# Daily Current Affairs











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10 MCQ QUIZ

"Daily improvement is not about being better than others — it's about being 1% better than the you of yesterday." (\*\infty)



Rollout of PM SHRI scheme put on hold HEWS IS PAGE 5





Murmu flies a sortie in Rafale fighter jet

Green maritime partners Both face common challenges and have a shared responsibility



South Africa in final, India meets Australia

#### IN SHIPE



### Azharuddin to be Minister in Telangana

### HYDERABAD

decision comes in the midst compaigning for the byelecti to Jubilee Hills Assembly oneliturency, a PAGE 8

#### Maritime sector has seen historic progress: Modi

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#### India and China hold fresh talks on border peace

### NEW DELINE

The Indian and Chinese militaries held a fresh round of high-level talks aimed at along the Line of Actual fred (LAC) to make adable II was the first such militaries after the Special August to PAGE 4

#### Nitish is just a facade for the BJP, says Rabul

government in Bihar". Despite two decades of Nitish est progress", Mr. Carolly cost is pass a



#### '12 times more funds needed for climate action'

NEW DELMI To adapt to climate change, developing countries will require arrywhere from \$310-365 billion annually by 2035, according to a UN. This is rearly 12 times more than the

### U.S. doing a trade deal with India: Trump

Trump says he has a great relationship with Modi

Press Trust of India

nue negotiations on a pro

have great respect and love, as you know, for Prime Minister Modi. We

have a great relationship," Arr. Trump said at the APEC (Asia-Pacific Eco-

nomic Cooperation CEO Summit in Gyeongju, South Kerea.

At the APEC CEO summit in South Korea, President
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### "Prime Minister Modi is Talks with EU have gone

### "Printe Minister Medil is the sicest looking guy... he's lough as hell," Mr. Trump added, He landed in South Kores on Wednes-day morning from Japan as part of a three-mation tour of Asia. J.5. President Do-nald Trump on Washington is 'doing a trade deal with india', and implassioned that he has 'a great relationality' with Frime Minister Narendra Modi, as both sides conti-nue negotiations on a pro-

of Asia.
Mr. Trump, who did not Mr. Trump, who did not claimente on trade talls, restreated his claim that he used trade to resolve the war between India and Pa-kletant in May. "I called Prime Mirature Modil, I said, we want make a trade deal with you... Ohe mist No, on, we must make a limite... I said, No, we can't. posed pact.
"If you look at India and Pakistan... so, I'm doing a trade dual with India and I You are starting a war with Pakistan, We're not going to do it," Mr. Trump said. He also praised Pakis

tan's Army chief Field Mar-shat Asim Munir, calling him "a great fighter" and

Modil. We have a great DONALD TRUMP "a great guy." "Then I the lauders of both India and Pakistan called bim atwe're not golog to do trade with you because you're fighting. "After literally two

fighting with India and you know two nuclear nations.

And they said, no, no, no, you should let us fight.

They both said that? he added.

Mr. Trump claimed that Mr. Trump claimed that

### e if you look at India India and I have great respect and love, as you know, for Prime Minister

days, they called up, they said, we understand, and they stopped fighting. How is that? Isn't that amazing? Now, you think Line! Bider would have done that?" Mr. Trump said.

### past halfway mark: Goval finalised, and several other chapters nearing completion, Union Minister Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday.

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan

The previous day, in To-kyo, Mr. Trump said he brought the war to an end in 24 hours. "Seven planes were shot down, seven brand new, beautiful planes were shot down, and they were going at it... two big nuclear powers," he said at a reception and dinner with business lead-

ers in the Japanese capital.

He added that he told

Mr. Modi and Gen. Munir,

'Look, we're not going to do any trade if you're going

to be fighting."
"(They said) one thing has nothing to do with the other. I said this, it has a lot to do with the other ... two nuclear powers...we get

that nuclear dust all over the place. All of you are af-fected, right? And we said, No, we're not doing any deals if you're going to hight. And within about 24 hours, that was the end of that. It was arrasing, as-mally, the LLS. President

The U.S. President's com-ment came at a time when have been reeling under secore strain after Mr. Trump imposed 50% ta-riffs on India, inchasing an additional 25% levies for its

BELATED BEFORE

### Cyclone Montha leaves two dead, flattens crops in Andhra Pradesh



is and Machilipatnam dur-ing an aerial survey. Point-ing out that Prabasam and Nellare districts bore the brunt of heavy rains, he

severe eyclonic sterm Months left a trail of des-truction in Andhra Fra-desh, leaving two persons dead and inundating agri-87,000 bectares. It also damaged roads, bridges and culverts, and uproofed rees, officials said after a

eliminary assessment.
The severe cyclonic orm crossed the Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts between H.30 p.m. on Tuesday and 12.30 a.m. on Tuesday and 12.30 a.m. on Wednesday, close to Nar-sapuram in Andhra Fra-dash, the India Meteoro-logical Department said. Wind speeds touched 90 kingle near the Machilipan nam coast as the storm considered to the coast consideration of the coast to the coast. See the coast to a cyclomic storm by 2.30 a.m. and then into a deep depression by 8.30

deep depression by 8.30 s.m. on Wednesday, it ad-dest.

At 5.30 p.m., the deep depression over north Andhra Pradesh, south Od-isha, south Chlattingach and northeast Telangana weakened into a depres-sion over south Chhatta-garh, it is likely to move northwards and weaken into a well-marked low-pressure area during the next 12 hours, the bulletin

at 8.30 p.m. said. According to a preliminary assessment, crops were damaged on 87,000 hectures across 304 man-dals and 1,825 villages. Ov-er 89,000 hectures of paddy, cotton, make, and black gram fields were submerged, resulting in severe losses to 78,796 farmers.

losses to 78,796 farmers. Several roads, 4b bridges, and multiple sulvers were damaged. About 2,294 km of reads were af-noted, with losses salama-ed at 1,424 crors. The Ru-rial Water Supply department sustained loss-es of 436 crors, while Irri-gation works worth 186,48.

crore were affected.

The Narsapurani consi, where the lansifall happened, says no major dan age.

Kombalishe Kombahhiahekam fish landing point hear Kokimda Deepsei port, Gaddepulli Rairani, a fisherman huffing from Dimontifapira, is found in The NORF pressured have The NDRF personnel have intensified the search in

CM reviews measures Chief Minister N. Chandra-babu Naidu took stock of the cyclone impact at Oda larevu in Allavaram man-dal of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Kamanesma diatrict, Bapat-

apart from essential com-modities. They will also be Two districts, SPSR Nellore and Prakasum, re-ceived extremely heavy rainfall it total, 27 stations paid 43,000 per family. The other affected people will get 28 kg of rice. Pointrainfall. In total, 27 stations in the State, meat of them in Prakasam, 8P8R Nellore, and Bapatla, recorded 10 cm and more during the 24-hour period ending at 6.30 a.m. on Wednesday.

sand damage to crops and ament has been reported in every countd district. The loss is being emmerated.

Mr. Naidu said the fish-erfolk who falled to under-

take fishing activities and

handloom weavers would be given 50 kg of rice,

india will repartiate 800 of its citizens who recently crossed into Thailand, fleeting from a bloomy million of the properties of the prop

io Mae Stot in Thailand.
Following the Thai PMY semarks, Ministry of Esternal Affairs spolesperson Randhr Jaiswal said tha authorities in New Beilt authorities in New Beilt spolesperson authorities in New Leith spolesperson authorities in New Leith spolesperson in New Leither days. Our Mission in That-land is working closely with That authorities to verify their nationality and to repatriate them, after necessary legal formalities are completed in that country," Mr. Jaiawal said.

Hub of cybercrime

well get 28 kg of rice. Point-ing mit that more than 1.6 lakh prosple were evacuat-rice to the prosple were evacuat-minimize loss of life, the Chief Minister asid. "Our strategy of evacuating poi-arcas helped minimize loss of life and propenty. Past experiences of dealing technology helped us de-sign a robust preparedness plan". External Affairs Minister B. Jaishankar had raised con-cerns about Indians stuck in seam centres in the rein seems centries in the re-gion during his speech at the East Asia Rummit on Octobe 27. "We share the concern about soam centres in the egion which has also entrapped our na-tionals," he had said. The fraud boths have be-name a major issue for the

### shelter in Thailand to be repatriated

Our Mission in Thailand is India will repatriate 500 of working closely with That authorities to verify their stationality and to repairture legal formalities are completed in that

> That Prime Minister, who said shutting down these hubs is a national security priceity for Tholland. In a meeting of the National Steering Committee on the Steering Committee on the Prevention and Suppres-sion of Technology-related Crimes held in Bunglock on October 20, Mr. Charnwin-kal described the cross-border online scan indus-try as a threat to Thalland's economic stability.

peated raids against the KK Park cyber crime hub, prompting around 1,500 people of multiple nationalities to cross into That-land over the past week. A large number of cyber fraud outfits have set up bases along the Myanmar-Thailand border and in the Cambodia Lans taking advantage of the ciol conflict in Myanmar and lax local laws. Many of them are known to use U.S. billionaire. Elton. Music's Starlink satellite network to bypass local authorities.

ers", according to the

### 500 Indians taking | Israel says ceasefire is back on after + airstrikes kill 104 in Gaza

### Associated Press. DEIR AL BALAH, GAZA STRIP

tarael's military said on Wednesday that the cease-fire was back on in Gasa at fire was back on in Gasa affer it carried out heavy air-striction out heavy air-strikes overnight across the Palestinian territory that killed 104 people, in-cluding 48 children, ac-cording to local officials. The strikes, the dea-dliest since the causefire began on Getober 10, marked the most serious challenges to the truce to challenge to the truce to

date. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had ordered the strikes he had ordered the strikes after accusing Hamas of violating the coaselier for handing over body parts the week that tarast said were partial remains of a weep comment of the strikes of

blatant violation of the cea setire deal". Hamas also said it would delay banding over the body of another hostage to Israel because

of the strikes. U.S. President Donald Mr. Notanyahu on Mon

# U.S. doing a trade deal with India: Trump

At the APEC CEO summit in South Korea, President Trump says he has a great relationship with Modi

Trump reiterates claim that he used trade ties to resolve the India-Pakistan conflict in May

Trump says the leaders of India and Pakistan called him after two days and stopped fighting

### Press Trust of India TOKYO/SEOUL

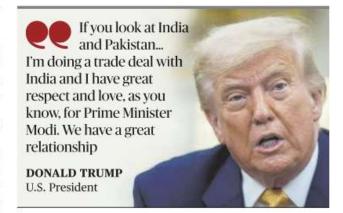
S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday said Washington is "doing a trade deal with India", and emphasised that he has "a great relationship" with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as both sides continue negotiations on a proposed pact.

"If you look at India and Pakistan... so, I'm doing a trade deal with India and I have great respect and love, as you know, for Prime Minister Modi. We have a great relationship," Mr. Trump said at the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) CEO Summit in Gyeongju, South Korea.

"Prime Minister Modi is the nicest looking guy... he's tough as hell," Mr. Trump added. He landed in South Korea on Wednesday morning from Japan as part of a three-nation tour of Asia.

Mr. Trump, who did not elaborate on trade talks, reiterated his claim that he used trade to resolve the war between India and Pakistan in May. "I called Prime Minister Modi. I said, we can't make a trade deal with you... (He said) No, no, we must make a trade... I said, No, we can't. You are starting a war with Pakistan. We're not going to do it," Mr. Trump said.

He also praised Pakistan's Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir, calling him "a great fighter" and



"a great guy." "Then I called Pakistan. I said, we're not going to do trade with you because you're fighting with India and you know, two nuclear nations. And they said, no, no, no, you should let us fight. They both said that," he added.

Mr. Trump claimed that

the leaders of both India and Pakistan called him after two days and stopped fighting. "After literally two days, they called up, they said, we understand, and they stopped fighting. How is that? Isn't that amazing? Now, you think [Joe] Biden would have done that?" Mr. Trump said.

# Talks with EU have gone past halfway mark: Goyal

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan NEW DELHI

Negotiations between India and the EU on a free trade agreement have crossed the halfway mark, with 10 out of 20 chapters finalised, and several other chapters nearing completion, Union Minister Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday.

### **FULL REPORT**

» PAGE 4

The previous day, in Tokyo, Mr. Trump said he brought the war to an end in 24 hours. "Seven planes were shot down, seven brand new, beautiful planes were shot down, and they were going at it... two big nuclear powers," he said at a reception and dinner with business leaders in the Japanese capital.

He added that he told Mr. Modi and Gen. Munir, 'Look, we're not going to do any trade if you're going to be fighting,'"

"(They said) one thing has nothing to do with the other. I said this, it has a lot to do with the other ...two nuclear powers...we get that nuclear dust all over the place. All of you are affected, right? And we said, No, we're not doing any deals if you're going to fight. And within about 24 hours, that was the end of that. It was amazing, actually," the U.S. President said.

### 'Under strain'

The U.S. President's comment came at a time when the relations between New Delhi and Washington have been reeling under severe strain after Mr. Trump imposed 50% tariffs on India, including an additional 25% levies for its procurement of Russian crude oil.

### RELATED REPORT

» PAGE 6

Aspect	Details	
Announcement	U.S. and India are negotiating a trade agreement.	
Event	APEC CEO Summit, Gyeongju, South Korea.	
Relationship with Modi	Trump called Modi "tough as hell" but also "the nicest looking guy."	
Reference to Pakistan	Claimed to have helped defuse tensions between India and Pakistan in May through trade diplomacy.	
Tone	Assertive — underscoring "mutual respect and love" for Modi and India.	

### Broader Diplomatic Context

### m 1. India-U.S. Trade Ties

- Bilateral trade in goods and services (2024): ~\$200 billion
- U.S. is India's largest trading partner.
- Key areas of cooperation: defense, technology, semiconductors, energy, and pharmaceuticals.

### **2. Trade Disputes**

- Relations have been under strain due to:
  - U.S. tariffs on Indian steel (25%) and aluminum (10%).
  - Indian tariffs on American farm and tech products.
  - Differing positions on Russia-Ukraine sanctions (especially India's import of Russian crude oil).

### 3. Trump's Claim on India-Pakistan Mediation

• Trump repeated his earlier claim that he had "used trade diplomacy" to end a border conflict between India and Pakistan within 24 hours — a claim unverified by either government.

### **Partnership**

India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

**Negotiators** 

Goal

### **Progress**

Halfway complete (10 of 20 chapters finalized).

Led by Commerce Minister **Piyush Goyal**.

Expand trade, reduce tariffs, align standards across services, textiles, and digital trade.

### **Dimension** Impact / Significance

**Economic** 

Strengthening trade with both U.S. & EU diversifies India's markets, reducing overdependence on China.

**Strategic** 

Deepens India's position within the Indo-Pacific alliance and QUAD framework.

**Diplomatic** 

Reinforces India's image as a key U.S. partner balancing autonomy in global affairs.

Challenge

**Explanation** 

**Tariff Barriers** 

U.S. insists on greater access for dairy, medical devices, and e-commerce; India seeks H-1B visa relief.

**Data & Tech Policy** 

Divergence over **digital sovereignty** and **data localization**.

**Energy & Sanctions** 

U.S. displeased over India's Russian crude imports.

**Political Context** 

Trump's statements may be campaign-oriented — real policy outcomes depend on U.S. election results.

### 500 Indians taking shelter in Thailand to be repatriated

Kallol Bhattacherjee NEW DELHI

India will repatriate 500 of its citizens who recently crossed into Thailand, fieeing from a Myanmar military operation against a cyberscam hub there, Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said, according to a Bangkok Post report on Wednesday.

The Myanmar military has carried out operations against the KK Park cyber crime hub in the Myawaddy township in southeastern Myanmar, which is known to have targeted many victims across the world. Following the operation, Indians working in the cyber crime compound crossed the border to Mae Sot in Thailand.

Following the Thai PM's remarks, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the authorities in New Delhi are "aware of Indian nationals who have been detained by Thai authorities", adding that the Indian Embassy in Bangkok is working to repatriate them. "They had crossed into Thailand from Myanmar over the past few days. Our Mission in Thailand is working closely with Thai authorities to verify their nationality and to repatriate them, after necessary legal formalities are completed in that country," Mr. Jaiswal said.

#### **Hub of cybercrime**

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar had raised concerns about Indians stuck in scam centres in the region during his speech at October 27, "We share the concern about scam centres in the region which has also entrapped our nationals," he had said.

come a major issue for the MEA.

Our Mission in Thailand is working closely with Thai authorities to verify their nationality and to repatriate them, after necessary legal formalities are completed in that country RANDHIR JAISWAL. MEA spokesperson

Thai Prime Minister, who said shutting down these hubs is a national security priority for Thailand. In a meeting of the National Steering Committee on the Prevention and Suppression of Technology-related Crimes held in Bangkok on October 20, Mr. Charnvirakul described the crossborder online scam industry as a threat to Thailand's economic stability.

The Myanmar military has been carrying out repeated raids against the KK Park cyber crime hub, prompting around 1,500 people of multiple nationalities to cross into Thailand over the past week. A large number of cyber fraud outfits have set up bases along the Myanmar-Thailand border and in the Cambodia-Laos region, taking advantage of the civil conflict in Myanmar and lax local laws. Many of them are known to use U.S. billionaire Elon Musk's Starlink satellite network to bypass local authorities.

Earlier, the Indian Air the East Asia Summit on Force carried out an airlift operation repatriating 283 Indians who had been "lured to various southeast Asian countries, including Myanmar with fake job off-The fraud hubs have be- ers", according to the

Around **500 Indian nationals** will be **repatriated from Thailand** after they fled **Myanmar's military operations**against a *cyber-scam hub* in the Myawaddy region.

The announcement came after **Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul** confirmed cooperation with Indian authorities.

These Indians had crossed into Thailand to escape crackdowns on **fraudulent online operations** run by organized criminal syndicates in Southeast Asia.

Aspect

Location

**Nature of Activities** 

**Recent Development** 

**Cross-border Movement** 

### **Details**

KK Park cybercrime hub, Myawaddy Township, southeastern **Myanmar**, near the **Thailand border**.

Large-scale cyber fraud, fake job scams, crypto-related phishing, and romance scams targeting victims worldwide.

Myanmar's army conducted operations against the hub, forcing workers (including Indians) to flee.

Hundreds crossed into **Mae Sot**, Thailand, seeking refuge.

Aspect	Details	
Location	KK Park cybercrime hub, Myawaddy Township, southeastern <b>Myanmar</b> , near the <b>Thailand border</b> .	
Nature of Activities	Large-scale cyber fraud, fake job scams, crypto-related phishing, and romance scams targeting victims worldwide.	
Recent Development	Myanmar's army conducted operations against the hub, forcing workers (including Indians) to flee.	
Cross-border Movement	Hundreds crossed into Mae Sot, Thailand, seeking refuge.	

**Authority Action / Statement** Working with Thai authorities to **verify Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** nationality and complete legal procedures for repatriation. Confirmed coordination between the **Indian** Randhir Jaiswal (MEA Spokesperson) **Embassy in Bangkok** and Thai officials. Highlighted India's concern about regional S. Jaishankar (External Affairs Minister) scam centres during his East Asia Summit speech (October 27). Earlier repatriated 283 Indians trapped in Myanmar and other Southeast Asian countries **Indian Air Force (IAF)** via airlift.

Country	Role / Concern
Myanmar	Source of cybercrime hubs; operations by local militias and criminal networks exploiting weak governance.
Thailand	Transit and refuge point; facing influx of foreign workers from scam compounds.
Cambodia & Laos	Other known hotspots of digital fraud and trafficking rings.
India	Victims and workers both affected — many Indians were lured abroad with <b>fake job offers</b> .

Area Issue

**Cybersecurity**Cross-border scams using global digital infrastructure.

Human Trafficking Indian youth lured through false employment ads.

**Diplomatic Coordination**Need for trilateral mechanisms with Myanmar and Thailand.

**Rehabilitation**Reintegration of rescued individuals and crackdown on recruiting networks.

### FTA talks with EU crossed halfway mark: Pivush Goval

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan

The negotiations between India and the European India and the European Union on a free trade agreement have crossed the Indiany mark, with 10 agreement buring teen it naised, and several other chapters nearing completes, Union Commerce Minister Psych 6 goods and on "We have made similar."

menday. We have made signifi-"We have made signifi-cant progress in the three-day discussion between faropean Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security Marco Sefcovic and his team and our team on several areas," Mr. Goyal said at a press brief-ing. "We have acreed to ing. "We have agreed to close to out of 20 chapters. Another fine to five chapters have in principle been breadly decided." The Minister has re-

turned from a three-nation tour, having visited Geneva for the 16th session of the United Nations Confirmen om Trade and Develop-ment, Berlin for the Berlin Clobal Dialogues, and Broasels to "further our ne-gotiations with the Euro-

pean Union\* for an FFA.

He said that, an an increasing number of issues, the two teams are newtige team from the EU is set to what New Delin next week to the team from the EU is set to what New Delin next week to the team of New Herbert on the Con whether negotial at the Con whether negotial to the EU is to be completed by the end of New Herbert negotial at the complete of the Herbert Median President of the European Commission of the European Commission of the European Commission Herbert and New Mediand President in February, Mr. Goyd and that the priority was a

that the priority was a "good deal" rather than

meeting deadlines.

"We have received guidance from our leaders, but the guidance does not mean we conclude just any deal," he said. "It has to be a good deal."

a good deal."
In a press release, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry had said that is seen related to steel, auto. Carbon Border Adjustment sm, and other KU regulations require further discussion "as these issues have higher semitivities".

### Indian maritime sector has seen historic progress: Modi

PM launches initiatives worth 72.2 lakh crore for shipping and shipbuilding sectors at Maritime Leaders' Conclave: amid global tensions, India represents autonomy and inclusive growth, he says

he progress in india's martime domartime domarti

"When the global seas are rough, the world looks for a steady lighthouse. In-dia can play that role very

atrongly. Amid global ten-sions, findla represents au-tonomy: and inclusive growth, Mr. Modi said, hinting at the prevailing global trade headwinds. During the event, Mr. Modi launided initiatives worth \$2.2 lakh crore for the shipping and ship-building sectors, inchasing acquisition of 437 vessels.



Narendra Modrat an eshibibon during the Martime Loaders Corscians at the India Maritims Week event in Mumbal, on

Several memoranda of un-derstanding (Motto) for porried industrialisation, sustainability, and ohip-building, among others, were signed.

Sign of confidence In 2016, the maiden India Maritime Week was held in Mumbat. Today, it has be-come a global summit. Eighty-free countries parti-cipate in it today. This itself sends a very big message," Mr. Modi said.

"The MoUs signed here show the confidence of the

world in India's maritime

capabilities." "This (2028) is a crucial year for the country's mar-time capabilities. The Vis-hinjam deep water transit hub has been operational. It is a matter of pride for every Indian. Kandla port and the Jawaharial Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) have shown great capabilities. The JNPT's handling capatidley has doubled, making it india's biggest container port," he added.

Speaking about reforms undertaken by the govern-

ment to improve shipping on part efficiency and gent grant g

Lingbilles por furnament Praising logistics perfor-mance of indian perts, Mr. Derformance Index of the World Bank, India had per-formed better."

"Altophalishing is maximal priority too. India is mak-ing great strides in ship-man performance of the per-pensive performance of the priority for indian and long.

"Naw alternatives for fi-nance and easy credit will be offered."

"We welcome your ideas, innovation and in-vestment. Public-Private Parinerships [PPP] have

been increasing. We are giving incentives to states to attract investment," he told the attendees at the

### India, China hold fresh round of talks on border peace

The Hindu Bureau

The Indian and Climese round of high-level talks aimed at maintaining peace and security along GAG in the security along a security a security along a security a security along a security a security a security along a security a security a security and a security a security a security and a security a security a security and a security a security and a security a security a security a securi

ter Wang Yi.
According to the Minia-tey of External Affairs (MEA), the 25th round of In-dia-China Corps Commun-der-lovel mosting was held on Catalon 28 at the (2)ushul-Moldo border

meeting point.
This was the first meeting of the General Level Mechanism in the Western Sector since the 24° round of Special Representatives' talks held on August 19. The discussions, the Minis-try said, were held in a

"Friendly and cordial atmosphere". The Ministry added that both sides had reviewed the progress since the 22"

President takes sortie in

interaction between the two militaries after the Special Representatives:

round of Corps Commun-dor-level Meeting held in October 2024 and shared the view that peace and tranquilling have been maintained in the border areas. The two sides agreed to continue using continue mechanisms to re-

solve any lianes on the ground and to maintain stability along the LAC. The Chinese Miniary of National Defence also con-firmed the talks, storing that "the two sides en-anged in active and in-depth communication on the management of the western section of the Chi-na-India border." The latest round of talks

comes amid ongoing ef-forts by both nations to sustain dialogue and prevent incidents along the contested frontier, where have been under way since

### Top court allows Angmo to launch a keener challenge to Wangchuk's detention

The Supreme Court on Weshinsday allowed Glass Jali J. Angree to Sunich a keener challenge against the Contre for detaining her husband and climate activits Sonam Wangchuk under the National Socuri-

ty Act.

In her application seeking amendment of her carling petition, Ms. Augmo alleged that the Union Home Ministry had nursed "strong reservations about Mr. Wangelook's in clusion in the High-Po-wered Committee delega-tion of the Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance formed to hold talks Stath Ashedule safeguards

She dented that Mr. Wangchuk used the planform of protest to target that "such allegations nor



Gitaryall J. Angroo

in the last two months, Au-gust and September 2025, which immediately result ed in notices and actions against his institutions, in-cluding cancellation of land leaves, CBI investigo tion, FCRA cancellation, Income Tax aumments, and

Ms. Angeno accused the detaining authority of "malicious intent", point-ing out that state action bement Council, Leh, elec-tions, scheduled for Octob-re 2003 and at a time when Mr. Waruchski publicly raised the lesse of halfiling the Sixth Schedule promis-en made during the 2020 elections. Mr. Wangchuk was de-

tailed on septement under the NSA following violent protests on Sep-tember 24 in Leh. He was shifted to the judique Con-tral fail in Rajasthan.

"The brazen allegation

that Mr. Sonam Wangchuk bus acted as chief provoca-teur in the violent protest that took place on 24 Sep-tember 2028 is false, malichous and fabricated and entirely contrary to the material on record... On the contrary, Mr. Sonam Wangchuk has made signifleant contributions in support of national security and the Armed Forces." Ms. Augmo said.

The court scheduled the

Producted Habitar



### NSCN(I-M) leader reiterates Naga sovereignty demand

National Socialist Conneil of Nagalim (I-M) leader Thuingaleng Mulvah on Wednesday reiterated his proup's unwavering stand n Naga sovereignty. Addressing a rally in Ma-

nipur's Renapati on his way back from his birthplace. Samilal village, to the NSCN 0-Mb's central head-quarters near Dimapur in adjoining Nagaland, Mr. Mulvah assured the Nagas

that the group would never compromise on what it set out to do decades ago.
"The only honourable negotiated political agree-

ment shall be according to the letter and spirit of the nique and the Frameworl Agreement (August 2015), and the officially recog-nised Nagalim unique his tory, Nagalim sovereignty, Nagalim territory, and the Naga national flag, and the

### Rafale fighter jet, calls it 'unforgettable experience'

Press Trust of India

President Droupadi Mur-mu on Wednesshy took is norted in a Barlab fighter jet between the president of the Station in Ambola, and de-scribed the experience as "unforgottable", and one that instilled a "renewed that instilled

two different fighter air-craft of the Indian Air Parce. Previously, she unbertook a sortie to a Sulchof 80 MKI, in April 2023, from

Donning a G-suit and porting sumplanes. Murmu, who is also commander in Chief he todian armed forces. was seen posing for pic-tures and flashing a flumbs-sip gesture before the French-made jet, flown by Group Captain Amit Ge hani, Commanding Officer



speed of approximately 700 kmph, according to a statement from the Presi-dent's office.

lem. The aircraft reached a height of about 18,000 feet we see level, and a ed of approximately

Upon landing, the Presi-dent shared ber delight in the visitor's book. "The mette on Bafale is an unfor-

sense of pride in the na-tion's defence capabilities. I congratulate the Indian

Singh also flew a sortie in a separate aircraft from the same air base.
Upon arrival in Ambala
the President was accord

ed a ceremonial guard of bonour. Prior to the flight, Ms. Murmu was pictured with Squadron Leader Shi-

### 2-day online camp offers positivity skill training for teens

The Hindu Bureau

With teenagers facing in-creasing presente in school of the control of the control of the control during comparison with peurs and due to online in-fluences, many of them straigle with stress and MiTran (foliais) impair-ing Positivity Camp offers a two-day online pre-gramme for those aged it.

with emotional realistics.

The Hindu in Mehoul is the media partner.

The camp will offer

three signature modules: I ove Exams, Accelerated earning Methodology and

Witne Global importing positivity comp for teens THE HINDU

coaching. Every student will receive a workshoot and a certificate.

and a certificate.

the student of the students of the students per students per students per students per students.

For the fee is

For more details, call research

# India and Japan would like to open a "golden chapter" in their thes, satel Japan's hard to be a seen a seen

Mew magnit, 1900 cooperation with India on security, economy, investment, innovation. and people to people

Japan's new PM calls Modi, discusses

Quad, economic and security issues

Japon in August, Mr. Modi-had then met with Ma. Ta-budchi's prodecessor Shiga-ru ishiba, who subsequent. The Japonese Prime Mi-nistor's office said that Ms. Takaishi sained that India and Japon Aharis "Annda-mental values and strategic mental values and strategic

"Japan intends to conti-nue to work ingether to ward realising a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, includ-ing through Japan-Australia-India-U.S.," it said in statement, adding that Ja-pan will continue its coop-eration with India on security, sconomy, investment, innovation,

and people-to-people ex-changes. In a post respond-ing to Mr. Modi on social media, Ms. Takaichi said that she would like to open a "new golden chapter in the Japan India Special Strategic and Global Part-nership", along with Mr. Medi.

The new Japaneses. Prime Minister has met many of bor Asian and Iranical and the Japanese of the Asian and Iranical and Iranical and Iranical and the Asian and Iranical and the Asian and Iranical and Iranical and Iranical and Iranical and Iranical and Iranical Asian and Irani

ing finalised.

The conversation bet-

ween the two Prime Minis-ters came a day after Mr. Trump's visit to Japan, when Mr. Takaicht had al-

### SC expresses concern over delay in framing of charges by courts

Krishnadas Raiagopal NEW DELIE

The Supreme Court on Westloneskoy decided to man Westloneskoy decided to man with the supremental control of the supremental program of the supremental court of the supremental court of the supremental court and SAA. August and SAAA. August and SAAA. August and SAAA. August and SAAA. A

that it must be done within 60 days in sessions cases, and the session of the ses

Aman Rumar, represented by advocates Saumya Dwi yedi and Semesh Chando Rus, whose regular ball plea was rejected by the Patna High Court.

# Indian maritime sector has seen historic progress: Modi

PM launches initiatives worth ₹2.2 lakh crore for shipping and shipbuilding sectors at Maritime Leaders' Conclave; amid global tensions, India represents autonomy and inclusive growth, he says

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit MUMBAI

he progress in India's maritime domain has been historic and the capability of major ports has doubled, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday.

"Cargo movement has increased 700% in inland areas. Today, India's ports are considered among the best in the developing world," he added.

Mr. Modi was speaking at the Maritime Leaders' Conclave held at the NES-CO Ground to mark 'India Maritime Week'.

"When the global seas are rough, the world looks for a steady lighthouse. India can play that role very strongly. Amid global tensions, India represents autonomy and inclusive growth," Mr. Modi said, hinting at the prevailing global trade headwinds.

During the event, Mr. Modi launched initiatives worth ₹2.2 lakh crore for the shipping and shipbuilding sectors, including acquisition of 437 vessels.



Narendra Modi at an exhibition during the Maritime Leaders' Conclave at the India Maritime Week event in Mumbai. PTI

Several memoranda of understanding (MoUs) for port-led industrialisation, sustainability, and shipbuilding, among others, were signed.

### Sign of confidence

"In 2016, the maiden India Maritime Week was held in Mumbai. Today, it has become a global summit. Eighty-five countries participate in it today. This itself sends a very big message," Mr. Modi said.

"The MoUs signed here show the confidence of the world in India's maritime capabilities."

"This [2025] is a crucial year for the country's maritime capabilities. The Vizhinjam deep water transit hub has been operational. It is a matter of pride for every Indian. Kandla port and the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) have shown great capabilities. The JNPT's handling capability has doubled, making it India's biggest container port," he added.

Speaking about reforms undertaken by the government to improve shipping and port efficiency and safety, Mr. Modi said, "We are taking big steps. Modern and futuristic laws have been implemented and old laws scrapped. They strengthen sustainability and enhance digitisation in ports. The safety of our ports has increased and ease of business has improved."

### Logistics performance

Praising logistics performance of Indian ports, Mr. Modi said, "In the Logistics Performance Index of the World Bank, India had performed better."

"Shipbuilding is our top priority too. India is making great strides in shipbuilding," he said, adding, "New alternatives for finance and easy credit will be offered."

"We welcome your ideas, innovation and investment. Public-Private Partnerships [PPP] have been increasing. We are giving incentives to States to attract investment," he told the attendees at the conclave.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Maritime Leaders' Conclave at Mumbai's NESCO grounds during India Maritime Week 2025.
- He announced initiatives worth ₹2.2 lakh crore for the shipping and shipbuilding sectors, including modernization, digitalization, and acquisition of 437 new vessels.

### Key Announcements

Area	Announcement / Initiative   ₹2.2 lakh crore in new projects (shipping, shipbuilding, and port upgrades).	
Investment		
Ship Acquisition	437 ships to be added to India's commercial fleet.	
Port Industrialization MoUs	Several MoUs signed for port-led industrialization, sustainability, and shipbuilding.	
Reforms	Implementation of modern, futuristic laws and scrapping of outdated maritime legislations.	
PPP and Innovation	Boost to Public-Private Partnerships and incentives for States to attract maritime investment.	

**Indicator** 

**Inland Cargo Movement** 

**Port Capacity** 

**JNPT (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust)** 

Vizhinjam Port (Kerala)

**Kandla Port (Deendayal Port)** 

**Growth / Achievement** 

Increased **700%** over the decade.

**Doubled** in recent years.

Handling capacity **doubled**, making it **India's** 

largest container port.

Now operational — a **deep-water** 

transshipment hub.

Expanded operations; focus on energy trade

and exports.

**Aspect** Details

Event Origin First held in 2016; now a global maritime

summit.

**Participation** 85+ countries attended in 2025.

Reflects international confidence in India's

maritime and port capabilities.

**Theme** "Blue Economy for a Resilient Future."

**Indicator** 

**Global Maritime Network Size** 

World Bank's Logistics
Performance Index 2023

**Global Shipbuilding Share** 

**Port Automation** 

Rank / Position

Among top 10 globally.

Improved ranking (India moved up 6 positions).

Growing steadily, though still below China, South Korea, and Japan.

India among few developing nations adopting **Al-driven smart port systems**.

### Reforms & Future Vision

### Structural Reforms

- New Maritime Development Bill (2025) to integrate coastal shipping, port management, and environmental norms.
- Decriminalization of minor port law violations.

### Sustainability Focus

- Push for green hydrogen bunkering, offshore wind, and electric port vehicles.
- Drive for carbon-neutral ports by 2047 under Amrit Kaal Vision.

### Logistics and Financing

- Emphasis on new credit models for shipbuilding.
- Plan to reduce logistics cost to 8% of GDP by 2030 (currently ~13%).

#### III N HE HE HE HE HE



#### Delhi HC quashes 17-year-old case against Madhu Kishwar

The bolla High Court has quashed a 17-year old attempt to murder case against academic and activist Madha Klahwar, observing that the FIR was "maliciously motivated". The order, passed on October 16, came while allowing Ms. Klahwar's plea steleing to quash an FIR lodged against her in June 2008 for offences of attempt to murder, voluntarily causing hurt, and criminal intimidation under the erstwhile Indian Penal Code: Justice Amit Mahajan said "the subject FIR appears to be in the nature of a defence and a maliciously motivated counterblast ... for wreaking vengeance upon the

#### Urdu is the most beautiful language, says Kiren Rijiju

Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kirer Rijlin, on Wednesday, terrared Ursh: "the most beautiful language in the world". Speaking at the 1994 language in the world". Speaking at the 1994 University, he also attended that harmony between Handus and Muslims was visit for India's progress and unity. "I don't know much of Ursh; but I can say that Urdo is the most beautiful language in the world," he said while praising the sough played. If weating a small resident the nexted that emong the six minorities, Muslims were the biggest community. He added that country cannot develop without Hindu-Muslim harmony

### Rahul promises support to family of deceased doctor

Leader of the Opposition in the LoX subha Rainic Candin on Westnesday spoke to the family of a Candin on Westnesday spoke to the family of a Santan district, who allegedly died by sudside after sexual assault and harasment. It is assured them of hill apport in their high for pastice. The Congress president Hardwordhan Saphal, who visited the family in Kawalignon village in fixed district, inclain Youth Congress president Chapter Chapt reportedly told the parents that Congress stands firmly with them and justice will be ensured at

#### Uproar over woman giving birth on muddy ground in U.P.

A video that went viral on Westersday, showing a woman from Missayur district in Utar Frances growing in labour pain and being left on the program of the pr "These videos are shame for humanity. This is the shameful resultiy of helalth services in U.S. The government claims the health-sere services are world-class but the reality can be seen." Andi Yudid, class but the reality can be seen." Andi Yudid, class but the reality sea be seen."

### U.N. report on Myanmar 'blinkered', says India

Press Trust of India

troda. has strongly con-demned what it described made againet in a United Nations report in Myan-nac's luminar hights disa-nac's luminar hights disa-cial for an immediate cessa-tion of violence and inclu-tance of the con-plex of the con-traction of t

sembly on Tuesday, Lok Sabha member Dilip Saikia said New Delhi continues

said New Estill continues to support all initiatives aimed at festering a "Myan-led parts" toward peace, and democracy. "We resilient as the support of the Rapporteur, he said, "I ex-press serious objections to the baseless and biased observation about country?

### PM afraid to counter Trump's claims on ending war: Rahul

Congress leader says the Prime Minister must find the courage to respond; when he comes to Bihar, he should state that Trump is lying

he Congress on Wednesday target-ed Prime Minister Narendra Modi over U.S. President Donald Trump repeating his claim that he stopped the conflict het-ween India and Pakistan using trade, with Leader of the Opposition in the Lak Sabha Rahail Gaodhi saying that the Prime Minister was

that the Prime Minister was "seared" of Mr. Trimp, Mr. Gandhi, addressing har Spanish and search har "Durblenga, said Mr. Mr. Spanish and when he are majorited the course to respond and when he should state that Mr. Trimp was byte. S. Presi-dent had claimed 80 times that he atopped Operation Singletor by threatening the "han't uttered a word."

"hum't uttered a word". Mr. Gandhi said those who lacked the courage could not develop Bihar,



"Mr. Trump is insulting him [Mr. Modi] daily in difhim [bar. Modil] daily in the ferrent countries. He says Mr. Modil has no guts and Mr. Modil has no guts and here him. Mr. Modil never orace said Mr. Trump is speaking nonstense and ly-sell to the properties of said, adding, "One who cannot fell the American Frestletin on his face you and, adding, "One who cannot fell the American Frestletin on his face you anything in Blag". In a poot on X later, Mr. In a poot on X later, Mr. In Modil in coun-

insulting Mr. Modi in coun-try after country. Latest is South Korea. I. Repeated that he used trade to fright.

en Mr. Modi into stopping Operation Sindoor, 2. Said 7 plains were shot slows. Don't be scared Modi ji, find the cournes to respond. On his handle, Con-gress general secretary is charge. Communications!

charge (communications) juirum Bamesh shared vi-dec clips of Mr. Trump's re-marks in Japan and later in South Korea in which he re-peated his claim that he stopped the india Pakistan stopped the India Pakistan military conflict using stade. In his post, Mr. Ra-but now theoroughly shrun-ken 56-meh chees is still upter." Sie for he has said it, upter. "Sie for he has said it, the U.S., Qaiar, Sandi Ara-bia, Kappis, and the U.K. He has said it mis hight and on Trump has said it again, while addressing business while addressing business with the control of the con-traction of the coning. No wonder his good friend in New Delhi does not want to long him any more," Mr. Ramesh said.

### Pay panel's terms of reference too rigid. says AITUC leader

The Hindu Bureau

The All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) said here on Wednesday that the eighth Central Pay Commission (CPC) should Commission (CPC) should do justice to government employees and pension ers. Criticising the delay in announcing the CPC, Al-TUC: general secretary Amarjeet Kaur said though the decision to constitute the CPC was announced ahead of the Delhi Assembly election in January, it look to months for the

Control of the Control of the Control of Con year 2007/ she said.



ment takes a decision, if it both Central and State go-vernments have to wait for another two more years to

the economic conditions and fiscal prudence. "All these [conditions] comes to the mind of the government only when it menatement," she added.

### Cong. slams Centre for using ancient text to draw labour policy

The Hindu Bureau

the Union Labour Minis-try's draft Shram Shakri Ni II, 2028, which takes impl-ration from Managariti, the Congress on Westness day targeted the Narendra Modi government by alleg-ing that it mirrors the Rashtriva Swayamaevak Sangh's (RSS) tradition of prefer

ring the ancient text over the Constitution.

Congress general seve-tary (communications) Jaiary (communications) Jai-ram Hamesh, in a pust on X, claimed that the govern-ment is needing to revive the control of the control to the control of the control text, through its new la-bour policy, and the move-reflected the ideological in-fluence of the RS. Calimed that the RSS had uppressed the Constitution score after its adoption for not being based on the Manuamriti.

"The Modi government"

Ramesh says that the the principles of

draft Shram Shakii Niti 2025, released earlier this month, claims that the Mawww.iti.embeds.the.moral basis of labour governance within India's civilisations

To adapt to climate change, developing coun-tries will require anywhere from \$310.365 billion (at least \$27 labb erere) an-mually by 2028, according to a United Nations analy sis. This is nearly 12 times more than the money that currently flows from the developing world for this purpose

ing world for this purpose, The analysis, underlin-ing the huge gap between the demand and supply of funds needed to protect developing nations from climate change impacts, appears in Running on Rungly, an annual report on the shortful released on the shortful released on 32° selfiten of the UN Fur-mework Convention on mework Convention on Climate Charge Confe-rence of Parties (COP-30) to be held in Belem, Brasil nest month.

International public adaptation finance flows to eveloping countries stood



from power plants dependent on fissit hals, me more

Developing nations need 12 times

more funds to fight climate crisis

at \$26 billion (about \$2.2 lakh erere) in 3023, dawn from \$28 billion the previous year. If these trends continue, a target agreed upon by countries at the COP-26 in Glasgow, to double adaptation finance to \$40 billion by 2025 will be "misses!", the report added.

Disappointing target Finance is a significant is sue in climate negotiations, as developing countries in-sist that developed coun-tries pay the costs of adaptation (to deal with climate thange impacts) and mit-gation (to move away from fourd fusib), as well as com-pensation for losses and damagos afready occur-ring. This total bill is collec-tively called "climates fi-nance." 23 (2) (b lakes, Aserturbon mo deal with observe

baijan last year, developing countries, which were de-manding nearly \$1.3 tol-lion annually by 2038, were disappointed when the developed world agreed to only \$300 bil-

tive Quantified Goal (NGQG) on climate finance. Tuesday's UN report un-derlines this criticism. "...it is fir too evident that the fi-nancial resources needed to enable adaptation ac-Hon in developing countries at the scale necessary to meet the growing chal-lenges of current and future ellenate risks is wooful ly inadequate. It will take nothing less than a global collective effort to increase climate finance to the le-vels articulated in the Baku to Beldes Roadmap to 1.3 trillion," it notes.

Trillion," If notes.
The report also raises concerns that whatever morely has been made available at present is primarily classified as 'debt,' Although 70% of International public adaptation 8. nance was concessional in 3032-33, it is "werrisome" that debt instruments contime to dominate these ov-erall flows, comprising 50% on average in that fi-nancial year, the report-said.

### TH GROSSWORD + 14626

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### SUDOKU



### **在一个男子里**

#### Like rain-laden clouds

Nammaalwar in his Thiruvaimozhi uses the worde wiru-muzhei – the rain that comes in, said Akkarakkani Srind-runcholar! Espaining this were in his commentary. Nam-pillas says. Maaliruscholas has two birds of raint Cire is the basis with the same of the same of the same of the same basis with a same of the same of the same of the same green, without mixting away. But these are the regular clouds, the once we see everywhere. They come is, give us

clouds, the ones we see everywhere. They come is, give us When the Lord took Rama avatars, its showed the fondness for Sabari, who belonged to a clan of humers, When Ramanuja had to be saved from Yadavaprakasa. When Ramanuja had to be saved from Yadavaprakasa, and His Gonsorr Perindered took the Ferris of hinters to save Ramanuja, They left him thera a well, from which he

save Ramanuja. They left him near a well, from which the took water on the Varadaccia temple every day. Thus they showeved their merry on Ramanuja, and gave the world a Thir urmalirmodela, Varadacija and Perundelv are should that remain for ever in Eanchi, blossing devotees. Ramanujacharya followed the Lord's example. He too Ramanujacharya followed the Lord's example. He too mudahar to prisee his mercy, Thiruwarangathamadanar wrote Bamunuja Nootrandidel, excilling Ramanuja's ad-world the Commission of the Commission of the koncel kerunel Ramanuja's — Ramanuja, who is like raht-lai-den chouls, but as clauda give without expecting anything in return, so that the Acharya give generously of his know-ledge, justificate the emparitors to chucke.

THE STREET

# Developing nations need 12 times more funds to fight climate crisis

### Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

To adapt to climate change, developing countries will require anywhere from \$310-365 billion (at least ₹27 lakh crore) annually by 2035, according to a United Nations analysis. This is nearly 12 times more than the money that currently flows from the developed to the developing world for this purpose.

The analysis, underlining the huge gap between the demand and supply of funds needed to protect developing nations from climate change impacts, appears in Running on Empty, an annual report on the shortfall released on Wednesday, ahead of the 30th edition of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP-30) to be held in Belem, Brazil next month.

International public adaptation finance flows to developing countries stood



Developing countries need more climate finance to move away from power plants dependent on fossil fuels. FILE PHOTO

at \$26 billion (about ₹2.2 lakh crore) in 2023, down from \$28 billion the previous year. If these trends continue, a target agreed upon by countries at the COP-26 in Glasgow, to double adaptation finance to \$40 billion by 2025 will be "missed", the report added.

### Disappointing target

Finance is a significant issue in climate negotiations, as developing countries insist that developed countries pay the costs of adaptation (to deal with climate change impacts) and mitigation (to move away from fossil fuels), as well as compensation for losses and damages already occurring. This total bill is collectively called "climate finance".

At COP-29 in Baku, Azerbaijan last year, developing countries, which were demanding nearly \$1.3 trillion annually by 2035, were disappointed when the developed world agreed to only \$300 billion, called the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCOG) on climate finance.

Tuesday's UN report underlines this criticism. "...it is far too evident that the financial resources needed to enable adaptation action in developing countries at the scale necessary to meet the growing challenges of current and future climate risks is woefully inadequate. It will take nothing less than a global collective effort to increase climate finance to the levels articulated in the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3 trillion," it notes.

The report also raises concerns that whatever money has been made available at present is primarily classified as 'debt.' Although 70% of international public adaptation finance was concessional in 2022-23, it is "worrisome" that debt instruments continue to dominate these overall flows, comprising 58% on average in that financial year, the report said.

- According to a UN analysis ahead of COP-30 (Belem, Brazil, 2025), developing countries will require between \$310-365 billion annually by 2035 (≈ ₹27 lakh crore) to effectively adapt to climate change.
- This is 12 times higher than the current annual financial flow from developed nations to developing ones.

### Key Findings of the UN Report

Parameter	Current Status (2023)	Requirement (by 2035)
Annual adaptation finance	\$26 billion (₹2.2 lakh crore)	\$310-365 billion
COP26 Target (Glasgow, 2021)	Double adaptation finance to \$40 billion by 2025	Likely to be <i>missed</i>
Estimated shortfall	~\$280–340 billion per year	_
Projected need under Baku- Belém Roadmap	\$1.3 trillion annually by 2035	

- The report, titled "Running on Empty", highlights the severe finance gap between adaptation needs and the limited funds made available by developed nations.
- Published as part of the 30th UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP-30) preparatory process.

### Why the Funding Gap Matters

### Adaptation Costs

- Developing countries must spend huge amounts to:
  - Build climate-resilient infrastructure (flood control, agriculture, housing).
  - Shift to clean energy and reduce fossil fuel dependency.
  - Compensate for loss and damage due to climate disasters.

### Finance Source Problem

- Around 70% of international climate finance in 2022–23 was concessional (debt-based), not grants.
- The report warns this increases debt stress for low-income nations.

**Summit / Agreement** 

**Key Point** 

**COP26 (Glasgow, 2021)** 

Pledged to double adaptation finance by 2025 (\$40 billion goal).

COP29 (Baku, 2024)

Developing nations demanded \$1.3 trillion annually by 2035; developed countries agreed to only \$300 billion.

COP30 (Belem, Brazil, 2025)

Expected to negotiate a *New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)* for climate finance.

Baku-Belém Roadmap

Lays out trajectory for scaling adaptation finance to \$1.3 trillion.

Challenge

**Debt-based finance** 

**Unmet targets** 

**Inadequate compensation** 

**Inequity in energy transition** 

**Explanation** 

58% of adaptation finance is in form of loans, increasing financial vulnerability.

Developed nations repeatedly fail to meet prior commitments.

For "loss and damage" due to climateinduced disasters.

Developing nations bear disproportionate adaptation costs despite lower emissions.

**Dimension** Impact

**Economic** Increased fiscal burden on developing economies.

Social Greater exposure to climate migration, poverty, and inequality.

**Political** Potential North—South divide in COP-30 negotiations.

**Environmental**Delay in adaptation may worsen biodiversity and agriculture losses.

### Norway and India: Green maritime partners

n Mumbai for India Maritime Wook 2025, I willnessed the Insox of a global inclusive that has confidently set and towards a secure, sustainable, and equitable future. Norway has built up a future. Norway has built up a comprehensive martime cluster of ally designers, equipment manufacturers, shippoints, and shippoints companies, martinal and shipbrokers. Representing the country at an event of this scale that sovers every link of the martitime value chain is a privilege-rife with possibilities.

Charting a common course For both Norway and India, oceans and coastlines are natural partnership. India plays a vital role in global shipping. It is not only a hub for trade, shipbuilding and

hub for trude, shiphsulding and ship rescuing, but also offers technological and digital capacity, The entry late force of the properties of the control of the Partnership Agreement (TEPA) on Cetaber I provides a major based to the Instita-Norway partnership, stronger martiture coldishesation is complement to these shared complement to these shared ambitions. Norwaysian Prime Minister forus Gahr Stere looks forward to welcoming Prime the Ted India-Nordes Summit where we will continue to the the Ted India-Nordes Summit where we will continue the where we will continue the dialogue on ocean cooperation

among other priorities.
In 2019, both countries came together to establish a formal san distogue and an India-Norway Task Force on Blue Economy to focus on sustainable marine poliution, and green marine poliution, and green shipping. At Norway's flagship maritime sevent Mor-Shipping held to Calo this summer, brida made a splash with a first-even finite speaking, long the Minister of Sarbananda Sonowal. India's participation left a lanting participation left a lanting



Marianus Siverisen Nausa Norway's Minister of Fisheries and Doesn Palley

As major ocean

nations. Norway

common challenges, and with them, a shared responsibility to think globally

and India face

impression with conversations around matainable growth, green shipping corridors, shipbuilding, digital maritime solutions and leveraging India's workforce and vestment opportunities. Maritime partners Norway and

Maritime partners Norway and India have much to contribute to each other, a fact well illustrated by the number of Norwayland companies present in Murshal for the event, officials from Norway's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Picheries and the Indian Ministry of Forts, Shipping and Waterways Group Maritime, discussing green Group Maritime, discussing green Group Maritime, discussing green shipping, maritime training and security as well as ship recycling. As the global shipballding market reaches capacity, India's

rapidly growing position as a builder of the global fleet presents partnership. Already, about 10% of ships ordered by members of the ships ordered by members of the Norwegian Shipowners' Association are built in india. Association are built in india. Norwegian high-content in the content of the content in high-part, which executely secured 14 vested orders from Norway's 15 vested orders from Norway's 16 vested orders from Norway's 16 vested orders from Norway's 17 vested orders from Norway's 18 vested orders from Norway 18 veste

Alming for a sea change Norway ares India as a key parts on the journey to a sustainable blue economy. Guided by the principle that environmental responsibility and economic responsibility and economic growth must go band in hand, Norway ambitiosally aims to reduce emissions from domestic shipping and haberies by 50% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. shipping and habries by \$005 by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. Our approach to green shippin combines targeted domestic action with strong international engagonism. We support stricter international regulations to cut climate gas emissions from shipping, helping build a global market for low- and zero-emission solutions. We atrougly supported the adoption of the international Maritime Ceganization's Net Zero Fransework, even though consonant has not yet freel reached. Over the next year, it is extremely important for member

extremely important for member states to unite to ensure this framework becomes a reality. The green tensultion in Norway is read of collaboration that the read of collaboration individually, and research institutions. Our maritime sector exploring new fuels such as ammonia and typoroges, and countries to found a such as a countries to found a such as countries to faunch autonomous and fully electric vessels, including the Yars Birkeland, the world's first zero-emission, autonomous container alip, and ASSO ferries. Norway is committed to advancing women's participation in the maritime industry. I was pleased to be part of the constructive dialogue on gender equality and inclusion at the Marrime ShetO Conference, an

equality and inclusion at the Matthian Shall Conference, an Matthian Shall Conference, an supported since its inception in 2019. It was deeply impiring to meet Incluse women senderses, and the Incluse women senderses, and again attainmentally working aboard angest nationally working aboard with 1829. Norway and India have agreed to facilitate on-board training opportunities for our training opportunities for our training opportunities for our working of the Inclusive Control of the Inclusive Control of the Inclusive Countries can entrestry in material professions globally, our two countries can entrestry in material professions globally, our two countries can entrestry in material professions globally, our two countries can entrestry in material professions globally, our two countries can entrestry in material professions globally, our two countries can make this inclusive you will be a supported to the countries of the Inclusive Countries of the Inclu

### For Mayawati, a wasted opportunity

Her Lucknow rally was, in effect, old wine in an old bottle

STATE OF PLAY Ziva Us Salam

arty this month, the 19th death aumiversary to 19th death aumiversary Sanshi Ram, the Party (BBP), turned into a show of numerical strength for party chief Mayawati. Tene of thousands of supporters trooped into Lucknow from parts of Citrar Pradenth, and many others came in from Punjab, Haryana, Bibar and Uttarakhand, it was difficult to ignore what was easily the ment mustive of Ms. Mayawa-ti's rallies in almost a decade.

US railies in almost a decade. Her bredther, Amand Kumar, and nephew, Aleah Anand, and nephew, Aleah Anand, and nephew, Aleah Anand, and the state of the state, aber railed against the Samajewall Farty GiP, according to desective senses are railed as desective senses to reside a of selective senses of the state of t

"eppertunter".
She was not all fire and brimstone, however. When it came to the Wharatiya Janata Party (BJP), particularly Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, she was graciousness personified, thanking him for maintaining the huge parks which were built during her time as Chief Minister (2007-12). She even Minister (2007-12), the even contrasted Mr. Adityanath's actions with those of Mr. Va-day, pointing the former large-ly in positive bases. If she apply perhanctory in nature, she at-so launched into the same old different contrast of the con-putation of the contrast of the privacy theory? By her politi-

cal opponents against 'Dalit ki beri (daughter of Dalit)'. The biggiet 689 rally of recent times was, in effect, old wine in an old bottle. The BSP chief wasted an

opportunity to start afresh. This was a chance for Ms. Mayawati to turn a new leaf and talk of emerging issues in the State and the country. Whe chose instead to duck the is-sue of the Special Intensive Resee of the Special Internets its vision exercise in Bilan, and stoer clear of buildoor point of the see of buildoor point of the see of the see of buildoor point of the see of

deaths and encounter killings. This was an opportunity too to tell her supportunity to the supportunity of the

the Centre. It did not change a bis in Lucknow, She still pointed the Opposition in not so favourable colours.

Worse, after speaking out

against dynastic politics, Ms. Mayawati happily, even bra-senly, assinted her nephew as oday and merely one in the t03-member U.P. Vidhan Sab ha. For the supremo of a party that does not matter in Delhi, Punjah, Madhya Postesh, and Bihar, she was being unrealistic. For comparison, the Su-helder Bharatiya Samaj Party and the Nisbad Party have six

and the Nichad Parry have in members each in the Assembly. With their dedicated by With their dedicated stay relevant. Onlinears, they say relevant. Not so Ms. Magawatt. Once the most formidable voice of groups, today she has cede to ground to Mr. Asad who is to ground to Mr. Asad who is to beet to the Schesched Caste and Muslim voters, but also believes in Souts-ost-their there is an incident of route towards balts or Muslims, he with them. Mr. Asad the in not to with them. Mr. Anand is not to be found there. Worse, nobo-dy questions his absence. That is a sign of irrelevance.

Indeed, the Lucknow rally, which was supposed to be a political renaissance of Ma political sensionance of Ma-Mayawat, ended as an un-heeded cell for reformation. Mayawati-2028 is like a broken record, in Lucknow, she had the stage and a huge amilence too. Yet she fluffed her lines, in the coap opera of U.F. polit-ics, there may not many re-takes available.

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Mindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DCTOBER SS, 1875 'Terrorised' diplomats

change their life styles

Landon, Get. 29. Extremist action by an accordinate of political crusadors has in the past decade transformed the likesyles of hundreds of decade transformed the likesyles of hundreds of larnels in London. In the wake of nurders, kidnappings and bomb stacks around the works, must envoye, and especially these with sensitive missions, live in peril even in London. For the works, must envoye, and especially these with sensitive missions, live in peril even in London. for titled by parbed-wire entanglements behind electronically centreled sets of steel durers, flowlift at right, guarded round-the-slock by a function of the state of the st

### According to a survey of 25 countries, Indians are least aware of AI

Despite low awareness, Indians expressed the most confidence in government regulation

#### DATA POINT

### The Hindu Data Team

coording to a Pow survey covering 25 countries, inawareness about Artificial Intelligence (Ab). The survey feared that about 10% of Indians have heard of or read a let about At, and another 325 have read a little about B. Together, the share cetter) is the lowest among the countries surveyed.

Chart I shows the share of pes-ple who have beard of or read a lot or links about Al. At 46%, India's

share is well below the 25-country median of 61%.
Although Al is a new technology Astrongh Al in a new technology that young adults are generally ex-ported to know more about, only 19% of indians aged 18-24 said they have heard of or read a lot about Al. This is the second lowest share in that age group among the 28 countries surveyed (Chart 2).

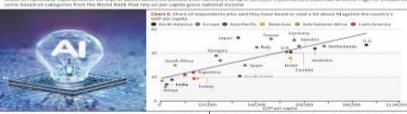
howest among the countries sur-veyed (Chart 2). Nearly 30% of Indians also suid they trust that their country will regulate the use of Al effectively. This share is the highest among all the countries surveyed, and by a

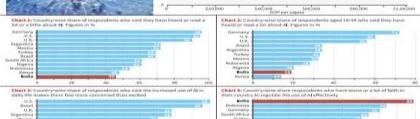
significant margin (Chart 4).
Wealther countries tend to have a higher share of people who have a higher share of people who have heard a lot about Al. Aronand half the abults in Japan, Germany, France, and the U.S. said they have France, and the U.S. said they have the 14% in India and 12% in Kenya. Chart S plots the share of people who said they have heard of or read a lot about Al against the GDP per signifia of the countries.

for only selected countries out of the 25 surveyed, while thart 5 in-cludes figures for all countries.

### Al awareness: survey results

The data for the charts are sourced from the Peer Research Center's "How People Amount the World View Af (October 2025). For non-Li-5, data, this analysis draws on nationally Expendentiate surveys of 38,333 abults conducted from January 8 to April 36, 1025. Countries are Hasuffest as either high- ar middle-icome based on categories from the World Basis had rety on get capital goos national income.





### reconstants. Are the most projects, more intensive the rearrout policies station in case of saudden article. Circular key authorisations, mostably Mr. Elliot Richardson of the U.S. never move out of their stations of the U.S. never move out of their stations of the U.S. never move out of their or secret services man on hand. And virtually, very sizable foreign diplomatic mission here returned in the protection given to a by the original projection of the return of the projection of the security services in the part few years bare suspected that enemyly officers who warm bare suspected that continue to the part few years bare suspected that continue projects desired, and the part few years have suspected the continue project desires, for example, that the millions of the part few years have supply that the millions (HAA) has all times worked with the Palestine Liberation Chapanisation (PLO). Liberation Organisation (PLO). A consequence of the ever-rising peril for foreign envoys was a British police decision has year to form a 'diplomatic protection unit' within its special branch. The unit consists mainly of uniformed men in flying notorcycle or automobile squads who rush to the scene open receipt of an alarm signal from any given A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTORER 10, 1928. New plantations in Sumatra London, Oct. 29: The list has been closed for the lostic of L400,000 Albed Sumstra Plantations Limited, public derived shares at 28 shiftings a decision of the latest and the light of L40,000 and L4

### Despite low awareness, Indians expressed the most confidence in government regulation

# Al awareness: survey results

The data for the charts are sourced from the Pew Research Center's 'How People Around the World View AI' (October 2025). For non-U.S. data, this analysis draws on nationally representative surveys of 28,333 adults conducted from January 8 to April 26, 2025. Countries are classified as either high- or middle-income based on categories from the World Bank that rely on per capita gross national income

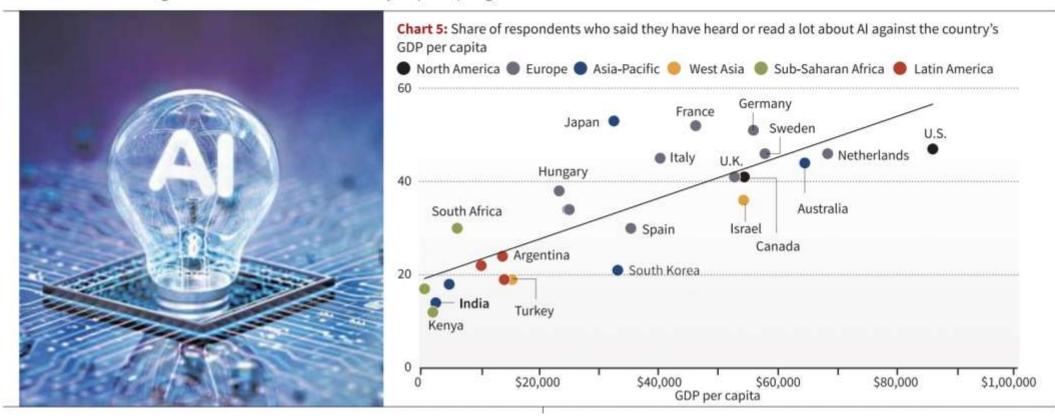


Chart 1: Country-wise share of respondents who said they have heard or read a lot or a little about AI. Figures in %

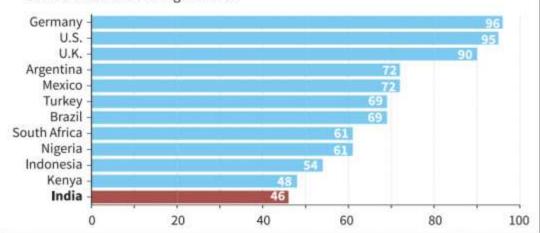


Chart 3: Country-wise share of respondents who said the increased use of Al in daily life makes them feel more concerned than excited

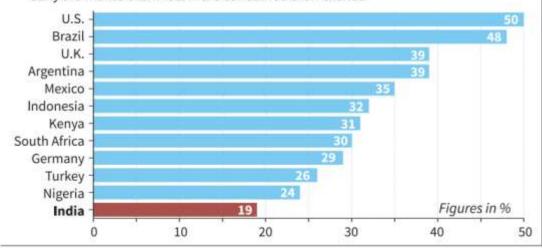


Chart 2: Country-wise share of respondents aged 18-34 who said they have heard or read a lot about Al. Figures in %

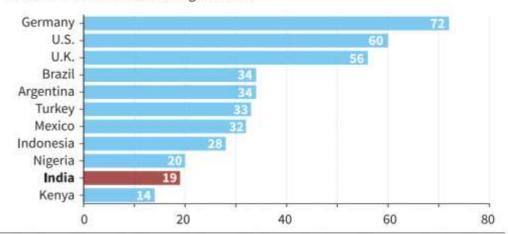
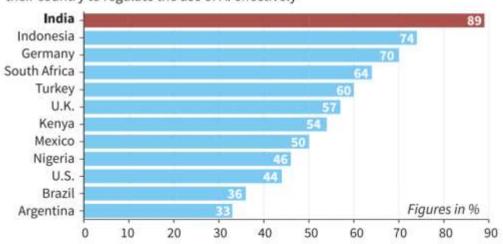


Chart 4: Country-wise share respondents who have some or a lot of faith in their country to regulate the use of AI effectively



#### WASHINGTON

U.S. Fed announces second quarter-point rate cut of 2025



strought quarter point interest rate out is heigh against growing labour market roles, in a meeting that highlighted growing divisions among its ranks. Policymaters voted 3.0.2 in favore of lowering the bank's key teroling rate to intereson 3.75% and 4.00%. Are

#### NANTIAGO DE CUBA

Hundreds of thousands evacuate as Hurricane Melissa hits Cuba



Hundreds of thousands of people were evacested in easter'n Cuba and a huntrans warning was in effect for the psusinize of Granma, fontings de Cuba, Guardinario, Holguin and Las Torias as Hurbiana Mellica make landini as a Calegory 3 learn early

#### TORYO

U.S. welcomes Japan's arms boost, says alliance key to deter China



and defence spending. During a visit to Japan, Mr. Hegseth said he

#### RIO DE JANEIRO

132 killed in Rio police crackdown on drug gang, says public defender



people died in the bloodiest police raid against drug gangs in the Brazillan city's bloomy, as graving eastderty laid out decems of hoolies in Pin street. The appliance is 132 deed," the public defender's office, which provides legal assistance to the poor, said. as

### Hasina warns of mass boycott as her party barred from polls

The ban on the Awami League is not only unjust, it is self-defeating, says the deposed Prime Minister, adding she would not return to Bangladesh under any government formed after elections that exclude her party, and plans to remain in India

illions of suppor-ters of bangla-desh's Awami League will boycott next year's national election, after the party was barred from contesting the polls, ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said on Wednesday, from her eath in New Dolbi. Mr. Hudna, 70, said she

would not return to that would not return to that gladesh under any govern-ment formed after clar-tions that exclude her party, and plans to remain in hidla, where she field in August 2024 following a deadly student-led

uprising.
An interim government
headed by Nobel Peace
Laureate Muhammad Yumus has governed Bangla-



desh since Ms. Hasina's ouster and has pledged to hold elections next

rebruary.
The ban on the Awami League is not only unjust, it is self-defeating," Mr. Ha-zina said in emailed res-ponses to Reuterz — her

League, ao as things siand, they will not vote. You can-not disentificanchios millions of people if you want a pol-tical system that works.— Baughladesh has over 128 million registerred voters. The Avouri League and the Barty have long dominuted the country's judities, and the RMT widely expected.

the BNP is widely expected to win the upcaming vote. The Idection Commis-sion suspended the Awami League's registration in May, Harlett, the Yuma-led government hanned all party activities, uting na-tional security threats and the security of the commission of the security of the commission of the leaders. "We are not asking Awa-

"We are not asking Awami League voters to sup-port other parties," Ms. Ita-sina said. "We still hope common sense will prevail

contest the election massives."

She did not say if she or anyone class on her behalf was holding any back-channel talks with bangla-deshi authorities to let the

Award League participate in the polls.
The International Crimes Tribunal, Bangla-Crimes Tribanal, Hangla-desh's domestic war crimes court, has conclude of proceedings against Ms. Hasina, who faces charges of crimes against humanity over the violent crackdown in student printers. In McGSA.

Ms. Hasing denied the charges.

"These proceedings are a politically motivated cha-rade," she said. "They've been brought by kangaroc courts, with guilty verdicts a foregone conclusion." a ceasefire brokered by countries including Gater on October 19 in Doba, Rd-

### Pak, warns Kabul of stern response to new attacks

Associated Press

Pakistan's Defence Minister warned Alghanistan on Worknesday that any new \*terrorist or suicide at tack-by militants on Pabis-tan's and would draw a stern response, hours after ralks between them in br-tanbul failed to secure a peace agreement.

peace agreement.
Earlier this mouth, Pa-kistor's military launched attacks on what it said were hideouts of the Pakislowed by four days of talloc in Intendral that ended mountainively. In a post on X, Pakis-tan's Defence Minister Kha-waja Muhammad Asif told Afghanistan's Tallban Gitant Taliban in Afghanis-tan, killing dozens of peo-ple whom it described as ple whom it described as managents. Afdanistan said the people killed were civilians and atruck Pakis-tani military posts in res-ponse, chairning 58 Pakista-ni nobliers were killed. Pakistans military said it leat 21 achilers in the bor-der fighting. The two sides agreed to a ceaseffin brokered by

Adjustistan's Taliban Go-seriament that "any terro-rist strack or suicide bomb-ing mode Publishan shall man the suicide bomb-seriam than the suicide shall make the suicide shall be in the collapse of peace marks, but Adjunistan's state broadcaster ETA re-ported that the negotia-tions stalled because of

what it called "irrational demands" from Pakistan.
According to ETA, Islands, Islands and Islands and

worded tweet also accessed Kabul of "blindly positing Afghanistan into yet anoth Adjustitute to preserve what he described as its "usurped rule and war economy." "Let me assure then that Pakistan does not require to employ even a fraction of its full arsend to sampletely obliterate the Taliban regime and push them back to the

the Tallban regime and push them leach to the caves for hiding," he said. Despite the failure of the talks, a consefer remained in place, and no new clashes were reported along the + Pakistan-Afghanistan border

### Finalised trade deal with S. Korea: Trump

#### Agence France-Press

U.S. President Donald Trump indicated on Wed-nesday that a trade deal had been reached with routh Kortea's President ding that the agreement was "pretty much-finalised." We did," Mr. Trump told journalists when search of a deal had been

"We reached a deal. We did a lot of different things. Great session," the U.S. leader said. But he then ap-peared to walk back the claim, telling a dinner in-cluding Mr. Lee that the

deal was "pretty much fi-nalized". "We came to a conclusion ma let of very different items," he said. In July, Mr. Trump said Washington had agreed to cut turiffe en South Korean for a \$200 billion trees-for a \$200 billion trees-ment pledes. But steep asment pledge. Bur steep au-to turiffs remained in place, and the two governments were divided over the structure of the investment pledge.
Speaking to reporters,

top Scoul presidential side Kim Yong beam confirmed a deal had been struck. Soout and Washington had "reached an agreement on the details of the tariff ne-

#### Regional tensions

first media engagement since her dramatic fall from power after 18 straight years at the heim of thatigladeshi policies. "The next government must have electoral legit-macy, Millions of people support the Awami



### U.S. will cut troops in Europe: Romania

### Agence France:Presse

Washington has told Ro-mania, which neighbours war-torn Ukraine, and al-lies it will reduce the man-ber of U.S. troops deplayed on NATO's sastern flank, Romania's Defence Minis-try said on Wedisenday, ar-move some officials down-played while analysts Russian it could embodien

Russia. U.S. President Donald Trump has repeatedly crit-leised NATO, and instated that European allies boost osilitary spending as Uk-raine battles Russia's

Section 88,000 American troops are stationed it Europe, including 20,000 trougs deployed to rein. After Russia invasied Ukraine in 2022, according to the U.S. Defence The latest amountement came after reports this year that Washington troops as the U.S. focus shifts report to the U.S. focus shifts peak to the U.S. focus shifts peak to the U.S. focus shifts peak to report which the Some 85,000 American

Pentagon called its "priori-

ry theatre".

"The resisting of U.S. forces is a result of the new priorities of the presidential administration, announced back in February," Romania's Defence Ministry said. The decision Ministry said. The decision "also took into account the fact that NATO has strong-thened its prosence and ac-livity on the eastern flank." A NATO official took AFP that the body had been in-formed by the Trump at

ministration in advance, and played down its

"Even with this adjust-ment, the U.S. force posment, the U.S. farce pos-ture in Sturope remains larger than it has been for many years, with many continent than before 2022 the official side. Washington's commi-ment to the alliance re-mained 'elear', the official But experts such as Ge-orge Scutaru, co-founder of the New Strategy Centre, a Komantan think rank, "wrong signal" to send to

"wrong signal" to send to Russia regarding the Black Rea region.



### 'Foreign media will be allowed to cover junta-run polls'

Supporters of Myanmar's Useon Belidarity and Development Party

#### Agence France-Presse

international media will be allowed to cover Myan-mar's upcoming junta run polls, election suthornies said Wednesday, an oppa-rent invitation for foreign press to accustnise the deeply disputed vote.
Myanmar's junta has
shattered the media land-

"shuttered the media land-scape" with censorship-and intimidation since raging a 2031 coup that sparked a civil war, Repor-ters Without finishers says, Local paurnalists hore the brunt of the crackdown while foreign media quit the country on masse, with AFP the only international news agency maintaining a

polis starting December 28 as a path to peace, but the vote will be blocked from rebel-field enclaves and monitors are dismissing it as a ploy to disguise conti-

nuing military rule.
The junta stacked Un-ion Election Commission ion Election Commission sald in a statement "both local and international news media will be al-lowed to cover" the election, due to unfold in phases over a matter of weeks.
The junta run informa

The justa-stat informa-tion Ministry "will scrut-tible and endorse eligible international media organ-cial state assessment of the state assessment of the state but less eligible of hyammar. It is not clear what that process will entail and which media outlets will be approved for access to a news agency maintaining a full in-country bureau. The Junta has tented

eminity which has been targely cut-off by the military energy.

One senior journalist.
One senior journalist was a tradependent Myanmar outfet told.
APP "the miviation is just a part of the process of their claim that they are holding a free and fair election".
"We want take arty risk

during election comparign in Myanmar on Tuesday. At country which has been dealing with them," he added. "It is not possible to cover independently."

> Militants withdraw Militants withdraw Rights groups have said the election cannot be legiti-mate with democratic figu-reliesd Aung San San Kyi deposed and jailed in the comp, and her vasily popu-

lar National League for De-mocracy party dissolved. One of Myanmar's most powerful ethnic armed opposition factions, Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), has agreed to a China-brokered withdra-wal from a lucrative ruby mining hub, the group said

on Wednesday.

Myanmar has been mired in a civil war since mired in a civil war since the military grabbed pow-er in a 2021 coup, with the junta fighting on array of a company of the coupling of and powerful ethnic mi-nority armed groups. The rating opposition initially struggled to make head-combined offensive in late 2023 that seized lauge sweaths of terretory. The unrethern ruby-mining

town of Mogok was sap-nared by rebole last auni-mer, but the TFLA - the most powerful group driv-ing that offensive - said it will now pull out. The TNLA said in a state-ment on Telegram it had made a deal with the junta after two days of talks that

ended on Tuesday, over-seen by a Chinese special envoy in the city of Kunming its authorn China.

According to the deal, the group will pull out of the townships of Mogols and neighbouring Moment.

Moment.
It did not specify a time-frame but said the military had agreed to call off air strikes, while "troops from both sides will stop ad-vancing" from midnight on Wednessky.

### SANTIAGO DE CUBA

## Hundreds of thousands evacuate as Hurricane Melissa hits Cuba

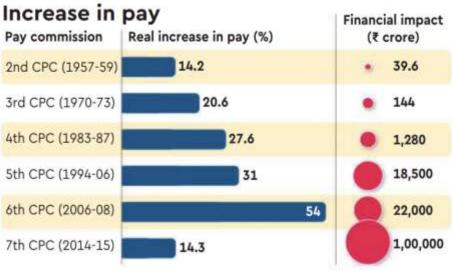


AP

Hundreds of thousands of people were evacuated in eastern Cuba and a hurricane warning was in effect for the provinces of Granma, Santiago de Cuba, Guantanamo, Holguin and Las Tunas as Hurricane Melissa made landfall as a Category 3 storm early Wednesday. AP

## 8th Pay Commission has its task cut out





#### OVERTHE DECADES.

especially since the mid-1990s, the pay hike for government staff in real terms has been much higher than that of per capita net national income. Though this might have been needed to adequately compensate them and provide incentive for performance, the burden on the exchequer has risen, with "salaries and pensions" now accounting for 18% of the Centre's revenue expenditure. The Centre's

	Minimum pay (₹)	Maximum pay (₹)	Compression ratio
1st CPC	55	2,000	36.4
2nd CPC	80	3,000	37.5
3rd CPC	196	3,500	17.9
4th CPC	750	8,000	10.7
5th CPC	2,550	26,000	10.2
6th CPC	7,000	80,000	11.4
7th CPC	18,000	2,25,000	12.5

### Centre's expenditure on

### Minimum and maximum pay | Minimum and maximum pension

	Minimum pay (₹)	Maximum pay (₹)	Minimum family pension (₹)	Maximum family pension (₹)
4th CPC	375	4,500	375	1,250
5th CPC	1,275	15,000	1,275	9,000
6th CPC	3,500	45,000	3,500	27,000
7th CPC	9,000	1,25,000	9,000	1,25,000

## Centre's staff strength

As on March 1

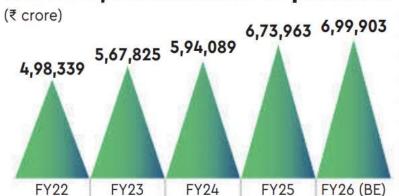
2026 (E)

			A	
,69,038	31,67,143	33,06,394	36,57,674	36,97,416
2022	2023	2024	2025 (E)	2026 (E)

	Minimum pay (₹)	Maximum pay (₹)	Compression ratio
1st CPC	55	2,000	36.4
2nd CPC	80	3,000	37.5
3rd CPC	196	3,500	17.9
4th CPC	750	8,000	10.7
5th CPC	2,550	26,000	10.2
6th CPC	7,000	80,000	11.4
7th CPC	18,000	2,25,000	12.5

1st CPC was set up in 1946-47

## Centre's expenditure on salaries, allowances & pension

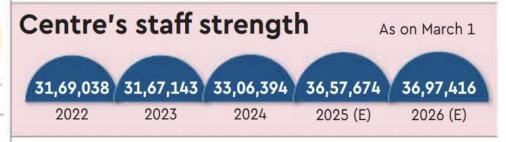


In FY26, of the total staff expenses, pay accounts for

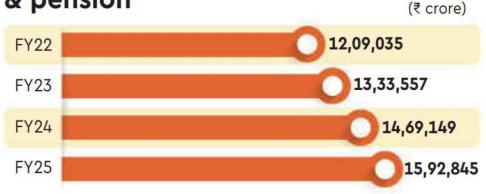
23.7%, pension 39.5%, allowances 26.6%

## Minimum and maximum pay | Minimum and maximum pension

	Minimum pay (₹)	Maximum pay (₹)	Minimum family pension (₹)	Maximum family pension (₹)
4th CPC	375	4,500	375	1,250
5th CPC	1,275	15,000	1,275	9,000
6th CPC	3,500	45,000	3,500	27,000
7th CPC	9,000	1,25,000	9,000	1,25,000



## States' expenditure on salaries & pension



In FY25, of the total amount, pension accounts for 35.5%

Source: 7th Central Pay Commission report, Institute of Economic Growth, RBI

## At \$5 trillion, Nvidia in league of its own

## **Becomes First Co To Achieve Market Cap** Milestone | Huang's Stake Rises To \$179bn

Tvidia made history on Wednesday as the first company to reach \$5 trillion in market value, powered by a



stunning rally that has cemented its place at the centre of the global ar-

tificial intelligence boom.

The milestone underscores the company's swift transformation from a niche graphics-chip designer into the backbone of the global AI industry, turning CEO Jensen Huang into a Silicon Valley icon and making its advanced chips a flashpoint in the tech rivalry between the US and China.

Since the launch of ChatGPT in 2022. Nvidia's shares have climbed 12-fold as the Alfrenzy propelled the S&P 500 to record highs, igniting a debate on whether frothy tech valuations could lead to the next big bubble.

The new milestone, coming just three months after Nvidia breached the \$4 trillion mark, would surpass the total cryptocurrency market value and equal roughly half the size of Europe's benchmark equities index, the Stoxx 600 index.

"Nyidia hitting a \$5 trillion market cap is more than a milestone; it's a statement, as Nvidia has gone from chip maker to industry creator," said Matt Britzman, senior equity analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown, which holds shares in the company.

#### M-CAP SURGES 49% SINCE JAN 1



#### How Its M-cap Has Moved Against Other Major Cos



underestimate the scale of the opportunity, and Nyidia remains one of the best ways to play the AI theme."

Shares of the Santa Clara, California-based company rose 4.6% after a string of recent announcements solidified its dominance in the Alrace.

Huang unveiled \$500 billion in AI chip orders on Tuesday and said he plans to build seven supercomputers for the U.S. government.

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump is expected to discuss Nvidia's Blackwell chip with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday. Sales of the high-end "The market continues to chip have been a key stick-

ing point between the two sides due to Washington's export controls.

At current prices, CEO Huang's stake in Nvidia would be worth about \$179.2 billion, according to regulatory filings and Reuters calculations. He is the world's eighth-richest person, per Forbes' billionaire list.

Born in Taiwan and raised in the United States from age nine, Huang has led Nvidia since founding it in 1993. Under his leadership. the company's H100 and Blackwell processors have become the engines behind large-language models powering tools like ChatGPT and Elon Musk's xAL seutess

- Nvidia Corp. has become the world's first company to cross a \$5 trillion market capitalization, marking a historic moment in global tech and AI markets.
- This valuation cements Nvidia's position at the center of the artificial-intelligence (AI) revolution,
   driven by its dominance in AI-focused graphics chips (GPUs).

## The Rise of Nvidia

Parameter	Details
Market Cap (Oct 2025)	\$5.07 trillion
Rise in 2025 (YTD)	+49 % since Jan 1 (\$3.4 trn → \$5.07 trn)**
Share surge since ChatGPT's launch (Nov 2022)	~12-fold increase
Closest competitor	Microsoft – \$4 trn; Apple – \$3.8 trn
CEO	<b>Jensen Huang</b> , stake ≈ \$179 billion (world's 8th-richest person)
Founded	1993, Santa Clara (California)

## Drivers of Growth

## Al Boom

- Nvidia's GPUs power large-language models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT, Claude, and xAI.
- Its H100 and Blackwell processors are the core of global AI infrastructure.

## Massive Orders

 Recently unveiled \$500 billion in Al-chip orders and plans to build seven supercomputers for the U.S. government.

## Post-ChatGPT Frenzy

- The Al revolution has propelled Nvidia into the heart of a U.S.-China tech rivalry.
- Its chips are key to both defense applications and civilian AI systems, making export controls a
  geopolitical flashpoint.

## Global Market Context

```
| Company | Market Cap (approx.) | Position |
|-----|
| Nvidia | $5.07 trn | 🍈 #1 |
| Microsoft | $4.0 trn | 🏅 #2 |
| Apple | ~$3.7 trn | 🎳 #3 |
Exxon Mobil | $497 bn | — |
```

- Nvidia's valuation > total cryptocurrency market value
- ♦ ≈ half of Europe's Stoxx 600 index

**Aspect** 

**Implication** 

**Tech Industry** 

Shows shift from traditional software dominance to **AI hardware supremacy**.

**U.S.–China Dynamics** 

Nvidia's Blackwell chips are a **key sticking point** amid U.S. export controls.

**Financial Markets** 

Al-related firms now drive much of **S&P 500's** performance.

**Investor Outlook** 

Raises debate on "AI valuation bubble" similar to dot-com era.

Year / Event Milestone

2022 ChatGPT launch → AI chip demand explodes

2023 (June) Nvidia hits \$1 trn M-cap

2024 (June) \$3 trn mark

2025 (July) \$4 trn

2025 (Oct 29)\*\* \$5.07 trn mark reached ✓

## South Korea Honours Donald Trump with its Highest Award "Grand Order of Mugunghwa



## UN Tourism Names 52 Best Tourism Villages for 2025; No Indian Destination on the List

• UN Tourism has announced the winners of its fifth annual "Best Tourism Villages" awards, recognising 52 rural destinations worldwide for innovation, sustainability, and cultural preservation.

• The awards, revealed in Huzhou City, China, honour villages from 65 member states that have successfully promoted rural development through responsible tourism. Notably, no Indian village was included in this year's list.

Launched in 2021 under the UN
Tourism for Rural Development
Programme, the initiative evaluates
villages on nine parameters,
including environmental and social
sustainability, cultural conservation,
economic resilience, infrastructure,
and tourism governance.

The three core components—"Best Tourism Villages Recognition", "Upgrade Programme", and "Network Platform"—together aim to build a global knowledge base of rural excellence and empower communities to create livelihood opportunities through tourism.

• Previous Indian honourees—Pochampalli and Dhordo in Gujarat—set promising examples of craft-based and desert tourism. With the next round of submissions scheduled for early 2026, India's rural tourism sector has another opportunity to gain global recognition under the UN Tourism framework.

# Uttar Pradesh to Create Kalyan Singh Nagar, Its 76th District

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has announced the formation of a new district named Kalyan Singh Nagar to honour the legacy of former Chief Minister Kalyan Singh.
- The new district will be carved out of parts of Aligarh and Bulandshahr, marking an administrative reorganisation aimed at commemorating one of the state's most influential leaders.

According to official inputs, the proposed district of Kalyan Singh Nagar will comprise the "Atrauli and Gangiri tehsils of Aligarh" and the "Dibai tehsil of Bulandshahr".]

These areas are closely associated with Kalyan Singh's birthplace and political journey. The reorganisation aims to improve administrative efficiency while also paying tribute to the former chief minister's deep connection with the region.

# Paul Biya re-elected at 92 as world's oldest president amid Cameroon unrest

Paul Biya, aged 92, has secured another term as Cameroon's President, making him the world's oldest sitting head of state. The country's Constitutional Council announced his victory following a tense election held on October 12, 2025.

The result extends his rule, which began in 1982, into an eighth consecutive term amid growing political unrest and public discontent.



- Paul Biya, aged 92, is the world's oldest president in 2025.
- He has ruled Cameroon since 1982 and has now won an eighth consecutive term.
- Official vote share: Biya 53.66%, Issa Tchiroma Bakary 35.19%.
- More than 70% of Cameroon's 30 million people are under 35 years old.

## Word of the day

## Impugnable:

subject to being discredited

Synonym: questionable

**Usage:** His impugnable claims were dismissed by the experts.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/

impugnablepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /impug'nable/



