Daily Current Affairs



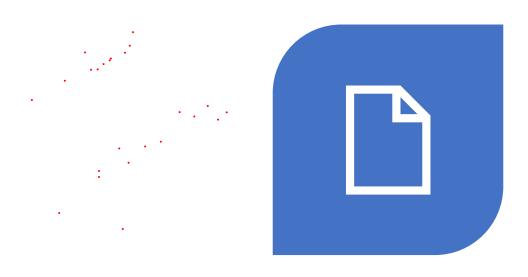








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PDF

10 MCQ QUIZ



"Time is a drug. Too much of it kills you."

Terry Pratchett, Small Gods



Six killed as gunmen open fire at bus stop WORLD IN PAGE 14





Economic practices must be fair Minister HEWS X PAGE 4

Costly private kindergarten education Fees may be very high: data from govt. survey OPINION - PAGE 9



Alcaraz beats Sinner. regains US Open title SPORT N PAGE 18

THIRD VANANTHAPURAM

3021-3033. III PARK II

2 terrorists and 2 soldiers killed

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he latest Sample Registration

SC orders poll panel to accept Aadhaar as ID

EC ordered to instruct officials in Bihar to accept
Adhaar during special intensive revision of rolls
Adhaar during special intensive revision of rolls
The judges clarified that Aadhaar would be used as proof of identity and not as evidence of citizenship this amounts to gross contempt, says Kapil Sibal

Kerala's maternal mortality ratio is up from 18 to 30 Andhair as the 13th "Indi-cative" document that those seeking inclusion or dectoral rolls of Biliar could file as presel of identiry during the special inten-

in J&K operation BRINADAR
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were killed during a day-long
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crore in the State, were ex-cluded from the draft rolls published on August 1. The deadline for filing and the state of the con-clude names for reasons such as death, permanent shifting, and duplication, was september 1, The IcC, on deprember 2, clarified that these were welcome

roll could attach either Author card or any of the 0 "indicative" documents.

BLOs at refusal

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were refusing to accept
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August 14, the court formatly directed the use of
Andham as a proof of identry and residence. Finally,
on August 22, (in response
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ers. There are no instruc-tions from Rt: to officers to accept. Aadhaar. despite separate orders by this court... I have 24 affidavits haar was like any other of from people from various districts who were unsuecusoful in giving Author. The EC's conduct amounts to gross contempt of this

to gross contempt of this court's orders. We want Andhhair to be used an proof of residence or identification of the second of t

as proof of citizenship. Jostice Bagehi said And haar was not "alien" to the

hair was not "alsen" to the Representation of the Peo-ple Ad. "One of the provi-let of the provi-let of the provilet of the theory and the proof of residence," the judge said. The court orally asked of the province of the pro-der or that disprised vo-sient of the provilet of the oral province of the pro-tory of the province of the oral province of the pro-tory of the province of the province of the pro-tory of the province of the province of the pro-tory of the pro-to

further hearing on Sep-

Army intensifies relief efforts in

NEW DRIAMS The Stellan Arrey has been carrying out extensive Formardiarian assistance and disaster relief relies ions in flood-affected regions across the country, with a special focus on the worst-filt areas o Jamimu and Bashmir, is PAGE 8

flood-hit areas

U.K., India Infra Bridge suggests policy changes

The U.K. Imilia Infrastructure The U.K. Initia Infrastructure. Financing firingin, an institutive by the Indian and U.K. governments, marked its first answeream in Combon with a report, althoughous from initial projects to eight de-lisking recommunications for ledito, or Monthly, or Rock 14

Dancing tigers



French PM Bayrou, who sought to cut debt, is ousted by Parliament in confidence vote

Agence France:Presse

France's Parliament on Monday ousted the govern-ment of Prime Minister Francois Bayrou after Just nine months in office, leas-ing President Emmanuel Macron scrambling to find a successor and plunging the country into a new pol-

Mr. Bayrou, who has been in the job for not nine months, had blindsided even his allies by calling a confidence vote to end a lengthy stand-off over his

FM (SIN)



sored that they had no con-Mr. Bayrou, is the first premier in the bistory of modern France to be sua-ed in a confidence were rather than a inconfi-dence vote. In the National Assembly, 364 deputies solved that they had be con-fidence in the government, while just 104 gave it their confidence. "In line with Article 50 of the constitu-tion, the Prime Minister must submit the rozigna-

tion of his government, Speaker Yael Brain-Pivet and. Mr. Bayron is the sixth Frime Minister under Mr. Macron since his 2017 election but the fifth since 2022. Mr. Bayron's ousting leaves the French head of state with a new demestic. headache at a time when he is leading diplomatic ef-forts on the Ukraine war.

forts on the Ukraine war.
But defroiding his decision to call the high-risk
confidence vote, Mr. Bayrou told the Notional Asseinbly. "The biggest risk
was not to take one, to let
things essittance without
arrything charufung... and
have husbrons as usual.

these thing the debt pinas "life-threatening" for

France, Mr. Bayrou said his government had put for-ward a plan so that the country could "in a few years" time escape the in-exorable tide of debt that is advantaged in." exorates tide or dott that is subminerging it."

"You have the power to overthrow the govern-ment", but not "to crass-reality", Mr. Royron told the MPs in a doomed final

A statement released by Mr. Oli defended the social bid to save his government media ban and blamed "in before the vote filtrators" for the violence. Mr. Macron now faces He also expressed sorrow over the deaths during the one of the most critical de-cisions of his presidency – appoint a seventh Prime Minister to my to threat

protests.

Earlier, Home Minister Ramesh Lehhak resigned over the developments.

At Maitighar, in the heart of Kaffmandu, demonstrators started gath-

At least 19 killed in Nepal protests; Sharma Oli govt. revokes social media ban

At Seast 19 people were killed and over 300 injured in Nepal on Monday after protests exupted in cities across the country, trig-K.P. Sharma Oli govern-ment. In Kudumandu, the police firest rubber bullets

aw night.

Led by Nepal's tech-savyy "Gen 2" generation,
thousands poured into the
streets of kathmandu and
other major chies to proother major chies to prot-est "cerruption, neprotein, and misgovernance" of the Oli government, following the ban on asolial media platforms imposed on Tharnday. Protesters rat-lied in Kathrumdu, Pokha-ra, Butwell, Dintan, Ghora-hi, Isahart, and elsewhere hi, hahart, and elsewhere after the government cited failure to comply with Nepal's manufactory registrates requirements to ban over twe disacre platinistic colorois, and WhatsApp. Pree speech advocates had alleged the ban was an attempt to silence dissent. A clabinet meeting held in the eventing decided to investigate the day's events.

protesters.
In his statement, &c. Oli said the government did not intend to block or ban any social media sites permanently, but the decision was made after the plat-forms failed to comply with Nepal's registration requirements. The families of the deceased will be provided compensation, and the injured will receive free treatment," he said in the statement, "Today's in-cident will be thoroughly

They marched towards the Federal Parliament building in New Baresh-wer, and broke through the police corden is enter the premises while shant-

ing slogans against the leaders, including Mr. Oli,

ering from Monday morning, and as time passed, the protest grew bigger. They murched towards the Federal Parliament

decision to lift the social media ban, said Minister for Communications and Information Technology Prithyl Subba Gurung, who is also the government spo-lesperson. Following the decision, platforms like X, Facebook, and WhatsApp were gradually restored in Nepal.

and demanding be "leave the country". Eathmandu's Chief Dis-Many observers criticised state brutality, which they said was on a scale for greasatimantics Chief the rice Officer issued a notice stating that the police would fire shots if govern-ment property was target-ed, which was immediately said was on a scale fir grea-ter than that seen during King Gyanendra's regime 10 years age. Vaday Devkota, a public intellectual, said, 'It was a protest by youngsters and achoolchiktren, which did est, which was immediately met with flerce opposition, Nevertheless, the police used water cannons and fired live bullets, leading to the deaths of young

not have any political agen-da, but the ruling class reacted violently, and it is

highly condemnable."
"Garruption, crony cap-italism, and extractive pol-ities have frustrated a big chunk of Nepalis. Mem-bers of Gen Z have been while, feeling that misgovernance is robbing them of their future," said Mr. Protesters in Kathmar

A currier was imposed in the capital till 10 p.m. A Cabinet meeting made the



SC orders poll panel to accept Aadhaar as ID

EC ordered to instruct officials in Bihar to accept Aadhaar during special intensive revision of rolls The judges clarified that Aadhaar would be used as proof of identity and not as evidence of citizenship

The EC is penalising officers accepting Aadhaar, this amounts to gross contempt, says Kapil Sibal

Krishnadas Rajagopal NEW DELHI

he Supreme Court on Monday directed the Election Commission to include Aadhaar as the 12th "indicative" document that those seeking inclusion or exclusion of names on the electoral rolls of Bihar could file as proof of identity during the special intensive revision.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi clarified that the use of Aadhaar would strictly be as proof of identity, and not as evidence of Indian citizenship.

The EC officials are entitled to verify the "authenticity and genuineness" of the Aadhaar submitted to them, just the way they would do in the case of the other 11 documents, the court noted in the order.

"Apart from passport and birth certificate, none of the remaining nine of the 11 documents you [EC] have listed for SIR are conclusive proof of citizenship. The petitioners are also agreeing that Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship. Statutorily also Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship. Then why can't you add Aadhaar too in the list? This court has asked you several times to consider Aadhaar... Why are you not?" Justice Bagchi asked the EC's counsel, senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi.

The court ordered the EC to issue instructions to officials, from Electoral Registration Officers to booth-level officers (BLOs), working on the ground in poll-bound Bihar, to accept Aadhaar from persons filing claims or objections.

Approximately 65 lakh voters, out of a total 7.89

Go-ahead for Aadhaar The Supreme Court has allowed the use of Aadhaar as proof of identity for special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar The court takes note

- The court takes note that despite its repeated directives, booth-level officers were refusing to accept Aadhaar
- It directs EC to publicise the order to inform voters that they can use Aadhaar
- Document should be used only as proof of identity or residence, and not as evidence of citizenship

The petitioners are also agreeing that Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship. Then why can't you add Aadhaar too in the list?"

JUSTICE JOYMALYA
BAGCHI
TO EC

crore in the State, were excluded from the draft rolls published on August 1.

The deadline for filing claims to include names and file objections to exclude names for reasons such as death, permanent shifting, and duplication, was September 1. The EC, on September 2, clarified that these were welcome

even beyond the deadline.

On July 10, the Supreme Court urged the EC to consider accepting Aadhaar as a document of identity during the SIR. Again, on August 14, the court formally directed the use of Aadhaar as a proof of identity and residence. Finally, on August 22, in response to complaints that the EC

was still not accepting Aadhaar as a valid proof of identity or residence during the claims-and-objections period, the court clarified that voters excluded from the draft electoral roll could attach either Aadhaar card or any of the 11 "indicative" documents.

BLOs at refusal

On Monday, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Bihar's main Opposition party, the Rashtriya Janata Dal, said the BLOs were refusing to accept Aadhaar from claimants despite these back-to-back orders from the top court.

"Your Lordships had clearly said several times that Aadhaar can be used as an alternative to any of the 11 documents. BLOs are still refusing. The EC is penalising officers for accepting Aadhaar and issued show-cause notices to

BLOs who have allowed Disciplinary Aadhaar... proceedings have already started against these officers. There are no instructions from EC to officers to accept Aadhaar despite separate orders by this court... I have 24 affidavits from people from various districts who were unsuccessful in giving Aadhaar. The EC's conduct amounts to gross contempt of this court's orders... We want Aadhaar to be used as proof of residence or identity, so that a person can vote. We want only 11 documents plus Aadhaar," Mr. Sibal submitted.

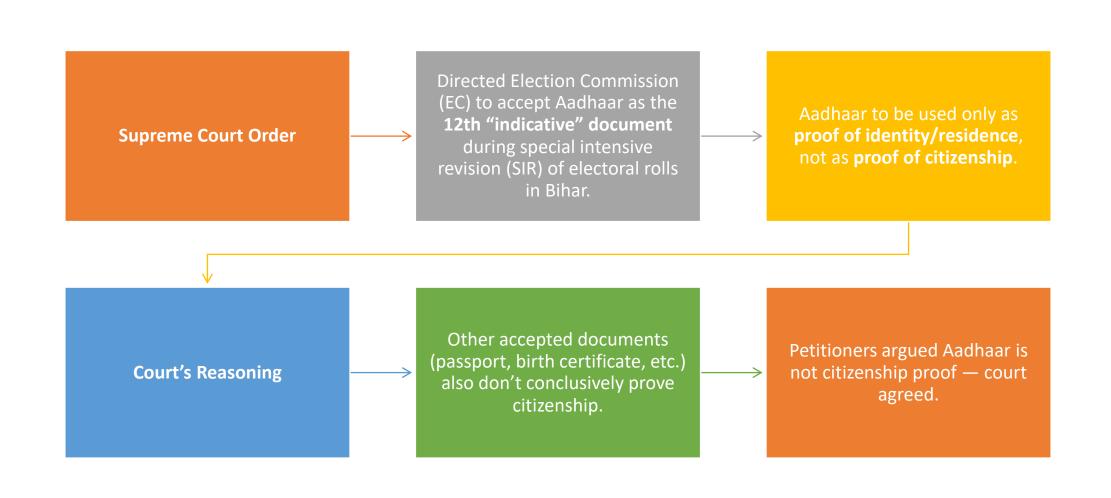
Mr. Dwivedi countered that Aadhaar could not be accorded the same status as a passport. Besides, he contended that over 99% of the excluded voters had already submitted their claims and objections, disproving the petitioners' argument that people did not have any of the 11 documents. Mr. Dwivedi said none of the political parties had pointed out any errors with the SIR process.

Justice Kant said Aadhaar was like any other official document. Both statutes and judicial dictum did not consider Aadhaar as proof of citizenship.

Justice Bagchi said Aadhaar was not "alien" to the Representation of the People Act. "One of the provisions of the Act, in fact, allows Aadhaar as proof of residence," the judge said.

The court orally asked Mr. Dwivedi to give "publicity" to the judicial order so that aggrieved voters would come to know and file their claims and objections along with Aadhaar, if need be.

The case is listed for further hearing on September 15.



Implementation

- EC must instruct Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Booth Level Officers (BLOs).
- Aadhaar can be attached to claims for inclusion/exclusion of names.

Background

- About 65 lakh voters excluded from draft electoral roll in Bihar.
- Multiple court orders (July 10, Aug 14, Aug 22) reminded EC to accept Aadhaar.

Contempt Issues

- Despite court directives, BLOs refused Aadhaar, citing lack of EC instructions.
- Kapil Sibal (for opposition) argued EC's refusal = gross contempt.
- Disciplinary action initiated against BLOs.

Aadhaar as Identity:

- Aadhaar Act, 2016: Aadhaar is proof of identity and residence, not citizenship.
- Supreme Court (Puttaswamy case, 2018) upheld Aadhaar's validity but restricted mandatory use.

Election Commission & Aadhaar:

- Aadhaar-Voter ID linking initiated under Election Laws (Amendment) Act,
 2021 to curb duplication.
- Concerns: privacy, data security, and exclusion of vulnerable groups.

Electoral Rolls in India:

- Revised annually under **Representation of People Act, 1950**.
- 11 indicative documents earlier accepted; Aadhaar now added as 12th.

At least 19 killed in Nepal protests; Sharma Oli govt. revokes social media ban

Sanjeev Satgainya KATHMANDU

At least 19 people were killed and over 300 injured in Nepal on Monday after protests erupted in cities across the country, triggered by a sweeping social media ban imposed by the K.P. Sharma Oli government. In Kathmandu, the police fired rubber bullets and live rounds at a demonstration. The government revoked the ban late at night.

Led by Nepal's tech-savvy "Gen Z" generation. thousands poured into the streets of Kathmandu and other major cities to protest "corruption, nepotism, and misgovernance" of the Oli government, following the ban on social media platforms imposed on Thursday. Protesters rallied in Kathmandu, Pokhara, Butwal, Dharan, Ghorahi, Itahari, and elsewhere after the government cited failure to comply with Nepal's mandatory registration requirements to ban over two dozen platforms, including X, Instagram, Facebook, and WhatsApp. Free speech advocates had alleged the ban was an attempt to silence dissent.

A Cabinet meeting held in the evening decided to form an inquiry committee to investigate the day's events.

A statement released by Mr. Oli defended the social media ban and blamed 'infiltrators' for the violence. He also expressed sorrow over the deaths during the protests.

Earlier, Home Minister Ramesh Lekhak resigned over the developments.

At Maitighar, in the heart of Kathmandu, demonstrators started gath-

...



The police using water cannon on protesters during clashes outside the parliament building in Kathmandu on Monday. AP

ering from Monday morning, and as time passed, the protest grew bigger.

They marched towards the Federal Parliament building in New Baneshwor, and broke through the police cordon to enter the premises while chanting slogans against the leaders, including Mr. Oli, and demanding he "leave the country".

Kathmandu's Chief District Officer issued a notice stating that the police would fire shots if government property was targeted, which was immediately met with fierce opposition. Nevertheless, the police used water cannons and fired live bullets, leading to the deaths of young protesters.

In his statement, Mr. Oli said the government did not intend to block or ban any social media sites permanently, but the decision was made after the platforms failed to comply with Nepal's registration requirements. "The families of the deceased will be provided compensation, and the injured will receive free treatment," he said in the statement, "Today's incident will be thoroughly investigated."

A curfew was imposed in the capital till 10 p.m. A Cabinet meeting made the decision to lift the social media ban, said Minister for Communications and Information Technology Prithvi Subba Gurung, who is also the government spokesperson. Following the decision, platforms like X, Facebook, and WhatsApp were gradually restored in Nepal.

'State brutality'

Many observers criticised state brutality, which they said was on a scale far greater than that seen during King Gyanendra's regime 19 years ago.

Yadav Devkota, a public intellectual, said, "It was a protest by youngsters and schoolchildren, which did not have any political agenda, but the ruling class reacted violently, and its highly condemnable."

"Corruption, crony capitalism, and extractive politics have frustrated a big chunk of Nepalis. Members of Gen Z have been disenchanted for quite a while, feeling that misgovernance is robbing them of their future," said Mr.

Protesters in Kathmandu said they were not guided by any political party or group.

(Sanjeev Satgainya is a journalist based in Kathmanda)

- At least 19 people killed and 300+ injured in Nepal due to nationwide protests.
- Trigger: Ban on over **26 social media platforms** (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, X, etc.) by the **K.P. Sharma Oli government** citing registration non-compliance.
- Protests led by Nepal's **Gen Z youth**, escalated into violence.
- Government revoked the ban the same night after public outrage.

- 1. Protests & Violence
- Protests in Kathmandu, Pokhara, Butwal, Dharan, Ghorahi, Itahari.
- Police used **rubber bullets**, **live rounds**, **water cannons** → heavy criticism of state brutality.
- Critics compared to King Gyanendra's 2006 crackdown.
- 2. Political & Administrative Response
- Home Minister Ramesh Lekhak resigned.
- Cabinet announced an **inquiry committee**.
- Oli govt. claimed "infiltrators" caused violence.
- Compensation promised for victims' families.

- 3. Revocation of Ban
- Minister Prithvi Subba Gurung announced ban withdrawal.
- Social media restored the same night.
- 4. Public Sentiment
- Protesters accused government of corruption, nepotism, misgovernance.
- Political analyst Yadav Devkota: protests were spontaneous, not politically guided.
- "Gen Z frustrated with misgovernance, corruption, crony capitalism."

国内公司的基本的



CM Sukhu declares Himachal Pradesh a 'fully literate State'

Chief Minjater Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday declared Himachal Pradesh as a Tully literate state' on the occasion of international Literacy Day. The announcement was made in Literacy Day. The announcement was made in shimle at an event organized by the Discretorate of shimle at an event organized by the Discretorate of reactual the goal well before the schoolsed time frame, adding that the journey from minimal literacy rate of accumd 7% to full literacy won full forward with the aim of providing quality education. He stressed continuous reforms in line with modern-way requirements.

Memo to Centre, Haryana CM to stop Aravali safari project

The National Alliance for Climate and Ecological Justice, a forum of the National Alliance of People's Movements comprising grassroots activists, ecologists, climate scientists, environmental researchers and lawyers, has sent memorandum to the Union Minister of Bayleonment, Forests and Climate Change, and the Haryana Chief Minister, salling for immediat the Haryana Chief Minister, calling for immediate shandoning of the proposed Arayali Zoo Safari Park project. The mentorian him cirlicises the also stressing the need for effective conservation of the fragile Arayals ecosystem, and upholding of community rights and the Forest Rights Act.

AAP seeks ₹20,000-cr. Central package ahead of PM's visit to Puniab

State Cabinet decides to give compensation of £20,000 per acre for crop damage in the floods, Modi to visit Himachal Pradesh, Punjab today in trip that includes aerial survey review meetings

The Hindu Bureau

An any a stead of Prime Minister Rasendra Minister Rasendra Viait to flood-affected Pantal Viait to flood-affected Pantal Viait to flood-affected Pantal Viait to flood-affected Pantal Viait of the Viait of Viait of the Viait o

ing one of its worst floud disasters in decades. The death toil due to the devas-tating floods stands at \$1 white crops on 1.76 lakh hectures have been damaged.

damaged.

Addressing a press con-ference here, Mr. Arora said, "I warmly welcome Prime Minister Narendra

Cabinet panel report

The appellants' counsel said the State government was also not in favour of carscelling the recruitments. A Cabinet sub-Committee, which exa-

nined various aspects o

the recyultment exam, had

stated in its report that on-ly 6.3% of manufaces were

found to be tainted in the SOG probe, while 83.7%, appeared to be clean.



Security personnel and volunteers using sandbags to reper a broken embankment at a flood-bit village in Amritsar district on Monday, tri

Consider names for

Purgaty, but I would humbly request him not to re-duce the crisis to mere flood neurism for photo opportunities. The Prime Minister must come up with a financial package if be considers Punjab an in-tegral part of India and be really cares about Punjab,"

really cares about Punjab," he smith the emphasized the need for a special seller package to support the state's flood-battered eco-nomy considering Pun-

jab's significant contribu-tion to India's food RECUITIY.

security.
The Punjab Cabinet on
Monday decided to give a
compensation of £20,000
per acre for crop damage
in the floods in the State, it
also gave a ned to a
schemic ' Jada Khei, Usdi Ret whereby farmers will be allowed to extract and sell sand deposited in their fields after floods.

Bhagwant Mann from thospital in Mohali where se complained of exhaus tion and low heart rate

Don and low heart rate.

PM timerary
Former Union
Anhwani Kumur on Mon.
Anhwani Minister's visit
would bring the muschneeded roble to the Matomy has been carrying out
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extensive burnantzarian asmissiana in Punjah, deplaying 48 rescue esmissiana in Punjah, deplaying 48 rescue ismissiana in Punjah, deplaying 10,700 ccimissiana in Punjah, de
playing 10,700 ccimiss

chal Pradesh on Tuesday and then conduct an aerial survey of the flood-affect survey of the flood-affect-ed areas in Funja's besides and chairing a review meeting in Gurdaspur on the ground situation. He will also interact with flood-affected persons.

Issue Kunbi caste certificates before Sept. 17: Jarange

Spelal Matha

Quota activist Manoj Ja-range-Patil on Monday de-manded that the Maharashtra government implement and distribute Kombi caste and distribute Kunhi came certificates to clighte mem-bers of the Maratha com-manity before September 17, observed as Marathwa-da Liberation Day, Mem-bers of the Kunhi commun-bers of the Kunhi commun-

hers of the Kunth community receive quota benefits under the Orber Bachward Mr. Jarange-Patil warned that if the implementation of the Git is "ablotaged or the Git is "ablotaged or leaders, he would challenge the 1994 Git in court that granted reservation to Mandal Commission report. "If anything goes wrong, we will legally challenge the 1994 Git in court warned to the court of t

wrong, we will legally chal-lenge and resure that the court acraps the 1994 GR. The demand comes mid table by GBC bashers, including NCP Ministers, including NCP Minister

vation," and threatened to challenge it in court. He ad-ded that 374 OBC commun-lies are facing issues, with

In the death we will do a large-scale protein?

Mr. Jarange-Patil urged the government to establish three-member committees at the village level taluka level to distribute

Will follow due process Will follow due process' thowever, Revenue Minister Chandrasheldur. Bawen-lade Charled that certifi-cates would be issued after following the due process, including submitting appli-cations with required docu-ments. He asid a meeting of the Calbinet subcommittee the Calbinet autocommittee the health on Reptember 10 in themse the GB.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Vijay Wadettiwar held a meeting with Maha Vikas Aghadi allies, termmunities. He urged Chief Minister Devendra Fadravis to convene an all-party meeting to discuss the is sue. In response, Mr. Ba wankule asked Mr. Wadetti war to raise concerns with the subcommittee and svoid politicising the issue.

Rajasthan High Court stays its single-Bench order cancelling S-I recruitment examination

+ The Hindu Bureau

A Division Bench of the Rajasthan High Court on Monday stayed the August Morniday injured the August 28 order of a single-judge Bench canwilling the pel-ice sult-impactor recruitment examination of 2021. The seam was quashed on the ground of large-scale ir-regularities, including paper leak and the involves faint public fevrete (faint intervalves) and the properties of the period of the period

seam. Issuing notice to the State government on an appeal flied against the or-der, the court said the se-lected candidates would not be given the field post-ing till further orders. It was contended before the Division Bench that only a

limited number of candidates were involved with the paper leak

connection with the paper leak, but acrapping the en-would cause "irreparable would cause "irreparable harm" to others.

The fleach, comprising flag cause and Sanjeet Pure-lit, granted the size on the operation and effect of the parameter of counsel for ap-pellants. Vitram Panear and others.

and others.

The appellants, who were selected in the exam. sought that they be pro-

regular T.N. DGP post expeditiously, says SC The Hindu Bureau Judge Bench's order by in

The appellants contend ed that the Special Opera-tions Group (SOG) of Rajas-than police had already The Tanuil Sadu governnent on Monday informed the Supreme Court that the names shortlisted for appointment as the regular Director General Police (DGP)/Head of Police Force possible to distinguish bet-ween tainted and genuine andidates. Cancelling the entire recruitment would be "illegal and unfair", they said. (DCIP)/Head of Police Force had already been sent to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for consideration. The State briefed the

court in response to a peti-tion for contemps action against Tamil Nadu for ap-painting G. Ventatramust as the DGP/Head of Police Porce in-charge on August

A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gaval directed the UPSC and the State government to consider the names and appoint a regular DGP

Ramakrishnan and adve-cate Prasanna 8., appear-ing for the Madural-based tawyer and petitioner, Henri Tiphagne, urged the court to put the UPSC and the State government on

the clock.

Ms. Barnukrishnan requested the out to direct the UPSC and the fixing to appointment of a regular DGP in a month.

Senior advocate Mukui.

Senior advocate Mukui. request.

'Violation of 50 order' The petition aubmitted that Mr. Venkatraman's ap-pointment as ad her DGP pointment as ad har DGP was in violation of the 2018 expeditionaly. Supreme Court decision in Senior advocate Nitya the Prakash Singh case.

Dhinakaran may have left NDA as he can't accept Palaniswami as CM candidate: BJP leader

The Hindu Rureau

BJP Tamil Nadu president Namur Nagenthran said on Morelay that he could not Monday that he could not comprehend why Amma Makkal Munnetra Kasha-gam (AMMK) founder T.T.V. Didnakaran walked out of the NDA.

the MDA.

He felt that Mr. Dhinaka-ran might not be able to ac-cept. AIADMR general se-cretary. Edappedi. K. Palaniswami heizg project-ed as the Chief Ministerial conditains.

ed as the Chief Ministerial contileiate. Who was previously with the was previously with the continuously with the continuously with the clatter with Mr. Bhinaka-ran since 2001 and told journalists that he did not have any difference of opi-tion with the AMMK land-er, who had broken away from the AIADMK and formed the AMMK.



After the AIADMK be-came part of the NDA in April. Bly senior leader and Union Home Mindow Amis Shah declared fir, Pa-lantavount the head of the NDA in Tamil Nedu, and the BP's State unit accept-ed it.

ed it. The AMMK had fielded candidates against the ALADMIC-BIP alliance in the 2019 Lok Sabha and 2021 Assembly elections before joining the NDA for the 2024 Lek Sabba election after the AIADMK quit the

condition, he said. "When he met me on various occa-sions, he had never ex-pressed his grievances, the refuses to accept Mr. Pala-niawami as the Chief Minis-terial." terial candidate... of the NDA even after Mr. Anni Shah had made it clear. We Shah had made it clear. We treated every party in a dignified manner, I cannot understand why he is cit-ing me as the reason for his leaving the NIA," Mr. Na-genthran said.

"Remain united"
"Since we have eight more months to go (for the elec-tion), everyone opposing main united to unseat the DMK. If I am asked to speak to Mr. Dhinakaran or lexpelled AIADMK coordinator) O. Panneerselvam, I will do so (to get them back

to the NDAL! he added

The relevance of a robust third political force in Bengal in run-up to Assembly poll

Shiy Sahay Singh SOLEATA

by BiP legislators in the West Bengal Assembly on September 4 during a de-bate on a resolution condemning the alleged tar

which come less than a year before the crucial election, assume a lot of political significance.

Ouring her first two terms as Chief Minister (2011-2016 and 2016-2021), Ma. Bauerjee faced legisla. tors from the Left Front and the Congress in the Opposition benches. CPI (M)'s Surya Kanta Mishra served as the Leader of the

seeming the alleged targeting of migrant workers recent the Store in different recent in the Store in different recent in the Store in different recent in the TMC under the Store in different recent in the TMC under the Store in different recent in the TMC under the Store in different recent in the TMC under the Store in different recent in the TMC under the Store in the Store

the third force in Word Mon-agi positives and supersensed and the Gongreen achieve againfact representation in the Assembly, by calling for a larger political space for a larger political space pears to be warnting to split the Opposition vote, there-by easing her own parry's puth in the Assembly poil.

Hulton Sanular Front falling out a raily in Bulliate in 2023, e.c. more The sine of Hindsirva forces in the State towards force as in the State towards for each of the last decade led to a shift in the State's political landscape, with great rapidly losing their opposition space to the NR. This decline was evident in the 2019 Lock Sabba, electrician, where the NR's state, in his first public electrician, where the NR's state, in his first public electrician, where the NR's state, in his first public specials on July 3 after take time high of 40%, while the The rise of Hinduise

CPR(M) and the Congress's vote share was reduced to single digits. This trend persisted, with both par-ties witnessing a decline in their vote share in every subsequent election, mak-ing pole in the State a lar-gely bipolar contest bet-ween the TMC and the RJP.

For the 2021 Assembly election, the CPRMD and the Congress formed an al-liance with the Indian Sec-ular Front (ISP), a local political party. However, this move failed to yield any pullifical benefits for them.

CONTRACT AND A SUCCESSION OF SUCCESSION OF SUCCESSION AND SUCCESSION OF SUCCESSION OF

appealed to supporters of Left parties in set aside ide-ological differences and unite to defeat the TMC in the 2026 poll. He himsel that the Left parties could occupy the Opposition space once the TMC is constead from power

Contrasting strategies The TMC wants the CPICMD

The TMC wants the CPUM) and the Congress to eat into a portion of the Hindu votes, potentially present to the portion of the Hindu votes, potentially present to be consisted on the CPUM to the CPUM of the Muelin votes and dent the Hindu of the Muelin votes and dent the Hindu of the CPUM of the

oring margin. In a cou-of seats in north Henand the Congress appears to have dented the FMC's prospects in a down con-

stituencies. In south Ben-gal, the Left and the Conas secured more votes than the margin of victory of the TMC over the RIP. Mr. Adhikari has on sev-

Mr. Adhikari has on several occasions unged people not to "waste their work" on Left parties, infor either the HP or the for either the HP or the for either the HP or the Administration of the Congress remain a relevant political force in the State. Their by for electeral purposes but also for driving purpose in the section of the HP or the HP or their purposes movements, trade impure, workers 'tights, and

civil society campaigna.
Thus, a rabust third point
cal force, comprising a
atrong CPRM and the Congress, it essential for the
people of the State.
There is an ungent need
to shift the deliate away

from communal politics and instead focus on pressagrarian distress, and tion, flight of capital, and This makes the third alternative

The bendership of the 194(b) and the Compress acknowledge that "testing religious polarisation" is the biggest challenge fa-ing the people of the state. To trake an impact, the leaders and supporters of the two parties must selve the output of the state.

sendely and on the streets



CM Sukhu declares Himachal Pradesh a 'fully literate State'

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday declared Himachal Pradesh as a 'fully literate State' on the occasion of International Literacy Day. The announcement was made in Shimla at an event organised by the Directorate of School Education. Mr. Sukhu said the State had reached the goal well before the scheduled time frame, adding that the journey from minimal literacy rate of around 7% to full literacy was full of challenges, yet the State consistently moved forward with the aim of providing quality education. He stressed continuous reforms in line with modern-day requirements.

- On International Literacy Day, CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu declared Himachal Pradesh a fully literate State.
- Announcement made in Shimla at an event organised by the Directorate of School Education.
- 2. Literacy Journey of Himachal Pradesh
- At Independence, literacy rate was **around 7%**.
- Through consistent reforms, the state has now reached 100% literacy.
- Achieved the goal **ahead of the scheduled time frame**.

- National Literacy Mission (1988): Focused on adult literacy with campaigns like *Total Literacy Campaign*.
- Kerala: First Indian state to achieve 100% literacy (declared in 1991, reaffirmed in 2016).
- **Bihar (1947):** Had lowest literacy at **7**%; in contrast, Himachal too started low but made steady progress.

Better human development indicators (HDI).

Higher literacy correlates with:

Women empowerment:

HP has one of the
highest female literacy
rates in India.

Education linked to decline in poverty and reduction in child marriage in HP.

Tourism & services sector growth (educated workforce).



- Himachal Pradesh is now the **2nd Indian state after Kerala** to be declared fully literate.
- India's **national literacy rate (2023 est.)** ~77.7%.
- Literacy is a **Directive Principle of State Policy (Art. 45)** free & compulsory education for children.
- Article **21A** (86th Constitutional Amendment, 2002): Right to Education.

Figures tell a tale.



Maddur tense after stone-throwing on Ganesha procession

The Dineir Survey

Trinders prevailed in Mad-dur vown of Mandya dis-trict in Karnataka oir Mon-dag when a large crossed

Kerala's maternal mortality ratio rises steeply from 18 to 30

Though the rise is probably due to the 97 maternal deaths in 2021 from COVID-19, officials believe the falling number of live births is a reason.

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the velocity of large according to the velocity of

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quoted in all official documents.
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Ascattika Monanda NEW SOLES

Death toll due to amoebic infection rises to 5 in Kerala

The Hitsele Bureau

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The sources said that is persons were at present indexpoling treatment for the thecase at the finderkeede hospital, and the con-dition of at least one is repurposed to but perfects

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HC asks Tiruppur SP to monitor probe into alleged dowry death

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putly imperimendoor of folios, was at an advanced stage, with the police only reaching the forestic test ascetting the foresists seading reports of certain seading sign submitted by the peri-tioner, the pedge felt is would not be appropriate to coder transfer of the in-

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The victions father had sought transfer of the probe to the CR-CID, the CIII, or a special team led by a

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previous of law, after re-ceiving the relations assessed to bifurcatory report.

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suicide presention helpfine pee-zenantansi

Nitish Kumar hikes honorarium for | Top court rejects BJP's plea against 1.2 lakh anganwadi workers, helpers | order quashing case against Revanth

Amit. Novinci

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the implementation of the schemes related to this dress to the age group of 0-6, adolescent girls, and pregnant and business are must. If delivers a possessor of services through august word services through august

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paign to 2008.
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oution) and Section 128 of the Exponentation of the People Act ignoresting on state between classes due

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Film director held for online harassment

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Kerala's maternal mortality ratio rises steeply from 18 to 30

Though the rise is probably due to the 97 maternal deaths in 2021 from COVID-19, officials believe the falling number of live births is a reason

C. Maya THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

erala's maternal mortality ratio (MMR) has "risen" steeply from 18 to 30 per one lakh live births, shows the latest Sample Registration System special bulletin of 2021-2023.

The report shows that Kerala and Andhra Pradesh share the first spot among the States with the lowest MMR.

While acknowledging that the rise is probably accounted for by the 97 maternal deaths that the State reported in 2021 due to CO-VID-19, Health Department officials believe that Kerala's steadily declining rate of live births is now beginning to be reflected in the State's MMR figure. The ratio is calculated by dividing the number of maternal deaths by the number of live births and multiplying the result by one lakh.

The rapid decline in live child births in the State has been at the centre of all policy-level discussions in the State for quite a while now. Kerala, which used to have an average of 5 to 5.5 lakh live births annually, now has fewer than 4 lakh. In 2023, the total number of live births stood at 3,93,231, according to the Vital Statistics Report of the Department of Economics and Statistics. The

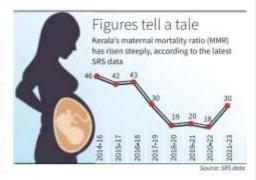


figure is expected to dip to approximately 3.54 lakh (April 2024-March 2025), according to Health Department data.

In contrast to the rapidly declining child births, the State's MMR has been more or less steady from 2014-15, hovering around 30-32, when going by the actual line list of maternal deaths maintained by the Health Department.

On an average, some 120-140 maternal deaths are annually reported in the State, data over the past five years show. The only year the MMR showed a spike was in 2021-22, when from 32 it shot to 51 because of the rise in maternal deaths to 220 on account of COVID-19.

There has always been wide variance in the MMR figures cited by the SRS, which follows a sample study method, and the MMR cited by the State Health

Services, which is based on the district line list data which takes into account each and every maternal death in the State. While the MMR quoted by the Health Department gives the real picture, SRS data is quoted in all official documents.

With the denominator (number of live births) declining every year and the maternal deaths remaining more or less steady, the "increase" in the State's MMR was anticipated. In the last SRS bulletin of 2020-22, when Kerala was hailed for bringing down the MMR to 18, the State had pointed out that the figure was not realistic. Safe motherhood has been a major focus area for Kerala but experts acknowledge that the last-mile reduction of causes leading to maternal deaths was becoming tougher because of the changing social profile.

1. Steep Rise in MMR

- Kerala's MMR rose from 18 to 30 per 1 lakh live births (2021-23 SRS Bulletin).
- Kerala and Andhra Pradesh now share the first spot among States with the lowest MMR.

2. Reason for Rise

- Officials attribute the spike largely to 97 maternal deaths in 2021 due to COVID-19.
- Declining number of live births means even a small number of maternal deaths leads to higher MMR.

3. Declining Births

- Kerala earlier had 5–5.5 lakh births annually, now fewer than 4 lakh births/year.
- In 2023, live births were 3.93 lakh; projected to fall further to 3.54 lakh in 2024-25.

4. Discrepancy in Data

- SRS Data: Shows rise to 30.
- State Health Department Data: Claims MMR stable around 30-32 since 2014.
- Differences due to methodology: SRS (sample survey) vs. Health Department (district-level recording).

5. Long-term Trends

- Kerala was earlier lauded for reducing MMR to 18 (2020-22).
- COVID-19 caused a spike (32 → 51 in 2021-22).
- Experts warn that last-mile reduction of maternal deaths is difficult due to changing social profile of mothers (older pregnancies, lifestyle diseases, etc.).

- Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR): Number of maternal deaths per 1 lakh live births.
- SDG 3 Target: Reduce global MMR to less than 70 by 2030.
- India's National Goal (NHM): Reduce MMR to <70 by 2030.
- India's MMR (SRS 2020-22): 97 per 1 lakh live births, major decline from 556 in 1990.
- Kerala's Paradox
- Kerala traditionally has best health indicators in India (literacy, HDI, life expectancy).
- However, declining fertility rates + rising maternal age + comorbidities (hypertension, diabetes, C-sections) → new challenges in maternal health.

- Geographical & Demographic Context
- Kerala: Lowest fertility rate in India (~1.8 TFR).
- Low fertility + ageing population → **shrinking denominator** (live births), inflating ratios like MMR.
- Economic & Social Impact
- Rising maternal deaths burden healthcare systems.
- Affects SDG-linked financing and state's reputation as a model in healthcare.
- Reinforces need for **postnatal care, skilled birth attendance, and health infra** improvements.

12



SEBI postpones securities and cash settlements

SEM has announced that the serilement for cush and securities lending and horrowing mechanian segments stande postponed, with September 8 and 8 being clearing corporation hobitays. In a statement, SEM said that the settlement for derivative transactions on September 4, 5 and 8 will be done on Tuesday (September 9) Cash and Securities Lending and Borrowing Mechanism (SLMM) narket transactions for September 4 and September 8 will also be done on Tuesday.

Gautam Solar plans ₹4,000 cr. investment in solar cell plant

Gautam Solar on Monday sald it will invest Gastam Solar on Monoday said it will invest \$4,000 error in a GW wainer cell manufacturing \$4,000 error in a GW wainer cell manufacturing theveloped on \$4 areas of land in Gwailor, where the company will focus on producing advanced TOPCon solar cells, the company said in a graphy of the solar cells, the company said in a graphy in the sugar and would be completed by GY2GG. Gastam Solar plans to surveil an IPC in plans faults for Phone 2, which will have an

HCL inducts Amitabh Kant as an Independent Director

IfCLTech on Monday announced the appointment of Annialth Kant as an Independent Director with effect from September 8. "Amitahh Kant Joins us at a pivotol moment in our Journey as well as within the Unibasity. His Chenglit leastership and long term thinking will be invaluable in shaping our strategy," and U Vljayakumar, CBO & Managing Director, HCLFech, Mr. Kant has held prominent po in the Government of India, including at the CEO of NTTI Asyog.

Red sea cable cuts take a toll on Indian networks to Europe

Internet traffic to and from Europe has noticeably slowed down following the disconnection of undersea cable systems, data show

hard Airtel Ltd., Reliance Jie IndiaReliance Jie Indianetworks are among many
dealing with increased lotency to traffic between india and furope, according
the San Francisco-based
network intelligence firm
Senting Inc. This follows
exception [84]. All Web 4 and systems SEA-MR-WE 4 and IMEWE in the Red Sea, which connect India to West Asia and Europe. Un-West Assa and Europe. Un-dersea cables are an essen-tial part of the global later-nets. infrastructure, forming the backbene of networks around the world.

world.
Latericy is a measure of how long a dute pucket takes to make a round trip between two points. While latency hetween the ranky over one second, differences between domestic and in-

India has concelled grid ac-

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Choppy network increased lateracy between India and Europe Ligi follows care to the undersor cable systems \$4.5-80 WE I and INDVS in the Red Sea



ternational traffic can be other systems (which are

perceptible, such as an in-ter-continental video call. According to Kentic's data, larency between Europe and Mumbai (where most subsea tables land in In-dia), went up from roughly

dial, went up from roughly 100-180 ms to 180-1800 ms, depending on which closed service provider was used to text the latency. So far, widespread dis-ruptions to networks have not been detected, as findla has over a stracer subsea cable systems landing in the country, allowing tel-cos to reroute traffic over

nearing completion, ac-cording to a source familiar with the matter and official

documents reviewed by

dia tad. (CTUITA into s including Ada-Harvest time

tion Utility of Di

less optimal, but in any case allow for traffic to con-tinue flowing). Airtel, Tata Communications and Reliance lie did not respond to a request for comment. The Department of Tele-communications did not

'India halts grid access for 17 GW of clean energy projects'

cellations, the documents

show. The affected projects

rich states such as Rajas-than, western Gujarat, and

communications did not respond to a query. This is the second dis-ruption to subsea cable systems connecting to In-dia, after three subseas ca-ble systems faced rates in the first see its the middle to first see its the middle of the see its the middle of the see its the middle Howith attacks in the orapo-ing crisis in the respoing crisis in the region.

India, Oatar likely to finalise terms of reference for FTA in early October

Saptaparno Ghoda NEW DELEG

Inches is likely to finalise-borns of references for a with clast in the first week of October, a government of the control of the control form of the control of the Commerce Misister Physial Goyal may visit the cult Goyal may visit the cult for the control of the same on October 8. The possibility of a com-prehensive control of the same on October 8. The possibility of a com-prehensive control of the control with Doha was first am-nounced in Pebruary char-theight participation of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control of the control of the control of the control of the same of the control o

heikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani's visit to India. The two sides sought to double their bilateral trade

doubte their bilateral trade by 2000, accounts for 1.22%, of other total trade. In PY 2024-28, India exported pools worth about \$1.68 in biblion, while it imports to-biblion, while it imports to-letide lagsered natural gas \$1.20%, singuefied persoleum, clude lagsered natural gas \$1.20%, singuefied persoleum, pertochemicals and shum-nium articles, among other things.

Madbya Pradesh in central

India, according to a docu-ment from the federal

The grid access termina-tions were carried out in

agency overseeing inter

Notices served.

MARKET WATCH

STABLESTS.

BIFTY BO

Expanding the number of PTA partners has emerged as an imperative for New Delhi in response to U.S. President Donald Trump-induced tariff re-

Piyush Goyal may

Washington instituted a 80% tariff on Indian pro-ducts inclusive of a 25% pe-nalty for buying Russian off, For purspective, trade with the North American country accounted for II.4% of India's overall trade in FY 2024-28.

Talks progressing well Rosenerating progress about the trade agreement with the European Union, the source stated that talks the source stated that talks were progressing well with a delegation of the European Union already in New Delhi, Mr. Goyal is expected in meet the teale commissioner for RU Marok Seffont on Friday as part of the 12th round of talks.

notices were issued to the companies, said the source, who requested

anonymity as the firms are seeking relief from the fest-

visit the Gulf country

Venture Catalysts raises ₹150 crore

Venture Catalysts, a multiplatform, said it has raised eral power regulator, the
Central Electricity Regula
tory Commission (CKRC).

Bunds among others.

SpiceJet fully repays \$24 million to Credit Suisse

Press Trust of India

Spleidet on Monday said it spiceter on Monday said it has completed the full pay-ment of \$24 million to Cre-dit Soisse, faililing the terms of the settlement reached more than three

on the date of execution of the settlement agree-ment in May 2022, the total meant in May 2022, the torsal claim of Credit Statese/SR Technics was 341.77 mil-lion, which the parties agreed to settle for \$24 mil-lion in a structured pay-ment plan, as per a release. According to the re-lease, the settlement marks the closure of a long than the settlement of the line's current promoter.

Alstom to start supplies to ICF for Vande Bharat trains

M. Soundariya Preetha

Alstom India will start sup-plies to the integral Coach Factory (ICF) of Indian Ruilways for Vande Sharat sleeper trains from next fis-ral, said Champak Panda, managing director of Al-stom Iodia's Rolling Stock

stem India's Redling Stock and Component business. Adatum langued a consistency of the Constant Statem of the Constant Statem India Constant India Const

With 16 metro rail projects and 20 more in pipeline, India has high potential in

urban mobility Bharat seater trains) this ft-

Bharat seater trains) this francical year, be added, Walt India having 16 me tra rail, projects and 20 more in the pipeline, the country has high potential in urban mobility.

Albiam invested €17 mil. Ioon since 2021 in India component instiness. Al-

component business. Al-most 60% of the compo-nents made at the plant here are exported, he said. It is also weighing the pos-sibility of debuting trans-former capability in India.



Water For wine: An employee holds a pipe to Rii a tonk during the harvest in the vineyards at Chateau Montrine in Saint-Estephe,

mid-size IT firms beat larger firms

With double-digit salary hikes,

'Two-wheelers lift Aug. auto retail sales'

The Hindu Bureau

Overall automobile retail sales in August saw a mod-est 2.64% YoV growth led est 2.84% YoY growth led by 2-wheelers 2W up 2.185%, passenger vehicles up 0.05% and commercial the control of the control of the transfers logged an excep-tional 20.45% growth, as per data released by Feder-tical Control of the con-cept of the control of the Conty 3-wheelers CSW) and construction equip-ment segments softered at 28.48% respectively.

per data released by Feder-sition of Automobile Deal-ers Association (PAIDA).

If the Company of the Company

Coal output rises 8% in August over July

The Hindu Bureau

ose about 8% on a month-m-month basis notwith-standing a lacklustre sea standing a lackbuster uses son owing to operational constraints singered by monsoons and typically inconsoons and typically period. However, for the period until August since the commencement of the financial year, production from the commencement of the financial year, production Fulfild-sector entorprisa Public-sector entorprisa Card holds accumined for about 76% of overall out-put on a year to-date basis.

India's mid-size FF comma-Coal production in India

Vallari.hanegiri

centure, where remunera-tion for many functions are higher than those offered

lendies mid-size Fr compa-nies are deliying economic headwirds by offering asl-nighter than the offered by from the offered

emerging technologies where demand is outpacwhere demand is empac-ing supply, resulting in greater flexibility," said Ga-nesh 5, Padmanabhan, V-P - Recrultment Business at CRC 118.

CHG. 188.
Tech giants like TCS of-ferred skelayed internements of 4.5-76 for most staff, or 4.5-76 for most staff, or 4.5-76 for most staff, or 4.5-46 hike for regular to standous employees, while HCL Tuchmologies gave single-digit blees across all lesses of the staff of the st

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single lights, around herb,
critical skills are seeing
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how though there are high
chances that demand recovery could push it up in
1500, Teamlaness Dightal.

nomic pressures and At-

'GST cuts will significantly enhance alcobev consumption in H2'

Lolaterulu Mishra MUMBAI

A consumption book would follow the GST rate out and the alcoholic bey erage (Alcobev) sector would also be a major be neficiary out of this, said Prayeen Swameswar, MD 8 CEO, Diagoo India. "GST [cur] will signifi-

"GSF [cm] will again-cantly enhance consum-tion in the second half of this financial year. PMG5 is at a great place and Alcin-tov consumption would be robust," he said.
"When - consumption grows, everall, the basket grows, includences grow because your bonk growing precedure unailly met. It's

needs are usually met. It's the indulgences that are faced right now. And what better category to includge in than us?" he stated.

in than us?" he stated.
Commenting on the
company's 2030 readmap
Mr. Swamnawar sate the
company would clock dou-ide digit growth year after the digit growth year after year and the size of energy-ity would be completely dealy. He add Innovations would be the long strategy for the size of the size of

CSO, TeamLease Digital.
(The writer is well The Hindu businessine)

thindu businessine?

ress, innerestion is the sin gle biggest investment and people are the second.

Red sea cable cuts take a toll on Indian networks to Europe

Internet traffic to and from Europe has noticeably slowed down following the disconnection of undersea cable systems, data show

Aroon Deep NEW DELHI

harti Airtel Ltd., Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd. and Tata Communications Ltd.'s networks are among many dealing with increased latency to traffic between India and Europe, according to telemetry published by the San Francisco-based network intelligence firm Kentic, Inc. This follows cuts to the undersea cable systems SEA-ME-WE 4 and IMEWE in the Red Sea. which connect India to West Asia and Europe. Undersea cables are an essential part of the global Interinfrastructure, forming the backbone of networks around the world.

Latency is a measure of how long a data packet takes to make a round trip between two points. While latency between any two points on earth is rarely over one second, differences between domestic and in-

Choppy network

Airtel, Jio and Tata Comm are among many telcos dealing with increased latency between India and Europe

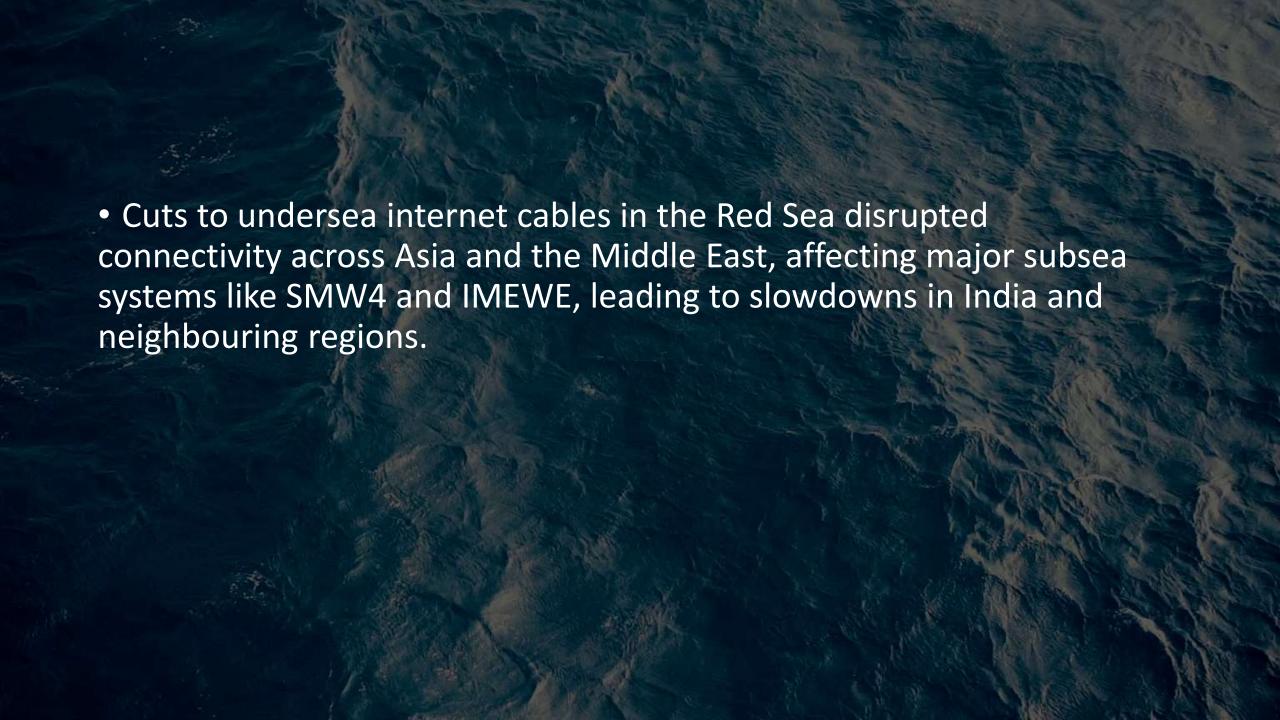


- Lag follows cuts to the undersea cable systems SEA-ME-WE 4 and IMEWE in the Red Sea
- Kentics data show latency between Europe and Mumbai went up from 110–150ms to 190–300ms
- Three subsea cable systems faced cuts in the Red Sea in the middle of last year

ternational traffic can be perceptible, such as an inter-continental video call. According to Kentic's data, latency between Europe and Mumbai (where most subsea cables land in India), went up from roughly 110-150ms to 190-300ms, depending on which cloud service provider was used to test the latency.

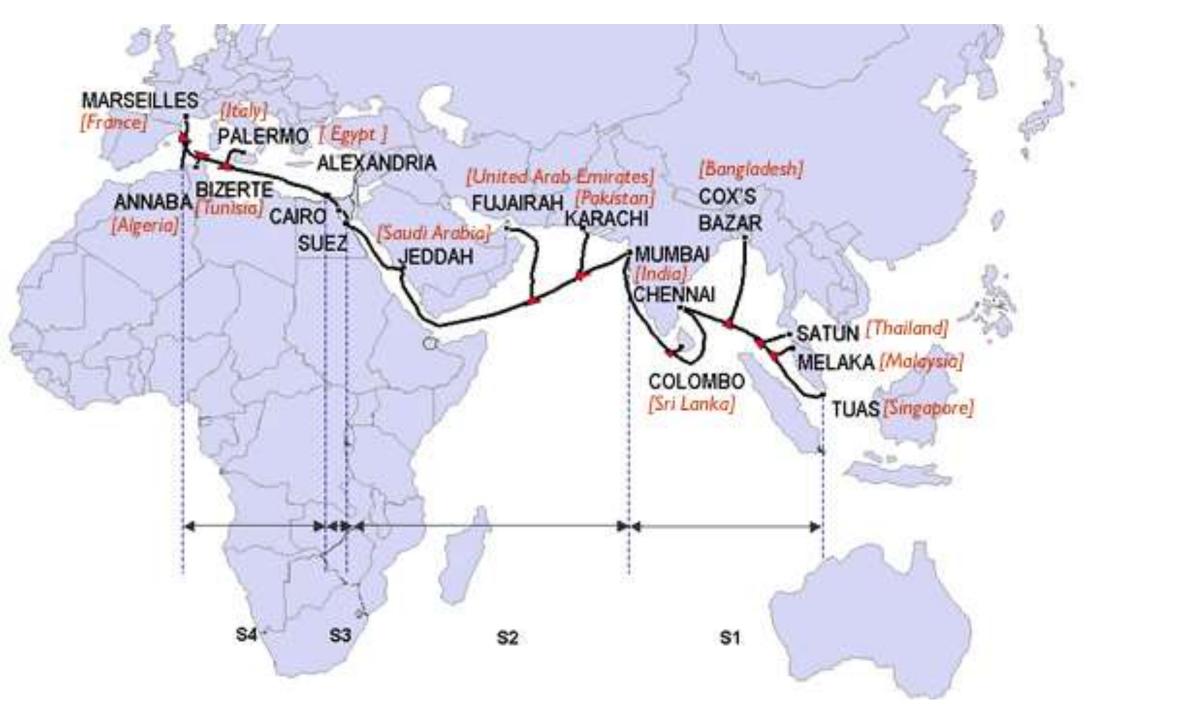
So far, widespread disruptions to networks have not been detected, as India has over a dozen subsea cable systems landing in the country, allowing telcos to reroute traffic over other systems (which are less optimal, but in any case allow for traffic to continue flowing). Airtel, Tata Communications and Reliance Jio did not respond to a request for comment. The Department of Telecommunications did not respond to a query.

This is the second disruption to subsea cable systems connecting to India, after three subsea cable systems faced cuts in the Red Sea in the middle of last year, also linked to Houthi attacks in the ongoing crisis in the region.





- The South East Asia-Middle East-West Europe 4 (SEA-ME-WE 4, SMW4) is an approximately 18,800 km submarine cable connecting Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Italy, Tunisia, Algeria and France.
- The SMW4 cable system consists of two fiber pairs, with intial design capacity of 1.28Tbps, upgraded to 4.6Tbps in 2015.
- The SMW4 cable system was ready for service on December 13, 2005.
- The SMW4 project costs about US\$500 million, supplier by ASN and Fujitsu jointly.



WAT PORWARD

Need to practice differently and try something new, says Sinner



your condort some. Practice differently Accept, that you might lose some matches in some tournaments because you try something. isesa. This is how I can become more of a complete player — Jarosti. Sever after the US Open final loss to Carlos Alcona.

Pragg, Gukesh suffer shock defeats; Vaishali remains in joint lead



Op seed 9. Pragginarienthee auffered a shock defeat to German Matthius Bluebaum, while World chempion 9. Gulash lost to the world's youngest ever 64 Abhimanya Matthia in the fifth round of the FIDE Grand Bules in Barnariband are Manday, in the women's event, 8. Wolshall is in giant load after a draw with Kateryan Lagra-

SEASONS WHEN CUT Romdhane's injury-time strike takes Tunisia into World Cup



Tursiala a 3-0 win in Egypatorial Guinea on Monday and a spot in the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Tunisia has taken an unassailable lead in Troups H. SI it the second African nation to secure a piece at the

CAUSING A PLATFER

Alireza on the prowl as Bulls tame Steelers; Avan stars for Pirates



Berngalam Bullis rooks on a superit show from Alirege Mirasialin to stain defineding champion staryana Steelars 40-33 in a PML 12 match at Vilashippatham on Monday Alirega scored his second straight Super 13: In the ather match, Ayan Lashiba starred with 21 points as Patra Printing provised part Demai (Patina 86-37).

India frontrunner in race for continental cricket crown

The eight-team T20 tournament begins with Afghanistan taking on Hong Kong in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday; the Men in Blue's campaign starts against the UAE in Dubai on Wednesday

ASIA CUP

Vivek Krishnan

ndia is playing Pu-kietan, right/ When are they

meeting?"
The immigration officer
at Delhi airport passed a
quick query on finding out
the purpose of travel to the
United Arab Emtrates.

Geopolitical realities, in the aftermath of a four-day military conflict between the neighbours in May that followed a terror attack in Pahalgam, may have cast doubts on the Asia Cup in the months leading up, but now that the 17th edition of the continental event is getting underway on Tues-day, there can be no dis-pating the fixture that will occupy centre stage over the next three weeks.

pointing the fixition that will necessary contribute stage seem of the Supper As has been the case in multi-nation tournaments for the past decade, it is discussed to the stage of the post decade, it is discussed to the stage of the post decade, it is discussed to the stage of the stage of the contribute of the past decade, it is discussed to the stage of the contribute of the post decade, it is discussed to the stage of the contribute of the log deave that follows the stage of the organisers, even of the



Up for its The indian players will be been on getting back into competitive made again

Asia Cup champions

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2023	Acutio	

Bit Lanks was shirled out for 80 in a five weight defeat to Zimbalowe on Saturcky while Aghantsten and Pakistan blew hot and cold in the past-cene lader won. Rangladesh has interestingly got the better of both Pakistan and 81 Lanksten and 15 Lanksten and Brt Lanka was skirtled

After a prolonged break from national duty since the end of the rest series at inches players will be eager to get bask into com-petitive mode at a venue mortes of winning the EC Champions Trophy has as months ago.

To the competition for places is distinctly clear from the absence of Vadiancy laives of attention of the competition of the absence of Vadiancy laives of member confingers. member contingent.
Hased on recent evi-dence, there is no obvious challenger to India's might.

Survakumar's men gear up for action after a long break

Vivek Bristman

With a slight breeze tem-pering the stilling heat in the building metropolis, in-sla's batters went about Inding the middle of their willows while the bowlers tested the ideal lengths to the at the IGC Academy, nets on Monday evening. The Indian team has had a month long break after a gruelling five-Yest series in England, and although a few players have had game time in the Dulcep Trophy and the local T2O leagues, it is unusual for them to be away from the intensity of international cricket for

statemational cricker for this long.

If class had to be gleaned from the practice of the process of the proces between throwdowns



page and spin. Sanju Samson, who is in a battle with
littles for the welcheshoep.

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fore facing the net howlers
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March, it worst with just the
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the playing the role of the se-cond seamer. Here, it has for two or three spinners. "When the Champions Trucky was played, there surfaces here and they tooked a little bit tied." In-dia bowling coach storne how the seamer is a sea of the Monday. It believe there's spite a bit of grass covering the cruelat lot mad a quick

CAFA NATIONS CUP

Press Trust of India

in scored for India in the shootout, while Anwar Ali and Udanta Singh missed

its nine matches to Oman since 2000. The two teams

Agence France Presse

Carlos Alearas beat Jannili Simor in four sets on Sun-day to win the US Open as loud boos — mixed with a simattering of chears greeted American Presi-dent Donald Truing at the final in New York. The 23-year-tid Alearas won 8-2, 7-6, 6-1, 6-4 to canting the president of the con-traction of the control of the con-traction of the control of the con-trol of th

capture his second UK Open crown and sixth Grand Slam title, averaging his lone defeat in a Major fisal by Sinner at Wimble

Alcaras also reclaimed Alcaraz also reclaimed the world No. 1 ranking from Sinner on Monday, returning to top spot for the first time since Septem-ber 2023 after ending the Italian's 27-match wirming

liven then the 23,000-capacity venue was no more than three-quarress full when Alcares broke Sinner in the opening gene of the motch. As he did in the Wintbee

Alcares factifies
World canking: No. 1
Titles: 21
Orand Starres II
US Open (2) = 2022, 2026
Worldsdoor (2) = 2023, 2024
Frienth Open (2) = 2024, 2025

his game and surging 3-1 shead as the Spaniard suf-terest a brief dip on serve. Sinner levelled the too

Stimur bevelled the con-tess at a set apiece but Alex-tess at siverned back with another break sarly in the third, wriggling out of a tight apost on seve with the left of a sensettimal base-from his rival for a 3-4 edge. He padded his lead with another break and quickly wrapped up the set, keeping his finst devent to the course again to the course of the course of the This time stoner seals.

This time Sinner saved

The result: Final: Men-2-Alcorat (Cap) bt 1-Server (Ital) 6-2, 5-6, 6-1, 6-4

India edges Oman on penalties, finishes third

The Indian men's football team got the better of Omas 3.2 on penalties to finish third in the CAFA Nations Cup bere on Monday beating its higher-ranker

opponents from West Asia for the first time over. The tie finished 1-t after extra time. Utlanta Singh

second the equaliser for in-dia in the 80th minute. In the shootout, Oman missed its first two chan-es, while Gurperet Singh Sandhu saved the final pe-oate.

their kicks.
India had lost six out of

had last met in March 2021 which ended in a I-I draw. Khojiakbar Alijonov struck in the final minute of extra time as co-host Usbekistan stunned fran 1-0 st Tashkent to emerge champion. The county Fiscal:

At Tashkant: Uzbekistan (Alimnay 120) by leas 0 ares. Third-place playoff: por India soon 5-2 on penaltica



Ruthless Alcaraz roars past Sinner, regains title AN AWEN



Such to his memoring heat: Alcorar captured his second US Open crown and sixth Grand Stem title, exenging his lame defeat on a Major final by Annor at Wardsledon in July, 60174 Manas.

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Stants.

"I start toy host tonke, all
couldn't, do more, all
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French Open find in June.
Sinner's defrait estimate
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defense of any Grand allain
into Open established the
No man has retained the
No man has retained the
Sopen covers since logs
and the servested the service of the servested the service of the se er Federer won five in a row from 2004 to 2008. The start of the final was pushed back 30 minutes to sillow fans additional time to enter Arthur Ashe Sauli-um as a result of tighter se-

dem final, Alearas pinned Binner on the back front early and broke a second

He created a break point but Rinner hang on and stalled Alcaran's momen-

Ruthless Alcaraz roars past Sinner, regains title

US OPEN

Agence France-Presse NEW YORK

Carlos Alcaraz beat Jannik Sinner in four sets on Sunday to win the US Open as loud boos – mixed with a smattering of cheers – greeted American President Donald Trump at the final in New York.

The 22-year-old Alcaraz won 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 to capture his second US Open crown and sixth Grand Slam title, avenging his lone defeat in a Major final by Sinner at Wimbledon in July.

Alcaraz also reclaimed the world No. 1 ranking from Sinner on Monday, returning to top spot for the first time since September 2023 after ending the Italian's 27-match winning run at hard-court Grand Slams.

"I tried my best today. I couldn't do more," said Sinner, who was also defeated by Alcaraz in an epic French Open final in June.

Sinner's defeat extends the longest drought without a successful men's title defence of any Grand Slam in the Open era.

No man has retained the US Open crown since Rog-



Back to his menacing best: Alcaraz captured his second US Open crown and sixth Grand Slam title, avenging his lone defeat in a Major final by Sinner at Wimbledon in July. GETTY IMAGES

er Federer won five in a row from 2004 to 2008.

The start of the final was pushed back 30 minutes to allow fans additional time to enter Arthur Ashe Stadium as a result of tighter security measures in effect due to Trump's attendance.

Even then the 23,000capacity venue was no more than three-quarters full when Alcaraz broke Sinner in the opening game of the match.

As he did in the Wimbledon final, Alcaraz pinned Sinner on the back front early and broke a second time for a 5-2 lead before serving out to love.

With hundreds of spectators still waiting to get in at the start of the second set, Alcaraz sought to hammer home his advantage.

He created a break point but Sinner hung on and stalled Alcaraz's momenAlcaraz factfile

World ranking: No. 1 Titles: 23

Grand Slams: 6

US Open (2) — 2022, 2025 Wimbledon (2) — 2023, 2024 French Open (2) — 2024, 2025

tum, belatedly ramping up his game and surging 3-1 ahead as the Spaniard suffered a brief dip on serve.

Sinner levelled the contest at a set apiece but Alcaraz stormed back with another break early in the third, wriggling out of a tight spot on serve with the help of a sensational baseline smash that sliced away from his rival for a 3-0 edge. He padded his lead with another break and quickly wrapped up the set, keeping his foot down to corner Sinner again to begin the fourth set.

This time Sinner saved two break points but Alcaraz made another charge in the fifth game, delivering the decisive blow for an advantage he never relinquished as the Spaniard became only the fourth man to win multiple Majors on hard court, grass and clay.

The result: Final: Men:

2-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 1-Sinner (Ita) 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4.



Official website

Founded 1881, 144 years ago

Editions 145 (2025)

145 Grand Slam events

Location Queens, New York City

United States

Venue USTA Billie Jean King National

Tennis Center (since 1978)

Surface Hard – outdoors[a][b] (since 1978)

Clay – outdoors (1975–1977) Grass – outdoors (1881–1974)

Prize money US\$90,000,000 (2025)[1]

Men's

Draw S (128Q) / 64D (16Q)[c]

Current Carlos Alcaraz (singles)

champions Marcel Granollers

Horacio Zeballos (doubles)

Most singles 7

titles William Larned,

Richard Sears,

Bill Tilden

Most doubles 6

titles Mike Bryan

Women's

Draw S (128Q) / 64D (16Q)

Current Aryna Sabalenka (singles)

champions Gabriela Dabrowski

Erin Routliffe (doubles)

Most singles 8

titles Molla Mallory

Grand Slam	Men's Singles Champion (Runner-up)	Women's Singles Champion (Runner- up)
Australian Open	Jannik Sinner (def. Alexander Zverev) (<u>Wikipedia</u>)	Madison Keys (def. Aryna Sabalenka) (<u>Wikipedia</u>)
French Open	Carlos Alcaraz (def. Jannik Sinner) (<u>Wikipedia</u>)	Coco Gauff (def. Aryna Sabalenka) (<u>Wikipedia</u>)
Wimbledon	Jannik Sinner (def. Carlos Alcaraz) (<u>Wikipedia</u>)	Iga Świątek (def. Amanda Anisimova) (<u>Wikipedia</u>)
US Open	Carlos Alcaraz (def. Jannik Sinner) (<u>Reuters</u> , <u>Wikipedia</u> , <u>El País</u>)	Aryna Sabalenka (def. Amanda Anisimova) (<u>Bild</u> , <u>Wikipedia</u> , <u>The Times</u> <u>of India</u>)

In most states, majority of girls marry after 18, says govt report

Mean Age Is 22.9, Up From 22.7 In 2022

Ambika.Pandit @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The mean age at effective marriage for females at the national level was 22.9 years, the Sample Registration System (SRS) statistical report 2023 has revealed. That's a tad up from 22.7 in 2022. The report also highlighted that in a majority of states, most girls marry after the age of 18.

However, in states like West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh, a considerable proportion of females continue to marry before reaching 18 years of age. Also, there are variations in the mean age at effective marriage across states, ranging from 21.3 years in West Bengal to 26.3 years in J&K.

MARRIAGE REGISTER

Never Married

- Marital Status data shows that 50.5% of the total population had never been married, with a higher percentage among males (55.4%) than females (45.3%)
- > Bihar has the highest percentage of the nevermarried population at 58.3%, while Tamil Nadu has the lowest percentage (41.3%)

Married

> 45.9% of the total population was reported as married, with a



pulation po

(42.9%)

A look at the data for five ars from 2019 to 2023

years from 2019 to 2023 reflects that the mean age at effective marriage for females, was 22.5 in 2021, 22.7 in 2020, and 22.1 in 2019.

Though the mean age at

The highest and lowest percentage of married population was reported in Tamil Nadu (51.8%) and Bihar (40.2%).

Widowed/Divorced/ Separated

- > 3.6% of the population was either widowed, divorced or separated, with a higher percentage among females (5.6%) than males (1.7%)
- > The highest percentage of the population was reported as widowed, divorced or separated in Tamil Nadu (6.8%) and lowest in Bihar (1.5%)

marriage in both urban and rural areas has shown a consistent rise over the years, the rural-urban disparity remains significant, with the mean age being 22.4 years in rural areas and 24.3 years in urban areas in 2023. The report highlighted that this gap is consistently observed across India. In 2022, the mean age for rural areas was 22.2 years and for urban areas, 23.9.

Since 1990, the SRS has been collecting data on the number of females who entered into effective marriage during each six-month reference period of the half-yearly survey. The mean age at effective marriage has been estimated on the basis of this information.

At the national level, 2.1% of females got married before the age of 18, 25% got married between the ages of 18 and 20, and 72.9% got married at 21 or above. In rural areas, the corresponding percentages are 2.5%, 28.1% and 69.4%, respectively, while in urban areas, they are 1.2%, 17% and 81.8%, respectively.

Among the bigger states/ UTs, the highest proportion of females getting married before the age of 18 was observed in West Bengal (6.3%) and the lowest in Kerala (0.1%).

1. Report Source

- Based on Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2023.
- Tracks marital status, mean age at marriage, and regional variations.

2. Mean Age of Marriage (National Level)

2023: 22.9 years

2022: 22.7 years

Consistent upward trend over the last five years:

2021: 22.5 years

2020: 22.7 years

2019: 22.1 years

3. Rural vs Urban

Rural: 22.2 years

Urban: 23.9 years

· Urban-rural gap exists but narrowing.

4. State-wise Variation

- Lowest Mean Age:
 - West Bengal: 21.3 years
 - Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh also low (many girls still marry <18).
- Highest Mean Age:
 - J&K: 26.3 years

5. Early Marriage Prevalence

- At National Level (Females):
 - 2.1% married before 18
 - 25% married between 18-20
 - 72.9% married at 21 or above
- By State:
 - Highest % of girls married <18: West Bengal (6.3%)
 - Lowest: Kerala (0.1%)

6. Marital Status Distribution (2023)

- Never Married: 50.5% of population (Males 55.4%, Females 45.3%)
 - Highest: Bihar (58.3%)
 - Lowest: Tamil Nadu (41.3%)
- Married: 45.9% (Females 49%, Males 42.9%)
 - Highest: Tamil Nadu (51.8%)
 - Lowest: Bihar (40.2%)
- Widowed/Divorced/Separated: 3.6%
 - Higher in females (5.6%) vs males (1.7%)
 - Highest: Tamil Nadu (6.8%)
 - Lowest: Bihar (1.5%)

Legal Minimum Age of Marriage in India:

• Females: 18 years

Males: 21 years

- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006 governs prevention of child marriage.
- **Proposed Amendment (2021):** Raised female age of marriage from $18 \rightarrow 21$ (yet to be implemented).
- **SDG Goal 5.3:** Eliminate child marriage by 2030.
- UNICEF Report (2021): India has the highest number of child brides globally (~223 million).

- **Pre-Independence:** Child marriages were common, reform movements (e.g., Raja Rammohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar) pushed for minimum marriage age.
- Sharda Act (1929): First law setting minimum marriage age (14 for girls, 18 for boys).
- **Socio-Economic Factors:** Poverty, patriarchy, dowry system, lack of education → early marriages.
- Trends Today: With education, urbanization, and women's empowerment schemes (like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao), mean age of marriage is rising.

Sagarmatha Friendship-2025

The Nepali Army and China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) commenced the fourth edition of their joint military exercise, Sagarmatha Friendship-2025, in Kathmandu.

The exercise, running until 16 September 2025, aims to boost cooperation in counter-terrorism, disaster management, and United Nations peacekeeping.

This biennial drill, first held in 2017, alternates between Nepal and China, reflecting growing defence and strategic ties between the two nations



• The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) introduced the Environment Audit Rules, 2025 to address growing challenges in environmental monitoring. These rules allow private accredited auditors to supplement the existing regulatory bodies. The move aims to improve compliance verification, transparency and accountability in environmental governance across India.

- Environmental monitoring in India is mainly conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), and regional offices of the Environment Ministry. These bodies face severe constraints in manpower, resources and infrastructure.
- This limits their ability to comprehensively monitor the vast number of industrial projects and environmental activities nationwide.
- The new rules seek to bridge these gaps by involving independent private auditors.

Independent Environment Auditors

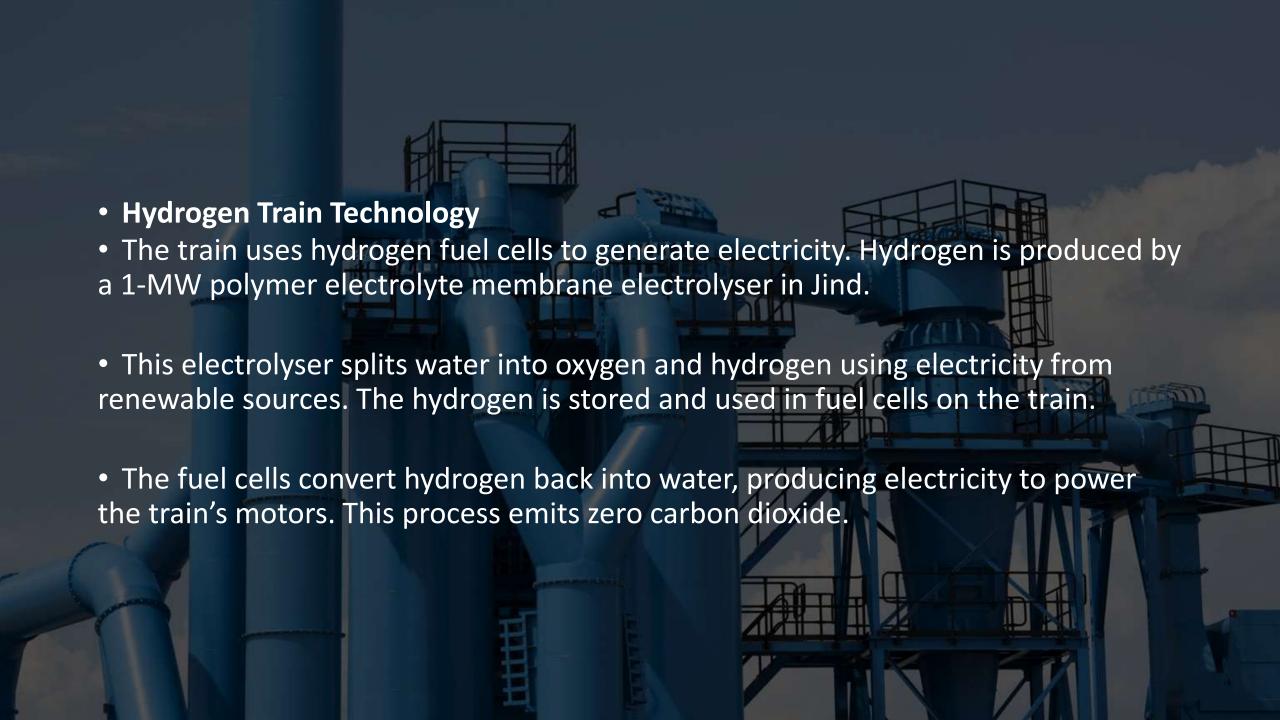
- The Environment Audit Rules establish a new category of environment auditors. These professionals must obtain certification and registration through the Environment Audit Designated Agency (EADA).
- Accredited auditors will be licensed similar to chartered accountants and authorised to inspect and verify compliance with environmental laws.
- They will conduct audits on pollution control, waste management, forest conservation and related regulations.

Functions and Responsibilities of Auditors

- Registered environment auditors will perform random and unbiased audits. Their duties include verifying compliance, conducting sampling and analysis, calculating environmental compensation, and assessing adherence to the Green Credit Rules.
- They will also verify self-reported compliance by industries. This approach increases transparency and reduces conflicts of interest in environmental monitoring.



- The Indian Railways successfully tested a hydrogen-powered train developed at the Integral Coach Factory in Chennai. This train will soon operate between Jind and Sonipat in Haryana.
- It is part of the National Green Hydrogen Mission, which aims to produce five million metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually by 2030. The mission supports India's goal of net zero emissions by 2070.



Significance and Future Prospects

- India will become the fifth country after Germany, France, Sweden, and China to deploy hydrogen-powered trains.
- The new train on the Jind–Sonipat route can carry 2,638 passengers and reach speeds of 110 km/h. It is powered by a 1,200 HP engine.
- The government has allocated Rs 2,800 crore to develop 35 hydrogen trains by 2024-25. This initiative marks step towards sustainable transport and India's zero-carbon emissions target by 2070.

Israel Launches Ofek-19 Military Satellite

01

The launch of Israel's Ofek-19 satellite on 2 September 2025 marks a major leap in regional intelligence and defence capabilities.

02

This advanced reconnaissance satellite uses Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) technology, enabling continuous, all-weather surveillance day and night.

03

It strengthens Israel's independent space-based intelligence and enhances security cooperation with allies like the United States.

Ofek-19 enhances Israel's ability to track threats from Iran, Syria, and militant groups like Hezbollah. It provides high-resolution images with better than half-metre accuracy.

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The intelligence supports rapid military decisions without risking personnel.



The satellite also strengthens intelligence sharing with the United States, reinforcing their strategic partnership.



- 2025 marked the centenary of the Self-Respect Movement, which advocated rationalism, social equality, and anti-caste ideology.
- Self-Respect Movement About:
- It was launched by EV Ramasamy (Periyar) in 1925 in Tamil Nadu, who later established the Dravidar Kazhagam and started the Tamil weekly Kudi Arasu (Republic).
- Periyar was influenced by social reformers like Jyotirao Phule and BR Ambedkar, and also participated in the Vaikom Satyagraha.

Objectives: It aimed to eradicate the caste system, reject Brahminical dominance, and promote rational thinking and individual dignity, as outlined in its pamphlets Namathu Kurikkol and Tiravitak Kalaka Lateiyam.

Key Features:

- Pioneered Self-Respect Marriages- simple priest-less ceremonies that were legally recognized.
- Fought against social evils like the Devadasi system, caste discrimination, and restrictions on widow remarriage.
- Promoted women's leadership, with notable figures like Annai Meenambal and Veeramal.
 - Meenambal bestowed the title 'Periyar' on EV Ramaswamy, and was referred to as "my sister Meena" by BR Ambedkar.

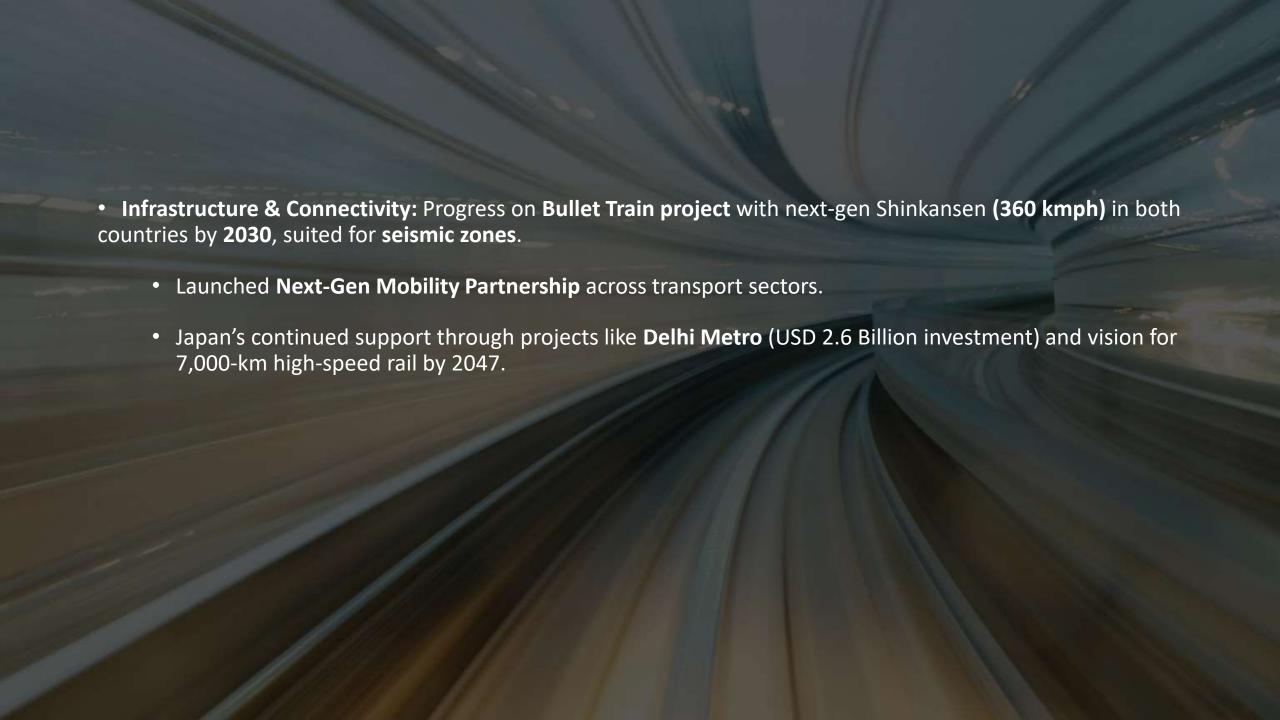


• Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Japan reinforced the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership, resulting in 13 key agreements and a pledge of 10 trillion yen (USD 68 billion) investment in private investment from Japan over the next decade.

- **Defence & Security Cooperation:** India and Japan signed a **Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation,** marking a substantial update and expansion of their 2008 agreement.
 - Institutionalised **NSA-level dialogue** and expanded tri-service exercises (Dharma Guardian, Veer Guardian, Milan).
 - **DRDO–ATLA collaboration** on missile defence and maritime surveillance; movement towards **co-production** of defence equipment.

- Technology & Space Collaboration: Launched Digital Partnership 2.0 and India-Japan Al Initiative for Large Language Models(LLMs) and R&D.
 - Signed ISRO–JAXA pact for **Chandrayaan-5 joint lunar polar mission**.
 - Cooperation in **robotics**, **semiconductors**, **shipbuilding**, **space awareness**, and nuclear energy.

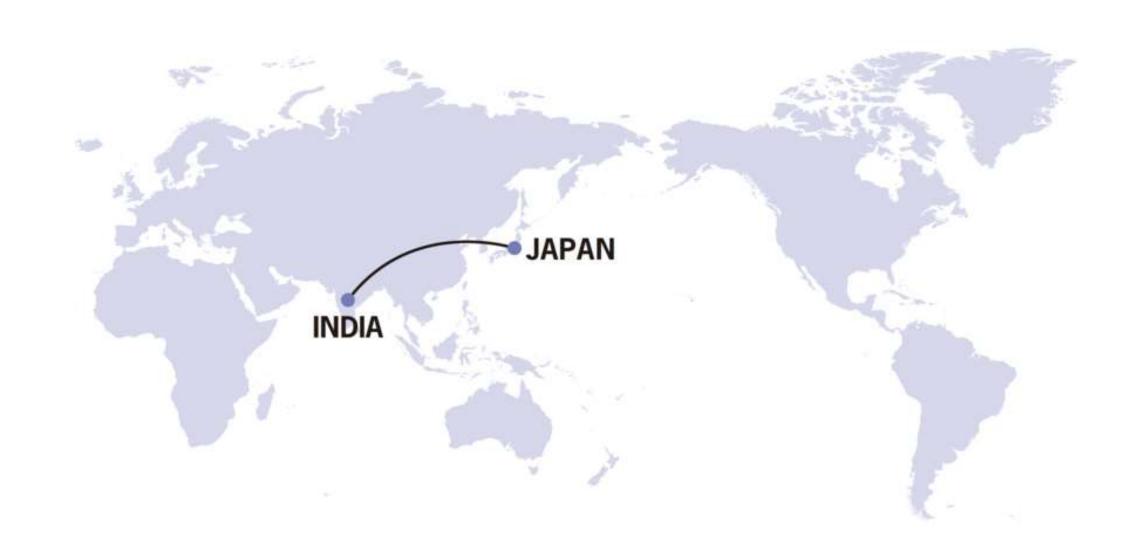
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Green Energy & Climate
Cooperation: Operationalised Joint
Crediting Mechanism (JCM) under
Paris Agreement.

 Signed declarations on Clean Hydrogen & Ammonia; launched Sustainable Fuel Initiative. People-to-People Cooperation:
Action Plan on Human Resource
Exchange to enable mobility of 5
lakh people, including 50,000
Indian workers.

Launched Next-Gen State
 Prefecture Partnership, cultural MoUs, and diplomacy training programs.



- Strategic Partnership: The relationship was elevated over time with the signing of Global Partnership (2000), Strategic & Global Partnership (2006), and Special Strategic & Global Partnership (2014).
 - 'India—Japan Vision 2025' was announced in 2015 outlining a framework for cooperation.

C



National Maritime Heritage Complex

The Chief of the Naval Staff visited the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.

National Maritime Heritage Complex

About: It is an ambitious **cultural and tourism project** in **Lothal**, Gujarat that aims to **highlight India's rich and diverse 4,500-year-old maritime heritage** and establish the **largest maritime heritage complex in the world**.

 Key projects include a world-class Lighthouse Museum, coastal state pavilions, and a maritime-themed eco-resort.

• About:

- It is one of the southernmost sites of the Harappan civilization, located in the Bhal region of Gujarat, between the Bhogavo and Sabarmati rivers near the Gulf of Khambhat.
- The name Lothal in Gujarati means "mound of the dead", similar to Mohenjo-daro in Sindhi.
- The site was discovered in 1954 by S.R. Rao was nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in April 2014.

• Significance: It is famous for having the world's earliest known dock, which connected the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati river. It was also famous for bead workshops, and maritime trade links with Mesopotamia and Egypt dating back nearly **4,000** years



1st Interpol Silver Notices

- The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has got its first Interpol silver notice issued, against the recovery of around 82 kg of cocaine in Delhi.
- About
- A silver notice is issued by Interpol to identify, locate, and trace assets acquired through criminal proceeds by a fugitive.
- Aim: Helping trace and recover criminal assets for combating transnational organised crime through enhanced international police cooperation.

- The Interpol launched 'Silver Notice', the newest addition to the organisation's list of colour-coded notices and diffusions, as part of a pilot project involving 52 countries and territories.
 - The pilot project will run at least till November 2025. India is one of the participating countries.

INTERPOL NOTICES



GREEN NOTICE
WARNINGS AND INTELLIGENCE



RED NOTICE

WANTED PERSONS



ORANGE NOTICE

IMMINENT THREAT



YELLOW NOTICE

MISSING PERSONS



PURPLE NOTICE

MODUS OPERANDI



BLUE NOTICE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



SILVER NOTICE (Pilot Phase)

IDENTIFICATION AND TRACING OF CRIMINAL ASSETS



BLACK NOTICE

UNIDENTIFIED BODIES



INTERPOL-UN SECURITY
COUNCIL SPECIAL NOTICE

ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO UNSC SANCTIONS

Operation Guddar

• An encounter broke out in the Guddar forest of Kulgam, J&K, under Operation Guddar, after terrorists opened fire on security forces during a search operation.

• Aim:

- To neutralize active terrorists operating in South Kashmir.
- To secure forested terrain and villages used as militant hideouts.







• The Apatani women of Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh, represent the last generation to wear the tribe's traditional facial tattoos and wooden nose plugs, a practice banned in the 1970s but still proudly carried by elderly women.

• Reasons:

- <u>Protection from Abduction:</u> Tattoos and large wooden nose plugs were intended to make Apatani women appear less attractive to outsiders and rival tribes.
- Identity & Dignity: Became a symbol of honour, belonging, and dignity within the community.
- <u>Cultural Beauty Standard:</u> Among the Apatanis, tattoos later became associated with **tribal beauty ideals**, despite being unusual to outsiders.

Word of the day

Resile:

pull out from an agreement, contract, statement, etc; spring back; spring away from an impact; formally reject or disavow a formerly held belief, usually under pressure; return to the original position or state after being stretched or compressed

Synonyms: bounce, rebound, recoil, ricochet, forswear, recant, retract

Usage: The landlord cannot resile from the lease.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/resilepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɹrˈzaɪl/

