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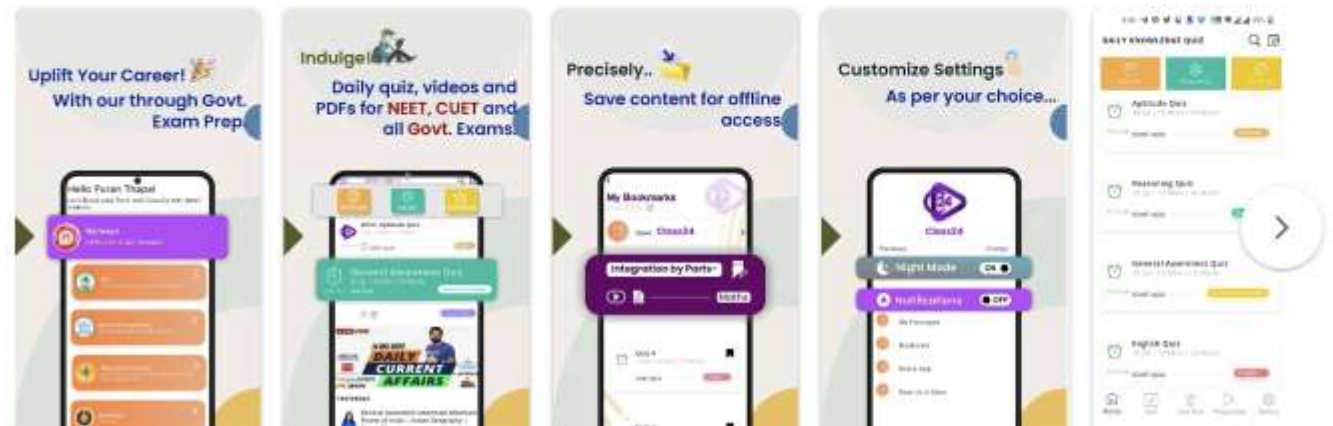
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Radha and Shafali star in India's win
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INSIDE



LPG cylinder sells for ₹5,000 in Kargopki

NEW DELHI Prices of essentials such as rice, petrol, and cooking gas have spiralled in Kargopki district of Manipur over the last month, due to an economic blockade being imposed since May 23, when three Thakus joined the protest in the district. > PAGE 4



Toll in Kolkata godown collapse rises to 11

KOLKATA The death toll in the Kolkata warehouse collapse increased to 11 on Thursday. Fifteen of the injured are undergoing treatment in the state-run SKM Hospital. Three 17-year-old workers are among the 13 deceased from West Bengal and Bihar. > PAGE 4

1975 Emergency introduced in NCERT textbook

NEW DELHI The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has introduced the 1975 Emergency in India in its Class 12 textbook for the first time. Earlier, references to Emergency were limited to Class 12 textbook. > PAGE 8

Tehran issues warning against crossing Hormuz

TEHRAN, IRAN Iran's Revolutionary Guards on Thursday warned against any crossing of the Strait of Hormuz without authorisation, saying vessels not complying "will be dealt with" even as U.S. Secretary of State Blinken said Washington wanted a deal with Tehran but "not at any price". > PAGE 14

Puri holds talks with Iranian counterpart

NEW DELHI Union Minister for Petroleum and Coal Puri met his Iranian counterpart Mubashir Pakizadeh on the sidelines of the BRICS Energy Ministers' Meeting on Thursday. They explored opportunities to expand cooperation in the energy sector after years of curtailed trade. > PAGE 13

188 dead, 1,500 injured in Venezuela earthquakes

'Doublet earthquake' with initial 7.2 magnitude quake was closely followed by a stronger 7.5 one

AMERICA FRANCE PRESS
LA GUAYRA

A pair of powerful earthquakes that rocked Venezuela have killed at least 188 people and left more than 1,500 hurt, officials said on Thursday as residents searched for loved ones trapped under rubble after many buildings were flattened within minutes.

An international outpouring of aid quickly followed the tremors on Wednesday evening, which the United States Geological Survey (USGS) measured as magnitude 7.2 and 7.5, centred west of the capital Caracas. Tremors from the earthquakes were felt in neighbouring Colombia and Brazil.

Interim President Delcy Rodriguez said that intense rescue efforts are ongoing, noting that the State of La Guayra was hit hard. "Dozens of buildings



Last in sequence: A woman holds a boy near a collapsed building in Caracas, Venezuela, on Thursday following the earthquakes. AP

have collapsed, and we are currently carrying out very intense rescue efforts to save as many lives as God allows us to save," Mr. Rodriguez said on state television on Thursday.

La Guayra State is a true tragedy, and has become a disaster zone."

The first earthquake, with an epicentre 21 kilometres west of the coastal town of Moron, occurred at 6:54 p.m. local time on Wednesday, the USGS said. Within a minute, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck about 45 kilometres away. They struck at depths of 22 kilometres and 10 kilometres, respectively.

Scores of rescuers from the U.S. and several European countries and UN specialists were on their way to help search for survivors, Mr. Rodriguez said while national radio, including China, India, Brazil, and the Netherlands offered help. However, threatening

Aid on the way from U.S., European countries, UN, says interim leader; India, China offer help

Tremors from the strongest earthquake to hit Venezuela in 126 years felt in Colombia, Brazil

The U.S. "stands ready, willing, and able to help," President Donald Trump said in a social media post. "We have a whole-of-government response. It will be effective." U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio told reporters during a visit to Beirut, saying his country's military would play a "big logistical role."

Washington is closely involved in all eight Venezuelan-led U.S. forces captured President Nicolas Maduro in January.

The strongest earthquake to hit Venezuela in 126 years will require "massive collective effort," the United Nations aid chief Tom Fletcher said in a statement. He said the UN was "fully mobilised" to send aid.

Parts of the capital Caracas lost power and cellphone coverage while authorities were

Eye in the sky



Hidden ready: The indigenously developed IITBRA Airborne Early Warning and Control system during an escort to receive final operational clearance at the Centre for Airborne Systems in Bangalore, Karnataka, on Thursday. > PHOTO BY ANANT KUMAR

CBI scours 80 locations in 15 States and Delhi over 'digital arrest' cases

Delhi, N. Punjab

NEW DELHI In a crackdown on the cybercrime infrastructure facilitating "digital arrest" cases, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) searched more than 80 locations across the country over the past week in connection with 200-plus cases. It arrested two accused so far — Harshil from Chennai, Tamil Nadu, and Ganesh Babu of Kolkata, West Bengal.

Under Operation Chakra-20, the agency formed 80 special teams and conducted co-ordinated searches in 15 States — Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, West Bengal, Manipur, Karnataka, and Odisha, and Delhi. "The searches were carried out as part of an ongoing investigation aimed at dismantling a targeted operational network involved in over 200 cases of digital arrest cases," said the agency.

The arrests accused were identified as accomplices of the perpetrators of shell companies and the opening and operation of mobile banks accounts. These accounts were used for fraudulent activities. The investigation is based on a complaint received from the Registry of the Supreme Court, the agency registered a case and launched an investigation.

"Leveraging advanced forensic tools and technical expertise, the CBI identified critical elements of the criminal infrastructure operating both within India and abroad. Investigation has revealed that the perpetrators uploaded forged documents, including fake orders assembling those issued by courts and various law enforcement agencies, to lend credibility to their fraudulent activities," the agency said.

Charting the strategies, the CBI seized several incriminating documents, digital devices, phones and records relating to bank transactions. It found evidence indicating that several foreign nationals may have been cheated by the same network. The law enforcement agencies of the jurisdictions concerned were used for identifying appropriate channels, the agency said.

Govt. restores commercial LPG supply to pre-war level

Saptarishi Ghosh
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday restored the supply of industrial and commercial liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to pre-war levels and withdrew all sector-specific allocation caps that had been imposed at the peak of the West Asia crisis, citing an improved supply situation.

In addition to this, bulk LPG consumers will be allowed 50% of their pre-crisis consumption requirements. The government has suspended at the onset of the crisis triggered by U.S. tariffs struck on Iran on February 28. The government eased its earlier direction mandating that propane and butane be used in other sectors as well — be only used for domestic LPG production.

"A major relief to industrial and commercial LPG consumers, the government has removed all operational restrictions on the supply of non-domestic packed LPG and restored LPG to pre-war levels, including gas to the West Asia crisis," the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas stated.

At the peak of the crisis in early March, the government had issued orders to temporarily restrict the supply of commercial LPG. This was generally aimed to provide 70% of the pre-crisis level requirements across multiple sectors, including the conditional 60% allocation to States and Union Territories for facilitating expedited transition to piped natural gas (PNG).

TRANSIT ROUTE DISRUPTS
PAGE 12

3 States close ranks on Tungabhadra basin



Joining hands: Chief Ministers D.K. Shivakumar, H. Chandrababu Naidu, and A. Revathi Reddy share a stage on Thursday. ANI

discuss key irrigation issues concerning the three States.

Declining of the Tungabhadra reservoir, where an estimated 33 tmcft of fill has accumulated over the years significantly affecting its storage capacity, was discussed.

Mr. Patil said the Union government will first dredge the Tungabhadra dam as part of its larger plan to drain major reservoirs.

He said the Chief Ministers had expressed their commitment to extend full cooperation in the exercise.

Pointing out that all accumulation had reduced the storage capacity of many dams, including the Tungabhadra, Mr. Patil said, as per the pre-crisis programme, the Centre will provide the technical support, and the funding would be completed at the earliest possible time with the involvement of the three States.

Calling the replacement of all the 33 gateway gates of the Tungabhadra dam "historic", Mr. Shivakumar said it was done in the long interest of farmers and the reservoir.

TUNGABHADRA DRAINING
The three Chief Ministers are being alerted through a meeting with Union Jal Shakti Minister C.B. Patil to

CENTRE PROPOSES PAKY
PAGE 4

188 dead, 1,500 injured in Venezuela earthquakes

'Doublet earthquake' with initial 7.2 magnitude quake was closely followed by a stronger 7.5 one

Aid on the way from U.S., European countries, UN, says interim leader; India, China offer help

Tremors from the strongest earthquake to hit Venezuela in 126 years felt in Colombia, Brazil

Agence France-Presse

LA GUAIRA

A pair of powerful earthquakes that rocked Venezuela have killed at least 188 people and left more than 1,500 hurt, officials said on Thursday as residents searched for loved ones trapped under rubble after many buildings were flattened within minutes.

An international outpouring of aid quickly followed the tremors on Wednesday evening, which the United States Geological Survey (USGS) measured as magnitude 7.2 and 7.5, centred west of the capital Caracas. Tremors from the earthquakes were also felt in neighbouring Colombia and Brazil.

Interim President Delcy Rodriguez said that intense rescue efforts were going on, noting that the State of La Guaira was hit hard.

"Dozens of buildings

have collapsed, and we are currently carrying out very intense rescue efforts to save as many lives as God allows us to save," Ms. Rodriguez said on state television on Thursday.

"La Guaira State is a true tragedy, and has become a disaster zone."

The first earthquake, with an epicentre 21 kilometres west of the coastal town of Moron, occurred at 6.04 p.m. local time on Wednesday, the USGS said. Within a minute, a 7.5-magnitude earthquake struck about 45 kilometres away. They struck at depths of 22 kilometres and 10 kilometres, respectively.

Scores of rescuers from the U.S. and several European countries and UN specialists were on their way to help search for survivors, Ms. Rodriguez said while nations including China, India, Brazil, and war-battered Iran offered help. However, threatening



Lost in seconds: A woman holds a boy near a collapsed building in Caracas, Venezuela, on Thursday following the earthquakes. AFP

to complicate the relief effort, the international airport near Caracas was closed due to "serious damage," she said, with social media videos showing the terminal's ceiling collapsing over travellers.

Officials were trying to

make the most of the daylight hours to rescue people believed to be trapped under the rubble, the Interim President said.

'Big logistical role'

"Deeply saddened by the devastation caused by the

severe earthquakes in Venezuela," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a statement. "We pray for the speedy recovery of those injured and stand in solidarity with all those affected... India stands ready to extend all possible assis-

tance," he said.

The U.S. "stands ready, willing, and able to help," President Donald Trump said in a social media post.

"We have a whole-of-government response. It will be big, it will be fast, and it will be effective," U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio told reporters during a visit to Bahrain, saying his country's military would play a "big logistical role".

Washington is closely involved in oil-rich Venezuela after U.S. forces captured President Nicolas Maduro in January.

The strongest earthquake to hit Venezuela in 126 years will require "massive collective efforts", the United Nations' aid chief Tom Fletcher said in a statement. He said the UN was "fully mobilised" to send aid.

Parts of the capital Caracas lost power and cell-phone coverage while subway services were

suspended and natural gas shut off, the interim President. Classes will also be canceled for several days, and the Ministry of Education said some school buildings would be used as shelters and donation centers.

On Thursday, the UN human rights mission in Venezuela called on the government to lift local restrictions on social media.

"In the coming hours and days, timely access to reliable information and communication channels will be essential for the protection of the lives, safety, and well-being of the population," the mission said in a statement.

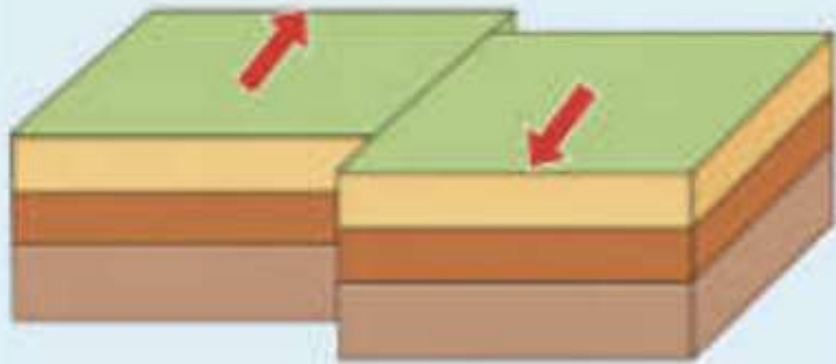
The strongest tremors in earthquake-prone Venezuela's recent history occurred in the northeast in 1997, killing 73 people, and in Caracas in 1967, when 236 people died.

(With inputs from AP and Reuters)

• What is a fault?

A fault is a fracture or zone of fractures between two blocks of rock. When these blocks move rapidly, they cause quakes.

WHAT HAPPENED IN VENEZUELA?



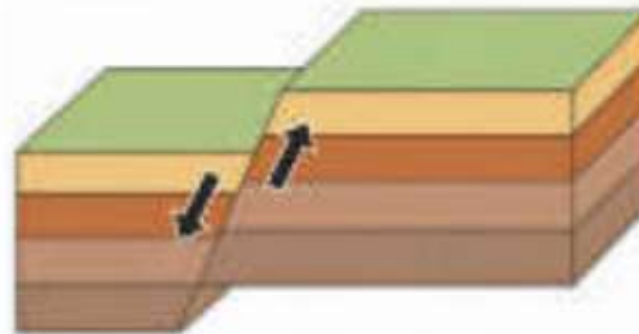
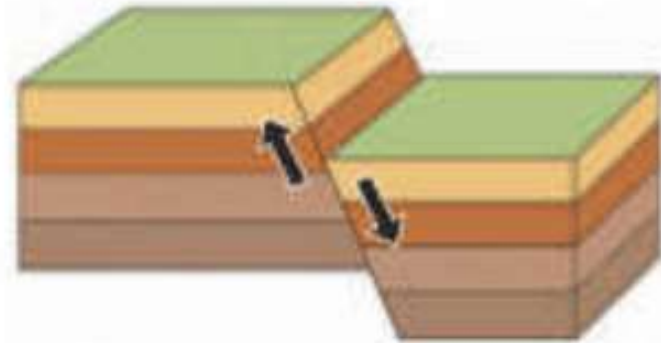
STRIKE-SLIP FAULT:

Two blocks slide past one another

Some other types of faults

Normal fault:

The block above the fault moves downward relative to the block below.



Reverse fault:

Upper block, above the fault plane, moves up and over the lower block

Point	Details
Country	Venezuela (Capital: Caracas)
Date	25 June 2026
Event	Two major earthquakes ("Seismic Doublet")
Magnitudes	7.2 followed by 7.5
Time gap	Only 39 seconds
Distance from Caracas	Around 160–168 km west
Fault Type	Strike-slip fault
Depth	Around 10 km (shallow earthquake)
Agency	US Geological Survey (USGS)

2. Why is it called a Seismic Doublet? (सीस्मिक डबलट क्या होता है?)

A **Seismic Doublet** refers to:

- Two earthquakes
- Nearly equal magnitude
- Occur within seconds or minutes
- Occur very close to each other
- Originate from related but distinct fault ruptures

Difference

Normal Earthquake Sequence

One main earthquake followed by smaller aftershocks

Aftershocks are much smaller

Common phenomenon

Seismic Doublet

Two large earthquakes of similar magnitude

Second quake is almost as powerful as first

Very rare phenomenon

3. Why did this happen?

Venezuela lies on the boundary between:

- Caribbean Plate
- South American Plate

These tectonic plates slide horizontally past each other, producing a:

Strike-slip fault

Examples of similar plate boundaries:

- San Andreas Fault (USA)
- North Anatolian Fault (Turkey)

4. What is a Fault?

A **Fault** is:

A fracture (crack) in Earth's crust where rocks move relative to each other.

When accumulated stress is released along a fault, an earthquake occurs.

5. Types of Faults

Fault Type	Movement	Stress	Example
Strike-slip Fault	Horizontal sliding	Shear	San Andreas Fault (USA)
Normal Fault	Hanging wall moves downward	Tensional force	East African Rift
Reverse (Thrust) Fault	Hanging wall moves upward	Compression	Himalayas

6. Venezuela Earthquake Fault

Type: Strike-slip Fault

Movement:

← Block A slides sideways

→ Block B slides in opposite direction

No major vertical movement.

7. Why were these earthquakes so destructive?

Several reasons combined:

1. Very shallow depth

- Around 10 km
- Energy reached the surface quickly

2. Two strong earthquakes

- Buildings weakened by first quake
- Second quake hit before structures stabilized

3. Similar magnitude

- 7.2
- 7.5

4. Very short interval

- Only 39 seconds apart

8. Difference between Foreshock, Mainshock and Aftershock

Term	Meaning
Foreshock	Smaller earthquake before main event
Mainshock	Largest earthquake
Aftershock	Smaller earthquakes after main event

According to USGS:

- 7.2 = Foreshock
- 7.5 = Mainshock

9. Why is a Doublet more dangerous?

Because:

- Buildings already weakened
- Rescue operations disrupted
- Longer duration of shaking
- Greater chance of collapse
- Increased casualties

Year	Location	Magnitudes	Remarks
2023	Turkey–Syria	7.8 & 7.7	Over 59,000 deaths; severe regional destruction
2021	Indian Ocean	8.6 & 8.2	Rare large intraplate strike-slip earthquakes
1988	Australia	Triple earthquake	Three earthquakes within about 30 minutes







Atlantic Ocean

Caracas

VENEZUELA

GUYANA

COLOMBIA

BRAZIL



Feature

Capital

Continent

Currency

Official Language

Highest Peak

Major Oil Reserve

Tectonic Boundary

Details

Caracas

South America

Venezuelan Bolívar

Spanish

Pico Bolívar

Among the world's largest proven reserves

Caribbean Plate & South American Plate

Topic

Fact

Earthquake Measurement

Moment Magnitude Scale (M_w) is now preferred over the Richter scale for large earthquakes

Earthquake Focus

Point inside Earth where rupture begins

Epicentre

Point on Earth's surface directly above the focus

Most earthquake-prone belt

Circum-Pacific Belt (Ring of Fire)

Second major belt

Alpide Belt (includes the Himalayas)

India lies in

Alpide Seismic Belt

Most earthquake-prone Indian zones

Zone V and Zone IV

Feature	Moment Magnitude Scale (Mw)	Richter Scale (ML)
Developed by	Thomas C. Hanks & Hiroo Kanamori (1979)	Charles Francis Richter (1935)
Measures	Total energy released by an earthquake	Amplitude (height) of seismic waves recorded on a seismograph
Scientific Basis	Seismic moment (fault area × rock rigidity × slip)	Maximum wave amplitude
Accuracy	Very high	Moderate
Best for	Small, medium, and very large earthquakes	Small to moderate earthquakes
Upper Limit	No theoretical limit	Becomes inaccurate above ~Magnitude 6.5–7
Global Standard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (used by USGS and worldwide)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mostly historical or for local events
Comparison across countries	Reliable	Less reliable
Present Usage	Standard scale used globally	Rarely used for reporting major earthquakes

Why did the world shift from Richter to Mw?

Because Richter Scale:

- Saturates around magnitude **6.5–7**
- Cannot accurately measure giant earthquakes
- Depends on distance and instrument type

Moment Magnitude Scale:

- Measures actual energy released
- Works for all earthquake sizes
- Standardized worldwide

Magnitude Increase: Energy Released

A 1-unit increase in magnitude means:

Increase	Ground Motion	Energy Released
+1 Magnitude	10 times larger wave amplitude	≈32 times more energy
+2 Magnitude	100× amplitude	≈1,000× energy

Example

Earthquake	Magnitude	Scale Used Today
Venezuela (2026)	7.2 & 7.5	Moment Magnitude (Mw)
Turkey–Syria (2023)	7.8 & 7.7	Moment Magnitude (Mw)
Japan Tohoku (2011)	9.1	Moment Magnitude (Mw)
Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004)	9.1–9.3	Moment Magnitude (Mw)

Today, when you hear of an earthquake of magnitude **7.2** or **8.5**, it almost always refers to the **Moment Magnitude Scale (Mw)**, not the Richter Scale.

3 States close ranks on Tungabhadra basin



Joining hands: Chief Ministers D.K. Shivakumar, N. Chandrababu Naidu, and A. Revanth Reddy share a stage on Thursday. *ANI*

Kumar Buradikatti
KALABURAGI

Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana on Thursday signalled a "historic" broader political and administrative consensus on protecting the interests of farmers in the Tungabhadra basin and pursuing long-term solutions to irrigation and water-sharing issues.

At an event organised by the Karnataka government and the Tungabhadra Board in Koppal district to mark the inauguration of the newly installed 33 spillway gates of the reservoir in Vijayanagara, Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and his Telangana and Andhra Pradesh counterparts, A. Revanth Reddy and N. Chandrababu Naidu, stressed the need for cooperation in addressing the concerns of lakhs of farmers dependent on the inter-State project.

The Chief Ministers said the three States have arrived at a historic consensus to safeguard the interests of farmers in the Tungabhadra basin.

Tungabhadra desilting

Ahead of the inauguration, the three Chief Ministers held a nearly hour-long meeting with Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil to

discuss key irrigation issues concerning the three States.

Desilting of the Tungabhadra reservoir, where an estimated 33 tmcft of silt has accumulated over the years significantly affecting its storage capacity, was discussed.

Mr. Patil said the Union government will first dredge the Tungabhadra dam as part of its larger plan to desilt major reservoirs.

He said the Chief Ministers had expressed their commitment to extend full cooperation in the exercise.

Pointing out that silt accumulation had reduced the storage capacity of many dams, including the Tungabhadra, Mr. Patil said that, as per the proposed programme, the Centre will provide the technical support, and the dredging would be completed at the earliest possible time with the involvement of the three States.

Calling the replacement of all the 33 spillway gates of the Tungabhadra dam "historic", Mr. Shivakumar said it was done in the larger interest of farmers and the long-term safety of the reservoir.





Tungabhadra River

Krishna river system · major tributary of Krishna

SOURCE

formed by the Tunga and Bhadra rivers at Koodli in Karnataka

MOUTH / CONFLUENCE

joins the Krishna near Alampur and Sangameswaram region

LENGTH

about 531 km

STATES

Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

TRIBUTARIES

Tunga, Bhadra, Vedavathi, Hagari

PROJECTS

Tungabhadra Dam at Hospet, Hampi irrigation landscape, TB Board

UPSC HOOK

inter-state water sharing

Tungabhadra is Krishna's historic tributary: Koodli, Hampi, Hospet dam and Alampur.

Country

India

State

Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh

Cities

Harihara, Hospet, Hampi, Kampli, Mantralayam, Kurnool

Physical characteristics

Source

Koodli (The place where the Thunga and Bhadra rivers meet)

• location Koodli, Bhadravathi, Karnataka, India

• coordinates  14°0′30″N 75°40′27″E

• elevation 560 m (1,840 ft)

Mouth

Krishna River

• location Murvakonda, Andhra Pradesh, and Jogulamba Gadwal District, India

• coordinates  15°53′19″N 78°09′51″E

• elevation 264 m (866 ft)

Length

531 km (330 mi)

Basin size

71,417 km² (27,574 sq mi)

Discharge

• location [Krishna River](#)

• maximum Tunga and Bhadra are born in Gangamoola Varaha Parvata in the Chikmagalur district which comes in the Western ghat region of Karnataka. Both rivers meet at a place called Koodali in the Shivamogga district.

Basin features

Tributaries

• left [Tunga River](#), [Kumudvati River](#), [Varada River](#)

• right [Bhadra River](#), [Vedavathi River](#),

Particular

Details

States Involved

Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

River Basin

Tungabhadra River

Occasion

Inauguration of **33 newly installed spillway gates** at the Tungabhadra Reservoir

Venue

Koppal

Main Outcome

Agreement on protecting farmers' interests, reservoir desilting, and long-term water-sharing cooperation

1. Historic Three-State Consensus

The Chief Ministers of:

- Siddaramaiah
- N. Chandrababu Naidu
- A. Revanth Reddy

agreed to strengthen cooperation on:

- Water sharing
 - Irrigation management
 - Farmers' welfare
 - Reservoir maintenance
 - Long-term basin management
-

2. Tungabhadra Reservoir Desilting

Major concern:

- Around **33 TMC (Thousand Million Cubic Feet)** of silt has accumulated over the years.
- This has significantly reduced the reservoir's storage capacity.

Proposed Action

The Union Government will:

- Prepare a comprehensive desilting plan.
- Provide technical assistance.
- Begin dredging (removal of silt) at the earliest with cooperation from all three States.

Spillway Gate Replacement

33 spillway gates have been newly installed.

The replacement aims to:

- Improve dam safety.
- Enhance flood management.
- Ensure reliable irrigation supplies.

What is a Spillway?

A **spillway** is a safety structure built into a dam that allows excess water to flow out in a controlled manner during periods of high inflow.

Importance

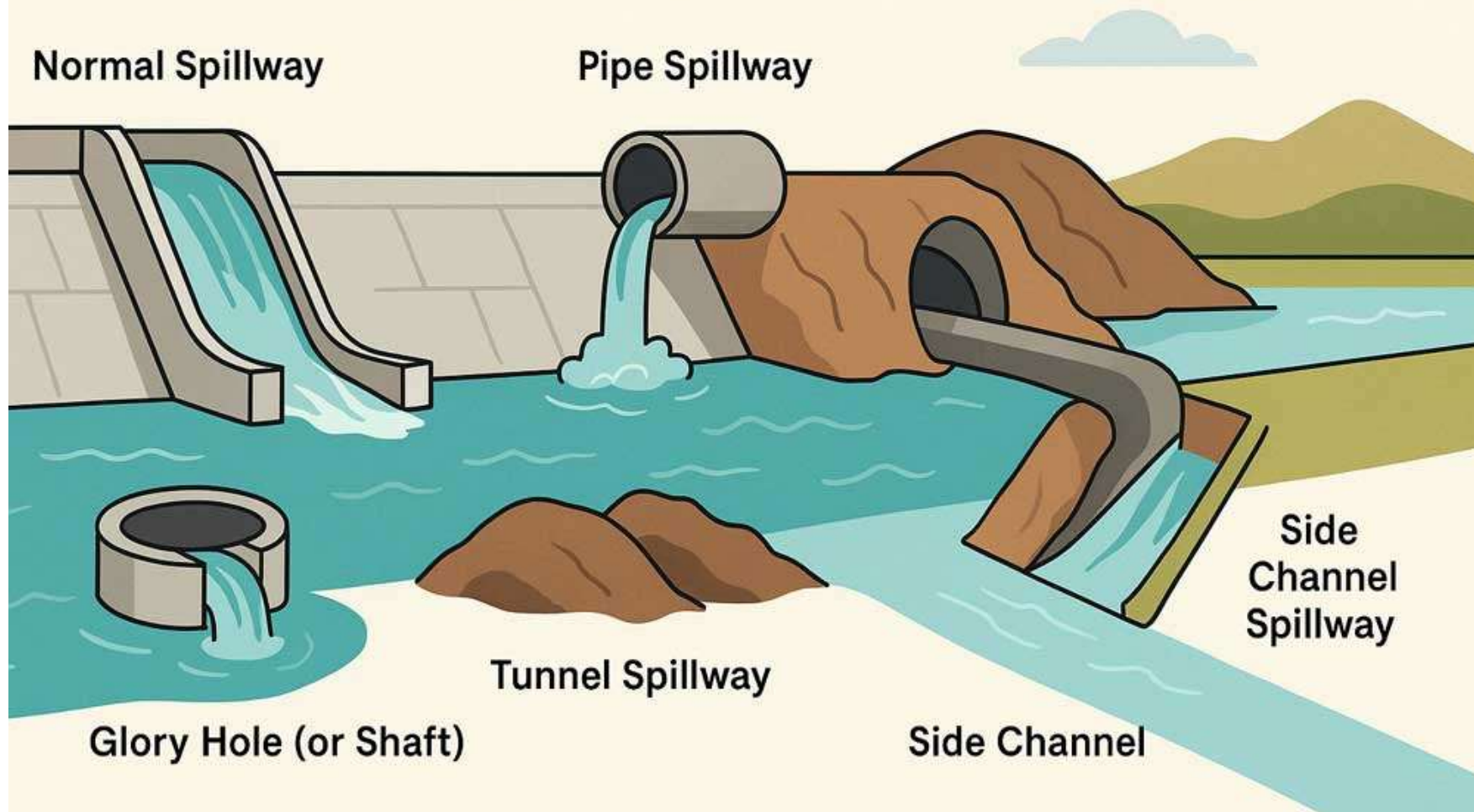
- Prevents dam overflow.
- Reduces flood risk.
- Protects dam structure.
- Regulates downstream water release.

About TMC

Unit	Meaning
TMC	Thousand Million Cubic Feet
Full Form	1 TMC = 1,000,000,000 cubic feet (\approx 28.3 million cubic metres)

TMC is widely used in India to measure the storage capacity of reservoirs and the allocation of river water.

The five major types of spillways



River

States Involved

Cauvery River

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala,
Puducherry

Krishna River

Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana,
Andhra Pradesh

Mahadayi River

Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra

Ravi River

Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan

Mahesh Dixit, IPS officer of 1993 batch, named new IB chief

Vijaya Shanthi
NEW DELHI

Mahesh Dixit, a 1993 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Assam Pradesh cadre has been appointed as Director Intelligence Bureau (IB), a government order said.

He succeeds Tapan Kumar Debra, who held the post since 2012. His tenure ends on June 30.

Mr. Dixit, a medical doctor by education, has led the Jammu and Kashmir (JK) check and has also served in Nagaland and Bihar.

He was Deputy Director of IB in J&K from 2009-12 and from 2012-18, he was posted in Nagaland.

He took charge of the Subsidiary Intelligence Branch (SIB) of IB in 2020 and served there till 2024, overseeing the intelligence preparation and intelligence-based operations post revocation of Article 370 in the erstwhile State.

He is among the Home Ministry officials who are engaged in talks with civil society leaders of the region.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) on Thursday

In blocked part of Manipur, an LPG cylinder now sells for ₹5,000

40 people killed in the State since President's Rule was revoked in February; Deputy CM blocked from travel to Imphal; rice and petrol prices more than double in Kangpokpi district; efforts are on to ensure movement of convoys carrying essentials

Vijaya Shanthi
NEW DELHI

Pieces of essentials such as rice, petrol, and cooking gas have spiralled in Kangpokpi, a district of Manipur over the last month, due to a severe economic blockade being imposed since May 11, when three Thadou passers were killed in the sub-district.

The blockade is an eye on Deputy Chief Minister Nemscha Ripgen, who represents Kangpokpi in the Manipur Assembly, is yet to travel to the State capital, Imphal, since the elected government was not asked to revoke President's Rule was revoked. Four months after she took oath, the still virtually paralysed the meetings called by Chief Minister N. Khencham Singh in Imphal.

At least 40 people have been killed in Manipur since February 4, when President's Rule was revoked in the State. The north-eastern State is paralysed by three major communal riots in the Imphal valley and the tribal Kuki Zo and Naga people who largely live in the surrounding hills, no far, around 300 people have been killed since ethnic violence, initially between Meiteis and Kukis, erupted in the State on May 3, 2022.



In Imphal, trucks have frequently demanded better security for convoys carrying essential supplies in Manipur. (PTI)

transportation of essential items has been severely affected, with Naga village volunteers imposing a blockade on goods coming from outside the State.

Despite initiatives taken by the State government, daily items are scarcely available, according to Nemscha Ripgen, Deputy CM. A line of petrol cuts ₹250 to ₹280. There is no way to control the local inflation, he has to expect on all commodities," Mr. Ripgen said.

The blockade is now being sold at ₹4,000, the MLA told *The Hindu*. Thangthengen Ripgen, president of Saday Hills (Kangpokpi), a civil society group, said there has been a noticeable difference since the election since the district administration since the blockade on goods coming from outside the State.

After the bodies of six missing Naga men, including two passers, were recovered on June 10 from Kangpokpi, the blockades have intensified. The six men and their family members were abducted on May 12 following the killing of three Thadou church leaders in an ambush on the same day in Kangpokpi.

At least 41 civilians were reportedly taken hostage by Kuki and Naga groups in Kangpokpi and surrounding districts. The arrest of those abducted were released earlier, 14 members of the Kuki community who remained in captivity were released on June 5, a day before the bodies of the three Thadou church leaders were recovered.

Local inflation "It is always the poor who are affected by the incidents. Because of shortage of cooking gas, people switched to induction tops, which is leading to frequent power cuts of seven to eight hours. The cost of transportation has gone up. A litre of petrol costs ₹250 to ₹280. There is no way to control the local inflation, he has to expect on all commodities," Mr. Ripgen said.

A senior security force official confirmed that several groups have been planning illegal blockades along NH-2, and added that efforts are on to ensure the movement of convoys carrying essential supplies. The district administration since the election since the blockade on goods coming from outside the State.

Man convicted in rape-murder of 3-year-old in Pune

The Hindu Bureau
PUNE

A Pune court on Thursday convicted a 60-year-old man in the rape and murder of a three-year-old girl in Narnar village of Pune district last month. Special Judge S.R. Sushankhe held Bhimraj Kamble guilty of kidnapping, rape and murder, following a trial that concluded within two months of the girl's death.

Seeking death penalty, the prosecution argued that the accused was "beyond reform". Special Public Prosecutor Ajay Mhatre argued otherwise, Mr. Mhatre said, but the evidence proved otherwise, he told reporters. He said the 60-year-old man, who was injured after he slipped while shooting her a call, but the evidence proved otherwise, he told reporters. He said the 60-year-old man, who was injured after he slipped while shooting her a call, but the evidence proved otherwise, he told reporters.

The girl was visiting her grandmother's house for summer vacation and playing outside when the accused lured her away in a covered van to the forest, showing a newborn calf and raped her. He then killed her with a stone and hid the body under a pile of logs.

Mr. Mhatre said all charges were proved, including offences under several sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

The accused claimed that the girl was injured after he slipped while shooting her a call, but the evidence proved otherwise, he told reporters. He said the 60-year-old man, who was injured after he slipped while shooting her a call, but the evidence proved otherwise, he told reporters.

Toll in Kolkata warehouse collapse rises to 11; Bengal CM orders audit of building plans

Nitya Saha Sinha
KOLKATA

The death toll in the Kolkata warehouse collapse has risen to 11 on Thursday. Minister of the injured area, the State-run SKKM Hospital.

The 17-year-old workers are among the 11 who were killed. Chief Minister Sitendra Adhikari announced a compensation of ₹2 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased and ₹1 lakh to the injured. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also announced a compensation of ₹2 lakh to the next of kin of those who lost their lives and ₹1 lakh to the injured.

Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Adhikari said a firm information report (FIR) had been registered and five persons had been arrested. He claimed the building design was faulty.

The Chief Minister announced suspension of all ongoing construction projects in the Kolkata Municipal Corporation area of Rajaraj Mohanpur, Barpeta and Maheshtala, adding that building plans in these areas would undergo a comprehensive audit.

Centre's hike in passport application fee to take effect on July 1

Praja Tripathi
NEW DELHI

Charges have been raised for fresh and renewed passports for adults and minors, with effect from July 1.

The application fee for an ordinary fresh passport containing 36 pages has been hiked from ₹1,500 to ₹2,500, as the Union government revised the passport fee structure through an amendment to the Passports Rules, 1969.

The new rules will come into effect from July 1. According to a notification dated June 20, and published by the Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday, the revision of a 36-page passport will also cost ₹2,500. A tatal application for a fresh or renewed passport will cost ₹3,000 as opposed to the current ₹2,000 rate.

Similarly, the application fee for an ordinary fresh passport or renewal of a passport containing 60 pages has been hiked from ₹2,000 to ₹3,500. The total fee for 60-page passports will be ₹5,000 as against the current ₹4,000.

For minors, the fee for a fresh passport or renewal of a passport containing 36 pages is ₹1,750, the notification added.

In the notification, the government also issued a schedule which will substitute the "Schedule IV to the Passports Rules, 1969". The revised schedule contains two sub-categories for applicants 18 years of age and above, and issued aged between 18 to 18 years, if applied under a sub-category, and minor applicants below 18 years of age.

I'm in people's hearts, says Stalin in reply to T.N. CM's 'Where's your father?' jibe

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI/THIRUVARUR

In a sharp retort to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Jeyaraj Pillay's "Where is your father?" jibe, DMK president M.K. Stalin on Thursday said he was in the people's hearts.

Speaking at the traditional gathering of former DMK Minister Maheshwari in Thiruvavur, Stalin recalled that when the Leader of the Opposition, Uthayachandran, brought up serious issues faced by Tamil Nadu in the Assembly and demanded answers, he was asked, "Where is your father?"

"On the one hand, there is the poverty issue, and on the other, a situation where the government is not releasing the amount of ₹49.19 crore for widening and improvement of roads, the government.

Kuki-Zo body admits six Nagas were killed by Kukis

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Kuki-Zo Council (KZC), the apex body of the Kuki-Zo tribes in Manipur, on Thursday admitted that members of their community executed six Naga villagers who were abducted after three Thadou church leaders were killed in an ambush more than a month ago.

Crowing up to the "great mistake" in a video while addressing media persons, KZC chairman Hsanthang Thought said the six Naga men were killed during an outbreak of emotion. "I really criticize it," he said in the company of KZC spokesperson Glass Vaidhyan.

This was the first known public expression of regret by any Kuki individual or civil society organisation over the killing of the six Naga civilians. Their realisation was not known until security forces recovered their decomposed bodies from a forest on June 10.

On June 6, the National Investigation Agency took over the probe into the killing of the three Thadou church leaders.

The accident occurred on Wednesday when the multi-storey warehouse being constructed by a private operator on land leased out by the State's Prasaradha Mookerjee Port Authority (SMPA) came crashing down.

Rescue operations continued on Thursday and at least one person was rescued alive. The heavy rains on Thursday afternoon hampered the rescue operations.

According to those present at the site, 80 to 90 people were at work when the accident took place. Local people said they heard several workers trapped under the debris trying out for help. Attempts were made to drill a hole through the debris and reach out to the trapped workers, and oxygen and food were made available.

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DMK president at the residence of former State Highways Minister S.V. Venu in Chennai on Thursday. (PTI)

The complaint alleged that there was rampant corruption and mismanagement of funds allocated under the Comprehensive Road Infrastructure Development Programme.

Acting on a 2022 complaint by Jayaram Vekatesh of Arappor byakkam, the agency looked into the alleged irregularities, and a highways contractor EV. Venu, officials, and contractors in connection with an alleged corruption case.



DMK president at the residence of former State Highways Minister S.V. Venu in Chennai on Thursday. (PTI)

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Mahesh Dixit, IPS officer of 1993 batch, named new IB chief

Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI

Mahesh Dixit, a 1993 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre has been appointed as Director, Intelligence Bureau (DIB), a government order said.

He succeeds Tapan Kumar Deka, who held the post since 2022. His tenure ends on June 30.

Mr. Dixit, a medical doctor by education, has led the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) desk and has also served in Nagaland and Bihar.

He was Deputy Director of IB in J&K from 2009-12 and from 2012-15, he was posted in Nagaland.

He took charge of the Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (SIB) of J&K in 2020 and served there till 2024, overseeing the security preparedness and intelligence-based operations post revocation of Article 370 in the erstwhile State.

He is among the Home Ministry officials who are engaged in talks with civil society leaders of Ladakh.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) on Thursday



Mahesh Dixit

He served in J&K from 2020 to 2024, in the period post the revocation of Article 370

approved the appointment of Mr. Dixit, Special Director, IB as Director, Intelligence Bureau for a tenure of two years from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier, the order said.

Due to retire in August 2027, he has been granted extension in service under the provisions of FR 56d and Rule 16 (1A) of All India Services (Death cum Retirement Benefits) Rules, 1958, the order said.

Particular

Details

Officer Appointed

Mahesh Dixit

Service

Indian Police Service (IPS)

Batch

1993

Cadre

Andhra Pradesh

New Position

Director, Intelligence Bureau (DIB)

Replaces

Tapan Kumar Deka

Appointing Authority

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)

Tenure

2 years or until further orders (subject to retirement provisions)

Particular	Details
Educational Background	Medical Doctor (MBBS)
IPS Batch	1993
Cadre	Andhra Pradesh
Worked In	Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland, Bihar
Deputy Director, IB	J&K (2009–12 & 2012–15)
Head of Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (SIB)	Jammu & Kashmir (2020–2024)
Special Responsibility	Security and intelligence operations after the abrogation of Article 370
Other Role	Participated in talks with civil society groups in Ladakh

Feature	Details
Full Form	Intelligence Bureau (IB)
Established	1887
Headquarters	New Delhi
Parent Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs
Nature	India's oldest internal intelligence agency
Primary Function	Internal intelligence and counter-intelligence
Chief	Director, Intelligence Bureau (DIB)



- **Functions of the Intelligence Bureau**

- Internal security intelligence.
- Counter-terrorism operations.
- Counter-espionage (detecting foreign spies).
- Counter-radicalisation and monitoring extremist activities.
- Security assessments for VIPs and important events.
- Inputs on insurgency, separatism, and organised crime.
- Coordination with State Police and central security agencies.

Agency	Ministry	Main Role
Intelligence Bureau (IB)	Ministry of Home Affairs	Internal Intelligence
Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW)	Cabinet Secretariat	External Intelligence
National Investigation Agency (NIA)	Ministry of Home Affairs	Terrorism Investigation
National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO)	National Security Adviser	Technical & Cyber Intelligence
Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA)	Ministry of Defence	Military Intelligence Coordination

Feature	Intelligence Bureau (IB)	Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW)
Intelligence Type	Internal	External
Established	1887	1968
Parent Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs	Cabinet Secretariat
Operational Area	Within India	Outside India
Main Focus	Terrorism, extremism, espionage, internal security	Foreign intelligence, strategic affairs, cross-border threats

Feature	Details
Purpose	Appoints senior civil servants and top government officials
Chairperson	Prime Minister of India
Member	Minister of Home Affairs
Appoints	Secretaries, Directors of IB, CBI, senior PSU chiefs, and other top officials

Director	Tenure (Approx.)
Arvind Kumar	2019–2022
Tapan Kumar Deka	2022–2026
Mahesh Dixit	Appointed in 2026

IN BRIEF



Air Suvidha 2.0 portal launched for Ebola screening

The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) on Thursday launched Air Suvidha 2.0, an upgraded connective passenger health self-declaration portal, to strengthen public health surveillance in response to the ongoing Ebola disease outbreak.

SC allows actor Jacqueline Fernandez to withdraw plea

The Supreme Court on Thursday allowed actor Jacqueline Fernandez to withdraw her plea challenging a Delhi court order to frame charges against her in a ₹200-crore money laundering case.

New facility launched for transit passengers

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu on Thursday launched a facility for transit passengers to complete immigration formalities at their origin airport so that they can bypass the process at their destination.

An India CEO Campbell Wilson said the facility would subsequently be rolled out at Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Varanasi, Kochi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Visakhapatnam.

Mr. Naidu said this hub-and-spoke model would put Indian airports on a par with some of the leading hubs such as Singapore and Dubai.

NCERT introduces 1975 Emergency in Class 9 text

This is the first time a reference has been made to the Emergency at the Class 9 level, while earlier references were limited to Class 12 textbook; it also mentions democratic traditions of early times

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has introduced the 1975 Emergency in India in its Class 9 textbook 'Understanding Society: India and Beyond'.

This is the first time a reference has been made to the Emergency at the Class 9 level, while earlier references were limited to the Class 12 political science textbook.

"In the early 1970s, public dissatisfaction with the government led by Indira Gandhi was growing. Rising unemployment, inflation and allegations of mis-governance led to widespread protests.



DIABHENDRA PRASAD (Hindu Education Mission)

NCERT has done the right thing by adding a section on Emergency, so that the future generations should know and understand such dark deeds, and so that such a situation does not arise again.

Internal disturbance," reads a section in the chapter under the political science component of the social science textbook.

The section also highlights the role of Jayaprakash Narayan in the movement against the Emergency.

Netra, India's airborne surveillance platform, gets final operational nod

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI



Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bhatti and others, pose during a ceremony marking the FOC of NETRA on Thursday.

The indigenous Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system, which played a pivotal role as a force multiplier for the Indian Air Force in the 2019 Balakrishna strikes and Operation Shakti last year, was awarded final operational clearance (FOC) on Thursday.

Developed indigenously by the Bengaluru-based Centre for Airborne Systems (CAES), the Netra AEW&C is integrated on the Brazilian Embraer EMB-145 aircraft platform.

The textbook also traces the democratic traditions of early times and discusses their contemporary relevance. It mentions the Election Commission and its role in conducting "free and fair elections".

Women's rights: Also, a full page on women's rights and women's reservation in local bodies has been added.

The section on "Challenges to Democratic Practices in India" mentioned spread of fake news, misinformation, damaging public property, violation of public rules, poverty, regionalism, social discrimination, and gender inequality as challenges to democratic values.

Emergency was a direct assault on Constitution: Modi

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI



Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the Emergency was a direct assault on the Constitution, as it involved the suspension of civil liberties, curbs on freedom of expression, and the arrest of political leaders, journalists, and social workers.

"For all of us, our Constitution is an embodiment of the aspirations, rights and duties of 140 crore Indians. We reaffirm our collective commitment to safeguarding constitutional values, guided by the spirit

FIR against 40 Army personnel for assault in J&K

The Hindu Bureau SRINAGAR

A first information report (FIR) was lodged in Jammu district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday after 40 Army personnel, including two officers, allegedly barged into a police station and threatened police personnel, including officers.

The police have initiated an inquiry into the incident and the Army said it would extend "full cooperation".

An official said the Army personnel, including commanding officer and a Major, faced charges under Section 151 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

According to the police report, the incident took place around 12:30 p.m. on June 24 at the Ashraf police station.

More drugs to get QR codes amid fight against fake products

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry has notified amendments to the Drugs Rules, 1955, to expand the ambit of Schedule H2 and bring additional categories of drugs under the QR code-based traceability framework.

Under the amended provisions, all vaccines, antimicrobials, narcotic and psychotropic drugs are included under Schedule H2 of the Drugs Rules, 1955.

With this amendment, manufacturers of these drug formulations will be required to print or affix a bar code or QR code on the primary packaging label of the product or, where there is inadequate space,

abandoned temporarily. The programme took off again after being sanctioned abroad in 2004.

On January 11, 1991, the ill-fated aircraft had a crash. It was a salute to the brave souls who made their supreme sacrifice. Today we have shown that we have not gone to vain. This FOC is a testament to the achievement to colleagues killed in a tragic air crash in 1991.

However, the tragic crash of a modified BUE-740 Avro aircraft near Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu, with 13 on board, including four IAF personnel and four scientists, on January 11, 1999 resulted in the programme being

dedicated to the memory of the scientists and IAF officers who dedicated the programme being abandoned temporarily.

At an event to mark the occasion, scientists and IAF officers dedicated the programme being abandoned temporarily.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and a QR code for solutions.

- 18. Supermarkets without essential stock? Get major sales surge (8)
19. Burned earth at war? That's a rumour (11)
20. Copying crossword to do something different? (5,2,3)
21. Compulsion of navigator aid getting worse (6)
22. Sweeper hugs everyone in the dining hall (8)
23. Bad debt covers up in budget cases (5)
24. Take a break, Jefferson! Make a short visit (4,2)
25. Satisfied about the situation offering no progress to all (7)
26. Parties agree only without reciprocity and hold solvent jointly (6)
27. ...
28. Nobody gets air in the fiasco (13,3)

Sudoku puzzle grid with clues and a QR code for solutions.

FAITH
One who holds all things
The tenth of Muharram stands apart in the Islamic calendar. Ashura, derived from the Arabic ashura (ten), arrives as both a summons to remembrance and an invitation to gratitude.

Prophet Muhammad's grandson and the fifth Shia Imam - refused to yield to tyranny and was killed in the Battle of Karbala on this day in 680 CE.
In Sunni traditions, the day is marked by voluntary fasting - an observance that prohibits the tragedy at Karbala, unless Muhammad came upon Jesus fasting in Mecca on the day to commemorate the deliverance of the Israelites from Pharaoh (referring to the parting of the Red Sea). He declares that Muslims had greater right to honor Prophet Musa (Moses) and prostrated the fast. Beyond the foundational event confirmed in Sahih al-Bukhari, several distinct interventions are associated with Ashura in classical Islamic narratives. Prophet Yunus (Jonah) was saved after years of trial and tribulation - the ultimate reward for his steadfast patience. Ashura reminds the faithful of one constant that no trial is final. Every Prophet found his way ultimately upheld - not just by their own faith, but by the mercy of the One who holds all things.
Mohammed Hidayat

NCERT introduces 1975 Emergency in Class 9 text

This is the first time a reference has been made to the Emergency at the Class 9 level, while earlier references were limited to Class 12 textbook; it also mentions democratic traditions of early times

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has introduced the 1975 Emergency in India in its Class 9 textbook *Understanding Society: India and Beyond*. The reference in a chapter examining the strengths and challenges of Indian democracy presents the Emergency as “one of the major challenges to democracy in India”.

This is the first time a reference has been made to the Emergency at the Class 9 level, while earlier references were limited to the Class 12 political science textbook. India recently observed 50 years since the declaration of the Emergency.

“In the early 1970s, public dissatisfaction with the government led by Indira Gandhi was growing. Rising unemployment, inflation and allegations of misgovernance led to widespread protests. In June 1975, a National Emergency was imposed by the government on grounds of

NCERT has done the right thing by adding a section on Emergency, so that the future generations should know and understand such ‘dark deeds’, and so that such a situation does not arise again

DHARMENDRA PRADHAN
Union Education Minister



internal disturbance,” reads a section in the chapter under the political science component of the social science textbook.

“During this period, a majority of fundamental rights were suspended, the press was censored, and numerous political leaders and activists were arrested. Democratic institutions came under severe strain, and citizens’ freedom was restricted,” it adds. The section also highlights the role of Jayaprakash Narayan in the movement against the Emergency.

“Mass movements led by Jayaprakash Narayan – a political leader and socialist thinker, popularly known as Lok Nayak – mobilised students and citi-

zens, especially in Bihar and Gujarat. The Emergency was lifted in 1977, and general elections were held, allowing people to express their will through the ballot. The defeat of the ruling government demonstrated the strength of Indian democracy and highlighted the importance of democracy,” reads an excerpt from the book.

In a statement, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, “NCERT has done the right thing by adding a section on Emergency, so that the future generations should know and understand such ‘dark deeds’, and so that such a situation does not arise again. NCERT has done a good job.”

The textbook also traces the democratic traditions of early times and discusses their contemporary relevance. It mentions the Election Commission and its role in conducting “free and fair elections”.

Women’s rights

Also, a full page on women’s rights and women’s reservation in local bodies has been added.

“In a number of countries, women had to wage a long and difficult struggle to secure the right to vote... In contrast, women in India were granted the right to vote... However right to vote does not automatically ensure equal participation. Social prejudices continue to act as barriers and affect women’s adequate participation in politics,” the excerpt states.

The section on “Challenges to Democratic Practices in India” mentioned spread of fake news, misinformation, damaging public property, violation of public rules, poverty, regionalism, social discrimination, and gender inequality as challenges to democratic practice.

Particular	Details
Organization	National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)
Textbook	<i>Understanding Society: India and Beyond</i> (Class 9 Social Science)
New Addition	Dedicated chapter on the 1975–77 National Emergency
Significance	First time the Emergency has been included at the Class 9 level (earlier discussed mainly in Class 12 Political Science).
Theme	Challenges to Indian Democracy, Democratic Values, Women's Rights, Elections, Fake News, and Civic Participation

What Does the New Chapter Cover?

1. The Emergency (1975–1977)

The textbook describes the Emergency as **one of the major challenges to democracy in India.**

It highlights:

- Suspension of Fundamental Rights.
 - Press censorship.
 - Arrest of political leaders and activists.
 - Restrictions on civil liberties.
 - Strain on democratic institutions.
 - Rise of the mass movement led by **Jayaprakash Narayan (Lok Nayak).**
 - Restoration of democracy through the **1977 General Elections.**
-

Background of the Emergency

Feature	Details
Declared By	<u>Indira Gandhi</u>
Date	25 June 1975
Withdrawn	21 March 1977
Constitutional Provision	Article 352 (National Emergency)
Official Reason	"Internal Disturbance" (<i>later changed to "Armed Rebellion" by the 44th Constitutional Amendment</i>)

Why Was the Emergency Declared?

According to the chapter, India faced:

- Rising unemployment.
- Inflation.
- Public dissatisfaction.
- Political protests.
- Allegations of misgovernance.
- Mass movement led by **Jayaprakash Narayan**.

Major Features of the Emergency

Area	What Happened?
Fundamental Rights	Several rights were suspended.
Press	Strict censorship imposed.
Political Leaders	Many opposition leaders were arrested.
Judiciary	Powers curtailed in several matters.
Elections	Democratic processes were affected.
Civil Liberties	Freedom of speech and expression restricted.

End of the Emergency

Event	Details
Emergency Lifted	21 March 1977
Elections Held	1977 General Election
Outcome	Defeat of the ruling Congress government and victory of the Janata Party
Importance	Demonstrated the resilience of Indian democracy through peaceful electoral change.

Other New Topics Added to the Textbook

1. Democratic Traditions

The book discusses:

- Democratic practices in ancient India.
 - Their relevance in modern democracy.
-

2. Election Commission of India (ECI)

The chapter explains the role of the:

Election Commission of India

Functions include:

- Conducting free and fair elections.
 - Supervising elections.
 - Maintaining electoral integrity.
-

3. Women's Rights

The textbook emphasizes:

- Women's voting rights.
- Political participation.
- Reservation in local bodies (Panchayats and Municipalities).
- Barriers such as:
 - Social prejudice.
 - Gender discrimination.
 - Unequal political representation.

4. Challenges to Democracy

The textbook identifies several contemporary challenges:

- Fake news.
- Misinformation.
- Damage to public property.
- Violation of public rules.
- Poverty.
- Regionalism.
- Social discrimination.
- Gender inequality.

National Emergency under the Indian Constitution

Feature	Details
Constitutional Provision	Article 352
Can Be Proclaimed Due To	War, External Aggression, or Armed Rebellion
Declared By	President of India (on written advice of the Union Cabinet)
Parliamentary Approval	Within 1 month
Duration	6 months at a time; can be extended with parliamentary approval

Constitutional Changes Related to the Emergency

Amendment	Importance
38th Amendment (1975)	Made the President's Emergency proclamation largely beyond judicial review (later reversed).
42nd Amendment (1976)	Expanded the powers of the Union Government; often called the "Mini Constitution."
44th Amendment (1978)	Replaced " Internal Disturbance " with " Armed Rebellion ", strengthened safeguards, and made future Emergency proclamations more difficult.

Timeline

Year	Event
1974	JP Movement intensified.
25 June 1975	National Emergency proclaimed.
1976	42nd Constitutional Amendment enacted.
21 March 1977	Emergency withdrawn.
1977	General Election; Janata Party formed the government.
1978	44th Constitutional Amendment introduced safeguards against misuse of Emergency provisions.

Feature

Details

Full Form

National Council of Educational Research and Training

Established

1961

Headquarters

New Delhi

Ministry

Ministry of Education

Role

Develops school curriculum, textbooks, teacher training, and educational research.

Netra, India's airborne surveillance platform, gets final operational nod

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

The indigenous Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system, which played a pivotal role as a force multiplier for the Indian Air Force in the 2019 Balakot strikes and Operation Sindoor last year, was accorded final operational clearance (FOC) on Thursday.

Developed indigenously by the Bengaluru-based Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS), the Netra AEW&C is integrated on the Brazilian Embraer EMB-145I aircraft platform.

The system encompasses a sophisticated suite of mission equipment, including an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AE-SA) radar, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), mission computer, secure communication networks, electronic support measures (ESM) and communi-



Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti and others, pose during a ceremony marking the FOC of NETRA on Thursday. MURALI KUMAR K

cation support measures. India is the fifth country in the world to develop this capability, as Netra can detect, track, identify and monitor airborne and maritime targets enhancing the network-centric operations capabilities of the IAF.

Dedication

At an event to mark the occasion, scientists and IAF officers dedicated the

achievement to colleagues killed in a tragic air crash in 1999. The seeds of India's airborne warning and control system (AWACS) were sown in the early 1980s.

However, the tragic crash of a modified HS-748 Avro aircraft near Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu, with eight people aboard, including four IAF personnel and four scientists, on January 11, 1999 resulted in the programme being

abandoned temporarily.

The programme took off again after being sanctioned afresh in 2004. During this intervening period, scientists kept their perseverance and hoped for the best.

“On January 11, 1999, the ill-fated aircraft had a crash. I salute personnel who were on board, who made their supreme sacrifice. Today we have shown that their sacrifice has not gone in vain. This FOC is dedicated to them,” Director-General of Aeronautics Cluster of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), K. Rajalakshmi Menon said.

The Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) for the Netra was accorded in 2015 and it was inducted into the IAF in 2017.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved the development of six more AEW&C Mk-1A systems by the CABS.

Feature	Details
Full Form	National Council of Educational Research and Training
Established	1961
Headquarters	New Delhi
Ministry	Ministry of Education
Role	Develops school curriculum, textbooks, teacher training, and educational research.

What is Netra AEW&C?

Netra is India's indigenous **Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C)** aircraft.

It is often described as a "**flying radar station**" because it can detect enemy aircraft, missiles, drones, and other aerial threats hundreds of kilometres away while airborne.

What does AEW&C mean?

Term	Meaning
Airborne	Mounted on an aircraft
Early Warning	Detect threats before they reach friendly territory
Control	Direct fighter aircraft and coordinate air operations

Primary Functions

- Air surveillance
 - Airspace monitoring
 - Early warning
 - Command and control
 - Target tracking
 - Battlefield management
-

Feature	Details
Radar	Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Radar
Identification	IFF (Identification Friend or Foe)
Communication	Secure communication network
Electronic Warfare	Electronic Support Measures (ESM)
Mission Computer	Advanced onboard processing
Role	Detect, Track, Identify and Monitor airborne & maritime targets

What is AESA Radar?

AESA (Active Electronically Scanned Array) is one of the world's most advanced radar technologies.

Advantages

- No mechanically rotating antenna
 - Faster target tracking
 - Simultaneous tracking of multiple targets
 - Better resistance to jamming
 - Longer detection range
 - High reliability
-

What is IFF?

IFF = Identification Friend or Foe

Purpose:

- Identifies whether an aircraft is friendly or hostile.
- Prevents friendly-fire incidents.

Year	Event
Early 1980s	Indigenous AWACS concept initiated
11 Jan 1999	Modified HS-748 Avro prototype crashed during testing near Arakkonam, Tamil Nadu
2004	Project revived
2015	Initial Operational Clearance (IOC)
2017	Inducted into the Indian Air Force
2026	Final Operational Clearance (FOC) granted

AEW&C	AWACS
Airborne Early Warning & Control	Airborne Warning and Control System
Usually smaller aircraft	Usually larger aircraft
Medium surveillance range	Longer surveillance range
Lower operating cost	Higher operating cost
Example: Netra	Example: Beriev A-50 (Phalcon AWACS in IAF service)

Country	Indigenous Capability
USA	E-3 Sentry, E-7 Wedgetail
Russia	A-50, A-100
Israel	EL/W-2090 Phalcon
China	KJ-2000, KJ-500
India	Netra AEW&C

IBM LAUNCHES WORLD'S FIRST SUB-1 NM CHIP



IBM HAS
UNVEILED
the world's
first sub-1
nanometer
chip tech-

nology as tech firms race to build semiconductors that can handle increasingly demanding AI workloads. The new chip technology has a transistor architecture of 0.7 nanometers, or 7 angstroms.

Particular

Details

Company

IBM

Announcement

World's first **sub-1 nanometer semiconductor chip technology**

Technology Node

0.7 nanometer (7 Ångström)

Purpose

To power next-generation AI, HPC (High-Performance Computing), cloud computing, and energy-efficient devices

Significance

Marks a major breakthrough beyond current commercial chip manufacturing nodes

Material	Usage
Silicon (Si)	Most common chip material
Germanium (Ge)	High-speed electronics
Gallium Arsenide (GaAs)	Satellites, radar, 5G
Silicon Carbide (SiC)	Electric Vehicles
Gallium Nitride (GaN)	Fast chargers, power electronics

4. What is a Chip?

A **chip (Integrated Circuit - IC)** is a tiny piece of semiconductor containing millions or billions of transistors that process and store information.

It acts as the **brain** of electronic devices.

Used in:

- Smartphones
- Computers
- AI servers
- Cars
- Satellites
- Medical devices

5. What is a Transistor?

A **transistor** is the smallest switching device in an electronic circuit.

Functions:

- Switches electrical signals ON/OFF
- Amplifies signals
- Performs logical operations
- Stores binary data (0 & 1)

Modern processors contain **billions of transistors**.

6. Why is Sub-1 nm Technology Important?

Advantage	Benefit
More transistors	Higher computing power
Smaller size	Compact devices
Lower power consumption	Better battery life
Faster processing	Improved AI performance
Less heat generation	Better efficiency
Higher transistor density	Greater performance per chip

7. Why is it Important for Artificial Intelligence?

AI models require enormous computational power.

Sub-1 nm chips help by:

- Faster AI model training
- Quicker inference
- Lower electricity consumption
- Efficient data centers
- Better generative AI performance
- Faster cloud computing

8. Evolution of Semiconductor Technology

Generation	Approx. Year	Feature
90 nm	Early 2000s	Desktop processors
45 nm	2008	Smartphones began improving
14 nm	2014	High-performance processors
7 nm	2018	AI-ready processors
5 nm	2020	Flagship smartphones
3 nm	2023–24	Commercial cutting-edge chips
0.7 nm	IBM Research Prototype	Experimental next-generation technology

Note: IBM's 0.7 nm chip is a **research breakthrough**, not yet in mass commercial production.

9. Current Leading Semiconductor Manufacturers

Company	Country	Strength
TSMC	Taiwan	World's largest contract chip manufacturer
Samsung Electronics	South Korea	Memory chips and advanced fabrication
Intel	USA	CPUs and semiconductor manufacturing
NVIDIA	USA	AI GPUs
AMD	USA	CPUs & AI processors
Qualcomm	USA	Mobile processors

10. India's Semiconductor Mission

Feature	Details
Scheme	India Semiconductor Mission
Launched	2021
Outlay	₹76,000 crore
Objective	Build semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem in India
Focus	Fabrication plants, packaging, design, research, talent development

11. Applications of Advanced Chips

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Quantum Computing
- Supercomputers
- Smartphones
- Electric Vehicles (EVs)
- Robotics
- Space Technology
- Defence Systems
- 5G and future 6G networks
- Internet of Things (IoT)

12. IBM at a Glance

Particular	Details
Full Name	International Business Machines Corporation
Founded	1911
Headquarters	Armonk, New York, USA
Nickname	"Big Blue"
CEO	<u>Arvind Krishna</u> (Indian-American)
Business	AI, Cloud Computing, Quantum Computing, Semiconductor Research

Word of the day

Fallacy:

a misconception resulting from incorrect reasoning

Synonyms: false belief

Usage: *It is a fallacy to believe that money guarantees happiness.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/fallacy

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /'fæl.ə.si/



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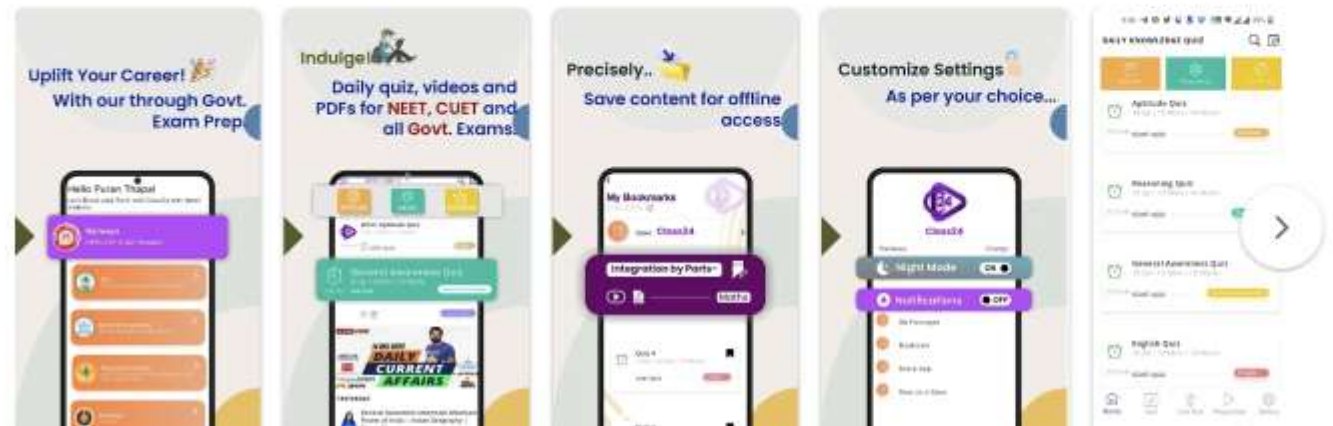
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