanwhile, 855 workers, who had made elaborate arrangements for the route march, had put up saffron flags, banners, and buntings across Chittapur town, However, municipal authorities removed them early on Saturday morn-

early on Saturday merning, cling the absence of necessary permission for them.

With the tabuildar offi-cially denying permission, the proposed reuse march stande cancelled.

On Saturday right, Sa-perintendent of Police Ad-duru. Scinivasulu visited the town and reviewed accurity arrangements to en-sure peace and prevent any disturbances. Meanwhile, BSS office-

bearers have approached the Karnataka High Court over the denial of permis-

### T.N. govt. prepared to face northeast monsoon, says CM

The Hindu Bureau

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday said the Tamil Nadu government had to lien all precautionary meamores to face the northeast monsoon. He also directed officials to pay special at-tention and closely monior areas prone to water-ogging in Chennal. The Chief Minister

The Chiof Minister chaired a review meeting with senior officials at the State Energency Operations Centre in Echilogem in Cheman. Speaking to reporters of the the meeting, he said, "Heavy rainfall has been recorded in Them, kamanathapuram, Terkant, vicility of the control of rudhunager, and parts of the Nilgiris. There is no danger or risk at present. Since forecasts indicate neavy rainfall on October I and 23, we have already out in place precautionary

easures." Mr. Stalin said that cur-

reaction and that cur-erarly, there was no need to evacuate residents living along inventants or constal along inventants or constal along inventants or constal weeks, all Collectors have weeks, all Collectors have been inserticed to remain prepared, he safeds, leave, the onset of the northeast microscore or be-northeast microscore or be-todes (it brought widos-todes). As a supplemental of the northeast microscore or be-nored to the constant and the Eastwijskinmari, Terision, Virudiningar, Ra-don the constant of the Colmbotroe, and the Nigimanathapuram, Theni, Countratore, and the Nilgi-ris districts recorded an average rainfall of 12 mm The Chief Minister also reviewed, via video confe-



Chief Monister M.K. Statin and senior officials at the review

rence, the damage caused by heavy rainfall in Tirava-fur, Tenkasi, Virudhuna-gar, Ramanathapuram, Theni, Coimbatore, and the Nilgiris districts, and assessed the precautionary measures in place. He di-rected district administra-Boos to ensure the safety areas and alone riverbant and relocate them to relief camps if needed.

'Boady relief camps' Mr. Stalin instructed offi-cials to keep relief camps ready with essential facili-ties such as food, drinking water, and medical servic-es.

He directed authorities Tiruvarur district to maintain uninterrupted paddy procurement and expedite transport of paddy bags procured at direct purchase centrus to ware-houses. He also reviewed the rainfall preparedness in Chennai and directed of-ficials to pay special atten-tion and closely monitor

### Khurshid gets Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award

The Hindu Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister

Telangam Chief MinistraA. Revant Reddy insuppared the Rajiv Gandhi
memorates held at Charminar on Sunday, month,
the "Rajiv Gandhi Radiihavina Award to formhavina Award to formhavina Award to formkinari Gandhi Sadiihavina Award to formkinari Gandhi Gandhi
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The Samather of pride

"It is a matter of pride for all of us that Salman Khurshid is receiving the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavuru

### Buffalo carnival

Parivar's science-denying and reactionary NEP, which seeks to saffronise



### Kerala HC directs TDB to shift to digitised accounting

John L. Paul

The Kerala High Court has firected the Travancore Devarworn Board (TDB) to shift to a digitized account-ing system to modernise the Board's accounting

the Board's accounting practices and ensure finan-cial discipline. The Division Bench is much the directive while considering a report of the State audit department regarding alleged objections to paying pension benefits on a employee who had retired in 2017 as Deputy becausem Commissions.

The court was informed that andir objections had been raised, citing a liability of over \$7 lakh, as many vouchers relating to his ac-counts were reportedly missing. Following this, the court summoned the



The HC depressed concern aver-the reliance on archate manual registers by the TDB

officers concerned to pre-sent an action plan outlin-ing the steps to implement modern accounting and auditing practices, includ-ing software systems and digital maintenance of

A perusal of broader is-

port pertaining to the ac-counts of 180 temples, schools, and other institu-tions under the Board was incomplete even now. Ex-pressing concern over the continuing reliance on ar chaic manual registers and paper vouchers, the court

paper vouchers, the sourt said these enabled poten-nal falsification and misag-propriation of funds. The failure to conduct timely audias reflected gross administrative indi-ference. Such respect had rendered the board a par-sive enabler and an active participant in financial in-dissipation.

The divine assets of temples rannot be left vulnera-ble to outdated ledgers and mining records, the arout added and directed the Di-rector of the Audit depart-ment to appear before it on October 30.

### A.P. is recovering, thanks to Centre's support: Naidu

People have pulled the cur-tains down on the "dark rule tof YSR Congress Par-153" by giving the TI3P-Jana Sena Party-RIP alliance a mandate unheard of in a ery long time, Andhra

Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrabshu Nisdu said. Participating in the De-pavall celebrators at the Punnami Ghat here on Nunday, Mr. Naida sacerted that Andhra Pradesh was recovering from the diffi-culties it had been facing aince bifurcation more since bifurcation more

N. Charydrahabu Naidu

under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi supported A.P. by all possible means, because of which the State's finances were back on track, he said. The State government implemented the Super Six

schemes and was also giv-ing many benefits beyond those schemes, be said. The government same tuned one Dearmes Alictioned time Dearmans Alliwaters and one surremelre leave to the compleyers and was streamlining the Emphoyees' Hoalth Scheme.

2.0 reforms came as a boon for businesses and the common people, and was able to save up to was able to was

out to 8.42 crore people in about 1.43 crore house

The Social and Educational Survey being conducted by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes received another round of extension on Sunday, with the State-wide survey now to be held till October 31. Tracthers who have played a crucial role in the

loor-to-door survey, will, sowever, return to their scademic responsibilities n schools. By Sunday evening, the enumerators had reached



Karnataka's Social and Educational

reaching 96.38% of the ex-timated household. In Ben-

galuru, the survey reached 18.33 lakh households out of the total 38.83 lakh. The ring the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) region -

progress has been 45.97 %, government data showed.

Survey extended again after review has also announced holi days to all those participat-ing in the survey from Oc-tober 20 to October 22 on

account of Deepwell.
"The survey would
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with Chief Minister Subdo account of Deepavall

remetab on Sunday

### Kavitha's son takes part in protest, sparks political buzz

The Hinds Hureau HYDERARAD

The third generation of theres Rashten Sarutith (IRES) chief Ralvakuntla (IRES) chief Ralvakuntl

the Telanguna Jagruth's protest during the State-wide Bandh demanding 42% reservations for Back ward Classes on Saturday.

# Khurshid gets Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award

### **The Hindu Bureau**

**HYDERABAD** 

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy inaugurated the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Yatra Commemoration held at Charminar on Sunday.

During the programme, the Chief Minister presented the "Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award" to former Union Minister Salman Khurshid for his contributions to promoting harmony and national unity. He said that Mr. Khurshid's association with the Gandhi family spans three generations.

"It is a matter of pride for all of us that Salman Khurshid is receiving the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award," Mr. Reddy said.

- Occasion: Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Yatra Commemoration
- · Venue: Charminar, Hyderabad
- Chief Guest: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy
- Award Recipient: Former Union Minister Salman Khurshid

# About the Award

Aspect	Details
Name	Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award
Instituted in	Memory of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi
Objective	To recognize individuals promoting communal harmony, peace, and national unity
Organised by	Generally associated with the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation / Congress-led events
Spirit of Award	"Sadbhavana" means goodwill, harmony, and mutual respect among communities

# Citation / Reason for Award

- Salman Khurshid was honoured for:
  - His longstanding contribution to harmony and national unity.
  - His association with the Gandhi family over three generations.
- CM Revanth Reddy said it was "a matter of pride" for Telangana to host the event.

# About the Recipient

Name	Salman Khurshid
Profession	Senior Congress leader, lawyer, author
Positions Held	Former Union Minister for External Affairs and Minister for Law & Justice
Contributions	Advocate for secularism, minority rights, and interfaith harmony
Notable Works	Author of "Visible Muslim, Invisible Citizen" and "Sunrise over Ayodhya"

### ■ 「● 田本田北 田田七田十



### Al to operate special flight for passengers stranded in Milan

Air India will operate a special light from Milan to Delli on Standay to being back passengers to Delli on Standay to being back passengers accorded in high on Friday following a technical issue with the Dreamliner aircraft. There were ports on social media complaining about the lack of adequate facilities for the poseengers. "To ensure that the affected passengers can return home to fadla in time for the finites occasion. our teams expedited the rectification process or our teams expedited the rectification processes the aircraft at Milan and secured the necessary approvals to operate an additional commercial flight departing Milan at t800 hours local time and arriving in Delhi on the morning of 20 October," a sintermont said. \*\*

### Deadline for filing GSTR-3B return extended till Oct. 25

The government on Sunday extended the due date for filing the munithly GSTE-3B tax payment form by five days till October 25. The Central Board of Budiece Taxes and Customs (CBICs, in a notification, said the GSTECH Ries for September and the July-September quarter can pay taken by Cetober 28. "aprior, india extends the UNTESH filing deadline," the CHIC said in a post on X, GSTR-3B is a monthly and quarterly post on N. Gettersh is a injusted taxpayers file in a summary return that triplatered taxpayers file in a staggered manner between the 20th, 22nd, and drevery mouth for different categories of taxpayers. The estension was on expedited lines, with October 20 being the Deepayal festival.

### 146 species recorded in Kaziranga bird survey

The Environge National Park and Tigor Reserver recurded 14th species in the latest bird anyway. Assam's wildlife officials said on Sunday. The survey was considuated across five key lovations Agoratols, Camitri, Panhari, and Pappur ranges of he national park and the adjoining Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary. The surveyors recorded 1,919 avian Individuals belonging to 146 species.

Agoratoli showed the highest diversity with 89 species, followed by Gamiri and Panhari (59 species each), Panpur (85 species), and Landdurwa (27 species). Kastranga officials said that asseral important resident and interstory birds were recorded during the survey.

### Man killed in explosion at firecracker warehouse in U.P.

A man was killed and another injured in an no one is trapped under the debris. Circle Officer Rajesh Sirgh said. Sarqu Lodhi, 40, who suctained injuries, has been admitted to the district medical college in a serious condition,

# Chandrayaan-2 makes first-ever observations on lunar exosphere: ISRO

The CHACE-2 payload aboard the spacecraft's orbiter showed an increase in total pressure of dayside lunar exosphere when impacted by the sun's coronal mass ejection, says space agency

The Hindu Bureau

be lunar orbiter of indis's second moon mission. Chardrayam-2, has made the first-ever observation of the effects of the sun's coronal mass spection (CMIO on the moon. The Chandra's Atmos-

The Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explored Composition Explored Conference of the Conference of the Conference of the dayside human excosphere (very thin at composition of the dayside human excosphere (very thin at composition of the Conference of Co

impacted the moon.

The total number density (number of neutral atoms or molecules possent in an environment per unit volume) derived from these observations showed



Birect impact: An artistic rendston of the Coronal Mass spectico, as CML harded by the sun towards the moon, see Joven

an increase by more than an order of magnitude. This issuesse is constaint in the control of the

Hare occurrence The space agency added that the opportunity to di-rectly abserve the effects of the CME on the moon

rence, on May 10, 2024, when a series of CMEs were hasted by the san. "This increased quantity of notar convenil runs that irrepacted on the moon enhanced the process of knocking off the atoms from the hurar surface, thereby liberating them to

the lunar excephere, which munifested as the enhancement of the total pressure in the smilt lunar exosphere," it added.

The space agency said from the lander and the that this observation ground nations.

Including those from the Left Front. He alleged that the state government had

sight into the understand mg of the lunar exceptions and space weather effects

edge of our scientific un-deratanding about the moon and the hinar space weather, this observation weather, this observation also indicates the challenge of building scientific bases on the bloom. Lumar occurs for such extreme versus, which would temporarily alter the hunar envents, which would be the summer of the summer of the control of the co

payloads. However, the Vikram lander, while at-tempting to make a soft landing on the moon's sur-

SC ruling on U.P. conversion law offers

scope to revisit pending cases: experts

### Assam pays tribute to deceased singer: Cong. flavs BJP govt.

Assum Congress president and MP Gauray Gogol on lunding accused the RP-led State government of shielding two key accused to the unnatural death of singer Zubeen Carg, as pe-ople across Assam paid trioutes to mark a month since his passing.
According to a prelimin-

Gagg died by droweing while swimming off a Sin-ple of the Single of the Single of the Single of the Single of the The two accused Mr. Gogot effected to are partier of the North East India Featival in Singapore where Garg was acheduled sharma, the singer-com-poser's manager. In the Single of th

of a public condolence co-remony in Guwahati. The event was organized by several non-NDA parties,



tect Mr. Mahanta and Mr. Sharma, who are in judicial

At the singer's samadh skirts of Guwahati, thou-sands gathered from across Assam to pay their

Many resolved to inten-sity the demand for justice for Garg and his family.

### Pendency of over 8.82 lakh execution pleas alarming: SC

The Supreme Court has de-ecribed as "highly disap-pointing" and "alarming" the pendency of more than 8.62 lakh execution petitions before various courts

across the country. Execution petitions are pleas filed by decree holders seeking inforcement of court orders passed in

petitions within six months. The Bench had al-

16 Look at Indian food., We a shares., (7)
18 One away from Spanish healtheads (7)
21 Father gets terrancy change from immed
23 Asked for some geantity of paper in fina
45 Finas symmyls have (8)

Look at Indian food, "It's a sharm... (2) Only away Stum Spanish beatliness (1) Father gets secondly charge Sour immediate once also for some quantity of pager to final part (8) Plaus security's hards (8) Demage learns after indentification of mass (8) Old PM is fragely to gets 14 pounds (9) Theoretic, head office is in sandon travelly (4)

Toute taken by mice running ground showing sliding to share feelings (8).
 Containing Non-Letin America threetoped in alternoe of material (4).

Old wind of ship's faultless service carrying sports group (7)

Democratizations for examinations (8) Horotide blunder to leave den and obficerate (4) Hardthe blunder to looke den and obfissistic (4).
A sound quality, to mide amends 01.
Called ongeneer to get distance covered (5).
Looks A pig centries amends (5).
Obtavate organised around beginning of mooth show selflessness
(8).

A Bench of Justices J.B. Furchiseds and Parished Mithal made the observation while reviewing compliances with its March 6 order, which had directed all High Courts to instruct electron to decide exemples and courts under their jurisdiction to decide exemples and petitions within six

Karnataka HC data
The top couft, however,
noted that "unfortunately,
the Karnataka High Court
has falled to furnish us
with the necessary data in
this regard". It directed the months. The Bench had al-so clarified that presiding officers would be held ac-commable for any delay in following its directive. "The statistics which we have received are highly disappointing. The figures of the pendency of the exe-Supreme Court registry to Issue a reminder to the Karnataka High Court to submit data regarding dis-posal and pendency of exe-cution petitions over the past als months. Days after the Supreme Court quashed multiple first information reports against several persons, in-cluding the Vice-Chancel TAXABLE DATE:

the half six months for of a university in Uttar atrice the March 6 order, a total of 3,38,685 execution Praduch, over alleged charges of "mass religious petitions have been decid-ed and disposed of, the court noted. conversions" under the Ut-tar Pradesh Prohibition of inlawful Conversion of Re ligion Act, 2021, legal ex-perts say the ruling has fur-reaching implications for the State.

the State.
They said a significant number of cases has been registered under the law, many of which can now be challenged.
The judgment could prompt a reconstructed formula of second coulding cases, encourage greater scrutiny of 918s, and can curb the misuse of the law as a tool of beneeu.



The top court's verdict can help curb the misuse of said law as a

iversity of Agriculture, rechnicology and Sciences rechnicology and Sciences and the Fift auffers from at said the Fift auffers from at sincurable legal defect, having been leedged by a persent in law to do as as per the these prevailing.

"The judgment resinforces the principle that liberty must not be sacrificed at the alar of populat enforcement. The erindical law cernant. iversity of Agriculture

cannot be allowed to be made a tool of barassment of innocent persons, allow-ing prosecuting agencies to mitiate proceedings at

their whims and fancy, on the basis of completely in-creshious material," Sulkhas Singly, a former Uttar Pradesh Director General of Police, told The Hindu. Mr. Singh said it was a fundamental right "to fol-

low and practise a faith of one's choice". "This right cannot be stifled in the garb of pre-venting unfair conver-sions fieligent certies civil implications like inheritance, maintenance and children's welfare. There-fore, conversion can be fa-cilitated and regulated, but carnot be banned," he said.

'Watershed moment'

"Watershed moment"

S. Mohammad Haider Bille
vi, a legal scholar and se-tion advocate based in Lucknow, termed the rul-ing a "watershed moment" in curbing the misuse of anti-conversion laws in Ut-

forcing the principle that constitutional safeguards of personal liberty and religlous freedom must not be diluted by motivated or fri-

"With a bugg number of Filts by third parties, un-

arrests, with no conva-tions as on date, the law is regressive, it as elded.

The apex court has rear-timed that laws must not the marginalised, be said.
In April 2022, on Fish was filed in Fateripus dis-trict following a complaint to digit by Himanahi Diali, du Parishad.

The complainant al-

The complainant al-leged that Mr. Lal and othanti-conversion laws in Ut-tur Practicesh, particularly against toinurities.

"The ruling has far-runching implications for Ultra Pracion." It sets a Ultra Pracion." It sets a ing, criminal intimidation, forgery, and unlawful religlous conversion, as out-lined in Section 3 of the

## Press Trust of India cution petitions across the country are alarming. As on date, 8,62,578 essen-tion petitions are pending across the country," the

The court once again urged all High Courts to evoive a procedure and guide their respective dis-trict judiciary for the expe-ditions disposal of pending execution petitions. civil disputes.

A Bench of hutices LB.

### SEIDOBLE

the law as a tool of persecu-

they said.
White diamining the case against Rajendra Hibari Lai, the Vice-Chancellor



### Let the inner light glow

the pavali is celebrated with utmost fervour with lamps and freworks lighting up not only our exterior lives, but also our inner eviews, said Damia's Ramakrishnan. It is a festival that celebrates Lord Krishna's victory over Nara-lesaura and is upheld as the best among festivals. The great Bhagavad Gita is considered to be a sibling of the Deepava-li featival due to both being the best in their genres and due to their intricate link to Lavid Krishas. Narakasura gained a boon that only his mother, Bhoo-

due to their miricate link to Lord Krishna.

Nariakanira gained a bloom that only his motived with a sense of invincibility, he unless deed with a sense of invincibility, he unless deed a regin of herior upon all. When Lord Krishna took him on in open battle, the boon proved to he powerful and Lord Krishna fained in ma Devi., and consort and charioter of Krishna, took thatge and the errow she fired nurtially wounded Naria and the region of the sense of the

# THEROSEWORD + 14618 To selve the purely and the pur

- fluey in front of an astrona, among other things (6,4)
- 5 W ......
- Year Dight can got second in Agnoting peace accept current name for post retriament provings (7) ## Silver containing drink is getting old (5) 24 Same tonse part of sharpe's tricol (4)

# Chandrayaan-2 makes first-ever observations on lunar exosphere: ISRO

The CHACE-2 payload aboard the spacecraft's orbiter showed an increase in total pressure of dayside lunar exosphere when impacted by the sun's coronal mass ejection, says space agency

### The Hindu Bureau

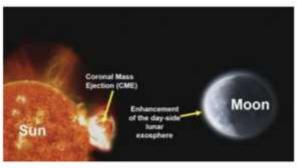
BENGALURU

he lunar orbiter of India's second moon mission, Chandrayaan-2, has made the first-ever observation of the effects of the sun's coronal mass ejection (CME) on the moon.

The Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2 (CHACE-2) payload onboard the orbiter had made the observation.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said on Saturday that the observations from CHACE-2 showed an increase in the total pressure of the dayside lunar exosphere (very thin atmosphere) when the CME impacted the moon.

"The total number density (number of neutral atoms or molecules present in an environment per unit volume) derived from these observations showed



Direct impact: An artistic rendition of the Coronal Mass Ejection, or CME, hurled by the sun towards the moon. ISRO.GOV.IN

an increase by more than an order of magnitude. This increase is consistent with earlier theoretical models, which predicted such an effect, but CHACE-2 onboard Chandrayaan-2 has observed such an effect for the first time," the ISRO said.

### Rare occurrence

The space agency added that the opportunity to directly observe the effects of the CME on the moon came on a rare occurrence, on May 10, 2024, when a series of CMEs were hurled by the sun. "This increased quantity of solar coronal mass that impacted on the moon enhanced the process of knocking off the atoms from the lunar surface, thereby liberating them to the lunar exosphere, which manifested as the enhancement of the total pressure in the sunlit lunar exosphere," it added.

The space agency said that this observation

would provide scientific insight into the understanding of the lunar exosphere and space weather effects on the moon.

### Lunar base

"Apart from pushing the edge of our scientific understanding about the moon and the lunar space weather, this observation also indicates the challenges of building scientific bases on the Moon. Lunar base architects need to account for such extreme events, which would temporarily alter the lunar environment, before the effects subside," it said.

Launched on July 22, 2019 using the GSLV-MkIII-MI rocket, Chandrayaan-2 carried eight experiment payloads. However, the Vikram lander, while attempting to make a soft landing on the moon's surface, lost communication from the lander and the ground stations.

- The Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter has made the first-ever observation of the effect of the Sun's Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) on the Moon's exosphere.
- This discovery provides key insights into lunar atmosphere dynamics and space weather interactions on airless celestial bodies.

# Key Instrument Involved

Payload Name	Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2 (CHACE-2)	
Purpose	To study the composition and variability of the Moon's thin exosphere	
Location	Onboard Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter	
Observation	Detected an <b>increase in total pressure</b> of the dayside lunar exosphere during CME impact	
Agency	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)	

# What Was Observed?

- During a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) event, the Sun ejected charged particles toward the Moon.
- When this CME impacted the Moon's dayside, CHACE-2 recorded a sharp rise in total neutral
  particle density, i.e., the exosphere's total pressure increased by more than 10 times.
- This validated theoretical models predicting solar effects on the lunar environment.

# Rare Event

- The event was observed during a rare CME sequence on May 10, 2024.
- A series of powerful CMEs struck the Moon, enhancing the process of atom liberation from the lunar surface.
- These liberated atoms temporarily thickened the lunar exosphere, a phenomenon never before observed.

# **Aspect**

# **Lunar Exosphere Dynamics**

**Space Weather Effects** 

**Lunar Base Design** 

# **Insight Gained**

Demonstrates how solar events modify the Moon's thin atmosphere.

Helps understand how solar radiation and CMEs affect airless bodies.

Provides data for future habitation and infrastructure planning to withstand solar storms.

Launched On	July 22, 2019
Launch Vehicle	GSLV Mk-III (now called LVM3)
Orbiter Status	Operational and transmitting scientific data
Payloads	8 scientific instruments
Vikram Lander	Lost communication during soft landing attempt
Scientific Success	Orbiter continues to produce valuable lunar atmospheric and mineralogical data

**Feature** 

**Mission** 

**Payload** 

**Agency** 

**Observation** 

**Date of Observation** 

**Phenomenon** 

**Outcome** 

**Importance** 

**Details** 

Chandrayaan-2

CHACE-2 (Chandra's Atmospheric Composition

Explorer-2)

**ISRO** 

Increase in total pressure of dayside lunar

exosphere during CME impact

May 10, 2024

Sun's Coronal Mass Ejection (CME)

First-ever direct measurement of CME effects on

the Moon

Enhances understanding of space weather and

lunar atmospheric science

Feature	Chandrayaan-1	Chandrayaan-2	Chandrayaan-3
Components	Orbiter + Impact Probe/MIP	Orbiter + Lander (Vikram) + Rover (Pragyan)	Lander + Rover (using existing Chandrayaan-2 orbiter/relay)
Primary objective	Survey lunar surface, map, detect water	Soft-landing + roving + surface studies	Soft-landing (target: south pole) + rover operation; design optimised after lessons from C2
Landing attempt	No landing (only impactor)	Landing attempt but failed (crash)	Successful landing near lunar south pole
Target region / focus	Entire Moon (including poles)	South-pole region (but attempt)	South-pole region with refined targeting & tech
Tech/complexity	Baseline for India's lunar programme	Higher complexity (lander + rover)	Focused refinement: stronger legs, improved descent, fewer modules, reliance on existing orbiter/relay
Outcome	Success in mapping & discovery (water)	Partial (orbiter success, lander failure)	Full success (landing + rover)
Significance	Entry into lunar exploration	Intermediate leap and lesson- phase	Achievement of critical capability and strategic milestone



The fifth edition of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) will take place in Rajasthan from 24 November to 5 December 2025.

The event will be hosted across seven cities – Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota, and Bharatpur. Over 5,000 athletes will compete in 23 medal sports and one demonstration sport, kho-kho. This edition marks the introduction of beach volleyball, canoeing and kayaking, and cycling to the Games.

### Sports Disciplines and New Additions

• The Games will feature 23 medal sports including archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, fencing, football, hockey, judo, kabaddi, mallakhamb, rugby, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling, yogasana, cycling, beach volleyball, and canoeing and kayaking. Kho-kho will be included as a demonstration sport. The inclusion of beach volleyball, canoeing and kayaking, and cycling reflects the evolving sports landscape in India.

### Participation and Previous Editions

• More than 5,000 athletes from universities across India are expected to participate. The previous edition held in North-east India saw Chandigarh University emerge as champions. Lovely Professional University and Guru Nanak Dev University secured second and third positions respectively. The KIUG continues to grow as a key event in the national sports calendar.

+

# India International Science Festival 2025 Launched to Inspire Innovation and Growth

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O

• The India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025 was officially launched as a vibrant platform to celebrate and promote science and innovation in India. Scheduled from 6 to 9 December 2025 at Panjab University, Chandigarh, IISF 2025 aims to show the country's scientific achievements and inspire widespread public engagement. The festival's theme, Vigyan Se Samriddhi – Science to Prosperity, reflects India's focus on using science for national growth and self-reliance.

### Festival Overview and Objectives

• IISF 2025 brings together scientists, researchers, innovators, and students. It serves as a forum to showcase India's advancements in science and technology. The event promotes collaboration and knowledge sharing. It also encourages innovation that supports sustainable development and economic progress.

Name	Dates	Venue / Location	Notes
India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025	6–9 Dec 2025	Panjab University, Chandigarh, Punjab ( <u>IISF</u> <u>2025</u> )	A Government of India science-festival platform, theme "Vigyan Se Samriddhi – For Atmanirbhar Bharat".
India Science Festival (ISF) 2025	11–12 Jan 2025	Fergusson College, Pune, Maharashtra ( <u>India</u> <u>Science Fest</u> )	A large non-government but nationally significant science outreach / festival event.
India International STEM Education Fest 6.0	~9–10 May 2025 (some sources say)	New Delhi ( <u>lisef</u> )	STEM-education focussed event; useful for STEM policy/education topics.

# Uruguay First Latin American Country to Legalize Euthanasia

Uruguay's Senate passed a law on 15 October 2025 decriminalising euthanasia. This makes Uruguay the first predominantly Catholic Latin American country to legalise euthanasia by legislation.

The law allows seriously ill patients to seek medical help to end their lives under strict conditions. This move follows similar judicial decisions in Colombia and Ecuador and ongoing debates in Chile.

Key Provisions of the Law

Euthanasia must be performed by healthcare professionals.

Assisted suicide, where patients self-administer lethal medication, remains illegal. Unlike other countries, Uruguay sets no fixed life expectancy limit or waiting period. Patients with incurable illnesses causing unbearable suffering may request euthanasia regardless of terminal prognosis. Mental competence is mandatory, confirmed by two doctors.

Euthanasia is prohibited for minors.

### Regional Impact and Comparisons

• Uruguay joins Colombia and Ecuador in legalising euthanasia in Latin America. Colombia and Ecuador's courts decriminalised euthanasia, while Uruguay's law is the first legislative act. Chile is actively debating similar legislation. Globally, Uruguay's approach contrasts with countries like Belgium and the Netherlands, which allow euthanasia for minors, and with Australia and New Zealand, which impose strict time limits.

### Ethical and Legal Considerations

• The law balances patient autonomy with safeguards against misuse. It requires psychological evaluation to ensure informed consent. The absence of time limits broadens access but raises ethical debates on defining unbearable suffering. Uruguay's legislation is legal precedent in Latin America's predominantly Catholic societies.

## IN THE SUPREME COURT

2011: Aruna Shanbaug v. Union of India recognised that life-sustaining treatment could legally be withheld/ withdrawn even from persons without decision-making capacity.

2018: Common Cause v.
Union of India recognised
the right to die with
dignity as a fundamental
right under Article 21 of
the Constitution

of India, and legalised the use of advance medical directives or 'living wills'.

2023: Common Cause v.

Union of India simplified
the process for making
living wills and
withholding/
withdrawing lifesustaining treatment
by removing bureaucratic hurdles.

# THE CHANGES BROUGHT

Living will

An attestation by a notary | It was necessary that a or a Gazetted officer to be judicial magistrate attest or sufficient for a living will

NOW

countersign a living will

EARLIER

Access to the living will

**Living will a part of national** Living will was kept in the health record which can be accessed by Indian hospitals : concerned

custody of the district court

**Primary** board to examine patient's condition

Three doctors, including treating physician and two other doctors with five years of experience in the specialty, will comprise the primary board of doctors

Primary board of doctors needs at least four experts from general medicine, cardiology, neurology, nephrology, psychiatry or oncology with overall standing of at least 20 years

Time taken to decide

Primary/secondary board to decide within 48 hours on withdrawal of further treatment

The 2018 judgment did not specify any outer limit on withdrawal of treatment

Secondary : board

**Hospital must immediate-** The district collector had to ly constitute a secondary board of medical experts

constitute the second board of medical experts



- The Ministry of Mines has released the State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI) and corresponding State rankings.
- About the State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI)
- The SMRI is designed to benchmark State performance in facilitating and reforming the mining sector, particularly focusing on non-coal minerals.
  - The index aims to promote transparency, efficiency, and sustainable mining by encouraging competition among States.
- The structure of the index comprises indicators like auction performance, early mine operationalization, thrust on exploration and sustainable mining pertaining to non-coal minerals.

- Categorisation of States
- States have been divided into three categories based on their mineral endowment;
  - The top three ranked States in Category A (Mineral-rich States): Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat.
  - The top three ranked States in Category B (Moderately endowed States): Uttar Pradesh, and Assam.
  - The top three ranked States in Category C (Lesser-endowed States): Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Tripura.

# Word of the day

## Slovenly:

negligent of neatness especially in dress and person; habitually dirty and unkempt

Synonyms: frowsy

**Usage:** He is very careless and slovenly in his work.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/slovenlypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈslʌv.ən.li/, /ˈslɒv.ən.li/

