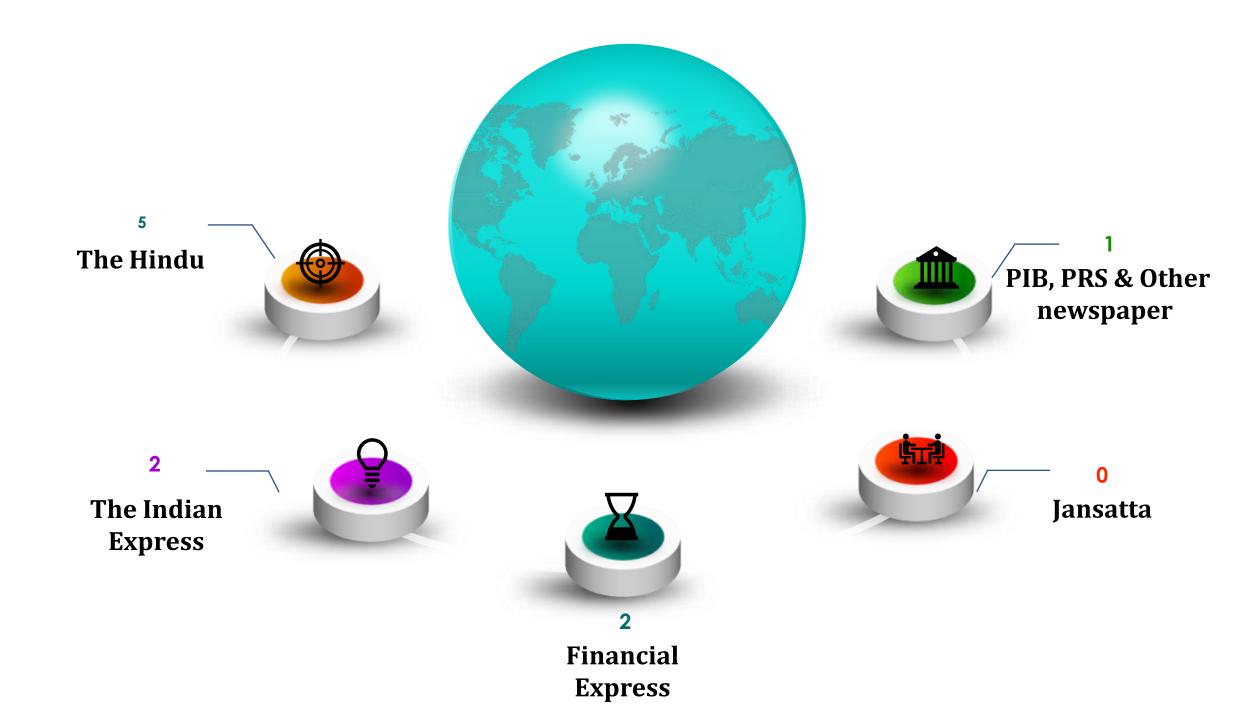
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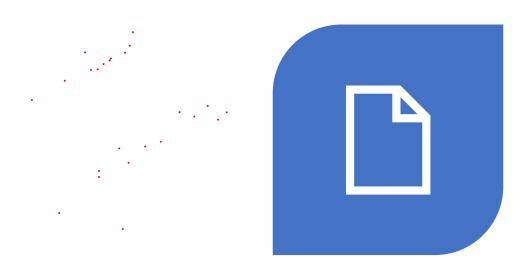








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PDF

10 MCQ QUIZ



"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent"

Victor Hugo



AGE DEBATE In SC, Centre rejects lowering of consent age NEWS II PAGE A





Last J&K Governor Satya Pal Malik dies

Bihar SIR shows concerning trends High voter deletions in Muslim majority districts, analysis show:



Ariun headlines a strong Masters field

INSIDE

NDA leaders hail PM for Operation Sindoor success

NEW DELIN The National Democratic Altance's padiamentary party group, meeting in Tuesday for the first time in over a year, februated Pirms Minester Ferendes should for "exceptions leadership! and the armed forces for their valour during Operation Sindpor, is PAGE !

RTC employees after HC order

MESSGALORO The indefinite stree in Normataka called by the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Boad Transport Corporation (RTC) employees was (RTC) amployees was puralported on Tuesday entering after orders issued by the High Court. The AVC has been present for a satisfy revision certible from amount 4, 2004, and payment of pending arranses for 58 remerks, instituting a false in various staff allowances.

allowerses, to page a

Law requires that Centre issue ID to all citizens: govt

NEW DIST. inhumed that the Citizenship Act, 1966 procedus that the Act, 1996, procedus that the Ursian government should compactionly register every critical formation of the national identity Cards to them. The Ministry of stome Affairs was responding to a question by question by Trianmost Congress resimber already strains of the Trianmost Congress resimber already strains of the triangle of the processor of the triangle of as per court of law, is an admissible identity proof as an incline citizen, is their a

Flash floods in Uttarakhand leave four dead

Ganga river swept through Dharali in Uttarkashi

tion, he added.

people are missing or trapped in the area

rescued in first three hours, Army officer says

A were killed and do-wens feared washed away in Uttarkashi thetrict of Uttarakhand after flash floods triggered by serren-tial sain fill the Kliene Gan-ge civer on Tuesday-afternam.

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The floods hit horeis and renderint bruillings in the hard town, situated where video beings recorded by conjecture to corded by conjecture to goding through the area and swellowing everything in flesh way in experiment of their way in experiments to their work of the conjecture way to be a second of the conjecture way to be a second of the conjecture way washed away in unnecessary and the conjecture was washed away in unnecessary as well as the conjecture was washed away in unnecessary as well as the conjecture was washed away in unnecessary as well as the conjecture was washed away in unnecessary as well as the conjecture was washed away in unnecessary as well as well as the conjecture was washed away in unnecessary as well as wel



Meavy Jones Uttarkashi District Mugla-trate Prashunt Arya said that the floods, which bit the town around 4.45 p.m., had caused heavy losses of life and preperty. Susrues in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) hetan Border Police (FIBP) in the area said that 32 peo-ple were rescued by diffe-rant tearns.

As many as 120 people, were rescued and given first aid till the time of filing this rener.

this report.
The administration has



Blink of an eye: A satios of images shows fluorivator surging downfull and destroying buildings to Chatali brevs, liquated 8,600 feet above one level, in Utbrekhand, on Tuesday, PH

also set up relief camps for those affected. Hospitals in the area have been asked

the area have been asked to reserve a separate wing for the treatment of in-jured people, and modical teams have been asked to be ready with beds, oxy-gen, and medicines.

destruction in the area ground the Harshil beliground the Harshi heli-pad, another popular tou-rist spot which also houses an Army and (Indo-Theran Border Police) ITBF camp. Teams of Sorte Disaster Response Force, Army and PTBP were immediately rushed to the app out reactive operations on a war fronting. Mr. Arya said.
Given the poor weather conditions and further predictions of heavy ratio over the next cuple of dept. The advisory of the ad

officials have been asked to use iondepeakers and ai-rens to alert people living in villages near the river, in the Chilyantsour, Bhatwari, and Durida blocks, asking them to evacuate their homes for safer locations. Treaking permits in Uttar-kashi have also been de-nied until further notice.

CM condoles losses Umraldsand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami con-doled the losses and or-dered the administration

to ensure speedy rescue and rehabilitation, "I ont in constant contact with se-tent of the second of the tion is being clorely moni-tored, I pray to God for secyone's safety," the CM said.

Prime Muister Naren-dris Modé and Home Mini-tored to the contact of the Mr. Obanu and host season of the situation and the res-

cue operation. The Union government has assured the State of its help in the

Hours after Dharali, in-formation of flash floods triggered by rains was re-cieved from Sulchi top, another tourists destina tion in Uttarkashi, said Vi nav Shankar Pandey, div

Uneasy calm



A man femils pigeons in front of the Clock Tower in Brinagar on Tuesday, Protests demanding restoration of special status in the entwhilese.

Will hike tariff on India 'very substantially' over the next 24 hours, says U.S. President

Press Trust of India

U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday said In-dia had not been a good trading partner, and an-nounced that he would raise the tariffs on the country "very substantial-ly" over the next 24 bours

EM globash

"With India, what peo-ple don't like to say about India, they are the highest do business with them, So we settled on 28% (tariff), tariff nation. They have the highest tariff of anybody. We do very, very little busi-ness with India because

their tariffs are so high," he said in an interview with CNRC Sames have.

todia has not been a prod trading partner... So we settled on 25% harriff L but 8 Ethink I'm going to raise that very substantially over the rest 24 hours, because they're buying Brestan oil. They're faelling the DONALD TRUMP

we settled on 20% [tariff), but I think I'm going to raise that very autotantial yover the next 24 hours, because they're buying Runaian oil. They are fusiling the war machine, and I'hey're going to be along the the aided.

Asked about a likely trade deal with india, Mr. trade deal with india, Mr.

Trump said the "attribute point" with India was that

point" with India was that is tariffs were too high, "India won from the high-set tariffs ever, they will give us zero tariffs... But that's not good enough, because of what they're do nig with uit."

A day earlier, Mr. Trump said he would "substantial by" raise U.S. tariffs on india acculating the country

of buying massive amounts of Russian ed and selling it for big profits.

Hours later, India mounted a sharp counter-attack on the U.S. and the Surspean Drines for their unjustified and unreason-able 'unjustified and unreason-shle' tragesting of few bel-It for its procurement of Russian crude oil, india pointed out the double aundards in targeting it on the issue and used both the U.5. and the EU are conti-nuing their trade with Russta. "Unlike our case, such trade is not even a vital natrade in not even a vital na-tional compulsion; "the Ex-ternal Affoirs Ministry said in a statement. The flu-rope-Bussia trade includes not just euergy but also fer tillacers, mining products, chemical, iron and steel, and machinery and tran-aport equipment, it said.

"Where the U.S. is con-cerned, it continues to im-port from Bussia uranium besettnovide for its nuclear industry, palladhum for its KV industry, fertilizers as well as chemicals," it ad-sed. "In this background, the targetting of India is un-justified and urneasonajustified and unreasona-ble. Like any major econo-my, India will take all necessary measures to sa-feguard its national interests and economic securi-ty," the Ministry said.

ty, the Ministry said.
On August I, Mr. Triump signed an executive order titled "Further Modifying The Reciprocal Tariff Rates", raising tariffs for over five dozen countries, including a steep 28% for look

PAGES FAR

India-Philippines relations elevated to level of strategic partnership, says PM Modi

Mr. Modi described the

Ballul Bhattacherice

India and the Philippines have decided to boost their defence: and martisms inks, begint direct flights, and start negotiating a new and start negotiating a new their like in the level of a "artesigle partnership". Prime Minister Narondra Mod said on Tusselay. Welcoming visiting Pil-pinn Predelind Ferdinand Pilm Predelind Ferdinand Medi said that as both countries support "free

countries support "free-dom of navigation", coop-eration in the maritime domain is "natural and essential." The two sides al-so announced the com-mencement of talks for a preferential trade agree-

Mr. Modi described the Philippines as an "impor-tant partner" in India's Act East Policy, "I am happy to share that we have decided to upgrade our tes to a strategic partnership. We have also prepared a de-tudied action play to turn this partnership's potential into systeomes," he said. "We have been consis-We have been consistently working together in areas such as humanitarian assistance, disaster realler, and search and rescue operations. Today, as the operations. Today, as the three todain mavel ships are, for the very first time, participating in a maval exercise in the Philippines. India's hydrography ship is also a part of this importance of the control of the this partnership's potential into outcomes," he said. The Prime Minister also amounteed that direct flights between India and the Philippinas will begin this year, while India will extend a fewe etunitet visu facility to Pilipino nationals for a period of one year, starting August 2028. Defence cooperation so expressed his "sincere gratitude" to the govern-ment of the Philippines for

The two countries agreed on a number of defence-re-lated mechanisms includtack in Pahalgam on April ing the finalisation of the Terms of Reference bet-The Prime Minister disween their armies, navies and air forces.
These agreements will

espect regional and global issues with the Pilipino President, and hinted at In-dia's position on the dis-Sea.

"We remain committed exchange of training pro-grammes between our offi-esals, and all standard ele-

Romualdez Marcos Jr. in New Defin on Tuesday, sinc number number try of External Affairs. The two countries also agreed on the Terms of Reference for enhanced tharitime cooperation between the indian Coast Guard and the Philippine Coast

South China Sea, "We con-sider the South China Sea

1982," he said. India and the Philip-pines scaled a treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and another treaty on the transfer of sentenced per

Flash floods in Uttarakhand leave four dead

Many feared washed away after water from Kheer Ganga river swept through Dharali in Uttarkashi Local authorities estimate that around 60-70 people are missing or trapped in the area

Nine Army personnel feared missing, 20 people rescued in first three hours, Army officer says

Ishita Mishra NEW DELHI

t least four persons were killed and dozens feared washed away in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand after flash floods triggered by torrential rain hit the Kheer Ganga river on Tuesday afternoon.

The floods hit hotels and residential buildings in Dharali town, situated 8,600 feet above sea level, where video footage recorded by residents showed giant waves of water gushing through the area and swallowing everything in their way, including people and homes.

Residents were heard yelling warnings to their acquaintances to run for their lives. The entire market area of the popular tourist town was washed away in minutes, leaving the place looking like a sludgefilled river bed.

At least 25 establishments, including hotels, guest houses, and homes were completely destroyed. A rough estimate by the district administration says that around 60-70 people are missing or might be trapped in the area. As many as nine Army personnel are feared missing, said Lieutenant-Colonel Manish Shrivastava. the Army's Public Relations Officer at Dehradun. Army rescued around 20 people in the first three hours of the rescue operation, he added.

Heavy losses

Uttarkashi District Magistrate Prashant Arya said that the floods, which hit the town around 1.45 p.m., had caused heavy losses of life and property.

Sources in the Indo-Ti-







Blink of an eye: A series of images shows floodwater surging downhill and destroying buildings in Dharali town, located 8.600 feet above sea level, in Uttarakhand, on Tuesday, PTI

betan Border Police (ITBP) in the area said that 32 people were rescued by different teams.

As many as 120 people were rescued and given first aid till the time of filing this report.

The administration has

also set up relief camps for those affected. Hospitals in the area have been asked to reserve a separate wing for the treatment of injured people, and medical teams have been asked to be ready with beds, oxygen, and medicines. "There has been heavy destruction in the area around the Harshil helipad, another popular tourist spot which also houses an Army and [Indo-Tibetan Border Police] ITBP camp. Teams of State Disaster Response Force, Army and ITBP were immediately rushed to the spot to carry out rescue operations on a war footing," Mr. Arya said.

Given the poor weather conditions and further predictions of heavy rains over the next couple of days, the administration has announced that all schools will be shut on July 6.

Disaster management officials have been asked to use loudspeakers and sirens to alert people living in villages near the river, in the Chilyanisaur, Bhatwari, and Dunda blocks, asking them to evacuate their homes for safer locations. Trekking permits in Uttarkashi have also been denied until further notice.

CM condoles losses

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami condoled the losses and ordered the administration to ensure speedy rescue and rehabilitation. "I am in constant contact with senior officials, and the situation is being closely monitored. I pray to God for everyone's safety," the CM said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah also spoke to Mr. Dhami and took stock of the situation and the rescue operation. The Union government has assured the State of its help in the rescue efforts.

Hours after Dharali, information of flash floods triggered by rains was recieved from Sukhi top, another tourists destination in Uttarkashi, said Vinay Shankar Pandey, divisional commissioner of Garhwal region. He added that no loss of life was reported from the spot but the water level in the river increased drastically.

Heavy rainfall, rugged topography: What caused flash floods in Uttarkashi?

ANJALI MARAR

BENGALURU, AUGUST 5

AT LEAST four people died after flash floods and mudslides swept through Dharali village in Uttarkashi district, Uttarakhand, on Tuesday afternoon, Several buildings, shops, and hotels were damaged.

Flash floods are not uncommon in the

EXPLAINED

CLIMATE

upper hilly areas of Uttarakhand as they are often triggered by a cloudburst — a localised but intense rainfall activity. However, a cloudburst, in a technical sense, did

not lead to flash floods on Tuesday, though most parts of the state received heavy rainfall over the past three days.

The primary reason is the topography of the area, where heavy rainfall often results in landslides, sending mud and concrete into the rivers. These materials flow down with great force, accumulating momentum on the way, leading to flash floods downstream.

What is the topography of Uttarkashi?

Uttarkashi district is located at a high elevation ranging between 800 and 6,900 metres above mean sea level. Large geographical areas are covered with snow throughout the year, and there are glaciers in many parts of the district.

It has the upper reaches of the Ganga

and Yamuna rivers, and contains their snowbound source region near Gangotri and Yamunotri respectively.

There are also a series of high ridges, perennial rivers,

and valleys in Uttarkashi. The rugged topography of the district features sharp undulations due to high mountains, narrow valleys, and deep gorges.

The land slopes steadily towards the southwest, where the elevation in some valleys dips sharply — by as much as 800 metres.



Flash floods and mudslides hit Dharali village, Uttarkashi, on Tuesday. PTI

How much rainfall does Uttarkashi receive annually?

Since a large part of the district is situated on the southern slope of the Himalayas, monsoon currents generally penetrate through deeply trenched valleys. Rainfall is at its maximum during the southwest monsoon season (June to September), particularly in the southern part of the district.

Uttarkashi receives about 1,289 mm of rain on average in a year. Past records show that the highest annual rainfall of 2,436 mm (189 per cent above normal) was recorded in 1969. July is the district's wettest month, during which it receives about 312 mm of rain on average.

The district is prone to thunderstorms, which occur frequently in the hilly areas.

What led to flash floods on Tuesday?

The topography, combined with the continuous rainfall over the past few days, probably created the perfect scenario for triggering mudslides, debris slides and flash floods as experienced on Tuesday.

The increase in rainfall intensity owing to climate change has added to the pressure on glaciers and snow accumulated during the winter months. As a result, the deglaciation rate in the area has accelerated.

Rainfall of any intensity, if continuous, recorded over such high altitudes where Uttarkashi is located, can be disastrous. That is because this region is built on layers of mudslides over the past several centuries.

Uttarkashi district is situated along the

southern Himalayan slope, where there is limited vegetation and no significant obstruction, Mild triggers such as rainfall or earthquakes can cause loose moraine and soil to easily slither downhill, swallowing homes and roads along its path.

Why was this rain not a 'cloudburst'?

A cloudburst has a very specific definition: Rainfall of 100 mm or more in an hour over a roughly 10 km x 10 km area is classified as a cloudburst event, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

IMD's 24-hour rainfall data as of 8,30 am on Tuesday said Uttarkashi had received 2,7 mm. Also, between 8,30 am and 4,30 pm, rainfall across various meteorological stations in Uttarkashi was well below the threshold defined for a cloudburst, IMD data show.

There has been heavier rainfall in other parts of Uttarakhand over the last three days. For instance, the 24-hour rainfall recorded over the plains of Haridwar was 300 mm on Tuesday.

1. Incident Overview

- Flash floods occurred in Dharali town, Uttarkashi district, Uttarakhand, on Tuesday afternoon.
- Triggered by torrential rainfall that caused the Kheer Ganga river to overflow.
- Location: Dharali is situated at 8,600 feet above sea level.

2. Casualties and Rescue Efforts

- At least 4 people killed, dozens feared washed away.
- 60–70 people are missing or feared trapped.
- 9 Army personnel among the missing.
- Around 20 people rescued in the first 3 hours.
- A total of 32 people rescued by different teams.
- Around 120 people rescued till filing of report.

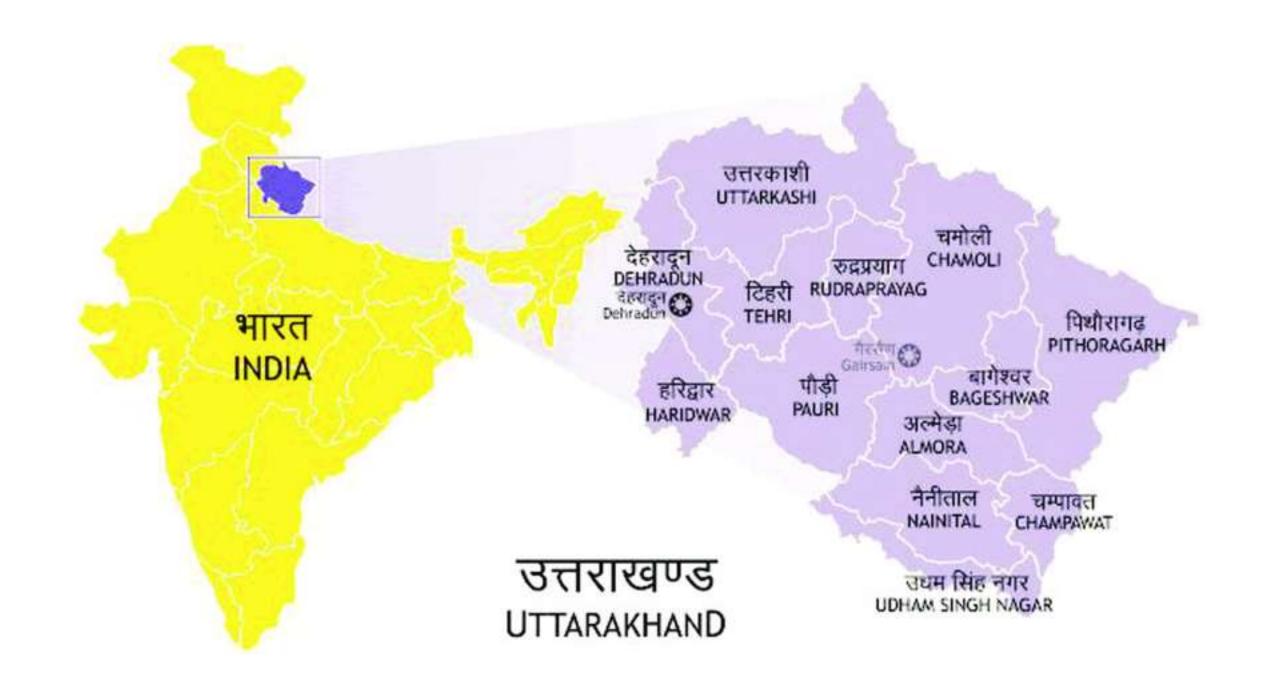
- 25 establishments (hotels, guesthouses, homes) completely destroyed.
- Giant water waves flooded markets, destroying infrastructure and lives.
- Rescue operations led by:
 - Army
 - Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
 - State Disaster Response Force (SDRF)

4. Administrative Measures

- All schools shut on July 6.
- Hospitals asked to reserve beds, oxygen, and medicines.
- Loudspeaker announcements in nearby villages: Chilyanisaur, Bhatwari, Dunda blocks.
- Trekking permissions revoked until further notice.

Cause	Not a cloudburst, but heavy rainfall over a few days , combined with steep topography and glacial moraine led to flash floods
Location	Uttarkashi District, Uttarakhand
Topography	Elevation between 800–6,900 m, sharp ridges, glaciers, narrow valleys, snow-covered peaks
Major Rivers	Ganga (Gangotri) and Yamuna (Yamunotri) originate here
Annual Rainfall	1,289 mm average; highest recorded: 2,436 mm in 1969
IMD Rainfall (Aug 5)	Only 2.7 mm in 24 hrs in Uttarkashi – not qualifying as a cloudburst
Cloudburst Definition	≥100 mm rainfall in an hour over 10×10 km area
Climate Impact	Rising temperatures causing glacier melting & moraine destabilization, increasing landslide and flood risks





India-Philippines relations elevated to level of strategic partnership, says PM Modi

Kallol Bhattacherjee NEW DELHI

India and the Philippines have decided to boost their defence and maritime links, begin direct flights, and start negotiating a new trade deal as they upgrade their ties to the level of a "strategic partnership", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday.

Welcoming visiting Filipino President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Ir., Mr. Modi said that as both countries support "freedom of navigation", cooperation in the maritime domain is "natural and essential." The two sides also announced the commencement of talks for a preferential trade agree-

"We have been consistently working together in areas such as humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and search and rescue operations. Today, as the President is visiting India, three Indian naval ships are, for the very first time, participating in a naval exercise in the Philippines. India's hydrography ship is also a part of this important engagement," the Prime Minister said. He also expressed his "sincere gratitude" to the government of the Philippines for condemning the terror attack in Pahalgam on April

The Prime Minister discussed regional and global issues with the Filipino President, and hinted at India's position on the disputes in the South China Sea.

"We remain committed to peace, security, prosperity, and a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific region. We support freedom of na-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Filipino President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr. in New Delhi on Tuesday, SHV KUMAR PUSHRAKAR

with international law," he

Mr. Modi described the Philippines as an "important partner" in India's Act East Policy. "I am happy to share that we have decided to upgrade our ties to a strategic partnership. We have also prepared a detailed action plan to turn this partnership's potential into outcomes," he said. The Prime Minister also announced that direct flights between India and the Philippines will begin this year, while India will extend a free e-tourist visa facility to Filipino nationals for a period of one year, starting August 2025.

Defence cooperation

The two countries agreed on a number of defence-related mechanisms including the finalisation of the Terms of Reference between their armies, navies and air forces.

These agreements will cover "capacity building, joint maritime activities, exchange of training programmes between our officials, and all standard elements when we talk about defence cooperation", according to P. Kumaran, Secretary (East) of the Minis-

vigation in accordance try of External Affairs. The two countries also agreed on the Terms of Reference for enhanced maritime cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard and the Philippine Coast Guard.

> Mr. Kumaran also reiterated India's position on the South China Sea. "We consider the South China Sea as a part of the global commons. We support freedom of navigation and overflight in the region, and legitimate commerce through the waters of the South China Sea. India has an abiding interest in peace and stability in the region and our position is based on the UN Convention of the Law of the Seas, 1982," he said.

> India and the Philippines sealed a treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and another treaty on the transfer of sentenced per-

India announced that it will extend its support to a pilot project to set up the infrastructure needed for the Philippines Sovereign Data Cloud. India also invited the Philippines to participate in its Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region.

S,

Major Agreements & Cooperation Areas

1. Defence Cooperation

- Finalisation of Terms of Reference between:
 - Armies, navies, and air forces
- Focus on:
 - Capacity building
 - Joint maritime activities
 - Exchange of training programs
 - Search and rescue, humanitarian aid, disaster relief

2. Maritime Cooperation

- Both nations reaffirmed support for freedom of navigation in Indo-Pacific.
- India's hydrography ship & 3 naval ships joined exercises in the Philippines.
- Terms of reference signed between Indian Coast Guard and Philippine Coast Guard.

3. South China Sea Stance

- India's position:
 - Support for UNCLOS (1982) framework.
 - Emphasis on peace, stability, and lawful maritime activity.

- Economic & People-to-People Connectivity
 - Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA): Talks initiated.
 - Direct flights to begin in 2025.
 - E-tourist visa facility for Filipinos from August 2025 for one year.

Legal & Tech Cooperation

- Treaties Signed:
 - Mutual Legal Assistance in criminal matters
 - Transfer of Sentenced Persons
- India to assist:
 - Philippine Sovereign Data Cloud
 - Participation in Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region

Q1. With reference to India-Philippines relations, consider the following statements:

- 1. India and the Philippines signed a treaty on mutual legal assistance in civil matters.
- 2. The two countries agreed to Terms of Reference between their Coast Guards.
- 3. India offered the Philippines support in building a Sovereign Data Cloud.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Caste killing: probe

will be completed in

60 days, T.N. tells HC

Karnataka RTC workers call

off strike following HC order

Bus services resume across Karnataka by Tuesday night: unions say protest is only postponed, not

withdrawn as the final round of talks with the State government failed to yield any breakthrough

CPI(M) slams Adoor's remarks on women. SC/ST filmmakers

The Hindu Barreau

M.V. Govindan condemned director Adoor Gopalak-Rerala film conclave on Sa-turday that aspirant film-makers halling from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/STs) and also women require at least "three weeks of intense" training before get-ting State funding for mo-vies and decumentaries.

vies and documentaries, speaking to the media on Tuesday, Mr. Govindan said Mr. Gopalakrishnan had later claimed that his words were in good faith and had been misconstrued,



My Goverdan

collogue smarked of feu-

colloquy smucked of fluidad puriseenice. Such discourses are an injustice to a modern, democratic, and the such as the such as

Besisted took: A course at a bus stand in Mangature on Yuanday
The strike had partial impact on operations. H.S. MARRIMATH

after orders laused by the High Court.

ESHTC Staff and Workers' Federation president Ananth Subbarao has inarracted all employees of the foar Staterini Hansport corporations to resunits duly immediately, leading to a gradual rely, leading to a gradual rely, and the staff of the services.

at 6 a.m. on Tuesday, had severely impacted bits sur-vices across the State. Speaking to The Hindu, Mr. Subbaria o clarified that the strike was "postported, not withdrawn", as a mark of respect to the judiciary." "I have directed all the unions and employees to re-port to work immediately. We will respect the court's strection, he said. Despite the HC's direc-tion on Standay asking un-ions to defer the strike for a day, the LAC had give ahead with the protest, cit

with the government. The final round of talks with Chief Minister Siddara-matah and Transport Mi-nister Hansalings Reddy on August 4 falled to yield any beautaturough.

Key demands The IAC has been preming

The JAC has been preming for a salary revision effective from January 1, 2024, and payment of pending from January 2020 to From January 2020 to From January 2020, additional demands include a bits in proved medical facilities, regularization of contract-based staff, and a policy that only permanent staff openine electric buses.

Tariff war to worsen the economy further'

The Hindu Bureau

ions and employees to re-

Kecala's Pinance Minister Resala's France Minister K.S. balagopal said that the State needs to prepare well to tackle the 'tariff war' looming over the econo-my, propelled by the re-cent tariff policies of the United States and other stotal charge.

global players.

Mr. Halagopal was speaking after mangurat-ing a two-day seminar, 'Post-COVID Development Challenges and Response: Kerala through the tens of

State budgets/ organised by the Sadati Institute of Fi

nance and Taxation (GIFT) here on Tuesday. "It has to be examined how these policies impact

how these policies impact the Indian economy and specifically forrals, whose experts curver multiple suc-tors," he said.

Mr. Bologopul suid he perceived a "dangerous sit-uation" aboud, referring to recent demands that "in-dia should reduce its ta-tiffs," "The turiff war looming over us will worsen our economy further," he said.

for the investigation, the

The Hindu Bureau

ment on Tuesday informed the Madural Bench of the Madras High Court that the investigation in the caste killing of Kavin Selvaga-nesh would be completed

in two months.

The court was hearing a public interest litigation petition filed by S.M.A. Pon

public interest Higgstein public interest Higgstein potition field by \$5.4A. For Landiumathmathan of Landscape and the sender of a direction for a CD-CID probe, to be monitorial public to the sender of the sender

Given the fact that the

submitted that the investi gation would be completed by the CR-CR in 60 days and the final report would be filed. An interim compensation of to lakh had been handed over to the fa-

been handed ower to the fi-mily. A case was booked under the Scheduled Casses and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrockien) Act. No offen. Act No offe the investigating team. Giv-ing a direction at this point of time would affect the independence of the investi gating officers, the Bench said, posting the matter for further hearing after eight

Panel reviews action

In Tironelveli, the Chair-person and Members of the National Commission person, and Members of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes met Collector R. Sukumar and top police officers to re-view the action being ta-lon following the murder or factor Selvagmanh, the eight-member. Commis-sion, led by its Chaircorream sion, led by its Chaircorream

Trump's tariffs likely to severely affect aquaculture and seafood sector in A.P.

Write the O.S. Brookdent Do. With the U.S. President Do-nald Trump announcing a 25% tariff on Indian pro-ducts, the aquaculture sec-tor in Andhra Pradesh is likely to be severely affect-ed, particularly for the absimp farmera. Aquaculture furniers in A.P. suporting their pre-

5.77% countervailing duty and 3.96% anti-dumping



2023-24, said Joint Director (Aquaculture), Shalk Lal

be indefinite strike in Karnataka called by the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Road

Fransport Corporation ETC) employees was post-

after orders issued by the

day night. The strike, which began

oned on Tuesday ev

Mohammad.
The xector has been facing a severe crisks after the
U.S. imposed 20% tariff in
April. As the prices fell of
thrimp in the international
market, many furners an
market, many furners an
market, many furners an
market in the producers and
"We are not in a position
to continue aquaoulture by

to continue aquanditure by paying a 38% tariff to the U.S. The Centre should take measures to save the sector." A. Veerraju, a farmer from Eluru district

Kerala CM seeks report on weak and rundown structures

Korala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has directed the Disaster Management department to provide the details of weak and dilapidated atvastures, including schools and hospitalis, in the State within two works.

Speaking at a high-level meeting here on Tuesday, Mr. Vijayan said the list of those structures that need to be demolished and those that need to be re-paired should be provided

separately.
School hubbings should
be demolished on holi-days. Local self-govern-ment bodies, the Parent Tracher Association (PTA)

and the Education depart-ment should find an alter-native to conduct classes until the demolished school buildings are built, he said. The CM also ordered safety assessment or unaided school building in the State along with this

exercise.
Software will be deve-loped to record details of public buildings in danger.

Electrical safety

An inspection system com-prising the Chief Electrical Officer and electrical engi-neers from the Local Self-

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SHOW AND

Kerala Minister moots idea for classes without backbenchers

Just days after proposing public discussions on a choulchildren in Kerda in Innerhald, Mississer in clemelabilities in Kerda in Innerhald, Mississer in Ceneral Education V. Shankurry has morted doing away with the Idea of Sackbernchere' from Piezebook poer on Truesday, touched upon how being deemed a buckberncher could impact a should be left behind in education or in Big." he said. He said the department is exploring how is implement the Idea.

Leopard scare continues to haunt Tirumala residents

Leopard scare continues to haunt the denixens of flalail Nagar in Tirumala, Andhra Pradash. The imbibitants of the area on Toesday woke up to the news of sighting of a leopard in the precincts of the Gangarman temple. The armitety Intensified as a video city showing the leopard preying on a cat on the temple grounds went viral on social media. The area houses displaced owners and tenants who had given away their properties to the TTD, and is located on the fringes of the town abutting forests. The residents promptly notified forest officials, who alerted their staff.

Dharmasthala: SIT to probe new plaint on another burial

Director General and Inspector General of Police M.A. Johenn has atherd the special tree-nigation Manufacture of the process of the property of the property of the property of the property by a property of the property of the property buying agift body without registering a case. Manufacture of the property of the property of the special property of the property of the property of the special property of the property of the property of the special property of the property of the property of the special property of the property of the property of the property of the special property of the property of the property of the property of the special property of the pr between 2002 and 2003. No skeleral remains were found in sites II and I2 on Tuesday.

Accidental dive



BJP leader accuses Karnataka govt. of smuggling urea

B.S. Satish Kumar

expressing shock over alof ures from Karnstaka to Kerula, the Opposition BJP has alleged that consign ments were being "quietly

ments were being "quietly sent across the State bur-der" with full knewledge of the State machinery, "to the State machinery, "to leaders," The parry has also de-manded a probe into urea diversion, while alleging or was "man-made", be-sides aceiving a White Pap-sy on fertilizars' supply and distribution smallon.

"The shocking seizure of urea is not just illegal, it is also a direct betrayal of Karnataka's farmers," said

Lamandava farmera, "add Leader of the Opposition is Ashok, in a social media poet no Tuesdava in this was not an Inolated case, Mr. Ashok said, 'They at lowed medical waste from Fornia to be dumped on Certals to be dumped on American and the Company designation of the Company designation of the Company (her) is stuggling urea, formataka. He claimed that the Central govern-ment had ornared ades-juste fortilher supply to Barrinisha.

reward drives attention in humans The Hindu Bureau periment to examine how the expectation of a re-ward modulates the two key components of atten-

Study by IISc researchers reveals how

The researchers of the In-The remarchers of the In-dian Institute of Ricience (IISc) in a new study have probed how the expecta-tion of a reward influences the attention of human be-

Many studies have been Many studies have been conducted in the past on the topic. "However, they fell short in differentiating fell short in differentiating are governed by the same or different regions and processes in the bush," the life and the same processes in the bush, "the life and the same processes in the bush," the life and the same processes in the bush," the life and the same processes in the bush, "the same processes in the bush," the same processes in the bush, and the same processes are same processes, and has PSD student Ankita sengipred, and occupant and control of the same processes and the same processes are same processes.

ton sensitivity (example-tion sensitivity (example-the ability to visually iden-tify the ripest fruit) and bias (the declaids) to act to pick out the ripest fruit).

Two-part cognitive task Mr. Sridharairs team cum-ducted trials with 24 parti-cipants, each performing a two-part cognitive Lask. The first part irreolved the participant looking at a urene displaying two Ga-tor patchas camoods black-sous side of the acceen. Af-ter a very brief nature. two-part cognitive task. The first part involved this certificipum looking is a participum looking is



change occurred), relative to a "No" option (deciding no change occurred) were varied on one side.

to the first task, partici

In the first task, participants paid more attention towards the side associated with greater rewards. *Ilo-with greater rewards. *Ilo-with greater rewards. *Ilo-with greater paid the side of the sentitivity was modulated, *explained Mr. *Furtispants in the service of the side of th

Study by IISc researchers reveals how reward drives attention in humans

The Hindu Bureau

BENGALURU

The researchers of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in a new study have probed how the expectation of a reward influences the attention of human beings.

Many studies have been conducted in the past on the topic. "However, they fell short in differentiating whether these processes are governed by the same or different regions and processes in the brain," the IISc said.

Sridharan Devarajan, associate professor at the Centre for Neuroscience, and his PhD student Ankita Sengupta, designed an experiment to examine how the expectation of a reward modulates the two key components of attention: sensitivity (example: the ability to visually identify the ripest fruit) and bias (the decision to act to pick out the ripest fruit).

Two-part cognitive task

Mr. Sridharan's team conducted trials with 24 participants, each performing a two-part cognitive task. The first part involved the participant looking at a screen displaying two Gabor patches (smooth blackand-white stripes), one on each side of the screen. After a very brief pause (200 milliseconds), the patches flicker, and one (or both) of



The experiment was designed to track two key components of attention — sensitivity and bias

the patch orientations might change. For each accurate detection of change, the participants received a monetary reward.

The difference in the second part was that the points for reporting a "Yes" option (deciding a change occurred), relative to a "No" option (deciding no change occurred) were varied on one side.

In the first task, participants paid more attention towards the side associated with greater rewards. "However, their decisional bias didn't change, indicating that only sensitivity was modulated," explained Mr. Sridharan.

Participants in the second task were more likely (biased) to choose the option (yes/no) with the higher expected reward. But researchers noticed that none of the participants' gaze or brain patterns matched those associated with attention.

Category	Details	
Conducted by	IISc (Indian Institute of Science), Bengaluru	
Lead Researcher	Prof. Sridharan Devarajan & PhD student Ankita Sengupta	
Study Objective	To examine how expectation of reward influences human attention	
Attention Components Studied	 Sensitivity: Ability to detect visual changes (e.g., ripe fruit) Bias: Decision-making based on expected reward 	

Feature	Description
Sample Size	24 participants
Task Design	Two-part cognitive task using Gabor patches (striped images)
Part 1	Detect visual change → reward given for correct detection → tested sensitivity only
Part 2	Points for "Yes"/"No" responses varied → tested bias toward reward-linked choice
Findings (Part 1)	Higher attention (sensitivity) on high-reward side; decision bias unchanged
Findings (Part 2)	Higher bias for high-reward choices, but no gaze or brain activity shift to indicate attention



- Reward expectation affects attention sensitivity and decision-making bias differently.
- These two aspects are likely governed by distinct brain mechanisms.
- Challenge to prior assumptions that attention and bias are always linked in cognition

Text&Context

THE

NEWS IN NUMBER 25

Arms funding for Ukraine by certain Nordic nations

500 to 3 million. Sweden, benmark, and Norway will jointly fund a major U.S. weapons package for Ukraine. The support includes Patriot air defence.

Acres of crops submerged in Punjab after heavy rains

Japan records hottest temperature in its history amid heatwave

worst-hit subdivision was Fatilia. Farment blamed etagged drains and inadequate per monation preparation. In amore villages libb Tarlowals Budia, over 1,000 acres were florted, amore greated and a service of the serv

Lives lost in Himachal Pradesh since the onset of monsoon

Since June 20, the State has witnessed a sharp rise in faralities smid ongoing monsoon devastation. Of these, more than 100 fatalities were from rein-related while BE were in road accidents. The estimated losses exceed \$1,780 crows. as

Number of bird injuries in four days across Delhi

wildlife groups in Delhi have responded to nearly 300 distress calls. Daily rescue

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How should money laundering be tackled?

What did the Finance Minister report with respect to the number of cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act? What are the three stages through which money is laundered? How will the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement help to stop illegal transfer of money?

EXPLAINER

C. H. P. Srivastava

The story so fare The story so fart report submitted by the Finance Minator in the Rajva Property of the Control o Enforcement Case Information Reports (ECRs) have been based to Initiate proceedings. However, these figures raise two important aspects. First, that the is far from satisfactory and secondly, that money laundering cases have been rising signalling that the government has not been able to check such financial crimes.

What is a laundrymat? The term is said to have originated from crime syndicates in the U.S. as cover for their crimes and under the table dealir their crimes and under-the-table dealings. A laundorous is an all-purpose financial vehicle, it men be set up by a bank or any other company engaged in providing financial services, fixwever, it can also help clients laundor the proceeds of crime, hide ownership of assets, embosels funds from companies, evade taxes or cuttwicy featifictions and move money offshore.

How is money laundered? Maney laundering, as defined under Section 3 of PMLA, is an act through which processes or activities connecte the proceeds of crime are concealed, possessed, acquired, or used and

projected as untainted property or claiming to be untainted property. In the first stage called placement, the launderer introduces money into the



Binancial system which might be done by breaking up large amounts of cash into smaller since to greenee selfuel smarring, and the smaller since the process of the smaller since the money is shifted to other locations. However, the smaller since, the through fromewineste and stanaectories, and finally in the meigration edge, the financial system through real estates, business or asset formation etc. The transcript system through real estates, business or asset formation etc. The transcript system of the standard system and size the limited system and size the limited system and size the financial cystem and the size of the financial cystem and the size of the

diffrastely impacting inflation. Moreover it may also affect trading, according to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

When about the PMLA? When about the PMLA? to line with the UN Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action (adopted by the UN General Assembly in Pelmary 1990), the law has been made to compare the Political which has also been relicrated by the Supreme Court in Vir Bhadra Singh versus ED (2017) – that no FIR is required to initiate proceedings under the Act. The money laundering. However, despite being such a stringent law, the offence has become rampant. What are the issues to be addressed?

What are the issues to be addressed? The number of money laundering cases is seriously surreasing, questioning the efficacy of the implementation of the law Marrows, or many seasilonis, the law has efficacy of the implementation of the law has established as the serious of th under Section 5, there need not be a pre-registered criminal case. This view has been very often minased by authorities with politically motivated

intentions.
It is important that the authorities follow the recommendations of the FATF and ensure that money laundering cases are handled with care and castlen so that misses could be checked, and genuine misuse could be checked, and genuine cases reported and inventigated properly to enhance the rate of conviction. Moral sandering in a serious offence as it has a laundering in a serious offence as it has a major source of terror financing, instead of political mustwess, the law-should be used to address the issues and concerns revolved in a genuine manner. Though a converte the serious desired the serious desired and the serious desired in the serious desired and the serious desired information the serious desired information and travelated information therefore the serious desired information. illegal activities like tax evasion and

money laundering.

G. B. P. Srivastova is President of the Centre for Applied Research in Governance

only requirement as per the top court was that a scheduled offence (offence against the state) be essentiate for the offence of

The murchast of morney taundaring cates is seriously increasing, questioning the efficacy of the emplementation of the law

Though India has signed the Creshibit Taxation Association Agreement (DTAA) with about 65 countries, which helps to sheak maney loundaring, things are not yet in the right direction and much needs to be alone.

How is China extending its policing network overseas?

What are the joint patrols under the 2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation for?

Anushka Saxons

n July 16, the Chinese Ministry of Public Security (MPS) announced that an eight member police team was despatched to Croatia for a "joint patrol mission." This would be the sixth joint. patrol under the 2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation.

What are these joint patrols for? As the MPS itself highlighted, officers from China and Croatia have furmed mixed patrol units to address "the safet; mixed patrol units to address "the safety centerers of Chinese harvists in Croalia." The Chinese Ambassador to Croalia, Qi Qianjin, said that in 2024, 2,50,000 such touriets visited Croatis, up 41%. year-on-year, a similar patrol was launched this time last year, and they operated in Croalian cities such as Zagierb Dubrovnik, Zailar etc. Al the time, it was and overseas Chinese people in Croatia.

The Creatian project is not a one-off endeavour of the Chinese state. Under its 2014 Operation, "Fox Hunt", and the subsequent 2018 umbrella project 'Sky Net', the party-state has developed extensive policing and surveillance networks both within and beyond China. networks buth wildin and beyond China-ka part of Sby Nei, pish polse partelling As part of Sby Nei, pish polse partelling Stetlas, Italy and Hungary, Three meanth long partels have already been conducted in serbia in 2019, 2023, and 2021. In Hungary, the Cingutan County 2021. In Hungary, the Cingutan County Creating 'police service centres' in the creating 'police service centres' in the creating to the county. Concerns surrounding the laby to suspend joint puthe partials.

What is China aiming for? The freedom accorded to Chinese police mobility in countries alread has shown two things – first, that there is potential

operations can lead to the establishment of police stations across the world. It was discovered in 2023 that China It was discovered in 2022 that China operated two stations in the cities of Amsterdam and Borterdam in the Netherlands. The their Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson sald that these 'service centres' were mereby virtues to austic overseas Chinese nationals to renew their driving licences and receive physical checkups for that purpose. Around the same time, another media inventigation contacted a Chinese butch citizen who questioned Beijing's version of the 2020 Galvan Valley clashes with India. If true, there has brein an obvious effort by covert Chinese operatives to target disolitents. their driving licences and receive physical

In April 2000, the PRI arrested two operatives from a stoular hervice centraffiliated with the MPS in Manhattan's Chinatown in the U.S. The Justice Chinatown in the U.5. The Justice bepartment charged them with conspiracy to act as agents of the PRC government, and obseruction of fundor for descriping evidence of their communications with an MPS official.

How are countries dealing with this? The crackshown on covert operations of the MPS abroad seems to directly correlate with a particular nation's contemporary relations with China. In the U.S., Chinese espionage has been a topic of grave concern for a white. But as access to Chinese tourists, academics and officials visiting the U.S. has become restricted amid trade related tensions, the discovery of such covert operations has led U.S. authorities to take public action. But in places like Mongolia, Serbia and

These nations boast of enhancing economic and security ties with China. As song as thes with Heljing focus on resolve economic tensions and inchrohogical dispates, the issue of transmational repression is likely to take a back sent— infless the degree of surveillance rises to the level that it harms national and/ or heroteen sentials. long as ties with Beijing focus on resolvin Suropean security.

Anushka Savena is with The Yakshashila

THE GIST

Officers from China and Creatia have formed moved patrol units

How is China extending its policing network overseas?

What are the joint patrols under the 2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation for?

Anushka Saxena

The story so far:

n July 16, the Chinese Ministry of Public Security (MPS) announced that an eight-member police team was despatched to Croatia for a "joint patrol mission." This would be the sixth joint patrol under the 2017 China-Croatia Agreement on Police Cooperation.

What are these joint patrols for?

As the MPS itself highlighted, officers from China and Croatia have formed mixed patrol units to address "the safety concerns of Chinese tourists in Croatia." The Chinese Ambassador to Croatia, Qi Qianjin, said that in 2024, 2,50,000 such tourists visited Croatia, up 41% year-on-year. A similar patrol was launched this time last year, and they operated in Croatian cities such as Zagreb, Dubrovnik, Zadar etc. At the time, it was

said that the patrols were to address the "safety-related concerns" of not just Chinese tourists, but also Chinese citizens and overseas Chinese people in Croatia.

What about other European nations?

The Croatian project is not a one-off endeavour of the Chinese state. Under its 2014 Operation, 'Fox Hunt', and the subsequent 2015 umbrella project 'Sky Net', the party-state has developed extensive policing and surveillance networks both within and beyond China. As part of 'Sky Net', joint police patrolling initiatives have been launched with Serbia, Italy and Hungary. Three month-long patrols have already been conducted in Serbia in 2019, 2023, and 2024. In Hungary, the Qingtian County Public Security Bureau has gone as far as creating 'police service centres' in the country. Concerns surrounding the creation of Chinese 'service centres' led Italy to suspend joint police patrols.

What is China aiming for?

The freedom accorded to Chinese police mobility in countries abroad has shown two things – first, that there is potential for officers to arrest Chinese dissidents abroad, and second, that their unchecked operations can lead to the establishment of police stations across the world.

It was discovered in 2023 that China operated two stations in the cities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam in the Netherlands. The-then Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said that these 'service centres' were merely venues to assist overseas Chinese nationals to renew their driving licences and receive physical check-ups for that purpose. Around the same time, another media investigation said that the Chinese police service centre contacted a Chinese Dutch citizen who questioned Beijing's version of the 2020 Galwan Valley clashes with India. If true, there has been an obvious effort by covert Chinese operatives to target dissidents.

In April 2023, the FBI arrested two operatives from a similar 'service centre' affiliated with the MPS in Manhattan's Chinatown in the U.S. The Justice Department charged them with conspiracy to act as agents of the PRC government, and obstruction of justice for destroying evidence of their communications with an MPS official.

How are countries dealing with this?

The crackdown on covert operations of the MPS abroad seems to directly correlate with a particular nation's contemporary relations with China. In the U.S., Chinese espionage has been a topic of grave concern for a while. But as access to Chinese tourists, academics and officials visiting the U.S. has become restricted amid trade related tensions, the discovery of such covert operations has led U.S. authorities to take public action.

But in places like Mongolia, Serbia and Croatia, the policing programme, so far, has yielded no public investigations. These nations boast of enhancing economic and security ties with China. As long as ties with Beijing focus on resolving economic tensions and technological disputes, the issue of transnational repression is likely to take a back seat – unless the degree of surveillance rises to the level that it harms national and/ or European security.

Anushka Saxena is with The Takshashila Institution.

THE GIST



Officers from China and Croatia have formed mixed patrol units to address "the safety concerns of Chinese tourists in Croatia."



It was discovered in 2023 that China operated two 'service stations' in the cities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam in the Netherlands.



In April 2023, the FBI arrested two operatives from a similar 'service centre' affiliated with the MPS in Manhattan's Chinatown in the U.S.

Category	Details
Recent Event	On July 16, 2024, an 8-member Chinese police team sent to Croatia under the 2017 China-Croatia Police Cooperation Agreement
Purpose	Joint patrols to address "safety concerns of Chinese tourists" in Croatian cities
Trend	Reflects growing efforts under China's global surveillance programs such as 'Fox Hunt' (2014) and 'Sky Net' (2015)

Region	Activity
Croatia	Six joint patrols since 2017
Serbia, Italy, Hungary	Joint patrols since 2019; Hungary even created "police service centres"
Netherlands	Secret "service centres" in Amsterdam and Rotterdam discovered in 2023
U.S.	In April 2023, FBI arrested 2 operatives linked to Chinese Ministry of Public Security (MPS) in New York

6 China's Objectives

- 1. Monitor dissidents abroad
- 2. Enforce domestic laws globally
- 3. Aid Chinese nationals overseas (official claim: document renewal, driving licences)
- 4. Build surveillance influence under the guise of cooperation

International Reactions

Country/Region	Response
U.S.	Arrests, legal charges, and criticism of espionage
Italy	Suspended joint patrols due to concerns
Mongolia, Serbia	Continued cooperation with no investigations
Netherlands	Public exposure, increased concern

Risks Highlighted

- Threat to national sovereignty and European security
- Covert operations could suppress dissidents and influence political narratives abroad

II N BEBRUET



Rajiv Anand appointed MD and CEO of Industnd Bank

Inductind International Holdings Lid. (IIIII.), the holding company of Industind Bank, has appointed High Annul as the Managing Historias and CRO of the bank, succeding to a nationess and CRO of the bank, succeding to a nationess and CRO of the bank, succeding to a nationess and CRO of the bank, succeding to a nationess and CRO of the bank, succeding the Managing Historia of the purpose of the profit by the succession of the succession of the succession of the profit by 1995, 30d crose in the quarter ended March 31.

Ant Financial exits Paytm: sells 5.84% stake for ₹3,803 cr.

Billionaire lack Ma's Ant Financial on Tuesday Billionaire Jack, Ma's Ant Financial on Tspeaking existed One PC Communications, the parent company of Payrin, by selling its write 5.84%, stake for around 03.063 crore. Following the stake sale, shares of One PT Communications full 1.49% to T. (Ott.2.06 appece on the NSK, while the acrip of the company went lower by 1.23% to TLOGS on the BRE. And Group, through its affiliate Antin (Nesherlanda) Holding BV, has offloaded shares of Nodda-based One97 Communications.

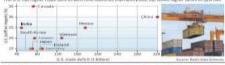
Bank of Baroda unveils digital forex platform bob FxOne

Bank of Baroda has announced the launch of bob Faxine, a digital foreign exchange platform designed for the bank's corporate and MSME customers. "bob Faxine empowers customers to searcheasty secure fores and derivative transactions with read-time five rates, instant confirmations, downloadable deal tickets and a personalised dashboard with alerts, in a secure, user-friendly and cost-effective manner," Bank of Baroda said in a statement

'U.S. trade deficit with | DBT helped deactivate nine countries higher than that of India

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than India and also levies a higher import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%)

Tariff dynamics



T.C.A. Sharad Raghayan NEW DELET

The U.S. has levied the third-highest tariff on insite among the top 10 countries with which it has the high-est trade deficits, an analyent trade definite, an analysis has revocaled. In other words, while the U.S. has a higher trade deficit with nine other countries than with India, if has levied with India, if has levied. This cornes against the landstop of the Minnery of Ecternal Affairs saying that Mr. Trump's targetting of India is "nigustified and Armandysis by Rubis Du Sciences, a risk manage."

ta Sciences, a risk manage-ment and monitoring com-pany, shows that the 3.5. had a \$49.5 billion trade deficit with India in 2024, the 10th highest among all its trading partners. Ho-

wever, the U.S. has levied a tariff of 25% "plus penal-ties" on imports from In-dia, the third-highest among these countries. For example, the U.S.

being killed by the Russian war maschine? However, data from the Centre for Research on Rusrgy and Clean Air, which regularly tracks Rushad a trade deficit of \$175.9 billion with Mexico in 2024 - 3.8 times that with India which regularly tracks Rus-late murge equorit, show that the GU was the largest toper of Russian liquided in the GU was the largest toper of Sts. of Russia's ex-ports of these products between Descenter 2022 and Jose 2025; followed by the GU was the GU was the largest buyer of Rus-sian gas, purchasing 37% of Russia's exports, followed yer 67% 30% and Turk-- but has levied the same - but has beyind the same 28% tariff on that country. Similarly, the U.S. had higher trade deficits with Vietnam (\$129.4 billion), Germany (\$67.2 billion), Ireland (\$67.2 billion), Taipreland (1872 billion), Tai wan (1876 billion), Japan (1872 billion), Japan (1872 billion), and Jouth Korea (1893 billion) than with India, but levice lower tariffs on those countries than it does on India.

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than with are import tariff are China (1896) and Ganada (1898).

yr (37%).
China beught 47% of
Russia's crude exports during this period, followed by
India (18%), the BU (8%). On India's purchase of oil from Russia, Mr. Trump

4.08 cr. fake, inactive LPG connections: Puri

(CLDP) through which du

tion for DIT schemes ena-bles accurate, real-tim-and cost effective identifi-

cation, authentication and de duplication of benefici-aries, ensuring targeted

delivery of benefits. Public sector oil market-

ing companies have been advised to undertake and complete biometric Aad-hear authentication of PMUV and PAHAL benefi-

ciaries.
As of July 1, biometric
Addhair authoritication
has been completed for
67% of Prasiban Mantri Uji-wals Vojana (PMUY) benef-

The Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG (DBTL) of the Centre, under which domestic cooking gas substidy is eard into the bank account or consumers has telped block, suspend or deactiv-ate 4.00 crore duplicate, fake/non-existent or inac-tive liquefied petroleum

tive diportion permission gas connections.

The DBTL is PAHAL scheme has played a cru-cial role in identifying and blocking gheat' accounts, multiple accounts, and in-series LPG entirettiers, thus curbing diversion of mercial use, Petroleum Mi-nister Hardwep S. Puri said in a written rolph to a user-

(CLIP) (trough which the plicate connections are identified and removed from the datelease. Deduplication is carried our using Audhaur mem-ber, bank aircount shrials, AHL, TIN member, ration card details, name, and ad-dress as key parameters. As dhaar-based authentica-tion for URF achemic onenister Hardwey S, Puel said in a weller reply to a space-tion in the Raya subha. Sharing details as on Au-ly 1, 2025, the Minister said the scheme, whose imple-mentation legan in Jama ery 2015, has contributed to transparent and effect live disbordal of subsidies

tive district of subsidies across the country.

Besides The achemo-other initiative like Aacham bester of the initiative like and the subsidies.

In the initiative like and the subsidies and the subsidies.

dy transferred directly to the respective bank ac-counts under the DETL scheme, he said.

are have to undergo ble-metric authentication be-fore release of connections, a release from the Ministry on Mr. The government has al-so introduced a Common LPG Database Platform Purt's reply said.

MARKETS

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EXCHANGE RATES

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They special the liber.	65.56	847.11		
Consideration (Author)	63.36	88.44		
PRINCIPLE OF PERSONS				
Acetistracion (Salita)	16.65	44-65		

Bharti QI net 'NBFC AUM's FY26 IRDAI fines surges 43% to Policybazaar ₹5,948 crore

on tariff rise The Hindu Bureau

Bharii Airiol Lid. clocked a consolidated revenue of 449,462 crore in QI PV 2025-26, a growth of 28,5% year-on-year. Net profit surged 43% to 85,5448 crore which CBG Gopal Vital credited to greater realisa-credited to greater realisa-past to these in farmanee.

put in place in familiary.

Those increases have given the company an average revenue per user of \$250 a month against \$211 in \$12,024-25.

Mr. Vittal said in a stateraging higher-paying cus-tomers, "40% of customers

The Hindu Bureau

Activity in India's services

growth may soften as banks cut funding

Ashokamithran T.

Non Banking Finance Corporations' (NBPC) assets under management (AUM) growth may soften to 16,5% in FY25 from 25% in FY25 after bank hadding to the sector reduced even as the RM normalised risk

MMI normalized risk weights, credit rating ageincy fulls Ratings and.

If the state of the sta

NHPCs turned more cautions in lending as they are
concerned about assets
and about a concerned
and operate in areas with
banks for higher margins.
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banks for higher margins.
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6.5% in mid-200 resulting
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Services PMI stood at | India lucky to have

₹50 million for 'lapses'

Reuters.

India's insurance regulator fined PB Pintech's online insurance aggregator arm, policybazaar, t50 million r regulatory lapses, in uding directorships held

by key managerial person-nel, the firm said. The regulator impressed Policybasaar in 2020, following which PR Pintech received a so-called show-2024. After additional sub-missions and hearings, the IRDAL decided on the pe nalty on Monday, PR Fir

tally on Monday, Pit Fin tech said.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (RDA) iden tified violations related to tagging of policies and pre-mium remittance.

Shout for rights

on Monday said that "they didia) don't care how ma-ny people in Ukraine are being killed by the Russian



Adani Ports & SEZ Q1 profit rises 6.54% to ₹3,310.60 cr.

Total income surged to ₹9.422.18 crore from ₹8.054.18 crore

anchored by extraordinary

in the year-earlier

Press Trust of India

Adami Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (AP-SEZ) on Tuesday posted a 6.54% rise in its coed net profit to £3,310.60 crose for the june quarter of the current financial year on account of higher

it had reported a net is had reported a net profit of \$2.107.25 crore in the April-June period of PV38, the company said in a regulatory filing. Tietal income surged to \$3.422.18 crore in the quar-ter under review from \$3.054.18 crore in the year-age quarter.

(8),054.18 crore in the year-age quarter,
Expenses also rune to 25,731.86 crore in the pe-sind from 64,238.94 crore a year age.
APSEZ Whole-time Di-rector Ampy CKO Ashwa-ni Cupta said, "This quar-

Tonne) cargo volume in QI FY26, registering a growth of IPS, driven by

of Its, driven by containers.

"All-India cargo market share increased to 27,8%, Q7,2% in Q1 PV25). Con-latter market share stood ter's 25% revenue growth is at 46.2% (45.8% in Qt FY200," APREZ said.

Gland Pharma Q1 net surges 50% to ₹216 cr.

The Hindu Bureau

consolidated net profit rose nearly 80% for the a year earlier as revenue from all but the key U.S.

inter 2 the recenting growth in a default of the companion of the companio

sector stood at a 11-month high in July 2025 driven by strong demand, according strong domand, according to a private sector survey. The HBRG india Service PM Business Activity in the HBRG india Service and the HBRG india Service to 50.5 in July from 10.4 in June. Where a score of below 80 denotes a contraction in activity, one above the in activity, one above in July, thus, "signalled another sharp increase in July, the export said.

11-month high in July

on strong demand

This is the highest score the index achieved since August 2024. "Susuaned increase in new business intakes were identified by survey members as the main aspect behind output growth," it added.

steady growth at a transformative time'

The Hinda Bureau

Geognifics, geogenmentes and geotechnology are and impacting businesses and reproduct plannings and introducting businesses and reproductive plannings and Achorni Vadinane, 5th and Achorni Vadinane, 5th Intring the transforma-tion of the Compacting of the Compacting of the times in have a sensy growth, be naid white speaking to Ah! Labs less forman tech firm's newly-sed up from Vadina and the compacting the compacting of the compacting th



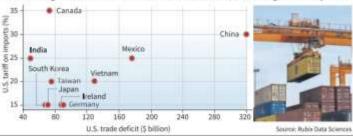
stoned as an innevation and RAD hab for India and the Asia-Pacific region.

'U.S. trade deficit with nine countries higher than that of India'

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than India and also levies a higher import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%)

Tariff dynamics

The U.S. has higher trade deficits with nine countries than with India, but levies higher tariffs on just two



T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan NEW DELHI

he U.S. has levied the third-highest tariff on India among the top IO countries with which it has the highest trade deficits, an analysis has revealed. In other words, while the U.S. has a higher trade deficit with nine other countries than with India, it has levied higher tariffs on just two—China and Canada.

This comes against the backdrop of the Ministry of External Affairs saying that Mr. Trump's targeting of India is "unjustified and unreasonable".

An analysis by Rubix Data Sciences, a risk management and monitoring company, shows that the U.S. had a \$49.5 billion trade deficit with India in 2024, the 10th highest among all its trading partners. However, the U.S. has levied a tariff of 25% "plus penalties" on imports from India, the third-highest among these countries.

For example, the U.S. had a trade deficit of \$175.9 billion with Mexico in 2024 – 3.5 times that with India – but has levied the same 25% tariff on that country.

Similarly, the U.S. had higher trade deficits with Vietnam (\$129.4 billion), Germany (\$87.9 billion), Ireland (\$87.2 billion), Japan (\$76.4 billion), Japan (\$72.3 billion), and South Korea (\$69.9 billion) than with India, but levies lower tariffs on those countries than it does on India.

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than with India and also levies a higher import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%).

On India's purchase of oil from Russia, Mr. Trump on Monday said that "they (India) don't care how many people in Ukraine are being killed by the Russian war machine".

However, data from the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air, which regularly tracks Russia's energy exports, show that the EU was the largest buyer of Russian liquified natural gas (LNG), accounting for 51% of Russia's exports of these products between December 2022 and June 2025, followed by China (21%) and Japan (18%). Even when it comes to pipeline gas, the EU was the largest buyer of Russian gas, purchasing 37% of Russia's exports, followed by China (30%) and Turkiye (27%).

China bought 47% of Russia's crude exports during this period, followed by India (38%), the EU (6%), and Turkiye (6%).

Aspect	Details
India's Trade Deficit with U.S. (2024)	\$49.5 billion (10th highest among U.S. trading partners)
Tariff on Indian Imports	25% + penalties (3rd highest among top 10 deficit countries)
Only two countries with higher tariffs than India	China (30%) and Canada (35%)

Global Russian Energy Purchases (Dec 2022–June 2025)

Country/Region	LNG	Pipeline Gas	Crude Oil
EU	51%	37%	6%
China	21%	30%	47%
India		_	38%
Japan	18%	-	_
Turkey	c -	27%	6%



Q1. With reference to the U.S. trade policy towards India, consider the following statements:

- 1. India is among the top five countries with which the U.S. has the highest trade deficits in 2024.
- 2. The U.S. levies a 25% tariff plus penalties on Indian imports.
- 3. Only China and Mexico face higher tariffs on imports to the U.S. compared to India.

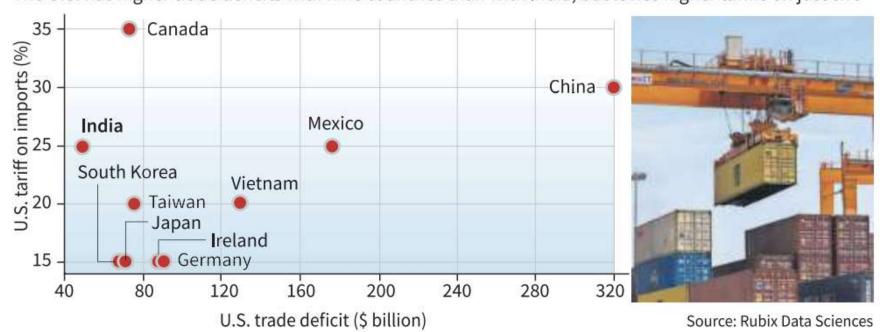
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

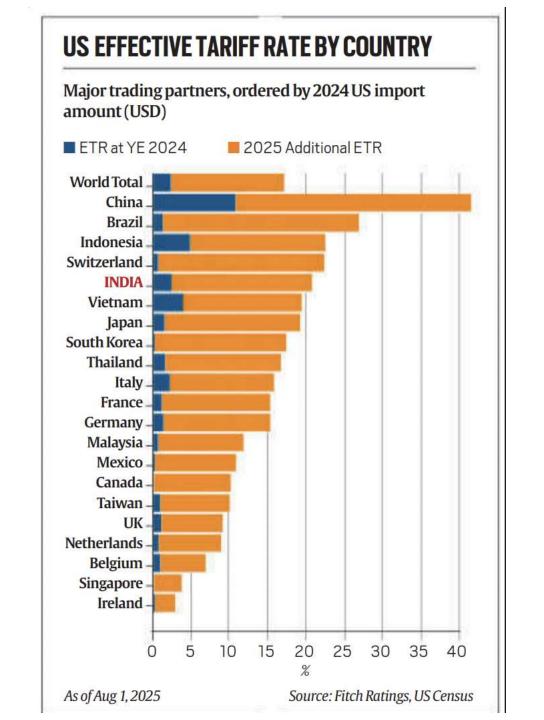
- A. 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

The only two countries with which the U.S. has higher deficits than India and also levies a higher import tariff are China (30%) and Canada (35%)

Tariff dynamics

The U.S. has higher trade deficits with nine countries than with India, but levies higher tariffs on just two





Since first term, Trump real-estate footprint in India expands 3-fold to 11 million sq feet in 6 cities

Trump's footprint is set to see, by the time these projects are complete, a near four-fold expansion to 11 million square feet, a sharp jump from approximately 3 million sq ft developed until last year.

These new ventures bring a sales potential of an estimated at least Ps. 15 000 cross. Tribeca

TRUMP REALTY SPREAD

DEVELOPED (COMPLETED + ONGOING)

4 (APPROX 2.9 MILLION SQ FT)

COMPLETED 2 (APPROX 1.3 MILLION SQ FT)

Meet Trump's Ten: Realty majors to promoters in hot markets

an alleged SBI loan fraud case since 2016.

Danchehil Basitie The



TRUMP REALTY SPREAD

DEVELOPED (COMPLETED + ONGOING)

COMPLETED

4 (APPROX 2.9 MILLION SQ FT) 2 (APPROX 1.3 MILLION SQ FT)



TRUMP TOWER, PUNE

■ Two 23-storey towers in Kalyani Nagar announced by Panchshil Realty in 2012.

Project Cost Rs 300 crore (estimated)
Development Area Approx 4 lakh sq ft
Units 46
STATUS: Completed in 2015



TRUMP TOWER, MUMBAI

■ 76-storey tower in Worli announced by the Lodha Group in 2013.

Project Cost Part of larger ₹3,000 cr scheme
Development Area Approx 9 lakh sq ft
Units 400

STATUS: Completed in 2021

ONGOING

TRUMP TOWER, KOLKATA

■ 38-storey residential tower on EM Bypass launched by by Tribeca along with Unimark and RDB Group in 2017

Project Cost Rs 400 crore (estimated)
Development Area Approx 4 lakh sq ft
Units 137

STATUS: Missed multiple deadlines; completion expected by June 2026

2 (APPROX 1.6 MILLION SQ FT)

TRUMP TOWERS DELHI NCR, GURUGRAM

■ Launched in 2018, two 47-storey towers by Tribeca and M3M Group in Sector 65.

Project Cost Rs 1,900 crore
Development Area Approx 12 lakh sq ft
Units 268 (sold out)

STATUS: Missed multiple deadlines; completion expected in early 2026

OTHER PROJECTS

RESIDENTIAL TOWER, MUMBAI

■ In 2011, the Trump Organization and Rohan Landscapes announced a 45-60 storey tower in Mumbai's Chowpaty.

STATUS: The project failed to secure permission to amalgamate two plots.

TRUMP OFFICE TOWER, GURUGRAM

■ In April 2016, the Trump Organization signed a branding and design agreement with IREO for a signature office tower on Golf Course Extension Road.

STATUS: No development at site.

India Nominates Sarnath for UNESCO World Heritage Status

• India has submitted a dossier titled "Ancient Buddhist Site, Sarnath" to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for the 2025–26 nomination cycle.

About Sarnath

- Location: It is situated near Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Historical Significance:** In Sarnath Gautama Buddha delivered his **first sermon,** known as the **Dhammachakkappavattana Sutta** (Setting in Motion the Wheel of Dharma), after attaining enlightenment.
 - This event marks the beginning of the Buddhist Sangha (monastic community).

• Cultural Importance:

- Sarnath is one of the four most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage sites, alongside **Bodh Gaya**, **Lumbini**, and **Kushinagar**, and served as a **major centre for Buddhist learning and dissemination**, closely linked to ancient transnational pilgrimage routes and cultural exchanges.
 - It reflects the interplay of Mauryan, Kushan, and Gupta architectural styles

Key Monuments and Structures at Sarnath

Dhamek Stupa: Built in 500 CE to commemorate Buddha's first sermon.

Ashokan Pillar: Erected by Emperor Ashoka with an edict; originally topped with the Lion Capital, now India's national emblem.

Chaukhandi
Stupa: Commemorates
the spot where Buddha
met his first disciples.

Mulagandha Kuti
Vihar: Modern temple
built by the Mahabodhi
Society, housing frescoes
depicting Buddha's life.

Sarnath Archaeological
Museum: Houses
important artefacts,
including the original Lion
Capital of Ashoka.

Pariksha Pe Charcha 2025 Conferred With Guinness World Record

- The Prime Minister's flagship initiative Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC) has set a Guinness World Record for the "Most people registered on a Citizen Engagement Platform in one month", with over **3.53 crore** registrations on the MyGov platform during its 8th edition in 2025.
- About Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC)
- Launched in **2018**, PPC is an annual event where Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with students, teachers, and parents ahead of the board examinations.
- It is organised by the **Ministry of Education** in collaboration with **MyGov**, the citizen engagement platform of the Government of India.
- The program is part of the broader movement under the 'Exam Warriors' initiative, aiming to reduce exam stress and promote holistic education.

Russia withdrew From Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty

- Russia has officially withdrawn from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty.
- The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF)
- The INF Treaty was signed in December 1987 by the United States and the former Soviet Union, and entered into force on 1 June 1988.
- It required both countries to eliminate their ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles that could travel between 500 and 5,500 kilometres by an implementation deadline of 1 June 1991.
- It was crucial to **Euro-Atlantic security for decades** and It eliminated a whole category of nuclear weapons that threatened Europe in the 1980s.



- Russia specifically pointed to the US deployment of a Typhon missile system in the Philippines and missile drills in Australia as destabilizing moves.
- The US had already left the treaty in 2019, accusing Russia of violations, which Russia denied, claiming the US was instead developing prohibited missile systems.
- This latest step reflects rising tensions between Russia and the US, especially following President Trump's announcement of deploying two nuclear submarines.

Agnishodh

• The Indian Army has collaborated with the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** to establish **'Agnishodh'**, the Indian Army Research Cell (IARC) on the IIT Madras campus.

About

- The initiative is part of the Indian Army's broader transformation framework, guided by the Five Pillars of Transformation articulated by the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS).
 - The Five Pillars of Transformation encompasses technology absorption, structural changes, human resource development and increasing cohesion between the three services.
 - Agnishodh specifically advances one of the pillars, Modernisation and Technology Infusion.

India Emerges as World's 5th Biggest Aviation Market in 2024

- India has become the world's fifth-largest aviation market, handling 211 million passengers in 2024, as per the latest World Air Transport Statistics (WATS) released by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- Key findings of the report
- According to IATA, India saw a growth of 11.1 per cent compared to 2023, ahead of Japan, which handled 205 million passengers.

The US remains the world's biggest aviation market with 876 million passengers in 2024, growing 5.2 percent year-on-year.

China was the secondbiggest passenger market, with **741 million** passengers, a growth of 18.7 per cent compared to 2023. While the UK was at the **3rd spot** with **261 million** passengers, **Spain** stood
at the **4th position with 241 million**.

The figures include all international and domestic passengers departing or arriving in each country.

• Airport Pair Ranking:

- Asia-Pacific dominated the busiest airport-pair rankings.
- Jeju-Seoul (South Korea) was the busiest route globally with 13.2 million passengers.
- Mumbai–Delhi ranked 7th globally with 5.9 million passengers.

lacktriangle





Doubling of India's Airport Network (2014 vs 2024)

Objective: To showcase the significant growth in India's airport infrastructure over a decade, highlighting the increase from 74 airports in 2014 to 159 in 2024.



Word of the day

Launder:

cleanse with a cleaning agent, such as soap, and water; convert illegally obtained funds into legal ones

Synonyms: wash, change, convert, exchange

Usage: He used a phony business to launder money from scams.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/launderpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈlɔːndə/

