# Daily Current Affairs



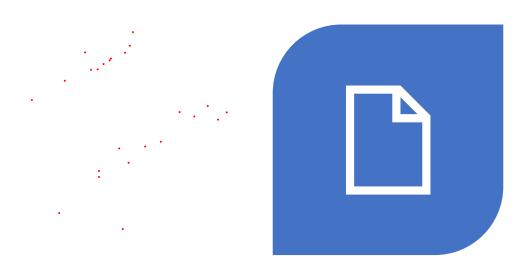








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10 MCQ QUIZ



"Satisfaction lies in the effort, not in the attainment. Full effort is full victory." — Mahatma Gandhi



Discussions continue on proposed nuclear Bill



Bengal, hospitalised

Criticism of the judiciary Courts only mirror the failures that mire governance



Brits, Luus and Mlaba star in SA's big win SPORT II PAGE IS

#### **ENSHIPE**



#### Flood toll rises to 28 in Bengal CM 'blames Centre'

NORMAYA
The death sail in the runth
Bengal flunck increased to 28
with five more cause being
reported on Monday from
Negarikata block in Jalpaiguri
district. Account 80th Journals. by the pulice and brought to inguri. is passe a



Ukrainian drone barrage cuts the power in Russia

sale need a Ubrahilm street Russian said a Ubraintim drune Corrigo Engine Capacita one of its border regions. Riya has wowed to increase its strokes on Russian territory, in particular, on its of influstracture, in what it been as a legitimate requirement Muscount saids harvages of Ubraintim of thes. or PodE sa

#### SC to examine the validity of tax on stock trades

INDERVIOUS PROPERTY. examine a piec challenging the (BTT), a direct tax levied on a listed stock exchange, as imposed under the Finance

#### Stage set for two-phase poll battle in Bihar Eligible voters number 7.43 crore: 3.92 crore are

men. 3.5 crore women, and 1.725 transgenders

Final rolls shared with all parties; names can be added 10 days before last date for nominations

Of the total 90,712 polling stations across Bihar, 13,911 are in urban areas and 76,801 in rural areas

the Bihar Assembly election will be conducted in two phases, covering all 243

The first phase of poli-ing will be an November 6 for 121 constituencies, while the second phase on November II will cover the

Byelection in the Budgant and Nagrota consti-tuencies in Jammu and Kashmir; Anta in Bajasthan; Ghatsila (reserved for Scheduled Tribes) in Back-band, Jubilee Hills to Telanganaj Tarn Taran in Pun-jab, Dumpa Oscheduled Fribu) in Mizoram, and Nuapada in Odisha will bu

seld on November II. The votes will be count

act on November 14. There are 203 general constituences, two re-served for scheduled Tribes, and 38 for Sche-

Fribes, and 38 for Scheduled Castes in Bihar.
The State has 7.43 crore eligible voters, including these to 3.92 crore men, 3.8 crore women, and 1,738 transpender persons. transgender persons. About 14.01 laith are first-time voters (18-19 age group), 1.63 crore are in the 20-29 age group; 4.04 laith are very senior iffisens (aged above 85); and about 14,000 are centenar-tars, besides 1.63 lakh service electors and 7.2 lakts voters with disabilities.

The Gotette notification for the first phase of polling will be issued an Octob-er 10, and the last date to file nominations is October For the second phase,

the Gazette notification will be issued on October 63, and the last date to file nominations is October 20.

Nov. 6 Nov. 11 TOTAL SEATS: JAN

Surroun (ST) Debutter Novepolis

The counting of votes will be listed on November 14

electoral roll has been shared with all the parties. In case voters notice errors in the list, they can file an appeal with the District Magistrate. If any eligible person has been left out, they can have their names added until 10 days before the last date for filing Mr. Rumar said that of

the total 90,712 pulling sta-

Battle lines drawn

13,90 will be in urban areas and 76,801 in rural areas. While 292 of these sta-tions will be managed by persons with disabilities, 1,044 will be managed by women, and #8 by youth. The average number of eligible voters per polling station is 618. "Webcasting will be done at all the polling stations for the first time," he said.

\*Police patrolling on horseback will be done

Difur.

A total of 8.5 laids offi-cials, including 4.83 lakh polling and 2.5 lakh police personnel, 90,712 angan-wadi sevikas (who may also assist in verifying identities of 'burga-clad' women vo-ters if required), 17,800 miand 4,600 for counting, 28,300 counting officials, and 9,800 sector officers, will be deployed.

Postal ballot counting On the preparation of elec-toral rolls, Mr. Kurnar said the special intensive revi-

fore District Magistrates and the Chief Electoral Officer. Disen the demand from

sion (310) went in from June 24 to July 25, and the draft list was published and distributed among stake-holders, including political parties, on August 1. Voters. purities, and booth Level Agents (BLAs) were given ample oppor-yettons. The final list was published on September 20.

Describing the SIR as the process of "parification" of electoral rolls that would set a benchmark for funne revisions, Mr. Kamar said close to 69 lakh names have been struck off the list.

The reasons included deaths, unproven citizenship, duplicate entries, or permanent migration to other States.

He said a breakup could nor be given in a "decen-tralised" set-up as Electoral Registration Officers make

voter lists.
It sum be appealed be-

Given the durand from several political parties, the commission has now made it mandatory to complete postel ballot constring of Electronic Vosing Mechine (EVMI)/Voter-Verifact (VVDAT) states will be manufactly at the constring of the manufacturing of the manuf

erucial data, and EVM data and wherever mock-poll data has not been crased

Among 17 new initiatives taken by the election con-mission are facilities to deposit mobile phones at polling stations and a onereal-time voter turnout up-dates will be given.

#### Practising restraint

Mary Brunhow, Fred Remedell, and Shimon belogical son the 2025 Notes Prize for medicini, physiology for receding have the foody rectains to com deferring to 10g healthy.











resist the legislature disso-lution? We have reachest the end of the road," far-right leader Marine Le Pen

said. "There is no other so-lution. The only wise course of action in these discumstances is to return

Prançois Bayrou, in Rep-tember to become France's

barely a year during a pro

to the polls." Mr. Lecorns had re-placed his predecessor,



#### France plunged into crisis as PM Lecornu quits less than a month after Macron appointed him

#### Associated Press

ter Sébastien Lecorna re-signed less than 24 hours month to office, plunging the country into a deep political crisis and leaving President Emmanuel Ma crop with few options

The French presidency said in a statement on said in a statement in Menday that M, Macroin, which has been hitting record loves in opinion policy, and in the property of t



Gutgoing Prime Minister Lecornu, who resigned hours after naming his calcinet, delivers a statement in Peris on Monday, or

not, so that he can show all

A faithful ally of Mr. Ma-cron, Mr. Lecornu earlier said conditions were no

onnentian.
"It would take little for it to work," Mr. Lecornu said in his resignation speech.
"By being more selfless for many, by knowing how to show humility, one most

distant.

before one's party."
With less than two years With less than two years before the next providential election, Mr. Macrony opposents immediately opposents immediately shocking resignation.

The lar-right National Raily called on him to either mentary elections or lessing.

"This palses a question for the President of the Republic on the continue to the provident of the Republic can be continue to

longed period of political instability. French political have been in disarray since Far-right and left-wing lawmakers hold over 320 seats at the National As-sembly, while the centrion

sentially, while the corrections and allifed conservatives hold 210, with no party having a majority.

On the far beft, France Unbowed also asked for Mr. Macron's departure while voices on the left called for the revival of a condition mails up of left

tiets, socialists, greens, and communists. The resigna-tion rattled investors, sending the CAC-40 index of leading French compa-nies plunging. The index was down by nearly 2% on its Pricksy close.

Minuters appointed just the previous night found themselves in the bizarre situation of becoming care-taker ministers - kept in place only to manage day-to-day affairs until a new government is formed. Ag-nes Pannier-Runacher, the

tion Paintier-Ruinacher, the newly reappointed mini-ter for ecology, pooted on the for ecology, pooted on Lecoritie's main task would have been in pass a bridger at Perance in faced At the end of the first quar-ter of 2023, Prance's public debt atood at 3.484 trillion Letter of the prance of the con-traction of the prance of the Letter of 2023, Prance's public debt atood at 3.484 trillion Letter of the prance of the pranching accounting for 7% of state spending.

#### Massive blaze in intensive care unit at Jaipur govt. hospital leaves six dead

#### The Hindu Buryau

Six patients were killed in a massive fire in an intensive care unit at the trauma centre of Sawai Man Singh Government Hospital here

late on Sunday night.

Two women and four-men in the neurosurgery ICU died of burns and

sufficiation.
The fire crupted in the CU's storage section from suspected short circuit. The hospital is the big gest government health facility in Rajasthar

Executive Engineer Mu-kesh Singhal under su-pension on Monday even-ing, holding them responsible for the fire mishap: Besides, the tender for R.E. Rectric Company - the agency hired for fire safety - was cancelled and instructions were given for registering a first informa-tion report against the

The deceased have been (28) from Silar, Dilip (40) and Bahadur (40) from lai-pur; and Shri Nath (54), Bulemant Kane (53), and Kusuma (54) from

Bahrmani Kane (55), and Kusama (54) From Bharaspur. The fire erupted on the second floor of the trauma centre opposite the main hospital building on Tonk Boad. The centre's in-change, Anurug Ohakod, and II putients were being



trented in the neurosus-gery IGA and lain a second IGA on the second IGA.

Those in the second IGA.

Those in the second IGA.

or, Trick smoke spread ra-pidly in the trauma centre, tragering panic. Hospital properties of patients of patients wheeled them out of the building.

or patients wheeled them out of the building, the spread probability the district of the patients of the own the opposite kide of sart estinguishing the transport of the patients of the noars. The police could not enter the building in-panick.

Relatives of the victims staged a protest outside the hospital on Monday, raising slogues against the administration and the State government. They alhospital staff, and said the trauma centre building had safety lapses and no equipment to doubt the

had safety lapses and no epiginest to dense the flarius.

"We warned about the "We warned about the 20 minutes our levi but no one responded. All the doctors and staff ran away when the fire broke out," Dashrath Gujar, brocker of Pimu Gujar, brocker of Pimu Gujar,

and drop. When the smoke began to spread, the staff fled. We were not allowed to go inside the ICU, but Sheru managed to bring out our mother... She did not survive," Mr. Joginder

investigation committee, while a forensic team of site. The six member com-mittee will be headed by Medical Education Combe handed over to their fa-milies after post mortum.

milles after point moreton.
Prime Minister Noren-dra Modil and Rajacthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lai Sharma supressed grief ov-er the tragedy Mr. Sharma, who visited the traum-cenere, gove instructions to provide relief to the affect-ad people.

## Stage set for two-phase poll battle in Bihar

Eligible voters number 7.43 crore; 3.92 crore are men, 3.5 crore women, and 1,725 transgenders

Final rolls shared with all parties; names can be added 10 days before last date for nominations

Assembly bypolls

Of the total 90,712 polling stations across Bihar, 13,911 are in urban areas and 76,801 in rural areas

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

■ he Bihar Assembly election will be conducted in two phases, covering all 243 constituencies.

The first phase of polling will be on November 6 for 121 constituencies. while the second phase on November 11 will cover the remaining 122. Counting of votes will be taken up on November 14, Chief Election Commissioner Gvanesh Kumar said on Monday.

Byelection in the Budgam and Nagrota constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir; Anta in Rajasthan; Ghatsila (reserved for Scheduled Tribes) in Iharkhand; Jubilee Hills in Telangana; Tarn Taran in Punjab; Dampa (Scheduled Tribe) in Mizoram; and Nuapada in Odisha will be held on November 11.

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ed on November 14.

There are 203 general constituencies, two reserved for Scheduled Tribes, and 38 for Sche-

The State has 7.43 crore eligible voters, including close to 3.92 crore men, 3.5 crore women, and 1,725 persons. transgender About 14.01 lakh are firsttime voters (18-19 age group); 1.63 crore are in the 20-29 age group; 4.04 lakh are very senior citizens (aged above 85); and about 14,000 are centenarians, besides 1.63 lakh service electors and 7.2 lakh voters with disabilities.

for the first phase of polling will be issued on October 10, and the last date to file nominations is October

For the second phase, the Gazette notification will be issued on October 13, and the last date to file nominations is October 20.

duled Castes in Bihar.

The Gazette notification

Battle lines drawn on November 11 The upcoming Assembly election in Bihar ■ Jammu will be held in two phases and Kashmir: Budgam, Nagrota FIRST PHASE | SECOND PHASE Raiasthan: Anta (122 seats) (121 seats) Jharkhand: Nov. 6 Nov. 11 Ghatsila (ST) ■ Telangana: **TOTAL SEATS: 243** Jubilee Hills Punjab: Tarn Taran ■ Mizoram: Dampa (ST) Odisha: Nuapada The counting of votes will

Mr. Kumar said the final electoral roll has been shared with all the parties. In case voters notice errors in the list, they can file an appeal with the District Magistrate. If any eligible person has been left out. they can have their names added until 10 days before the last date for filing nominations.

Source: ECI, PTI

Mr. Kumar said that of the total 90,712 polling stations across the State, 13,911 will be in urban areas and 76,801 in rural areas.

be held on November 14

While 292 of these stations will be managed by persons with disabilities, 1,044 will be managed by women, and 38 by youth. The average number of eligible voters per polling station is 818. "Webcasting will be done at all the polling stations for the first time," he said.

horseback will be done across 'diara' regions covering 250 polling stations. and patrolling parties will use boats at 197 polling stations," the CEC said.

"Police patrolling on

He said there will be one general observer (senior officials from outside the State) per constituency, apart from 38 police and 67 expenditure observers in Bihar.

A total of 8.5 lakh officials, including 4.53 lakh polling and 2.5 lakh police personnel, 90,712 anganwadi sevikas (who may also assist in verifying identities of 'burga-clad' women voters if required), 17,800 micro observers for polling and 4,800 for counting, 28,300 counting officials, and 9,600 sector officers, will be deployed.

#### Postal ballot counting

On the preparation of electoral rolls, Mr. Kumar said the special intensive revi-

sion (SIR) went on from June 24 to July 25, and the draft list was published and distributed among stakeholders, including political parties, on August 1.

Voters, parties, and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) were given ample opportunity to file claims and objections. The final list was published on September

Describing the SIR as the process of "purification" of electoral rolls that would set a benchmark for future revisions, Mr. Kumar said close to 69 lakh names have been struck off the

The reasons included deaths, unproven citizenship, duplicate entries, or permanent migration to other States.

He said a breakup could not be given in a "decentralised" set-up as Electoral Registration Officers make voter lists.

It can be appealed be-

fore District Magistrates and the Chief Electoral Officer.

Given the demand from several political parties, the commission has now made it mandatory to complete postal ballot counting before the last two rounds of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM)/Voter-Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) counting.

The counting of VVPAT slips will be mandatory in case of a mismatch between form 17C, which contains details of votes polled per booth among other crucial data, and EVM data and wherever mock-poll data has not been erased erroneously.

Among 17 new initiatives taken by the election commission are facilities to deposit mobile phones at polling stations and a onestop digital platform named ECINet, on which real-time voter turnout updates will be given.

- The Bihar Legislative Assembly election will be conducted in two phases, covering all 243 constituencies.
- The elections are a crucial political event for Bihar, known for its dynamic caste equations, coalition politics, and history of voter mobilization.

## Election Schedule & Phases

#### Phase 1

Date: November 6

Seats covered: 121 constituencies

Gazette notification: October 10

Last date for nomination filing: October 17

#### Phase 2

Date: November 11

Seats covered: 122 constituencies

Gazette notification: October 13

Last date for nomination filing: October 20

**♦ Vote Counting Date:** November 14

## **11** Electoral Demographics

Total constituencies: 243 (203 General, 2 ST-reserved, 38 SC-reserved)

Eligible voters: 7.43 crore

Men: 3.92 crore

Women: 3.5 crore

Transgender: 1,725

• First-time voters: 14.01 lakh (18–19 years age group)

• Senior citizens (85+): 4.04 lakh

• Centenarians (100+): 14,000

Disabled voters: 7.2 lakh

## Polling Infrastructure

Total polling stations: 90,712

• Urban: 13,911

Rural: 76,801

Webcasting: To be done in all polling stations for the first time.

Managed by:

1,044 polling stations managed by persons with disabilities.

1,044 managed entirely by women.

38 managed by youth volunteers.

## Security Arrangements

- Police & Personnel: 8.5 lakh officers deployed
  - 4.53 lakh polling staff
  - 2.5 lakh police personnel
  - 90,712 Anganwadi workers assisting verification of 'burqa-clad' voters

#### Observers:

- 1 general observer (senior official from outside the state) per constituency
- 38 police observers and 67 expenditure observers

#### Special measures:

- Boat patrol at 197 riverine polling stations (diara regions).
- Mounted police patrol for difficult terrain.

## Figure 1 | Electoral Roll & Process

- Special Summary Revision (SSR): June 24 July 25
- Final rolls published: September 30 after claim & objection period.
- "Purification process": About 69 lakh names removed due to duplication, migration, or unverified entries.
- Booth Level Agents (BLAs) of parties reviewed the lists.
- Final voter lists shared with political parties.

## Technological and Procedural Reforms

#### VVAPT & EVM:

- Mandatory VVPAT verification wherever EVM and paper trail data mismatch.
- Two rounds of EVM-VVPAT reconciliation before counting.

## 2. Postal Ballot System:

- Made mandatory for absentee voters.
- Ensures transparency before final EVM count.

## 3. Mobile Phones & Digital Updates:

Introduction of the ENET digital platform for real-time voter turnout and data updates.

#### 4. Inclusion Measures:

Facilities for elderly, PWD voters, and centenarians (home voting in some cases).

**Practising** restraint

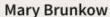
Mary Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Shimon Sakaguchi won the 2025 Nobel Prize for medicine/physiology for revealing how the body restrains its own defences to stay healthy

■ The immune system must distinguish the self from invaders to avoid attacking the body itself

■ Shimon Sakaguchi discovered regulatory T-cells that calm immune reactions and preserve selftolerance



Image Credit: Nobel Prize Outreach



Mary Brunkow and Fred Ramsdell traced the scurfy mouse's fatal autoimmunity to a faulty Foxp3 gene



■ Together, their work revealed FOXP3 controls regulatory T-cell development and prevents immune 'mutiny'

■ Today, the findings guide new therapies for autoimmune disease, cancer, and transplantation



Winners:

Mary Brunkow (USA)

Fred Ramsdell (USA)

• Shimon Sakaguchi (Japan)

• Field: Medicine / Physiology

**Year:** 2025

**Discovery:** How the **immune system restrains itself** to maintain **self-tolerance** and avoid autoimmune reactions.



## 1. Immune Self-Tolerance Mechanism

- Normally, the immune system defends the body by identifying and attacking pathogens (viruses, bacteria, etc.).
- But it must also distinguish "self" from "non-self" to avoid attacking its own tissues this balance is called "immune tolerance."
- Failure of this mechanism leads to autoimmune diseases (like lupus, type-1 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis).

## 2. Regulatory T-cells (Tregs) — The Key Discovery

- Shimon Sakaguchi (1995) identified a special subset of immune cells called Regulatory T-cells (CD4<sup>+</sup> Tregs).
- These cells suppress overactive immune responses, preventing "friendly fire" inside the body.
- He showed that removing Tregs from mice caused fatal autoimmune disorders proving their vital role in self-control of immunity.

## 3. FOXP3 Gene Discovery

- Mary Brunkow and Fred Ramsdell (1999–2001) studied "scurfy mice" male mice that died of severe autoimmune disorders shortly after birth.
- They discovered mutations in a previously unknown gene, which they named FOXP3.
- FOXP3 acts as a molecular switch controlling the development and function of Tregs.
- Loss of FOXP3 leads to immune collapse the body starts attacking its own organs.

## 4. Linking to Human Disease

- Human patients with FOXP3 mutations were found to suffer from IPEX Syndrome (Immune dysregulation, Polyendocrinopathy, Enteropathy, X-linked syndrome) a fatal autoimmune condition.
- This proved FOXP3's essential role in immune self-tolerance across species.

## Scientific and Clinical Impact

## 1. Redefining the Immune System

- The laureates' work shifted the view of immunity from a "fight-only" system to a balanced ecosystem of activation and restraint.
- Immunity is not just offense it needs regulation to maintain internal harmony.

## 2. Therapeutic Applications

#### Autoimmune Diseases:

 Experimental therapies aim to expand or stabilize Tregs to reduce harmful inflammation without suppressing the whole immune system.

#### Organ Transplantation:

Engineered Tregs are used to improve graft acceptance while preventing rejection.

#### Cancer Immunotherapy:

- Some cancers exploit Tregs to suppress the immune attack.
- Researchers are now testing depletion or reprogramming of tumour-associated Tregs to strengthen anti-cancer immunity.

#### 3. Clinical Trials & Future Medicine

- Dozens of trials now explore cell-based Treg therapies for type-1 diabetes, multiple sclerosis, and organ transplants.
- These are considered the next frontier of precision immunotherapy.

Year	Nobel in Immunology/Medicine	Discovery
1908	Ilya Mechnikov, Paul Ehrlich	Discovery of phagocytosis (immunity mechanism)
1960	Burnet & Medawar	Concept of acquired immune tolerance
1987	Susumu Tonegawa	Genetic basis of antibody diversity
2018	James Allison & Tasuku Honjo	Immune checkpoint therapy for cancer
2025	Brunkow, Ramsdell, Sakaguchi	FOXP3 and Treg-mediated immune restraint

#### PM calls CJL says incident has 'angered all Indians'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dialled Chief Instice of India (CID B.R. Gavai following a violent incident aimed at the latter on the Supreme Court premises on Monday. Mr. Modi condemned

the attack and appreciated the calm displayed by Cit

In a post on X, Prime Mi-nuter Modi said the attack on Cil Gavai had "angered every Indian".

Spoke to Chief harries "Spoke to Chief Justice of India Justice B.K. Gaval Ji. The attack on him earlier today in the Supreme Gourt premises has angered every Indian, Thera is no place for such representation of the superior of the Committee of the Committee of the Committee and the Laboratory II is sutterly condemnated. In appreciated the dain displayed by Justice Lawal In the face of which a situation of the Committee Commi tion, it highlights his com-mitment to the values of justice and strengthening the spirit of our Constitu-tion," the Frime Minister

Mr. Modi's call and post came after Chief Justice Ga-vat was attacked by a la-

#### Advocate throws papers at CJI-led Bench, raises slogan

The incident, which occurred during court proceedings, comes amid controversy over CJI Gavais recent remarks in Vishnu idel restoration matter. Bar Council of India suspends Bakesh Kishore

an object resembling a sheaf of papers was flung at a Supreme Court Bench of Chief Justice of India and fustice K. Vinod Chandran on Monday by a person present in the courtroom.

CJI remains unfazed

selves to urge Mr. Singh to

saying some words, includ-ing "Rabul Gandhi".

The accused continue beating him, saying that "everyone here is with Balsa".

Rac Bareli MP and Lead-er of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rabul Gandhi

spoke with the family of spoke with the family of the deceared and assured them help and support.

Shi Tahud Gandhi I today spoke on phome to the faith-of and limither of the youth killed in this shorman mas-tened to their pain and consoled them. Its assured the family that Gongress bird them in the support of the paint of the con-traction of the con-traction



e trithe assaudt on judicial. violates constitutional values of decorum and discipline

cannot be tolerated, it con-stitutes a direct assault on judicial independence, vio-lates constitutional values of decorum and disci-pline," the Supreme Court far Association linked the

har Associated the CP's ear-lier oral remarks, Meanwhile, the Bar

"The not pay attention to such things, Please carry on. If we are not per-turbed, why are your Just support," he Cit fold the dis-tipore," he Cit fold the dis-the court form.
"I was more rattled than the ledges," Mr. Singh re-counted large." The individual, identi-ted as a devocate folders in a hour "Samataria" while he about "Samataria" while he also the support of the in open court that he be-lieved in all faiths and "true secularism". "This incident, report-"This incident, report, edy sterming from a mis-guided backlash against the Chief Justies's functions observations in the Khafu craise Vision kido Restora-tion matter, where His Lordship emphasised res-pect for all religions and clarified his remarks amid social meetis distortions, cannot be tolerated, it con-

controon.

The incident occurred while the Brench was in the process of hearing oral neutrinning listed before it. The day started as usual, though an bour lister 1,30 a.m. The court had recepted after a week-long holiday, and many upport cases had been limited up for hearing.

The court had recepted after a week-long holiday, and many upport cases had been limited up for hearing.

The property of the left added of the french while the haddes of the french whil the Bench while the judges were turned to their right, hearing advocate Shivam

Singh mention his case for an urgent listing. ing excerted out of the court room by security personnel. The CIPs recent remarks The CJI and Justice Chan-dran made an initial excla-mation of surprise, but quickly collected them-

about a Vishnu idol had at-After incessant social media outrage for almost two days thereafter, Chief histics Gavai had explained

Chilly surprise

sued an interim suspen-sion order signed by its Chairman, sentor advessate Manan Eumar Mishra, against Mr. Kishore, who is enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi, under the Advocates Act, 1961 and the Bar Council of India Rules on Standards of Pro-fessional Conduct and ES

resalmond Constitut and Bit-queste. The BCC order even-nald Mr. Kishore retrieved to the Control of the Control of the Control of the Control templese's in but them dur-ing court proceedings. It was a support of hostic Artific Pasayari tnow retired during the hearing of a train was taken into-essation. We can be a support of the Control of the present in the Control of the present in the Control of the Control of the Control of the Control of the present in the Control of the present in the Control of the Control of the present in the Control of the C coming of a member of the Bar and strikes at the very foundation of mutual respect that sustains the rela tionship between the Bench and the Bar," it said and urged the top court to take suo more cognisance and initiate proceedings for contempt of court.

#### Attack on CJI shows bigotry and fanaticism engulfing society, says Congress chief

Opposition leaders on Monday strongly con-demned the strompted at-tack on Chtef Justice of In-dia B.R. Gavai, with Congress president Malli-karjun Kharge saying the "shameful" and "mindess" act reflects the "hateanaticion and bigotry" en-

osciety in the past decade,"
Mr. Kharge wrote on X.
Congress Parliamentary
Party Chairperson Sonia
Gandhi, said no words
were adequate to con-

ulling the society.
Calling the buildent "un-

paring the society, and the precedentic, shamed and abhoreous. Market and abhoreous abho "The allence of the

Prime Minister, the Home Minister and the Law Mi-nister is, to say the least, surprising," he said.

unist Party of India (CPI) general secretary D. Raja, on X, said the at-tempted assault was not

merely an attack on an in-dividual judge, but "a chal-lenge before the entire jud-iciary to abide by the right-wing's code of con-duct tostead of the Consti-tution of bodie."

Mattibuspun Kharge

denin the attack.

must stand in solidarity with CII unitedly with a deep sense of anguish and currage," Ms. Gandhi said.
Former Law Minister Eagli Stala, who is an inde-said the said the said

CPL CPRM) condemn

ranges of the assailant the which ideology drives such hate. The communal and casteist poison spread by the right-wing has reached a stage where even the CR a Dulit Judge, is openly tar

geted. This mindset must be exposed, isolated, and defeated for the sake of its

defeated for the nake of ju-tice in saciety," Mr. Baja and on X.

In a statement, the CPI (M) Polit Bureau demand-ed action against the la-wyer for targeting the Chief haster.

"The recent utterances of RPI Chief Miniaters, Mi-nisters, and benders pro-noring caucus, Manuvadi. example of the Manuvad and communal venom in jected into society by Hin dutya communal forces. It also reflects the Sangh Par var's intolerance and un willingness to accept any

#### Three policemen in Rae Bareli suspended over Dalit man's death

#### The Hindu Buryau

The Rae Bareli police on Sunday suspended three police personnel, includ-ing a sub-inspector, after a death on suspicion of their in the Unchahar police station limits on Wednesday. The Station House Offic-

The Station House Officer, Saminy Kurnar, was also removed from his post.
Uprome erupted after the 16-year-old man was because to feath and the people have been airouted in the matter.

The accused includes people from Dall/Hackwards and different context, when the people from Dall/Hackwards and different context.

spread caste rumour, please cooperate with the pedice in maintaining law and order," the Rae Barell police said in a statement. In a video of the inci-



#### any cost, "Raha's people" abould listen carefully," said the Uttar Pradesh Con-Tourists were in for a surprise as an early speti of snowfall spread a white blanket over Gulmarg's meadow on Monday. An unusual chill grapped the Kashinir kalley, with daytime temperature dropping from 30 degrees Colsius to 12.5 degrees Colsius, SMAN HISTAN

Saurabh Trivedi

#### Odisha CM unveils ₹1.100 cr. development package for Nuapada

#### Batyamindar Barih

Ahead of the byelection in the Numpada Assembly Minister Rajendra Dhola kia, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Majhi on Monday

Mohan Majiti on Monday antounced the upgrada-tion of three major areas to urban status and unveiled development projects worth \$1,100 crore for the western Odisha district. "I antonaise upgrading the Notified Council Area of the Mohan Marketinia for Komma block head-counterex rows and creation quarteex rows and creation or Romins Dicks reading quarters town and creation of another NAC in the name of Sinapali by taking Sinapali and Godal gram panetusyats of Nuapada district, said Mr. Majhi while addressing a public

meeting in Nuapada. Before the Model Code

guda Mahotsav in April this year, I had visited the district and inaugurated pro-jects worth \$3.20 crore. To-day again, I have announced projects worth a total of f1,100 cross for

Nuapada Assembly con

Nuapada Assembly con-stituency is part of Kala-handi Lok Sabha seat.
The 45,100-crose pack-age includes the inaugura-tion of 109 projects con-structed at a cost of rever field crose and the founda-tion depring of 30 new per-cepts, Similarly, 4802 cross is allocated exclusively for tribution.

irrigation.

For administrative convenience, it has been decided to open sub-registration offices in all talestic of the State. In the first phase, this service is being launched today in Sinapali of Nuapada district." Mr

#### 'Operation Sindoor demonstrated Indian Army's AI-driven capabilities'

#### Saurabh Trivedi SEW OKLHI

The Indian Army has em-barked on a major moder-nisation drive under its \*Decade of Transforma ton" initiative, focusing on automation, digitisation. and the adoption of energ-ing technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data Analytics to enhance operational reads eral Rajiv Kornar Sahni, Di-

Monday.
He said that the years 2024-202h have been de-clared the "Year of Tech-nology Absorption", atmed at ensuring techno-



initiative runs in parallel with the Ministry of De-fence's "Year of Reforms",

multiplier for the Army, demonstrated during Op-eration Sindoor, where Albased tools enhanced sur-veillance, intelligence, and precision targeting. Key systems include the Elec-

tion, focusing on areas that reduce risk to personnel and improve decision mak-ing, while maintaining ingful human control strong ethical

and strong ethical governance.

To sustain this digital shift, personned are being upskilled in Al and data acience, and a belence Al Governance Council is be-ing established to align

systems include the Itle-tronic Intelligence Colla-tion and Analysis System agrated with Project Sah-IAY), and predictive mo-delting and weather delting and weather which improved coordina-tion and disastonal aware-ment, he said with earlier properties of the ton and disastonal aware-ment, he said with earlier properties of the Army is pursuing responsi-tle further said that the Army is pursuing responsi-te and properties of the properties of the control of the Army is pursuing responsi-ted and placed Al adrop 2004.

## and security cooperation declaration nior official said delibera-tions during the visit are expected to cover major hi-lateral and regional issues, metallicar controls.

India, Australia to sign joint defence

Australia has acknow-ledged india's growing cap-abilities in producing high-end defence equipment, signalling potential for greater engagement with Indian defence manufac-turers in the future. While Canberra has traditionally

Remath Singh relied on American and Mr. Singh will be on a two-day visit on Ostober 3 and 10, during which he will meet Australian Depu-ty Prime Minister and Mi-nister for Defenses Richard Markes in Sydney and ob-serve live air to air refuell Royal Australian Air Porce (RAAP) RC-30A milli-role tunker. serve live air to air refuelling activities aboard a Royal Australian Air Porce (RAAP) KC30A multi-role tanker. It inting at broader attar right discussions, the se

to education, sports, and

#### Maritime strategy Australia and India are also

developing a Maritime Se-curity Read Map to enmaritime domain awareness in the Indian Ocean. toward a new Joint Decla-ration on Defence and Se-curity Cooperation to set the parameters for future

#### including countries of mu-tual concern.

one of the strongest pillars of our partnership. Austra lia and India base emerges as top-tier security partn-ers, with defence engage-ments more than tripling in the past decade – from It activities in 2014 to 33 in 2004," and a source. "Our partnership enhances each other's strategic autonomy, options, and cagabilities. The Air to Air the chartening and the control of the control of

# Advocate throws papers at CJI-led Bench, raises slogan

The incident, which occurred during court proceedings, comes amid controversy over CJI Gavaïs recent remarks in Vishnu idol restoration matter; Bar Council of India suspends Rakesh Kishore

#### The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

n a shocking incident, an object resembling a sheaf of papers was flung at a Supreme Court Bench of Chief Justice of India and Justice K. Vinod Chandran on Monday by a person present in the courtroom.

The incident occurred while the Bench was in the process of hearing oral mentioning listed before it.

The day started as usual, though an hour later than usual court hours, at 11.30 a.m. The court had reopened after a week-long holiday, and many urgent cases had been lined up for hearing.

The offending object flew in from the left side of the Bench while the judges were turned to their right, hearing advocate Shivam Singh mention his case for an urgent listing.

#### CJI remains unfazed

The CJI and Justice Chandran made an initial exclamation of surprise, but quickly collected themselves to urge Mr. Singh to continue his mentioning.



It [the incident] constitutes a direct assault on judicial independence, violates constitutional values of decorum and discipline

THE SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION

"Do not pay attention to such things. Please carry on...If we are not perturbed, why are you? Just ignore," the CJI told the distracted lawyers present in the court room.

"I was more rattled than the judges," Mr. Singh recounted later.

The individual, identified as advocate Rakesh Kishore, raised slogans about "Sanatana" while being escorted out of the court room by security personnel.

The CJI's recent remarks about a Vishnu idol had attracted controversy.

After incessant social media outrage for almost two days thereafter, Chief Justice Gavai had explained in open court that he believed in all faiths and "true secularism".

"This incident, reportedly stemming from a misguided backlash against the Chief Justice's judicious observations in the Khajuraho Vishnu Idol Restoration matter, where His Lordship emphasised respect for all religions and clarified his remarks amid social media distortions, cannot be tolerated. It constitutes a direct assault on judicial independence, violates constitutional values of decorum and discipline," the Supreme Court Bar Association linked the incident with the CII's earlier oral remarks.

Meanwhile, the Bar

Council of India (BCI) issued an interim suspension order signed by its Chairman, senior advocate Manan Kumar Mishra, against Mr. Kishore, who is enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi, under the Advocates Act, 1961 and the Bar Council of India Rules on Standards of Professional Conduct and Etiquette. The BCI order even said Mr. Kishore removed his sports shoes and "attempted" to hurl them during court proceedings.

In 2009, a woman had thrown a slipper at Justice Arijit Pasayat (now retired) during the hearing of a contempt case. The woman was taken into custody.

The Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) expressed its deep anguish. "Such conduct is unbecoming of a member of the Bar and strikes at the very foundation of mutual respect that sustains the relationship between the Bench and the Bar," it said and urged the top court to take suo motu cognisance and initiate proceedings for contempt of court.

#### 1. Incident Overview

- During court proceedings, an object (reported as a shoe or sheaf of papers) was thrown at Chief
   Justice of India B. R. Gavai and Justice K. Vinod Chandran. Reuters +2
- The act took place in the midst of oral mention hours in the Supreme Court.
- The assailant, identified as **Advocate Rakesh Kishore**, shouted slogans such as "Sanatan ka apmaan nahi sahega" ("We won't tolerate the insult to Sanatan Dharma") as he was escorted out.

## 2. CJI Gavai's Reaction & Court Response

- CJI Gavai remained composed. He asked those present to ignore the disturbance and carry on with proceedings. The Indian Express +2
- He stated he was not distracted, and noted nothing struck him directly.
- The court resumed work and the Registry initially decided not to press charges.

## P Background & Context

## Location & Temple:

The petition relates to the Javari Temple in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh — part of the Khajuraho Group of Monuments, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Wikipedia +2

Interestingly, the Javari Temple is originally a Shiva temple, but its main idol is now broken and headless, with a Vishnu statue remnant in the sanctum. Wikipedia +1

#### The Petition:

A petitioner, Rakesh Dalal, filed a plea in the Supreme Court seeking orders to reconstruct and reinstall (or "restore") a 7-foot tall beheaded idol of Lord Vishnu at the Javari Temple. www.ndtv.com +2

He argued the idol was mutilated during Mughal invasions and that despite repeated representations to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and government bodies, no restoration took place.

www.ndtv.com +3

The petitioner contended that failure to restore the idol infringed the fundamental right to worship for devotees. Live Law +2

## Legal & Institutional Issues Raised

#### Jurisdiction & Role of ASI:

The Court observed that **Khajuraho monuments and their conservation fall under the purview of ASI**, which regulates permissible interventions, preservation norms, and archaeological permissions.

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Live Law +3
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The bench questioned whether the replacement or reconstruction would violate **conservation rules** or the **antiquity/archaeological norms**. Live Law +3

#### Public Interest / PIL vs Private Interest:

The Court characterized the plea as a "publicity interest litigation" (i.e. seeking attention rather than raising a core legal issue) and said it would not entertain such pleas unless they involve genuine legal questions. Live Law +3

#### Separation of Powers / Judicial Overreach:

The bench was wary of judicial overreach into heritage conservation decisions, given that technical, domain-specific matters ought to be handled by experts (like ASI) rather than courts directly dictating restoration.

Live Law +2

#### Religious Sentiment vs Legal Remedy:

The petitioner's plea invoked **devotees' right to worship** and religious sentiment. The bench, in response, made the remark **"go and ask the deity to do something now"** — which was criticized by many as insensitive to faith-based claims. www.ndtv.com +3

## Key Legal & Policy Implications

#### 1. Limits of Judicial Intervention in Heritage Matters

Courts may decline to intervene in highly technical or domain-specific restoration work (stone conservation, authenticity, material compatibility) better left to experts.

#### 2. Public Interest Litigation Standards

The case underscores that courts may reject PILs that appear driven by publicity or lacking legal substance.

#### 3. Religious Sentiment and Judicial Commentary

The controversy highlights the need for sensitivity in judicial speech when matters involve faith or symbolism.

#### 4. Devotees' Claims vs Heritage Conservation Norms

There is tension between **devotees' emotional/religious claims** and **conservation ethics** (e.g. not reconstructing speculative forms, preserving original material).

#### 5. Role of ASI and Conservation Authority

The petition and its dismissal reaffirm ASI's **exclusive domain and control** over archaeological sites, including decisions on restoration, permissible materials, and structural integrity.

now, the U.E.'s House of commons passed the rminally III Adults third o Life) Hill, reigniting a global conversation about exthanasia: The proposed law permits physician assisted dying for mentally competent adults expected to live fewer than six months, subject to medical certification and oversight by a national panel. While it is await approval from the House of Lords

appriced from the Bosse of Locks
the Bill marks a hold legal and
sorral step that many western
While toda has recognised
passive enthanness through a
sories of Supreme Court
from the suprement active
from the suprement suprement
from the suprement
fro

Practical inaccessibility Passive euthanada permits the withdrawal of life-sustaining withcrawal of the sustaining treatment when it merely prolongs suffering, it is not an act of killing but an allowance for death to take he natural course. Yes, despite legal recognition, procedural requirements, such as advance discourse that the describes, dual modical

For patients in terminal stages or their families, these delays amount to cruelty. The law, though sound in principle, is often hollow in practice. Reports from tertiary hospitals suggest that in most cases, families are forced to most classe, families are forced to make decisions informally and outside the legal brancovers, thus a supposition the supposition of the position. The absence of an efficient implementation system enclose the very sligative the law rounds the very sligative the law true LLE, model, while progressive, rests on strong institutional supports such as the Sotional Health horvice, surioweal

access to general practitioners.



India's constitutional promise of diguty in life must extend to dignity in dying and a reliable regulatory framework. India's healthcare system is fragmented, uneven, and under-resourced. Moreover, its societal context – marked by ensitivities, and varying literacy tevels - makes end-of-life choices more complex. Introducing active exthanasia, even with saleguards may inadvertently pressurise the elderly, disabled, or financially dependent to opt for death. As

dependent to opf for dwalt. As intelligible is expensive and palliative care underdeveloped, the palliative care underdeveloped, dellemmas of corricton. There are also jurispradential concerns. While Article 2 of the to life and has been interpreted to to life and has been interpreted to located the right to die with care to the palliative to mean a right to the with to supprete Court has been cautious in monitoring the distinction commission, between allowing commission, between the wings. commission, between allowing death and causing death. The Indian approach reflects a careful othical conservation suited to the realities of the country.

Charting its own course Charting its own course kather than expanding into active earliering, inclin should focus on refining its justice estibanusia protocol. A humane, efficient system can be built by leveraging signial tasks and streamlining procedures. There is already growing consensus among medical professionals and legal scholars that the present system is

too cumbertome.
Advance directives should be registered on a national digital portal, linked with Aadhaar for portal, listed with Author for biomeric verification. This system should allow patients to create, update, or revoke their directive easily. A treating physician should easily. A treating physician should easily the street ordina. Hospital eribes committees, considing of anoise doctors, a palliative care specialist, and a neutral third party, should be withdrawal of life support within withdrawal of life support within

48 hours. Exceptional cases can be flagged for further scrutiny. Although a State-level ombudsman was initially recovered for coveright for his

proposed for oversight, India's experience with ombudaman schemes in banking and insurance has been mixed. Delays, limited enforcement powers, and public unfamiliarity have marred their effectivenesis, Instead, a more transparent, decembralued evelow mechanism — porthags built into the control of effectiveness instead, a more

remain part of the process to prevent missise and ensure decisions are fully informed. These align with international heat practices and help address fears of abuse, especially among vulnerable populations.

The way forward inche's constitutional promise of dignity in life muse content to dignity in dying. Reforming peasive extinuasias does not require india to instanc the U.K.'s active studianasis model, but it does compel it to make the current framework workship. Digitally driven procedures, local hospital based ethics review, and effective (but not burdensome) oversight can make end-of-life decisions more accessible and humane. This path is constitue with Indian values, safeguards against abuse, and empowers patients without risking exploitation. In addition, medical exploitation. In addition, medical education must integrate training in end-of-life care, including ethical and logal components. Public awareness campaigns are essential to normalize discussions on advance care planning. Without public trust and awareness, even the best laws will fall to acrete their purpose.

#### We need an urban climate emergency fund

Disaster recovery cannot depend on ad hoc grants or delayed relief measures

STATE OF PLAY

ours of localised flood-ing across Hyderahad during the 2025 mon-sion marsoned residents, damaged reads, forced busishringed roads, forced businesses to close, and distripted electric supply for dop. This electric supply for dop. This minder of how rainfall pat-ferns have shifted in Telanga-na. The severage moracou-through the 20th century was through the 20th century was \$6.88 cm, but over the last 25 years, the city has recorded an accentises debate the extent to which this shift is striptically of the column of the columns. the cause is less pressing than

the cause is tess pressing than the coincequence.

In Myderabad, the base-ments of high-rise apartments were flooded and care were swept swey. And as always, the pose, particularly those who live along the Musi River and lake bods, were impacted better the properties of the property beams amblines; documents. home appliances, documents, and vehicles. For families in areas such as Moosa Nagar, Chaderghat, and Rishanbagh, which are on the edge of the river, flooding means a lost school year for children, rising cases of water-borne diseases, and the struggle to rebuild their lives with no insurance

Hyderabad's valinerability is the result of willful ignorance of the city's natural gradient and watersheeds, declared of city's control gradient and watersheeds, declared of city's control regulations. By obtain too lakes and encineating on storm water drains, the city has systematically dismantled its natural floodwater flow partners. Shifting cabifall patterns.

Telangana

are aggravating the problem. The State government's creation of the hydrarbad Discourage of the hydrarbad Discoura the Bathukamma Kunta lake, which offers a glimmer of hope. Yet, these interventions cannot unde the damage cansel over decades. For in-stance, the main office of the Hyderahud Metropolitan De-velopment Authority was built in the 1970s on what used to be one of the four lakes in the

be one of the four lakes in the American irea... In this way, and Climate change is making. Climate change is making. Climate change of the con-ling to rule of the con-ling to rule of the con-ling of the con-line of the con-line of the con-tended of the cernment is incorporating cb-mate resilience into urban planning and infrastructure

planning and infrastructure development to address recur-ring issues such as flooding, vasierlogging and damage to the response, the Minister of State for Motifica, Tothan fa-lus, and that urban affats fall under the purview of the State under the purview of the State bodies. The only financial commitment that the Canal transition of the Committee of the Com-traction of the Com-tr

ti lakh crore, aimed at imple menting proposals for 'Cities as Growth Hube', 'Creative Re-development of Cities', and 'Water and Sanitation', "This fund finances up to 25% of the of the cost is funded from bonds, bank loans, and Public

Private Partnership," he said.
What Hyderahad and other
urban areas need is a dedicated climate emergency fund.
Cities should be able to draw
from such a fund for both
short-term reconstruction and
long-term adaptation. Disaster recovery cannot depend on ad hoc grants or delayed relief measures. If extreme events are going to be the new nor-

mal. Auding mechanisms need to reflect that reality. Building resilience is a key challenge, and the Telangana government's Musi Rivertroni Development Plan embodies this effort. The plan aligns this effort. The pean aligns with the MoHUAT document of 2022, 'River Centric Urban Planning Guidelines', which factored in climate change and suggested the creation of active and passive sucreationed Yes, securing funding has proved to be difficult. Without bstantial commitment from the Centre, projects such as this risk becoming cosmetic.

this risk becoming coamete.
Indian cities are engines of
economic growth: they are
home to over a third of the
country's population and provide most of the jobs in the invide misst of the jobs in the in-formal sector. But without cli-matic resiliences, these engines will stall. The story of hydror-hist's fleudest streets is not just about pour strainage — it is about a development model that requires urgent funds to tide even the climate emergen-cy unfolding in front of us.

#### Crimes against children surge in Assam, Rajasthan, and Kerala

A rise in the number of cases does not always mean a rise in the number of crimes; it may also indicate better reporting

#### DATA POINT

Devyanski Bihani

propert rise in three States -Assem, Rejection and Kerels, accessing to the latest data from the nal Crimes Records Bureau.

In Assam, reserveded eases of crimes against children surged by nearly 190% – from an average of around 8, 190 Coases between 2008 2023. In Kerals, the number in-creased by 196% – from a average of more than 2,800 Cases between coases in 2023. In Balantian, the number increased by 70% – from a average of 8,200 Cases between 2018 and 2022 to more than 10 company from tween the In Assam, recorded cases of

In comparison, overall record-ed cases of crimes against children in India increased by 25% in that period. Map 1 shows the percen-tage change in cases of crimes against children in 2023 compared fagainst children in 2023 compared with the average number of cases recorded between 2018 and 2022. While these three States stand out, the reasons for the rise in each of

them vary considerably.

In Assam, a record crackshown on child marriage led to a sharprise in the monther of cases Ried under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006. In fact, a close look at Assam's crime data against took at Assaurs crime that against children shows that the spike was striven almost entirely by this State-led intervention. Between 2020 and 2022, about 150 cases were recorded armully in Assam under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, this increment to 5,267 in 2023. That year, cases related to child marriage accumited for nearly 829 of all crimes against children in the State, a dramatic pump from 3-4% in the proceeding years, as shown in Chart 2.

In Rajasthan, two key factors appear to have driven the rise. The first in the audion shift in the way Marriage Act, this increased to

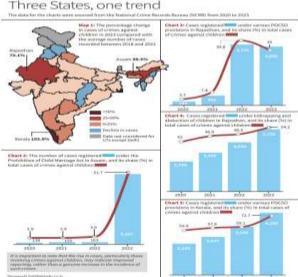
offences against children were ca-tegorised – from only non-POCSO sections to specific POCSO provi-sions, POCSO refers to the Protecsions, Potest refers to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012. In 2021 and 2022, over 2,700 cases were filed separately under the rape provision (Section 376 of the Indian Penal (Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code). However, in 2022 and 2023, no cases were filed independently under this section; instead, there was a corresponding rise in case registered under the relevant POC was a corresponding rise in cases registered under the relevant POC-SO provision. Cases filed under section 4 and 6 of the POCSO ACI Section 4 o

provisions to invokring relevant sections of the POCSSO Act. was sections of the POCSSO Act. was sections of the POCSSO Act. was set to be proposed to the pro

in total crimes against children climbing to over 84% in 2023 - a

steep increase (Chart 4).
There was a surge in POCSO cases in Kerala too. The increase appears partly linked to more ac der specific POCSO sections

der specifie PESSO sections, ac-companies by an increase in the reported states (Chart R).
It is important to note that the rise in cases, particularly those in-volving scrimes against children, may indicate improved reporting, rather than a genutine for case in the includence of such crimes.



#### FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Mindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGD OCTOBER 7, 1979.

#### Computer to aid quick recruitment by UPSC

New Delhi, Oct. 6: The Union Public Service Commission is applying its mind now on how best it can improve the efficiency of its recruitment processes. It is also considering measures to ensure speedy completion of rultment to various poins. After a great deal of study, it has finally been

After a great deal of study, it has finally been a cleated to go in for comporterising to achieve these two objectives. A contract for consultancy on the steps to be taken for computerisation has made to be computed to the contract for consultancy of the steps of the student statistical materials in calculate. To ensure a more meaningful scrutiny of applications received for scientific and technical professional professional section of applications received for scientific and technical personnel. Description of the scientific and technical personnel. Simulamentoly, the USS has initiated steps in committee a data bank on agreement in various to sension positions and who can be utilised for scientific for the scientific steps. The scientific scientifi

ompleted.

If has been the experience of the UPSC that If has been the experience of the UPSC that for some important posts, the right type of roome important posts, the right type of content to face agent competition of because the upscriped of the content to face agent competition of because the UPSC itself circulates periodically details of the UPSC itself circulates periodically details of the talent satisfies for the posts. The data bank will enable the UPSC to beep the names of such the talent satisfies for the post the name of such experience, the UPSC has found that this is a useful way of getting the most competent person for certain specialities.

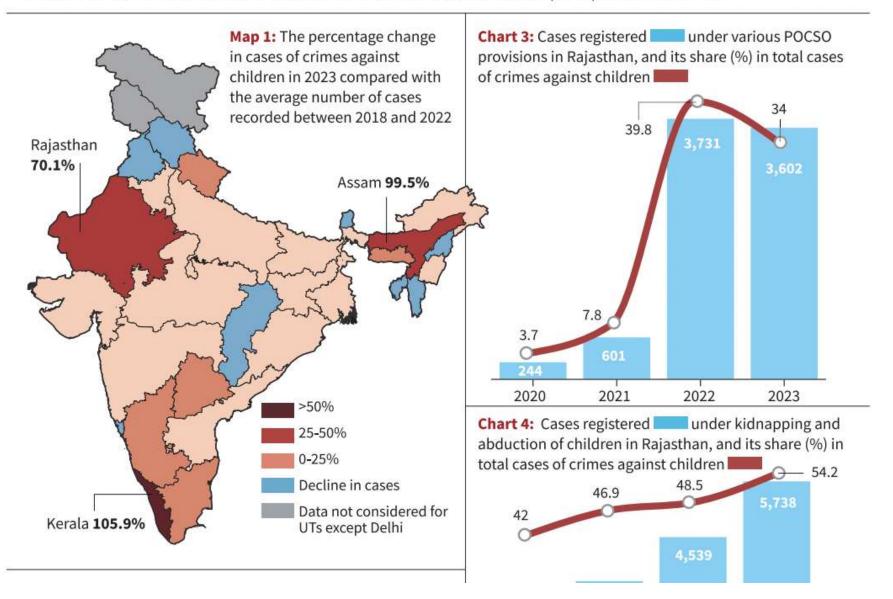
#### A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 7, 1925

#### Anti-malaria Congress

Rome, Oct. 6, The Apri-Malaria Congress closed. Rome, Gel. in the Ami-Malaria Congress course, after unanimously approving acceptance of invitation from Prance to hold the next conference at Algiers in 1000 on the occasion of the centenary of the French occupation of Algiers and the liftieth anniversary of the discovery of the parasite of Malaria in Algeria.

## Three States, one trend

The data for the charts were sourced from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) from 2020 to 2023



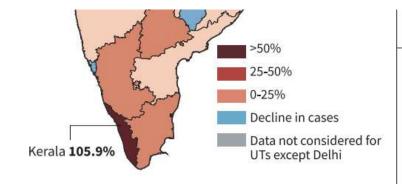
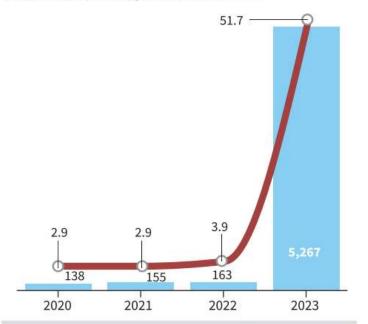
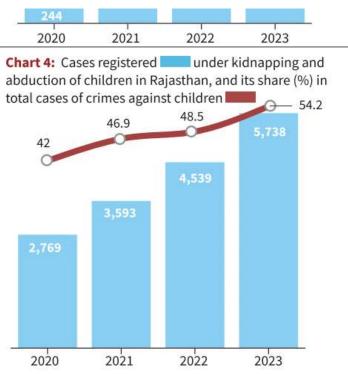


Chart 2: The number of cases registered under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act in Assam, and its share (%) in total cases of crimes against children

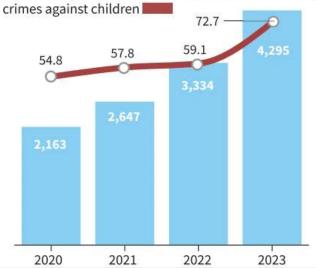


It is important to note that the rise in cases, particularly those involving crimes against children, may indicate improved reporting, rather than a genuine increase in the incidence of such crimes

Devyanshi.b@thehindu.co.in



**Chart 5:** Cases registered under various POCSO provisions in Kerala, and its share (%) in total cases of crimes against children



Source: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 2023

#### **Key Finding:**

Crimes against children saw the **sharpest rise** in **Assam, Rajasthan, and Kerala** — significantly higher than the **national average increase of 25%**.

## State-Wise Analysis

## 1. Assam

- Increase: ~100% (from ~5,100 cases in 2018–2022 avg. to >10,000 in 2023).
- Key Driver:
  - Crackdown on child marriage (Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006).
  - State recorded ~150 cases/year (2020–2022) under this Act, which jumped to 5,267 in 2023 —
    a 35x rise.
  - Child marriage cases alone = 52% of all crimes against children in Assam (previously 3–4%).
- Interpretation:
  - Reflects policy-led reporting surge, not necessarily an actual increase in crime.
  - Represents state enforcement activism.

## 2. Rajasthan

Increase: ~70% (from ~6,200 avg. cases in 2018–2022 to >10,500 in 2023).

#### Major Factors:

- Shift in legal classification cases moved from IPC (Sec. 376, rape) to POCSO Act (2012) sections.
- 2. Improved documentation from ~2,700 rape cases in 2021 to 3,500 in 2023.
- Spike in kidnapping/abduction cases, forming 54% of total crimes against children in 2023.

#### Legal Context:

- POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act made reporting more structured and transparent.
- Most cases were under Sections 4 & 6 of POCSO (aggravated penetrative sexual assault).

#### 3. Kerala

- Increase: ~106% (from ~2,800 avg. cases to ~5,900 in 2023).
- Primary Cause:
  - Better classification under POCSO provisions instead of general IPC sections.
  - Indicates more accurate data collection and heightened public awareness rather than more offences.

#### National Overview

- Overall rise: 25% in 2023 compared to 2018–2022 average.
- Key Trends:
  - Improved reporting and classification.
  - Greater awareness of child protection laws.
  - State-level enforcement drives (esp. Assam).
  - Rising cyber, sexual, and abduction-related offences.

## Legal Framework and Policy References

Act / Provision	Objective / Context
POCSO Act, 2012	Defines and criminalizes sexual offences against children; ensures child-friendly trial process.
Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006	Declares child marriage voidable and punishes those promoting or conducting such marriages.
Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015	Addresses child abuse, trafficking, and institutional care.
IPC Section 363-369	Deals with kidnapping and abduction.
IPC Section 376 (reclassified under POCSO)	Deals with rape; previously overlapped with child offences.

## Text&Context

THEMMONHINDU

#### NIEWWW IN NUMBERORS

Migrants who died on the Serbia-Croatia border since 2014

member of the European Urean, is a major trying to reach the political bloc. \*\*\*

Jobs shed by the UNHCR this year amid a funding crisis

displacement, humanitarian funding has been fest evaporating since U.S. President frump returned to office in January. 311

Persons killed in the landslides and floods in north Bengal

28, as disaster management personnel continued rescue operations on Monday with several people still missing and thousands of tourists stranded in cut-off hill pockets, officials said. \*\*\*

First-time voters in the upcoming Bihar Assembly election

transperent and peaceful menner, or

Number of Gaza flotilla activists deported by Israel

parall said is deported 172 more activists who were an aid flottle insure for Gaze. It address that the deported were CESARO of saveral countries, including (trees, flat), France and the U.S. ... COURTED OF THE HIRD DATA TOW

Follow us @ facebook.com/thehindu @ X.com/the.hindu @ instagram.com/the.hindu

#### Can a third party be liable for marital disruption?

What is the alienation of affection tort? Do States in the U.S. enforce this common law? Does the Delhi High Court's move go against the Supreme Court's

EXPLAINER

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What is alternation of affection? AoA is a term from common law referring to a "heart-balm" tort, which allows a spouse to sae a third party, usually the lover, for wilfully interfering in the marriage and causing loss of affection and companionship. The doctrine rests on the idea that marriage carries legal interests like consortion, intimacy, interests the consection, intitions, augment and a shared life, Notably, the indian legal framework neither codifies not probable and, set in Probable provided and a state of the Probable provided and a state of the Probable provided and a state of the probable provided and a state of the probable probable probable provided and a state of the probable provided and a state of the probable pro

How do U.S. courts view AoA? In the U.S. Courts view AGAF
in the U.S. AGA lawsuits remain in only a
few States, like Hewali, Mindesirgsi, New
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abolished them over the past century as abolished them over the past century as suddened or prime to abuse, in these states, for eviabilishing a claim, the aggrieved aposuse must prove three elements—(f) existence of genuine love elements—(f) existence of genuine love and GS that a third party's multi-love conduct caused the loss, in contract, States that have abolished AoA, through legislation or your rulings, consider such claims to be against public policy or marriage. Thus, U.S. courte stance on AoA varies, as a small number of course. regalements, while the majority reject it, treating marital breakdowns as private matters not suitable for compensation under tore

What did Supreme Court decide in Joseph Shine's case? In Joseph Shine versus Union of Dulia (2016), a five-judge Constitution Bench led by then Chief Justice of India (CID Dipak ny their Chief Justice of Holes CEP Justices, while their Holes CEP Justices of Holes Perud Code while distribute in remains a civil wrong and califying it remains a civil wrong and valid ground for divorce. In 2020, another love Judge Breith Headed by Jurmer CEP Sharah A. Hobbe dismissed review portions are meritions. Earlier, the law



punished a man with up to five years' impresentment he sexual relations with another mars wife, but exempted the another mars wife, but exempted the limit apply it if the married man engaged in sexual relations with an unmarried.

The 2018 looph shine wortlet held that consenual outrained in a surface of the consenual contamination was relationships are no longer criminal, that adultings shirting down the solvated provision, the Supreme Court highlighted provision, the Supreme Court highlighted entities or consents to his wife, exitance that differ, threeby creating a married wortland as the historical surface of the supremental of the supremental provision of the suprementa pinnacle," the top court reasoned it should remain only a ground for divorce not a crime. Thus, while decriminalised. adultery still carries civil consequences in family low or tort, as Joseph Shine did not expressly or impliedly foreclose such implications.

What did the Delhi High Court say? In Shelly Mahajari, the Delhi High Court lasted aumnons by taking a prima facie view that a spouse can sue the partners's paramous for interfering in the macringe and seek compensation. The HC clarified that while jought shime descriptional late that is a second of the court of extramitation features in the court of extramitation features free of cloth or extramitation features free of cloth or

legal implications. Matrimonial statutes like the Hindu Marriage Ast, 1955, offer remedies between spouses dor example, diverce), but none againse a third parry intruding into the marriage, the court further stressed. Since matrimonial laws like the Hindu

three matrimonal love like the Hindu-Matriaga Act, 1989, provide remedies only between spoisses, a rivil tort claim against a third party for such interference remains open, in the absence of a specific the Hindu Act, and the Hindu Act, and in the Hindu Act, and the Hindu Act, and inducement or misconduct by the dirth party that caused the marital breaklown. When one spouse claim to have suffered of the marital relationship, the law, under tort, recognises that compensation may tors, recognises that compensation may be sought from those alleged to have contributed to the breach, the court noted.
The ruling clatthed that while adultery

is decriminalised and not punishable by the state, it still carries civil consequences in India. These include loss of consortium laims, compensation suits like the AoA use, and the personal remedy of divorce, case, and the personal rementy of divorce, where a betrayed apones may petition the family court to dissolve the marriage on grounds of adultiny. Notes importantly, the IEC also hild down a three-fold test to decide such a claim. First, intendional and wrongful conduct by the paramour directed at alternating the martial

relationship of the aggricoed spouse. Second, clear causation linking that conduct to a legally cognisable injury to the aggrieved spouse. Third, the loss claimed is susceptible to rational

Who has jurisdiction to decide the

court cannot adjudicate a tort claim against a third person, and the civil cour-retains the jurisdiction. The Court added that if a spouse has a protectable interest in the marriage, third parties bear a correlative duty not to intentionally and wrongfully alienate that affection.

The tellit High Court's ruling marks a significant step in recognising civil recourse for spouses affected by interference in marriage. In opens the door for carefully framed claims that respect both personal automoray and marrial rights, offering a path for justice where harm has been caused. Shalibam shakin and Karrisky Kingh are largers based in New 1984. The Delhi High Court's ruling marks a

Alternation of Affaction is a term from common the reflecting to a "beart beart" for, which allows a spouse to save a trivial party, locally the lower, for writing entitle control of the same and the same same and consideration and companionship!

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## Can a third party be liable for marital disruption?

What is the alienation of affection tort? Do States in the U.S. enforce this common law? Does the Delhi High Court's move go against the Supreme Court's judgment in the Joseph Shine case? Can a family court decide damages against a third-party?

EXPLAINER

Kartikey hingh

The story so far:

ecently, the Delhi High Court GRC), in a first of its kind move in Shelly Mahajan versus MS Bhanushree Bohl & Anr. has opened the door for spouses to sock damages, in the civil sphere, from third parties who interfered in their marriage with malafide intention, causing its fireakdown. Overruling the objections to the suit's maintainability, the High Court issued summore in a wife's sait neeking damages for Allenation of Affection (AnA). against her husband's alleged affair partner. The decision revived an old Annio American concept: long abolished globally, purring the spotlight on a rarely tested legal idea in India. Seen as sidestepping the Supreme Court's. mandate in Joseph Skine versus Union of Nedla, it also raises fresh questions on whether Indian civil course can impose liability for third-party interference in

#### What is alienation of affection?

AsA is a term from common law referring to a "heart-balm" tors, which allows a spouse to one a third party, usually the lover, for wilfully interfering in the marriage and causing less of affection and companionship. The doctrine rests on the idea that marriage carries legal interests like consortium, intimacy, support and a shared life. Notably, the Indian legal framework neither codifies nor problim AoA, yet in Pinakir Molegianay Rangal versus State of Guianut (2013), the Supreme Court held that "alteration of affection by a stranger, if proved, is an innentional sort," in India Sarma sernas V.K.V. Sarma, the top court further noted that AoA could even give children a cause of action against a third party for allerating their father. However, the doctrine has never been used to award damages in India.

How do U.S. courts view AoA? In the U.S., AoA lawardts remain is only a few States, Eke Hawski, Minsteleppi, New Mexico, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Utah, while most others have abolished them over the past century as outdated or prone to abuse. In these States, for establishing a claim, the aggrieved speake trust prove three elements - (I) existence of genuine love and affection in the nurriage; (2) its loss; and 65 that a third party's malicious conduct caused the loss. In contrast, States that have abolished AoA, through legislation or court rulings, consider such claims to be against public policy or incompatible with modern views of marriage. Thus, U.S. courts' stance on ApA varies, as a small number of courts still uphold the tort with strict proof reanirements, while the majority reject it. treating murkal benaldowns as private matters not suitable for compensation

#### What did Supreme Court decide in Joseph Shine's case?

In Joseph Shine servas Union of India (2018), a five-sudge Constitution Bench led by then Chief Justice of India (CJD Dipak Misra decriminalised adultery, striking it from the Indian Penal Code while clarifying it remains a civil wrong and valid ground for divorce. In 2020, another tive judge Bench headed by former CE Sharad A. Bobde dismissed review petitions as merifless. Earlier, the law



punished a man with up to five years' Imprisorment for sexual relations with another man's wife, but exempted the consenting wife from prosecution and did not apply it if the married man engaged in several relations with an unmarried woman or widow.

The 2018 Jumph Shine weedlet held that concensual extramarital sexual relationships are no longer criminal, that is, no one can be juited or fined for adultery. Striking down the colonial provision, the Supreme Court highlighted that adultery is not a crime if the husband consilves or consents to fals wife's." extramarital affair, thereby treating a married woman as her husband's 'chartel'. Emphasizing that adultery is "absolutely a matter of privacy at its minnacle," the top court reasoned it. should remain only a ground for distance. not a crime. Thus, while decriminalised, adultery still carries civil consequences in family law or torr, as kweph Shine did not expressly or impliedly foreclose such introlleutions.

What did the Delhi High Court say? In Shelly Mahajan, the Delhi High Court issued summons by taking a petrus facte. view that a spouse can use the partner's paramote for interfering in the macriage and week compensation. The HC clarified that while Joseph Shine decriminalised adultery, it did not awart a licence for 'extramarkal relationships' free of civil or

legal implications. Matrimonial stances like the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, offer remedies between spouses (for example, disprest, but none against a third party intruding into the marriage, the court further stressed.

Since matrimonial laws like the Hindu Marriage Act, 1965, percide remedies only between spouses, a civil tort claim against a third party for each interference remains open, in the absence of a specific bur, the court further stressed, However, the HC also acknowledged an Important limitation that there has to be wrongful inducement or misconduct by the third party that caused the marital breakdown When one spouse claims to have suffered legal injury on account of the disruption of the murital relationship, the law, under tort, recognises that compensation may be sought from those alleged to have contributed to the breach, the court The ruling clarified that while adultery

a decrimination and not punishable by the state, it still carries civil consequences. in India. These include loss of consortium claims, compensation saks like the AnA case, and the personal remedy of divorce, where a betrayed upwase may petition the family court to dissolve the marriage on grounds of adultery. More importantly, the HC also laid down a three-fold test to decide such a claim, First, intentional and secondial conduct by the meanner directed at allemating the marital

relationship of the aggrieved spouse Second, clear causation linking that conduct to a legally cognisable injury to the aggrieved spouse. Third, the loss claimed is susceptible to rational

#### Who has jurisdiction to decide the AoA claim?

One key issue before the Delhi HC was whether AoA suits should up for trial in family exerts or civil courts, it held that family courts have exclusive jurisdiction over matrimonial causes between spouses idhorce, altmony, castody, etc.), but a claim against a third purry for interfering to a marriage is an independent civil. injury to tort), not arising from the murital relationship itself. Therefore, a family court cannot adjudicate a tort claim against a fried person, and the civil court retains the jurisdiction. The Court added that if a spouse has a protectable interest in the marriage, third parties bear a correlative duty not to intentionally and secondials alienate that affection.

The Delhi High Court's ruling marks a significant step in recognising civil recourse for spouses affected by sterference in marriage. It opens the door for carefully framed claims than respect both personal autonomy and marital rights, offering a path for sixtics where form has been carped.

Shubbarn Shukki and Kartikey Singh are Erwaers based in New Delhi

#### THEGIST

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## **Recent Development**

- The **Delhi High Court**, in a first-of-its-kind ruling (Shilpy Mohajan v. Suresh Bhushan Babu & Anr.), allowed a **spouse to sue a third party** for **damages due to interference in marriage**, known as "Alienation of Affection (AoA)".
- This marks a revival of a tort principle (civil wrong) that had long been considered obsolete in Indian law.
- The case arose when a wife sued her husband's alleged affair partner, claiming that the third party maliciously interfered in her marriage, leading to its breakdown.

## Understanding the Concept

#### 1. What is "Alienation of Affection"?

- Originates in common law (Anglo-American jurisprudence).
- It allows a spouse to sue a third party (paramour, family member, or outsider) who intentionally or maliciously causes loss of affection, companionship, or marital stability.
- The tort's rationale: marriage is a legally protected relationship; interference with it is actionable.

#### 2. Global Context

#### United States:

- Recognized in some states like Hawaii, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Utah.
- Other states have abolished it via legislation, citing it as archaic and intrusive.
- Courts require proof of malicious interference leading to loss of consortium (companionship).

#### United Kingdom:

Abolished this tort through the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1970.

## m Legal Reasoning in India

## 1. Historical Background

- Indian courts have occasionally referred to the concept through tortious interference, but no explicit statutory recognition exists.
- The Supreme Court in Joseph Shine v. Union of India (2018), which decriminalized adultery, clarified:
  - Adultery is a civil wrong, not a criminal offence.
  - A spouse may seek civil remedies (like divorce or damages) for such conduct.
  - · However, there is no punishment or imprisonment under criminal law.

#### 2. Key Statutes Involved

- Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 regulates rights between spouses.
- Special Marriage Act, 1954 provides civil remedies for breakdown.
- Tort Law (Common Law principles) invoked by courts in the absence of codified provisions.

## Delhi High Court's Observations (2025)

- The court recognized a limited right of a spouse to claim damages against a third party if malicious interference in marriage is proven.
- The Bench emphasized:
  - Marriage as a civil institution protected under personal and constitutional law.
  - Third-party interference causing mental agony, humiliation, or loss of companionship could amount to civil wrong.
  - The absence of a statutory bar does not prevent the civil court from awarding compensatory damages.

#### Caveats:

- The ruling does not criminalize adultery again.
- The claim will succeed only if the plaintiff proves deliberate inducement or interference by the third party.

# UPI goes live in Qatar for domestic retail payments

MUKESH JAGOTA Doha, October 6

THE UNITED PAYMENTS Interface (UPI), developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has gone live at retail stores in Qatar, marking the eighth country to implement the digital payment platform.

The system has been deployed in collaboration with the Qatar National Bank (QNB) and the first retail chain to deploy the payment system is LuLu Hypermarket, promoted by Indian-origin businessman Yusuffali MA.

In September, UPI acceptance was enabled at Qatar duty free outlets at Doha airport. Other nations where UPI has been deployed at select locations include Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the United Arab Emirates.

The expansion in Qatar highlights the growing global reach and interoperability of India's digital payment ecosystem, according to a statement from the LuLu group.

Local merchants, including



LuLu stores, stand to benefit from rising transaction volumes as Qatar's retail and tourism sectors adapt to growing demand for cashless, realtime payments.

QNB has integrated QR code-based UPI payments at point-of-sale (PoS) terminals for its merchant clients through a partnership with NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL). This initiative is powered by NETSTARS' payment solution, one of Japan's leading payment gateway providers. It offers StarPay, a comprehensive platform that supports various domestic and international QR code and cashless payment methods.

Commerce and industry

minister Piyush Goyal, who inaugurated the UPI payment facility at LuLu, said: "The launch of UPI has the potential to revolutionise trade between Qatar and India. It's an opportunity to expand our trust between the two nations because as we seamlessly integrate the payment systems of Qatar and India, our people will be able to trade more, trade smarter at lower cost."

He said with the UPI the movement of money and capital will be faster, almost on a real time basis with a "very very low" cost. He also emphasised that 830,000 Indians who live in Qatar will benefit from this launch as their remittances will become faster and at a lower cost.

Launched nine years ago, UPI has become a landmark success in India's digital economy. "About 85% of digital payments in India are routed through UPI, and nearly half of global digital transactions now take place on the platform," Goyal said. The system processes an average of 640 million transactions daily, he noted, adding that it hit a record one billion transactions on September 22.

#### 1. Major Development

- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI), developed by NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India), has officially gone live in Qatar.
- Qatar is now the 8th country to implement UPI for domestic digital payments.
- The launch took place on October 6, 2025, and was inaugurated by Commerce and Industry
   Minister Piyush Goyal in Doha.

#### 2. Institutional Collaboration

- Implemented jointly by:
  - Qatar National Bank (QNB) the largest financial institution in Qatar.
  - NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) the international arm of NPCI.
  - Lulu Hypermarket first retail chain in Qatar to integrate UPI, founded by Indian-origin businessman Yusuff Ali MA.
- NETSTARS Japan also supports UPI in Qatar through its global payment gateway, StarPay.

## 3. Scope & Functionality

- Use Case: Enables QR code-based UPI payments at Point of Sale (PoS) terminals in local Qatari
  retail stores.
- UPI will work for domestic retail purchases (not just for Indian tourists or NRIs).
- Integration allows instant transactions between Qatar and India, and within Qatar itself.

## 4. Economic & Strategic Significance

- For Qatar:
  - Boost to its cashless economy and retail digitization, particularly in tourism and hospitality sectors.
  - Aligns with Qatar's National Vision 2030 for digital transformation.
- For India:
  - Expands India's fintech diplomacy and the global footprint of UPI.
  - Strengthens bilateral trade and financial trust between India and Gulf nations.
  - Supports 830,000 Indian expatriates in Qatar by reducing remittance costs and delays.

#### 5. Statements by Piyush Goyal

- Described UPI as having the potential to revolutionize trade between India and Qatar.
- Emphasized that it enables "trade more, trade smarter, at lower cost."
- Claimed UPI facilitates faster cross-border capital movement at very low transaction costs.

#### 6. Global Expansion of UPI

- UPI is now operational in:
  - 1. Bhutan
  - 2. France
  - 3. Mauritius
  - 4. Nepal
  - Singapore
  - 6. Sri Lanka
  - 7. UAE
  - 8. Qatar (newest)
- Over 85% of India's digital payments and nearly half of global real-time digital transactions occur through UPI.
- In September 2025, UPI recorded 1 billion transactions in a single day a global benchmark.

UPI launched in India: 2016 by NPCI under RBI and IBA.



Regulator: NPCI (under RBI, Ministry of Finance oversight).



Average daily UPI transactions: ~640 million.



Top UPI apps in India: Google Pay, PhonePe, Paytm, Amazon Pay, BHIM.



Global UPI extension
body: NPCI
International
Payments Ltd. (NIPL).

# Word of the day

## Consortium:

an association of companies for some definite purpose

Synonyms: pool, syndicate

**Usage:** They formed a consortium to focus on the project.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/consortiumpro

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /kənˈsɔ:(ɹ).ʃəm/, /kənˈsɔ:(ɹ).ti.əm/



