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10 MCQ QUIZ

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World Leaders adopt declaration calling for

strong measures to counter climate change

INSUDE



Delhi Police bust arms network with links to ISF

NEW DELAS The Bolts Police's Crime Branch on Saturday said II had busted on international arms traffiching network allegady linked to Pakistan's IS Sached suppliers and arrested four key grenatives for supplying weapons to cross groups across North India, a PAGE 8



Opposition, trade unions slam new

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NEW DILLIN
Opposition parties and coveral
trade unions on haturday
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Codes, demanding that the
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and Labour demanding
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Bengal SIR will disenfranchise many: activists

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PM proposes new growth initiatives at G-20

South Africa hosts G-20 gathering, a first by an African country, U.S. boycotts meet

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELFO

bisal parameters of growth need to be reconsidered.
Prime Minister Marendra Prime Minister Patendra Modi said on Saturday, ai-dressing the 0-20 summit in Johannesburg, where his proposed new initiatives to balance growth and pro-mote the political philoso-phy of "integral human-

He also held talks on the sidelines of the svent with South Korean President Lee Jae myung and Vietna mese Prinse Minister Pham Mint Chilm. He givested Malaysian trime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, He also met brief yeth leaders of the U.S., Italy, France, Brazil, Angoterr".

Leaders also adopted the G2O declaration on the first day of the two-day summit, calling for strong measures to counter clila, and Singapore.

mate change.

Mr. Modi also held talks
with a munitor of leaders
present, ausouncing a
new Australia-Canada in the Technology and Important Action (ACTT) Partnership after a trilateral meeting with Australian Prince Minister Anthony Albaniese and Canadian Princ Minister Mark Carney. The In-

U.S. boycott
This is the first time the
G-20 grouping of the
world's largest economies
has been histed to an Afri-

itiative will deepen cooper-ation on critical and emerging technologies, re-allient supply chains, clean

energy, and artificial intel-ligence between "demo-cratic partners across

three continents and three oceans", Mr. Modi said in a post. He also held talks on the

Modi announces partnership with Australia and Canada on technology and innovation



did not send a leader to the event due to tense ties with South Africa, South African President Cyril Rama-phosa said he would hand over the G-20 Presidency

dent Donald Trump plans to host the G-20 in 2026.

"The parameters of growth on which the world has worked so far have left a large section of the population deprived of resources. They have also contributed do to the over-exploitation of na-

ture," Mr. Modi said at the first session on Saturday. "Today, as Africa Bosts Today, as Africa today
the G-20 Summit for the
first time, it is imperative
for us to reconsider the parameters of development,
the added.
In his speech, the Prime
Minister proposed the

tional Knowledge Report-tory at the G-20, which would help transmit susinitiable, and "eco-lia-lanced ways of life" to fu-

iamend ways of life" to future generations said that the philosophy of "mingral the philosophy of "mingral the philosophy of mingral pathway" for the future. The reference to the philosophy propounded by Jama Saught leader Deep Upsal Upsaliny to 1965 in adopted by the railing flita-rative Jamasa Farry (fifty as its "basic pluthespity" in its political manifestor, and it well-reference to the property of the "Western" political ideology. "Oranteren" political ideolo-gies like "secularion, indi-vidualism and commu-nism". It is not, however, an official policy.

Skill development

He also said India was pre-pared to impart skill deve-iopment to "one million" people across the African

continent as part of a G-2O-Africa Skills Multiplier In-tuative, and also develop a G-3O Global Healthcare Response Team, and a

G-2D initiative on Countering the Drug Terror Nexus.

"Another cittical issue is drug trafficking, particularly the rupid spread of high-terror of the property of the propert

At a second session, he also proposed a C-2O Open Satellite Data Partnership to share agriculture, fish-ing and disaster-related in-formation, as well as a G-20 Critical Minerals Cir-

methods.

The Prime Missister is expected to attend the India-Brazil-South Africa (IB-SA) summit on Sunday.

Hitting it off



COP30 ends with plan for road maps to curb use of fossil fuels and prevent deforestation

PRANCFORT

Conference of Parties (COP3O) in Belom, Brazil, drew to a close late on Sa-turday with COP President Andrei Lago giving a perso-nat commitment to get countries to deliberate apon two "road maps" to and deforestation as well

end deforestation as well as a path towards ending fosell fuel use by countries.

"As (travallan) President Luin (da Silval said at the opening of the CO), we need road maps so that humanity, in a just and planted manner, can over-

come im dependence on fesal fuels, halt and re-verse deforestation and mobilise resources for these purposes. I, as Presi-dent of COP3O, will there-fore create two road maps one on halting and reversing deforestation and another on transitioning away from fossil basis in a away from Issail Dasis in a just, orderly, and expellable mannes," Mr. Lago said, while gavelling a consen-aus agreement, called the Global Matirao, Uniting ha-manny in a global mobili-sation against climass

TANK TO ALL TO

Autivists hang barriers during the climate summit in Brazil.

contentious climate-talk is-sucs - implementing Arti-rie 9 of the Paris Agree-ment that requires developed nations to mo-bilise funds for developing

countries to shift from for-sil fuels; advancing interna-tional cooperation on steps trade-restrictive unilateral measures"; progress on countries' nationally deter-mined contributions; and addressing the L5°C ambigap, among others. India's stand

India's stand Developing countries fin-cluding some petro states and India) were instent on not including language that commits countries to a timeline on eliminating fuell fuels from their

Developed countries have insisted that specifying such a path is critical to keep the planet from overheating beyond 1.8°C by century end and that the finance necessary for adapting to elimate change and transitioning away from fossil firel use must mobil

mail fact use must mobil-tee money from private and justile sources. While the final Mutirao agreement did not include language on focial fuels, the President's opening automent was seen as a outreach to developed na-tions as a way to leop con-versation upon no a defini-tive fissal fall road map.

Ukraine, European allies scramble to respond to U.S. proposal to end war

Agence France Presse

Ukraine and its Kuropean allies seearchied on Katurday to come up with counter-proposals after U.S. Predefent Donald Trump Predefent Donald Trump Compension of the U.S. Predefent Donald Trump Compension of the U.S. Predefent Donald Trump Compension of Russia's hardline demands. Ukraine President Volodynav Zelensky has predefent U.S. plan. Russian beader Vladinie Pstiff has beader Vladinie Pstiff has beader Vladinie Pstiff has

teader Visitimir Putin has welcomed the proposal, which would force Ukraine

which would force Ufraine to give up land, cut its ar-ny and piedge never to join NATO. Franch President Kin-manuel Macron, German Chancellor Principied Mees and U.K. Prince Minicipe Kell Starriner met on Satur-day on the sidelinen of a G-30 aummit in South Afri-ca, the Franch presidency

said.
The huddle was held shead of a wider meeting on the same topic that would include other Euro-

pean leaders, it said. Mr. Starmer had earlier Mr. Starmer had earlier said the aim was to "took at how we can effengthen this plan for the next plane of negotiations". European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen naid the affice should make it clear "that there should be nothing about Ukraine without Ukraine".

Alternative options Ukraine faces one of the most challenging moments

dress to the nation, said he would propuse alternatives to Mr. Trump's proposal. to Mr. Trump's proposal.
A top Ukrainian offlicial
on Sahurday said Sylv
would launch talks with
the U.S. in Switzerland to
discuss ways to end the
war. The delegation will be
bed by Mr. Zelenskys's top
aide Andry Yernak.
Better equipped and

in its history. Mr. Zelenskyy, in an ad-

U.S. Vice-President LD.

U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance reacted to the criti-cism of the plan, saying it "either misunderstands the framswork or mis-siatus sume critical reality on the ground". "There is a famasy that if we just give more money, more wear pone, or forer sanctions, victory is at hand," he said.

Mr. Putte until the blue

Better equipped and thumpten PLAN larger in numbers, the Rus PAGE 2

back against the 16-point to 5, plan, are

steadily gaining ground across the lengthy frontline.

Tight deadline
Mr. Trump has given tilerative less than a week to
sign the dead.
Mr. Zebroskyy pleshped
to work to ensure any dead
would not "betray" tilrative's interests, acknowledging be risked learing
Washington as an alle.

tory, he reintegrated into the global economy and re-join the G8, under a draft

PM proposes new growth initiatives at G-20

South Africa hosts G-20 gathering, a first by an African country; U.S. boycotts meet

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

lobal parameters of growth need to be reconsidered,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday, addressing the G-20 summit in Johannesburg, where he proposed new initiatives to balance growth and promote the political philosophy of "integral humanism".

Leaders also adopted the G-20 declaration on the first day of the two-day summit, calling for strong measures to counter climate change.

Mr. Modi also held talks with a number of leaders present, announcing a new Australia-Canada-India Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership after a trilateral meeting with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney. The in-

itiative will deepen cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, resilient supply chains, clean energy, and artificial intelligence between "democratic partners across three continents and three

He also held talks on the sidelines of the event with South Korean President Lee Jae-myung and Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh.

oceans", Mr. Modi said in a

He greeted Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim. He also met briefly with leaders of the U.K., Italy, France, Brazil, Angola, and Singapore.

U.S. boycott

post.

This is the first time the G-20 grouping of the world's largest economies has been hosted in an African country.

However, the Summit was marked by the boycott of the United States, which Modi announces partnership with Australia and Canada on technology and innovation



Global stage: Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a plenary session on the opening day of the G-20 Summit in Johannesburg on Saturday. AP

did not send a leader to the event due to tense ties with South Africa. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said he would hand over the G-20 Presidency to an "empty chair" on Sunday, though a U.S. diplomat will attend the function, and U.S. Presi-

dent Donald Trump plans to host the G-20 in 2026.

"The parameters of growth on which the world has worked so far have left a large section of the population deprived of resources. They have also contributed to the over-exploitation of na-

ture," Mr. Modi said at the first session on Saturday.

"Today, as Africa hosts the G-20 Summit for the first time, it is imperative for us to reconsider the parameters of development," he added.

In his speech, the Prime Minister proposed the World Leaders adopt declaration calling for strong measures to counter climate change

creation of a Global Traditional Knowledge Repository at the G-20, which would help transmit sustainable, and "eco-balanced ways of life" to future generations.

Mr. Modi also said that the philosophy of "integral Humanism" provided "one pathway" for the future.

The reference to the philosophy propounded by Jana Sangh leader Deen Dayal Upadhyay in 1965 is significant, as it has been adopted by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as its "basic philosophy" in its political manifesto, and is considered a counter to "Western" political ideologies like "secularism, individualism and communism". It is not, however, an official policy.

Skill development

He also said India was prepared to impart skill development to "one million" people across the African continent as part of a G-20-Africa Skills Multiplier Initiative, and also develop a G-20 Global Healthcare Response Team, and a G-20 Initiative on Countering the Drug-Terror Nexus.

"Another critical issue is drug trafficking, particularly the rapid spread of highly lethal substances like fentanyl. This has emerged as a serious challenge to public health, social stability, and global security. It also serves as a significant channel for financing terrorism," Mr. Modi said.

At a second session, he also proposed a G-20 Open Satellite Data Partnership to share agriculture, fishing and disaster-related information, as well as a G-20 Critical Minerals Circularity initiative to promote recycling and mining methods.

The Prime Minister is expected to attend the India-Brazil-South Africa (IB-SA) summit on Sunday.

India Proposes New Global Growth Framework

1.1 Parameters of Growth to be Reconsidered

PM Modi said current global growth models have:

- Left large populations deprived of resources.
- Contributed to over-exploitation of nature.

Emphasized the philosophy of "Integral Humanism".

New Technology & Innovation Partnership

2.1 India-Australia-Canada Trilateral Partnership

Focus on:

- Emerging tech
- Supply chain resilience
- Clean energy
- Artificial Intelligence

Cooperation spans three continents and three oceans

- 4. U.S. Boycotts the Summit
- 4.1 Reason for Boycott
- U.S. absent due to tense relations with South Africa.
- Sent only a diplomat, no President-level participation.
- (Global Politics)
- South Africa has disagreed with U.S. on:
 - Gaza conflict
 - Russia–Ukraine stance
 - BRICS expansion
- G-20 hosting by an African nation is a **historic first**.

. Key G-20 Adopted Measures

5.1 Climate Change –
Strong Measures
Adopted

Leaders called for:

- Immediate action to counter climate challenges.
- Sustainable development pathway.

(Environment)

Africa is highly vulnerable to climate change despite being least responsible (≈3% global emissions).

G-20 countries contribute **80% of global emissions**.

Traditional Knowledge Repository

6.1 India's Proposal

Establish a Global
Traditional
Knowledge
Repository at G-20.

Aim:

Preserve heritage knowledge

Promote "ecobalanced ways of life" Africa-Centric Development Initiatives

8.1 G-20 Africa Skills Multiplier

India will train **one million youth** across Africa.

Also proposed:

G-20 Healthcare Response Team Initiative on Countering Drug-Terror Nexus Significance of the Summit Host – South Africa

10.1 First Time G-20 Hosted by an African Country

Symbolic of shifting global power.

South Africa hands over presidency next to **Donald Trump in 2026**.

Africa's GDP share is ~3%, but has:

- 30% world mineral reserves
- 60% uncultivated arable land
- Massive demographic dividend

- Consider the following statements regarding the proposals made by India at the 2024 G-20 Summit:
- India proposed the creation of a Global Traditional Knowledge Repository to preserve sustainable and cultural knowledge.
- India announced a trilateral partnership on technology and innovation with Australia and Canada.
- India opposed the establishment of a G-20 initiative to counter the Drug-Terror nexus.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

COP30 ends with plan for road maps to curb use of fossil fuels and prevent deforestation

Jacob Koshy

FRANKFURT

The 30th edition of the Conference of Parties (COP30) in Belem, Brazil, drew to a close late on Saturday with COP President Andrei Lago giving a personal commitment to get countries to deliberate upon two "road maps" to end deforestation as well as a path towards ending fossil fuel use by countries.

"As [Brazilian] President Lula [da Silva] said at the opening of this COP, we need road maps so that humanity, in a just and planned manner, can overcome its dependence on fossil fuels, halt and reverse deforestation and mobilise resources for these purposes. I, as President of COP30, will therefore create two road maps - one on halting and reversing deforestation and another on transitioning away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly, and equitable manner," Mr. Lago said, while gavelling a consensus agreement, called the Global Mutirão: Uniting humanity in a global mobilisation against climate change.

This Mutirão refers to a consensus on the most



Activists hang banners during the climate summit in Brazil.

contentious climate-talk issues – implementing Article 9 of the Paris Agreement that requires developed nations to mobilise funds for developing countries to shift from fossil fuels; advancing international cooperation on steps by countries to impose "trade-restrictive unilateral measures"; progress on countries' nationally determined contributions; and addressing the 1.5°C ambition and implementation gap, among others.

India's stand

Developing countries (including some petro states and India) were insistent on not including language that commits countries to a timeline on eliminating fossil fuels from their economies.

Developed countries have insisted that specifying such a path is critical to keep the planet from overheating beyond 1.5°C by century end and that the finance necessary for adapting to climate change and transitioning away from fossil fuel use must mobilise money from private and public sources.

While the final Mutirao agreement did not include language on fossil fuels, the President's opening statement was seen as a outreach to developed nations as a way to keep conversation open on a definitive fossil fuel road map.



- Background: COP30 (Belem, Brazil)
- 1.1 What is COP?
- COP = Conference of Parties under UNFCCC (1992).
- COP30 \rightarrow hosted by **Brazil (2025)**.
- Location → Belem, near the Amazon rainforest, the world's largest carbon sink.
- 1.2 Key Theme
- Ending fossil fuel use in a **just, orderly, equitable** manner.
- Halting and reversing **deforestation**, especially in Amazon.

Two Major "Road Maps" Announced by COP President Andrei Lago 2.1 Road Map 1 – Halting & Reversing Deforestation Mobilise resources to stop deforestation. Focus on: Forest protection Ecosystem restoration Monitoring of illegal logging Amazon rainforest houses 10% of world's biodiversity. 20% of it has been lost in 50 years due to cattle ranching, mining, logging. Forests absorb ~2.6 billion tonnes CO₂/year.

- 2.2 Road Map 2 Transition Away From Fossil Fuels
- Road map for countries to shift from oil, coal, gas.
- Transition must be:
 - "Just" (no job losses without alternatives)
 - "Orderly" (planned, phased)
 - "Equitable" (more burden on developed nations)
- Fossil fuels = ~80% of global energy use.
- India's dependence:
 - Coal → 55% of electricity
 - Oil → heavily imported (85% dependency)
- Climate justice principle: **Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR-RC)** of UNFCCC.

COP30 — Key Outcomes

Theme / Mechanism	Key Outcome (From Article)	Extra Facts (Value Addition)
Belém Package	29 negotiated decisions; focus on shifting from discussion → implementation ; stronger finance, just transition, gender inclusion, adaptation tracking.	COP30 held in Belém, Brazil , gateway to the Amazon. Supports Paris Agreement implementation phase (post-2020). Emphasizes Loss & Damage , adaptation finance.
Global Mutirão Agreement	Prioritises cooperation & implementation over new targets; compromise between developed & developing nations.	Reflects principle of CBDR-RC (Common but Differentiated Responsibilities & Respective Capabilities). Aligns with Global Stocktake 2023 outcomes.
Global Mutirão Platform	Digital platform by Brazil \rightarrow accelerate climate action, track gaps in commitments vs implementation.	Similar to UNFCCC Climate Action Portal ; improves transparency (Article 13 of Paris Agreement).
Just Transition Mechanism (JTM) / Belém Action Mechanism	Supports workers & economies shifting away from fossil fuels; no new/guaranteed finance .	Just Transition critical for coal-dependent economies (India, South Africa). Adds to earlier mechanisms like Silesia Declaration (COP24) .
Global Implementation Tracker	Tracks national actions & NDC alignment with 1.5°C pathway.	Supports Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of Paris Agreement; helps measure ambition gaps.
Belem Mission to 1.5°C	Monitors if NDCs align with 1.5°C pathway.	Science basis from IPCC AR6 : world must cut emissions 43% by 2030 (vs 2019) to stay within 1.5°C.
NAP Implementation Alliance	Supports implementation of National Adaptation Plans; countries agreed to triple adaptation finance by 2030.	UNEP Adaptation Gap Report highlights funding gaps. India's adaptation efforts include NMSA, NAFCC .

Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)	Finalised Baku Adaptation Roadmap ; 59 indicators to track adaptation progress.	GGA established under Paris Agreement Article 7 . Baku (Azerbaijan) is host of COP29.
Belém Health Action Plan	Plan to strengthen health systems against climate impacts; launched on COP30's "Health Day".	Climate-health linkages → vector diseases, heatwaves. WHO has Climate Resilient Health Systems Framework.
Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF)	Payment-for-performance model to reward countries for preserving tropical forests; aims to mobilise \$125 billion ; Brazil gives first \$1B.	Supports reducing global deforestation; similar to REDD+ mechanism . Amazon is world's largest carbon sink.
Belém 4x Pledge	Quadruple use of sustainable fuels by 2035 vs 2024; flexibility for national conditions.	IEA to monitor. Sustainable fuels include green hydrogen, biofuels, biogas, e-fuels . Fits India's National Biofuel Policy 2018 and Green Hydrogen Mission .
Belem Declaration on Hunger, Poverty, People-Centred Climate Action	Puts vulnerable communities at core; prioritises adaptation (crop insurance, social protection).	Links to SDG-1 (No Poverty) & SDG-13 (Climate Action). Climate justice focus since Paris & Glasgow.
Belém Gender Action Plan (GAP)	Strengthens gender-responsive climate action; ensures women's participation, especially vulnerable groups.	Builds on: Lima Work Programme on Gender (COP20) + Enhanced GAP (COP25). Women are climate-impact multipliers in agriculture & water sectors.

India's Position at COP30

Theme	India's Stand (From Text)	Extra Facts (Value Addition)
Climate Finance as Legal Obligation	India + BASIC + LMDC demand climate finance to be predictable , grant-based , non-loan , and treated as a legal obligation for developed nations.	Paris Agreement Article 9.1 : Developed nations <i>must</i> provide finance. BASIC = Brazil, South Africa, India, China . LMDC includes many Asian & African developing economies.
Demand for Article 9.1 Implementation	Sought universal definition of <i>climate finance</i> and demanded mobilization of USD 1.3 trillion (target from COP29 Baku–Belém Roadmap).	Adaptation finance historically neglected; most climate finance today is loan-based , increasing debt burden of developing nations.
2025 Adaptation Gap Report Highlight	Developing countries need USD 310–365 billion / year by 2035 vs current flow of USD 26 billion .	Adaptation Gap Report (UNEP) shows adaptation needs rising due to heatwaves, floods, crop failures → relevant for India's agriculture-heavy economy.
Glasgow Pledge Context	Glasgow pledge to double adaptation finance to USD 40 bn by 2025 likely to be unmet.	Glasgow = COP26 (UK, 2021); India announced Net Zero by 2070 there.
Equity & Climate Justice	India reaffirmed CBDR–RC principle; historical emitters must take lead.	CBDR-RC = cornerstone of UNFCCC (1992). India consistently advocates "climate justice" & "equitable carbon space."

Opposition to CBAM (EU Carbon Border Tax)	India, China & LMDC oppose CBAM; call it discriminatory, trade barrier disguised as climate action.	CBAM impacts India's steel, cement, aluminum exports to EU; violates WTO non-discrimination norms (India's argument).
Support for Adaptation & Vulnerable Nations	India insists adaptation = equal priority with mitigation; demands predictable support for vulnerable nations.	Small Island Developing States (SIDS), LDCs most affected; aligns with India's Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) & ISA initiatives.
Climate Justice Groups India Belongs To	BASIC, LMDC, G77+China.	India plays bridging role between developed & developing worlds → major UPSC link to IR & climate diplomacy.
Emphasis on UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, Paris Agreement Implementation	India called for strict implementation of all three frameworks.	Kyoto → common but binding targets for Annex-I countries. Paris → NDCs & transparency. UNFCCC → parent treaty from Rio Conference (1992) .
Domestic Relevance	India stresses climate finance for its massive adaptation needs (floods, droughts, heatwaves).	India's policies: NAPCC, Green Hydrogen Mission, Biofuel Policy, National Adaptation Fund, LiFE Mission (Lifestyle for Environment).

- Consider the following statements regarding COP30 and the Mutirão Agreement:
- COP30 concluded with two proposed road maps one for reversing deforestation and another for transitioning away from fossil fuels.
- The Mutirão Agreement focuses on implementing Article 9 of the Paris Agreement, which relates to climate finance for developing countries.
- India supported the inclusion of a universal timeline for eliminating fossil fuels from all economies.
- Which of the above statements are correct?
- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3



SIR is an imposed oppression: Rahul MEMORIA PAGE 5



Experts warn against premature conclusion

Future of health lies in harmony Delhi meeting will strengthen recognition of traditional medicine DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.



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BJP urges Sinha to bar Muslims from university

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Jamiat's criticism of Al Falah probe spark a furore

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Adaptation is key fossil fuel: COP30

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Top brass will pick Karnataka leader: Kharge

Hough his Sergators hult of interest political arbitis Cangress president Malikanjum Kharpi on harring needed to hunds of frees any

No plan to introduce Bill on Chandigarh, says Union govt.

Gost, had listed a Bill that would alian Chandinarh with other Union Territories to being administered by the Ministry, but following outrage in Punjah, the Home Ministry now says proposal to 'simplify' law-traking process is under 'consideration'

Chardigath under Article 240 of the Constitution in the approxing session of Parkinson.

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Breathless fight

The Chandigarh question

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NEWS - PAGE 4

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Mind your 'administrative' language, says SC report

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SC's Presidential Reference opinion does not overrule

a judgment: ex-CJI

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or keep manples," he and.

UNSC reforms no longer an option but a necessity: Modi at IBSA meet

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This has resulted in sevoral importure metation focused on human-centric development, markinger effere and continuable growth, he said.

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No plan to introduce Bill on Chandigarh, says Union govt.

Govt. had listed a Bill that would align Chandigarh with other Union Territories in being administered by the Ministry, but following outrage in Punjab, the Home Ministry now says proposal to 'simplify' law-making process is under 'consideration'

Vijaita Singh NEW DELHI

he Union Home Ministry said on Sunday that the Centre has no intention of introducing a Constitution Amendment Bill to bring Chandigarh under Article 240 of the Constitution in the upcoming session of Parliament.

The clarification came following outrage in Punjab with parties, including the Congress, Shiromani Akali Dal and Aam Aadmi Party, opposing the move which would pave the way for the appointment of an independent administrator in Chandigarh, bringing the joint capital of Pun-jab and Haryana under the direct control of the Ministry, similar to other Union Territories.

The claim over Chandigarh has been a sensitive political issue ever since

The Chandigarh question The Centre hurried to issue a clarification on a Bill that aims to align Chandigarh with other Union Territories without legislatures On November 21, the With protests in Punjab, the Lok Sabha Bulletin listed Ministry issued a clarification the Constitution (131st Proposal is still under Amendment) Bill, 2025 consideration, no final among 10 Bills for the decision yet Winter Session Chandigarh Chandigarh has been It does not seek to alter Chandigarh's a sensitive issue since governance or the Punjab Reorganisation Act of 1966. Currently, the administrative structure

the Punjab Reorganisation Act of 1966.

Governor of Punjab serves as

its Administrator

The November 21 Lok Sabha Bulletin had listed the Constitution (131 Amendment) Bill 2025 among 10 Bills proposed to be passed during the Winter Session of Parliament from December 1.

The description said the Bill is proposed for discussion and passage to align Chandigarh with other Union Territories without legislatures – such as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, and Puducherry – when its Legislative Assembly is dissolved or suspended.

No Bill will be introduced in

the upcoming Winter Session

The Ministry said that the "proposal to simplify the Central Government's law-making process for the Union Territory of Chandigarh is still under consideration..."

No decision on proposal

"No final decision has been made on this proposal. The proposal in no way seeks to alter Chandigarh's governance or administrative structure, nor does it aim to change the traditional arrangements between Chandigarh and the States of Punjab or Haryana," it said.

"A suitable decision will be made only after adequate consultations with all stakeholders, keeping in mind the interests of Chandigarh. There is no need for concern regarding this matter. The Central Government has no intention of introducing any Bill to this effect in the upcoming Winter Session of Parliament," the Ministry further stated. Currently, the Governor of Punjab is concurrently the Administrator of Chandigarh, and if the Bill is passed, the Union Territory will be governed by a Lieutenant-Governor.

Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member Jairam Ramesh said that the Parliament Bulletin had listed for "the introduction of a Constitution Amendment Bill to enable the appointment of a full-time L-G for Chandigarh".

"This was immediately and aggressively opposed by the INC and other parties in Punjab whose Governor is also the Administrator of Chandigarh. The Union Home Ministry now says that it has no intention to introduce the Bill in the Winter Session. Yet another example of the Modi Govt's FAST approach to governance - First Announce, Second Think," Mr. Ramesh said.

- Background: Why the Issue Arose?
- 1.1 Lok Sabha Bulletin (Nov 21)
- Listed **Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2025** among 10 Bills for Winter Session.
- Aim: Align Chandigarh's administration with other Union Territories under **Article 240**.
- 1.2 Outrage in Punjab
- Political parties (Congress, SAD, AAP) objected strongly.
- Fear:
 - Move would enable appointment of a full-time Lieutenant Governor for Chandigarh.
 - Could alter existing arrangements where **Governor of Punjab = Administrator of Chandigarh**.

- Home Ministry's Clarification
- 2.1 "No intention to introduce the Bill"
- Centre stated:
 - No decision has been made.
 - No Bill will be introduced in the Winter Session.
 - Proposal is **only under consideration**, not final.
- 2.2 Purpose of Proposal
- Aim is to simplify the law-making process for Union Territories.
- No attempt to:
 - Change Chandigarh's territorial status
 - Modify administrative structure
 - Disturb traditional arrangements between Punjab, Haryana, and Chandigarh

- Why is Chandigarh Sensitive?
- 3.1 Historical Context
- Chandigarh is a Union Territory + shared capital of Punjab and Haryana.
- Governed under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.
- Since 1966:
 - Governor of Punjab acts as Administrator of Chandigarh.
- Status has been a politically sensitive issue for decades.
- 3.2 Prior Demands
- Punjab → seeks full control over Chandigarh as its capital.
- Haryana → demands equal claim or separate capital.

- What Was the Proposed Bill Meant to Do?
- 4.1 Proposed Changes
- To place Chandigarh under **Article 240**, like other UTs:
 - Andaman & Nicobar
 - Lakshadweep
 - Dadra & Nagar Haveli
 - Daman & Diu
 - Puducherry (when Assembly dissolved)
- 4.2 Implication if Passed
- Chandigarh would be administered directly by Centre, with a Lieutenant Governor, not Punjab's Governor.

6.1 Article 239 & 240

- Article 239 → Administration of UTs by the President.
- Article 240 → President can make Regulations for certain UTs when Legislatures are absent or dissolved.

6.2 Chandigarh Exception

Chandigarh is NOT under Article 240; it is governed by the 1966 Act, not by UT regulations.

6.3 Why states oppose change?

- Would reduce Punjab's symbolic and functional authority.
- Could set precedent to reorganize other UT-state relations.

6.4 Key Constitutional Themes

- Federalism
- Centre–State Relations
- Governor's Role
- Administration of Union Territories

- Q. Consider the following statements regarding the administration of Chandigarh:
- Chandigarh is currently administered under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, where the Governor of Haryana acts as its Administrator.
- The proposed Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill aimed to bring Chandigarh under Article 240 of the Constitution.
- The Union Home Ministry has clarified that it intends to introduce the Bill in the upcoming Winter Session.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only



Justice Surva

Kant to take oath as Chief Justice today

Press, Trust of India

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SIR is imposed oppression, a ploy to harass people, allow vote theft: Cong.

Rahul Gandhi sao SIR ains to tire out genuine voters' by Recing them to dit through a jurgle of paperwork'. Mallikarium Khang likens hasty, unplanned revision to demonetisation and lockdown, be slams H. for standing as a 'mute spectator'

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Sindh will always be a part of India's BJP predicts setbacks in Bengal, U.P.

Penn Years of India

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Allay fears of people over SIR, West Bengal Governor tells EC

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BJP criticises Jamiat chief for giving 'communal colour' amid terror to Delhi Red Fort blast probe crackdown

The Hinds Barers

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or what is happening today



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"When a tenner act taken place, those people who say terrorism has no rel-gion, start advocating on behalf of corrorists on the basis of religion," he said. Resetting to Mr. Madarris remarks, Mahararhina Chief Minister Decembra

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Opposition demands EC action
against Ajit Pawar's statement
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J&K L-G holds | Taking the divine route

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this and the blast near field First.
Top officials of the Ar-rer, 3AK Police, CRIF, tool-ligeness agreeces, and strill administration, attended



Opposition demands EC action

Goa cancels Kamasutra. Christmas' celebrations

An advertisement for a fear-day event titled "Takes of fundamitra and thrist-tuse Celebrations" in Gos sext triority, an official said

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The protee shared a pos-r of the event on K on make, suring that they

the programme.

'Organizers have also been disreted to reviewe.



Justice Surya Kant

Justice Surya Kant to take oath as Chief Justice today

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

Justice Surya Kant, who has been part of several landmark verdicts, will on Monday take oath as the 53rd Chief Justice of India.

He will succeed Justice B.R. Gavai.

Justice Kant was appointed the next Chief Justice on October 30 and will remain in the post for nearly 15 months. He will demir office on February 9, 2027, on attaining the age of 65.

Born on February 10, 1962, in Hisar district of Haryana to a middle-class family, Justice Kant went from being a small-town lawyer to the country's highest judicial office.

Justice Kant, who penned several notable judgments in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, was appointed the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court on October 5, 2018.

His tenure as a Supreme Court judge is marked by verdicts on the abrogation of Article 370, free speech, and citizenship rights.

The judge was part of the advisory opinion on the recent Presidential Reference on the powers of the Governor and President in dealing with Bills passed by a Assembly.

He was part of the Bench that kept the colonial-era sedition law in abeyance. Justice Kant mudged the Election Commission to disclose the details of 65 lakh voters excluded from the draft electoral rolls in Bihar.

- Justice Surya Kant will take oath as the 53rd Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- Oath-taking date: Today (Monday).
- He succeeds CJI B.R. Gavai.

2. Tenure as CJI

- Appointed as CJI on October 30.
- Will serve until February 9, 2027, when he turns 65 (retirement age for Supreme Court judges).

Extra Layer (Polity)

- Articles 124–147 → Supreme Court provisions.
- Retirement age:
 - High Court judges → 62
 - Supreme Court judges → 65
- CJI is appointed by the President under Article 124(2) based on seniority convention.

Early Life & Background

Born: February 10, 1962, in Hisar district (Haryana). Background:
Middle-class family;
started as a smalltown lawyer.

Rose through:

Punjab & Haryana High Court Became Chief
Justice of Himachal
Pradesh High Court
(2018)

4. Major Judgments & Contributions

4.1 Important Verdicts

- Abrogation of Article 370 (Special status of J&K)
- Free speech & citizenship rights cases

4.2 Key Opinions & Benches

- Advisory opinion on:
 - Powers of Governor & President regarding Bills passed by Assemblies.
- · Part of bench that:
 - Kept sedition law (Section 124A IPC) in abeyance.
 - Directed Election Commission to disclose criminal records of candidates.
 - Ordered that candidates with 65 pending cases cannot be excluded from electoral rolls.

Extra Layer (Polity)

- Sedition law review is linked to:
 - Fundamental Rights (Articles 19, 21).
- · Governor-State relations relate to:
 - Articles 154, 163, 200 (state executive & Bill assent/referral).
- Electoral reforms tie to:
 - Article 324 (Election Commission's powers).

- Significance of His Appointment
- Will lead the Supreme Court for over **15 months**.
- Expected to influence:
 - Constitutional cases
 - Federal disputes
 - Electoral reforms
 - Pending Article 370-related matters
 - Criminal law overhaul (new Bharatiya laws)

Consider the following statements regarding Justice Surya Kant:

- Justice Surya Kant will serve as the 53rd Chief Justice of India until he attains the age of 65 years.
- Before elevation to the Supreme Court, he served as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- He was part of the Supreme Court bench that upheld the validity of the colonial sedition law (Section 124A IPC).
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Justice Surva Kant takes oath as CJI NEWS - PAGE 4



Gavi, UNICEF ink deal for malaria vaccine

Society must reclaim open dialogue The middle path of understanding is key



INSIDE



Matuas holding hunger strike to seek citizenship

YEARCHRAGAN
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public meeting. 3 PARE 3 THANCROAGAN.



Volcanic eruption likely to impact Indian travellers

NEW DOLLIS India is bracing for potential eruption of Ethiopia's Hay

Goa tops in digitisation of SIR forms, Kerala lags

Election Commission says enumeration forms of 99,07% people have been collected and over 47% of them digitised. BLOs race against time to finish exercise, many complain of 'excess workload'

Sreeparna Chakrabarty

cial intensive revision (2000) of electoral rolls, the Elec-tion Commission on Mon-day said more than 47% of the enumeration forms dis-tributed across 42 States and Union Territories have

een digitised. Goa has achieved the hum at 72,20%, while Keruand Uttar Pradesh have be lowest at 23% and

286.8% respectively.
The enumeration phase, which began on November 4, will end on Deember 4. The draft list will be published on December following which the pe-9 following which the period for elains and objections will begin.
According to the EC, out of the SI course where being covered in this SIR, enumeration forms of \$8,56,34,724, or \$10,078, have been collected and \$24,13,78,201 (47,7305) have



eration phase involves dis-tribution of forms, collec-

tion of the filled coes, and upleading the data on the commission's website. The whole exercise is officers (BLOs), making them the most important them the most important cog in the wheel. However, the BLGs are raving against lime. While some States such as West Bengel have witnessed protests ever though protests ever have been some reports of suicides by BLGs over al-leged work-related stress. In Keralia, a BLG, who complained of stress, was offered to guit SIR dieties.

However, he has expressed willingness to continue.
A correspondent from

The Hindu visited a scholl office in Bulandabahr dis-trict of Uttar Pradesh and

BLO threatens to kill himself over SIR workload

INTERNAM
In another instance of a buestlevel officer expensing distress
over the recording workland
from the aperial Internive
receion, an official from Mottayam district of Recala threatened to take his own life citing pressure associated with the esercise, is PANE 2

to understand all this," an anguished Mariju Devi told The Hindu

The Hands.

She said she was con-fused with the process as forms were being distribut-ed only to those who had voted in the 2024 Lok Sab-ha elections. "What is the point of conducting the ex-

point of conducting the ex-ercise then? When we uplead the data, some-times it throws up similar names," she said.

It is a summer of the said of the tag held it. Ethintings the type Pradesh. Rapathan, Tarul Padu, Utur Pradesh, West Rengal, Pulukarbur, the Antiamen and Pikother thands, and Lakshadweep, lands, and Lakshadweep,

Bollywood's beloved icon Dharmendra is no more

The Hindu Bursau

reteran actor Dharmendra

Veteran actor Dharmendra Kowal Kitchan Dool, affectionately known as Dhar-mendra, passed away in Mambai on Monday. The 89-year-sold bolly-mand out of Mambai's Breast Camby hospital sev-sival days earlier this month. He was later dis-charged and continued his reatment at borne. Proceedings of the con-traction of the co

tor passed away in the morning, and funeral arnade at the Shree Vile Par Seva Samai crematori

his wives Prakash Kaur and Hema Malini, sons Sunny and Bobby Deol, and daughters Vijeta, Aleeta, Esha and Ahana, Fans

ishha and Ahana. Fanus hirongud the crematorium see acausing traffic oraris. Salma Kana, Salma Khan, Asalma Putti, Guida, Shakrusphan Jinda, Deepika Padukorne, Randella Khan, Asalma Kana, Akshuy Kurnan, Kasalma, Akshuy Kurnan, Kasal, Karesona Kapaon, Chida, Karesona Kapaon, Chida Kana, Asalma Kapaon, Chida Karesona Kapaon, Chida Kanana Kapaon, Chida Karesona Karesona



ranjeevi, Satra Banu and others, were present at the

Dharmendra's cinemaric journey spanned more than six decades, with over 300 ides to his credit.

OD Mose to his credit. Enowen to fine us Bolly-woods "He-Mart", "Garam String, "He-Mart", "Garam String, "He-combined mass appeal with versatility, eff-toring the string, and socially relevant films. From Minuter Survey From Minuter Survey From Minuter Survey From Minuter Survey Frank the sele of an era in Frank the sele of an era in Frank the sele of an era in Intention of the selection of minuted for his versatility, simpliely, and worred.

Murmu said Dharmendra's denise is "a great loss to indian cinema", remem-bering him as one of the

Union Home Minister mendra's positing "an ir-reparable loss to bullion elnema", praising his six-decade long career and the ability to bring every

character to life.
He remembered Dhar-

Goa government does a U-turn on 'permanent' tiger presence in State

The answer to whether tig-ers "reside" in Gos de-pende on who is asking the question. The Gos Govern-ment, earlier this year, ar-gued before a Supreme Court-appointed commit-ter that there was "...in that the was "...in

parmanent presence of tig-ers" in the State.
However, in a separate mutter concerning a dis-pute involving Gea, Karna-raka and Maharushira over the sharing of water from the Mahadayi river in Goa, a stated the opposit n stated the opposite.

"...The State of tion states that there is evi-

dence to show that tigers in around Chorla, Mann and Kankumbi com prise a contiguous tiger landscape corridor, to the Dandeli Tiger Reserve to its south that has around 33 tigers." The latter appears



2023 order of the Bombay High Court that directed the State to distare the Mhadel sanctuary and oth-er connected regions — as recommended by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA, the no-dal Central body tasked with overseeing figer con-servation) - a 'tiger re-serve' within three

months.

The Goa government filed a special leave peri-tion (SLP) in the Supreme Court challenging this or-der. Its core arguments in ingers. The latter appears in a 2018 report of the Ma-hadayl Water Disputes Tri-field of the Markov Markov Markov Markov Markov Tri-tions of Mahakovi river to be imperied. Son argued," is would impere the prey have an well as tiger that as one of tiger pre-sence for absence in Goat has come to the form fol-lowing the markovi Markov M the SLP are that, as per the

Reconsily, the area that would have to be declared a liger reserve had a "huge population" of about 1,00,000 individuals spread across newest vil-lages. Given the paucity of atternative areas to settle them and the "unwilling

ness' of this resident popu-lation, the move could translate to social unrest. In terms of tiger pre-sence, it argued that only three tigers were found through wamera trapping during the NTCA's tiger es-timation survey of 2018. There was "no evidence"

male office.

"The protected area is unity a convictor whereby the tigent Bransff from Mahasiahtra to Earnataka or vice seria, and the area of Mhadel is cutly a route, which is used by tigers to transet." the foto argued in the position. "Risch Transi."

Mhadei was due to very few deer (as prey), and thus, declaring Mhadei would not serve any significant purpose," it said.

SC seeks report.
The Supremie Court, this
Reptember, directed a Conrul Empowered Committee of the Union Environment Ministry to bear all
the "stude-holders" in the the "stukeholders" in the matter and submit a repor-in "six weeks." The Com-mittee has reportedly sought an extension to file

the. The case traces back to 2011, when the Centre and the NTCA made multiple requests to the State of Goa to notify Mhadel wildille Sanctuary (WLS) and certain other adjacent areas as a tiger reserve. But this dis

ot nappen. In famuary 2021, four tigers were found poisoned following which the Gos Poundation, a non-profit Foundation, a manipolity Bled a position for the re-gion to be declared a tigor reserve. Doing so puts the onus on the State to im-prove protection measures for conservation of animals.

animals.

On September 8, 2025, after counsel for the ConPoundation informed the top count that some proposals for resorts were being approved in the proposed tiger reserve, the count stayed all such activity till their deeder and judgment.

The sea beckons



Supreme Court to examine petition to stop cash donations to political parties

Krishnadas Haingopal NEW DELHI

Krithmadan Raingopal
NEW DELGH
The Supreme Court on
Mentalwappreed to examine
a petition to stop cash donations of even up to
2,000 to parties for the
courtifuntion, no matter
the income tax regime.
A Bonoth of Junious Wile
A Bonoth of Junious Wile
A Honoth of Junious Wile
Terron paying any amount
of money to it and no

ram Nath and Sandeep amount can be received in

amount can be received in cash so as to maintain transparency in the political funding. The petition said, ratigned, besides the EG, the Union government, Contral Board of Direct Tases and IS parties, in the Contral Board of Direct Tases and IS parties, in the Contral Board of Direct Tases and Government, Edwards Munnetts Razburgari, Communist Party of India (Mursday), Tiranmoof Congress, Sarndywall For 40000

ty, AAP, as respondents.

The petition, filed by
Rhem Singh Bhati, challenged the legality of
vlause (d) of Section EA of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Section 13A is a special provision permitting tax exemption to political parties.
Clause (d) of the provision allows parties to accept donations worth £2,000 in easis.

Bollywood's beloved icon Dharmendra is no more

The Hindu Bureau

MUMBAI

Veteran actor Dharmendra Kewal Krishan Deol, affectionately known as Dharmendra, passed away in Mumbai on Monday.

The 89-year-old Bollywood legend had been in and out of Mumbai's Breach Candy hospital several days earlier this month. He was later discharged and continued his treatment at home.

On Monday, a police statement said that the actor passed away in the morning, and funeral arrangements were being made at the Shree Vile Parle Seva Samaj crematorium.

The actor is survived by his wives Prakash Kaur and Hema Malini, sons Sunny and Bobby Deol, and daughters Vijeta, Ajeeta, Esha and Ahana. Fans thronged the crematorium area causing traffic snarls.

Celebrities, including Salman Khan, Salim Khan, Shah Rukh Khan, Aamir Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Bachchan, Abhishek Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt, Govinda, Shatrughan Sinha, Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh, Karan Johar, Vicky Kaushal, Shabana Azmi, Akshay Kumar, Kajol, Kareena Kapoor, Chi-



DHARMENDRA (1935 - 2025)

ranjeevi, Saira Banu and others, were present at the crematorium.

Dharmendra's cinematic journey spanned more than six decades, with over 300 films to his credit. Known to fans as Bollywood's "He-Man", "Garam Dharam", and the "Action King," he combined mass appeal with versatility, effortlessly moving between action dramas, comedies, and socially relevant films.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrote on X that Dharmendra's demise "marks the end of an era in Indian cinema", calling him an iconic actor admired for his versatility, simplicity, and warmth.

He offered condolences to the actor's family, friends, and fans, concluding with 'Om Shanti.'

In her condolence message, President Droupadi Murmu said Dharmendra's demise is "a great loss to Indian cinema", remembering him as one of the most popular actors whose legacy will inspire generations.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah called Dharmendra's passing "an irreparable loss to Indian cinema", praising his six-decade-long career and the ability to bring every character to life.

He remembered Dharmendra's humble beginnings and said his art will keep him alive in the hearts of millions.

RELATED REPORTS ON

» PAGE 5

- Veteran Bollywood actor Dharmendra (Dharmendra Kewal Krishan Deol) passed away in Mumbai.
- Age: 89 years (1935–2025).
- Had been hospitalised at Breach Candy; later discharged; passed away at home.
- Cremation at Shree Vile Parle Seva Samaj crematorium.

2. Family

- Survived by:
 - Wives: Prakash Kaur, Hema Malini
 - Sons: Sunny Deol, Bobby Deol
 - Daughters: Vijeta, Ajeeta, Esha, Ahana
- Large crowd of fans, celebrities attended the funeral:
 - Salman Khan, Shah Rukh Khan, Aamir Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, Govinda,
 Abhishek Bachchan, Manoj Bajpayee, Shatrughan Sinha, etc.

3.1 Journey

- Career of 6+ decades; acted in 300+ films.
- · Nicknames:
 - · "He-Man of Bollywood"
 - "Garam Dharam"
 - "Action King"

3.2 Acting Style

- · Combined:
 - Romance
 - Action
 - Comedy
 - · Socially relevant themes
- · Represented a bridge between:
 - Tragic romantic heroes (1950s–60s)
 - · Brooding angry young men (1970s-80s)

3.3 Major Films

- *Sholay
- Chupke Chupke
- Satyakam
- · Seeta Aur Geeta
- · Phool Aur Patthar
- · Yaadon Ki Baaraat
- Dharam Veer*

6. Second Article (Obituary) — Key Themes

6.1 Dharmendra as a Cultural Symbol

- · Embodied:
 - Masculine charisma
 - Vulnerability
 - Simplicity
 - Rural Indian ethos (from Punjab's Sahnewal)

6.2 Transition from Struggle to Stardom

- · Came from a farming background.
- Won Filmfare talent contest → started career in Mumbai.

6.3 Notable Aspects

- · Famous for:
 - Comic timing (Chupke Chupke)
 - Strong emotional performances (Satyakam)
 - Action image (Phool Aur Patthar, Sholay)
- Worked across Hindi and South Indian film industries.

6.4 Political Role

• Served as MP from Bikaner (2004-09) representing BJP.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Dharmendra:

- 1. Dharmendra received the Padma Bhushan for his contribution to Indian cinema.
- 2. He represented the constituency of Bikaner in the Lok Sabha as a Member of Parliament.
- 3. He was popularly known as "He-Man" and "Garam Dharam" due to his action-hero image.
- **4.** He won the National Film Award for Best Actor twice during his career.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Goa government does a U-turn on 'permanent' tiger presence in State

Jacob Koshy NEW DELHI

The answer to whether tigers "reside" in Goa depends on who is asking the question. The Goa Government, earlier this year, argued before a Supreme Court-appointed committee that there was "...no permanent presence of tigers" in the State.

However, in a separate matter concerning a dispute involving Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra over the sharing of water from the Mahadayi river in Goa, it stated the opposite.

"...The State of Goa states that there is evidence to show that tigers in Goa are not merely transient animals, but are a resident population, and the forests around Chorla, Mann and Kankumbi comprise a contiguous tiger landscape corridor, to the Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka to its south-east and the Anshi Dandeli Tiger Reserve to its south that has around 35 tigers." The latter appears in a 2018 report of the Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal. "Thus, were the flow of Mahadayi river to be impeded," Goa argued," it would impact the prev base as well as tiger ecosystem".

The issue of tiger presence (or absence) in Goa has come to the fore following the Goa government challenging a July



The Goa government says only three tigers were found through 'camera trapping' during the NTCA survey of 2018. PTI

2023 order of the Bombay High Court that directed the State to declare the Mhadei sanctuary and other connected regions – as recommended by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA, the nodal Central body tasked with overseeing tiger conservation) – a 'tiger reserve' within three months.

The Goa government filed a special leave petition (SLP) in the Supreme Court challenging this order. Its core arguments in the SLP are that, as per the NTCA guidelines, an area of 800-1,000 sq. kms would have to be declared an inviolate space for a tiger reserve. The area already under protection in the State, in the form of parks and sanctuaries, added up to 745 sq. km. "Therefore, to declare an area larger than the already protected area an inviolate space would be an aberration."

Secondly, the area that would have to be declared a tiger reserve had a "huge population" of about 1,00,000 individuals spread across several villages. Given the paucity of alternative areas to settle them and the 'unwillingness' of this resident population, the move could translate to social unrest.

In terms of tiger presence, it argued that only three tigers were found through 'camera trapping' during the NTCA's tiger estimation survey of 2018. There was "no evidence" that these tigers were "residents" of the area; there were no cubs or young animals either.

"The protected area is only a corridor whereby the tigers transit from Maharashtra to Karnataka or vice versa, and the area of Mhadei is only a route, which is used by tigers to transit," the State argued in its petition. "Such 'transi-

tory presence' of tigers in Mhadei was due to very few deer (as prey), and thus, declaring Mhadei sanctuary as a reserve... would not serve any significant purpose," it said.

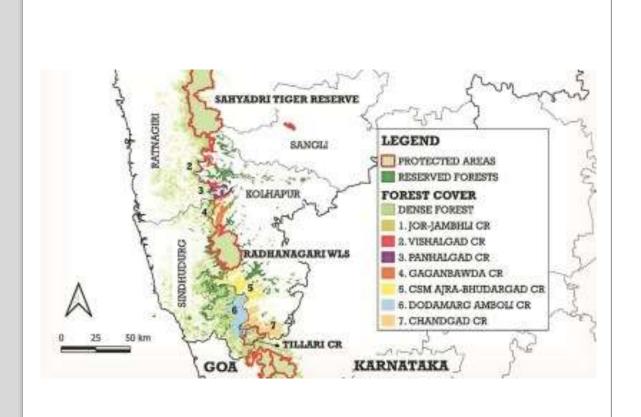
SC seeks report

The Supreme Court, this September, directed a Central Empowered Committee of the Union Environment Ministry to hear all the "stakeholders" in the matter and submit a report in "six weeks." The Committee has reportedly sought an extension to file this.

The case traces back to 2011, when the Centre and the NTCA made multiple requests to the State of Goa to notify Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) and certain other adjacent areas as a tiger reserve. But this did not happen.

In January 2021, four tigers were found poisoned following which the Goa Foundation, a non-profit, filed a petition for the region to be declared a tiger reserve. Doing so puts the onus on the State to improve protection measures for conservation of animals.

On September 8, 2025, after counsel for the Goa Foundation informed the top court that some proposals for resorts were being approved in the proposed tiger reserve, the court stayed all such activity till final order and judgment.





1. Background: Conflicting Claims by Goa

1.1 Before Supreme Court (Earlier)

- Goa Government told SC committee:
 - "...no permanent presence of tigers in the State."
- Claimed tiger presence is sporadic and transitory.

1.2 Before Mahadayi Water Dispute Tribunal (Separate Case)

Goa argued opposite:

"Evidence shows Goa has a resident tiger population."

Why contradicted?

- In water dispute cases, claiming tiger presence → stronger ecological grounds to restrict river diversion.
- Before SC committee → avoided obligations to declare a tiger reserve.

2. Mahadayi River & Tiger Landscape Corridor

2.1 States Involved

Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra.

2.2 Ecological Importance

- Tigers from **Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka)** move through:
 - Mahdei Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary
- These create a tiger landscape corridor connecting Western Ghats regions.

Value Add (Geography)

- Western Ghats → UNESCO World Heritage Site; tiger-bearing landscape.
- Goa is an important link corridor, not a core tiger habitat.

3. Bombay High Court Order (2023)

3.1 Direction

- · Goa must:
 - Declare Mhadei Sanctuary + connected areas as a Tiger Reserve.
- Basis: NTCA (National Tiger Conservation Authority) guidelines.

3.2 NTCA Requirements

- Area of 800–1,000 sq km required for inviolate core habitat.
- But Goa's entire protected forest area = ~745 sq km → below threshold.

4. Goa Government's Defence in Supreme Court

4.1 Key Arguments

- 1. Tiger population insufficient
 - Only 3 tigers photographed during NTCA 2018 camera-trap survey.
 - · No evidence of:
 - · Breeding females
 - Cubs
 - Resident population
- 2. Tiger presence is "transitory"
 - Tigers merely pass through from Karnataka to Maharashtra → "corridor use".
- 3. Ecological concern
 - Prey base (deer populations) very low → cannot support permanent tiger presence.
- 4. Declaring tiger reserve may cause unrest
 - · Requires relocation of 1 lakh+ individuals across multiple villages.

5. Supreme Court's Current Action

5.1 Central Empowered Committee (CEC)

- SC asked CEC to:
 - Hear stakeholders
 - Submit report in 6 weeks (extension sought)

5.2 Background

- Issue dates back to 2011, when:
 - NTCA + CEC requested Goa to notify Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary as tiger reserve → Not done.

5.3 January 2021 Petition

- Goa Foundation NGO petitioned SC to declare tiger reserve.
- SC: State must improve protection before any reserve declaration.

- Consider the following statements regarding tiger conservation and the Goa controversy:
- The NTCA mandates that a minimum inviolate core area of around 800–1,000 sq. km is required for declaring a tiger reserve.
- The Goa government acknowledged before the Supreme Court that tigers found in the state are permanent residents.
- The Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary forms part of a tiger corridor linking Karnataka and Maharashtra.
- 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

■ 「● 田本田北田田八田・



Zubeen death: date extended for submitting probe report

The one-man commission probing the death of stiger Zubeut Garp has extended the date for recording statements and submission of evidence till December 12, officials said on Monday. The commission, headed by healthe Sourium's Salkia, commission, headed by healthe Sourium's Salkia, evidence from November 3. The previous deadline was Rovember 23, but if has more been vateraled, the commission's member-secretary of the property of the property of the pro-vidence of the property of the pro-vidence of the property of the pro-sent submit their statements by way of a dush arm, to 4 pm. on all days except Suntleys. g has extended the date for his and submission of evidence

Probe ordered after Afghan plane lands on wrong runway

A safety breach occurred at the Indita Gandhi A suskey breach occurred at the Indira Gairdin International Airport on Saunday when a flight from Kabul landed on the wrong runway, just after another aircraft fad taken off. Officials and the aircraft of the Ariana Alghan Airlines was the aircraft of the Ariana Alghan Aritines was cleared to land on runway 23th, which is near-out for arrivals. However, it mistakenly butched down on the adjacent runway 29th, designated only for departures, Ari India Hight Al-243 to only for departures, Ari India Hight Al-243 to only for departures, Ari India Hight Al-243 to only the departures, Ari India High Al-243 to only the departure of the High India High In

Editors Guild of India elects office-bearers for 2025-26

The Editors Guild of India (EGB has announced its new office-bearers for the 2028-26 term, with Hardnese Editor Sanjay Rapoor elected as its president, The Hindu businessine's former Editor taghavan Srinivasan ar general secretary, and Jumburin: NE Editor in Chief Teresa Belunan treasurer. The announcement was made by the BGI election committee with Rajdeep Sardesai, Consulting Editor with India Today, as its convenor, and Vijay Naik, Consulting Editor of Sakal Media Group, as the member.

SC to examine plea on policy for wrongful imprisonment

The Supreme Court on Monday decided to examine a plea for the formulation of a uniform, compensation for unjust and arbitrary introduction for unjust and arbitrary imprisonment, which culminated in discharge or exception, a bretch headed by Justice Videam Nath petition filed by Jawaharilai Sharma, represented by advocated Nesha Kashi, to recommend appropriate yardeticks for monetary relief, as well as counselling, livelihood assistance, and social reintegration. The petition sought a dedicated compensation fund to ensure timely and effective relief to such victims. "Arbitrary and protonged imprisonment of citizens amount to state tofficted injustice...." the petition argued

Navy gets 'silent hunter', 80% home-grown Mahe

Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi launches warship, says 'true strength' of the armed forces lies in 'synergy', adds that Army, Navy and Air Force form 'the trinity of India's strategic strength'

The Hindu Dureau

MS Mahe, India's first Matte clear, antisode-low watercraft, was commissioned at the Navat Upendra Developed, The May 100 (1997) its stealth and unvielding readbress, INS Male's mot-to is 'Silent Hunters'. This was the first time

This was the first time an Army chief presided ov-er the commissioning of a naval warship. General Dwivedi said that the true strength of the Indian armed forces lay in synegy among the three servic-

"In the age of malti-do-main operations, the coun-try's ability to act in con-cert from the depths of the ocean to the highest fron-ter will determine the se-curity influence of the In-



WS Mote, the Make-class anti-submerine warters shallow watercraft at the Maxel Dockyani in Mumbol successure, recent

adding that Operation Sin-door showcased the seam-less harmony between the

Major transformation The Army chief noted that the force is undergoing a major transformation, with joint ness and integrawith joint meas, and thregge thon serving as key pillars. "As said by Brien Keller, alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much, So, as a zoldier, we are standing among seafar-ers. The sea, land, and the akkey from a simple con-

Navy and Air Force form the trinity of India's stra-legic strength," General Dwivedi said. Delived and.

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of eight vessels in its class,
has been designed and
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It will form the first line.

alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much, so, as a soldier, we are the seek in the case to maintain constant on the skin from a single continuum of national security. "Today's ceremony not only males the induction only males the induction

a maritime order of battle but also realfirms our na tion's increasing capability to design, construct, and field complex combatants with indigenous technols

With Indigenous rectaining will algoritearthy augment the significantly augment the indian Navy's capability to ensure near-sea down-indian security grid and anyonad accurity grid and anyonad our manifime in parise of our literath," General Psychologis and eral freework said.
Listing out the abilities of the warship, a govern-

ment statement and. 'The slup's combar saide blends multiple systems into a compact yet potent net-work. She is specially de-signed to undertake antisigned to undertake anti-submarine operations in countal and shidlow waters. Fritied with advanced wea-pure, securit, and com-pure, securit, and com-

Gavi, UNICEF ink deal to provide easy access to malaria vaccine

Biodu Shajan Perappadan New Decari

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and United Nations Chil-dren's Fund (UNICEF) base announced a new agree ment that it said will make the B2I/Matrix-M malarta accessible and affordable

incommittee and afferdable, paying the way for protecting more children.

If you have the protecting more children and the paying the way for protecting more children.

If you have the support of the paying the savings for Card and the savings for Card and the savings of the paying the savings of the paying Immunisation (IFFIm)

The lower price of the vaccine - at \$2.99 per dose - is anticipated to take ef-fect in approximately one

year.
Cavi facilitates and fi-nances the procurement, logistics, market shaping and integration of mataria vaccines into national im-municipal programmes.



R21/Matrix M was co devel by the university of Oxford Serum institute of India, ar

tine immunisation in 24 African countries that to gether represent more than 70% of the world's malaria burden. UNICEF is the world's

largest buyer of vaccines, delivering nearly three bil-lion doses every year.

Prequalified vaccines The WHO has prequalified two malaria vaccines to

panchavats Press Trust of India

Himachal govt. decides

to reorganise

The Himachal Prodesh Ca-The Himachal Pradech Ca-binet on Monday decided to reorganise parchayats and vingue (2000 You mi-ment to ensure better pa-tion to ensure better pa-tent care in health institutions across the Reorganisation of par-chayats as process of res-ructuring the boundaries, composition and functions ment institutions to in-ment institutions to in-

of ratal local self-govern-ment institutions to im-prove governance, ensure effective service delivery and adopt to changing the magnaphies and adminis-trative needs.

The decision to reorgan-

ing on between the State Election Commission and the government over hold-ing paradayat elections ac-cording to schedule.

over some clauses of Data Protection Act

ise panchayata came at a time when a stand-off is go-

The Hindu Bureau come out with a mode code of implementation (Rules) that did not stran-gle the functioning of jour-nalists and media organisations in the world's largest

New Official
The Press Club of India
(PCD and on Monday that
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"We at no stage abled for repeating the law, we are guite awars of the nature of the law with the purpose of currain and the second of the law with the purpose of currain."

attempt to engage with the Centre on the law. "The intention of sub-mitting the Joint Memoraning personal data of citi-zens in the digital age," it suid, adding that the press dum was two-fold. The first was to engage with the government in the most constructive and demobodies had submitted a set of 35 questions in August for seeking clarification about the application of

Press Club concerned | India braces for disruption of air travel after Ethiopia's Hayli Gubbi volcano erupts

Jagriti Chandra

India is bracing for poten-tial diaruption to air travel with volcanic ash from Sunday's eruption of Eth-company of the Control forecast to drift towards matriand India.

The Directorate General of Civil Adminin (DGCA) ing airlines to strictly steer char of affected altitudes and regions to emure flight matery as volcantic ash can metry as volcantic ash can todia is bracing for poten

harm aircraft engines due to its abrasive, glassifile particles that mell at high temperatures. When ash is ingested, it can melt on hot engine components, har-den into a glass-like substance, and stick to turbine blades. Airlines have also here adviced to report any suspected impact of ash on engine performance or



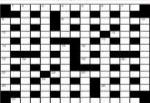
entered the Indian subcontinent from western Rajasthan, at

cabin smoke or odour. Airports too have been told to inspect runways for contamination and suspend or restrict flight oper-

pend of restrict thin oper-ations, if need be.
Large plantes of smoke were initially visible over kthiopia though the vol-canic eruption stopped. Af-ter travelling over Yemen and Oman, ass clouds on-

moving north east wards. Over the course of the night, they are expected to of the country and cross Delhi close to midnight, and travel over parts of Ut-tar Pradesh, parts of Bihar and in the North East over Nikkim and Aramachal Pra-

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SUDOKE





BY ALB' B' BB

Krishna's affirmation

Krishna's promise in the Blagavad Gibs is a brantiful re-minder of the Lord's care for His devotees, said Xwami Mi-transinski. The verse, 'Ananyash chinayania mem ye ja-nah par'yupasale teshani nifyabhiyuktanani ye-khemani wahanyahani, 'Gunslate's to, 'The personse who worship Me, and ever devoted to Me - to them I carry what they lack and for them I preserve what they already hew? Kristma highlights that those who are single-point-elly desented to Him, putting consistent effort to reach Him, will have their needs taken care of, 'Yoga' and 'leds-ma' refer to acquiring and preserving, respectively. The Lord promises to provide what is needed and protect

Lord promises to provide what is insided and protect what is discouly accipired.

Reflecting on our lives, we see that anxiety and femilion femilion for the property of the p or what they are going through-

Gavi, UNICEF ink deal to provide easy access to malaria vaccine

Bindu Shajan Perappadan NEW DELHI

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have announced a new agreement that it said will make the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccines significantly more accessible and affordable, paving the way for protecting more children.

The deal, executed by UNICEF, is expected to generate up to \$90 million in savings for Gavi and countries, equivalent to more than 30 million additional doses - enabling full vaccination of nearly seven million more children against malaria over the next five years. It is financed by Gavi through an advance payment, enabled by the innovative International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) mechanism.

The lower price of the vaccine – at \$2.99 per dose – is anticipated to take effect in approximately one year.

Gavi facilitates and finances the procurement, logistics, market shaping and integration of malaria vaccines into national immunisation programmes. To date, over 40 million doses of malaria vaccines



R21/Matrix-M was co-developed by the University of Oxford and Serum Institute of India. AP

have been delivered through the Gavi malaria vaccination programme and are now part of routine immunisation in 24 African countries that together represent more than 70% of the world's malaria burden.

UNICEF is the world's largest buyer of vaccines, delivering nearly three billion doses every year.

Prequalified vaccines

The WHO has prequalified two malaria vaccines todate: R2I/Matrix-M (co-developed by the University of Oxford and Serum Institute of India, leveraging Novavax's Matrix-M adjuvant technology) and RTS,S/ASOI (developed by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), PATH and partners).

1. What is the Agreement?

1.1 Parties Involved

- Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)

1.2 Purpose

- To make the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine:
 - More accessible
 - More affordable
 - Widely available for children in Africa & other malaria-endemic regions

2. Key Features of the Agreement

2.1 Cost Reduction

- Vaccine price reduced to \$2.99 per dose.
- Effective in about one year.

2.2 Financial Savings

- Expected savings: up to \$90 million for Gavi & countries.
- Equivalent to:
 - 30 million additional doses
 - Full vaccination of ~7 million children over next 5 years

2.3 Funding Mechanism

- Financed via:
 - Gavi advance payment
 - IFFIm (International Finance Facility for Immunisation) mechanism → innovative bond-based financing.

3. About the R21/Matrix-M Vaccine

3.1 Development

- Co-developed by:
 - University of Oxford
 - Serum Institute of India (SII)
- Contains Novavax's Matrix-M adjuvant for stronger immune response.

3.2 WHO Prequalification

- WHO has prequalified:
 - 1. R21/Matrix-M
 - 2. RTS,S/AS01 (GSK + PATH partnership)

4. Why is This Important?

4.1 Scale of Procurement

- Over 40 million doses delivered already via Gavi.
- Used in routine immunisation in 24 African countries.

4.2 Africa's Malaria Burden

- 24 African nations account for >70% of global malaria burden.
- Malaria kills over 600,000 people annually, mostly African children under 5.

4.3 UNICEF's Role

World's largest vaccine buyer → purchases 3 billion doses/year.

5. Gavi's Role

5.1 Core Responsibilities

- · Financing procurement
- · Logistics & cold chain
- · Market shaping
- Supporting integration into national immunisation programmes

5.2 Why Gavi involvement matters?

- · Drives down costs through volume-based purchase.
- Helps poor nations access life-saving vaccines.

6.1 Malaria Overview

- Caused by Plasmodium parasite (esp. P. falciparum).
- Transmitted by female Anopheles mosquito.

6.2 India-Specific Connection

- Serum Institute of India (Pune) plays key role → world's largest vaccine manufacturer.
- India's own malaria cases declining due to:
 - NVBDCP
 - Malaria-free India by 2030 target
 - National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination (2017–22, updated)

6.3 Global Health Governance

- IFFIm model:
 - Donor countries issue long-term bonds → funds used for vaccination today.
 - Ensures upfront money for urgent health needs.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine and the recent Gavi-UNICEF agreement:

- The R21/Matrix-M vaccine was co-developed by the University of Oxford and the Serum Institute of India.
- 2. UNICEF is the world's largest buyer of vaccines, procuring nearly three billion doses annually.
- 3. The agreement reduces the price of the R21/Matrix-M vaccine to below \$3 per dose.
- 4. RTS,S/AS01 and R21/Matrix-M are the only two malaria vaccines prequalified by WHO.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Bridging India's numeracy gap

Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) as the cornerstone of all future learning. The NIPUN Bharat Mission has translated this policy intent into action by focusing on learning outcomes rather than just inputs. Poundational learning outcomes – stagount for decades - have shown measurable Improvement, as confirmed by vernment as well as

government as wea as independent surveys. Despite these gains, numeracy continues to lag behind literacy of Education The Annual State of Education Report 2024 report shows that while 48.7% of Class 8 students while 48.7% of Class 8 students can read Baently, only 30.7% can solve a basic division problem — an 18th point gap. No State reports higher numeracy than Berney outcomes. This situation makes it sessential to examine numeracy more closely an the path to achieving foundational learning.

integrated learning The root of the numeracy problem The root of the numeracy proteins in the cumulative nature of mathematics. Unlike language learning, where partial comprehension allows some progress, math is hierarchical and builds on itself. A missed concept in the lower grades, such as place value, can make future concepts like addition and decimals exalble. As a result, once gaps form, they tend to widen over

raditional cyllabus-driven teaching worsens the issue, as it advances without ensuring that itudents have grasped earlier concepts. Research and field experience from Teaching at the Right Level, an approach developed by the NGO Pyatham. developed by the NGO Fratham, show that instruction must be aligned with a child's learning level rather than the curriculum. Without remedial interventions, grade-level teaching simply bypasses must learners, deepening sealing dispatilled. This gap is also evident in the disconnect between action in the



Jatin Goyal

strongthening

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support, introducing

Literacy and

and making math more connected to everyday life can transform India's carly gaths into lasting mimeracy

Numeracy: skills

Foundatio

learning and real-life application. A study by the Abdul Latif Jamed Poverty Action Lab shows that students who perform well on clasersmin math assessminis often struggle to apply that knowledge in real-life mathet attuation to Conversely, children engaged in real-world tasks, such as working in a shop, often find it difficult to tratufer those skills into classroom based math problems. This two-way disconnect underscores the need for integrated learning that brings real-life problem-solving into

The practical consequences of the numeracy gap are significant. Students who lack foundational students who lack from dational mureacy skills errugels in both math and actinics — subjects which math and actinics — subjects which math and actinics — subjects which math and actinics — seems from the properties of the proper higher education for many who can't pass Class 10 board exame or

A multi-pronged response Addressing this challenge calls for a multi-pringed response that builds on NIPUN's gains. The most argent step is to extend ventions up to Class 8, given that about 70% of Class 8 and more than 50% of Class 8 students are still unable to perform basic division, as per the ASER 2024 report. Limiting foundational interventions to Class 3 is inferventions to Class 3 is inadequate when upper primary children continue to only mit, many having lost crucial primary many having lost crucial primary in the primary lost of the primary in the primary lost of the primary Experiences from the Union Ferritory of Duchs and Ningar Havell and Taman and Dill, where extending PLN interventions into mitdle grades significantly improved outcomes as shown in

approach.
Alongside this extension, it is equally important to move beyond: "foundational" skills and "Toundational" state and introduce what may be called FLN+ skills – fractions, decimals percentages, ratios, and integers since these are critical for board exam success and later academic progression. ASES 2024's finding that nearly 20% of Class 8 studen cannot solve division suggests that an overwhelming majority also lack higher-level skills, such as

lack ingers and process for example, 2/3 = 1/2. This must change strongth a conserted effort, Pedagogy, too, must evolve, especially beyond the NIUDS hours, child-friendly, activity-based methods stready used for FLN should be adapted to be a seed on the process of the pedagogy. tised for FLN stituted be antispted of for higher-level concepts, ensuring traching aligns with students' actual learning levels rather than rigid grade-based syllabi. Finally, the classroom must connect more numeracy in real-life contexts and ncounging everyday vrablem solving, achoels can make learning not only more relevant but also more enduring. In conclusion, India's numeracy

gap is both widespread and deep intensifying as children progress through school. Its causes lie in mathematics and instructional approaches that fall to meet students where they are. The onsequences - poor learning outcomes, board exam failures and high dropout rates - three india's educational and econor future. The NIPUN Bharat Mission has already shown that foundational skills can improve a foundational skills can improve at unde with founded effort. The ness step is to build on these gains and extend success to upper primary levels and to FLN+ skills, especially in math. Boting so is not just an academic priority but a social and economic one – with there implements and provided and economic one – with there implements and provided and employability, and equity.

WHO

ATHORNERS LOS

The race for investments

Investors are flocking to Andhra Pradesh, triggering regional battles

centres for which he brought

can't be casually given away without assessing the out-come of incentives vis-a-vis the value of the jobs being

Andhra Pradesh

STATE OF PLAY

Karintaha accuse And-hra Fradesh of pursu-ing a 'race to the bottom' in-vestors are still gravitating iowards the Rate. At the CII Partnership Summit 2025 alone, Andhra Pradesh signed 613 Memoranda of Under-

613 Memorando of Drider-standing committing a total in-vestment of 13.38 lakt sover. Nome leaders in Karnataka and Tamil Buth thew, in the Dabu Nashiri-ed Anditra Pra-deals for offering land at ex-tremely low prices along with other heavy incentives to at tract insharios. These Mini-trat insharios. Them Mini-trat insharios. Them Mini-tration of the properties of a properties of the properties of a properties of the properties of a properties. althy competition among States by going to great

likely to have on the economy. The spat between Karnata-ka and Tamil Nadu with Andhra Pradesh began when Goo-gle announced a \$15 billion investment to set up a hyper-scale AI data centre in Visale hapatnam, Karnataka Minister Priyank Kharge dismissed as "baseless" reports that said that Google had chosen And-hra over Karnataka and added that the massive incentive package promised by the Natpackage promised by the Nai-du government to Google would result in a recommis-dinates. In response, Andhra Fraslesh IT Minister, Nava Lo-kesh, said that the Karmatak-kan the Naida of the Commission more about efficiency and fix-ing its problems instead of mucking Andhra Fraslesh. Mr. Lokesh has been fa-cused on attracting IT compa-nies and global Capability.

federal setup. He said all the investments finalised at the CII Summit were "serious", driving home the message that the Andbra government is doing its due diligence and no ing of MoUs. Top officials in the government have been as signed the job of following up

on each one of the proposals.

Karan Adani, the MD of
Adani Ports & SEZ Ltd., has
promised to invest El lakh in the LIFT (Land Incentive For Tech bulls) Policy, under for Tech hulid Policy, under which land is being leased out of joint by the per area. Moreon fastering announced for the per area. Kream fastering, announced the per area. Kream fastering, announced the per area. Kream fastering, announced instituted by investing essarby district by investing essarby district by investing essarby in the per area. Institutly shown interest in set-ing up the usua in a ramin Nada, and the per area. T.R.B. Rajas commented on the development on social media. He said, "Investment the development on social media, the said, "Investment everyday game, it's about the crore in Andhra Pradeah in the nest 10 years. GMR Group Chairman G. Mallikarjuna Rac the development on social media, the said, "Investment and media, the said, "Investment the CII Summits belancing the Silvar need for certain nectors, join that will enter the certain nectors, join that will griven according to the area in which the investment is anything the control of the certain properties of the properties of lugs tracts of article lands, sittle search and the certain properties of the certain search and the cer captains of Indian industry

investment of approximately 64.55 lakh crore during the CD Partnership Summit in 2016: 583 MoUs for \$8.19 lakh crore the votice of the jobs butter.

Created, We will not jobs the
correctated, we will not jobs the
correctated by well not jobs the
unrealistic packages. Meanwhile, former precident of the
lift in Tamil Nada, K., Annakill, R. (2000) and the projects difficultion of the National Projects and the
Company of the projects difficultions, Mr. Natha and in a press
most at the CEI Summit that
States should compare in a
best to attract investments.

Widely quoted WHO norm of 1 doctor per 1,000 people is not official

The benchmark was repeatedly used by the government to compare doctor availability in India over the last decade

DATA POINT

Devvanshi Bihani

he indian government of-ten cites the World Health Organization (WHO)'s "benchmark" of one doctor for every 1,000 people. However, this is not a standard officially prescribed

by the WHO.

Parliament Question and Answer records show that until at least 2010, the government maintained that the WHO had not prescribed.

used this benchmark to compare destor availability in India. Since relying solely on registered allo-pathic dectors pushed the doctor-population ratio above the 14,000 hmark, the government opt-include AYUSH practitioners as well, lowering the final ratio. Senably, while calculating the ratio for allopathic doctors, the govern-ment used only 80% of them, as only this proportion can be consi-dered "available". However, when it came to AVUSH dectors, they did

not apply the availability factor.

Chart I shows these doctor-population ratio calculations arced from various Lok Subha

tribution to any source within the WHO. Subsequently, it was cross-cited without verification and used by Parliament in its responses too.

seed without verification and used.

Dr. Kiran Kinniblas, a public health expert and a historian of meeticine and haulticare in india, said that there is "absolutely as in discussion and the recommendation". According to Dr. Kumbar's attive in 'Whe India Param, and a country of india "white has a been a superior of the account of India "white has a country of india "white has a country of the india could and projected that India could within the Witto did not refer to the 1,000 and to the the superior and the s

While the WIC did not refer to the 1:L000 ratio in to response, the global basely auted that there are some global baselmarks used to monitor global health worker needs, and as the Sustainable De-velopment closis (800) composite index threshold, which is the most recent one. "It consists of the esti-mated number of skilled health workers needed to reach the minimum proportion of achievement of high coverage, defined as 80% or above for 12 selected health in-

opposition rather calculations and fight accreening, defined as 80% per composition of the composition because ratios should be desirable to the composition of the c

hariya, a former staff member of the WHO. The number, he ex-plained, was initially referenced as a WHO-vecommended norm in some cademic papers when at seminary paper when at

distribution." he said.

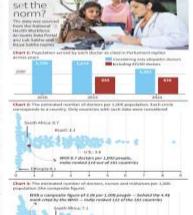
Mr. Zadey argued that esparate
figures for doctors are often clied
to pastly the need for more medical colleges. "In the last 10 years,

cal colleges, "in the last 10 years," we have seen that this number has become political, it is being wearpointed. by the Arbeit substitution of the properties of the Arbeit substitution of the party included in the party included. It is a consistent of the party in the party

ing ratios per thousand popula-tion." he said.

The WHO response stated that the latest estimates for the compo-sits and individual figures can be accessed from the National Health Workforce Assonitts than Portal Chart 2 plots the estimated num-ber of doctors per 1,000 popula-tion and Chart 3 plots the estimated number of doctors, nurses and midwives per 1,000 population the composite figure) using the latest data for countries where

they are available.
With 0.7 doctors per 1,000 pes-ple, India ranked tilk out of tilt countries in Chart 2. With a com-



0 2 4 6 6 10 12 14 16 10 20 22 24 26 20 20

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Mindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO ROVEMBER 25, 1975

Ike and Kennedy knew of CIA plots'

Washington, Nov. 24. A key figure in the investigation of the Cantral Intelligence Agency has said he believes that both Presidents Dwight Electilization and All School Cantral Intelligence Agency Elections and John Konnedy were aware of the Cathan Prime Missiers, Mr. Fidel Castro. Mr. David Beilin, former Essecutive Director of the Catha Cantral C

were "not naive".

Mr. Belin added the 347-page report issued. last Thursday by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence appeared to be "a thurningh job" but he felt it west "easy on past Presidents and their knowledge of assassination plots*

"There is avidence in conflict about their knowledge because they were in sophisticated Washington, not the histerlands," he said.

Mr. Belin, who has served as a senior member of the Warren Commission which investigated the assessination of President Konnedy, called for a Congressional enquiry into the report. He said he thought the probe would bear out the Commission finding that Lee Harvey Oswald alone killed President Kennedy and that lack Ruby also was acting alone when he killed

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO HOVEMBER 28, 1928 Egyptian politics

Cairo, Nov. 24: All ligyptian provinces, with one or two exceptions, have sent the letters to king road declaring that they units with the nation in parliamentary life, if this is not granted it will cause unreal which the provinces know does not accord with this Majesty's wishes. Opposition groups are protesting aignlant the intention of the Ministry to promulgiate a new electronal law declaring that the old pollutioner most stand.

1. Core Issue: Misquoted WHO Benchmark

- 1.1 Government repeatedly cites WHO's "1 doctor per 1,000 population" norm.
 - BUT → WHO has no official recommendation for doctor-population ratios.
 - WHO clarified to The Hindu:

"WHO does not provide recommendations for health-worker population ratios at country level."

2. What Records Show (2010-2024)?

2.1 Before 2010

Govt said no WHO-prescribed ratio exists.

2.2 After 2015

- Replies to Parliament quietly began citing the 1:1,000 ratio as a benchmark.
- This ratio has no documented WHO source.

5. WHO's Actual Guidance

5.1 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Composite Index

- WHO uses 4.45 doctors + nurses + midwives per 1,000 population as a composi
- This is based on staffing needs to achieve high coverage for 12 essential health in

5.2 WHO Statement

- Ratios should be determined by:
 - Country's health labour market
 - Disease burden
 - Individual needs
- Not a universal fixed number.

India's Current Performance

6.1 Doctors Only

0.7 doctors per1,000 population(allopathic only).

India ranks 118
out of 181
countries.

6.2 Composite (Doctors + Nurses + Midwives)

India = **3.06 per 1,000**

Behind the WHO benchmark (4.45).

India ranks **122/181**.

- Why the Ratio Itself Is Misleading
- 8.1 Unequal Distribution
- Even with a good national ratio, rural and tribal regions remain severely underserved.
- 8.2 Skill Mix Matters
- Doctors alone do not solve the health gap.
- Nurses and midwives play crucial roles in primary care.
- 8.3 Trend
- India has always had **fewer doctors**, but only after the "1:1,000" myth spread did the issue become politicised.

- Consider the following statements about the doctor—population ratio in India and WHO standards:
- The World Health Organization officially prescribes a 1:1,000 doctor-population ratio for all countries.
- The WHO's most recent benchmark for health worker density is 4.45 doctors, nurses, and midwives per 1,000 population.
- India's composite health worker density (doctor + nurse + midwife) currently meets the WHO benchmark.
- The Medical Council of India's 'Vision 2015' report is the earliest known Indian document mentioning the 1:1,000 target.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. 2 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 3 only



across years

Considering only allopathic doctors

1,700

1,674

Including AYUSH doctors

1000

855

836

Chart 2: The estimated number of doctors per 1,000 population. Each circle corresponds to a country. Only countries with such data were considered

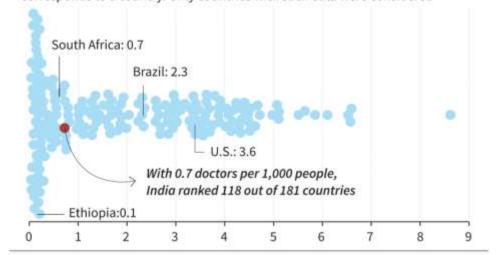


Chart 2: The estimated number of doctors per 1,000 population. Each circle corresponds to a country. Only countries with such data were considered

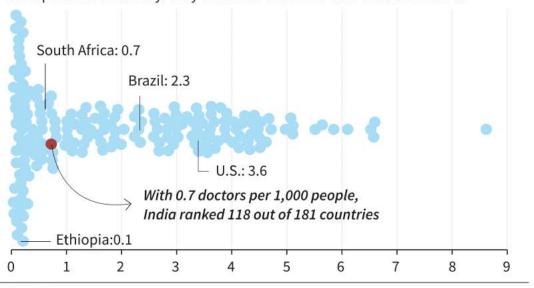
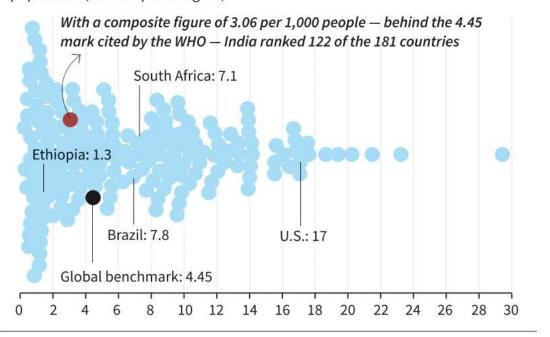


Chart 3: The estimated number of doctors, nurses and midwives per 1,000 population (the composite figure)



NO COMPULSION

I am happy to bat wherever the team wants me: Washington



durigion Sumifier, who placed at tick it in Kolkara, barbod at tio. It

IN HINDSTORT

I would rather get caught on the boundary than get out defending



aren Januari, who made this and took six wickers, and he rund missing a century after chooping the ball order to the true!

missing a century after chooping the ball order the starrings while
trying to guide the half in the sign region. The rever learn in the title
in Friet Clear schied, so these necessar. The reset from the
cought on the learneds than defending or bying to push for a one!

ON YOR OF THE WORLD. India women clinch second straight Kabaddi World Cup



The tridlen women's hebuild: team on Monday secured its second

INSPIRATIONAL. PM Modi hails the Indian blind women's team's T20 WC triumph



nime Minister fearunds a Modi on Monday congretulated the Indian

Pedestrian India implodes as Jansen breathes fire

The left-arm pacer's six-wicket haul helps the Proteas bowl out the host for 201; Washington and Kuldeep battle it out but South Africa holds the upper hand; Bavuma doesn't enforce the follow on

BA IN INDIA

5. Dirak Baguy.

uideep Vaday, on doy two, called the pitch at the ACA stadium a "road" after South Africa amassed 489.

South Africa amained 499, A day later, though, India's batters made the 22-yard strip look for more menac-ing than it actually was. A 48 minute passage of

its vice-like grip on the se-cund and final Test.

For the second day in succession, it was Marco

tansen who starred for the visitors, scalping six wick-ets (19.5-5-48-6) to help

bowl out India for 201.

Despite a healthy 266run lead, Tentia Bayuma did not enforce the follow-on. South Africa went to strongs on 28 for no loss in its second easily and is about by 214 ahead by 314.

Double act

Double act Janien, whose quickfire 93 in the first limiting iswelled the Protess' hotal, made full use of his height to bosine out the Indian batters. Resuming at nine for no loss, the home team need-ed to mix caution and ag-gression to accure a posi-

tive outcome in this fixture and level the series. In stead, fudia imploded, los-ing six wickets for 27 runs

ing as wickets for 27 time in 11.1 overs, going from this for one to 122 for seven. The hosts, though, start-ed positively with openers Yashaswi Jaiswal and K.L. Rahed adding 65 in quick time. Jaiswal wasted in time in attacking the spin-ners and brought out the sweep, collecting two



*COREBOARD

BOUTH APRICA - 19T INNINGS

HIDDA — 18T IMMINGS Vashesivi Jaiswat C Janson Is Harmer 58 (976, 7e4, 2e6), K.L. Harmot Sit (970), 7rd, 18th, N.L. Fohial & Markaran Markaran 28 (626, 284), R. Set Sudharan 28 Richaltan In Harmot AS (80), 284) (Printy Journ & Maharan II Janesi 1 (111a), Rishakh Parel a Varrayesse.

boundaries and a six en

route his half-century. Just as India was motoring slong at nearly line an over, Keshav Maharaj got one to spin and jump to hit

(N/b. Zerl. Lett. Wuldeep Yoday C Markrain b Jansen in (734b, 3ed), Jansen B (37b, 2ed), Maharrenad

James B (JTE, Joel), Michaermani Beng (not out 8 (90%), Settem (Bo-0, nb-1), 9, Total (er BLB overs); 201. FALL OF WHITE TS

1-01 (Rehut, 21.5 protec), 2-01 (James), 35.21, 1-96 (for Bulleria, 35.21, 1-96 (for Bulleria, 36.21, 1-96 (for 85.8), 5-105 (Paris, 87.2), 5-118 (Miller, 42.6), 7-122 Cheleja, 42.2), 6-104 (Washington, 76.1), 9-104

Ryan Hiskelton (hatting) 13 (28b. Jol), Anton Markram (hatting) Tâ (63b, Joh), Estras (h-1): 1; Total Bor nu less in eight evers): 20. SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING

the aboulder of Rahul's but, with Alden Markeam grabbing an easy one at alige the first of his five catches. The South African

INDIA BOWLING Burnah 3-0-13-0, Svai 3-1-9-0, Judga 1-0-2-0, Kulding 1-0-2-0. through the air and found more purchase than then Indian counterparts, with the turn and bourse keep-ing the batters guessing.

Jansen 19.5-5-48-e, Mulder 20-5-14-9, Maharay 35-1-30-3, Harmer 27-5-54-3, Markrain 20-1-26-9, Muthusamy 2-5-2-0.

SOUTH AFRICA

- IND HOUNGS

Around 20 minutes before tea, Simon Harmer gor into action, laboval, batting well on 58, was surprised by a delivery from the offspinner that bounced a tack more and found the leading edge. Jansen complet-ed a good catch diving forward.

Flurry of wickets
B. Sai Sudbarsan, back in
Ro. 3, failed to capitalise
out the opportunity, pulling
a long-hop from Harmer to
short-midwicket.
In the lair over before
the break, Dhruy Jurel inexplicably tried to pull jansen from outside off-stump

and was snapped up at mid-on.
Having lost three wick-sts in 20 balls, India need-ed to be a bit was first, but skipper Rishabh Pant charged down to larsen and nicked it behind while and nicked it behind while

attempting a wild heave.
The left arm pacer then
removed Nitish Kumar and Lavindra Jadeja in consec-utive overs, both caught in the cordon trying to fund well-directed short-pitched

well-dusc tool stool principal.

By the time the lastley
left-armer finished this accord spell (6.48-4), infals
cord spell (6.48-4), infals
the condition of the condition of the
the condition of the condition
there, wealthington standar
(400 and Kuldeep Yashev
topped a 72-run alliance for
the condition of the condition
to No. 8 from No. 3, gave a
good account of his stering
topped account of his stering
time of the condition
time of t duo showed great applica-tion while stitching a vital

both write effecting a visit of the first see in the firs

200

Today was one of those

days when everything clicked, says Jansen

At 6'8", South Africa's Mar-At 6 3°, South Africa's Mar-co Janean is a towering fi-gure. On Monday, he stood tall for his country, finish-ing with a rousing six-wick-et haul on day three of the second Test here.

Height an advantage His high-arm release and the ability to generate awk-ward bounce from a slight-by fuller length leaves bat-ters suffocating as India food out.

found out.

The 25-year-old put the bouncer to good use, which gave him four of his six wickets.

tioing with the flow

"To be honest, we just said we're going to try. It wasn't nipping as much as in Rol-

yeah, it just came off," said Innsen. The left-arm pacer was

also pleased to have finally found success in India, which he felt had been a difficult place for him in

difficult place for him in the past.

"I have always struggled bowling in India, whether is was white ball or red ball.
"I am Jealous of people who are short and can get the ball to squat and out back. Since I'm se tall, for me it goes over the stumps," he sedded.

Extract more "At the same time, when there's a wicket with a bit of pace and bounce, then I get to extract more out of

"I have tried to learn what's going to work for me and help me perform to the best of my ability. Today was just one of those days I got the pace and the bounce out of the wicket... everything elicked. As a player, you take those days and run with it".

It was a good wicket... there were runs to be made, says Washington

Dipak Bagas

With the series on the lise, todia finals theri in deep trouble after another dis-appointing batting perfor-mance against south Africa here on Monday Having been bowled out the 201, all rounder Washington Sunder admitted there pitch and felt there were rune to be made. runs to be made.

"It was a very good wicket and a true wicket. You don't often get to bat on such tracks, especially in India. If you apend time, there are runs to be made," said Washington, who was

and this high Part per labed to expansive show when the situation needed a calpart of the situation needed a calaskend if there were prior plants to be aggressive and score of a belish pace. Washsuch targets.

"If we worse in a consaria where we that lost only where we that lost only the such targets of the situation of t Batters like Dhruy turel

as to how much we needed to get today," he said. But the 26-year-old defunded the shot selection the stands, and we would have appreciated and

Wei, Sindarov settle for a 50-move draw | Next decade will be for sports in India: Bindra

CHESS WORLD CLP

P.K. Aith Kumar

It was perhaps only fitting that Abbinay Bindra made the ceremonial opening move at the Chess World Cup on Monday, Like chess, shooting too is a

lonely sport.
It was the first game of mind game's calendar, and india's first seer individual gold medallist at the Olym-pics made the first move for Javokhir Sindarov, tak-ing the 'e' pawn two squares forward at Resort Bio.

A little earlier, while talking to reporters, the ar-ticulate Bindra had said that he was more of a tol-lower of choss players and than the game itself. For



the garmet inflowers, who are growing in numbers rapully in that, there may be a coming face to face in the classical format. The
excitement in the final's
fract encounter.

But is had its moments
before We and Sindarov
after 80 moves, the oppoafter 80 moves, the oppoafter 80 moves, the oppoafter 80 moves, the first time
that was the first time
that was the first time
more to play for.

The stakes are high in the other match, too. And Andrey Esipenko, after making that terrible blunbutter.

The Russian beat Nodir-bek Yakubboev to take a 1-O lead in the third-place

played.
This time, playing from
the white side of a Neilhan
befence (Pour Enighto, he
was the beneficiary of
some weak moves under
time pressure from his op-pount, in a rook-and-minot-piece ending. The Usbelt reagined on the 3deh
pole to the side of the side of the side
to lose his length.

The results:

He ended a country's em-barrassingly long wait in 2008. Abbinav Bindra, who won India's first indivictual gold medal at the flatjing Olympics, believes the world's biggest Games have to come to India one

"I think there is no desired the the Olympic Games will come to findia," add Blindra, who was here to make the caremonal opening mose of the Chees World Cap final, "I think is only a matter of time. The Games will eventually come." come."
It is a good thing that
we are hidding that the
2036 Olympical and we are
going into that journey," he
said.



heating the Camma. Meal bids will fail."

'The former shooter feels it is important that in-dis uses the bid well. "If we win, fantastic, but even if we don't get it, sport must win and must go forward."

"I think there are dos-ble-digit countries that are currently interested in like the sports governance bill. There is a little bit more sense of purpose

hosting the Games. Most

he said.
"We are already seeing signs of that happening,

which we are seeting all around. The is bupeful of india's future in sport. "I believe that the next de-tended in the control of the for sport in this country," he said.

"Sport will develop more. We are seeing that large desmographic, the consumption, whether prophe are just watching as spectuator of actively parti-

I think there is no doubt that the Olympic Games think it is only a matter of time. The Games will

cipating in it, that number rising." Biodra said more people

Birdira said more people should play.

"When children get more opportunities in schools, to experience playing, just not in become some champion or ollympic gold medallist, just the experience of aport is needed to become healthirt, and imbibe values," he said.

"When these opportuni-ties increase, automatically the by-product, that is, par-ticipation in ellic sports will also increase".

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

India women clinch second straight Kabaddi World Cup



SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Indian women's kabaddi team on Monday secured its second consecutive World Cup title with a 35-28 win over Taiwan in Dhaka. India emerged on top in a tournament involving 11 countries. India had beaten Iran 33-21 to enter the summit clash. Taiwan, on the other hand, defeated hosts Bangladesh 25-18 in the semifinals.

Men [edit]

Year 2004 details	Host Mumbai	Final			Third place			
		Champions India	Score 55-27	Runner-up	Third place			
					Bangladesh	I ◆I Canada		
2007 details	Panvel	India	29–19	= Iran	Bangladesh	• Japan		
2016 details	Ahmedabad	India	38–29	== Iran	: South Korea	Thailand		
2025 details	TBD							

Women [edit]

Year	Host	Final			Third alone	
		Champions	Score	Runner-up	Third place	
2012 details	Patna	India	25–19	== Iran	• Japan	Thailand
2025 details	Dhaka	India	35–28	Chinese Taipei	= Iran	Bangladesh

rru as al as ne d-ty vid ed in ve s. ng es et

India, France to jointly manufacture HAMMER air-to-ground weapons

India had ordered munition to equip Rafales amid 2020 China standoff

Amrita Nayak Dutta

New Delhi, November 24

INDIA'S STATE-OWNED Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and French firm Safran Electronics and Defence (SED) Monday signed a joint venture cooperation agreement (JVCA) for the production of Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range (HAMMER) smart precision Guided air-toground weapons in India.

The development is crucial

because India previously ordered this weapon system, along with other armaments, from France to equip its Rafale fighter jets through the emergency procurement route in 2020 during standoff with China in eastern Ladakh. There were subsequent plans to procure more of this weapon system to arm the Rafale jets and the indigenously-made Light Combat Aircraft, Tejas.

Also known as a glide bomb, HAMMER precision-guided

munitions have a range of up to 70 km and can be fitted to standard bombs of 250kg, 500kg, 1,000kg weights.

The all-weather weapon is insensitive to jamming and can be launched from low altitude over rough terrains. What makes it an effective weapon is that it is difficult to intercept and can penetrate fortified structures.

HAMMER is a precisionguided weapon system known for its high accuracy and modular design, making it adaptable for multiple platforms.

According to a Defence Ministry statement, the agreement formalises the intent expressed in the pact signed between BEL and SED during Aero India on February 11 this year, reaffirming the willingness of both sides to incorporate a potential joint venture company in India.

"The JVC shall be formed as a private limited company with 50:50 shareholding. It will localise the manufacturing, supply and maintenance of HAMMER to meet the operational needs of the Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy," the statement said. It said the indigenisation level will progressively increase up to 60 per cent with key sub-assemblies, electronics and mechanical parts being manufactured locally.





- What Has Happened?
- 1.1 Joint Venture Cooperation Agreement (JVCA) Signed
- Between:
 - India's Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
 - France's Safran Electronics & Defence (SED)
- Purpose: Joint manufacturing of HAMMER (Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range) air-to-ground precision-guided weapons in India.
- 1.2 Significance
- Strengthens India—France defence partnership.
- Boosts India's defence indigenisation under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

- Why Is This Important?
- 2.1 India Previously Ordered HAMMER in 2020
- Amid the **standoff with China in Eastern Ladakh**, India procured HAMMER for Rafale jets.
- Ordered via emergency procurement route.
- 2.2 Future Requirements
- India plans to equip:
 - Rafale jets (IAF & Navy)
 - LCA Tejas (indigenous fighter)
- — with HAMMER munitions for precision strike capability.

What Is HAMMER?

3.1 Nature of Weapon

- •A precision-guided glide bomb.
- •Fully modular: interchangeable seekers, warheads, range boosters.

3.2 Key Features

- •Range: Up to 70 km.
- •Can be dropped from **low altitude** over rugged terrain.
- •Designed to be **jam-proof** (high EW resistance).
- •Can fit standard bombs of:
 - 250 kg
 - 500 kg
 - 1,000 kg

3.3 Uses

- Penetrates fortified structures.
- •Difficult to intercept.
- •Works in all weather conditions.
- •Highly accurate for:
 - Bunkers
 - Enemy infrastructure
 - High-value targets

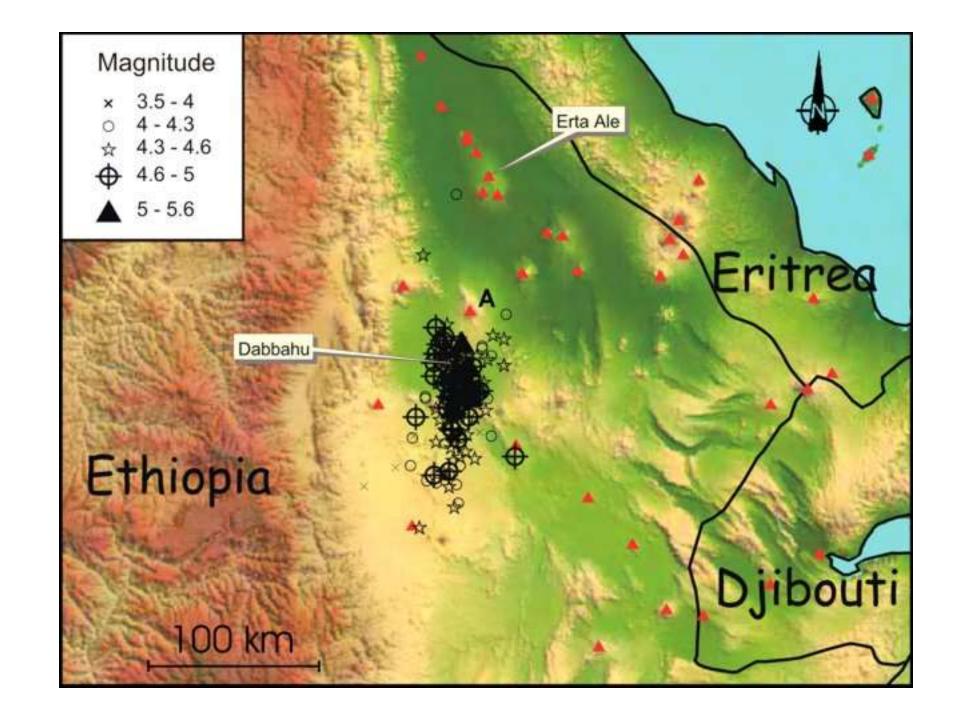
The Joint Venture (JV) Structure 4.1 Shareholding New JV = **50:50** partnership between BEL & SED. **4.2 Objectives** Localise: Manufacturing Supply Maintenance Meet operational needs of: • Indian Air Force (IAF) • Indian Navy **4.3 Indigenisation Target** Indigenisation level will increase **up to 60%**, especially in: • Sub-assemblies • Electronics Mechanical modules

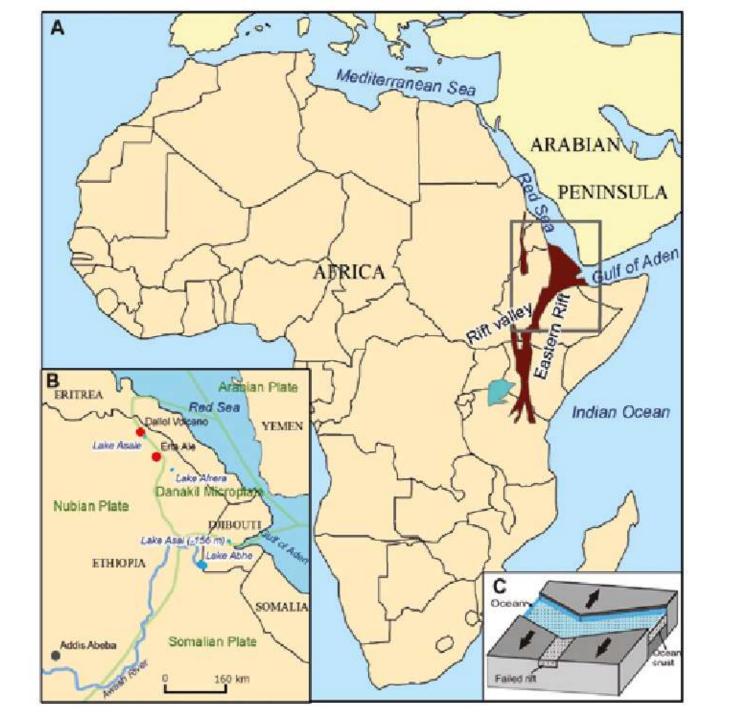
Indo-French Defence Partnership

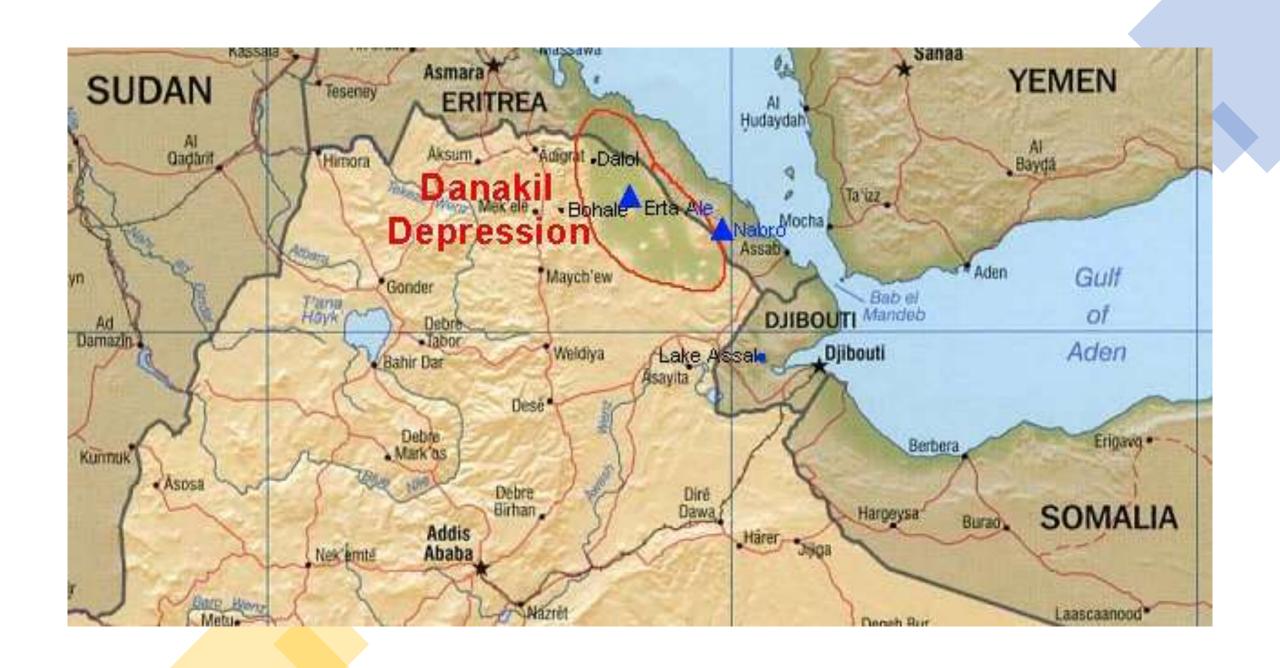
- Includes:
 - Rafale jets
 - Scorpene submarines (Kalvari-class)
 - Shakti & SAKSHAM radar systems
 - Upcoming Rafale-M for Navy
 - Joint production of jet engines (talks ongoing)
- 5.2 Why It Matters for India
- Reduces dependency on imports (France).
- Ensures steady supply of munitions even during crises.
- Supports export potential of LCA Tejas when armed with HAMMER.

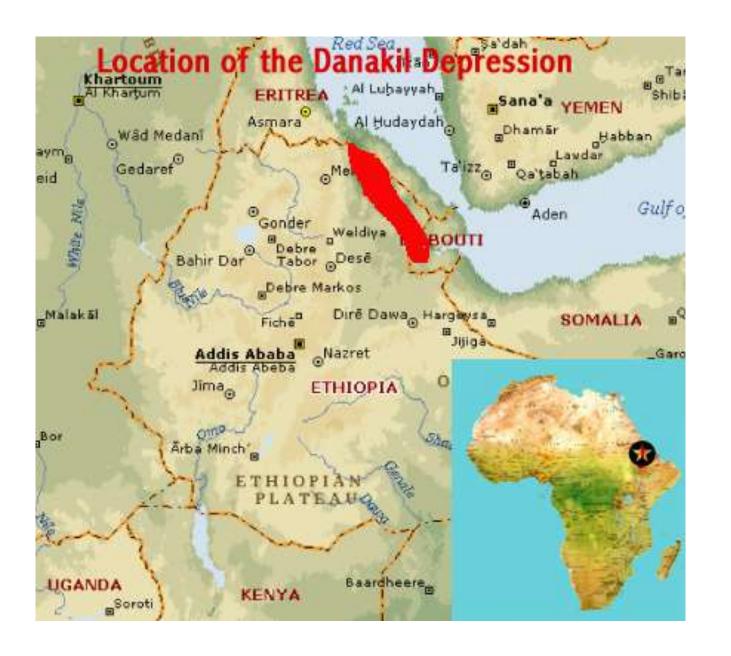
- Consider the following statements regarding the HAMMER air-to-ground weapon system and the new India–France JV:
- HAMMER is an all-weather precision glide bomb with a range of up to 70 km.
- The new joint venture between BEL and Safran Electronics & Defence will have a 60:40 shareholding in favour of India.
- HAMMER can be integrated with both India's Rafale aircraft and the indigenous LCA Tejas.
- The indigenisation level for HAMMER components is expected to progressively increase to about 60%.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- A. 1, 3 and 4 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 2 and 4 only

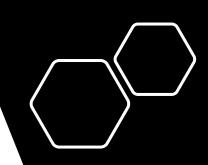
Ethiopia – Hayli Gubbi Volcano Eruption











Location

Hayli Gubbi volcano, Afar Region, Ethiopia; ~800 km northeast of Addis Ababa; near Eritrea border.

Event Date Eruption on **23 November 2025**.

Dormancy Period Last eruption **12,000 years ago** \rightarrow First known eruption since the **Holocene** began (\approx 11,700 years ago).

Type of Eruption Ash plume up to **14 km** high; thick volcanic ash emitted.

Geological Setting

Part of the East African Rift System (EARS) – a divergent plate boundary where Africa is splitting into Nubian Plate & Somali Plate.

Significance Rare Holocene eruption; reactivation of long-dormant volcano indicates tectonic stress accumulation in the Rift Valley.

Countries Affected by Ash Yemen, Oman, Somalia – ash drift confirmed.

Risk Alerts Aviation authorities issued alerts due to ash clouds reaching flight paths.

Regional Monitoring Monitored by Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC).

Nearby Features

Afar Depression (Danakil Depression)—one of the hottest places on Earth; hosts active volcanoes like Erta Ale.

Volcano Type Rift-associated volcanic system (likely basaltic fissure volcano).

Holocene Relevance

Holocene epoch = last 11,700 years; no recorded activity during this entire period until 2025.

International Ramifications

Potential impact on Red Sea shipping, aviation routes, and regional climate (short-term).

Environmental Impact

Ash deposition affecting crops, air quality; potential acid rain; possible short-term temperature cooling over region.

Mapping Angle (Important for East African countries with active volcanoes: Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Prelims)

Tanzania.

- Which of the following statements correctly explains the significance of the Hayli Gubbi volcanic eruption of 2025?
- It marks the first recorded eruption of the volcano during the entire Holocene epoch.
- The volcano lies on the convergent boundary between African and Arabian plates.
- The ash plume reached up to 14 km and drifted over multiple West Asian countries.
- It is part of the East African Rift System, where the African Plate is splitting

India's Ultra-Processed Food Market

Theme	Key Points (From Article)	/ Extra Facts	
Why in News?	India witnessing fastest global rise in Ultra- Processed Food (UPF) sales. UPF market grew from USD 0.9 bn (2006) → USD 38 bn (2019) (≈40-fold).	India's food retail shift: rise of e-commerce, quick-commerce, modern trade. Linked to urbanisation +dual-income households.	
What are UPFs?	Industrial formulations with manufactured ingredients, preservatives, additives; not natural whole foods.	Based on NOVA Classification (Brazil). UPFs ar Category 4: highest processing level.	
Common UPFs	Soft drinks, chips, chocolates, ice-cream, sweetened cereals, packaged soups, ready-to-eat/heat meals.	India's top UPF categories: salty snacks, biscuits, soft drinks, instant noodles.	
Health Link	Rapid dietary transition → rise in obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases.	India = "Diabetes Capital of the World": 100+ million diabetics (ICMR 2023). UPFs linked to gut microbiome damage (Lancet).	
Economic Insights	Massive market expansion due to FMCG growth, food delivery apps, aggressive marketing targeting youth.	India is world's 3rd largest snack market . Packaged food penetration rising at 12–14% annually.	

Nutrition Concerns	High sugar, salt, unhealthy fats → risk of childhood obesity.	NFHS-5: Childhood obesity rising from 2.1% → 3.9% . India also faces "double burden": undernutrition + overnutrition.	
Public Health Impact	UPFs linked to mental health issues, hormonal imbalance, gut dysbiosis.	WHO recommends limiting processed food; India's Eat Right India mission promotes fresh/local foods.	
FSSAI Framework	FSSAI focuses on labelling, trans-fat elimination, front-of-pack nutrition labelling (FoPNL—under discussion).	India eliminated industrial trans fats in 2022 (≤2%).	
Policy Concerns	Lack of regulation on advertising to children, unclear labelling, tax gaps (soft drinks taxed but many UPFs not).	Countries with strong regulation: Chile, Mexico, UK (sugar tax). India may adopt similar FoPNL 'warning label' system.	
Dietary Transition	Shift from traditional diets → packaged foods.	Linked to India's rapid urbanisation & changing lifestyle patterns.	





- Supreme decision-making body of UNFCCC
- Meets every year (unless the Parties decide otherwise)
- Meets in Bonn, the Secretariat (unless a Party offers to host the session)
- First COP held in Bertin, Germany (1995)

COPs and Their Major Outcomes

COP 3 (1997)

Kyoto, Japan

Adopted Kyoto Protocol (legally binded developed countries to reduce emission targets)

COP7 (2001)

Marrakech, Morocco

Marrakech Accords signed (set stage for ratification of Kyoto Protocol)

COP 8 (2002) New Delhi, India

Delhi Declaration (development needs of the poorest countries)

COP 13 (2007)

Bali, Indonesia

Bali Road Map and Bali action plan

COP 19 (2013) Warsaw, Poland

 Warsaw Framework for REDD Plus

 Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

COP 18 (2012) Doha, Qatar

Doha Amendment to Kyoto Protocol (reducing GHG emissions by 18% compared to 1990 levels)

COP 16 (2010)

Cancun, Mexico

- Cancun Agreements

 (assist developing nations in dealing with Climate Change)
- Estd: Green Climate Fund

COP 15 (2009)

Copenhagen, Denmark

Developed countries pledged up to \$30 billion in fast-start finance (for 2010-12)

COP 21 (2015) Paris, France

- Paris Agreement (global temp. well below 2°C above pre-industrial times)
- Climate finance by rich countries (yearly \$100bn funding pledge)

COP 26 (2021)

Glasgow, UK

- India announced Net Zero Targets 2070
- India called for "phase-down" of coal-based power
- Glasgow Breakthrough Agenda (by 41 countries + India)

COP 28 (2023)

Dubai, UAE

- USD 700 mn pledged by UAE, Germany, UK, EU, & Japan for the Loss & Damage Fund
- Phase out fossil fuels to achieve net zero by 2050
- Reach 11,000 GW of RE by 2030
- 66 nations to cut cooling emissions by 68% by 2050
- Triple global nuclear energy capacity by 2050
- India led Initiatives at COP 28:

O face a make a make a land a land

- Green Credit Initiative: Issues credits for ecofriendly actions like planting on degraded lands
- LeadIT 2.0: Supports fair industry transitions

COP 27 (2022)

Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt

- Loss & Damage Fund
- USD 3.1bn plan for early warning systems
- G7-led 'Global Shield Financing Facility' for countries suffering climate disasters
- African Carbon Market Initiative
- Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience (AWARe) initiative
- Mangrove Alliance (in partnership with India)
- India's Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy

an average (%) Packaged food Packaged beverages Fast Food 26.8 Street Food Sweets Concentrate based beverages 29.6 Note: (i) Packaged Food: Chips, instant noodles, chocolates and ice-creams; (ii) Packaged Beverages: Carbonated beverages (soft drinks), Juice-based packaged beverages & Milk-based packaged beverages like sweet lassi; (iii) Fast Food: Fries, pizzas, etc. from fast food outlets; (iv) Street Food: Chaat, samosa, etc; (v) Sweets: Cake, pastry, mithai, etc; (vi) Concentrate-based beverages: sherbats, squash, etc. Balanced diet takes a hit Respondents (%) 6-7 days/ week but less times Less than 6 days/week Average < 2 times/day Cereals & Millets Vegetables 5.0 Milk & milk products 11.0 Fruits Pulses (Vegetarians) 9.1 Pulses, Eggs, Meat & fish (Non-vegetarians) Note: Less times means: (i) Cereals 1-2 times/tay; (ii) Vegetables and Milk & milk products: 1 time/day; (iii) Pulses (for vegetarians): 1 time/day Limitation: For non-vegetarians, data does not capture

40.3

24.3

the spread of the intake of pulses, eggs, meat & fish

and only relies on average no, of times per day

41.4

40.0

43.5

64.9

64.3

49.0

Fact of the High on packaged food items FAD Those consuming more than once a week on

The recent online survey by the Centre for Science and Environment shows that schoolchildren are increasingly consuming packaged food products, high in fat, salt or sugar

girls consume protein-rich food less frequently; 42% eat vegetables less often

boys consume protein-rich food less frequently; 47% eat vegetables less often

| High the screen time, higher the unhealthy diet

Children who consume fast food & packaged food at least once a day

> 72.8 of those with a screen-time of over 2 hours/

43.9 of those with a screen-time of less than 2 hrs/day

High the screen time, lesser the physical activity

Children who have sedentary lifestyle

28.8 of those with a screen-time of over 2 hours/day

17.2% of those with a screen-time of less than 2 hrs/day

Note for 4 & 5: Screen-time is time spent in (i) watching television; (ii) browsing the internet for recreation



Peer pressure, compelling ads, lead to a change in habit

Respondents (%)



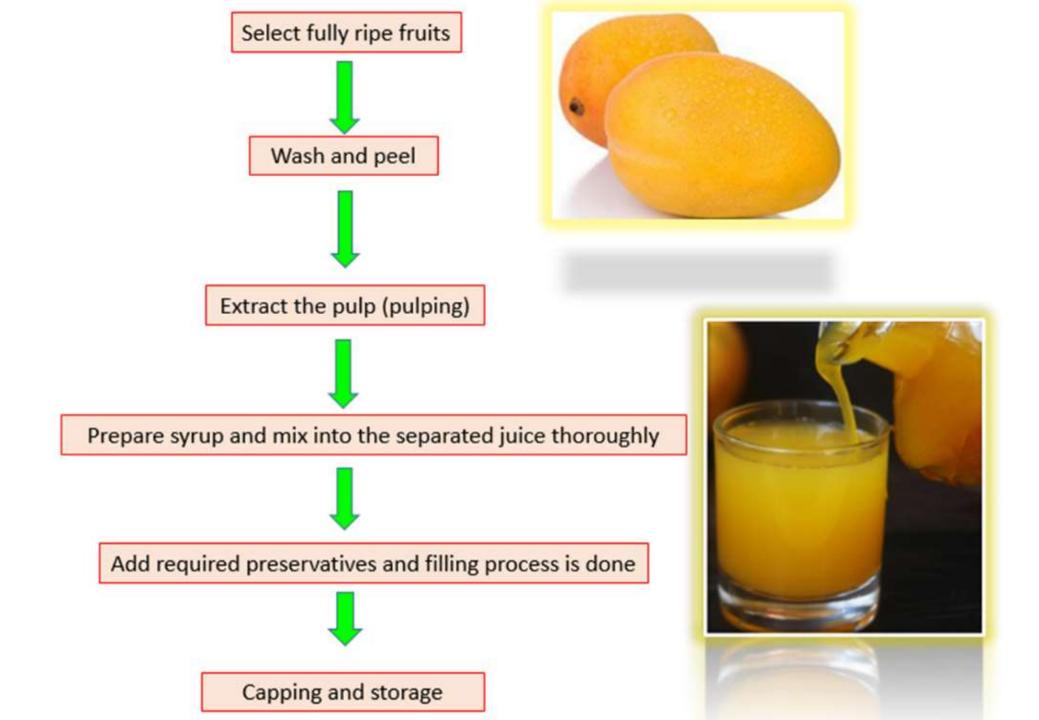
When school serves junk

Carbonated beverages

% of children who have packaged food & beverages over twice a week consume at school, or buy from or near school

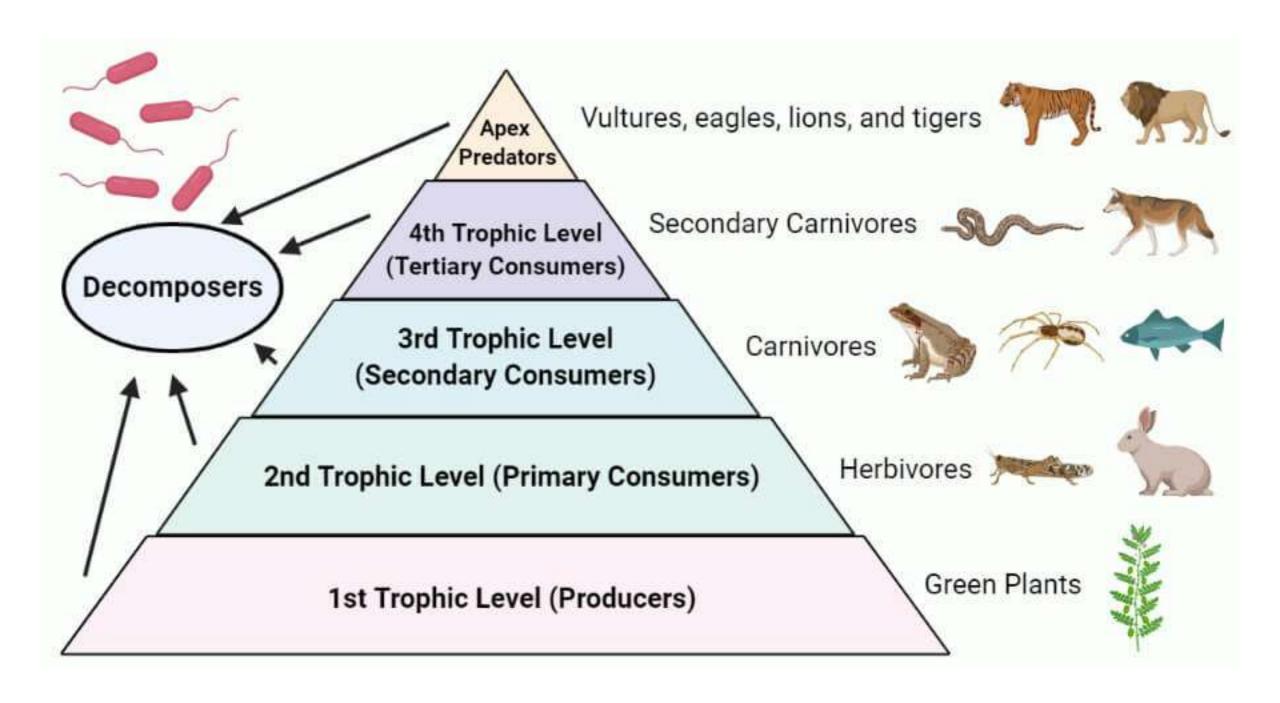
62.2 Juice based sweet packaged beverages Milk-based sweet packaged beverages 48.8 Chips

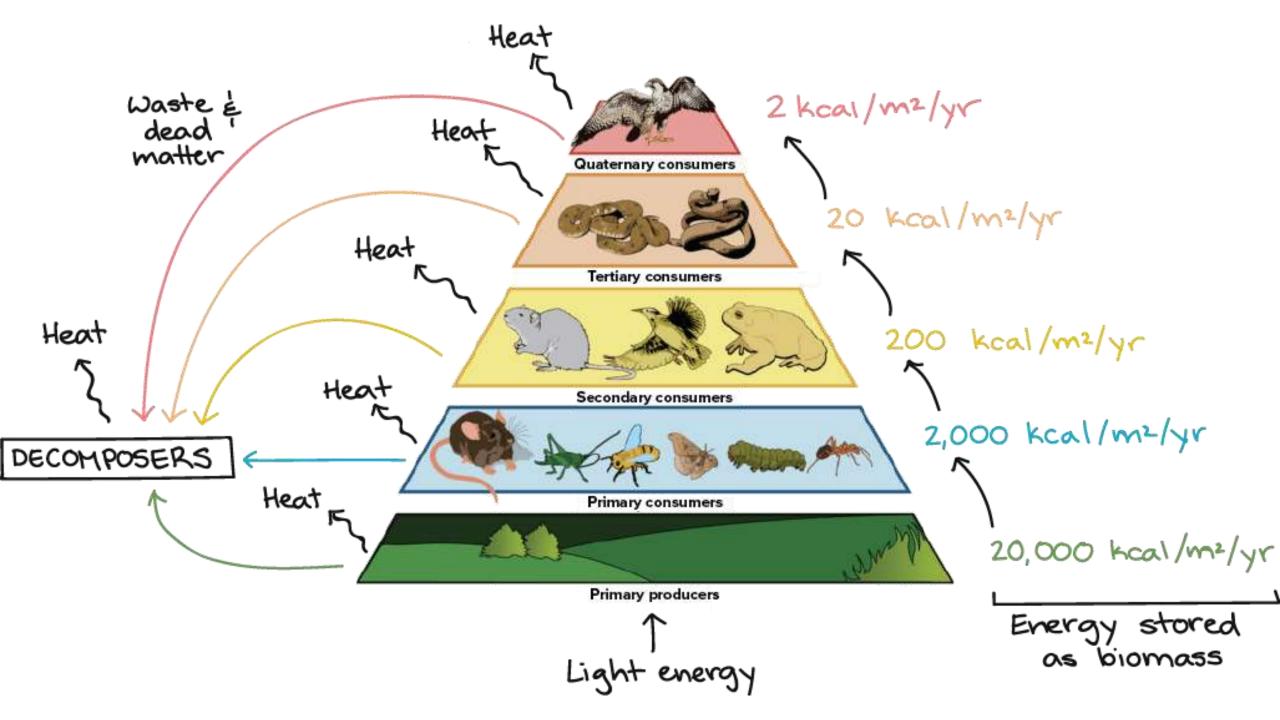
Instant Noodles 42.7 Chocolates 64.1 Ice-cream 51.9



Food can be classified in four categories

Unprocessed/ Minimally processed	Processed ingredients	Processed	Ultra - processed
Fruit & Veg	Oils	Cured & cooked meats	Supermarket bread
		- D	
Eggs	Sugar	Cheese	Ready meals
Ê			
Milk	Salt	Bread	Fizzy drinks
Meat	Puttor	Salted nuts	Criene
Meat	Butter	Saited nuts	Crisps





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Class24

Word of the day

Fructify:

become productive or fruitful; make productive or fruitful; produce fruit

Synonym: set

Usage: The treaty, if fructified, will be a disaster.

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈfɹʌktɪfaɪ/

