

Daily Current

Affairs



जनसत्ता



The Indian EXPRESS

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS



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The Hindu



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PIB, PRS & Other newspaper

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Jansatta

“_____ is the most dangerous word in a student’s life.”

WORLD NEWS
Blacklisted academics
seek top court hearing
NEWS • PAGE 8

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Congress clearly ahead
in Kerala, says Tharoor
ASSEMBLY POLLS • PAGE 8

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Addressing rights, dignity
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INTERNATIONAL & OPINION • PAGES 8 & 9

SPORTS
Rain ruins play in
KKR-PBKS match
SPORTS • PAGE 10

INSIDE



CBI to probe graft charges against Pema Khandu

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Monday directed the CBI to commence a preliminary enquiry into allegations that Assam Chief Minister Pema Khandu's family was awarded public contracts worth 13.70 crore over 10 years. • PAGE 8

16 India-flagged vessels operating in Persian Gulf

NEW DELHI
There are 16 India-flagged vessels operating in the Persian Gulf with 133 seafarers onboard, a senior shipping ministry official here said. He also said in the last few days, two Indian-flagged LPG vessels have crossed the Strait of Hormuz. • PAGE 12

'New Dhaka-Delhi ties will avoid the mistakes of past'

NEW DELHI
Bangladesh wants to build a relation with India that will be focused on "people-to-people" ties and that will not be limited to bilateral and political parties, said the Foreign Affairs Minister in Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's office Monday. • PAGE 9

Cannot interfere with nod given to tunnel project SC

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Monday decided not to interfere in a challenge filed by the Assam Pradesh Samakshikha Samiti against the commencement of a four-lane tunnel under the railway tracks in the ecologically fragile Dibrugarh district in Assam. • PAGE 8

SC denies Bengal plea to stay voter roll freeze

Top court says tribunal hearings could not be 'compressed' to fit a pre-conceived deadline

CJI says the blockade of judicial officers in Malda was 'well-planned, and deeply instigated' move

Logical discrepancies are 'peculiar' to Bengal, prompting use of judicial officers, court says

Kolkata
The Supreme Court on Monday denied the West Bengal government's appeal to stay for a few days the electoral rolls for the assembly polls as that would be unfair to the voters of the over 20 lakh voters, who could not give the notification for judicial officers after being removed from rolls under the special maintenance system (SMS), get a chance to vote in the assembly election on April 23 and April 25.



Last month, the first round of the assembly election in Malda, West Bengal, on Monday to submit their petitions before the court. The photo shows the voters lined up outside the polling station.

In the granting of judicial officers in the Malda district on April 1, the top court invoked provisions under Article 32 of the Constitution and Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, heading a bench, said the incident was not an emergency situation, but a "well-planned, calculated and deeply instigated" move. The court directed the Assam Pradesh Samiti to take over the in-

vestigation of the case. The hearing began with senior advocate Shyam Das, appearing for West Bengal, saying there were long transferring orders of voters in the state who results included from the electoral rolls for "logical discontinuities". Mr. Das said the top appellate tribunal should be asked to dispose of the appeals by April 15. A final supplementary electoral roll, including the names of voters who have been their appeals, could be published on April 16, five days ahead of April 23, the first polling date. Mr. Das, whose appeal could not be decided by April 25, could be included in the electoral roll, he said.

LA, RN Chairs reject notice for CEC's removal

NEW DELHI
Rajya Sabha Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan and Lok Sabha Speaker B.S. Purohit rejected a notice submitted by the Opposition MPs across both Houses asking the removal of Chief Election Commissioner G. Ramakrishna. He specifically mentioned the report by the Director-General of Police, who had accused the CEC of being "subversive" to the executive and the "detractive abuse of power". • PAGE 4

Closure of 60 lakh telephone lines, challenging judicial officers, and the blockade of judicial officers in Malda, West Bengal, on Monday to submit their petitions before the court. The photo shows the voters lined up outside the polling station.

Prospect of weather



View from the hillside near the temple in Kolkata on Monday. The capital India is set for pleasant weather.

Iran's intel chief killed as Trump's deadline looms

Associated Press
Tehran
The intelligence chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guards (IRGC), Major General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, was killed in a missile strike on Tehran on Monday, according to Iranian state media and Israeli Defence Forces. He was assumed by the U.S. earlier this year being a key in negotiating "new" and government process. Israel said it also killed another senior IRGC official in a statement by the IRGC's undersecretary. The IRGC praised the Major General's role in preparing the way for Iran to confront "foreign enemies".

Assassinated IRGC Chief



Major General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, the intelligence chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, was killed in a missile strike on Tehran on Monday.

Nine policemen are sentenced to death in T.N. custodial murder case

The Hindu Bureau
Chennai
A trial court in Tamil Nadu on Monday awarded death penalty to nine policemen found guilty of custodial torture and murder of a trader and his son during the COVID-19 lockdown at Sankarapuram in Thanjavur district. The custodial murder occurred on 7, January 2020 and his son J. Venkatesh Iyer, who were detained at the Sankarapuram police station on the mere charge of violating COVID-19 lockdown norms and keeping their mobile phone under and service disconnected since June 2020, had shaken-cold society and also become a political issue.

On March 23, Madurai First Additional District Sessions Judge G. Mahalingam held that all the nine policemen present by the CBI in the case were guilty. 'Act of vengeance' The judge awarded death sentence to the nine, but additional sessions judge G. Mahalingam said it was an act of vengeance. The judge said he had awarded death sentence to the nine, but additional sessions judge G. Mahalingam said it was an act of vengeance. The judge said he had awarded death sentence to the nine, but additional sessions judge G. Mahalingam said it was an act of vengeance.

mean rights, the judge said, adding the custodial deaths were avoidable. "The nine policemen were not sufficient. The judge said the nine policemen were not sufficient. The judge said the nine policemen were not sufficient. The judge said the nine policemen were not sufficient.

518 of 697 lakes in J&K either vanished or shrunk: CAG

Peerzada Ashiq

SRINAGAR

A whopping 518 lakes, constituting 74%, have either disappeared or shrunk in Jammu and Kashmir, according to the latest report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Conservation and Management of Lakes for the period up to March 2022. Consequently, it has degraded ecosystem and climate insecurity.

The report highlighted that 315 lakes, 45% of the total 697 lakes in J&K that constitute a water area of 1,537.07 hectares, have disappeared. "These lakes included 80 lakes (25%) falling under the jurisdiction of the Forest Department and 235 lakes (75%) falling under the jurisdiction of Revenue Department and Agriculture Department," it said.

The water area of 203



The CAG report highlighted that 315 lakes in J&K that constitute a water area of 1,537.07 hectares have disappeared. FILE PHOTO

lakes (29% of 697 lakes) had decreased by 1,314.19 hectares. The report suggested that water in 63 lakes has disappeared by "more than or equal to 50%". "Thus, there is a potential greater risk of extinction of these lakes," it added.

Meanwhile, the water area of 150 lakes (22%) has increased by 538.22 hectares. "The water area of 14,535.76 hectares in 29 lakes (4% of 697 lakes) had

remained static," the report pointed out.

Cause of floods

The CAG report suggested that the shrinkage of lake area was one of the causes for massive floods in J&K in September 2014, "as lakes are natural flood balancing reservoirs and defence for the flood regulating system".

It highlighted that four administrative departments and the Forest De-

partment did not have lake generic management programmes. As such they failed to check growing anthropogenic pressures around lakes, resulting in loss and decrease in open water area and increase in aquatic vegetation. "This adversely affected the ecosystem of the lakes," it said.

It further pointed out that failure to formulate conservation and management programmes and to undertake lake generic management activities by the district administrations concerned and the Forest Department in respect of 44 lakes resulted in anthropogenic pressures, generated by human activities including construction works. "These anthropogenic pressures led to land use changes in these lakes," it added.

According to the report, the J&K Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing

Department, had "failed to carry out a detailed survey of 697 lakes". "Hence physical, chemical and biological dynamics of lakes were not available for preparing development plans for these lakes," it said.

Besides, 255 lakes, under the jurisdiction of the Forest Department, "had no comprehensive conservation and management programme". "Although high altitude lakes in protected areas are free from anthropogenic pressures, they may be facing problems of siltation and issues relating to water sources. As such, they also require conservation and management efforts," it suggested.

The J&K government has conservation and management programmes for only six lakes, which include Dal, Wular, Hokersar, Manasbal, Surinsar and Mansar lakes.

- **The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India** released a report on Conservation and Management of Lakes in J&K up to March 2022.
- भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) ने J&K में झीलों के संरक्षण और प्रबंधन पर मार्च 2022 तक की रिपोर्ट जारी की।
- **74% of J&K's 697 lakes** have either disappeared or shrunk — a massive ecological emergency.
- **J&K की 697 झीलों में से 74%** या तो लुप्त हो गई हैं या सिकुड़ गई हैं — यह एक बड़ी पारिस्थितिक आपात स्थिति है।
- The crisis is linked to **floods, climate change, and unchecked anthropogenic pressure.**
- यह संकट बाढ़, जलवायु परिवर्तन और अनियंत्रित मानवजनित दबाव से जुड़ा है।
- The J&K government has conservation programmes for **only 6 of 697 lakes.**
- J&K सरकार के पास **697 में से केवल 6 झीलों** के लिए संरक्षण कार्यक्रम हैं।
- The report highlights governance failure across **four administrative departments.**
- रिपोर्ट **चार प्रशासनिक विभागों** में शासन विफलता को उजागर करती है।

- Lakes are natural water bodies that store rainwater, support biodiversity, and act as flood buffers.
- झीलों प्राकृतिक जल निकाय हैं जो वर्षा जल संग्रहीत करती हैं, जैव विविधता का समर्थन करती हैं और बाढ़ से बचाव करती हैं।
- J&K has 697 registered lakes; but due to human activity like construction, encroachment, and lack of management, most have vanished or shrunk.
- J&K में 697 पंजीकृत झीलों हैं; लेकिन निर्माण, अतिक्रमण और प्रबंधन की कमी के कारण अधिकांश लुप्त हो गई हैं या सिकुड़ गई हैं।
- CAG is India's supreme audit body that checks government accounts and performance.
- CAG भारत का सर्वोच्च लेखापरीक्षा निकाय है जो सरकारी लेखों और प्रदर्शन की जाँच करता है।
- Disappearing lakes cause floods, loss of groundwater recharge, and ecosystem destruction.
- झीलों के लुप्त होने से बाढ़, भूजल पुनर्भरण की हानि और पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का विनाश होता है।

- **518 out of 697 lakes (74%)** in J&K have disappeared or shrunk as per CAG report.
- CAG रिपोर्ट के अनुसार J&K में **697 में से 518 झीलें (74%)** लुप्त हो गई हैं या सिकुड़ गई हैं।
- **315 lakes (45%)** have completely disappeared; these held **1,537.07 hectares** of water area.
- **315 झीलें (45%)** पूरी तरह लुप्त हो गई हैं; इनमें **1,537.07 हेक्टेयर** जल क्षेत्र था।
- Water area of **203 lakes (29%)** decreased by **1,314.19 hectares**.
- **203 झीलों (29%)** का जल क्षेत्र **1,314.19 हेक्टेयर** घट गया।
- Water area of **150 lakes (22%)** increased by **538.22 hectares**.
- **150 झीलों (22%)** का जल क्षेत्र **538.22 हेक्टेयर** बढ़ा।
- **29 lakes (4%)** had static water area of **14,535.76 hectares**.
- **29 झीलों (4%)** का जल क्षेत्र **14,535.76 हेक्टेयर** पर स्थिर रहा।
- In **63 lakes**, water has disappeared by **50% or more** — at high extinction risk.
- **63 झीलों** में पानी **50% या उससे अधिक** घट गया है — ये लुप्त होने के उच्च जोखिम में हैं।

D3. Immediate Issue / तात्कालिक मुद्दा

- **No comprehensive conservation and management programme** exists for 255 Forest Department lakes.
- **255 वन विभाग की झीलों** के लिए कोई व्यापक संरक्षण और प्रबंधन कार्यक्रम नहीं है।
- Departments had **no lake-generic management programmes** — no check on anthropogenic pressures.
- विभागों के पास **कोई झील-सामान्य प्रबंधन कार्यक्रम नहीं था** — मानवजनित दबावों पर कोई नियंत्रण नहीं।
- Physical, chemical and biological dynamics of lakes **not available** for development plans.
- झीलों की भौतिक, रासायनिक और जैविक गतिकी **विकास योजनाओं के लिए उपलब्ध नहीं** थी।
- **Anthropogenic pressure** from construction → land use changes → loss and decrease in open water area.
- निर्माण कार्यों से **मानवजनित दबाव** → भूमि उपयोग परिवर्तन → खुले जल क्षेत्र में हानि और कमी।

- Lake shrinkage was a **direct cause of massive J&K floods in September 2014** — lakes serve as natural flood balancing reservoirs.
- झील सिकुड़न **सितंबर 2014 की J&K बाढ़ का सीधा कारण** थी — झीलों प्राकृतिक बाढ़ संतुलन जलाशय हैं।
- J&K government has conservation programmes for **only 6 lakes: Dal, Wular, Hokersar, Manasbal, Surinsar, and Mansar.**
- J&K सरकार के पास **केवल 6 झीलों** के लिए संरक्षण कार्यक्रम हैं: डल, वुलर, होकरसर, मानसबल, सुरिनसर और मानसर।
- High-altitude lakes in protected areas are free from anthropogenic pressures but face **siltation and water source issues.**
- संरक्षित क्षेत्रों में उच्च ऊंचाई की झीलों मानवजनित दबावों से मुक्त हैं लेकिन **गाद और जल स्रोत की समस्याओं** का सामना करती हैं।

D5. Why Important for India? / भारत के लिए क्यों महत्वपूर्ण?

- J&K is a **Union Territory** — centre is directly responsible for governance.
- J&K एक **केंद्र शासित प्रदेश** है — शासन की सीधी जिम्मेदारी केंद्र की है।
- Lakes are critical for **water security, flood control, biodiversity, and tourism** in a Himalayan region.
- एक हिमालयी क्षेत्र में झीलों **जल सुरक्षा, बाढ़ नियंत्रण, जैव विविधता और पर्यटन** के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं।
- Dal and Wular are among India's **most iconic and ecologically significant lakes.**
- डल और वुलर भारत की **सबसे प्रतिष्ठित और पारिस्थितिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण झीलों** में से हैं।

- **CAG (Article 148-151, Constitution of India)** — constitutional body; reports laid before Parliament/State Legislature.
- **CAG (भारतीय संविधान अनुच्छेद 148-151)** — संवैधानिक निकाय; रिपोर्ट संसद/राज्य विधानमंडल के सामने रखी जाती है।
- J&K was reorganised into two UTs — **J&K (with legislature) and Ladakh (without legislature)** — by the **J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019**.
- J&K को दो केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में पुनर्गठित किया गया — **J&K (विधानमंडल सहित) और लद्दाख (विधानमंडल रहित)** — **J&K पुनर्गठन अधिनियम, 2019** द्वारा।
- **Environment Protection Act, 1986** and **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974** are relevant legal frameworks.
- **पर्यावरण संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1986** और **जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1974** प्रासंगिक कानूनी ढाँचे हैं।

Economy / अर्थव्यवस्था

- Lakes support **fisheries, horticulture, and tourism** — major economic pillars of J&K.
- झीलों मत्स्य पालन, बागवानी और पर्यटन को सहारा देती हैं — J&K के प्रमुख आर्थिक स्तंभ।
- Dal Lake alone supports **50,000+ people** through houseboats, shikara rides, and vegetable farming.
- डल झील अकेले हाउसबोट, शिकारा सवारी और सब्जी खेती के माध्यम से **50,000+ लोगों** को सहारा देती है।

Environment / पर्यावरण

- **Wetland destruction** violates India's Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.
- **आर्द्रभूमि विनाश** भारत के आर्द्रभूमि (संरक्षण और प्रबंधन) नियम, 2017 का उल्लंघन करता है।
- **Ramsar Sites in J&K:** Wular Lake, Hokersar Wetland, Surinsar-Mansar Lakes, Shallabugh Wetland.
- **J&K में रामसर स्थल:** वुलर झील, होकरसर आर्द्रभूमि, सुरिनसर-मानसर झीलों, शल्लाबुघ आर्द्रभूमि।
- Lakes are **carbon sinks** and regulate local microclimate — their loss worsens global warming.
- झीलों **कार्बन सिंक** हैं और स्थानीय माइक्रोकलाइमेट को नियंत्रित करती हैं — उनके लुप्त होने से ग्लोबल वार्मिंग बिगड़ती है।
- **Eutrophication** — excess nutrients → algal blooms → oxygen depletion — threatens lake ecosystems.
- **यूट्रोफिकेशन** — अतिरिक्त पोषक तत्व → शैवाल प्रस्फुटन → ऑक्सीजन हास — झील पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को खतरा।

F3. Future Implications / भविष्य के प्रभाव

- **Best case:** CAG report triggers policy reform, integrated lake management authority created, Ramsar-aligned conservation for all lakes.
- **सर्वोत्तम परिदृश्य:** CAG रिपोर्ट नीति सुधार को प्रेरित करती है, एकीकृत झील प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण बनाया जाता है।
- **Worst case:** Continued neglect → more floods, drinking water crisis, collapse of tourism, and permanent biodiversity loss.
- **सबसे खराब परिदृश्य:** निरंतर उपेक्षा → अधिक बाढ़, पेयजल संकट, पर्यटन का पतन, और स्थायी जैव विविधता हानि।
- **Impact on India:** Increased flood frequency in J&K, loss of Ramsar sites, diplomatic embarrassment on climate commitments, economic losses.
- **भारत पर प्रभाव:** J&K में बाढ़ की बढ़ती आवृत्ति, रामसर स्थलों की हानि, जलवायु प्रतिबद्धताओं पर राजनयिक शर्मिंदगी।

CAG	Constitutional body (Art. 148) that audits all government accounts / सरकारी खातों की लेखापरीक्षा करने वाला संवैधानिक निकाय
Ramsar Site	Wetland of international importance under 1971 Ramsar Convention / 1971 रामसर अभिसमय के तहत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व की आर्द्रभूमि
Anthropogenic Pressure	Human-caused stress on natural ecosystems (construction, pollution) / मानव-जनित पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र पर दबाव
Eutrophication	Excess nutrients in water causing algal overgrowth and oxygen depletion / जल में अत्यधिक पोषक तत्व से शैवाल वृद्धि व ऑक्सीजन हास
Siltation	Accumulation of silt/sediment in water bodies causing them to become shallow / जल निकायों में गाद/तलछट जमाव से उनका उथला होना
NLCP	National Lake Conservation Plan (2001) for restoration of polluted lakes / प्रदूषित झीलों की बहाली के लिए राष्ट्रीय झील संरक्षण योजना
Wetland	Land area saturated with water supporting unique biodiversity / जल से संतृप्त भूमि क्षेत्र जो अद्वितीय जैव विविधता का समर्थन करता है
Remote Sensing	Satellite-based technology to observe Earth's surface from distance / पृथ्वी की सतह को दूर से देखने की उपग्रह-आधारित तकनीक
Flood Balancing Reservoir	Natural/artificial water storage that absorbs excess floodwater / प्राकृतिक/कृत्रिम जल भंडारण जो अतिरिक्त बाढ़ जल को अवशोषित करता है
Intergenerational Equity	Principle of preserving resources for future generations / भावी पीढ़ियों के लिए संसाधन संरक्षण का सिद्धांत

- Consider the following statements regarding the CAG report on J&K Lakes: J&K झीलों पर CAG रिपोर्ट के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:
- 518 of 697 lakes in J&K have either disappeared or shrunk, constituting about 74%. 697 में से 518 झीलें लुप्त हुई हैं या सिकुड़ी हैं, जो लगभग 74% है।
- The J&K government has conservation programmes for all 697 lakes. J&K सरकार के पास सभी 697 झीलों के लिए संरक्षण कार्यक्रम हैं।
- Shrinkage of lake area was identified as one of the causes of the 2014 J&K floods. झील क्षेत्र के सिकुड़ने को 2014 J&K बाढ़ के कारणों में से एक बताया गया।
- High-altitude lakes in protected areas face no threats whatsoever. संरक्षित क्षेत्रों में उच्च ऊंचाई की झीलें किसी भी प्रकार के खतरों का सामना नहीं करतीं।
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct? उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन सा/से सही है/हैं?
- (a) 1 and 3 only / केवल 1 और 3 (b) 2 and 4 only / केवल 2 और 4 (c) 1, 2 and 3 / 1, 2 और 3 (d) 1 and 3 only / केवल 1 और 3

Reinforcing the case for a One Health approach

Global health risks demand a One Health approach grounded in coordination and scientific collaboration to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response



Ramya Kaulam

When the 1995 film *Outbreak*, starring the formidable Dustin Hoffman, was released to audiences worldwide, it seemed like aerial science fiction, pitched at the very edge of the realm of possibility. The pacy film portrayed the desperate race to contain an imaginary avian virus, *Abitaba*, that jumped to humans as a result of anthropogenic activity — deforestation and trade in wild animals — spreading across nations like a forest fire.

The movie, though dramatic, served as a precision illustration of a crisis that was to visit the world, nearly a quarter of a century later: the COVID-19 pandemic.

Interestingly, the film also traced out for its early viewers the core principles of One Health — long before the term was even coined. Since then, though, One Health, which draws on the inter-connectedness between humans, animals and the environment, has emerged as a key concept gaining traction among nations, though practical implementation has progressed at a nearly glacial pace.

From fiction to reality

This year's World Health Day message — "Together for health. Stand with science" — underlines the centrality of adopting a One Health

approach to protect animals, the environment, and humans. It also highlights the critical role of scientific collaboration and the use of evidence in crafting policy. As the *break outlines* cinematically, there is a permanent state of conflict between different departments, agencies of the government, and even nations, that come in the way of working systematically to better tackle health crises.

As John S. Mackenzie and Maryn Jeggs indicated in their 2019 editorial in *Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases*, the term One Health was first officially used in 2003-2004, associated with the emergence of severe-acute respiratory syndrome. With the spread of avian influenza H5N1, it gained ground. A significant contributor was the *Madagascar Principles*, derived at a 2004 Wildlife Conservation Society meeting, which recognised the link between human and animal health and the threats disease poses to food supplies and ecosystems.

The authors explained: "It has become increasingly clear over the past three decades that the majority of novel, emergent zoonotic infectious diseases originate in animals and that the principal drivers of their emergence are associated with human activities, including changes in ecosystems and land use, intensification of agriculture,



Self-action Post-COVID, the Indian government fast tracked collaborative positions to address future crises. (HINDU PHOTO)

urbanisation, and international travel and trade. Today, international wisdom acknowledges that a pathogen unknown to mankind can suddenly emerge, wreak havoc on populations, and threaten the stability of the world faster than one can say 'One Health'.

According to the One Health Commission "One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably enhance and optimise the health of people, animals and ecosystems". The approach it advocates involves mobilising multiple sectors, disciplines and communities to tackle threats to health and ecosystems.

The COVID-19 pandemic, in some senses, was the fulcrum that convinced even reluctant nations

of the world to invest in One Health, demonstrating vividly what the lack of coordination and on the other hand, seamless coordination can do. It was the collective sharing of SARS-CoV-2 genetic data and the study of human genetic factors in COVID-19 susceptibility that drove the international vaccine development effort. The WHO Pandemic Agreement, adopted on May 20, 2021, is a legally binding international treaty aimed at enhancing global prevention, preparedness, and response to future pandemics. It focuses on equity, establishing a Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing system to ensure rapid pathogen data sharing and equitable access to vaccines and treatments.

Internationally, One Health is led by the Quadruple Helix collabora-

tion — including WHO, FAO, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the World Organisation for Animal Health. In October 2021, they launched the "One Health Joint Plan of Action".

Post-COVID, the Indian government fast tracked collaborative positions to address future crises. It has set up the National One Health Mission as a collaborative initiative designed to integrate human, animal, and environmental health sectors. It avowedly aims to enhance pandemic preparedness, disease surveillance, and zoonotic disease control.

With increasing evidence emerging of zoonotic disease change and how these affect the natural ways of the world, it has become clear that addressing the effects of zoonotic disease events is essential. While several national initiatives exist to drive India ahead on this path, continuous monitoring, evaluation, and inter-ministry programmes are urgently needed.

In this context, some State led initiatives present inspired examples for replication. These include India's pioneering Climate Budget to track climate-resilient development expenditures, Kerala's participatory carbon-neutral plan

in Meeranagar, and Tamil Nadu's Green Climate Company and Cool Roof Project in Chennai.

Coordinated solutions
The One Health Summit in Lyon, France, currently under way, is one for World Health Day. It focuses on the main factor contributing to infectious and non-communicable diseases, such as zoonotic vectors, antimicrobial resistance, and sustainable food systems.

It hopes to foster cross-sectoral and inter-ministry dialogues about global challenges, particularly with reference to Co-operation for Sustainable Health Systems, an emblematic international initiative that will align with One Health goals.

Welcoming increasing political consensus on One Health, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in 2021: "A One Health approach makes public health sense, economic sense and common sense". Indeed, the only approach that recognises and acts on these connections.

ramya.kaulam@hindu.com

Standing for medical science, together with AIIMS

Democratising world-class healthcare by expanding medical education, correcting regional imbalances, and ensuring accessible, affordable, and equitable care for all Indians



M. Srikanth

For over a billion Indians, world-class healthcare is no longer a distant dream centred in New Delhi; it is now a reality closer to their houses. Over the past decade, the Government of India has pursued a coherent strategy to make healthcare accessible, affordable, and consistent for every Indian, irrespective of where they live. This transformation marks a shift from a model in which medical excellence, the beacon of hope, was concentrated in one city to one in which it is distributed across every region, working as a unified national system.

Medical education
The journey toward equitable healthcare begins with the creation of care one doctor. India has witnessed a rapid expansion in medical education infrastructure to meet the needs of the country. Since 2014, MBBS seats across India have surged from around 50,000 to approximately 1,20,000. Similarly, postgraduate

seats have expanded from around 30,000 to roughly 80,000. By significantly increasing the number of medical colleges and specialty seats, the government has ensured steady pipeline of healthcare professionals.

The evolution of this structural transformation is the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Yojana (PM-SWJY), launched with the explicit mandate of correcting regional imbalances in tertiary healthcare. PM-SWJY has gained unprecedented momentum since 2014. Of the 22 AIIMS approved under the scheme, the majority were sanctioned and operationalised in the last decade.

The strategy was clear: establish the highest national standing in regions that needed them most. These are not mere satellite campuses, such as an Institute of National Importance (INI), mandated to deliver world-class clinical care, education, and research; the trinity mission of AIIMS. The impact on patient care has



By significantly increasing the number of medical colleges and specialty seats, the government has ensured a steady pipeline of healthcare professionals. (HINDU PHOTO)

been staggering. In the last five years alone, the new AIIMS have collectively treated over 100 million patients and millions of inquiries. While AIIMS across the country, recorded approximately 90 lakh OPD consultations in a single year. Services that once required patients to travel hundreds of kilometres are now available locally. This has led to a substantial reduction in Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPEx), preventing millions of fa-

milies from falling into poverty due to catastrophic health costs. The AIIMS expansion sits within the "Aarogya Atmanirbhar" (Self-Reliant Health) vision, supporting them in establishing, recruiting, and fostering research collaboration.

The success that the "AIIMS Brand" of excellence in maintaining and the "AIIMS work culture" is propagated. This expansion marked a milestone in January 2020, when doctors and teams from all operating AIIMS gathered at AIIMS New Delhi to sign a Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Pan-AIIMS Research Consortium.

charts for the highest ABIA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) scores. They have utilised the "Scan and Share" facility to reduce wait times, ensuring that patients' health records follow them seamlessly across the country.

The success of these initiatives is supported by a unique "hand-holding" model. AIIMS New Delhi, as the "Mother AIIMS", has played a pivotal role in mentoring, supporting them in establishing, recruiting, and fostering research collaboration. The success that the "AIIMS Brand" of excellence in maintaining and the "AIIMS work culture" is propagated. This expansion marked a milestone in January 2020, when doctors and teams from all operating AIIMS gathered at AIIMS New Delhi to sign a Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Pan-AIIMS Research Consortium.

This framework formalises joint clinical trials and shared patient data focused on India's specific epidemiological priorities, cancer, metabolic disorders and the integration of AI in medicine.

Government commitment
With an allocation of around 11,000 crore for PM-SWJY in the Union Budget 2021-22, the commitment to health remains steadfast. The Government of India is not merely expanding secondary and tertiary medical services. This is what equitable healthcare looks like in practice — a system where the quality of care is determined by clinical need, not by a patient's geographical location or income. AIIMS New Delhi, supported by the government's annual budget of around 2,500 crore, continues the legacy of the trinity mission: patient care, medical education, and medical research.

What TB reveals about India's urban health system

Tuberculosis shows how gaps in India's urban health systems, combined with socio-economic disenfranchisement and migration, continue to exclude the vulnerable from timely care



Akshay Bhattacharya

Tuberculosis rarely appears overnight. It develops slowly at the intersection of impoverished, precarious living conditions, and fragile health systems. In India, the burden of tuberculosis is not just about infection, but about the conditions in which people live and the systems meant to protect them. On World Health Day, TB serves as a stark reminder that if "Health for All" is to mean anything, it must include those whose urban health risks are produced by the way our cities' systems are built and governed.

Nearly 35% of the population now lives in urban areas, and cities continue to expand as the primary focus in search of work, education, and opportunity.

Urban risks
Urban India is often assumed to have better healthcare infrastructure than rural areas. Yet cities also concentrate risk. Overcrowded housing, poorly ventilated workplaces, long working hours, pollution, informal employment and weak social support systems

create conditions that drive poor health trajectories. For infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, these are not peripheral concerns — they are central.

India continues to bear the largest burden of tuberculosis globally, accounting for nearly one-fourth of the world's TB cases. In cities, where exposure is common, infection alone does not necessarily lead to disease. For most people, the immune system contains it. Disease develops when vulnerabilities converge: malnutrition, overcrowding, physically demanding work, untreated comorbidities, and delayed access to care. TB can therefore be read as a proxy indicator of how well health and social systems function.

Missed opportunities
TB unfolds through a series of missed opportunities. Early symptoms often go unrecognised or untreated. Delays in diagnosis and interruption in treatment increase the risk of transmission, severe illness, and drug resistance. Each stage represents a point where effective public health sys-



Health crises: India continues to bear the largest burden of tuberculosis globally, accounting for nearly one-fourth of the world's TB cases. (HINDU PHOTO)

tems could intervene. Where nutrition support, social protection, adequate housing, and accessible primary healthcare are in place, TB is more likely to be detected early and treated successfully. Conversely, rising TB incidence, and high rates of drug-resistant TB often point to deeper failures in surveillance, follow-up, pharmaceutical regulation, and the broader systems that sustain health. TB can no longer be framed only as a disease of the poor; it is in-

creasingly an urban public health challenge. In a pathways study of urban tuberculosis, TB notification rates were significantly higher among migrants than among those who were born in the city.

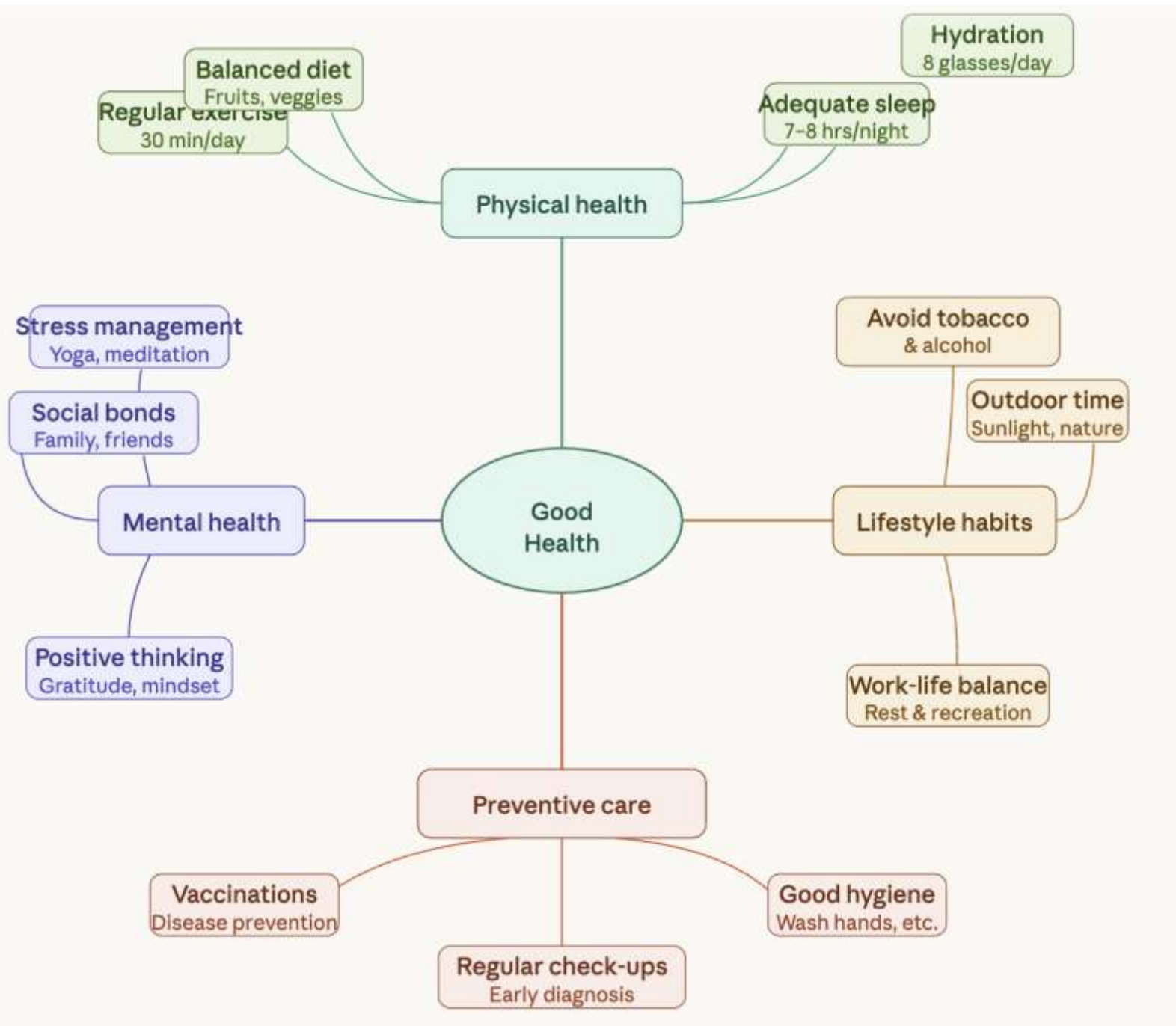
These are not isolated stories. This is where the language of health is indeed a right; access to care cannot depend on whether a person has address proof, speaks dominant languages, or is settled enough to fit neatly into administrative categories. The promise of "Health for All" cannot be realised through systems designed primarily for stable, documented, and visible populations. Migration is more than a disease to be controlled; it is a diagnostic tool for the health of our systems. If India is serious about building equitable healthcare, the portable primary care strengthened, and disease control programmes integrated with neighbourhood-level services. Ending TB will require building urban systems that make health possible — when "Health for All" starts not only when people fall sick, but for those not visible to policy and for those whose labour sustains the city while their health remains marginal to its planning.

Urban primary healthcare remains fragmented, delay care, and the National TB Elimination Programme provides diagnosis and treatment through designated centres, a large proportion of urban tuberculosis cases from private providers, data integration between public and private health systems is incomplete, making continuity of care difficult.

Migrants face another layer of exclusion. Migrants frequently change residences, work, or travel back to their home. Lack of documentation linked to their current residence makes it difficult to access social protection. This can complicate treatment, delay care, and make follow-up difficult. Ending TB will require building urban systems that make health possible — when "Health for All" starts not only when people fall sick, but for those not visible to policy and for those whose labour sustains the city while their health remains marginal to its planning.

health as a right becomes critical. Health is indeed a right; access to care cannot depend on whether a person has address proof, speaks dominant languages, or is settled enough to fit neatly into administrative categories. The promise of "Health for All" cannot be realised through systems designed primarily for stable, documented, and visible populations.

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Date observed 7 April every year

Established by World Health Organization (WHO)

First observed 1950

WHY 7 April? Marks the founding of WHO on 7 April 1948

WHO founded 7 April 1948 78 years in 2026

WHO headquarters Geneva, Switzerland

WHO member states 194 countries

WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Ethiopia, since 2017)

2026 THEME

Theme 2026 Current	"Together for health. Stand with science."
Focus of 2026	Celebrating scientific collaboration to protect health of people, animals, plants and the planet
Key approach	One Health — linking human, animal, plant and environmental health
Hashtags	#StandWithScience #WorldHealthDay
Key 2026 event 1	International One Health Summit (7 April), hosted by France under French G7 Presidency
Key 2026 event 2	Inaugural Global Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres (7-9 April) — ~800 institutions from 80+ countries
PAST THEMES (LAST 5 YEARS)	
2025	Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures (maternal & newborn health)
2024	My Health, My Right
2023	Health for All
2022	Our Planet, Our Health
2021	Building a Fairer, Healthier World

SDG goal linked	SDG 3 — Good Health and Well-Being (UN Sustainable Development Goals)
Ottawa Charter	1986 — First international conference on health promotion
One Health	Approach recognising that human, animal and environmental health are interconnected
Alma Ata Declaration	1978 — Declared primary healthcare essential; "Health for All by 2000" goal
INDIA-SPECIFIC POINTS	
India's health ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
National Health Policy	Launched in 2017 — focuses on achieving UHC
Ayushman Bharat	World's largest health insurance scheme — covers ₹5 lakh/family/year
POSHAN Abhiyaan	National nutrition mission to address malnutrition
Mission Indradhanush	Expanded vaccination programme for children & pregnant women

HAIFA
Four bodies recovered from site of Iranian strike, say Israel rescuers



Four people were killed in the Israeli port city of Haifa after what Israeli media said was a missile strike from Iran on Monday. The bodies were recovered from beneath the rubble following hours of search-and-rescue operations, the Israeli military said on Monday. AP

Lebanon says Israeli strikes hit southern region, Beirut

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

An Israeli strike hit Beirut's southern suburbs on Monday as Israel's Army said it was targeting Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah, while Lebanon reported broad strikes in the country's south.

Video footage showed smoke following after the strike on the southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold which has largely emptied of residents after repeated Israeli attacks and evacuation warnings.

Israel's Army said it was "striking Hezbollah terror targets in Beirut", after saying it would target the area.

The Israeli Army said on Sunday that in recent days, it had struck two Al-Aminah militant strongholds, which were controlled by Hezbollah and served as significant financial infrastructure supporting the group's activities.

In south Lebanon, the Health Ministry said four people were killed in a raid, near the city of Nabatieh. The state-run National News Agency (SNA) also reported deadly attacks elsewhere in the country's south and east.

Lebanon says 1,457 people have been killed since the war erupted, including 87 health workers.

KUWAIT CITY
Falling debris from Iranian strike injures six, says Kuwait Ministry



An Iranian attack on a residential area in Kuwait injured six people on Monday, the country's Health Ministry said. "Falling projectiles and debris hit a residential area in the northern region after an Iranian aggression," it said. Overnight from Sunday to Monday, Kuwait had also said it was responding to similar attacks. AP

Strait of Hormuz will never return to its old status: IRGC

The Guards say they have made plans to establish a new security architecture in the Gulf based on the principle that the region's security and stability must be guaranteed by the littoral states.

Steady John

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said on Monday that the Strait of Hormuz, a critical international waterway connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman, has undergone "irreversible strategic changes" and will never return to its previous status.

The era of foreign hegemony over this critical area is over, the IRGC said in a statement. Recent regional developments have established a new reality so that the U.S. cannot dictate terms in Iran's immediate maritime environment, it said.

"The Strait of Hormuz will never return to its previous status, especially for the U.S. and the Zionist regime," the IRGC said, adding that Iran would continue to "defend its sovereignty and the security of the Persian Gulf."

The IRGC statement came hours after U.S. President Donald Trump put out an aggressive rhetoric post on social media asking Iran to open the Strait. "Tuesday will be Power Plan Day, and Bridge Day, all wrapped up in one, in



Iran stands. The Guards say the U.S. cannot dictate terms in Iran's maritime environment after recent regional developments. AP

Iran. Open the Strait, you crazy b****, or you'll be living in Hell," the U.S. President said. Mr. Trump in the past had issued several deadlines to Iran to respond to the Strait or face severe bombing.

On Sunday, Mr. Trump said the U.S. was in talks with Iran and a deal could be possible by April 1, threatening to "blow up everything" if a deal is not reached.

New plans The IRGC said the Guards have made plans to establish a new indigenous security architecture in the Persian Gulf based on the principle that the region's security and stability must be guaranteed by the littoral states. "These preparations include enhanced naval deployment, advanced monitoring systems, and in the past had issued several coordinated rapid-response capabilities, all designed to safeguard Iran's territorial waters and air space" due to "uninterrupted flow of energy through the Strait," the Guards said.

HOUSTON
Artemis II breaks Apollo 13's record as humans travel farther into space



The four astronauts embarking on NASA's lunar flyby mission on Monday, the team's flight director said. "Falling projectiles and debris hit a residential area in the northern region after an Iranian aggression," it said. Overnight from Sunday to Monday, Kuwait had also said it was responding to similar attacks. AP

Trump says Iran could be 'taken out' in one night

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday told reporters that Iran could be taken out in one night, or that was shut down over Iran was a cover "to steal switched attention."

Mr. Trump had earlier vowed to announce a "five-day night" deadline for Iran to agree to a ceasefire deal or face broad attacks on power plants and other critical infrastructure.

"The entire country can be taken out in one night, and that night might be tomorrow night," warning Tehran it had to make a deal by "Tuesday night or face the consequences."

Asked about accusations of war crimes if the U.S. widens attacks against Iran's bridges and power plants, Mr. Trump responded, "No, not at all." Asked why Iranians would want him to carry out the threat, he said citizens are "desperate" in order to have freedom.

Trump proposal Mr. Trump also said the proposal offered by Iran was inadequate. "They made a proposal, and it's a significant proposal. It's a significant step. It's not good enough," Mr. Trump said.

CAIRO
At least 10 killed in Israeli airstrike near Gaza school as truce strains



An Israeli airstrike killed at least 10 people outside a school housing displaced Palestinians on Monday, health officials said, in the latest violence overshadowing the fragile U.S.-brokered Gaza ceasefire deal. Before the strikes, Palestinians clashed with an Israeli militia, who they said sacked the school in an attempt to abduct people. REUTERS

Trump says Iran could be 'taken out' in one night

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON



U.S. President Donald Trump speaks with reporters during a news conference at the White House on Monday. AP

Mr. Trump said the five-week conflict could end quickly if Iran does "what they have to do."

"They have to do certain things. They know that they've been negotiating I think in good faith," he said.

U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth told the briefing that the largest volume of strikes since day one of the operation against Iran would take place on Monday and started Tuesday would have even more.

Mr. Trump, joined by senior national security advisers, described in detail the operation to recover a downed American aviator over the weekend from Iranian territory.

He said the unidentified aviator was "hiding in mountains and kept climbing in order to improve the chances for recovery. It was like finding a needle in a haystack," Mr. Trump said. Hundreds of Ameri-

Rights group files 'genocide' complaint against Myanmar

Agence France-Presse
JAKARTA

Rohingya representatives and a rights group filed a complaint with Indonesia's Attorney-General against Myanmar's President-elect General Min Aung Hlaing for alleged rights abuses, including the country's ethnic minorities, including the Rohingya.

Myanmar's military, which grabbed power in a 2021 coup, has for decades been accused of rights abuses, mostly targeting the country's ethnic minorities, including the Rohingya.

Israel hits key petrochemical terminal in Iran's South Pars

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Israel Defense Minister Israel Katz announced on Monday that Israel had conducted a "powerful strike" on Iran's largest petrochemical complex, with the operator saying it was assessing the damage from the attacks.

The complex in the Pars region services Iran's South Pars natural gas field — the largest known gas reserve in the world — which it shares with Qatar, and which Israel had previously hit last month.

The military "just carried out a powerful strike

also carried out a wave of attacks on Iran, killing more than 25 people

on Iran's largest petrochemical facility, located in Asaluyeh, a central target responsible for about 30% of the country's petrochemical production," Mr. Katz said in a statement.

Israel carried out a similar strike on the Mahabeh Petrochemical in the northern Zone in the southwestern Khuzestan province on Saturday, a local Iranian official said.

"At this point, the two facilities, which together account for roughly 85% of Iran's petrochemical exports, have been taken out of operation and are no longer functioning," Mr. Katz said, calling it "a severe economic blow."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel was "systematically eliminating the revolutionary Iranian money machine."

Iran and the U.S. also carried out a wave of attacks on Iran, killing more than 25 people on Monday. Iran responded with missile fire on Israel and its Gulf Arab neighbors.

Blubber brawl



Members of Chile's National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service (Sernapesca) collect samples to determine the cause of death of a sperm whaleback whale stranded on a beach in Chilo Island. REUTERS

blockade as well as Washington's "threats of even more aggressive actions."

The Cuban leader, who confirmed in March that U.S. and Cuban officials were held talks, reiterated his government's willingness to "engage in serious and responsible bilateral dialogue, and finding solutions" in existing differences. "In a statement, the U.S.

Aggravated Press

A Russian drone attack on Ukraine's southern port city of Odesa killed two women and a toddler, authorities said on Monday, while Ukrainian long-range forces targeted Russia's key Black Sea port for oil exports.

The nighttime attack on Odesa damaged an apartment block, killing the women and a 2-year-old child, officials said. Rescuers pulled four people from the rubble.

Eleven people were hospitalized, including a pregnant woman and two children — the youngest less than a year old. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in a post on X, Russia's largest Black Sea ports has launched an apart-

Russian strikes kill four as Kyiv hits oil hub

more than 2,800 attack drones, according to Mr. Zelenskyy.

Ukraine has fought back by developing its own long-range drones, which now reach targets some 1,500 kilometers inside Russia.

The Russian Defense Ministry said that Ukrainian drones attack the Novorossiysk oil terminal, one of Russia's largest Black Sea ports, overnight. The at-

U.S. lawmakers slam 'blockade' in Cuba visit

U.S. Democratic lawmakers have met Cuban President in the first congressional visit since Clinton imposed an oil blockade against the island, a measure they denounced as "economic bullying."

U.S. Representative Pramila Jayapal and Jo-

U.S. lawmakers slam 'blockade' in Cuba visit

nathan Jackson concluded a five-day trip to Cuba on Sunday as President Donald Trump has stepped up pressure on the communist government.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel on Monday posted photos of his meeting with the lawmakers on X. Mr. Diaz-Canel said that during the meeting he denounced "the criminal harm" caused by the U.S.

U.S. lawmakers slam 'blockade' in Cuba visit

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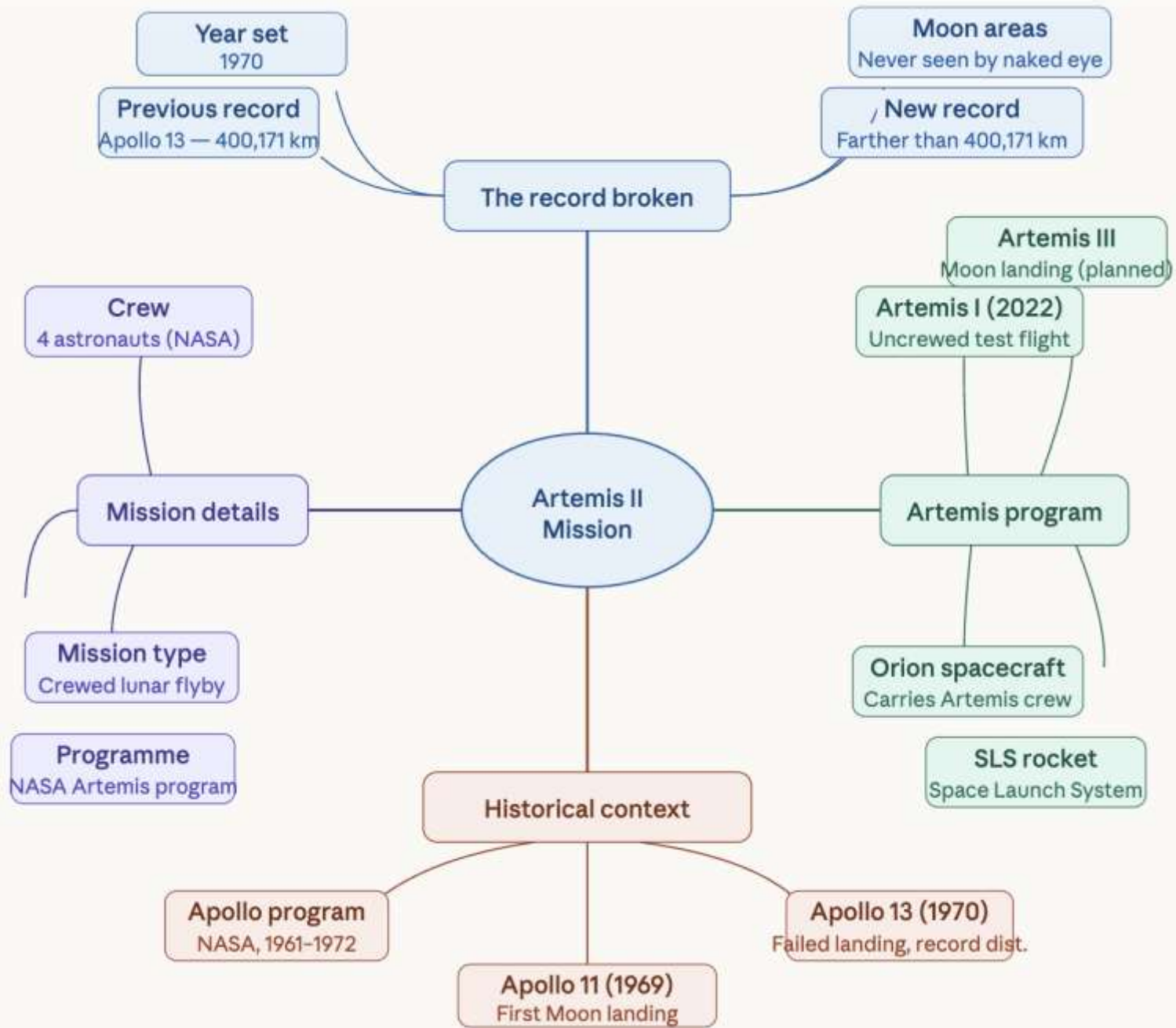
HOUSTON

Artemis II breaks Apollo 13's record as humans travel farther into space



AFP

▲ The four astronauts embarking on NASA's lunar flyby became on Monday the humans to travel furthest from our planet, as they get set to view areas of the moon never before seen by the naked eye. The Artemis II team surpassed the distance record of 400,171 kilometres set by Apollo 13 in 1970. AFP



- **1957** — Soviet Sputnik: first artificial satellite / पहला कृत्रिम उपग्रह
- **1961** — Yuri Gagarin: first human in space / अंतरिक्ष में पहला मानव
- **1969** — Apollo 11: first Moon landing (Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin) / पहली चंद्र लैंडिंग
- **1970** — Apollo 13: engine failure, lunar flyby, set 400,171 km record / इंजन विफलता, चंद्र फ्लाईबाई, 400,171 किमी रिकॉर्ड
- **1972** — Apollo 17: last crewed Moon mission for 50+ years / 50+ वर्षों के लिए अंतिम चालक दल चंद्र मिशन
- **2022** — Artemis I: uncrewed test of Orion + SLS / ओरियन + SLS का बिना चालक दल परीक्षण

F2. Present / वर्तमान

- **Artemis II sets new human deep-space distance record**
- आर्टेमिस II ने मानव गहरे अंतरिक्ष दूरी का नया रिकॉर्ड स्थापित किया
- **India is an Artemis Accords signatory — diplomatic space cooperation**
- भारत आर्टेमिस समझौतों का हस्ताक्षरकर्ता है — राजनयिक अंतरिक्ष सहयोग

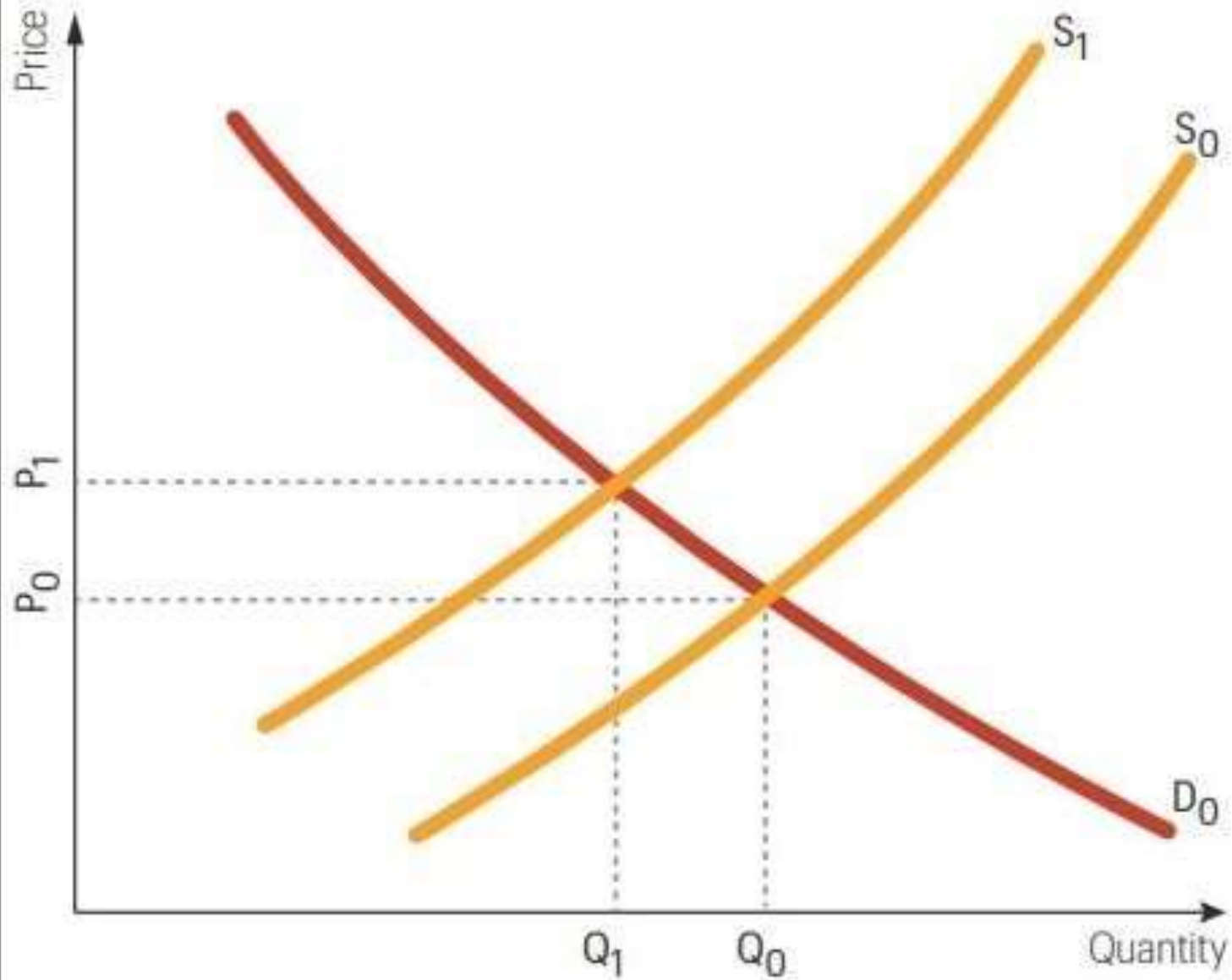
- Consider the following statements about the Artemis program:
- Artemis I was a crewed mission that tested the Orion capsule in 2022.
- Artemis II broke the previous distance record set by Apollo 13 in 1970.
- India signed the Artemis Accords in 2023 during PM Modi's visit to the United States.
- The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 permits nations to claim ownership of the Moon if they land on it.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) 2, 3 and 4 only



Stagflation

- The ongoing conflict between the US-Israel and Iran in April 2026 has triggered a pernicious energy supply and price shock, leading to fears of a return to 1970s-style stagflation

• Demand and supply



- What It Is?
- Stagflation is a rare and challenging economic condition characterized by the simultaneous occurrence of stagnant economic growth (or recession), high unemployment, and high inflation.
- The term, coined by British politician Iain Macleod, describes the worst of both worlds, where prices rise rapidly even as the economy shrinks or stalls.

How It Occurs?

- Stagflation typically arises from a negative **supply shock**.
- In a normal economy, prices and quantity move along a curve. However, during a shock (like a war or pandemic), the entire supply curve shifts to the left.
- This shift means that at the same price level, producers can only supply a smaller **quantity of goods** (Q_1 instead of Q_0) due to higher input costs or broken logistics.
- The result is a new equilibrium where the price is higher (P_1), but the actual output/growth is lower.

Factors Impacting Stagflation:

- **Energy Supply Disruptions**: Sudden stoppages in oil or gas (e.g., closure of the Strait of Hormuz) create sudden stops in industrial activity.
- **Input Cost Surges**: Rapid increases in the price of raw materials, petrochemical feedstocks, and fertilizers (crucial for modern Indian agriculture).
- **Supply Chain Breakages**: Wars and geopolitical tensions that physically block trade routes rather than just increasing the price of transit.
- **Monetary Policy Lag**: When central banks are slow to react or have already exhausted their ammunition (low interest rates) before the shock hits.

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- Stagflation typically arises from a negative **supply shock**.
- In a normal economy, prices and quantity move along a curve. However, during a shock (like a war or pandemic), the entire supply curve shifts to the left.
- This shift means that at the same price level, producers can only supply a smaller **quantity of goods** (Q1 instead of Q0) due to higher input costs or broken logistics.
- The result is a new equilibrium where the price is higher (P1), but the actual output/growth is lower.

Factors Impacting Stagflation:

- Energy Supply Disruptions: Sudden stoppages in oil or gas (e.g., closure of the Strait of Hormuz) create sudden stops in industrial activity.
- Input Cost Surges: Rapid increases in the price of raw materials, petrochemical feedstocks, and fertilizers (crucial for modern Indian agriculture).
- Supply Chain Breakages: Wars and geopolitical tensions that physically block trade routes rather than just increasing the price of transit.
- Monetary Policy Lag: When central banks are slow to react or have already exhausted their ammunition (low interest rates) before the shock hits.

Map study



Kesavan N.

▶ **QUESTION 1**

What was campaign for the World Health day in 2025?

▶ **QUESTION 2**

What is the summit being held in Lyon from April 5 to 7, 2026?

▶ **QUESTION 3**

What is the theme of the Global Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres, which is to be held from April 7 to 9, 2026?

▶ **QUESTION 4**

What is the theme for this year's World Health Day?

▶ **QUESTION 5**

In collaboration with which institute did the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) develop and publish the regional guidance document *Responding to outbreaks of antimicrobial-resistant pathogens in healthcare facilities: guidance for the Western Pacific Region*?



▶ **Visual question:** Name this institute supporting WHO's work on obesity prevention, nutrition, and physical activity, and since which year. WIKIPEDIA

Word of the day

Banal:

overfamiliar through overuse

Synonyms: commonplace, old-hat

Usage: *The speech was dismissed as banal and repetitive.*

Pronunciation: <https://newsth.live/Y7pckk/banal>

International Phonetic Alphabet: /bə'nɑ:l/



Word of the day

Impugn:

attack as false or wrong

Synonym: challenge

Usage: *The court refused to impugn the order without substantive evidence.*

Pronunciation: <https://newsth.live/NcMENR/impugn>

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪm'pju:n/



Thank you 😊