

# Daily Current Affairs



जनसत्ता



The Indian EXPRESS

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS



5  
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**The Indian Express**



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**Jansatta**



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**Financial Express**



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### Part-5 Supreme Court Class-2 & Part-6 Governor

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### Part-5 Supreme Court

2024-06-08 at 11:00 AM

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## What you'll get

- Coverage of all major national and international events from **January 2025 to March 2026**
- **20 high-priority topics** explained in depth so you can handle both factual and analytical questions

### Topics to be Covered:

**1. Government Schemes (Flagship + New Launches)**

**2. Budget & Taxation**

**3. Economic Indicators**

**4. Reports & Indices (India's Rank)**

**5. International Affairs (India + Major Summits)**

**6. Science & Tech**

**7. Environment & Ecology**

**8. Polity & Constitution Updates**

**9. Awards & Honours**

**10. Sports**

**11. Banking & Financial Market**

**12. Defence**

**13. Appointments & Resignations**

**14. Books & Authors**

**15. Important Days & Themes**

**16. Government Committees**

**17. States in News**

**18. India Rankings & Lists**

**19. Sports + Govt Sports Schemes**

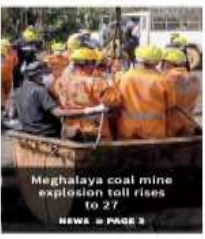
**20. Miscellaneous Must-Do**

- All video lectures will be delivered in bilingual format (Hindi + English) to ensure clarity and comfort for every learner.

ICC T20 WORLD CUP  
**Suryakumar  
swings it  
India's way**  
The skipper's stroke-filled innings  
reverses the host and propels it to a  
match-winning total against USA.  
SPORTS PAGE 12



Meghalaya coal mine  
explosion toll rises  
to 27  
NEWS PAGE 3



Abbas Araghchi, Iran's  
diplomat on a  
tightrope  
PROFILE PAGE 9

Loud music may  
damage your  
hearing  
SCIENCE PAGE 10

INSIDE  
**After 17 years,  
J&K govt. drops  
Dal Lake project**  
SRINAGAR  
The Jammu and Kashmir  
government has abandoned  
the ₹18.72 crore restoration  
plan for Dal Lake. Officials  
said the project was a  
question mark from National  
Conference legislator Tarek  
Saidi, 4, told the Assembly  
the project achieved "only 27%  
progress" in 17 years. ■ PAGE 6

**Kerala HC rejects  
plea on priests'  
temple entry**  
KOCHI  
The Kerala High Court has  
dismissed a plea challenging  
entry of Christian priests into a  
temple in Pathanamthitta in  
Kerala, alleging mismanagement  
of the Kerala Hindu Places of  
Public Worship (Authorisation  
of Entry) Act, 1964. ■ PAGE 4

# India, U.S. unveil framework for trade deal

Both countries commit to provide each other preferential market access on sustained basis | India intends to purchase U.S. products worth \$500 billion over the next five years | Framework reflects growing trust and dynamism of partnership; will generate jobs, says Modi

**J.L.A. Abhishek Singhania**  
NEW DELHI  
India will remove or reduce tariffs on all industrial goods and a wide range of agricultural goods imported from the United States, according to the joint statement issued by the two countries on Saturday morning.  
In return, the U.S. will reduce its tariffs on Indian imports to 10% from the existing 20% by amending the relevant executive order, the statement said. These commitments are part of the framework for the two countries have worked out in an Interim Agreement on trade.  
Notably, the joint statement also includes any mention of India's imports of Russian oil. However, President Donald Trump separately signed an amendment to an executive order — effective from February 7, 2020 — that removed the additional 25% tariff on imports from Russia, which had been imposed in August 2018.  
**Phased implementation**  
Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said

that the executive order that would reduce the remaining 25% reciprocal tariff to 10% is expected next week. Earlier, he had said that India will be able to reduce or remove its tariffs on American goods only after the formal Interim Agreement is signed, which he said is expected to happen in mid-March.  
Notably, the joint statement includes a specific clause that says that each country can modify its own commitments if the other country changes the agreed tariffs.  
"This framework reflects the growing depth, trust and dynamism of our partnership," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday.  
"It strengthens India's market access by opening new opportunities for India's hard-working farmers, entrepreneurs, MSMEs, startup innovators, fishermen and more. It will generate large-scale employment for women and youngsters."  
"India will eliminate or reduce tariffs on all U.S. industrial goods and a wide range of U.S. food and agricultural products, including dried distillers' grains, red sorghum for animal

feed, tree nuts, fresh and processed fruit, soybean and dairy products, and additional products," the joint statement said.  
"The United States and India commit to provide each other preferential market access in sectors of respective interest on a sustained basis," the statement said. "The United States and India will establish rules of origin that ensure that the benefits of the Agreement accrue predominantly to the United States and India."  
In a post on X, Mr. Goyal said the framework "reflects India's commitment to safeguarding farmers' interests and sustaining rural livelihoods by completely protecting sensitive agricultural and dairy products, including maize, wheat, rice, soy, poultry, milk, cheese, ethanol (fuel), tubers, fruits, vegetables, meat, etc."  
The joint statement said that the U.S. would reduce its tariffs to 10% on several imports from India, including textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, plastic and rubber, organic chemicals, home décor, animal products, and certain machinery.  
After the interim agreement is officially signed, the U.S. will remove tariffs on a wider range of goods, including generic pharma-

**Deal diary**  
India and the U.S. in a joint statement on Saturday, announced that the two countries have worked out the framework for an interim agreement on trade.  
■ The U.S. has already eliminated parts (20%) of its tariffs on Indian goods. India will be expected to reduce or remove its tariffs on American goods only after the formal Interim Agreement is signed, which he said is expected to happen in mid-March.  
■ Both countries can modify their commitments if one of them changes the agreed upon tariffs.  
■ India will reduce or remove its tariffs for U.S. goods only after a formal deal is signed.  
Daily in Hindi

**Deal has no item that can hurt farmers: Goyal**  
NEW DELHI  
The interim agreement between India and the U.S. will not include any item that will hurt Indian farmers, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said. He said there are several areas where farmers and MSMEs have received duty-free entry into the U.S. market. ■ PAGE 4

to address long-standing concerns between India and the U.S. will not include any item that will hurt Indian farmers, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said. He said there are several areas where farmers and MSMEs have received duty-free entry into the U.S. market. ■ PAGE 4

to address long-standing concerns between India and the U.S. will not include any item that will hurt Indian farmers, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said. He said there are several areas where farmers and MSMEs have received duty-free entry into the U.S. market. ■ PAGE 4

## SIR rules on parent mapping leave those raised in orphanages, charity homes in a fix

**Samparna Chakrabarti**  
NEW DELHI  
Mohammad Fahad Sheikh is in a fix. Rescued from a railway station and brought up in the government-run Subhayan Home for Boys in Dakshin Dinajpur district of West Bengal, he had to leave the shelter once he turned 18. He has a voter ID card and Aadhaar proving his own identity, but has no way to provide any evidence of his parents, as required for the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls currently under way in West Bengal and 11 other States and Union Territories.  
Unable to "map" either of his parents to the voters' list of 2002, when the SIR was carried out previously, Mr. Sheikh falls into the "unmapped" category and has now got a hearing notice from poll officials.  
With no lineage to claim in the SIR, it is up to the State to provide him with the necessary documentation, he says, adding when he might be identified.  
Under SIR rules, those born between 1987 and 2004 need to show their own documents and those of one of their parents,



while those born after 2004 need to show their own documents and those of both their parents if they are unmapped.  
Even if someone wants to register as a fresh voter by filling Form 6, a separate declaration has to be signed regarding the mapping of parents to the 2002 list.  
Many people like Mr. Sheikh, who were brought up in State-run orphanages and charity homes, are now facing the same conundrum, with no way to map their parents, as required by the rules.  
A 2016 study by the Ministry of Women and Child Development says there are approximately 5,500 child care institutions (CCI) in India (including government-run homes and NGO-supported homes), housing nearly 3.7 lakh children at any given time. Every year, thousands of "care-leavers" turn 18 and transition out of those homes.  
Election Commission officials have earlier said that in case of an orphan boy, the orphanage's name will be entered in the column for parents.  
However, there are no

specific guidelines regarding this, so what is unfolding on the ground is very different.  
Under Section 53 of the Juvenile Justice Act, CCI are required to assist children with regard to birth registration and to obtain proof of their identity, where required, in many cases, through such children are left to fend for themselves when they turn 18.  
Take the case of Bharat Jaitiya, who was picked up by the police in Ajmer as a young child. Abandoned by his parents, he was brought up at various shelter homes and completed Class 12 from the Institute for Human Rights in Jaipur.  
Though Mr. Jaitiya has Aadhaar and Class 10 and 12 certificates, he has not been able to submit Form 6 to register as a voter under the SIR, as he has to fill in a separate form with a declaration about his parents' names in the 2002-03 list when the last SIR was conducted.  
The EC's normal rule for orphans seeking to register as new voters says: "If an orphan is brought up from infancy in an orphanage and is not in a position to give the name of either of his parents, his name shall be entered into electoral roll, and under the column meant for father's/mother's/child's name, the name of the orphanage shall be mentioned."  
Under the SIR, however, even when fresh voters are being registered using Form 6, a separate declaration has to be signed regarding the mapping of parents to the 2002 list.  
"These people are born in this country and the government needs to consider them as citizens," says Vijay Goyal of the BHR.

## Dancing on Ice



Cool game: People of the ice skating rink at Laksh Bazar in Shimla on Saturday. The snow and rain caused a drop in daytime temperatures, with dense clouds covering the sky on Saturday. (PTI)

## Islamic State affiliate claims Pakistan suicide bombing

**Associated Press**  
ISLAMABAD  
An affiliate of the Islamic State group claimed responsibility overnight for a deadly suicide bombing inside a Shia mosque on the outskirts of Pakistan's capital that killed 36 people and wounded 160 others.  
Initially, 31 worshippers were reported killed, but authorities said that the toll rose to 36 after some critically injured died in hospitals.  
The police arrested three alleged facilitators and the mastermind of the attack. According to investigation officials, an identity card recovered from them helped establish the attacker's identity as Yasar, a 32-year-old from Peshawar.  
The regional Islamic State affiliate, known as Islamic State in Pakistan, claimed responsibility in a statement posted on its Amaq News Agency. It said the attacker detonated his explosive vest after reaching the mosque's inner gate. The Islamic State group suggested it viewed the Pakistani Shia as legitimate targets, calling them a "human reservoir".  
Investigators have also revealed that prior to the bombing, the attacker had remained in Afghanistan for approximately five months, where he allegedly received formal training in weapons handling and suicide attacks. (With PTI inputs)



# India, U.S. unveil framework for trade deal

Both countries commit to provide each other preferential market access on sustained basis

India intends to purchase U.S. products worth \$500 billion over the next five years

Framework reflects growing trust and dynamism of partnership; will generate jobs, says Modi

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan  
NEW DELHI

India will remove or reduce tariffs on all industrial goods and a "wide range" of agricultural goods imported from the United States, according to the joint statement issued by the two countries on Saturday morning.

In return, the U.S. will reduce its tariffs on Indian imports to 18% from the existing 50% by amending the relevant executive order, the statement said. These commitments are part of the framework the two countries have worked out in an Interim Agreement on trade.

Notably, the joint statement did not include any mention of India's imports of Russian oil. However, U.S. President Donald Trump separately signed an amendment to an executive order – effective from February 7, 2026 – that removed the additional 25% tariff on imports from India, which had been imposed in August 2025.

**Phased implementation**  
Speaking to presspersons on Saturday, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said

that the executive order that would reduce the remaining 25% reciprocal tariff to 18% is expected next week. Earlier, he had said that India will be able to reduce or remove its tariffs on American goods only after the formal Interim Agreement is signed, which he said is expected to happen in mid-March.

Notably, the joint statement includes a specific clause that says that each country can modify its own commitments if the other country changes the agreed tariffs.

"This framework reflects the growing depth, trust and dynamism of our partnership," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on X. "It strengthens 'Make in India' by opening new opportunities for India's hard-working farmers, entrepreneurs, MSMEs, StartUp innovators, fishermen and more. It will generate large-scale employment for women and youngsters."

"India will eliminate or reduce tariffs on all U.S. industrial goods and a wide range of U.S. food and agricultural products, including dried distillers' grains, red sorghum for animal

## Deal diary

India and the U.S., in a joint statement on Saturday, announced that the two countries have worked out the framework for an interim agreement on trade

■ The U.S. has already removed 25% tariffs; remaining 25% will be lowered to 18% 'next week'

■ India to reduce/remove tariffs for U.S. goods only after a formal deal is signed, likely in March

■ Sensitive agricultural items and dairy kept out of the deal

■ Both countries can modify their commitments if one of them changes the agreed-upon tariffs

■ Both countries agreed to continue working towards a larger Bilateral Trade Agreement



**Finer details:**  
Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal speaking about the details of the deal to presspersons in New Delhi. PTI

feed, tree nuts, fresh and processed fruit, soybean oil, wine and spirits, and additional products," the joint statement said.

"The United States and India commit to provide each other preferential market access in sectors of respective interest on a sustained basis," the statement said. "The United States and India will establish rules of origin that ensure that the benefits of the Agreement accrue predominantly to the United States and India."

In a post on X, Mr. Goyal said the framework "reflects India's commitment to safeguarding farmers' interests and sustaining ru-

ral livelihoods by completely protecting sensitive agricultural and dairy products, including maize, wheat, rice, soya, poultry, milk, cheese, ethanol (fuel), tobacco, certain vegetables, meat, etc".

The joint statement said that the U.S. would reduce its tariffs to 18% on several imports from India, including textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, plastic and rubber, organic chemicals, home décor, artisanal products, and certain machinery.

After the interim agreement is officially signed, the U.S. will remove tariffs on a wider range of goods, including generic pharma-

ceuticals, gems and diamonds, and aircraft and aircraft parts. In addition, the U.S. said it would remove tariffs on aluminium, steel, and copper.

### Non-tariff barriers

The joint statement said that the two countries would also address non-tariff barriers that affect trade between them.

India has agreed to address non-tariff barriers on the import of U.S. medical devices and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) goods.

"Recognising the importance of working together to resolve long-standing concerns, India also agrees

## Deal has no item that can hurt farmers: Goyal

NEW DELHI

The interim agreement between India and the U.S. will not include any item that will hurt Indian farmers, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said. He said there are several areas where farmers and MSMEs have received duty-free entry into the U.S. market. » PAGE 4

agreed to strengthen "economic security alignment" to enhance supply chain resilience and innovation through complementary actions "to address non-market policies of third parties", as well as cooperating on inbound and outbound investment reviews and export controls.

"India intends to purchase \$500 billion of U.S. energy products, aircraft and aircraft parts, precious metals, technology products, and coking coal over the next 5 years," the statement said. "India and the U.S. will significantly increase trade in technology products, including Graphics Processing Units (GPUs) and other goods used in data centers, and expand joint technology cooperation."

### Digital trade

The two countries also committed to addressing "discriminatory or burdensome" practices and other barriers to digital trade, and to set a "clear pathway" to achieve mutually beneficial digital trade rules as part of the BTA.

**SKM ANNOUNCES PROTEST**

» PAGE 4

to address long-standing non-tariff barriers to the trade in U.S. food and agricultural products," the statement said.

The statement added that the two countries would work towards "further expanding market access opportunities" through negotiations on a more comprehensive Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).

"The U.S. affirms that it intends to take into consideration, during the negotiations of the BTA, India's request that the U.S. continue to work to lower tariffs on Indian goods," the statement said.

The two countries also

# THE DEAL SCORECARD

**55%**

Indian exports to benefit from tariff cut

**\$45 bn**

India's current imports from US

**\$100 bn**

Annual imports from US needed, to meet target of \$500 bn over 5 years

## WHERE INDIA GAINS

Wider US market access for rice, seafood, spices, processed foods

Big tariff relief for textiles, apparel and leather

Zero-duty access for generic drugs

Near-zero tariffs revive gems, and jewellery exports

Preferential quota eases auto-part duties

No reciprocal tariffs on Indian farm and food exports

US lifts select aircraft and aviation-part tariffs

## WHERE INDIA LOSES

Cuts back on cheaper Russian oil imports

With tariff relief for US fruit, soybean oil, farmer angst likely

Cheaper US solar gear to hit domestic sector

US industrial goods to swamp Indian market

Regulatory and IP alignment pressure

Digital trade rules curb India's tech-policy space

US chips, AI hardware, energy equipment gain advantage



# TARIFF CUTS, TRADE-OFFS & THE ROAD AHEAD

## INDIA'S KEY EXPORTS & WHERE IT GAINS

## US'S GAINS

	Value of exports (\$bn)	Tariff	
		Now (%)	New (%)
Textiles, leather, chemicals, marine products	30	MFN+50 reciprocal	MFN+18 reciprocal
Diamonds, some auto parts & machinery, aircraft parts, tea, coffee, spices, banana, cocoa, mushrooms, guava*	14	MFN+50 reciprocal	Zero
Smartphones, pharma	26	Zero	Zero
Minerals, agri products	4	Zero	Zero
Steel, aluminium, copper	12	50	50

Over 90% industrial goods	Tariff elimination + duty cuts over 10 years + reduction based on quotas
Cars over 3,000cc	Cut to 30% over 10 years, with quotas
Alcohol	Duty cut with minimum import price
Apples, cotton	Duty cuts for specified quantities
No concessions	Wheat, rice, corn, soybean, poultry, meat, bananas, strawberry, cherries, green peas, moong, kabuli chana, oilseeds, tobacco, ethanol, dairy products

(\*some items moved to 2nd segment)

MFN is product-specific tariff applied on imports from all countries

## THE ROADMAP



25% 'secondary tariff' (for Russian oil) is removed



25% reciprocal tariff to be cut to 18% in next few days



Zero-duty access for Indian exports after final agreement is signed, likely mid-March



India to cut duty on US exports once the final deal is signed in March

“ The agreement reflects India's commitment to safeguarding farmers' interests and sustaining rural livelihoods by completely protecting sensitive agricultural and dairy products, including maize, wheat, rice, soya, poultry, milk, cheese, ethanol (fuel), tobacco, certain vegetables, meat

—PIYUSH GOYAL, commerce minister



## WHERE INDIA-US TRADE STANDS NOW

Exports remain strong so far, even as trade surplus narrows and monthly shipments fluctuate

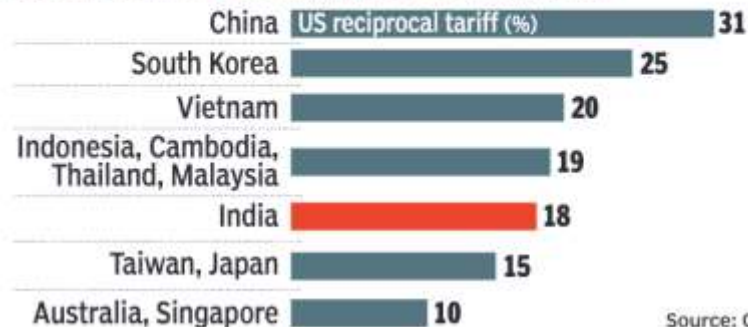
### INDIA-US TRADE (\$BN)



### HOW INDIA'S EXPORTS MOVED SINCE APRIL (\$BN)



### INDIA VERSUS COMPETING COUNTRIES



Source: Govt

## ■ HISTORICAL EVOLUTION

### Phase 1: Early Years (1947-1991)

- **1947:** Diplomatic relations established post-independence
- **1960s:** US wheat exports during drought; Green Revolution support
- **1962:** US aided India in Indo-China War
- **1974:** Relations strained after India's nuclear tests
- **Cold War Era:** India's non-alignment limited economic ties

### Phase 2: Post-Liberalization (1991-2005)

- **1991:** India's economic liberalization begins
- **1998:** Nuclear tests; sanctions imposed then lifted
- **2000:** President Clinton visits India
- **2004:** India declines Major Non-NATO Ally status
- Trade doubled from \$14 billion (2000) to significant growth

### Phase 3: Strategic Partnership (2005-2025)

- **2005:** US-India Civil Nuclear Deal announced
- **2009:** First Strategic Dialogue established
- **2014:** Modi-Obama partnership; goal of \$500B trade
- **2016:** India designated Major Defense Partner
- **2018:** India moved to Tier-1 Strategic Trade Authorization
- **2023:** Modi's state visit to US; COMPACT initiative
- **2025:** Trade war erupts; Trump imposes 50% tariffs

## Tariff Structure

- **US Tariffs on India:** Reduced from 50% → 18%
- **Additional 25% penalty:** Removed (was for Russian oil)
- **Zero tariff items:** Generic pharma, gems, diamonds, aircraft parts
- **India's commitment:** Eliminate/reduce tariffs on US industrial goods
- **Agriculture:** Zero tariffs on tree nuts, wine, spirits, fruits, vegetables

## Major Commitments

### India to purchase \$500 billion US goods over 5 years

- **Energy:** Replace Russian oil with US/Venezuela oil
- **Aircraft:** \$80 billion Boeing orders ready
- **Defense:** Significant procurement planned
- **Technology:** GPUs, data center equipment, semiconductors
- **Coking Coal:** Industrial requirements

## ■ ECONOMICS & TRADE DATA

### Overall Trade Statistics (2024)

**Total Bilateral Trade: \$212.3 billion (↑8.3% from 2023)**

- **Goods Trade:** \$128.9 billion
- **Services Trade:** \$83.4 billion
- **US Trade Deficit with India:** \$45.8 billion (goods)

### FY 2024-25 Data (April-March)

**India-US Bilateral Trade: \$132.2 billion**

- **India's Exports to US:** \$86.51 billion (↑ from \$77.51B)
- **India's Imports from US:** \$45.69 billion
- **Trade Surplus for India:** \$40.82 billion
- **Number of commodities exported:** 7,174

### Investment Flows

- **US FDI in India (2000-2025):** \$70.65 billion (3rd largest investor)
- **2023-24 FDI:** \$6.04 billion (9% of total FDI)
- **Employment:** US affiliates in India: 1.7M; Indian affiliates in US: 81,000

Trade grew from \$20 billion (2000) to \$132 billion (2024-25)  
CAGR: 15% overall | Services: 20% | Goods: 11%

## ■ INDIA'S EXPORTS TO USA

### Top Export Categories (2024)

- **1. Pharmaceuticals & Medicines:** Leading export item
- **2. Manufactured Goods:** Textiles, apparel, leather goods
- **3. IT Equipment:** Computer hardware, electronics
- **4. Gems & Jewelry:** Diamonds, precious stones
- **5. Textile & Apparel:** Garments, home furnishings
- **6. Organic Chemicals:** Industrial chemicals
- **7. Iron & Steel:** Flat-rolled products
- **8. Machinery:** Various machinery types
- **9. Artisanal Products:** Home décor items
- **10. Rubber & Plastic Products**

### Services Exports

**Services Exports: \$41.8 billion (2024) ↑15.9%**

- **IT Services:** Software development, tech services
- **Business Services:** R&D, consulting, BPO
- **Professional Services:** Engineering, architectural

- 
- **Education Services:** Indian students in US



# ■ INDIA'S IMPORTS FROM USA

## Top Import Categories (2024)

- **1. Oil & Gas:** Crude oil, LNG, petroleum products
- **2. Aerospace Products & Parts:** Aircraft, engines, components
- **3. Coal & Petroleum Gases:** Coking coal
- **4. Basic Chemicals:** Industrial chemicals
- **5. Precious Metals:** Gold, silver
- **6. Nuclear Reactors:** Heavy machinery
- **7. Technology Products:** GPUs, semiconductors
- **8. Medical Devices:** Advanced healthcare equipment
- **9. Defense Equipment:** Military technology
- **10. Agricultural Products:** Tree nuts, pulses, fruits

## Strategic Imports

- **Energy:** Hydrocarbon trade \$13.6B (FY 2023-24)
- **Defense:** \$1B+ transport aircraft, amphibious vessels
- **Education:** Significant spending by Indian students in US
- **Technology:** Critical for data centers, AI infrastructure

## ■■ BENEFITS TO INDIA

### Economic Benefits

- **Tariff Relief:** 18% vs 50% = 32% reduction; saves billions
- **Export Competitiveness:** Better than Pakistan (19%), Vietnam (20%), Bangladesh (20%)
- **Market Access:** Access to \$30 trillion US economy
- **Job Creation:** Hundreds of thousands of new jobs expected
- **Rupee Stabilization:** Deal reduced currency volatility
- **Stock Market Boost:** Sensex/Nifty gains from reduced uncertainty

### Sectoral Benefits

**Protected Sectors:** Textiles, leather, footwear, organic chemicals, home décor, artisanal products, machinery

- **MSMEs:** Relief for small & medium enterprises
- **Pharmaceuticals:** Zero tariffs on generics
- **Gems & Jewelry:** Zero tariff advantage
- **Technology:** Access to cutting-edge GPUs, semiconductors
- **Agriculture:** Sensitive sectors protected (wheat, rice, maize, dairy)

### Strategic Benefits

- **FDI Inflows:** Expected billions for data centers, nuclear energy
- **Supply Chain Integration:** Alternative to China in global chains
- **Technology Transfer:** Semiconductor, defense innovation
- **Defense Cooperation:** Co-production, critical minerals access
- **Quad Strengthening:** Enhanced Indo-Pacific partnership

## ■■ BENEFITS TO USA

### Economic Benefits

#### \$500 Billion Indian Procurement Commitment (5 years)

- **Energy Exports:** LNG, crude oil replacing Russian supply
- **Aircraft Sales:** \$80 billion Boeing orders ready
- **Agricultural Exports:** Zero tariffs on tree nuts, wine, fruits, vegetables
- **Trade Deficit Reduction:** Addressing \$45.8B goods deficit
- **Job Creation:** Manufacturing, energy, agriculture sectors

### Strategic Benefits

- **Geopolitical:** Countering China in Indo-Pacific
- **Energy Security:** Displacing Russian oil from Indian market
- **Defense Partnership:** Strengthening Major Defense Partner status
- **Technology Alliance:** Joint AI, semiconductor cooperation
- **Supply Chain:** Reducing China dependency

- 
- **Democratic Alliance:** World's largest democracies united

## ■■ CHALLENGES & CONCERNS

### Implementation Uncertainties

- **Details Unclear:** Many specifics not confirmed by both sides
- **Different Narratives:** Trump vs Modi claims differ
- **No Formal Date:** Joint statement timing uncertain
- **Legal Questions:** Congressional approval may be needed
- **Trump's Track Record:** Previous reversals (South Korea example)

### For India - Concerns

**Domestic Opposition:** Farmer unions oppose agricultural market opening

- **Russian Relations:** Strain with Moscow over oil reduction
- **S-400 Missile Issue:** Defense dependency on Russia
- **Strategic Autonomy:** Erosion of non-aligned foreign policy
- **Agriculture Vulnerability:** Dairy, wheat, rice sectors at risk
- **Import Bill Stress:** \$500B commitment may strain CAD
- **Opposition Criticism:** Rahul Gandhi calls it 'surrender'
- **Over-dependence Risk:** Too reliant on US market

## ■ KEY FRAMEWORKS & INITIATIVES

### Defense Cooperation

- **LEMOA:** Logistics Exchange Memorandum (2016)
- **COMCASA:** Communications Compatibility (2018)
- **BECA:** Basic Exchange Cooperation Agreement (2020)
- **ISA:** Industrial Security Annex
- **INDUS-X:** Defense technology innovation ecosystem
- **COMPACT:** Cooperation for Military Partnership & Tech
- **10-Year Framework:** New defense deal expected 2025

### Bilateral Mechanisms

- **2+2 Dialogue:** Defense & foreign ministers annual meeting
- **Trade Policy Forum:** 14 ministerial meetings held
- **Economic & Financial Partnership:** 9 rounds completed
- **CEO Forum:** Business engagement platform

### Technology & Clean Energy

- **iCET:** Initiative on Critical & Emerging Technologies
- **SCEP:** Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (5 pillars)
- **Semiconductor Collaboration:** \$825M US investment commitment
- **Space Cooperation:** ISRO-CSpOC collaboration on debris
- **AI Partnership:** Joint development initiatives

### Military Exercises

- **Yudh Abhyas:** Army exercise (20th edition in 2024)
- **Vajra Prahar:** Special Forces exercise
- **Malabar:** Naval exercise (with Japan, Australia)
- India has largest number of military exercises with US

## Critical Acronyms

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- **BTA:** Bilateral Trade Agreement
- **ITA:** Interim Trade Agreement
- **MDP:** Major Defense Partner
- **USTR:** US Trade Representative
- **NTB:** Non-Tariff Barriers
- **SPS:** Sanitary & Phytosanitary Measures
- **IP:** Intellectual Property
- **FDI:** Foreign Direct Investment
- **CAD:** Current Account Deficit

**SELECTION IN JAPAN**  
**Takaichi set for a big victory; exit polls**  
WORLD » PAGE 14

**CASTE ENUMERATION**  
**Language and culture key for survey, says Professor Devy**  
NEWS » PAGE 8

**DATA POINT**  
**The Centre and the margins**  
An analysis of regional distribution of national majorities in Lok Sabha  
OPINION » PAGE 9

**INSIDE**

**U.K. PM's top aide quits over envoy's links to Epstein**  
LONDON  
British Prime Minister Kate Cameron's Chief of Staff, Morgan Miles, has quit his job on Sunday after the revelation that his former aide, Jeffrey Epstein, was involved in a series of sex scandals.

**Police told to find owners of illegal Meghalaya mines**  
GUWAHATI  
The police in Meghalaya's East Jaintia hills district, the hub of a coal mining boom, have been told to hunt down owners of illegal coal mines.

**Blind woman tops merit list to become judge**  
BANGALORE  
Lawyer Thyaya Nathan C. may enter the annals of Kerala's judicial history as the first visually-challenged woman judge.

**Country will soon be free from Naxalism, says Shah**  
DELHI  
Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday chaired a high-level security review meeting to discuss the government's strategy to counter Naxalism in the country.

**India and Malaysia sign pacts to expand ties**

The two countries sign agreements in critical areas, including defence and semiconductors

**India and Malaysia on Sunday signed a range of key agreements, including a framework pact for deeper engagement in the semiconductor sector.** Mr. Modi, who arrived in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday, and Mr. Ibrahim appreciated efforts to promote the usage of local currencies — the Indian rupee and Malaysian ringgit — for trade settlement. "We will pave the way for economic transaction through strategic trade," Mr. Modi said, describing the India-Malaysia relationship as "special". During the visit, Mr. Modi met Malaysia's Indian-origin Ministers, MPs, and business and industry leaders. "We are maritime neighbours and have deep and cordial ties," he said in his media statement. Mr. Modi also announced India's decision to establish an Indian Consulate General in Kuala Lumpur. "This is a significant step in our bilateral relations," he said.



Shaking hands, Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves to the gathering before his departure from Malaysia on Sunday. PTI

**In Kuala Lumpur, Modi and Malaysian PM stress their efforts to promote trade in local currencies** growth) is an spectacular rise in the international trade opportunities," he said, describing the decision to use local currencies for bilateral trade as "bankable". In the talks, Malaysia's trade minister, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri, reiterated its support for India's permanent membership in a reformed United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Illustrating an engagement in the security domain, Mr. Modi said cooperation in counter-terrorism, intelligence sharing, and maritime security will be strengthened, adding that both sides will further expand defence ties. "Along with AI and digital technologies, we will advance partnerships in space, health, and food security," he said.

**Exciting contest**  
England overcomes the Nepal challenge  
SPORTS » PAGE 14

**Delightful escapade**

**Beating snails after the city smelted fresh snowfall on Sunday, skiers glide across Dal Lake in Srinagar with the Zabarwan mountains forming an impressive backdrop to the winter vista.** PTI



**Each Minister has his duty, says Goyal on trade deal, oil**

**Varadachari, George**  
Mumbai, Feb. 9  
T.N. Suresh Babu  
NEW DELHI



**Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar on Sunday denied allegations of friction between him and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, or that Ministers other than him did not know the contours of the trade deal with the U.S., telling The Hindu in an interview that "people have mixed up two different issues."** "If you ask the Agriculture Minister about the trade deal, he won't answer," he added. "If you ask me about what's happening with oil, he's the oil minister, I wouldn't be able to respond. I would have a general idea, but I would not like to make a statement on record without full knowledge of facts. Each person handles his own responsibility."

**BJP deletes Himanta video after stinging backlash**

**The Assam unit of the BJP has deleted a video, released on social media platforms, showing Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma appearing to shout at Muslims in a crowd photos on a wall displaying the words "No mercy".** One of the persons targeted appeared to be Assam Congress chief and Jorhat MP Gaurav Gogoi wearing a white skull cap. The video, uploaded late on Saturday, garnered more than 4,00,000 views and drew condemnation from Opposition leaders, activists, and professional groups. The BJP deleted the video, captioned "point blank shot" and writing with the Chief Minister dressed as a gunfighter and there shouldn't be any doubt about it in this case," he posted on X. Supriya Srinetia, Congress's chairperson for social media and digital platforms, said the video was proof of the BJP leader's character as "mass murderer". She added that deleting the video was not enough and asked if the courts and other institutions were asleep. Lawyer-activist Praashant Binshani said the Supreme Court should take no more notice of the video than it has done with similar cases, as it is not to be ignored as it is full content. "It is a serious criminal offence. Any Opposition leader who is involved in such a post would have been in jail under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act," he said. Tagging Malaysian

**State and Central agencies, he said, remaining Muslims must not be allowed to escape to other States.** Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Das Sai, Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, the Union Home Secretary, the Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs attended the meeting. The Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and National Investigation Agency (NIA) as well as Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Telangana, along with several ministers, were also present, the official added.

**Country will soon be free from Naxalism, says Shah**  
DELHI  
Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday chaired a high-level security review meeting to discuss the government's strategy to counter Naxalism in the country. "Today, in Raipur, I held a winter meeting with the Chhattisgarh government and officials on anti-Naxal operations. Security, economic strategy, infrastructure, attacks on Naxal financial network, and surrender policy have yielded positive results, and Naxalism is being completely eradicated before



Amit Shah. March 21. Mr. Shah wrote on X. The Home Minister said the country would soon be free from Naxalism, which had plunged provocations into the darkness of poverty and illiteracy. Mr. Shah said the ongoing fight against Naxalism must not be scattered. Emphasising the need for smooth coordination between various

# India and Malaysia sign pacts to expand ties

The two countries sign agreements in critical areas, including defence and semiconductors

In Kuala Lumpur, Modi and Malaysian PM stress their efforts to promote trade in local currencies

The PM announced that an Indian Consulate General is to be established in Malaysia soon

## Press Trust of India

KUALA LUMPUR

India and Malaysia on Sunday vowed to expand their ties in the high-priority sectors of trade and investment, defence, energy, advanced manufacturing and semiconductors with Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserting that both sides are committed to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

Following his wide-ranging talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, Mr. Modi reiterated India's position on combating terrorism as he said: "Our message on terrorism is clear; no double standard, no compromise." The two sides inked a total of 11 agreements and docu-

ments to expand cooperation in a range of key areas, including a framework pact for deeper engagement in the semiconductor sector.

Mr. Modi, who arrived in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday, and Mr. Ibrahim appreciated efforts to promote the usage of local currencies – the Indian rupee and Malaysian ringgit – for trade settlement.

"We will pave the way for economic transformation through strategic trust," Mr. Modi said, describing the India-Malaysia relationship as "special".

During the visit, Mr. Modi met Malaysia's Indian-origin Ministers, MPs, and Senators and interacted with four leading industry leaders.

"We are maritime neigh-



**Bidding adieu:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves to the gathering before his departure from Malaysia on Sunday. PTI

bours. For centuries, our peoples have had deep and cordial ties," he said in his media statement. Mr. Modi also announced India's decision to establish an Indian Consulate General in Malaysia. In his remarks,

Mr. Ibrahim noted India's economic growth and said his country would benefit immensely if it could secure more ways and opportunities to collaborate with New Delhi.

"It [India's economic

growth] is on spectacular rise in the international trade scene," he said, describing the decision to use local currencies for bilateral trade as "remarkable".

In the talks, Malaysia extended its support for India's permanent membership in a reformed United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Elaborating on engagement in the security domain, Mr. Modi said cooperation in counter-terrorism, intelligence sharing, and maritime security will be strengthened, adding that both sides will further expand defence ties.

"Along with AI and digital technologies, we will advance partnerships in semiconductors, health, and food security," he said,

noting that the discussions at the CEO Forum opened new opportunities for trade and investment.

The Prime Minister touched upon India's position on Indo-Pacific and its steadfast views on the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations's (ASEAN) centrality in the region. "The Indo-Pacific region is emerging as the world's growth engine. We, along with ASEAN, are committed to development, peace, and stability throughout the Indo-Pacific region," he said.

"With the support of friendly countries like Malaysia, India will further expand its relations with ASEAN. We agree that the review of the ASEAN-India Trade Agreement, ITIGA, should be completed expe-

ditiously," he added.

Mr. Modi said he and Mr. Ibrahim also had a "meaningful discussion" on regional and global issues. "In this environment of global instability, the growing friendship between India and Malaysia is of vital importance to both countries."

"We share the view that reform of global institutions is essential to address today's challenges. We will continue to support all efforts for peace. And our message on terrorism is clear: No double standard; no compromise," he added. "We appreciate your commitment to India-Malaysia relations. Let us together realise your dream of a prosperous Malaysia and our resolve for a developed India," he said.







Thailand

*South China Sea*

# Malaysia

Peninsular  
Malaysia

★ Kuala Lumpur

Singapore

Brunei

Sarawak

Sabah

Indonesia

<b>Capital</b> and largest city	Kuala Lumpur <sup>[fn 1]</sup> 📍 3°8′N 101°41′E
<b>Administrative center</b>	Putrajaya <sup>[fn 2]</sup> 📍 2°56′N 101°42′E
<b>National language</b> <b>(official)</b>	Malay <sup>[a][b][c]</sup>
<b>Recognised languages</b>	English <sup>[c]</sup>
<b>Ethnic groups</b> (2023) <sup>[2][3][4]</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>70.5% Bumiputera <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>57.3% Malay</li> <li>13.2% indigenous groups of Sabah, Sarawak, Orang Asli and other</li> </ul> </li> <li>22.9% Chinese</li> <li>6.6% Indian</li> </ul>
<b>Religion</b> (2020) <sup>[5][6]</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>63.5% Islam (official)<sup>[7]</sup></li> <li>18.7% Buddhism</li> <li>9.1% Christianity</li> <li>6.1% Hinduism</li> <li>0.9% other</li> <li>1.8% unknown</li> </ul>
<b>Demonym</b>	Malaysian
<b>Government</b>	Federal parliamentary constitutional elective monarchy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monarch</li> <li>• Prime Minister</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ibrahim Iskandar</li> <li>Anwar Ibrahim</li> </ul>
<b>Legislature</b>	Parliament
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper house</li> <li>• Lower house</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dewan Negara</li> <li>Dewan Rakyat</li> </ul>

<b>Independence</b> from the United Kingdom	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federation of Malaya</li> <li>• Sarawak self-governance</li> <li>• North Borneo self-governance</li> <li>• Proclamation of Malaysia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31 August 1957<sup>[8]</sup></li> <li>22 July 1963</li> <li>31 August 1963<sup>[9]</sup></li> <li>16 September 1963</li> </ul>
<b>Area</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total</li> <li>• Water (%)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>330,803<sup>[10][11]</sup> km<sup>2</sup> (127,724 sq mi) (67th)</li> <li>0.3</li> </ul>
<b>Population</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024 estimate</li> <li>• 2020 census</li> <li>• Density</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ 34,564,810<sup>[12]</sup> (43rd)</li> <li>32,447,385<sup>[13]</sup></li> <li>101/km<sup>2</sup> (261.6/sq mi) (116th)</li> </ul>
<b>GDP</b> (PPP)	2025 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total</li> <li>• Per capita</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ \$1.478 trillion<sup>[14]</sup> (30th)</li> <li>▲ \$43,665<sup>[14]</sup> (52nd)</li> </ul>
<b>GDP</b> (nominal)	2025 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total</li> <li>• Per capita</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ \$470,572 billion<sup>[14]</sup> (35th)</li> <li>▲ \$13,901<sup>[14]</sup> (76th)</li> </ul>
<b>Gini</b> (2024)	▼ 39.0 <sup>[15]</sup> medium inequality
<b>HDI</b> (2023)	▲ 0.819 <sup>[16]</sup> very high (67th)
<b>Currency</b>	Malaysian ringgit (RM) (MYR)

Period / Year

Ancient–14th c.

Key Event

Malay Peninsula part of early Indianised kingdoms; strong Hindu–Buddhist cultural influence via trade.

15th c.

**Malacca Sultanate** emerges as a major maritime trading hub; Islam spreads widely in the region.

1511

**Portuguese** capture Malacca, beginning European colonial control.

1641

**Dutch** take Malacca from the Portuguese.

1786–1824

**British** establish control (Penang, Malacca, Singapore); Straits Settlements formed.

1942–1945

**Japanese occupation** during World War II weakens British authority.

1948

**Federation of Malaya** created under British protection.

1957

**Independence of Malaya** from Britain (31 August).

1963

Formation of **Malaysia** by joining Malaya with **Sabah, Sarawak, and Singapore**.

1965

**Singapore exits** Malaysia to become an independent country.

1969

Ethnic riots lead to political reforms and **New Economic Policy (NEP)** for socio-economic balance.

1981–2003

**Mahathir Mohamad era**—rapid industrialisation and modernisation.

21st century

Consolidation as a **middle-income, export-oriented economy**; active ASEAN member.

- India and Malaysia signed multiple agreements/documents (reported as 11) to expand cooperation in key sectors.

भारत और मलेशिया ने प्रमुख क्षेत्रों में सहयोग बढ़ाने के लिए कई समझौते/दस्तावेज़ (कुल 11) साइन किए।

- Focus areas include trade & investment, defence, energy, advanced manufacturing, and semiconductors.

फोकस क्षेत्र: व्यापार-निवेश, रक्षा, ऊर्जा, उन्नत विनिर्माण और सेमीकंडक्टर।

- A framework pact was signed for deeper engagement in the semiconductor sector.

सेमीकंडक्टर क्षेत्र में गहरी साझेदारी के लिए एक फ्रेमवर्क समझौता किया गया।

- This supports supply-chain cooperation, technology collaboration, and industrial linkages.

यह सप्लाइ-चेन सहयोग, टेक्नोलॉजी साझेदारी और औद्योगिक कनेक्टिविटी को मजबूत करता है।

- The leaders stressed promoting bilateral trade settlement in local currencies (INR and Malaysian Ringgit).

नेताओं ने द्विपक्षीय व्यापार का निपटान स्थानीय मुद्राओं (रुपया और मलेशियाई रिंग्गिट) में बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया।

- This can reduce transaction costs, lower forex risk, and ease trade payments.

इससे लेन-देन लागत घट सकती है, फॉरेक्स जोखिम कम हो सकता है और भुगतान प्रक्रिया आसान हो सकती है।

- India announced that an Indian Consulate General will be established in Malaysia soon.  
भारत ने मलेशिया में जल्द ही भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास (Consulate General) स्थापित करने की घोषणा की।
  - This improves consular services, people-to-people links, and business facilitation.  
इससे कांसुलर सेवाएं, जन-जन संपर्क और व्यापार सुविधा बढ़ेगी।
- Security cooperation was highlighted: counter-terrorism, intelligence sharing, and maritime security.  
सुरक्षा सहयोग पर जोर: आतंकवाद-रोधी सहयोग, खुफिया जानकारी साझा करना और समुद्री सुरक्षा।
  - Both sides indicated defence ties will be further expanded.  
दोनों पक्षों ने रक्षा संबंधों को और विस्तार देने की बात कही।
- Malaysia expressed support for India's permanent membership in a reformed UN Security Council (UNSC).  
मलेशिया ने सुधारित संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (UNSC) में भारत की स्थायी सदस्यता के समर्थन की बात कही।
- Indo-Pacific and ASEAN centrality were referenced in the discussions as guiding regional principles.  
वार्ता में इंडो-पैसिफिक और ASEAN की "centrality" को क्षेत्रीय मार्गदर्शक सिद्धांत के रूप में रेखांकित किया गया।
- India and Malaysia noted opportunities opened through business/CEO-level engagement for trade and investment.  
भारत-मलेशिया ने व्यापार व निवेश के लिए बिज़नेस/CEO-स्तरीय संवाद से बने अवसरों को रेखांकित किया।
- The ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) review was mentioned as something to be completed expeditiously.

- **Geostrategic geography (भूगोल/रणनीति)**

- Malaysia's proximity to the **Strait of Malacca** is crucial because it is one of the world's busiest sea routes for trade and energy shipments.

मलेशिया मलक्का जलडमरूमध्य के निकट है, जो व्यापार और ऊर्जा-परिवहन का अत्यंत व्यस्त समुद्री मार्ग है।

- For India, safer sea lanes support **energy security, trade continuity, and Indo-Pacific strategy**.  
भारत के लिए सुरक्षित समुद्री मार्ग ऊर्जा सुरक्षा, व्यापार निरंतरता और इंडो-पैसिफिक रणनीति के लिए जरूरी हैं।

- **Economic logic (अर्थव्यवस्था)**

- Semiconductor cooperation matters as chips are critical inputs for **electronics, telecom, defence systems, automobiles, and AI**.

सेमीकंडक्टर सहयोग महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि चिप्स इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, टेलीकॉम, रक्षा, ऑटोमोबाइल और AI के लिए जरूरी इनपुट हैं।

- Local currency settlement can improve **payment efficiency**, but requires robust **financial plumbing** between banks.

स्थानीय मुद्रा निपटान भुगतान को कुशल बना सकता है, पर इसके लिए बैंकों के बीच मजबूत फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम चाहिए।

**BRIEF**

**Ghee adulteration an assault on Hindu faith: TDP leader**

TDP State president Palla Srinivasa Rao has lashed out at the previous YSRCP government for using adulterated ghee, synthetic substitutes, and chemical substances in the preparation of the sacred Tirumala laddu prasadam. "It is nothing but betrayal of the Hindu faith. To adulterate the prasadam of Lord Venkateswara... is among the most disgraceful acts witnessed under the YSRCP dispensation," Mr Srinivasa Rao said at a press conference on Saturday.

**Bird flu confirmed at two villages in Andhra Pradesh**

The Animal Husbandry Department on Sunday issued the millions of avian influenza (commonly called bird flu) at Amunagaripalli and Putlavariipalli villages in Anaparthi district of Andhra Pradesh. The National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases confirmed presence of the virus in samples. In a release, the Department of Animal Husbandry said Rapid Response Teams were deployed in the affected villages and culling was initiated.

**Comment on Kerala CM's diet choice spark a discussion**

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's dietary preferences became a subject of social media discussion on Sunday. Communist Party of India leader C. Divakaran sparked the debate by quipping that Mr. Vijayan preferred pricey fish to the day's commoner prawns. He suggested that the anecdote about Mr. Vijayan's food habits was part of his upcoming autobiography. Divakaran said his "jocular comments" were no judgment on Mr. Vijayan's proletarian past.

**Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi slams 'wrong' portrayal of Gandhiji in advertisements**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

As Karnataka recently witnessed a high-pitch media campaign by the Congress and the BJP using Mahatma Gandhi to air their views on the VRG-RAM G Act, the Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi has taken exception to the use of Mahatma Gandhi to serve political purposes and has expressed concern that the Mahatma was depicted in a bad manner. The Congress and the BJP had issued advertisements in media that centered on Gandhiji. The Congress advertisement used a fictional con-

**Cong. and BJP issued advertisements depicting Gandhiji to air their views on the VRG-RAM G Act**

versation with Gandhiji by one Sarangaya. An advertisement reference to the RSS in which Gandhiji opposes the new job scheme. In a counter attack, the BJP had issued an advertisement that showed Gandhiji raising a stick at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, and Congress president Mallikarjun

**'No critical evidence lost in Telangana forensic lab fire'**

Laboratory Director says no material on 2015 cash-for-vote or 2024 phone-tapping case was destroyed in the blaze. BJP leader alleges attempt to derail probe into case involving BRS leaders

**The Hindu Bureau**  
HYDERABAD

Telangana Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) director Shahu Goel on Sunday clarified that evidence linked to two high-profile cases at the centre of widespread rumours on social media remains safe and intact, following the fire that broke out at the laboratory in Nampally a day earlier.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Goel said no material connected to the 2015 cash-for-vote case or the 2024 phone-tapping case had been destroyed in the fire, countering speculation and "misinformation" circulating online since the fire.



Smoking the flames: A fire broke out at the forensic science laboratory at Nampally in Hyderabad on Saturday. (ASSOCIATED PRESS)

He said the fire affected the computer forensic laboratory, a training room and the library. A complaint has been lodged and a case registered at the Nampally police station. Referring to the cash-

for-vote case investigated by the Anti-Corruption Bureau, he said the FSL had received 116 material objects between March 2024 and January 2026. He said several items had already been returned to the authority concerned, while all material that was present at the FSL during the fire had been safely retrieved and secured.

Meanwhile, the BJP has demanded an independent and impartial probe into the accident. BJP State unit president N. Ramchander Rao said that the fire was a "deliberate attempt" to derail the investigation into the phone tapping case involving BRS leaders.

**Pilot, trainee injured after aircraft crashes in field in Karnataka village**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BELGAUM

A pilot and a trainee were injured when a training aircraft crashed in a field near Mangalooru village in Vijayanagara district of Karnataka on Sunday.

The police said the injured captain, Kunal Malhotra, and assistant flight instructor, and trainee Goutham Shankar to hospital. They suffered minor



Class shows: People gather around the wreckage of a private aircraft that crashed in Vijayanagara on Sunday. (PTI)

**Fresh pick**



First of the season: As the mango season approaches, a vendor arranges the season's first batch of mangoes on Jayaprakash Narayan Road in Bengaluru on Sunday. (AP/WIDE WORLD)

**The resolution calls for vigilance against ideologies seeking to undermine Islam's peaceful tradition**

warned that resolutions campaigns covertly promoting theology and the concept of 'political Islam' pose a serious challenge by attempting to alienate Muslims who adhere to the Koran, the mainstream. The resolution described "misguided" ideological streams as a grave threat, alleging that they misuse emotional expression and political narratives to mislead young Muslims. It also cautioned

**against intellectual infiltration carried out through platforms masquerading as neutral media and against agendas aimed at creating divisions**

Calling for ideological resistance, Samastha urged the community to uphold the legacy of tolerance and harmony associated with Abulhasan Ali Nadwi (founder of the organization). In a separate resolution, the conference reaffirmed that the true tradition of Abulhasan Ali Nadwi's methodology or path rests on following one of the four schools of Islamic jurisprudence.

**Visually challenged woman to become a judge in Kerala after topping merit list**

**K.S. Sudhi**  
KOCHI

Lawyer Thanya Nathan C. will most likely enter the annals of Kerala's judicial history as the first visually challenged woman judge. Ms. Nathan, who is totally blind, has been ranked first on the merit list of persons with benchmark disabilities in the recent judicial service examination for the selection of civil judges (Junior District) in the Kerala Judicial Service. Joyson Sajan, with cerebral palsy, came second. It was a landmark judgment by a Supreme Court Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahalingam in 2023 which ruled that "visually impaired candidates



Thanya Nathan C. had secured the first rank in her U.B. examination from Marathwada University, a social activist.

**Stand-off with DMK over seats may split T.N. Cong., says EPS**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
TIRUCHI/MADRAS

AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Sunday said the stand-off between the DMK and the Congress over seat-sharing for the coming Assembly election and the latter's demand for a share in power indicated that the situation might lead to yet another split in the southern party at the State level.

When asked if differences in the Congress over choosing an alliance partner between the DMK and the TVR) would lead to a split similar to how it chose to align with the AIADMK for the Assembly election in 1996, Mr. Palaniswami said the reports from various quarters suggested the Congress leaders on various demands and the contesting views expressed by the second-rung leaders of the DMK indicate the same. DMK MP Kamrathulhaq said the inclusion of the Congress leader Rajul Gandhi in New Delhi recently, but they could not find a solution. The Congress formed a committee to discuss seat-sharing with the DMK, but the seat-sharing talk is yet to begin," he told reporters at the Tiruchi airport.

On Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's assertion that the NDA would get nothing in the Assembly election, Mr. Palaniswami said it was for the people to decide the winners and losers, which will be known only after the counting of votes. He said they had already decided to derhone the DMK, and



Edappadi K. Palaniswami

The AIADMK would form the government with an absolute majority, he said. Asked whether the AIADMK alliance would take a final shape before the arrival of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was slated to address a meeting in Madurai on March 1, Mr. Palaniswami said the alliance led by his party had already taken shape with the inclusion of the PMK (Abulhasan faction) and the ADMK, and that talks were on with more parties. Their inclusion would take place in the run-up to the election.

Congress MP Manthannur Tagoor, who has of late been criticizing the DMK, said the national party had been patiently waiting for the DMK to begin seat-sharing talks. "AIAC formed the committee for seat-sharing on December 3, 2023, and we have been patiently waiting for 36 days. Congress never disrespects its allies," he told journalists in Madurai.

However, TNCC president K. Sathyanarayanan said the process of seat-sharing talks with the DMK was in progress, as in past elections.

**Reconsider demand on paddy bonus: Kerala CM**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Sunday asked the Union government to reconsider its demand that the additional bonus given by the State for paddy be discontinued.

Mr. Vijayan criticised the Centre's argument that excess paddy production would result in an expenditure on storage on the public exchequer. He also asked the Centre to explain whether its demand would impact the outcome of opening up the Indian market to American farm produce under the recent India-U.S. trade agreement.

**Church leader condemns 'rising attacks' on minorities on minorities**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
PATHANAMTHITTA

Theodosius Mar Thomas, Metropolitan of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church, has called upon the Christian community to uphold an ethical force of politics that makes no compromise with intolerance or communalism. Inaugurating the 10th Mar Thoma Convention in Pathanamthitta on Sunday, the annual Christian religious gathering held on the shores of the Pampa at Marayam, the bishop also expressed concern over the alarming rise in attacks on religious minorities in the country.

**Samastha passes resolution against Jamaat's ideology**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BANGALORE

The Samastha Kerala Jamiatul Ulama has passed a resolution strongly opposing the theocratic ideology propagated by the Jamaat-e-Islami, asserting that the Mahatma was depicted in a bad manner. The Congress and the BJP had issued advertisements in media that centered on Gandhiji. The Congress advertisement used a fictional con-

no visually challenged judges in Kerala," judicial sources said. "Overcoming her limitation, 24-year-old Ms. Nathan secured the first rank in the U.B. examination from Marathwada University. She began her practice as a junior to a lawyer at Talpacherry in Kerala. "My mentor and a few others encouraged me to take the recruitment exam. I studied law using the Braille system. Now, such technology has come to the aid of people like me, where screen readers, software helps us read texts," Ms. Nathan, who doesn't use a white cane to move around, told *The Hindu*. "It was a landmark judgment applied for the first time. Currently, there are

for the first time that a candidate with visual disability is clearing the judicial service examination in Kerala. It's not known whether such candidates had earlier applied for the post. Currently, there are



# Visually challenged woman to become a judge in Kerala after topping merit list

**K.S. Sudhi**

KOCHI

Lawyer Thanya Nathan C. will most likely enter the annals of Kerala's judicial history as the first visually challenged woman judge.

Ms. Nathan, who is totally blind, has been ranked first on the merit list of persons with benchmark disabilities in the recent judicial service examination for the selection of Civil Judges (Junior Division) in the Kerala Judicial Service. Joyson Sajan, with cerebral palsy, came second.

It was a landmark judgment by a Supreme Court Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan in 2025 which noted that "visually impaired candidates



Thanya Nathan C. had secured the first rank in her LL.B. examination from Kannur University. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

cannot be said to be 'not suitable' for judicial service and they are eligible to participate in selection for posts in judicial service". That paved the way for Ms. Nathan to become a judge.

"This should probably

be for the first time that a candidate with visual disability is clearing the judicial service examination in Kerala. It's not known whether such candidates had earlier applied for the post. Currently, there are

no visually challenged judges in Kerala," judicial sources said.

Overcoming her limitation, 24-year-old Ms. Nathan secured the first rank in the LL.B. examination from Kannur University. She began her practice as a junior to a lawyer at Taliparamba in Kannur.

"My senior and a few others encouraged me to take the recruitment exam. I studied law using the Braille system. Now, technology has come to the aid of people like me, where screen-reading software helps us read texts," Ms. Nathan, who does not need a white cane to move around, told *The Hindu*. "I am confident of overcoming the challenges."

Stage	Post / Designation	Typical Service Years	What happens at this stage
Entry	Civil Judge (Junior Division)	Year 0–5	Trial court work: civil & criminal cases at tehsil level
1st Promotion	Civil Judge (Senior Division)	Year 5–10	Handles higher-value civil suits and serious criminal matters
2nd Promotion	District Judge (Entry Level / Fast Track)	Year 10–13	May come via promotion or LDCE; handles sessions cases
Core District Judiciary	District & Sessions Judge	Year 13–20	Head of district judiciary; administrative + judicial powers
Senior District Level	Principal District Judge / Special Judge	Year 20–23	Important districts / special courts (CBI, NDPS, etc.)
Constitutional Elevation	High Court Judge	Year 23–30	Appointed under Article 217; constitutional court role
Apex Level	Judge, <b>Supreme Court of India</b>	Usually after 5–7 yrs as HC judge	Final interpreter of Constitution
Retirement	Supreme Court Judge retires	Age 65	Constitutional retirement age



## Aspect

Entry to HC from judiciary

Minimum eligibility for HC

Retirement age – District Judge

Retirement age – High Court  
Judge

Retirement age – Supreme Court  
Judge

Collegium system

## Rule

Article 217 – appointment by  
President

10 years judicial service

60 years (state-specific)

62 years

65 years

Judges recommend judges (HC &  
SC)



Point	Explanation
Promotion is not automatic	Depends on vacancies, ACRs, integrity, judgments
Not all District Judges become HC judges	Only top performers are elevated
Not all HC judges reach SC	SC has <b>limited seats (34 judges)</b>
Merit + seniority both matter	Quality judgments + reputation are critical

- A visually challenged (totally blind) woman lawyer, **Thanya Nathan C.**, is likely to become **Kerala's first visually challenged woman judge.**  
पूर्ण दृष्टिबाधित महिला वकील थान्या नाथन सी. केरल की पहली दृष्टिबाधित महिला जज बनने की दिशा में हैं।
- She topped the merit list (**benchmark disabilities category**) in the **Kerala Judicial Service exam for Civil Judge (Junior Division)** selection.  
उन्होंने केरल ज्यूडिशियल सर्विस परीक्षा में सिविल जज (जूनियर डिविजन) चयन हेतु बेंचमार्क दिव्यांग श्रेणी की मेरिट सूची में पहला स्थान हासिल किया।
- Another candidate, **Joyson Sajan (cerebral palsy)**, secured the second position.  
जॉयसन साजन (सेरेब्रल पाल्सी) ने दूसरा स्थान प्राप्त किया।
- **Why this is important (Significance)**
  - It marks a major inclusion milestone for **Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)** in the judiciary.  
यह न्यायपालिका में दिव्यांगजनों (PwDs) के समावेशन की दिशा में बड़ा मील का पत्थर है।
  - Judicial sources indicated that **Kerala currently has no visually challenged judges**, making this a first-of-its-kind entry.  
न्यायिक स्रोतों के अनुसार केरल में अभी दृष्टिबाधित जज नहीं हैं, इसलिए यह एक ऐतिहासिक शुरुआत मानी जा रही है।

- **Constitutional values (संवैधानिक आधार)**

- Equality and non-discrimination principles support inclusion in public employment.

सार्वजनिक रोजगार में समावेशन का आधार समानता और भेदभाव-निषेध के सिद्धांत हैं।

- **Article 14** (Equality before law) and **Article 16** (Equality of opportunity in public employment) are directly relevant.

अनुच्छेद 14 (कानून के समक्ष समानता) और अनुच्छेद 16 (सार्वजनिक रोजगार में समान अवसर) सीधे प्रासंगिक हैं।

- **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 (दिव्यांग अधिकार कानून, 2016)**

- The Act promotes **non-discrimination, reasonable accommodation, and accessibility** in education and employment.

यह कानून भेदभाव-निषेध, उचित अनुकूलन (**reasonable accommodation**) और सुलभता को बढ़ावा देता है।

- "Benchmark disability" is a key concept for targeted support and reservation-related eligibility.  
"बेंचमार्क दिव्यांगता" लक्षित सहायता और आरक्षण/पात्रता से जुड़ा महत्वपूर्ण कॉन्सेप्ट है।

- **Reasonable accommodation (उचित अनुकूलन)**

- Use of Braille/screen readers, accessible exam formats, and assistive tech are typical accommodations enabling fair competition.

ब्रेल/स्क्रीन रीडर, सुलभ परीक्षा-फॉर्मेट और सहायक तकनीक ऐसे अनुकूलन हैं जो निष्पक्ष प्रतिस्पर्धा संभव बनाते हैं।

- **Judiciary & diversity (न्यायपालिका में विविधता)**

- Inclusion improves representativeness and strengthens trust in institutions by ensuring equal access to constitutional offices.

समावेशन से संस्थानों की प्रतिनिधिकता बढ़ती है और संवैधानिक पदों तक समान पहुंच से विश्वास मजबूत होता है।

# Japan's Takaichi wins landslide, clears way for hardline agenda

## LDP Alone Secures At Least 310 Seats, An Absolute Majority In 465-Member House

**Tokyo:** Japan's PM Sanae Takaichi made a big gamble on Sunday, holding a snap election only 110 days after she became the first woman to serve as the country's prime minister. It paid off, with voters offering a resounding mandate for her economic policies and tough stance on immigration and China.

Takaichi's Liberal Democratic Party won in a landslide, securing an absolute majority in Japan's 465-member House of Representatives, the lower house of Japan's bicameral Parliament, according to NHK, the public broadcaster. As of early Monday in Japan, the party had won at least 310 seats, up from 198, NHK said.

The result clears the way for Takaichi to enact a conservative agenda on defence and social issues and to strengthen her position on the global stage, with President Donald Trump having given her candidacy a ringing endorsement. The outcome is a remarkable reversal of fortune for Takaichi's party, which governed Japan for much of the past seven decades but has suffered a series of bruising defeats in recent years, leaving it in the unusual position of being a minority in both houses of Parliament.

Sanae Takaichi told NHK after her victory Sunday that she had called the snap election as she felt "it would be



A pedestrian walks past a poster of PM Takaichi near a polling station in Tokyo

### PM congratulates Takaichi, calls win 'landmark'

**P**M Narendra Modi Sunday greeted his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi on her "landmark victory" in the elections.



"Congratulations Sanae Takaichi on your landmark victory in the elections to the House of Representatives," Modi said in a post on X. The prime minister said India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership plays a vital role in enhancing global peace, stability and prosperity. "I am confident that under your able leadership, we will continue to take the India-Japan friendship to greater heights," Modi said. PTI

wrong to simply drag things along without seeking a public mandate."

Takaichi, 64, soared to victory in part because of her popularity among young people, who see her as a charismatic, dynamic leader. Voters braved icy roads and wintry winds to cast their ballots. Heavy snow-

fall forced many polling stations to open late or close early. Even so, Japanese news outlets estimated that turnout was about 56%, compared with about 54% during the last in 2024.

With her party now on a stronger footing, Takaichi will face few constraints as she pushes aggressive govt spending

programs and expansive national security laws. By joining forces with another group, the Japan Innovation Party, Takaichi will likely be able to harness a supermajority to fast-track her priorities. "The LDP will not stand in her way, and there will be virtually no opposition ability to slow down her agenda," said Tobias Harris, the founder of advisory firm Japan Foresight.

Takaichi is working to persuade Trump to maintain US military and economic commitments in Asia; the two are set to meet in Washington in March. Trump backed her in a post on Truth Social on Friday, calling her a "strong, powerful and wise leader." After her victory Sunday, Takaichi responded to Trump's endorsement, writing on the social platform X that "the potential of our Alliance is LIMITLESS."

Takaichi is dealing with the fallout of China's efforts to punish Japan over a comment she made in support of Taiwan, a self-governed democracy that Beijing claims is part of its territory. She said in Nov that Japan could intervene militarily if China were to attack Taiwan. China unleashed a wave of reprisals, restricting Japanese seafood imports, discouraging tourism to Japan and moving to limit the export of critical minerals to Japan. NYT

# Sanae Takaichi

Prime Minister of Japan



Wikipedia

## Sanae Takaichi - Wikipedia

Sanae Takaichi is a Japanese politician who has been Prime Minister of Japan and President of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) since October 2025.

Age

64 years  
7 Mar 1961

Party

Liberal Democratic...



Previous offices

Minister of State for "Cool Japan" ...

Spouse

Taku Yamamoto,...





- **Election result (What happened)**

- Japan's PM **Sanae Takaichi** won a **landslide** in a snap election, strengthening her mandate.  
जापान की प्रधानमंत्री सानाए ताकाइची ने अचानक कराए गए चुनाव में भारी जीत दर्ज की, जिससे उनका जनादेश मजबूत हुआ।
- The ruling **LDP** secured **at least 310 seats** — an **absolute majority** in the **465-member House of Representatives** (lower house).  
सत्तारूढ़ LDP ने कम-से-कम 310 सीटें जीतीं — 465 सदस्यीय हाउस ऑफ रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स (निचला सदन) में पूर्ण बहुमत।

- **Why the snap election mattered**

- Takaichi called the snap election about **110 days after becoming PM** to seek a fresh public mandate.  
ताकाइची ने प्रधानमंत्री बनने के लगभग **110 दिन बाद** नया जनादेश लेने के लिए चुनाव कराया।
- She argued it was wrong to keep dragging governance without seeking a public mandate.  
उन्होंने कहा कि जनादेश लिए बिना शासन को आगे खींचते रहना उचित नहीं है।

- **Mandate themes (What voters backed her for)**

- Voters backed her **economic policies** and her **tough stance** on immigration and **China**.  
मतदाताओं ने उनकी आर्थिक नीतियों और आब्रजन व चीन पर कड़े रुख को समर्थन दिया।

- **Hardline agenda (What policies may move faster now)**

- The win clears the way for a **more conservative/hardline agenda** on **defence** and **social issues**.

जीत से रक्षा और सामाजिक मुद्दों पर कठोर/रूढ़िवादी एजेंडा तेज़ी से आगे बढ़ सकता है।

- She is expected to push **aggressive government spending programs** and **expansive national security laws**.

उनके द्वारा आक्रामक सरकारी खर्च कार्यक्रम और विस्तृत राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा कानून आगे बढ़ाने की संभावना है।

- By joining forces with another group, the **Japan Innovation Party**, she may be able to harness a **supermajority** to fast-track priorities.

एक अन्य समूह **Japan Innovation Party** के साथ मिलकर वे **सुपरमेजॉरिटी** का लाभ लेकर प्राथमिकताएं तेज़ी से आगे बढ़ा सकती हैं।

- **Election conditions & turnout (Ground situation)**

- Heavy snow and winter conditions affected polling operations, with some stations opening late or closing early.

भारी बर्फबारी/सर्द मौसम के कारण कुछ मतदान केंद्र देर से खुले या जल्दी बंद हुए।

- Turnout was estimated around **56%**, compared with about **54%** in the last election (2024).

मतदान प्रतिशत लगभग **56%** रहा, जो पिछली (2024) तुलना में लगभग **54%** से अधिक है।



longest measured snake in the world  
by Guinness Book of World Records.



Area	Key points (English)	मुख्य बिंदु (Hindi)
Headline / Record	A giant <b>female reticulated python</b> found in <b>Sulawesi, Indonesia</b> has been recognised as the <b>longest measured snake in the world</b> by <b>Guinness Book of World Records</b> .	इंडोनेशिया के <b>दक्षिण सुलावसी</b> जंगलों में मिली <b>सबसे लंबी स्त्री जटिल सर्प</b> को <b>Guinness Book of World Records</b> ने दुनिया की <b>दूरी में सबसे लंबी मापी सर्प</b> (measured) <b>द्वारा</b> के रूप में मान्यता दी।
Scientific identity	The snake is scientifically known as <b>Malayopython reticulatus</b> .	इस साँप का वैज्ञानिक नाम <b>Malayopython reticulatus</b> है।
Length / Measurement	It was measured at <b>7.22 metres (23 feet 8 inches)</b> .	इसकी लंबाई <b>7.22 मीटर (23 फीट 8 इंच)</b> मापी गई।
Nickname / Popular name	The python was nicknamed <b>“Ibu Baron” / “The Baroness”</b> .	इस पाइथन को <b>“Ibu Baron” / “The Baroness”</b> नाम दिया गया।
Scale comparison	Its length is described as enough to span the <b>width of a standard FIFA goalpost</b> .	इसकी लंबाई को <b>समान FIFA फील्ड गोलपोस्ट</b> इतनी जितनी बताकर समझाया गया।
Welfare-based measuring limits	Guinness officials noted that under <b>full muscular relaxation</b> , it could be <b>nearly 10% longer</b> , but this was <b>not attempted due to animal welfare concerns</b> .	Guinness के अनुसार यदि <b>पूर्ण मांसपेशीय आरंभ</b> में मापा जाए तो यह <b>लगभग 10% लंबा</b> हो सकता था, लेकिन <b>पशु कल्याण</b> कारणों से ऐसा नहीं किया गया।
Discovery place & time	It was found in <b>Maros County</b> on the Indonesian island of <b>Sulawesi</b> in <b>December 2025</b> .	यह <b>दक्षिण सुलावसी</b> में इंडोनेशियाई द्वीप <b>दक्षिण सुलावसी</b> के <b>Maros County</b> में मिली।
Conservation / Rescue	The snake was rescued and protected by local conservationist <b>Budi Purwanto</b> , ensuring it was not harmed before scientific assessment.	स्थानीय संरक्षक <b>Budi Purwanto</b> ने इसे रेस्क्यू करके सुरक्षित रखा ताकि वैज्ञानिक आकलन से पहले इसे नुकसान न हो।
Significance	The record highlights both <b>exceptional forest biodiversity</b> and the need for <b>conservation-driven coexistence</b> between humans and large wildlife.	यह रिकॉर्ड <b>असामान्य जंगल जैववैविध्य</b> और मनुष्यों व बड़े वन्यजीवों के बीच <b>संरक्षण-आधारित सह-अस्तित्व</b> की जरूरत को रेखांकित करता है।

Verification (Who measured)

It was assessed and measured by **Diaz Nugraha** (licensed wildlife rescuer from Kalimantan) and **Radu Frentiu** (long-time resident of Bali).

इसका आकलन/मापन **Diaz Nugraha** (कालीमंतान के लाइसेंस प्राप्त वाइल्डलाइफ रेस्क्युअर) और **Radu Frentiu** (बाली के लंबे समय से निवासी) ने किया।

Independent relay to Guinness

The discovery details were relayed to Guinness with assistance from **George Beccaloni**, supporting independent verification.

रिकॉर्ड की जानकारी Guinness तक **George Beccaloni** की सहायता से पहुँचाई गई, जिससे स्वतंत्र सत्यापन सुनिश्चित हुआ।

Exam-ready core facts

**Reticulated python is the world's longest snake species** and is **native to Southeast Asia**, including **Indonesia**.

घनकृष्णचक्रित हवस्क्रुण्ण कृष्ण गव इह दुर्लभतमम् । दुर्लभतमम् इह दुर्लभतमम् इह दुर्लभतमम् मानी जाती है और यह दुर्लभतमम् गव जन्मदाता गव दुर्लभतमम् की मूल प्रजाति है।

Guinness approach

Guinness records **prioritise animal welfare** while measuring wildlife.

Guinness रिकॉर्ड बनाते समय हवस्क्रुण्ण को प्राथमिकता देता है।

Geography / Biodiversity

**Sulawesi** is described as a **biodiversity-rich Indonesian island**.

दक्षिणपूर्व इंडोनेशिया में सुलावेसी द्वीप को नैतिकतापूर्ण रूप से सुलावेसी इंडोनेशियाई द्वीप बताया गया है।

Ecology / Human encounters

Reticulated pythons are **apex predators** and can kill humans by **constriction**; Indonesia has rare but documented incidents, including **two fatalities in South Sulawesi in 2024**.

रेटिक्युलेटेड पाइथन (दुर्लभतमम् इवघह apex predator) हैं और इ दुर्लभतमम् न इ नष्टज (constriction) से इंसानों को मार सकते हैं; इंडोनेशिया में ऐसे दुर्लभ लेकिन दर्ज मामले हैं—**South Sulawesi** में दो मौतें भी बताई गईं।

A close-up, shallow depth-of-field photograph of a row of white wool spools on a spinning machine. The spools are arranged in a line, receding into the background. The foreground spool is in sharp focus, showing its cylindrical shape and the texture of the wool. A dark, worn metal part of the machine is visible on the right side of the foreground spool. The background is blurred, showing other spools and parts of the machine. The text "Wool Production in India" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

# Wool Production in India

# TOP WOOL PRODUCING STATES IN INDIA



## Top 5 contributors

Jammu & Kashmir  
22.55

Himachal Pradesh  
4.27

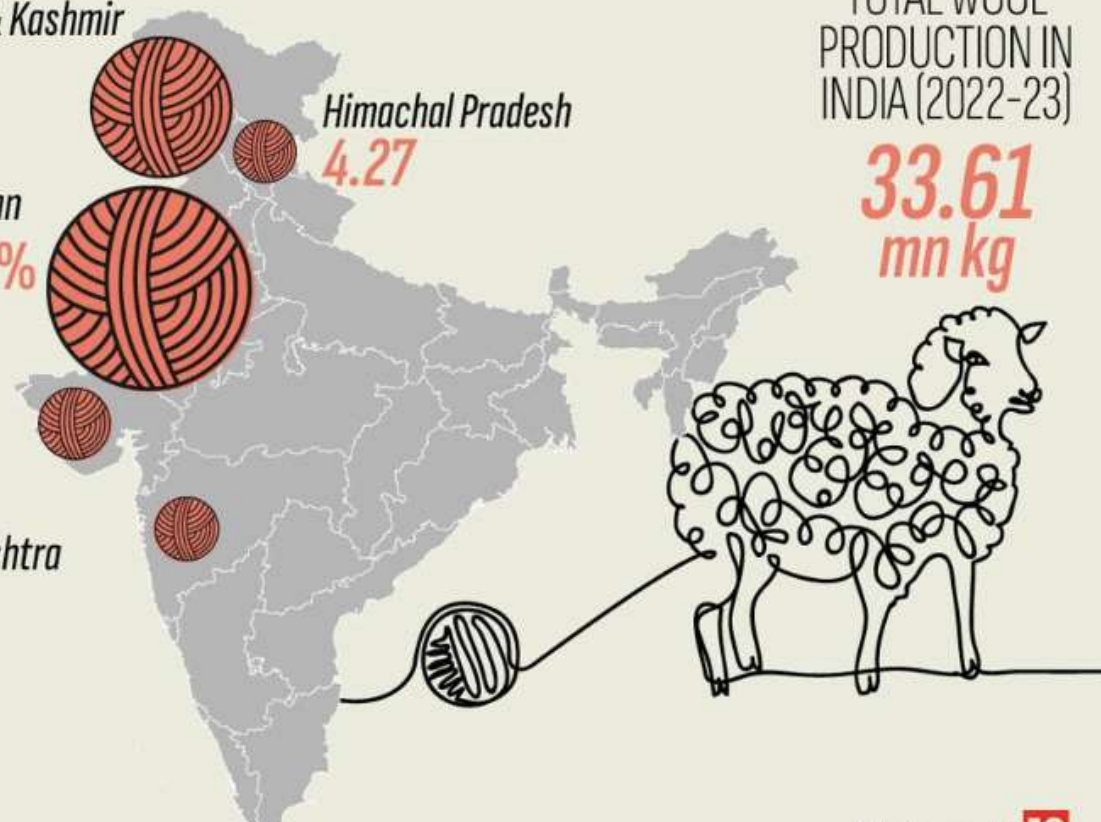
Rajasthan  
47.98%

Gujarat  
6.01

Maharashtra  
4.73

TOTAL WOOL PRODUCTION IN INDIA (2022-23)

33.61  
mn kg





## Top 10 Wool-Producing Countries (Latest General Ranking)

Rank	Country	Key facts (short)
1	<u>Australia</u>	World's largest producer; famous for <b>fine Merino wool</b>
2	<u>China</u>	Large sheep population; major producer and processor
3	<u>New Zealand</u>	Known for <b>strong/coarse wool</b> used in carpets
4	<u>Turkey</u>	Important producer of carpet-grade and apparel wool
5	<u>United Kingdom</u>	Traditional sheep-rearing country; diverse breeds
6	<u>Iran</u>	Large pastoral economy; coarse wool production
7	<u>Russian Federation</u>	Wool from extensive steppe sheep rearing
8	<u>India</u>	Mostly <b>carpet-grade wool</b> ; 2nd largest sheep population
9	<u>Sudan</u>	Wool and hair fibres from arid pastoral systems
10	<u>South Africa</u>	Producer of <b>Merino and cross-bred wool</b>

## Dimension

## Key Points (English)

### Basic overview

Wool is a vital natural fibre used in winter clothing, carpets, floor coverings and industrial products.

### Global position

India has the world's **second-largest sheep population** and ranks **9th globally** in wool production.

### Economic role

The wool sector supports **millions of livelihoods** across organised and unorganised textile segments.

### Total production

In **FY24**, India's total wool production was **33.69 million kg**.

### Leading state

**Rajasthan** is the largest producer, contributing **16,013.5 thousand kg (47.53%)** of national output.

### Second major state

**Jammu & Kashmir** ranks second with **7,770 thousand kg (23.06%)** share.

### Unorganised sector

Includes **handlooms, power looms, knitting & hosiery units, dyeing units**.

### Value chain

The wool industry links **rural sheep rearers** with **urban and export markets**.

## मुख्य बिंदु (Hindi)

ऊन एक महत्वपूर्ण प्राकृतिक रेशा है, जिसका उपयोग सर्दियों के कपड़ों, कालीनों, फ़्लोर कवरिंग और औद्योगिक उत्पादों में होता है।

भारत के पास दुनिया की **दूसरा सबसे बड़ा** भेड़ों की आबादी है और ऊन उत्पादन में **9वां** स्थान पर है।

ऊन क्षेत्र **कोटिों** में **कोटिों** वस्त्र क्षेत्रों में **कोटिों** को सहायता देता है।

**FY24** में भारत का कुल ऊन उत्पादन **33.69** मिलियन किग्रा रहा।

**राजस्थान** सबसे बड़ा उत्पादक है, जो राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन का **47.53%** योगदान देता है।

**जम्मू & कश्मीर** के साथ दूसरे स्थान पर है।

असंगठित क्षेत्र में **हाथी, पावर लूम, कनिंग & हosiery units, dyeing units** शामिल हैं।

ऊन उद्योग **ग्रामीण** को **शहरी** से जोड़ता है।

Other producers

Other important states include **Karnataka, Telangana, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh.**

Geographic spread

Wool production is spread across **arid, semi-arid and hill regions** of India.

Growth trend

**Punjab** recorded the highest annual growth in wool production at **22.04%**.

Other growth states

**Tamil Nadu (17.19%)** and **Gujarat (3.20%)** followed Punjab in growth.

Wool categories

India produces three types: **Carpet grade (85%), Coarser grade (10%), Apparel grade (5%).**

Industry strength

Dominance of carpet-grade wool reflects India's strength in **carpet and rug manufacturing** rather than fine apparel wool.

Organised sector

Includes **composite mills, combing units, spinning mills, carpet units and garment factories.**

अन्य प्रमुख राज्य हैं इण्डिया, तेलंगाना, गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र और हिमाचल प्रदेश।

उन उत्पादन भारत के अरि, अर्ध-अरि और हिल क्षेत्रों में फैला हुआ है।

उन उत्पादन में पंजाब ने सबसे अधिक वार्षिक वृद्धि दर्ज की।

तमिलनाडु और गुजरात पंजाब वृद्धि में आगे रहे।

भारत में तीन प्रकार की ऊन होती है: डेकर ग्रेड (85%), कोअर ग्रेड (10%), अप्पल ग्रेड (5%)।

कारपेट-ग्रेड ऊन की प्रधानता भारत की डेकर ग्रेड और रग में मजबूती को दर्शाती है।

संगठित क्षेत्र में डेकर ग्रेड, कोअर ग्रेड, अप्पल ग्रेड, कारपेट यूनियट्स और गार्मेंट फैक्ट्री शामिल हैं।

- India's wool is mostly **coarse and carpet-grade**, unlike countries such as Australia which dominate **fine Merino wool**.

भारत का अधिकांश ऊन **मोटा और कारपेट-ग्रेड** होता है, जबकि ऑस्ट्रेलिया जैसे देश **फाइन मेरिनो** ऊन में अग्रणी हैं।

- Rajasthan's dominance is linked to its **arid climate, traditional sheep breeds, and pastoral communities**.

राजस्थान की प्रमुखता का कारण उसका **शुष्क जलवायु क्षेत्र, स्थानीय भेड़ नस्लें और चरवाहा समुदाय** हैं।

- Wool production is closely connected to **livestock economy, rural employment, and MSME-based textile exports**.

ऊन उत्पादन **पशुधन अर्थव्यवस्था, ग्रामीण रोजगार और MSME आधारित वस्त्र निर्यात** से जुड़ा है।

- Carpet and rug exports from India are an important source of **foreign exchange earnings**.

भारत से कालीन और दरी का निर्यात **विदेशी मुद्रा आय** का महत्वपूर्ण स्रोत है।

- In exams, wool is often asked under **Agriculture + Animal Husbandry + Rural economy + Textiles** themes.

परीक्षाओं में ऊन से जुड़े प्रश्न अक्सर **कृषि, पशुपालन, ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था और वस्त्र उद्योग** के अंतर्गत पूछे जाते हैं।



Himachal CM  
launches 'Padhai  
with AI'

Dimension	Key Points (English)	मुख्य बिंदु (Hindi)
Initiative launched	The ' <b>Padhai with AI</b> ' learning initiative was launched by <b>Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu</b> , Chief Minister of <b>Himachal Pradesh</b> .	<b>‘पढ़ाई के साथ AI’</b> शिक्षण पहल का शुभारंभ <b>सुखविंदर सिंह सुखू</b> द्वारा किया गया।
Date & place	The programme was launched on <b>9 February 2026</b> at <b>Barthin</b> in <b>Bilaspur district</b> .	यह कार्यक्रम <b>9 फरवरी 2026</b> को <b>श्री चंद्र लख और चंडी</b> में शुरू किया गया।
Implementing authority	The initiative is an innovation of the <b>Bilaspur district administration</b> .	यह पहल <b>श्री चंद्र लख और चंद्र टूर</b> की अभिनव पहल है।
Core objective	To integrate <b>artificial intelligence</b> into public education delivery, especially for <b>competitive exam preparation</b> .	सार्वजनिक शिक्षा प्रणाली में <b>कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI)</b> को जोड़ना, विशेषकर <b>स्पर्धात्मक परीक्षाओं</b> की तैयारी के लिए।
Target beneficiaries	Students of <b>Bilaspur district</b> , particularly those preparing for competitive examinations.	<b>श्री चंद्र लख और चंडी</b> के विद्यार्थी, खासकर प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं की तैयारी करने वाले छात्र।
Nature of platform	An <b>AI-based digital learning platform</b> offering technology-enabled and quality educational resources.	<b>AI</b> के <b>शुभारंभ</b> के <b>चरण</b> के <b>द्वारा</b> जो तकनीक-सक्षम और गुणवत्तापूर्ण शैक्षणिक सामग्री उपलब्ध कराता है।
Broader vision	Part of the state government's commitment to <b>innovation, digital governance, and inclusive education</b> .	राज्य सरकार की <b>नवोन्मुखता, डिजिटल शासन, और समावेशी शिक्षा</b> की प्रतिबद्धता का हिस्सा।

Learning philosophy

Education is seen not only as syllabus completion but as a **transformative tool** for society and future generations.

शिक्षा को केवल सिलेबस पूरा करने तक सीमित नहीं, बल्कि समाज और भविष्य की पीढ़ियों को गढ़ने वाला **हस्तांतरण इवेंट** माना गया।

Equal access focus

The platform ensures **equal learning opportunities**, irrespective of students' socio-economic background.

यह प्लेटफॉर्म पृष्ठभूमि की परवाह किए बिना छात्रों को **दूरस्थ शिक्षण** प्रदान करता है।

Academic counselling

Provides **continuous academic counselling** to guide students on preparation strategies and subject understanding.

छात्रों को तैयारी की रणनीति और विषय-समझ के लिए **शुद्ध शिक्षण** दिया जाएगा।

Reducing disparities

Aims to reduce disparities in access to **coaching and quality study material**.

**इंटरनेट** के माध्यम से **दूरस्थ शिक्षण** तक पहुँच में असमानता कम करना उद्देश्य है।

Governance support

Supported by the **district administration** with institutional backing (including NTPC support as reported).

**शिक्षण** और संस्थागत सहयोग (रिपोर्ट के अनुसार NTPC समर्थन सहित)।

# Himachal Pradesh

State

State of Himachal Pradesh



Kinnaur Kailash



Kullu Valley near Manali



HPCA Stadium in Dharamshala



Bajinath Temple



Key Monastery at Spiti



Bhimakali Temple in Sarahan



Kalpa



Shimla at Night

<b>Country</b>	India
<b>Region</b>	North India
<b>Previously was</b>	East Punjab
<b>As union territory</b>	1 November 1956
<b>As state</b>	25 January 1971
<b>Formation</b>	15 April 1948
<b>Capital</b>	Shimla
<b>Largest city</b>	Shimla
<b>Districts</b>	12
<b>Government</b>	
<span> </span> • <b>Body</b>	Government of Himachal Pradesh
<span> </span> • <b>Governor</b>	Shiv Pratap Shukla <sup>[2]</sup>
<span> </span> • <b>Chief Minister</b>	Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu (INC)
<span> </span> • <b>Deputy Chief Minister</b>	Mukesh Agnihotri (INC)
<b>State Legislature</b>	<b>Unicameral</b>
<span> </span> • <b>Assembly</b>	Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly <sup>[3]</sup> (68 seats)
<b>National Parliament</b>	<b>Parliament of India</b>
<span> </span> • <b>Rajya Sabha</b>	3 seats
<span> </span> • <b>Lok Sabha</b>	4 seats
<b>High Court</b>	Himachal Pradesh High Court
<b>Area</b> <sup>[4]</sup>	
<span> </span> • <b>Total</b>	55,673 km <sup>2</sup> (21,495 sq mi)
<span> </span> • <b>Rank</b>	18th
<b>Dimensions</b>	
<span> </span> • <b>Length</b>	300 km (190 mi)
<span> </span> • <b>Width</b>	200 km (120 mi)
<b>Highest elevation</b> (Reo Purgyll)	6,816 m (22,362 ft)
<b>Lowest elevation</b> (Beas River)	232 m (761 ft)

<b>Dimensions</b>	
<span> </span> • <b>Length</b>	300 km (190 mi)
<span> </span> • <b>Width</b>	200 km (120 mi)
<b>Highest elevation</b> (Reo Purgyll)	6,816 m (22,362 ft)
<b>Lowest elevation</b> (Beas River)	232 m (761 ft)
<b>Population</b> (2025) <sup>[5]</sup>	
<span> </span> • <b>Total</b>	<span>▲</span> 7,555,000 <sup>[1]</sup>
<span> </span> • <b>Rank</b>	21st
<span> </span> • <b>Density</b>	123/km <sup>2</sup> (320/sq mi)
<span> </span> • <b>Urban</b>	10.03%
<span> </span> • <b>Rural</b>	89.97%
<b>Language</b>	
<span> </span> • <b>Official</b>	Hindi
<span> </span> • <b>Additional official</b>	Sanskrit
<span> </span> • <b>Official script</b>	Devanagari script
<b>GDP</b> <sup>[6][7]</sup>	
<span> </span> • <b>Total</b> (2024–2025)	<span>▲</span> ₹2.32 lakh crore (US\$27 billion)
<span> </span> • <b>Rank</b>	22nd
<span> </span> • <b>Per capita</b>	<span>▲</span> ₹276,943 (US\$3,300) (16th)
<b>Time zone</b>	UTC+05:30 (IST)
<b>ISO 3166 code</b>	IN-HP
<b>Vehicle registration</b>	HP
<b>HDI</b> (2025)	<span>▲</span> 0.78 <b>High</b> <sup>[8]</sup> (8th)
<b>Literacy</b> (2025)	88.8% <sup>[9]</sup> (12th)
<b>Sex ratio</b> (2011)	972 ♀/1000 ♂ (32nd)



A large satellite dish antenna is the central focus, positioned on a dark, flat surface. The dish is illuminated from below, casting a soft glow. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a dark, starry sky. The Milky Way galaxy is clearly visible, stretching across the upper half of the frame. The overall scene is a night-time astronomical or space-related setting.

Azista Space achieves India's first in-orbit snooping capability

Dimension	Key points (English)	मुख्य बिंदु (Hindi)
Headline achievement	<b>Azista Space</b> demonstrated India's <b>first in-orbit snooping (space-watch) capability</b> by imaging another space object in Earth orbit.	<b>Azista Space</b> ने पृथ्वी की कक्षा में किसी अन्य अंतरिक्ष वस्तु की इमेजिंग कर भारत की <b>हण्ड्रह in-orbit snooping (space-watch)</b> लक्ष्य प्रदर्शित की।
What was imaged	The satellite successfully captured images of the <b>International Space Station (ISS)</b> .	उपग्रह ने <b>International Space Station (ISS)</b> की सफलतापूर्वक तस्वीरें लीं।
Satellite used	The feat was achieved using Azista's <b>80-kg Earth-observation satellite "ABA First Runner (AFR)"</b> .	यह उपलब्धि <b>तजश्व इव वजन</b> वाले पृथ्वी-अवलोकन उपग्रह <b>पABA First Runner (AFR)</b> से हासिल हुई।
Orbit & range	Imaging was done while operating at ranges of <b>~250–300 km</b> , tracking a fast-moving target.	तेजी से चलने वाले लक्ष्य को <b>चणकण जड़ज-टजज श्वरह</b> की दूरी पर ट्रैक करते हुए इमेजिंग की गई।
What "in-orbit snooping" means	Tracking and imaging another object <b>in near-horizon, sunlit conditions</b> , validating advanced sensors and tracking algorithms.	<b>near-horizon, दृश्य इव अल हण्ड्रह श्वरह</b> में किसी अन्य कक्षीय वस्तु को ट्रैक-इमेज करना; उन्नत सेंसर व ट्रैकिंग एल्गोरिद्म का सत्यापन।
Launch details	AFR was launched in <b>June 2023</b> aboard a <b>Falcon 9</b> rocket by <b>SpaceX</b> under the <b>Transporter-8</b> mission.	AFR को <b>नर जजजट</b> में <b>Transporter-8</b> मिशन के तहत <b>SpaceX</b> के <b>Falcon 9</b> रॉकेट से लॉन्च किया गया।

Imaging attempts

After ~**2.5 years** in orbit, AFR executed **two independent imaging attempts** of the ISS.

कक्षा में लगभग **२५** वर्ष बाद AFR ने ISS की **दो** स्वतंत्र इमेजिंग की।

Data quality

It captured **15 distinct frames** with a sampling resolution of about **2.2 metres**.

लगभग **१५** सैम्पलिंग रेज़ोल्यूशन के साथ **१५** चरण चरण **२.२** मीटर कैप्चर किए गए।

Success rate

According to Azista Space, **both attempts were 100% successful**.

Azista Space के अनुसार **दो** **१००%** सफल रहे।

Strategic value

Strengthens India's **Space Situational Awareness (SSA)**—monitoring and predicting movements of satellites and space debris.

भारत की **Space Situational Awareness (SSA)** को मजबूत करता है—उपग्रहों व अंतरिक्ष मलबे की निगरानी/पूर्वानुमान।

Why SSA matters

With **50+ Indian satellites** in orbit, timely information on nearby activity is critical, especially during geopolitical tensions.

कक्षा में **५०+** **भारतीय उपग्रहों** के साथ, आसपास की गतिविधि की समय पर जानकारी बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है, खासकर भू-राजनीतिक तनाव के समय।

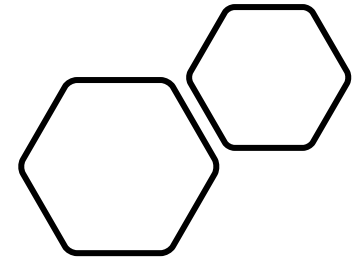
Sectoral impact

Marks a milestone for **India's private space sector**, showcasing indigenous capability in high-precision orbital imaging.

**उच्च-सटीक कक्षीय इमेजिंग** के लिए मील का पत्थर— उच्च-सटीक कक्षीय इमेजिंग में स्वदेशी क्षमता का प्रदर्शन।



# Anutin Charnvirakul's Landslide Victory in Thailand





<b>Religion</b> (2020 census) <sup>[4]</sup>	93.46% Buddhism 5.37% Islam 1.13% Christianity 0.03% other
<b>Demonym</b>	Thai
<b>Government</b>	Unitary parliamentary constitutional monarchy <sup>[ii]</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monarch</b></li> <li>• <b>Prime Minister</b></li> </ul>	Vajiralongkorn (Rama X) Anutin Charnvirakul
<b>Legislature</b>	National Assembly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Upper house</b></li> <li>• <b>Lower house</b></li> </ul>	Senate House of Representatives
<b>Formation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sukhothai Kingdom</b></li> <li>• <b>Ayutthaya Kingdom</b></li> <li>• <b>Thonburi Kingdom</b></li> <li>• <b>Rattanakosin Kingdom</b></li> <li>• <b>Constitutional monarchy</b></li> <li>• <b>Current constitution</b></li> </ul>	1238–1438 1351–1767 1767–1782 6 April 1782 24 June 1932 6 April 2017
<b>Area</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total</b></li> <li>• <b>Water (%)</b></li> </ul>	513,120 km <sup>2</sup> (198,120 sq mi) (50th) 0.4 (2,230 km <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Population</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2024 estimate</b></li> <li>• <b>2010 census</b></li> <li>• <b>Density</b></li> </ul>	▲ 65,975,198 <sup>[3]</sup> (22nd) 64,785,909 <sup>[4]</sup> (21st) 132.1/km <sup>2</sup> (342.1/sq mi) (88th)

<b>Population</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2024 estimate</b></li> <li>• <b>2010 census</b></li> <li>• <b>Density</b></li> </ul>	▲ 65,975,198 <sup>[3]</sup> (22nd) 64,785,909 <sup>[4]</sup> (21st) 132.1/km <sup>2</sup> (342.1/sq mi) (88th)
<b>GDP (PPP)</b>	2025 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total</b></li> <li>• <b>Per capita</b></li> </ul>	▲ \$1.853 trillion <sup>[5]</sup> (23rd) ▲ \$26,358 <sup>[5]</sup> (75th)
<b>GDP (nominal)</b>	2025 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total</b></li> <li>• <b>Per capita</b></li> </ul>	▲ \$558.573 billion <sup>[5]</sup> (31rd) ▲ \$7,942 <sup>[5]</sup> (97th)
<b>Gini (2023)</b>	▼ 33.5 <sup>[6]</sup> medium inequality
<b>HDI (2023)</b>	▼ 0.798 <sup>[7]</sup> high (76th)
<b>Currency</b>	Thai baht (฿) (THB)

Dimension

Key Points (English)

मुख्य बिंदु (Hindi)

Election outcome

**Anutin Charnvirakul** secured a **landslide victory** in Thailand's snap general election, reshaping the political landscape.

१ **समरप** **द्वरप्रहण** ने थाईलैंड के आकस्मिक आम चुनाव में **क्रवघनहल** दर्ज की, जिससे राजनीतिक परिदृश्य में बड़ा बदलाव आया।

Party & mandate

His **Bhumjaithai Party** won a decisive mandate, exceeding expectations and consolidating his authority.

उनकी **बुमजायथी** को अपेक्षा से कहीं अधिक समर्थन मिला, जिससे उनका नेतृत्व सुदृढ़ हुआ।

Timing & risk

Anutin dissolved parliament **just three months** into his premiership and called a snap election—a **calculated political gamble**.

अनुतिन ने प्रधानमंत्री बनने के **शुद्ध लक्ष्य** बाद संसद भंग कर चुनाव कराए—यह एक **दृढ़दृष्टि** था।

Why voters backed him

Analysts cite voter perception of **decisiveness, stability**, and leadership distinct from entrenched political families.

विश्लेषकों के अनुसार मतदाताओं ने **शुद्ध लक्ष्य**, **संघल** और पारंपरिक राजनीतिक परिवारों से अलग पहचान को समर्थन दिया।

Populist image

Despite being an heir to a major construction business, Anutin cultivated a **“man of the people”** image via casual persona and social media presence.

बड़े निर्माण व्यवसाय से जुड़े होने के बावजूद, अनुतिन ने अपनी सादगी और सोशल मीडिया के ज़रिये **पुरुष** की छवि बनाई।

Conservative appeal

He blends **populist outreach** with loyalty to Thailand's **traditional social order**.

उन्होंने **पुरुष** को थाईलैंड की **दृढ़दृष्टि** के प्रति निष्ठा के साथ जोड़ा।



Core social pillars

Thai politics remains deeply shaped by **nationalism, religion, and monarchy**.

थाई राजनीति पर **धर्म, शक्ति और राजतंत्र** का गहरा प्रभाव बना हुआ है।

Nationalism driver

A surge in nationalism followed deadly **border clashes with Cambodia**, which became central to Anutin's campaign.

**इलाहाबाद** के बाद राष्ट्रवाद में उछाल आया, जो अनुतिन के चुनाव अभियान का प्रमुख मुद्दा बना।

Security narrative

Over **one million people were displaced** during the conflict, sharpening focus on **sovereignty and security**.

संघर्ष के दौरान **लगभग 10 लाख** लोग विस्थापित हुए, जिससे **सुशासन और सुरक्षा** पर जन-ध्यान बढ़ा।

Post-election stance

Anutin framed nationalism as core to his party's identity and signalled **strong military responses** to safeguard territorial integrity.

अनुतिन ने राष्ट्रवाद को पार्टी की पहचान का केंद्र बताया और **इन्होंने** इ **दरकार** का संकेत दिया।

Political significance

The victory strengthens executive authority and reduces immediate coalition fragility.

इस जीत से कार्यपालिका की शक्ति बढ़ी और गठबंधन की अस्थिरता कम हुई।

India ranks second  
globally in LEED-certified  
green realty

Dimension	Key Points (English)	मुख्य बिंदु (Hindi)
Headline achievement	India ranked <b>second globally (outside the US)</b> in LEED-certified <b>building space</b> in 2025.	भारत जगत् में LEED-प्रमाणित क्षेत्र में <b>दूसरे</b> स्थान पर रहा।
Reporting authority	The ranking was reported by the <b>U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)</b> .	यह रैंकिंग <b>यूएस ग्रीन बिल्डिंग काउंसिल (USGBC)</b> द्वारा जारी की गई।
India's scale	India recorded <b>16 million gross square metres (GSM)</b> of LEED-certified building area in 2025.	भारत में <b>16 करोड़ वर्ग मीटर (GSM)</b> LEED-प्रमाणित भवन क्षेत्र दर्ज हुआ।
Global comparison	Outside the US, <b>China</b> topped with <b>26 million GSM</b> , followed by <b>India (16 million GSM)</b> .	अमेरिका के बाहर <b>चीन (26 करोड़ GSM)</b> पहले और <b>भारत (16 करोड़ GSM)</b> दूसरे स्थान पर रहा।
US position	The <b>United States</b> continued to lead globally with <b>50+ million GSM</b> of LEED-certified space.	<b>यूएस</b> <b>50 करोड़</b> वर्ग मीटर <b>GSM</b> के साथ वैश्विक स्तर पर अग्रणी रहा।
New entrant	<b>Vietnam</b> entered the <b>global top-10</b> for the first time.	<b>वियतनाम</b> पहली बार <b>जगत्</b> में शामिल हुआ।
What this reflects	India's ranking reflects growing commitment to <b>environmentally responsible construction</b> amid rapid urbanisation and industrial growth.	यह रैंकिंग तेज़ शहरीकरण व औद्योगिक विस्तार के बीच <b>पर्यावरण-सहज</b> के प्रति भारत की प्रतिबद्धता दर्शाती है।
Certification administrator	LEED certifications are administered and verified globally by <b>Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI)</b> .	LEED प्रमाणन का वैश्विक संचालन व सत्यापन <b>ग्रीन बिजनेस सर्टिफिकेशन इन्क. (GBCI)</b> करता है।

Certification shift	India showed <b>higher growth in LEED Operations &amp; Maintenance (O+M)</b> certifications than new construction.	भारत में यह स्वरूपाइएडह बघएव रबए LEED Operations & Maintenance (O+M) प्रमाणन में अधिक वृद्धि दर्ज हुई।
Meaning of O+M focus	Indicates a shift towards <b>improving performance of existing buildings</b> rather than only adding new green buildings.	यह बदलाव स्वरूपाइएडह बघएव रबए पर जोर को दर्शाता है, न कि केवल नई हरित इमारतों के निर्माण पर।
Benefits of O+M	Focus on <b>energy efficiency, reduced operating costs, and lower long-term environmental impact.</b>	रू न्काएलल्व, दूद्वचए चवणल रबूद रबू और व्हलूवअघड हगकअघरहग बकवअ त बवडू पर ध्यान।
Global trend	In 2025, <b>7,500+ commercial projects</b> were LEED-certified worldwide, covering <b>147+ million GSM.</b>	अजअड में विश्वभर में ए,इजअर अअसूड हअघरहए एवडू LEED-प्रमाणित हुई, कुल अठणर अअअगए GSM क्षेत्र के साथ।
Driving factor	Rising operating costs pushed owners to seek <b>energy savings and resilience</b> through certification.	बढ़ती संचालन लागत ने भवन मालिकों को रू न्काएलल्व रू घ चदहचवहए हासिल करने के लिए प्रमाणन की ओर प्रेरित किया।

- **LEED** stands for **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design** and was developed by **USGBC**. **LEED** का पूर्ण रूप **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design** है और इसे **USGBC** ने विकसित किया।
- Green buildings contribute to **India's climate commitments**, energy security, and sustainable urban development.

हरित भवन भारत की जलवायु प्रतिबद्धताओं, ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और सतत शहरी विकास में योगदान देते हैं।

- The shift to O+M certifications aligns with the principle of **"retrofitting before rebuilding"**, crucial for mature urban areas.

O+M की ओर झुकाव **"नई इमारत से पहले रेट्रोफिटिंग"** के सिद्धांत से जुड़ा है, जो विकसित शहरों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

- LEED rankings are often asked in exams under **Environment, Climate Change, Sustainable Infrastructure, Urbanisation**.

LEED रैंकिंग से जुड़े प्रश्न अक्सर पर्यावरण, जलवायु परिवर्तन, सतत अवसंरचना और शहरीकरण विषयों के अंतर्गत पूछे जाते हैं।

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# Word of the day

## **Ossify:**

become bony; make rigid and set into a conventional pattern; cause to become hard and bony

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**Synonyms:** petrify, rigidify

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**Usage:** *The new teacher did not subscribe to old ossified teaching methods.*

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**Pronunciation:** [newsth.live/ossifypro](http://newsth.live/ossifypro)

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**International Phonetic**

**Alphabet:** /'ɒs.i.fai/

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Thank you 😊