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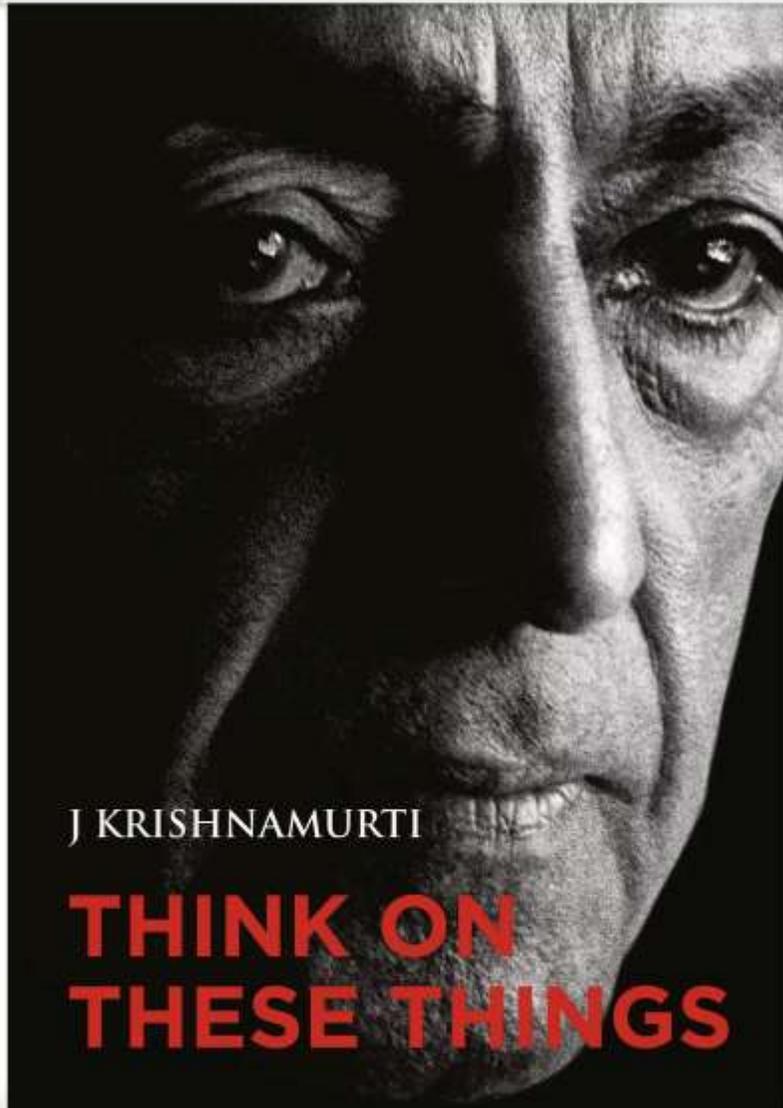
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10 MCQ QUIZ

- “Freedom and love go together. Love is not a reaction; if I love you because you love me, that is mere trade.”





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IN TROUBLED WATERS

India may deploy Navy to escort ships

Government considering the move as oil tankers and gas carriers have been stranded in the Persian Gulf

BUSINESS & PAGE 11



All Larijani, the philosopher who seeks vengeance
PROFILES & PAGE 9



Lakshya gets past Lal, meets Lin in the All England final
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Men in Blue look to retain ICC T20 World Cup crown
SPORTS & PAGE 13

INSIDE



Xi calls for political loyalty in military

BEIJING China's President Xi Jinping on Saturday said political loyalty in the military must be assured and called for resolutely pointing forward the fight against corruption as a military purge unfolded. **> PAGE 12**

130 Maoists surrender in Telangana

HYDERABAD After 130 Maoist cadres surrendered on Saturday, Telangana CM appealed to underground members of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist) to lay down their arms and return to their villages. **> PAGE 3**

Bihar Deputy CM Choudhary to meet Amit Shah

PATNA Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sarant Choudhary, who is a top prospect among the BJP leaders vying to succeed Nitish Kumar as CM, is set to meet Home Minister Amit Shah in West Bengal on Sunday, according to sources. **> PAGE 4**

Russian strikes kill 12 people across Ukraine

KYIV Russia fired a volley of missiles and drones across Ukraine overnight on Friday to Saturday, killing 12 people and wounding more than a dozen, Ukrainian President said. Russia has fired 20 missiles and 480 drones. **> PAGE 12**

Balen beats Oli as RSP close in on victory in Nepal

SANJEEV SATTAPATI
KATHMANDU

Balendra Shah, the rapped-out politician, landed a humiliating defeat to former Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli in Jhapa-8, the latter's home constituency, with a margin of 48,014. Mr. Shah, popularly known as Balen, is set to become Nepal's next Prime Minister, as his party, the Janata Morcha Party (RSP), heads for a landslide victory in Thursday's election — the first since last year's Gen 2 protests that toppled the Oli government. Balen, 38, secured

Won't strike neighbours, won't surrender: Iran

Will attack nearby nations only if triggered, says Pesezhkian, stressing Iran never planned invasion | U.S. President says Iran is 'being beaten to hell'; Donald Trump threatens to intensify strikes | As the war enters eighth day, Israel and U.S. carry out strikes across the Islamic Republic

STANISLAV
CHENNAI

Iranian President Masoud Pesezhkian said on Saturday that Tehran would no longer target its neighbouring countries in West Asia unless attacks originated from their territory. However, he vowed that Iran would not surrender in its war against the U.S. and Israel, even as U.S. President Donald Trump claimed Iran was "being beaten to hell" while threatening to intensify strikes. As the war enters its eighth day, Israel and the U.S. carried out strikes across the Islamic Republic, particularly targeting the country's Air Force, while Tehran fired at least eight missile salvos at its east since midnight. Several Arab countries were targeted in drone and missile attacks despite Mr. Pesezhkian's remarks. "Iran has never planned, nor will ever



Strike attack: A satellite shows smoke rising from the Dubai International Airport in the UAE on Saturday during attacks from Iran. AP

plan, an invasion of any neighbour," Mr. Pesezhkian said in a televised address. "We aim to work hand-in-hand with our dear brothers and neighbours in the region to establish lasting peace and stability," he noted. He said that Tehran's interim leadership council has decid-

ed that neighbouring countries would not be targeted unless those countries launch an attack on us," state media reported. Iran's Khatam al-Khobri Army headquarters said in a statement that Tehran respects the sovereignty of neighbouring countries and has not carried out

any act of aggression against them. "However, all military bases and interests belonging to the criminal U.S. and the Israeli regime on land, at sea, and in air across the region will be considered legitimate targets of powerful strikes by Iran's Armed Forces," the statement added.

On Friday, Mr. Trump had riled out a deal with Iran's leadership and demanded "unconditional surrender". Mr. Pesezhkian insisted this would never happen. "The enemies will take the dream of Iran's surrender to their grave," he said. In a translation of the speech in the state media.

Later, he wrote a series of social media posts denouncing Iran's military response. "We stand firm to the last breath in defence of our country and people. Iran's defensive operations are exclusively against targets and facilities that are the origin and source of aggressive actions against the Iranian nation, and we will not leave any legitimate targets," he said.

On Saturday, Mr. Trump announced that Iran was "being beaten to hell" and had "surrendered" and promised not to attack its neighbours. "This promise was only made because of

the relentless U.S. and Israeli attack. They were looking to take over and rule the Middle East. It is the first time that Iran has ever lost, in thousands of years, to surrounding Middle Eastern countries," he wrote in a social media post. The U.S. Central Command said that U.S. forces have struck over 1,000 targets in the first week of Operation Epic Phoenix, adding that "we are not slowing down".

Continuing strikes Neither side signalled any sign of de-escalation, even as attacks and counter-attacks continued throughout the day. The Israeli Defence Forces claimed to have destroyed at least 10 Quds Force planes in strikes. Iran fired waves of missiles targeting central Israel, but Israel has reported that there were no injuries. An Iranian Army spokesperson said on Saturday, "220 American sol-

diers and commanders have been killed or wounded and significant damage has been inflicted on American assets in the region in retaliatory attacks by the Iranian Armed Forces over the past 24 hours." The Revolutionary Guards also said they had targeted a Marshall Islands-flagged oil tanker in the Persian Gulf waters.

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi accused the U.S. of attacking a freshwater desalination plant in Qatari Island. "Attacking Iran's infrastructure is a dangerous move with grave consequences. The U.S. set this precedent, not Iran," he said.

Tehran's main airport was forced to briefly close on Saturday as Iran again launched missiles and drones at targets across the Gulf. **>>> PAGE 12**

Ritual craft



An artisan dyes yellow thread used in Hindu rituals, in Lalpagan village near Prayagraj on Saturday. PTI

Amid West Asia crisis, cooking gas prices raised

SANDEEPA DHANDAN

Domestic cooking gas prices were hiked by 600 per cylinder on Saturday, while that of commercial cylinders went up 114.50, prompting Opposition parties to attack the Centre.

Beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana — over 10 crore households that received LPG connections since 2016 — will also bear the 600 increase. After accounting for the 600 subsidy for up to 12 refills annually, they will pay ₹114 for a 14.2-kg cylinder.

Officials attributed the increase to a sharp rise in global prices after a widening conflict in West Asia disrupted tanker movement through the Strait of Hormuz — a crucial route used by crude producers to export oil and gas. While government sources said the price rise would translate only about 20 paise per person per day, and assured that there would be no immediate hike in petrol or diesel prices, Opposition accused the Centre of burdening households grappling with inflation.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the Centre had misled citizens from rising prices, and alleged that the benefits of earlier declines in global crude prices were being passed on to consumers, they said.



Non-subsidised LPG, used by most households, will now cost ₹114 per 14.2 kg cylinder in Delhi, according to the Centre. PTI

likely to be increased immediately. State-owned oil marketing companies had recorded strong profits earlier this year and had the financial capacity to absorb fluctuations in crude prices, they said.

Retail petrol and diesel prices have remained unchanged since April 2022, with fuel retailers absorbing losses when crude prices rise and offsetting them during periods of lower global prices. India relies heavily on imports, raised through the State of Petroleum. Nearly half of its crude oil imports and about 40% of its natural gas shipments pass through the narrow waterway. Amid concerns over supply disruptions, the government has invoked emergency powers to direct domestic oil refineries to ramp up LPG production to augment supplies. (With inputs from Jagdish Parthi, Choudhury and Shiv Sahay Singh)

Petrol, diesel prices Official sources said petrol and diesel prices were un-

Won't strike neighbours, won't surrender: Iran

Will attack nearby nations only if triggered, says Pezeshkian, stressing Iran never planned invasion

U.S. President says Iran is 'being beaten to hell'; Donald Trump threatens to intensify strikes

As the war entered eighth day, Israel and U.S. carry out strikes across the Islamic Republic

Stanly Johny
CHENNAI

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"Iran has never planned, nor will ever



Shock attack: A videograb shows smoke rising from the Dubai International Airport in the UAE on Saturday during attacks from Iran. AFP

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any act of aggression against them. "However, all military bases and interests belonging to the criminal U.S. and the Israeli regime on land, at sea, and in air across the region will be considered legitimate targets of powerful strikes by Iran's Armed Forces," the statement added.

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Later, he wrote a series of social media posts defending Iran's military response. "We stand firm to the last breath in defence of our country and resist. Iran's defensive operations are exclusively against targets and facilities that are the origin and source of aggressive actions against the Iranian nation, and we consider them legitimate targets," he said.

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Continuing strikes

Neither side signalled any sign of de-escalation, even as attacks and counter-attacks continued throughout the day. The Israeli Defence Forces claimed to have destroyed at least 16 Quds Force planes in strikes. Iran fired waves of missiles targeting central Israel, but Israel has reported that there were no injuries. An Iranian Army spokesperson said on Saturday, "220 American sol-

diers and commanders have been killed or wounded and significant damage has been inflicted on American assets in the region in retaliatory attacks by the Iranian Armed Forces over the past 24 hours." The Revolutionary Guards also said they had targeted a Marshall Islands-flagged oil tanker in the Persian Gulf waters.

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Dubai's main airport was forced to briefly close on Saturday as Iran again launched missiles and drones at targets across the Gulf.

RELATED REPORTS ON
» PAGES 3 & 12

- 1. Iran has said it will not attack neighbouring countries unless attacks on Iran originate from their territory / ईरान ने कहा है कि वह पड़ोसी देशों पर हमला नहीं करेगा, जब तक ईरान पर हमला उनकी धरती से शुरू न हो।**
 - This is meant to reassure Gulf neighbours that Iran does not want to widen the war unnecessarily / इसका उद्देश्य खाड़ी के पड़ोसी देशों को आश्वस्त करना है कि ईरान युद्ध को अनावश्यक रूप से और व्यापक नहीं बनाना चाहता।
 - It also shows that Iran wants to keep the conflict focused on its direct rivals rather than the whole region / यह भी दिखाता है कि ईरान संघर्ष को पूरे क्षेत्र के बजाय अपने प्रत्यक्ष विरोधियों तक सीमित रखना चाहता है।
- 2. Iran has clearly refused to surrender under U.S. and Israeli pressure / ईरान ने अमेरिका और इज़राइल के दबाव में आत्मसमर्पण करने से स्पष्ट इनकार कर दिया है।**
 - The statement reflects Iran's emphasis on sovereignty, strategic resistance, and national honour / यह बयान ईरान की संप्रभुता, रणनीतिक प्रतिरोध और राष्ट्रीय सम्मान पर उसके जोर को दर्शाता है।
 - For exams, this is important as an example of how states frame military conflict in political and diplomatic language / परीक्षा की दृष्टि से यह महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह दिखाता है कि देश सैन्य संघर्ष को राजनीतिक और कूटनीतिक भाषा में कैसे प्रस्तुत करते हैं।
- 3. The conflict appears to be moving beyond a limited Iran-Israel confrontation and increasingly involves the United States / यह संघर्ष केवल सीमित ईरान-इज़राइल टकराव से आगे बढ़ता दिख रहा है और इसमें अमेरिका की भागीदारी भी बढ़ती दिखाई दे रही है।**
 - This increases the risk of a larger regional war in West Asia / इससे पश्चिम एशिया में बड़े क्षेत्रीय युद्ध का खतरा बढ़ जाता है।
 - It also changes the strategic balance in the Gulf region / इससे खाड़ी क्षेत्र का रणनीतिक संतुलन भी प्रभावित होता है।

4. Iran is presenting its actions as defensive rather than expansionist / ईरान अपने कदमों को विस्तारवादी नहीं बल्कि रक्षात्मक बता रहा है।

- This is important because international legitimacy matters during war / यह महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि युद्ध के समय अंतरराष्ट्रीय वैधता बहुत मायने रखती है।
- States often try to justify military action as self-defence under international law / देश अक्सर अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून के तहत सैन्य कार्रवाई को आत्मरक्षा के रूप में सही ठहराने का प्रयास करते हैं।

5. The report suggests that attacks and counter-attacks are affecting the wider Gulf region / समाचार से संकेत मिलता है कि हमले और जवाबी हमले व्यापक खाड़ी क्षेत्र को भी प्रभावित कर रहे हैं।

- This raises concerns for ports, airports, oil facilities, ships, and desalination plants / इससे बंदरगाहों, हवाई अड्डों, तेल प्रतिष्ठानों, जहाजों और विलवणीकरण संयंत्रों की सुरक्षा को लेकर चिंता बढ़ती है।
- Gulf countries are especially sensitive because their economy and water systems depend heavily on such infrastructure / खाड़ी देश विशेष रूप से संवेदनशील हैं क्योंकि उनकी अर्थव्यवस्था और जल-प्रणालियाँ इस प्रकार के ढाँचे पर बहुत निर्भर हैं।

6. If tensions rise further, the biggest impact could be on global energy markets / यदि तनाव और बढ़ता है, तो सबसे बड़ा प्रभाव वैश्विक ऊर्जा बाज़ार पर पड़ सकता है।

- The Strait of Hormuz is one of the most important oil chokepoints in the world / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य विश्व के सबसे महत्वपूर्ण तेल-मार्ग अवरोध बिंदुओं में से एक है।
- Any disruption there can raise crude oil prices, shipping costs, and inflation worldwide / वहाँ किसी भी प्रकार की रुकावट से कच्चे तेल की कीमतें, शिपिंग लागत और वैश्विक मुद्रास्फीति बढ़ सकती है।

7. Geography is central to understanding this crisis / इस संकट को समझने में भूगोल केंद्रीय भूमिका निभाता है।

- The Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and further to the Arabian Sea / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य फारस की खाड़ी को ओमान की खाड़ी तथा आगे अरब सागर से जोड़ता है।
- Qeshm Island and Bandar Abbas are strategically important places for Iran / केश्म द्वीप और बंदर अब्बास ईरान के लिए सामरिक रूप से अत्यंत महत्त्वपूर्ण स्थान हैं।
- Map-based questions can easily be asked from this region / इस क्षेत्र से मानचित्र-आधारित प्रश्न आसानी से पूछे जा सकते हैं।

8. The roots of the Iran-Israel confrontation go back several decades / ईरान-इज़राइल टकराव की जड़ें कई दशकों पुरानी हैं।

- The 1979 Iranian Revolution transformed Iran's domestic and foreign policy / 1979 की ईरानी क्रांति ने ईरान की आंतरिक और विदेश नीति को बदल दिया।
- After the revolution, Iran adopted a more anti-West and anti-Israel posture / क्रांति के बाद ईरान ने अधिक पश्चिम-विरोधी और इज़राइल-विरोधी रुख अपनाया।
- Thus, the current crisis is not just a military event but part of a long historical rivalry / इसलिए वर्तमान संकट केवल सैन्य घटना नहीं बल्कि लंबे ऐतिहासिक प्रतिद्वंद्व का हिस्सा है।

9. Politically, the crisis operates at multiple levels / राजनीतिक रूप से यह संकट कई स्तरों पर काम कर रहा है।

- Iran versus Israel / ईरान बनाम इज़राइल।
- Iran versus the United States / ईरान बनाम अमेरिका।
- Regional security concerns of Gulf monarchies / खाड़ी राजशाहियों की क्षेत्रीय सुरक्षा चिंताएँ।
- Interests of major powers such as the U.S., Russia, and China / अमेरिका, रूस और चीन जैसी बड़ी शक्तियों के हित।

- **This issue is highly important for India / यह मुद्दा भारत के लिए अत्यंत महत्त्वपूर्ण है।**
- India depends heavily on West Asia for energy imports / भारत ऊर्जा आयात के लिए पश्चिम एशिया पर काफी निर्भर है।
- Millions of Indians live and work in Gulf countries / लाखों भारतीय खाड़ी देशों में रहते और काम करते हैं।
- Any instability affects crude oil prices, remittances, trade routes, and the safety of the Indian diaspora / किसी भी अस्थिरता का असर कच्चे तेल की कीमतों, प्रेषण, व्यापार मार्गों और भारतीय प्रवासियों की सुरक्षा पर पड़ता है।
- India usually supports de-escalation, dialogue, and strategic balance / भारत सामान्यतः तनाव-निरोध, संवाद और रणनीतिक संतुलन का समर्थन करता है।

Topic

President of Iran

Key chokepoint

Connects

Strategic importance

Qeshm Island

Bandar Abbas

Turning point

Impact on India

Fact

Masoud Pezeshkian

Strait of Hormuz

Persian Gulf – Gulf of Oman – Arabian Sea

Vital route for global oil and LNG movement

Largest island in the Persian Gulf and under Iran

Major Iranian port and strategic military location

1979 Iranian Revolution

Oil prices, inflation, diaspora safety, shipping routes,
Chabahar connectivity

Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. The Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य फारस की खाड़ी को ओमान की खाड़ी से जोड़ता है।
2. Qeshm Island is controlled by Oman / क़ेश्म द्वीप ओमान के नियंत्रण में है।
3. The Strait of Hormuz is strategically important for global oil trade / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य वैश्विक तेल व्यापार के लिए सामरिक रूप से महत्त्वपूर्ण है।

Which of the above statements is/are correct? / उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

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

Amid West Asia crisis, cooking gas prices raised

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Domestic cooking gas prices were hiked by ₹60 per cylinder on Saturday, while that of commercial cylinders went up ₹114.50, prompting Opposition parties to attack the Centre.

Beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana – over 10 crore households that received LPG connections since 2016 – will also bear the ₹60 increase. After accounting for the ₹300 subsidy for up to 12 refills annually, they will pay ₹613 for a 14.2-kg cylinder.

Officials attributed the increases to a sharp rise in global prices after a widening conflict in West Asia disrupted tanker movement through the Strait of Hormuz – a crucial route used by Gulf producers to export oil and gas. While government sources said the price rise would translate to only about 20 paise per person per day, and asserted that there would be no immediate hike in petrol or diesel prices, Opposition accused the Centre of burdening households grappling with inflation.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the Centre had failed to shield citizens from rising prices, and alleged that the benefits of earlier declines in global crude prices were never passed on to them. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called



Non-subsidised LPG, used by most households, will now cost ₹913 per 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi. REUTERS

for protests on Sunday and expressed concern over the “unavailability” of gas cylinders. The latest increase takes the price of commercial cylinders in Delhi to ₹1,883. This follows a ₹28 increase on March 1, pushing the cumulative rise in commercial LPG rates this year to ₹302.50. Non-subsidised LPG – used by most households – will now cost ₹913 per 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi, up from ₹853 earlier, according to the Indian Oil Corporation website. The hike, comes as global oil prices surge following disruptions in West Asia.

Sources said the increase had become necessary because of a spike in global energy prices. Even after revision, the domestic LPG price remained lower than the ₹1,050 per cylinder required to break even on costs, they said.

Petrol, diesel prices

Official sources said petrol and diesel prices were un-

likely to be increased immediately.

State-owned oil marketing companies had recorded strong profits earlier this year and had the financial capacity to absorb fluctuations in crude prices, they said.

Retail petrol and diesel prices have remained unchanged since April 2022, with fuel retailers absorbing losses when crude prices rise and offsetting them during periods of lower global prices.

India relies heavily on imports routed through the Strait of Hormuz. Nearly half of its crude oil imports and about 40% of its natural gas shipments pass through the narrow waterway. Amid concerns over supply disruptions, the government has invoked emergency powers to direct domestic oil refineries to ramp up LPG production to augment supplies.

(With inputs from Saptarpano Ghosh and Shiv Sahay Singh)

- 1. India has increased domestic cooking gas (LPG) prices amid the West Asia crisis / पश्चिम एशिया संकट के बीच भारत में घरेलू रसोई गैस (एलपीजी) की कीमतें बढ़ा दी गई हैं।**
 - The government raised the price of domestic LPG cylinders by ₹60 per cylinder / सरकार ने घरेलू एलपीजी सिलेंडर की कीमत ₹60 प्रति सिलेंडर बढ़ाई।
 - The increase reflects the impact of global energy market volatility / यह वृद्धि वैश्विक ऊर्जा बाज़ार में अस्थिरता के प्रभाव को दर्शाती है।
- 2. Commercial LPG cylinders also saw a significant price increase / व्यावसायिक एलपीजी सिलेंडरों की कीमतों में भी उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हुई है।**
 - Commercial LPG prices increased by ₹114.50 / व्यावसायिक एलपीजी की कीमत ₹114.50 बढ़ाई गई।
 - In Delhi, the price of a commercial cylinder reached around ₹1,883 / दिल्ली में एक व्यावसायिक सिलेंडर की कीमत लगभग ₹1,883 तक पहुँच गई।
- 3. Subsidised LPG under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana remains partially protected / प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत सब्सिडी वाले एलपीजी पर आंशिक सुरक्षा बनी हुई है।**
 - Beneficiaries still receive ₹300 subsidy for up to 12 refills annually / लाभार्थियों को सालाना 12 रिफिल तक ₹300 की सब्सिडी मिलती रहती है।
 - After subsidy adjustment, the effective price for beneficiaries is about ₹613 per cylinder / सब्सिडी समायोजन के बाद लाभार्थियों के लिए प्रभावी कीमत लगभग ₹613 प्रति सिलेंडर है।

4. The increase is linked to rising global crude oil and energy prices / यह वृद्धि वैश्विक कच्चे तेल और ऊर्जा कीमतों में वृद्धि से जुड़ी है।

- Escalating conflict in West Asia disrupted oil tanker movement / पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते संघर्ष ने तेल टैंकरों की आवाजाही को प्रभावित किया है।
- Supply concerns in energy markets have pushed fuel prices upward / ऊर्जा बाज़ार में आपूर्ति संबंधी चिंताओं ने ईंधन की कीमतों को ऊपर धकेला है।

5. The Strait of Hormuz plays a crucial role in India's energy security / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।

- Nearly half of India's crude oil imports pass through this narrow waterway / भारत के लगभग आधे कच्चे तेल के आयात इस संकीर्ण समुद्री मार्ग से गुजरते हैं।
- Around 40% of India's natural gas shipments also move through this route / भारत की लगभग 40% प्राकृतिक गैस आपूर्ति भी इसी मार्ग से आती है।

6. Global conflicts often translate into domestic inflation in energy-importing countries / वैश्विक संघर्ष अक्सर ऊर्जा आयात करने वाले देशों में घरेलू मुद्रास्फीति में बदल जाते हैं।

- Higher oil prices increase transportation, fertilizer, and manufacturing costs / तेल की बढ़ी कीमतें परिवहन, उर्वरक और विनिर्माण लागत को बढ़ाती हैं।
- This eventually affects food prices and household expenditure / इससे अंततः खाद्य कीमतों और घरेलू खर्च पर असर पड़ता है।

7. State-owned oil marketing companies play a stabilising role in India's fuel pricing system / भारत की ईंधन मूल्य प्रणाली में सरकारी तेल विपणन कंपनियाँ स्थिरता प्रदान करती हैं।

- These companies sometimes absorb price fluctuations during global price spikes / ये कंपनियाँ कई बार वैश्विक मूल्य वृद्धि के दौरान लागत का हिस्सा स्वयं वहन करती हैं।
- Retail petrol and diesel prices have remained relatively stable since 2022 / खुदरा पेट्रोल और डीज़ल की कीमतें 2022 से अपेक्षाकृत स्थिर बनी हुई हैं।

8. India has invoked emergency powers to increase domestic LPG production / भारत ने घरेलू एलपीजी उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए आपात शक्तियों का उपयोग किया है।

- Oil refineries have been directed to maximise LPG output / तेल रिफाइनरियों को एलपीजी उत्पादन अधिकतम करने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं।
- The aim is to prevent supply shortages during the crisis / इसका उद्देश्य संकट के दौरान आपूर्ति की कमी को रोकना है।

Topic

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

Implementing Ministry

LPG full form

Major LPG producing countries

Major oil chokepoint

India energy dependence

Main Indian LPG companies

Energy security concept

Fact

Launched in 2016 to provide LPG connections to poor households

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Liquefied Petroleum Gas

United States, Saudi Arabia, Russia

Strait of Hormuz

India imports about 85% of its crude oil needs

Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Petroleum

Ensuring stable, affordable, and reliable energy supply

Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

- 1. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched to provide LPG connections to poor households / प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना गरीब परिवारों को एलपीजी कनेक्शन प्रदान करने के लिए शुरू की गई थी।**
- 2. The Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the Red Sea / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य फारस की खाड़ी को लाल सागर से जोड़ता है।**
- 3. India imports the majority of its crude oil requirements from abroad / भारत अपनी अधिकांश कच्चे तेल की आवश्यकता विदेशों से आयात करता है।**

Which of the statements given above are correct? / ऊपर दिए गए कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?

- A. 1 and 2 only / केवल 1 और 2**
- B. 1 and 3 only / केवल 1 और 3**
- C. 2 and 3 only / केवल 2 और 3**
- D. 1, 2 and 3 / 1, 2 और 3**

Consider abdominal obesity a vital sign in Asian Indians: study

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Experts in India are calling for abdominal obesity to be recognised as a new vital sign in Asian Indians. An editorial by Amerta Ghosh and Anoop Misra published in the journal *Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome: Clinical Research and Reviews*, has emphasised the necessity of measuring waist circumference in all patients.

Metabolic crisis

The progressive increase in obesity and abdominal obesity in India represents a significant and evolving metabolic crisis contributing to the rising prevalence of conditions such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) and associated cardiometabolic disorders, the editorial noted.

Asian Indians characteristically develop abdominal obesity despite relatively normal Body Mass Index (BMI), a phenotype associated with higher insulin resistance, ectopic fat deposition, and earlier onset of metabolic diseases.

BMI, therefore, is an inadequate measure of obes-



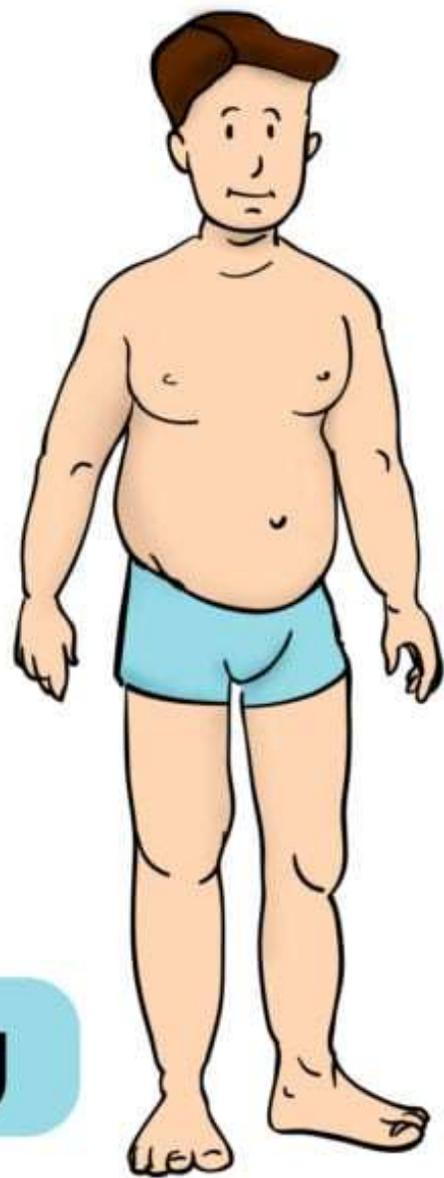
Asian Indians characteristically develop abdominal obesity despite relatively normal BMI.

ity, it states, calling for a shift in focus from generalised obesity to abdominal obesity, from a reliance on BMI to prioritising waist circumference and related indices, including waist circumference-to-height ratio for more accurate cardiometabolic risk stratification in routine clinical practice.

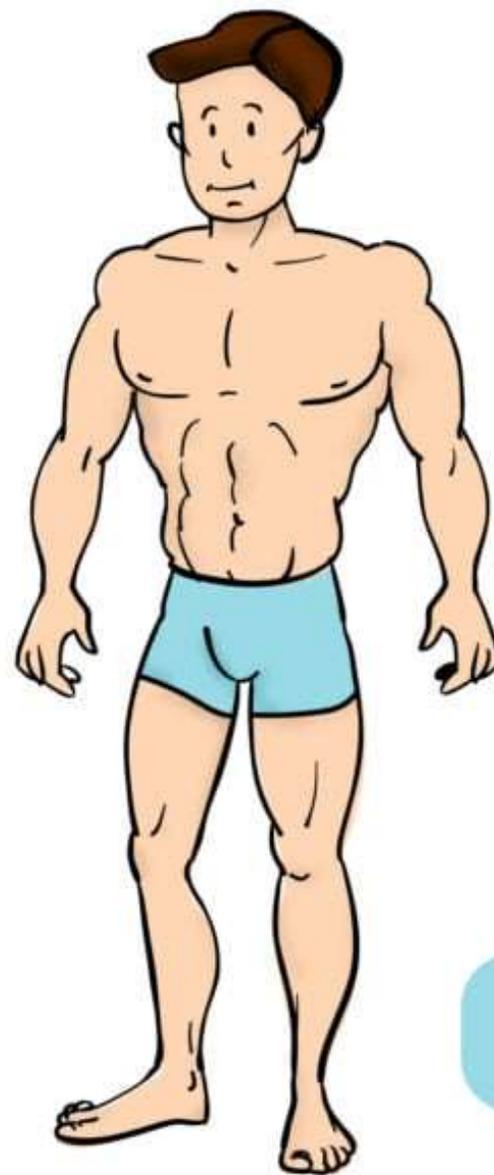
Data from the National Family Health Survey-5 revealed that abdominal obesity affects approximately 40% of women and 12% of men.

Significantly, abdominal obesity is no longer confined to urban or affluent populations, it is rising in rural areas and increasingly affecting lower and middle socioeconomic groups, the editorial highlighted.





80 kg



80 kg

What is thin-fat phenotype?

- Used to describe the presence of an increased body fat percentage in an individual with normal body mass index

- So, while by appearance, a person may be thin, the body mass ratio indicates the presence of fat

- This condition is also called normal weight obesity or metabolic obesity

- It is characterised by smaller body frame, lower muscle mass and higher body fat percentage, particularly in the abdominal region



- This term is mostly used in the context of Indians



1. Experts suggest abdominal obesity should be treated as a vital health indicator in Asian Indians / विशेषज्ञों का सुझाव है कि एशियाई भारतीयों में पेट की चर्बी (abdominal obesity) को एक महत्वपूर्ण स्वास्थ्य संकेतक के रूप में माना जाना चाहिए।

- A study emphasises measuring waist circumference routinely in clinical practice / एक अध्ययन में नियमित चिकित्सकीय जांच में कमर की परिधि मापने पर जोर दिया गया है।
- This approach may help identify metabolic risks earlier / यह तरीका चयापचय (metabolic) जोखिमों की जल्दी पहचान में मदद कर सकता है।

2. Rising obesity in India is being described as a metabolic health crisis / भारत में बढ़ती मोटापे की समस्या को चयापचय स्वास्थ्य संकट के रूप में देखा जा रहा है।

- Increasing obesity is linked with several chronic diseases / बढ़ता मोटापा कई दीर्घकालिक बीमारियों से जुड़ा हुआ है।
- These include type-2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, metabolic dysfunction-associated fatty liver disease (MASLD), and cardiometabolic disorders / इनमें टाइप-2 मधुमेह, हृदय रोग, मेटाबोलिक डिसफंक्शन से जुड़ी फैटी लिवर बीमारी (MASLD) और कार्डियोमेटाबोलिक विकार शामिल हैं।

3. Asian Indians often develop abdominal obesity even when BMI appears normal / एशियाई भारतीयों में अक्सर BMI सामान्य होने के बावजूद पेट की चर्बी विकसित हो जाती है।

- This condition is sometimes referred to as the "thin-fat Indian phenotype" / इस स्थिति को अक्सर "thin-fat Indian phenotype" कहा जाता है।
- It is associated with higher insulin resistance and fat accumulation around internal organs / यह अधिक इंसुलिन प्रतिरोध और आंतरिक अंगों के आसपास वसा जमा होने से जुड़ा होता है।

- 4. Experts argue that BMI alone is not a sufficient indicator of health risk / विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि केवल BMI स्वास्थ्य जोखिम का पर्याप्त संकेतक नहीं है।**
- Waist circumference and waist-to-height ratio provide better estimates of cardiometabolic risk / कमर की परिधि और कमर-से-ऊंचाई अनुपात कार्डियोमेटाबोलिक जोखिम का बेहतर अनुमान देते हैं।
 - This suggests a shift in clinical practice from generalized obesity measurement to abdominal obesity measurement / इससे संकेत मिलता है कि चिकित्सा पद्धति में सामान्य मोटापे के माप से पेट की चर्बी के माप की ओर बदलाव आवश्यक है।
- 5. National Family Health Survey data highlights the scale of the problem / राष्ट्रीय परिवार स्वास्थ्य सर्वेक्षण के आँकड़े इस समस्या की व्यापकता को दर्शाते हैं।**
- Approximately 40% of women in India suffer from abdominal obesity / भारत में लगभग 40% महिलाएँ पेट की चर्बी से प्रभावित हैं।
 - Around 12% of men are affected / लगभग 12% पुरुष इससे प्रभावित हैं।
- 6. The problem is no longer limited to urban populations / यह समस्या अब केवल शहरी आबादी तक सीमित नहीं है।**
- Abdominal obesity is increasing in rural areas as well / ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में भी पेट की चर्बी के मामले बढ़ रहे हैं।
 - Lower and middle socioeconomic groups are increasingly affected / निम्न और मध्यम सामाजिक-आर्थिक वर्ग भी इससे अधिक प्रभावित हो रहे हैं।
- 7. Lifestyle changes are a major driver of the obesity epidemic / जीवनशैली में बदलाव मोटापे की समस्या का प्रमुख कारण है।**
- Sedentary lifestyles, processed food consumption, and reduced physical activity contribute to fat accumulation / निष्क्रिय जीवनशैली, प्रसंस्कृत खाद्य पदार्थों का अधिक सेवन और शारीरिक गतिविधि की कमी वसा बढ़ने का कारण बनती है।
 - Urbanisation and changing diets have accelerated these trends / शहरीकरण और बदलते खान-पान ने इस प्रवृत्ति को तेज किया है।



Topic

BMI full form

BMI formula

WHO obesity definition

Asian BMI risk threshold

Thin-fat phenotype

MASLD

Key metabolic risks

Recommended health indicators

Fact

Body Mass Index

Weight (kg) divided by height (m²)

BMI \geq 30 considered obese globally

Health risks start at lower BMI levels in Asians

Normal BMI but high abdominal fat

Metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease

Diabetes, heart disease, stroke

Waist circumference and waist-to-height ratio



Scientific Facts Important for Exam

- Waist circumference indicates central or abdominal obesity / कमर की परिधि केंद्रीय या पेट के मोटापे को दर्शाती है।
- Abdominal fat increases risk of insulin resistance / पेट की वसा इंसुलिन प्रतिरोध का जोखिम बढ़ाती है।
- Cardiometabolic diseases include diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease / कार्डियोमेटाबोलिक रोगों में मधुमेह, उच्च रक्तचाप और हृदय रोग शामिल हैं।
- Asian populations develop metabolic diseases at lower BMI levels / एशियाई आबादी में कम BMI पर भी चयापचय रोग विकसित हो सकते हैं।

Statement-Based MCQ

Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:

1. Body Mass Index (BMI) is calculated using weight and height / बॉडी मास इंडेक्स (BMI) की गणना वजन और ऊँचाई के आधार पर की जाती है।
2. Asian Indians may develop abdominal obesity even with normal BMI / एशियाई भारतीय सामान्य BMI होने पर भी पेट की चर्बी विकसित कर सकते हैं।
3. Waist circumference has no role in assessing metabolic health risk / कमर की परिधि का चयापचय स्वास्थ्य जोखिम के आकलन में कोई महत्व नहीं है।

Which of the statements given above are correct? / उपर्युक्त में से कौन-से कथन सही हैं?

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

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STAYING UP
Nishant, son of Bihar CM Nitesh, joins JD(U)
NEWS • PAGE 5



STORMY AFTERNOON
Budget Session resumes today with debate on Birla's removal
NEWS • PAGE 5



UNLAWFUL DEATH
Student kills hostel inmate in Karnataka
STATES • PAGE 5



NEW NATION, OLD ELECTION
Remedy worse than disease
Proposal undermines federalism and voter mandate, says Stalin
NATIONAL • PAGE 5



NEWS NEWS
Lin denies Lakshya the All England title
SPORT • PAGE 17



INSIDE
Alternative crude suppliers sought as war drags on

NEW DELHI
Indian refiners have begun negotiating for additional crude supplies from the U.S., Russia and other areas to ensure supplies remain uninterrupted as the West has cancelled deals on a large part, industry officials and analysts said on Monday.



NEWS NEWS
Punjab rolls out women's stipend before the polls

CHANDIGARH
Punjab Finance Minister Preet Singh Dhillon on Sunday announced the State Budget for 2025-27, with ₹1,000 per month would be awarded directly to the bank accounts of all adult women under a 'Mehar, Mauti, Mauti' (Mother, Mother, Mother) scheme.



NEWS NEWS
NCR busts 'Team Kalyan' network that sold drugs

NEW DELHI
The National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) has dismantled a new-line drug distribution network operating under the name 'Team Kalyan' through the district since January 2023, two accused, identified by the agency as Narsing Thakur and his associate Vikas Thakur, have been arrested.



NEWS NEWS
Revamping Delhi key to showcase India, says Modi

NEW DELHI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated his new Delhi Metro corridor and laid the foundation stone for three more metro lines, he said the government was working to overcome the challenges facing the city.

India routs New Zealand, defends T20 world cup

Men in Blue beat Black Caps by 61 runs with a stellar batting show complemented by Bumrah's four for Samson, Ashishvi, Kohli and score 50s. Dhruv came out pushes Suryakumar's men past 250



R. F. VIKAS KUMAR
Illustration

INDIA kept its state with a sparkling history as Suryakumar Yadav's men claimed the ICC T20 World Cup with a stirring display at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Friday. In a one-sided contest which against New Zealand, India's batting might allied with a bowling featuring the genius of Jasprit Bumrah, proved too strong a hurdle for the Black Caps.

Iran clerics choose new Supreme Leader; U.S., Israel strikes set Tehran fuel depot ablaze

Assembly chooses Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as successor to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. U.S., Israel strikes set Tehran fuel depot ablaze



ANWAR FARUQI
Illustration

TEHRAN was preparing to reveal its new Supreme Leader on Sunday, since an U.S.-backed Israeli air strike destroyed the fuel depot, triggering fires that choked much of Tehran on a thick blanket of smoke.

Regulations to implement new rural job Act yet to be finalised

Union government has to frame rules under II category, for example on social audit of the scheme. The new rural employment legislation, which was passed by Parliament within two days of its introduction on December 29 last year, requires the Congress-led UPA government's Budgetary Bureau, the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Labour to frame rules under II category, for example on social audit of the scheme.

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Panel probing Nepal's Gen Z protests gives report to Karki

Associated Press
KATHMANDU

KATHMANDU
A government-appointed panel probing the Gen Z protests in Nepal last year in Nepal submitted its report to Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal on Sunday.

Centre asks Bengal to give report on President's visit

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

NEW DELHI
A day after President Droupadi Murmu expressed disappointment over the Madhya Pradesh government's arrangements for the International Santa Conference in the state, the Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday asked the state government to submit a report on the arrangements for the visit.

Panel probing Nepal's Gen Z protests gives report to Karki

Associated Press
KATHMANDU

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India routs New Zealand, defends T20 world cup

Men in Blue beat Black Caps by 96 runs with a stellar batting show complemented by Bumrah's four-for; Samson, Abhishek, Kishan score 50s; Dube's cameo pushes Suryakumar's men past 250

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
AHMEDABAD

India kept its date with cricketing history as Suryakumar Yadav's men claimed the ICC T20 World Cup with a stirring display at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Sunday. In a one-sided summit clash against New Zealand, India's batting might allied with a bowling featuring the genius of Jasprit Bumrah, proved too steep a hurdle for the Black Caps.

Having won the title in 2024, the Men in Blue retained the championship through a terrific campaign with the lone blemish being the loss against South Africa in the Super Eight.

After New Zealand elected to field, the host's top-order of Sanju Samson (89), Abhishek Sharma,



On top of the world: Indian players celebrate the 2026 ICC T20 World Cup victory after beating New Zealand in the final at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Sunday. EMMANUAL YOGINI

and Ishan Kishan came to the fore, while Shivam Dube's last-over heroics helped India post 255 for five. New Zealand, which humbled South Africa in the semifinal, failed to replicate that batting endea-

avour. Reduced to 47 for three in the initial part of the chase, Mitchell Santner's men were forced to play catch-up for the rest of the final.

Bumrah's four for 15, Kishan's catches, and over-

all energy levels propelled India while New Zealand was bowled out for 159, as the hosts sealed their victory by 96 runs.

MORE REPORTS ON
» PAGE 16

ICC Men's T20 World Cup



Administrator	International Cricket Council
Format	Twenty20 International
First edition	2007: South Africa (as ICC World Twenty20)
Latest edition	2026: India & Sri Lanka
Next edition	2028: Australia & New Zealand
Tournament format	see below
Number of teams	20
Current champion	 India (3rd title)
Most successful	 India (3 titles)
Most runs	 Virat Kohli (1,292)
Most wickets	 Shakib Al Hasan (50)



Dates	7 February – 8 March 2026
Administrator	International Cricket Council
Cricket format	Twenty20 International
Tournament format(s)	Group stage, Super 8s and Knockout stage
Hosts	India Sri Lanka
Champions	 India (3rd title)
Runners-up	 New Zealand
Participants	20
Matches	55
Player of the series	 Sanju Samson
Most runs	 Sahibzada Farhan (383)
Most wickets	 Jasprit Bumrah (14)  Varun Chakravarthy (14)

Year	Winners		Runners-up	
2007	 India	157/5 (20 overs)	 Pakistan	152 (19.4 overs)
2009	 Pakistan	139/2 (18.4 overs)	 Sri Lanka	138/6 (20 overs)
2010	 England	148/3 (17 overs)	 Australia	147/6 (20 overs)
2012	 West Indies	137/6 (20 overs)	 Sri Lanka	101 (18.4 overs)
2014	 Sri Lanka	134/4 (17.5 overs)	 India	130/4 (20 overs)
2016	 West Indies (2)	161/6 (19.4 overs)	 England	155/9 (20 overs)
2021	 Australia	173/2 (18.5 overs)	 New Zealand	172/4 (20 overs)
2022	 England (2)	138/5 (19 overs)	 Pakistan	137/8 (20 overs)
2024	 India (2)	176/7 (20 overs)	 South Africa	169/8 (20 overs)
2026	 India (3)	255/5 (20 overs)	 New Zealand	159 (19 overs)

Record for	Record holder	Record	Tournament(s)
Highest team total	 Sri Lanka (v  Kenya) at Johannesburg	260/6	2007
Lowest team total	 Netherlands (v  Sri Lanka) at Chittagong	39	2014
	 Uganda (v  West Indies) at Guyana		2024
Highest match aggregate	 India v  England at Mumbai	499/14	2026
Lowest match aggregate	 Netherlands v  Sri Lanka at Chittagong	79/11	2014

Team	Appearances	Best performance
 India†	10	Champions (2007, 2024, 2026)
 England†		Champions (2010, 2022)
 West Indies†		Champions (2012, 2016)
 Australia†		Champions (2021)
 Pakistan†		Champions (2009)
 Sri Lanka†		Champions (2014)
 New Zealand†		Runners-up (2021, 2026)
 South Africa†		Runners-up (2024)
 Afghanistan†		8
 Bangladesh†	9	Super 8s (2007, 2024)
 Ireland†		Super 8s (2009)
 Zimbabwe†	7	Super 8s (2026)
 United States	2	Super 8s (2024)
 Netherlands	7	Super 10s (2014)
 Scotland		Super 12s (2021)
 Namibia		4

Iran clerics choose new Supreme Leader; U.S., Israel strikes set Tehran fuel depots ablaze

Agence France-Presse

TEHRAN/DUBAI

Iran was preparing to reveal its new Supreme Leader on Sunday, even as U.S.-backed Israeli air strikes destroyed fuel dumps and triggered fires that choked much of Tehran in a thick blanket of smoke.

The fuel depot strikes are the first time Iranian oil infrastructure has been targeted during the ongoing conflict. While Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Saturday that the Islamic Republic will not strike its West Asian neighbours unless attacks originated from their territory, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, and Bahrain all reported new attacks on Sunday.

An Indian national was among two killed in Saudi Arabia where a military



Iranian civil defence members next to a destroyed fuel tanker after an air strike on the Shahran oil refinery in Tehran on Sunday. AFP

projectile fell into a residential area in Al Kharj governorate, the Kingdom's civil defence said without identifying the victims.

Iran's clerical body tasked with choosing a successor to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei – who was killed just over a week ago in the strikes that triggered the war – has reached a decision, but is yet to name the new leader. “The vote to

appoint the leader has taken place and the leader has been chosen,” said Ahmad Alamolhoda, a member of the Assembly of Experts, as quoted by Iran's *Mehr* news agency.

Mr. Alamolhoda said the secretariat of the body would announce the name later. Khamenei's name as Iran's leader will continue, Hosseinali Eshkevari, another member of the As-

sembly said on Sunday.

U.S. President Donald Trump warned on Sunday that Iran's next Supreme Leader would not last long without his approval, while Israel said its forces would not hesitate to target the new chief and members of the council that met to confirm him.

As the war entered its ninth day, Iran's Revolutionary Guards said they had enough supplies to continue their drone and missile war over West Asia for up to six months. Iran had so far used only first- and second-generation missiles, but would use “advanced and less-used long-range missiles” in the coming days, it added.

Israel's reach was underlined by two new operations overnight: strikes against fuel dumps in and around Tehran, and an at-

tack on a hotel in the heart of Lebanon's Beirut.

Warplanes hit five oil facilities in overnight strikes in and around the Iranian capital, killing four people, the CEO of the national oil products distribution firm told state television. Tehran's Governor told the *IRNA* news agency that fuel distribution had been “temporarily interrupted”.

While the Iranian President reiterated his warning that the the country “will be forced to respond” against its neighbours if their territory was used to attack it, Saudi Arabia intercepted a wave of drones, Kuwait said an attack hit fuel tanks at its international airport, Bahrain reported a water desalination plant had been damaged, and the UAE said it thwarted incoming missiles.

1. Iran's clerical leadership has chosen a new Supreme Leader after the death of Ayatollah Ali

Khamenei / अयातुल्ला अली खामेनेई की मृत्यु के बाद ईरान के धार्मिक नेतृत्व ने नया सर्वोच्च नेता चुन लिया है।

- The decision was taken by the Assembly of Experts, the body responsible for selecting the Supreme Leader / यह निर्णय "Assembly of Experts" नामक संस्था ने लिया, जो सर्वोच्च नेता का चयन करती है।
- The name of the new leader was expected to be announced officially later / नए नेता का नाम आधिकारिक रूप से बाद में घोषित किया जाना था।

2. The selection comes amid ongoing military conflict between Iran, Israel, and the United States /

यह चयन ईरान, इज़राइल और अमेरिका के बीच जारी सैन्य संघर्ष के बीच हुआ है।

- U.S.-backed Israeli air strikes targeted fuel depots and oil infrastructure in Tehran / अमेरिका समर्थित इज़राइली हवाई हमलों ने तेहरान में ईंधन भंडार और तेल अवसंरचना को निशाना बनाया।
- The attacks caused large fires and smoke across parts of the Iranian capital / इन हमलों के कारण ईरान की राजधानी के कई हिस्सों में आग और धुआँ फैल गया।

3. Iran's oil infrastructure has been targeted for the first time in the current conflict / मौजूदा संघर्ष में

पहली बार ईरान के तेल ढांचे को निशाना बनाया गया है।

- Fuel depots and oil facilities around Tehran were struck in overnight attacks / तेहरान के आसपास ईंधन भंडार और तेल प्रतिष्ठानों पर रात के हमले हुए।
- These attacks disrupted fuel distribution temporarily / इन हमलों के कारण ईंधन वितरण अस्थायी रूप से बाधित हुआ।

4. Iran warned it may retaliate if neighbouring countries allow their territory to be used for attacks /

4. Iran warned it may retaliate if neighbouring countries allow their territory to be used for attacks /

ईरान ने चेतावनी दी कि यदि पड़ोसी देश अपनी भूमि से हमले होने देंगे तो वह जवाबी कार्रवाई कर सकता है।

- Countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, and Bahrain reported missile and drone activity / सऊदी अरब, यूएई, कुवैत और बहरीन ने मिसाइल और ड्रोन गतिविधियों की सूचना दी।
- Some countries intercepted drones and missiles heading towards their territories / कुछ देशों ने अपनी ओर आने वाले ड्रोन और मिसाइलों को रोक दिया।

5. The conflict has spread across several West Asian countries / यह संघर्ष पश्चिम एशिया के कई देशों तक फैल चुका है।

- Saudi Arabia intercepted drones targeting its territory / सऊदी अरब ने अपनी सीमा की ओर आ रहे ड्रोन को रोका।
- Kuwait reported an attack near its international airport / कुवैत ने अपने अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के पास हमले की सूचना दी।
- Bahrain reported damage to a desalination plant / बहरीन ने एक जल विलवणीकरण संयंत्र को नुकसान की सूचना दी।

6. The Revolutionary Guards claimed they have enough supplies to continue the war for months /

ईरान की रिवोल्यूशनरी गार्ड्स ने दावा किया कि उनके पास कई महीनों तक युद्ध जारी रखने के लिए पर्याप्त संसाधन हैं।

- Iran has used first and second-generation missiles so far / ईरान ने अब तक पहली और दूसरी पीढ़ी की मिसाइलों का उपयोग किया है।
- Advanced long-range missiles could be deployed later if the war escalates / युद्ध बढ़ने पर उन्नत लंबी दूरी की मिसाइलों का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।

7. Israel demonstrated its military reach by conducting deep strikes inside Iran / इज़राइल ने ईरान के अंदर गहराई तक हमले कर अपनी सैन्य क्षमता का प्रदर्शन किया।

- Air strikes hit fuel facilities around Tehran / तेहरान के आसपास ईंधन प्रतिष्ठानों पर हवाई हमले किए गए।
- Another attack targeted a building in Beirut, Lebanon / एक अन्य हमला लेबनान की राजधानी बेरूत में एक इमारत पर हुआ।

8. The political transition in Iran is highly significant for regional geopolitics / ईरान में राजनीतिक नेतृत्व परिवर्तन क्षेत्रीय भू-राजनीति के लिए अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है।

- The Supreme Leader is the highest authority in Iran's political system / ईरान की राजनीतिक व्यवस्था में सर्वोच्च नेता सर्वोच्च प्राधिकारी होता है।
- He controls the military, judiciary, and key political decisions / वह सेना, न्यायपालिका और प्रमुख राजनीतिक निर्णयों पर नियंत्रण रखता है।

Topic

Fact

Supreme Leader of Iran

Highest political and religious authority in Iran

Assembly of Experts

88-member clerical body that appoints the Supreme Leader

First Supreme Leader

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini

Second Supreme Leader

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

Iranian Revolution

Occurred in 1979

Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

Elite military force protecting the Islamic Republic

Capital of Iran

Tehran

Important oil region

Persian Gulf

-
- Iran is located in West Asia / ईरान पश्चिम एशिया में स्थित है।
 - It borders Iraq, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan / इसकी सीमाएँ इराक, तुर्की, अफगानिस्तान, पाकिस्तान, आर्मेनिया, अज़रबैजान और तुर्कमेनिस्तान से मिलती हैं।
 - Iran has coastline along the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman / ईरान की तटरेखा फारस की खाड़ी और ओमान की खाड़ी के साथ है।
 - The Strait of Hormuz lies near Iran and is crucial for global oil trade / होरमुज़ जलडमरूमध्य ईरान के पास स्थित है और वैश्विक तेल व्यापार के लिए अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है।
 -

-
- Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
 - The Supreme Leader is the highest authority in Iran's political system / ईरान की राजनीतिक प्रणाली में सर्वोच्च नेता सर्वोच्च प्राधिकारी होता है।
 - The Assembly of Experts is responsible for selecting the Supreme Leader / असेंबली ऑफ एक्सपर्ट्स सर्वोच्च नेता का चयन करती है।
 - Iran follows a presidential system similar to the United States / ईरान अमेरिका की तरह पूर्ण राष्ट्रपति प्रणाली का पालन करता है।
 - Which of the statements given above are correct / ऊपर दिए गए कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?
 - A. 1 and 2 only / केवल 1 और 2
 - B. 2 and 3 only / केवल 2 और 3
 - C. 1 and 3 only / केवल 1 और 3
 - D. 1, 2 and 3 / 1, 2 और 3

IN BRIEF



Achievements of 'Nari Shakti' a source of pride, says Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi conveyed greetings to women on the occasion of International Women's Day, and said the achievements of India's 'Nari Shakti' are a source of pride. He said that the empowerment of women is at the core of his government's various schemes and initiatives and it remains committed to creating opportunities that enable every woman to realise her full potential. "Across every field, women are shaping India's progress with determination, creativity and unmatched zeal. Their achievements inspire our nation and strengthen our collective resolve to build a Viksit Bharat," he said in a message.

IWPC reiterates commitment to safe, equitable media spaces

The Indian Women's Press Corps (IWPC) on Monday reaffirmed its commitment to supporting safe, equitable, and empowering spaces for women in media, on the occasion of International Women's Day. The IWPC said that on this day, it celebrates the remarkable contributions of women in media across India, especially in far-flung remote areas, across diverse regions and languages where women continue to shape public discourse. It added that it was important that people listen to what women have to say in this ever-changing world, adding that they must have a say on agendas that shape the policies, systems and indeed the world.

Railways launches app for women staff to report harassment

A. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

The Indian Railways has launched a customised app for women employees to lodge complaints about sexual harassment at workplace.

Sexual Harassment Incident Notification for Empowerment (SHINE) was made operational on the occasion of International Women's Day on Sunday. This complements existing internal complaint committees under the 1997 Vishakha guidelines and government directives to protect women at the workplace.

With SHINE, women employees can lodge complaints through the Human Resource Management System.

According to railway sources, SHINE also allows reporting incidents or complaints on behalf of outsiders (victims), contractual staff, students and others who may not have access to the app. It would maintain confidentiality and address issues brought to the notice of the authorities concerned effectively. The app could be accessed via the 'Employee Self Service' system.

Assam and Manipur announce financial incentives for women

Assam CM announces ₹9000 each for 40 lakh families under Orusodol scheme. Manipur allocates ₹50 crore for women affected by conflict

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Assam and Manipur governments announced cash incentives for women and their families on Sunday, coinciding with International Women's Day. In a social media broadcast on the seventh day of the Bharatya Janata Party (BJP) Ashirwad Yatra, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the State government would transfer ₹9,000 each to approximately 40 lakh beneficiary families under the Orusodol scheme through direct benefit transfer (DBT) on Tuesday.

He urged the beneficiaries to attend special meetings at designated venues to receive the financial assistance. The total amount to be disbursed under the scheme would be about ₹3,600 crore, making it one of the largest financial assistance programmes in Assam. The Chief Minister had earlier said the disburse-



Total women take care of 67 thousand larvae as they feed them each leaves on International Women's Day in Hailuon, Jilin.

ment would be the largest single-day transfer of funds to beneficiaries in Assam's history. He urged the beneficiaries to attend special meetings at designated venues to receive the financial assistance. The total amount to be disbursed under the scheme would be about ₹3,600 crore, making it one of the largest financial assistance programmes in Assam. The Chief Minister had earlier said the disburse-

ment would be the largest single-day transfer of funds to beneficiaries in Assam's history. He urged the beneficiaries to attend special meetings at designated venues to receive the financial assistance. The total amount to be disbursed under the scheme would be about ₹3,600 crore, making it one of the largest financial assistance programmes in Assam. The Chief Minister had earlier said the disburse-

Women are key to nation's progress: President Murmu

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu said on Saturday that women were not only the foundation of society but also the builders of the nation's future, emphasising that educated, self-reliant, and empowered women were central to a country's development.

Mr. Murmu was addressing the concluding session of a two-day national conference for women thinkers titled "Bharatiya Nari Shakti" at Vijayan Bhawan. The conference on Saturday and Sunday brought together around 1,500 women thinkers and professionals from across the country to deliberate

on issues such as women's empowerment, education, leadership, self-reliance and their role in nation-building. The event was organised by the Rashtriya Sevika Samiti, the women's wing of the Rashtriya Sevika Samiti, along with Bharatiya Vikas Parishad, which promotes research and studies in Indian shastras, and Bharatiya Organisation, an affiliate of the Samiti working to promote education, skills, self-reliance and leadership among women from disadvantaged communities.

Ms. Murmu said women are equal to, and in many aspects even surpass, men in qualities such as service, dedication, nationalism, courage and patience.

Punjab rolls out monthly stipend for women before Assembly polls

Vikas Vasudeva
CHANDIGARH

Punjab State Minister Harpal Singh Chhina on Sunday, presenting the State Budget for 2020-21, said ₹1,000 per month would be transferred directly to the bank accounts of all adult women under a new scheme, "Mukh Mantri Manav Dhan Sakshar Yojana".

"Moreover, for women belonging to the Scheduled Caste community, the Bhagwati Mata government will transfer ₹1,500 per month directly to their accounts... Every woman in Punjab above 18 years of age will be eligible to enrol in this scheme, bearing only a fee, that is, existing or past permanent government employees, existing and past MPs, MLAs, and income tax payers," Mr. Chhina said.

"...one of our neigh-



Chief Minister Bhagwan Mann with Finance Minister Harpal Singh Chhina, who presented the Punjab government's 7th Budget. (1)

bouring states announced a similar scheme but limited it only to households with annual income under ₹1 lakh, covering only 20% of all adult women. But Punjab will not do such a thing. How the Chief Minister Sarbajit Bhagwati Singh Mann is not a Chief Minister but 20% of the women of Punjab, but to all the women of Punjab," the Minister said in an ap-

peared at 2.06% and at 4.08% of GDP (Gross State Domestic Product), respectively," he said.

As per the Budget estimates, Punjab's outstanding debt for 2020-21 would stand at ₹4,42,504.16 crore, up from ₹4,02,533.51 crore in 2020-20. The effective outstanding debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated at 48.13% for 2020-21.

Opposition parties reacted sharply to the budget, the last by the AAP government in the Assembly.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Pardeep Singh Bajwa said the scheme had been announced years ago. "The AAP government promised ₹1,000 per month to every woman in 2022... This is not government's top priority in election season politics," Mr. Bajwa said.

'Women engineers must build confidence, visibility to lead'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Three alumni of the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) took centre stage at a webinar on "From Campus To C-Suite: Women Engineers Leading India's Tech Boom" on Sunday to share their career journeys and insights.

The webinar was organised by the VIT, Vellore, in collaboration with The Hindu Education Plus, an part of the Career Path series, to mark International Women's Day.

While opportunities exist and women are actively breaking the glass ceiling in engineering, barriers remain in reaching top leadership positions. The panelists spoke about the challenges they faced and shone light on key skills required to excel in competitive tech environments. "Since certain engineering disciplines, such as me-



chanical, chemical and metallurgical, are not quite identified as women's bastions, the fear of falling and criticism keeps the women away," observed Dr. Bharathi Rajagopalan, Associate Professor at School of Electronics Engineering, VIT Vellore.

She said not every woman is motivated to take up an engineering course or a job, and the mindset of family often decides her career path. "Women look after the family after marriage, or they relocate for the spouse; so they are not being supported with Work From Home or online jobs," she suggested.

Himachal plans quota for women in Class 3 jobs

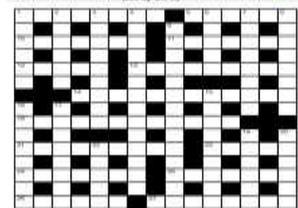
The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvir Singh Sodhi on Sunday said that the State government would introduce a law guaranteeing 25% reservation for women in recruitment to Class 3 government posts. He was presiding over the State-level International Women's Day function held in Sirmaur district.

Asserting that the Congress government is committed to strengthening women's participation, he said a special recruitment drive for women sub-inspectors would be undertaken in the Police Department.

He said women's welfare remained the State government's top priority, with women at the heart of every policy initiative.

CROSSWORD 14736



Across

- 1 Dash after eating ball and raise cap (5,3)
- 2 View moving closer to India (5)
- 3 Escalator put in laser affected parts of the brain (7)
- 11 Overcast and turn green after drinking spirit (7)
- 12 Turned plume in a post Pacific acid (5)
- 13 Man running bare in the open near this place (5)

Solve this puzzle online and

win some great prizes at

<https://thehindu.com/crosswords>



SUDOKU

		7		9				
		6	2	7	5			
	9	4	5					2
1	3			8	4			
				5				7
		5				7	4	
1			4	5	2			
	9	4	2	3				
6			8					

Solution to previous puzzle

4	2	9	5	6	3	9		
6	8	9	3	4	5	2		
5	9	4	5					2
1	3			8	4			
				5				7
				5				7
			4	5	2			
	9	4	2	3				
6			8					

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	2	9	5	6	3	9		
6	8	9	3	4	5	2		
5	9	4	5					2
1	3			8	4			
				5				7
				5				7
			4	5	2			
	9	4	2	3				
6			8					

FAITH

Vedic wisdom on charity

The Vedas illuminate the subtle paths of the divine journey that are otherwise unknown to us, presenting them through sacred narratives and prayers. Among these, the principles of charity are explained with great clarity and resonance. Charity, the Vedas declare, should be offered with complete dedication and a selfless heart. Sri Hanurama Kalpa Valisya Swami, while expounding the significance of charity, cited the Rigveda, Eighth Ashoka, Sixth Adhyaya. He explained that hunger repeatedly afflicts human life, though it cannot be eradicated entirely. It can be alleviated temporarily. Therefore, feeding the hungry is regarded as the most sacred and auspicious form of charity. A person who practices charity attains the merits equivalent to the performance of yajnas and sacred rites. Such generosity transforms even adversaries into friends. In contrast, one who withholds charity finds that people do not befriend him. For those who practice charity, wealth moves in a continuous cycle, much like the revolving wheel of a temple chariot. These riches never stagnate but return manifold through righteous circulation. In contrast, those who refuse to give, even while consuming wealth for themselves, are destined to partake in sin, for enjoyment devoid of sharing is regarded as eating the fruits of one's own transgressions. We cannot expect everyone to be able in the matter of charity. Even though both hands of a person appear similar and are equally formed, their strength and capacity are not the same. Likewise, each individual's ability to give through charity must be understood and appreciated in accordance with one's means. Charity must be offered with humility,

Railways launches app for women staff to report harassment

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

The Indian Railways has launched a customised app for women employees to lodge complaints about sexual harassment at workplace.

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This complements existing internal complaints committees under the 1997 Vishakha guidelines and government directives to protect women at the workplace.

With SHINE, women employees can lodge complaints through the Human Resources Management System.

According to railway sources, SHINE also allows reporting incidents or complaints on behalf of outsiders (visitors), contractual staff, students and others who may not have access to the app. It would maintain confidentiality and address issues brought to the notice of the authorities concerned effectively. The app could be accessed via the 'Employee Self Service' system.

- 1. Indian Railways has launched a mobile application to help women employees report sexual harassment at the workplace / भारतीय रेलवे ने कार्यस्थल पर यौन उत्पीड़न की शिकायत दर्ज करने के लिए महिला कर्मचारियों हेतु एक मोबाइल ऐप शुरू किया है।**
 - The application is called **Sexual Harassment Incident Notification for Empowerment (SHINE)** / इस एप्लिकेशन का नाम **Sexual Harassment Incident Notification for Empowerment (SHINE)** है।
 - It was launched on the occasion of **International Women's Day** / इसे अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस के अवसर पर शुरू किया गया।
- 2. The SHINE app enables women staff to lodge complaints digitally through official systems / SHINE ऐप महिला कर्मचारियों को आधिकारिक डिजिटल प्रणाली के माध्यम से शिकायत दर्ज करने की सुविधा देता है।**
 - Complaints can be filed through the Human Resources Management System (HRMS) / शिकायतें मानव संसाधन प्रबंधन प्रणाली (HRMS) के माध्यम से दर्ज की जा सकती हैं।
 - The app is integrated with the Employee Self Service system / यह ऐप कर्मचारी सेल्फ सर्विस प्रणाली से जुड़ा हुआ है।
- 3. The initiative strengthens existing mechanisms created under the Vishaka Guidelines / यह पहल विशाखा दिशानिर्देशों के तहत पहले से मौजूद तंत्र को और मजबूत बनाती है।**
 - Internal Complaints Committees already exist in workplaces to handle harassment cases / कार्यस्थलों पर उत्पीड़न के मामलों को संभालने के लिए आंतरिक शिकायत समितियाँ पहले से मौजूद हैं।
 - The app complements these committees by making reporting easier / यह ऐप शिकायत दर्ज करने की प्रक्रिया को आसान बनाकर इन समितियों की सहायता करता है।

4. The platform allows complaints to be filed even by outsiders connected with the workplace / यह प्लेटफॉर्म कार्यस्थल से जुड़े बाहरी लोगों को भी शिकायत दर्ज करने की अनुमति देता है।

- Visitors, contractual workers, students, and others can report incidents / आगंतुक, संविदा कर्मचारी, छात्र और अन्य लोग भी घटनाओं की शिकायत कर सकते हैं।
- This expands the protection framework beyond regular employees / इससे सुरक्षा ढांचा केवल नियमित कर्मचारियों तक सीमित नहीं रहता।

5. Confidentiality and secure handling of complaints are key features of the application / शिकायतों की गोपनीयता और सुरक्षित प्रबंधन इस ऐप की प्रमुख विशेषताएँ हैं।

- Sensitive complaints are kept confidential / संवेदनशील शिकायतों को गोपनीय रखा जाता है।
- Authorities can respond more efficiently through a digital platform / डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म के माध्यम से अधिकारी अधिक प्रभावी ढंग से कार्रवाई कर सकते हैं।

6. The initiative reflects a broader effort to create safer workplaces in government institutions / यह पहल सरकारी संस्थानों में सुरक्षित कार्यस्थल बनाने के व्यापक प्रयास को दर्शाती है।

- Technology is increasingly being used for grievance redressal / शिकायत निवारण के लिए तकनीक का उपयोग बढ़ रहा है।
- Such systems encourage reporting and accountability / ऐसी प्रणालियाँ शिकायत दर्ज करने और जवाबदेही को बढ़ावा देती हैं।



Topic

Vishaka Guidelines

POSH Act

Internal Complaints Committee

SHINE App

Launch occasion

HRMS

Objective

Fact

Issued by the Supreme Court in 1997 to prevent sexual harassment at workplaces

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013

Mandatory committee in workplaces with more than 10 employees

Digital platform for reporting harassment cases in Indian Railways

International Women's Day

Human Resource Management System used by Indian Railways

Improve safety, accountability, and complaint reporting mechanisms



Legal Framework for Workplace Safety

- 1. Vishaka Guidelines laid the foundation for workplace protection laws / विशाखा दिशानिर्देशों ने कार्यस्थल सुरक्षा कानूनों की नींव रखी।**
 - Issued by the Supreme Court in 1997 in the Vishaka vs State of Rajasthan case / यह 1997 में सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा विशाखा बनाम राजस्थान राज्य मामले में जारी किए गए।
 - They mandated the creation of complaint committees in workplaces / उन्होंने कार्यस्थलों पर शिकायत समितियों के गठन को अनिवार्य किया।
 - 2. The POSH Act of 2013 legally institutionalised these guidelines / 2013 का POSH अधिनियम इन दिशानिर्देशों को कानूनी रूप से लागू करता है।**
 - It mandates prevention, prohibition, and redressal mechanisms / यह रोकथाम, निषेध और शिकायत निवारण तंत्र को अनिवार्य बनाता है।
 - Every organisation must establish an Internal Complaints Committee / प्रत्येक संगठन को आंतरिक शिकायत समिति स्थापित करनी होती है।
 - 3. Digital platforms are increasingly used to strengthen grievance systems / शिकायत प्रणाली को मजबूत करने के लिए डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म का उपयोग बढ़ रहा है।**
 - Apps and online portals enable faster reporting / ऐप और ऑनलाइन पोर्टल तेज़ शिकायत दर्ज करने में मदद करते हैं।
 - They improve transparency and monitoring / इससे पारदर्शिता और निगरानी बेहतर होती है।
-

- Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
- The Vishaka Guidelines were issued by the Supreme Court of India in 1997 / विशाखा दिशानिर्देश 1997 में भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा जारी किए गए थे।
- The POSH Act was enacted in 2013 to address sexual harassment at the workplace / POSH अधिनियम 2013 में कार्यस्थल पर यौन उत्पीड़न से निपटने के लिए बनाया गया था।
- Internal Complaints Committees are optional for workplaces employing more than 10 employees / 10 से अधिक कर्मचारियों वाले कार्यस्थलों में आंतरिक शिकायत समिति बनाना वैकल्पिक है।
- Which of the statements given above are correct / ऊपर दिए गए कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?
 - A. 1 and 2 only / केवल 1 और 2
 - B. 2 and 3 only / केवल 2 और 3
 - C. 1 and 3 only / केवल 1 और 3
 - D. 1, 2 and 3 / 1, 2 और 3

IN BRIEF

Fit to width

Randell sets record with five wickets off five balls

New Zealand domestic bowler Brent Randell on Monday became the first player in the 254-year history of First Class cricket to take five wickets off five consecutive deliveries. Randell achieved the feat bowling for Central Districts (CD) against Northern Districts (ND) on the first of a Premier 1000 match in front of a sparse crowd at Napier's McLean Park. Ireland International Curtis Grainger took five wickets off five balls in a domestic T20 match last year, becoming the first player to do so in a professional game. Randell's eight wickets surpassed Grainger's 701 top-order. Randell claimed seven for 26.

AIFF condoles the demise of former India forward Hamid

The AIFF condoled the demise of former India forward Hamid Hasan Hamid, who passed away on Friday. He represented India once, at the 1984 AFC Asian Cup against Hong Kong in Thailand, which India won 3-1. AIFF president Satish Choudhary said, "Good footballer Hamid Hasan was a player forward in his days. His contributions to Indian football will always be remembered with great respect."



Vaishnavi completes a memorable double

Vaishnavi Adar continued her dream run, winning the ITF WTA Kalamnang singles title after a 7-6(3), 6-4 victory over compatriot Adina Panu in the final on Sunday. This was Vaishnavi's biggest title, and comes on the back of the runner-up finish in the Bangalore ITF WTA tournament.

Arsdeep Kaur wins 25m pistol T3 final as top spot

Arsdeep Kaur secured the top spot at the 20th women's pistol in the National shooting selection trials (NSST) in Delhi. She also secured Manu Bhaker, in New Delhi. Arsdeep edged out the experienced V.S. Divya 27-96 to finish on top in the eight-shooter final. Kaur finished with 31 hits after Divya prevailed over her in a shoot-off. Manu qualified for final in top spot after two days of qualification in the precision and rapid stages with a combined score of 563-75 (precision 267, rapid 295).

Working with coach Vishnu fast-tracked GM Arav's rise



Arav Arav, 10-year-old chess prodigy, has been playing chess since the age of five. He is currently ranked 10th in the world. He is coached by Vishnu, a former national champion. Arav's rise to the top of the world rankings is attributed to his coach Vishnu's guidance. Vishnu has been coaching Arav since he was 10 years old. Vishnu has helped Arav to develop his chess skills and to become a professional player. Vishnu has also helped Arav to win several international tournaments. Vishnu has been coaching Arav for over 10 years. Vishnu has helped Arav to become a world-class player. Vishnu has helped Arav to become a professional player. Vishnu has helped Arav to win several international tournaments. Vishnu has been coaching Arav for over 10 years. Vishnu has helped Arav to become a world-class player. Vishnu has helped Arav to become a professional player. Vishnu has helped Arav to win several international tournaments.

Heartbreak for Lakshya as he falls at the final hurdle for the second time

The Ahmedabad shooter falls hard before losing in the 57-minute contest, marked by high-speed rallies and rebound attacking play; the result means Pankaj (1980) and Gopichand (2000) remain the only Indians to have won the All England title

BADMINTON

From Team of India

Lakshya Sen fought with all his might but lost against world number one Lee Zhihao in the final of the 2020 All England Open Badminton Championships. Lakshya lost 2-0 (15-21, 20-22) in a 57-minute contest, marked by high-speed rallies and rebound attacking play. "Yes, I think it was a good match today. The first set was, I think, for a better player, but as a coach, I think I could have helped out better. But I'm happy with the way I played throughout the week," Lakshya said. Lakshya's defeat means that Pankaj Pambhakar (1980) and Poulina Gopichand (2000) remain the only Indians to have won the prestigious title, while Pankaj (1987) and Saina Nehwal (2005) had come closest with runner-up finishes before Lakshya's two final appearances. Lakshya lost in the second round in his previous two All England appearances, losing to the world number one in 2017 and 2018. Lakshya's defeat in the final of the 2020 All England Open Badminton Championships is a heartbreak for the Indian player. Lakshya had reached the final of the 2020 All England Open Badminton Championships after defeating Viktor Axelsen of Denmark in the quarterfinals. Lakshya had also defeated Viktor Axelsen in the semifinals. Lakshya had a chance to win the title but fell short in the final. Lakshya had a chance to win the title but fell short in the final. Lakshya had a chance to win the title but fell short in the final.



Victor and conqueror: In right, India's Lakshya Sen (left) and Lee Zhihao (right) with the All England Open Badminton Championships trophy.

After a 32-hour journey, China joins Chennai in hours before ISL match, goes on to play

S. Srivastava

China's national football team arrived in Chennai on Sunday after a 32-hour journey from Guangzhou. The team is set to play against Chennaiyin FC in the Indian Super League (ISL) match on Monday. The team is led by coach Li Ke. The team has a long history of success in the Chinese Super League. The team has won the league title several times. The team is expected to be a strong contender in the ISL. The team has a strong squad of players. The team has a strong coaching staff. The team has a strong fan base. The team has a strong reputation. The team has a strong history. The team has a strong future.



China's national football team arrived in Chennai on Sunday after a 32-hour journey from Guangzhou.

Australia crushes India by 10 wickets

From Team of India

Australia crushed India by 10 wickets in the first Test match of the 2020-21 season. Australia scored 300 runs in the first innings, while India scored 190 runs. Australia scored 250 runs in the second innings, while India scored 140 runs. Australia won the match by 10 wickets. Australia's captain, Steve Smith, scored 100 runs. Australia's bowler, Mitchell Starc, took 5 wickets. India's captain, Virat Kohli, scored 50 runs. India's bowler, Jasprit Bumrah, took 3 wickets. The match was a one-sided affair. Australia dominated the match from start to finish. Australia's batting was superb. Australia's bowling was excellent. India's batting was poor. India's bowling was average. The match was a disappointment for India. India's fans were disappointed. India's players were disappointed. India's coach was disappointed. India's manager was disappointed. India's board was disappointed. India's government was disappointed. India's people were disappointed. India's future is uncertain.

India's batting was poor. India's bowling was average. The match was a disappointment for India. India's fans were disappointed. India's players were disappointed. India's coach was disappointed. India's manager was disappointed. India's board was disappointed. India's government was disappointed. India's people were disappointed. India's future is uncertain.

Lohakare takes javelin top spot

From Team of India

Lohakare won the javelin title at the 2020 National Shooting Selection Trials (NSST) in Delhi. Lohakare scored 68.00 points in the final. Lohakare is a former national champion. Lohakare has won the javelin title several times. Lohakare is a strong contender in the javelin. Lohakare has a strong squad of players. Lohakare has a strong coaching staff. Lohakare has a strong fan base. Lohakare has a strong reputation. Lohakare has a strong history. Lohakare has a strong future.

Lohakare's batting was poor. Lohakare's bowling was average. The match was a disappointment for Lohakare. Lohakare's fans were disappointed. Lohakare's players were disappointed. Lohakare's coach was disappointed. Lohakare's manager was disappointed. Lohakare's board was disappointed. Lohakare's government was disappointed. Lohakare's people were disappointed. Lohakare's future is uncertain.

India proves too good for Uruguay



India proved too good for Uruguay in the 2020-21 season. India scored 3-0 in the first match. India scored 2-0 in the second match. India scored 1-0 in the third match. India won all three matches. India's captain, Virat Kohli, scored 5 goals. India's bowler, Jasprit Bumrah, took 3 wickets. Uruguay's captain, Luis Suarez, scored 2 goals. Uruguay's bowler, Sergio Reguilon, took 1 wicket. The matches were one-sided affairs. India dominated the matches from start to finish. India's batting was superb. India's bowling was excellent. Uruguay's batting was poor. Uruguay's bowling was average. The matches were a disappointment for Uruguay. Uruguay's fans were disappointed. Uruguay's players were disappointed. Uruguay's coach was disappointed. Uruguay's manager was disappointed. Uruguay's board was disappointed. Uruguay's government was disappointed. Uruguay's people were disappointed. Uruguay's future is uncertain.

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Heartbreak for Lakshya as he falls at the final hurdle for the second time

The Almora shuttler fights hard before losing to Lin 15-21, 20-22 in a 57-minute contest marked by high-speed rallies and relentless attacking play; the result means Padukone (1980) and Gopichand (2001) remain the only Indians to have won the All England title

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
BIRMINGHAM

Lakshya Sen fought with all his might but fell agonisingly short of ending India's 25-year wait for an All England crown, losing to Taiwan's Lin Chun-Yi in a high-intensity men's singles final here on Sunday.

Playing his second All England final after finishing runner-up in 2022, the 24-year-old from Almora fought hard before losing 15-21, 20-22 in a 57-minute contest, marked by high-speed rallies and relentless attacking play.

"Yes, I think it was a good match today. The first set was, I think he was a better player, but in the second game I could have finished off better. But I'm happy with the way I

played throughout the week," Lakshya said.

Lakshya's defeat meant that Prakash Padukone (1980) and Pullela Gopichand (2001) remain the only Indians to have won the prestigious title, while Prakash Nath (1947) and Saina Nehwal (2015) had come closest with runner-up finishes before Lakshya's two final appearances.

Lakshya had arrived in the summit clash in impressive form after defeating some of the world's best players such as world No. 1 Shi Yu Qi and World No. 6 Li Shi Feng during the week.

The Indian had endured a gruelling route to the final, including a marathon 97-minute semifinal against Canada's Victor Lai during which he battled severe cramps and blisters on his foot.

Playing with strapping on both thighs, Lakshya

made a slow start and trailed 0-3 as Lin immediately asserted himself with sharp attacking play.

Lakshya tried to stay alive with a series of retrieving efforts and precise pushes to the backline but Lin sealed the opening game in 24 minutes to leave the Indian facing an uphill battle.

The second game began with Lakshya still searching for rhythm and trailing 3-4 after a couple of wide tosses.

But the Indian soon turned the momentum around.

A thrilling exchange followed as the two traded blows in a remarkable 46-shot rally that drew loud applause from the crowd. Lin edged ahead 16-15 with a perfectly disguised drop, but Lakshya replied with a 321 kmph smash to restore parity before Lin pulled through.



Victor and vanquished: Lin, right, dashed Lakshya's hopes of a famous triumph. GETTY IMAGES

Men's singles

Career record	210 wins, 116 losses
Highest ranking	6 (8 November 2022)
Current ranking	12 (3 March 2026)
Honours	Arjuna Award
	BWF profile ↗

Medal record [hide]

Men's badminton

Representing  **India**

World Championships

B 2021 Huelva Men's singles

Thomas Cup

G 2022 Bangkok Men's team

Commonwealth Games

G 2022 Birmingham Men's singles

S 2022 Birmingham Mixed team

Asian Games

S 2022 Hangzhou Men's team

Asia Mixed Team Championships

B 2023 Dubai Mixed team

Asia Team Championships

B 2020 Manila Men's team

Youth Olympic Games

S 2018 Buenos Aires Boys' singles

World Junior Championships

B 2018 Markham Boys' singles

Asian Junior Championships

G 2018 Jakarta Boys singles

B 2016 Bangkok Boys' singles

Representing  **Mixed-NOCs**

Youth Olympic Games

G 2018 Buenos Aires Mixed team

- 1. Indian badminton player Lakshya Sen finished runner-up at the All England Badminton Championships after losing the final / भारतीय बैडमिंटन खिलाड़ी लक्ष्य सेन ऑल इंग्लैंड बैडमिंटन चैंपियनशिप के फाइनल में हारकर उपविजेता रहे।**
 - He lost to Taiwan's player Lin Chun-Yi in the men's singles final / उन्होंने पुरुष एकल फाइनल में ताइवान के खिलाड़ी लिन चुन-यी से हार का सामना किया।
 - The scoreline was **15-21, 20-22** in a match lasting about **57 minutes** / मुकाबला लगभग **57 मिनट** चला और स्कोर **15-21, 20-22** रहा।
- 2. This was Lakshya Sen's second appearance in the All England final / यह लक्ष्य सेन का ऑल इंग्लैंड फाइनल में दूसरा अवसर था।**
 - He had also finished runner-up earlier in **2022** / इससे पहले वह **2022** में भी उपविजेता रहे थे।
 - Despite strong performances, he narrowly missed winning the prestigious title again / मजबूत प्रदर्शन के बावजूद वह प्रतिष्ठित खिताब जीतने से फिर चूक गए।
- 3. Lakshya Sen had an impressive journey to the final defeating top-ranked players / लक्ष्य सेन ने फाइनल तक पहुँचने के लिए कई शीर्ष खिलाड़ियों को हराया।**
 - He defeated world No.1 Shi Yu Qi during the tournament / उन्होंने टूर्नामेंट के दौरान विश्व नंबर-1 शी यू ची को हराया।
 - He also beat China's Li Shi Feng, another top badminton player / उन्होंने चीन के शीर्ष खिलाड़ी ली शी फेंग को भी पराजित किया।

4. Lakshya fought through a physically demanding tournament / लक्ष्य ने शारीरिक रूप से चुनौतीपूर्ण टूर्नामेंट खेला।

- He played a long **97-minute semifinal match** against Canada's Victor Lai / उन्होंने कनाडा के विक्टर लाई के खिलाफ **97 मिनट का सेमीफाइनल** खेला।
- During the match he suffered cramps and blisters but still managed to reach the final / मैच के दौरान उन्हें ऐंठन और पैरों में छाले हुए, फिर भी वे फाइनल तक पहुँचे।

5. Despite losing the final, Lakshya Sen showed strong attacking gameplay / फाइनल हारने के बावजूद लक्ष्य सेन ने शानदार आक्रामक खेल दिखाया।

- The match featured high-speed rallies and aggressive smashes / मैच में तेज़ रैलियाँ और आक्रामक स्मैश देखने को मिले।
- One smash by Lakshya reached a speed of around **321 km/h** / लक्ष्य का एक स्मैश लगभग **321 किमी/घंटा** की गति तक पहुँचा।

6. India's wait for another All England men's singles title continues / भारत को ऑल इंग्लैंड पुरुष एकल खिताब के लिए अभी भी इंतजार करना होगा।

- Only two Indian men have won the All England title so far / अब तक केवल दो भारतीय पुरुष खिलाड़ियों ने यह खिताब जीता है।
- These are **Prakash Padukone (1980)** and **Pullela Gopichand (2001)** / ये खिलाड़ी हैं **प्रकाश पादुकोण (1980)** और **पुलेला गोपीचंद (2001)**।

Topic

Tournament

Started

Governing body

Venue

First Indian winner

Second Indian winner

Famous Indian female champion

Indian badminton governing body

Fact

All England Open Badminton Championships

1899

Badminton World Federation (BWF)

Birmingham, England

Prakash Padukone (1980)

Pullela Gopichand (2001)

Saina Nehwal (2015)

Badminton Association of India

- Consider the following statements / निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिए:
- The All England Open Badminton Championships began in 1899 / ऑल इंग्लैंड ओपन बैडमिंटन चैंपियनशिप की शुरुआत 1899 में हुई थी।
- Prakash Padukone was the first Indian to win the All England badminton title / प्रकाश पादुकोण ऑल इंग्लैंड बैडमिंटन खिताब जीतने वाले पहले भारतीय थे।
- Lakshya Sen became the first Indian to win the All England title in 2026 / लक्ष्य सेन 2026 में ऑल इंग्लैंड खिताब जीतने वाले पहले भारतीय बने।
- Which of the above statements is/are correct / उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?
 - A. 1 and 2 only / केवल 1 और 2
 - B. 1 and 3 only / केवल 1 और 3
 - C. 2 and 3 only / केवल 2 और 3
 - D. 1, 2 and 3 / 1, 2 और 3

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a large, spherical object covered in intricate beadwork. The object features a complex geometric pattern of colorful beads in shades of blue, orange, yellow, green, and red. The person holding it is wearing a garment with a similar, vibrant geometric pattern. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The text "Khelo India Tribal Games 2026" is overlaid in white across the center of the image.

Khelo India Tribal Games 2026

Topic	Information	नवप्रवर्ध
Khelo India Scheme Launch	2018	2018
Nature of Scheme	Central Sector Scheme for grassroots sports development	नवप्रवर्ध b घ हघ द्दच श्रद्धवर्द्ध इद्दश्रद्ध इद्दहग ल्द ग्द प्द
Nodal Agency	Sports Authority of India (SAI)	क्रप्रधलहग द्दच ब्रश्र इघर् जSAI)
Event of National Importance	Declared in 2020	उजउजरबधनंका खणदु इव इवगह्खर द्दश्रल
Purpose of Khelo India	Identify young sports talent and develop sports infrastructure	श्रद्धवर्द्ध ब्रलक्रवर्द्ध हणद्वर्द्ध उघ द्दच १ अद्दघद्वर्द्ध इव श्रद्धवर्द्ध
Traditional Sport	Mallakhamb combines yoga, gymnastics and wrestling techniques	रवँ द्दत्र ग्दग श्र व्दस इ उघ द्दक ह ल्द षहद्दश्रद्धवर्द्ध द्दश्रल ष प्द
Key Vision	Strengthening India's sports culture and Olympic preparation	क्रप्रधल इह द्दच द्दश्रद्धवर्द्ध उघ इ चश्रद्ध ल्दश्रलह द्दश्रल खण इघष्व

State

Key Tribal Groups

ब्रह्म न ए न्वश्रुगळ्

Chhattisgarh

Gond, Baiga, Halba

एम्न एम्न एम्न

Jharkhand

Santhal, Munda, Ho

द्वेष्य रक्षत्र एम्न

Odisha

Kondh, Bonda, Saura

इम्न एम्न द्क्षत्र

Madhya Pradesh

Bhil, Gond

ब्रह्म एम्न

Rajasthan

Bhil, Meena, Garasia

ब्रह्म रक्षत्र एम्न



US Tests Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

Topic	Information	नवःडवघह
Missile Name	LGM-30G Minuteman III	इचन्हडरघटजन्ह श्रक्र बरकाघा।।
Country	United States of America	दुसक घृ शरकाडव
Type	Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)	शत्रुघरवणेहहहग [अघा] इ श्रवद्वस्च
Test Date	March 2026	रकडुजजगद
Launch Location	California Coast, USA	इचघप्रडुश्रगल [शरकाडव]
Operated By	US Air Force Global Strike Command	गडुड इगघ [इडुसु] च अघड इरका
Command Base	Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana	[वडुडु] इगघ [इडुसु] [डु] अश्रधगव
Target Area	Near Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands	कवन्त्रचह [डुडु] रकडुचोहह
Deployment Year	1970	1970
Range	About 6,000 miles (~9,600 km)	चणकण दजजजरक्य जडुदुजश्ररक्य
Speed	Over 15,000 miles per hour	इडुजजरक्य अल त्रडुडुश्रइ
Warhead Capability	Can carry nuclear warheads	हघरकसुअणु चन्वडुडुलव
Number Deployed	Around 400 missiles	चणकण ठजश्रवद्वस्च लवल

Topic	Information	नवः ड्रवघह
ICBM Meaning	Long-range missile capable of travelling more than 5,500 km	इण्डजश्वरह दू १२ इ लहलग डघड् अघह अघह लहड् शवद्रसच
Nuclear Triad	Land-based missiles, submarine-launched missiles, strategic bombers	कसव ७ शवद्र शवद्रसच ह ७ हह दू वणह नवः अघह शवद्रसच घर् षहड् रवड्
Key US Missile Bases	Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming	रडवण्ड ७ ड् ड् अघह
Testing Site	Kwajalein Atoll missile testing range	कनवण्ड ड् अघह हघहर् f च
Strategic Role	Part of US nuclear deterrence system	१ रवड् ड् हघह अघह ड् अघह
Programme Nature	Routine test for reliability and readiness	अघह ड् अघह अघह नवः

Country	Missile	Range
USA	Minuteman III	~9,600 km
Russia	RS-28 Sarmat	~18,000 km
China	DF-41	~12,000–15,000 km
India	Agni-V	~5,000–8,000 km



Japan Approves First Stem-Cell Therapy for Parkinson's Disease

Topic	Information	नवप्रवृत्त
Country	Japan	नवप्रदेश
Medical Breakthrough	First approved stem-cell therapy for Parkinson's disease	हृदयप्रदं च्छा इन्द्रियं हृदयसहस्रं अङ्गुली द्वयं लक्ष्मि
Therapy Type	Stem-cell therapy using induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells	सुखान्तिक्षिप्तं अङ्गुली (PS) इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं हृदयं श्रमं लक्ष्मि
Company	Sumitomo Pharma	सुखान्तिक्षिप्तं अङ्गुली
Drug Name	Amchepry	इन्द्रियं
Approval Authority	Government of Japan / Health authorities	नवप्रदेशं द्वयं इन्द्रियं सव्यं अङ्गुली
Main Research Institution	Kyoto University	इन्द्रियं अङ्गुली
Target Disease	Parkinson's Disease	हृदयप्रदं च्छा
Treatment Method	Transplantation of lab-grown stem-cell-derived neurons into the brain	इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं
Clinical Trial Participants	7 patients (age 50–69 years)	इन्द्रियं (इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं)
Monitoring Period	Around 2 years	इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं
Result	No major adverse effects; improvement seen in several patients	इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं इन्द्रियं

Topic

Information

नरुडुवधु

Stem Cells

Cells that can develop into different types of body cells

रुदुह डुडुडु डुवडुडुडुडुडुडुडुडु डुडुवधु डुह
रुघुहधु डुह डुडुडु डुवडुडु रडुडुडुडुडुडु डुडुडु
रुडु लुह डुडु

iPS Cells

Induced pluripotent stem cells created by reprogramming adult cells

अगुडु डुडुडु डुवडुडु डुडु डुडुडुडुडुडु डुघु
डुडुडु डुडुडु डुडुडु डुडुडु डुडुडु

Scientist

Shinya Yamanaka

शुडुडु गडुडुडुडुडु

Nobel Prize

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2012

शुडुडुडुडुडुडु गडुडुडुडुडु डुडुडु डुडुडुडुडु
डुडुडुडुडुडुडु

Discovery Significance

Allows stem-cell therapy without using embryos

डुडु डुव डुडुडुडुडु डुडु डुडुडु डुडुडुडुडु
डुडु डुवडु डुडुडु

About Parkinson's Disease (Exam Important)

Topic	Information	जानकारी
Disease Type	Neurodegenerative disease	न्यूरोडीजेनेरेटिव रोग
Cause	Loss of dopamine-producing neurons in brain	मस्तिष्क में डोपामिन बनाने वाली कोशिकाओं का नष्ट होना
Main Symptoms	Tremors, muscle stiffness, slow movement	कंपकंपी, मांसपेशियों की जकड़न, धीमी गति
Affected Organ	Brain (especially basal ganglia region)	मस्तिष्क (विशेषकर बेसल गैंग्लिया क्षेत्र)
Global Patients	Around 10 million people worldwide	विश्व में लगभग 1 करोड़ लोग प्रभावित

Additional Medical Innovation

Topic	Information	जानकारी
Additional Therapy Approved	ReHeart therapy	रीहार्ट थेरेपी
Purpose	Treatment for severe heart failure	गंभीर हृदय विफलता का उपचार
Developed By	Cuorips (Japanese medical startup)	क्योरिप्स (जापानी मेडिकल स्टार्टअप)
Technology Used	Stem-cell-derived heart muscle cell sheets	स्टेम-सेल से विकसित हृदय मांसपेशी कोशिकाएँ

Consider the following statements:

1. Japan approved the first stem-cell therapy for Parkinson's disease using induced pluripotent stem cells.

जापान ने इंड्यूस्ड प्लुरिपोटेंट स्टेम कोशिकाओं का उपयोग कर पार्किंसन रोग के लिए पहली स्टेम-सेल थेरेपी को मंजूरी दी।

2. Induced pluripotent stem cells were discovered by Japanese scientist Shinya Yamanaka.

इंड्यूस्ड प्लुरिपोटेंट स्टेम कोशिकाओं की खोज जापानी वैज्ञानिक शिन्या यामानाका ने की थी।

3. Parkinson's disease occurs due to damage of dopamine-producing neurons in the brain.

पार्किंसन रोग मस्तिष्क में डोपामिन बनाने वाली कोशिकाओं के नष्ट होने से होता है।

Which of the above statements are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only / केवल 1 और 2

B. 2 and 3 only / केवल 2 और 3

C. 1, 2 and 3 / 1, 2 और 3

D. 1 only / केवल 1

Word of the day

Deride:

treat or speak of with contempt

Synonyms: ridicule, mock, insult

Usage: *Some people deride new ideas without thinking.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/deridepro

International Phonetic

Alphabet: /dɪraɪd/

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Thank you 😊