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How a Kerala civic body turned its garbage hill into a field of dreams



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Aditya-L1 gets a close look at eruptions from the sun



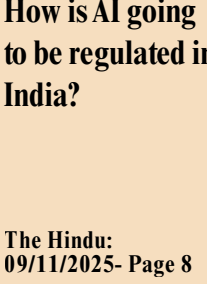
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Centre notifies rules for deep-sea fishing



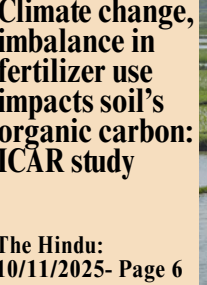
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How is AI going to be regulated in India?



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Climate change, imbalance in fertilizer use impacts soil's organic carbon: ICAR study



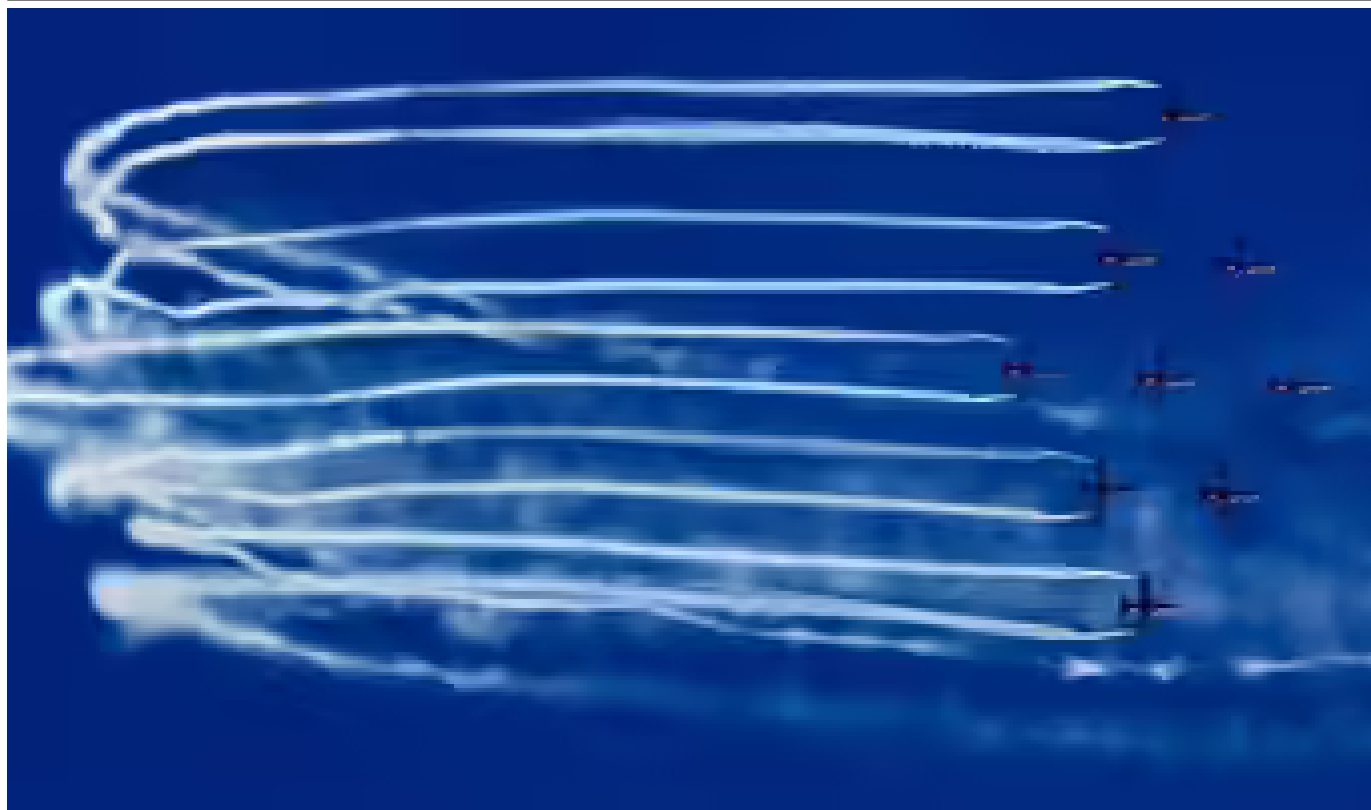
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Centre rules out Kuki-Zo groups' U.T. demand



Kuki-Zo insurgent groups in Manipur on Saturday said that they held talks with the Union Home Ministry this week, “focusing on the core demand for a Union Territory with a Legislative Assembly” for Kuki-Zo areas, insisting that “coexistence” within the State was not possible. This comes just two months after the groups signed a Suspension of Operations (SoO) pact with the Union and State governments. However, the Centre’s representative in the talks said it was not possible to accept their demand.

The two umbrella groups — the Kuki National Organisation (KNO) and the United People’s Front (UPF) — said the talks were held on November 6 and 7, with the MHA being represented by its Northeast Adviser A.K. Mishra. According to the SoO groups, Mr. Mishra reiterated that the current policy does not support creation of new U.T.s. He stressed the need for consultations with other communities in Manipur. The talks covered issues of land, forests, customs, and development, along with mutual confidence building measures to be pursued alongside the regular political dialogue. They urged the MHA to take concrete steps to protect traditional tribal land rights and uphold the authority of tribal chiefs, who manage land and customary matters in the hill areas. The new terms said that security forces would conduct verification of cadres, de-list and deport foreign nationals, and relocate camps run by insurgent groups. The September-4 agreement, the latest version of the SoO pact in place since 2008, reiterated the territorial integrity of Manipur but inserted a new clause: “negotiated political settlement within Constitution of India.” Administratively, politically, and culturally, the tribal people had never been an organic part of the Manipur State before 1947.



Thousands gathered along Guwahati's Lachit Ghat to witness a historic first — the Indian Air Force's full-scale air display over the Brahmaputra River. The event marked the IAF's 93rd anniversary and transformed the tranquil riverfront into a theatre of speed, sound, and patriotism. The lineup included a range of IAF platforms, including the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, Rafale, and the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT).



Ukraine was scrambling to turn lights and heating back on after Russian attacks targeting energy infrastructure had crippled some of the country's power generation on Sunday. Moscow, which has escalated attacks on Ukraine's infrastructure in recent months, launched hundreds of drones at energy facilities across the country overnight. The Russian attacks interrupted electricity, heat and water supplies in several cities. Russia aims to freeze Ukrainians into surrender.



STATE

How a Kerala civic body turned its garbage hill into a field of dreams

Background and Context

- This describes the transformation of a massive garbage landfill in Laloore, Thrissur, Kerala into a multi-purpose sports complex named after football legend IM Vijayan.
- For decades, the landfill was a source of persistent pollution and deadly health risks, affecting several generations of local residents due to toxic gases and waste-related diseases.
- Repeated fires and dumping had turned the area into a hazardous death trap, with failed attempts by authorities and residents to manage the problem since at least 1998.

Initiative and Collaboration

- The makeover was a collaborative effort between the CPI(M)-led state government, the local civic body (Thrissur City Corporation), and was originally catalyzed by campaign promises and budget proposals from local politicians.
- Key figures include CPI leader V S Sunil Kumar, K G Kishore Kumar (local resident), and agencies like the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB), which helped secure funding for the project.

Stages of Cleanup and Redevelopment

- Following a major fire at the landfill in 2012, fresh dumping of waste was stopped, but legacy waste remained a critical issue.
- An organized solid waste management project was eventually launched to process and segregate 60,000 cubic metres of legacy waste, clearing 14 acres for redevelopment.
- This process involved significant public investment (₹5 crore) and leveraged infrastructure funding instruments.

Facilities and Features of the Sports Complex

- The first phase cost ₹59 crore and includes an indoor stadium (seating capacity 5,000), three badminton courts, volleyball and basketball courts, a football field with synthetic turf, swimming pool, tennis turf, and an administrative block.
- The complex will be managed by the sports and youth affairs department, promoting continued professional use and public engagement.

Social, Environmental, and Urban Impacts

- The sports complex represents a landmark environmental turnaround, converting a site of chronic urban pollution into a vibrant community resource.
- It highlights the effectiveness of public agitation, civic activism, and sustained government intervention in addressing urban planning and waste management challenges.
- The initiative sets a precedent for other Indian cities grappling with similar legacy waste problems, demonstrating possibilities for land reclamation and smart urban redevelopment.

Symbolic and Cultural Value

- Naming the sports complex after IM Vijayan, a celebrated footballer from Thrissur, reinforces local pride and connects sporting inspiration with community revitalization.
- The project is positioned as both a tribute to a local hero and a model for participatory, sustainable urban renewal.

Uttarakhand's 25th anniversary; milestone marked by the magazine "Uttara Mahila Patrika":

Historical and Social Context

- Uttarakhand was carved out of Uttar Pradesh on November 9, 2000, after prolonged agitation and activism for statehood.
- The editorial of "Uttara Mahila Patrika", a quarterly magazine, highlights the role and anxieties of women, who constituted a substantial and active segment in the agitation.
- There were lingering questions about the future of women's activism and voice once the dream of statehood was realized.

Role and Legacy of Uttara Mahila Patrika

- "Uttara Mahila Patrika" was launched in 1990, a decade before statehood, aiming to provide a platform for women's issues which were otherwise marginalized in mainstream discourse.
- The magazine began in Dehradun but moved to Nainital, maintaining a focus on the region's social and political churn, and reflecting women's concerns throughout Uttarakhand's journey.
- Founders like Kamla Pant and others saw the publication as a "manifesto" that documented and advocated for women's rights during statehood and beyond.

Key Movements and Women's Participation

- The magazine covered multiple social movements, including anti-alcohol agitations (such as the 1984 "Nasha Nahi, Rozgar Do" campaign), anti-drug protests, and women's participation in the Reclaim the Night movement.
- Uttara Mahila Patrika has covered topics such as women's commodification in media, inclusion of transwomen in public commissions, and surveillance and violence against women, signifying its evolving and intersectional approach.
- The coverage and memory of the 1994 Rampur Tiraha police firing, where statehood activists were killed and women protesters reportedly sexually assaulted, remains a key part of the magazine's chronicling of women's histories and struggles.

Ideological Focus and Editorial Values

- The magazine has consistently held up a "mirror" to societal and political change, acting as a record of agitation, activism, and transformation through women's lens.
- Recent years have seen the magazine tackle issues like the rise of communalism and shrinking space for liberal, inclusive politics, echoing concerns from editors and activists who had never imagined these would one day become prominent debates.
- Inspiration was partly drawn from the Delhi-based women's magazine "Manushi", reinforcing the interconnectedness of feminist movements across states.
- Uma Bhatt, Sheela Rajwar, Basanti Pathak, and Kamla Pant are cited as key contributors and visionaries, who felt women's issues and half the population's pain were largely ignored by the media and politics.

Impact and Continued Relevance

- Over 25 years, Uttara has offered unique and persistent coverage of Uttarakhand's political, social, and gendered journeys.
- By marking this milestone, the magazine asserts the continuing necessity for women-centric voices to shape understanding and response in society, especially in a region with a long legacy of women's activism.

NATIONAL

Centre notifies rules for deep-sea fishing

Policy Introduction and Objectives

- The Union Government has notified new rules for the 'Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)'.
- The rules prioritize giving fishing rights and opportunities to fishermen cooperative societies and fish farmer producer organisations (FFPOs) for deep-sea operations, aiming to modernize and manage ecologically advanced fishing enterprises.
- This move seeks to support sustainable harnessing of resources, expand blue economy benefits, and improve value addition, branding, and certification in the fisheries sector.

Operational Definitions and Role Clarification

- The term "operator" includes individual fishers, enterprises, or FFPOs—including multi-state cooperatives—responsible for vessel or fishing operation management.
- The operator is accountable for the operation and regulatory compliance of the fishing vessel or activity.

Digitalization and Monitoring Mechanisms

- The EEZ rules mandate the creation of modern digital infrastructure, including "mother-and-child" vessel tracking, transshipment monitoring, and advanced RFI (Radio-Frequency Identification) regulations for vessels.
- Specific focus is placed on remote regions like the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep, using mother and child vessels to improve catch management and protect local ecosystems.
- Digital portals will support certification and verifications, integrated with the "ReALCraft" portal to check vessel and catch information.

Sustainability, Biodiversity, and Export Enhancement

- Certification and traceability will be overseen by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), essential to boosting exports and entering sensitive markets.
- The rules also address resource conservation by banning harmful practices such as LED fishing lights, pair trawling, and bull trawling, which damage marine ecosystems.
- Minimum legal size limits for key species and development of Marine Management Plans will further help conserve fish stocks.

Research, Capacity Building, and Mariculture

- Emphasis will be laid on training and capacity building for traditional and small-scale fishers, with FFPOs being incentivized to adopt sustainable practices.
- India aims to advance sea-cage farming and seaweed cultivation as alternative livelihoods, and support domestic mariculture.

Broader Implications

- The rules are seen as a transition to more science-based, sustainable marine resource management, aligning with India's ambition to build a globally competitive, environmentally sound blue economy.
- Enhanced sustainability and certification should position Indian fisheries to tap high-value international markets and support coastal community incomes.

Ahead of COP30, India says it will join global tropical forest protection initiative

Announcement and Context

- India declared it would participate as an "Observer" in the Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF) at the Leaders' Summit in Belem, Brazil, just before the upcoming COP30 climate conference.
- The summit gathered heads of state focused on climate action, with the TFFF initiative meant to boost global finance for protecting tropical forests and limiting global carbon emissions.

Objectives of the Tropical Forest Forever Facility

- The TFFF is designed as a financial mechanism to incentivize emerging market and developing nations to keep tropical forests intact.
- The proposed Tropical Forest Investment Fund will invest in environmentally sound projects and avoid those linked to deforestation, such as fossil fuel expansion.
- Countries protecting forests will receive \$4 per hectare protected, and investor contributions go into the TFFF; returns on these investments are paid in tokens, which can be redeemed for original investment or new projects.

COP30 Announcements and Commitments

- Brazil, the COP30 host, pledged a \$1 billion contribution, with additional support from France (\$250 million), China, and the UAE (financial and policy commitments).

Implications for India and Other Non-fossil Power Countries

- Non-fossil power currently constitutes 50% of India's electricity supply, and has expanded significantly since COP26 (2021).
- India aims to quadruple renewables target (estimated 36GW by 2035), reduce fossil usage, and support global ambitions for tropical forest protection.
- Dinesh Bhatia, India's ambassador to Brazil, described joining TFFF as a "significant step" toward a collective global response.

Broader Significance and Strategic Goals

- The initiative signals a coordinated global effort to conserve forests through sustainable finance and international cooperation.
- It encourages countries to set clear roadmaps for ending fossil fuel dependence, honoring financial commitments, and meeting renewable energy goals guided by the 1.5°C climate objective.
- This provides insight into ongoing transitions from fossil fuels to clean energy, with green tokens as financial incentives supporting long-term sustainability.



STATE

Aditya-L1 gets a close look at eruptions from the sun

Mission Overview and Collaboration

- This covers about India's first dedicated solar mission, Aditya-L1, using the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) payload developed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) in collaboration with NASA.
- Scientists from IIA and NASA carried out the very first spectroscopic observations of a coronal mass ejection (CME) in the visible wavelength range, capturing unique scientific data by observing these eruptions very close to their lift-off point on the sun.

Scientific Achievements

- The VELC observations allowed researchers to study the CME's visible surface and its fundamental parameters—electron density, energy, mass, temperature, and speed—much closer to the sun than previous efforts.
- This has provided, for the first time, continuous 24-hour coverage of the sun's activity, enabled by Aditya-L1's unique location at the Lagrangian Point L1.

Key CME Facts and Calculations

- The CME observed contained about 370 million electrons per cubic centimetre, as measured by VELC, compared to 10-100 million electrons per cubic centimetre in the non-CME corona.
- The total energy of the CME was estimated to be approximately 9.4×10^{21} joules, and its mass approximately 270 million tons.
- For perspective, the mass of this CME vastly exceeds that of the iceberg responsible for sinking the Titanic and moved at an initial speed of 264 km/sec; the CME's temperature reached 1.8 million degrees Kelvin.

Significance and Future Observations

- Observations of CMEs had previously been possible mostly at greater distances from the sun, but VELC's new data provide unprecedented near-sun measurements per CME, allowing much more accurate physical understanding.
- With Aditya-L1 now fully operational and the sun near its peak activity (solar cycle 25), scientists expect far more energetic solar eruptions to be observed and studied.

Scientific and Global Impact

- These achievements put India at the forefront of space-based solar studies, offering insights valuable to both domestic and global solar physics communities.
- The findings are anticipated to help improve scientific understanding of solar storms and their potential effects on technology and climate.

Climate change, imbalance in fertilizer use impacts soil's organic carbon: ICAR study

Study Background and Scope

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) conducted a comprehensive, multi-year study involving 2,54,236 soil samples from 620 districts across 29 Indian states to analyze soil organic carbon levels.
- The study aimed to understand how both fertilizer usage patterns and climatic changes affect soil organic carbon—an important indicator of soil health, fertility, and climate impact.

Main Findings: Soil Organic Carbon Dynamics

- Soil organic carbon is highly correlated with elevation: higher land elevations contain more organic carbon, while lowlands show lower levels.
- Organic carbon content is negatively correlated with temperature; very high temperatures, as observed in Rajasthan and Telangana, are associated with low organic carbon in soil.
- Imbalanced fertilizer application—particularly heavy usage of urea and phosphorous with little or no balancing elements—has caused sharp declines in organic carbon in states such as Haryana, Punjab, and parts of western Uttar Pradesh.
- The findings match earlier global warnings about the long-term effects of unsustainable agricultural practices and climate change on soil properties.

Mechanisms and Assessment Tools

- The research created an “agri-ecological base” map to track and predict controls on soil organic carbon, factoring in cropping systems, fertilizer regimes, temperature, rainfall, and elevation.
- The map is intended as a policy support tool, aiding decisions related to land degradation, carbon credits, and sustainable agriculture planning.

Broader Implications

- The decline in soil organic carbon poses risks for long-term soil productivity, food security, carbon credit initiatives, and greenhouse gas management.
- If current trends continue—rising temperatures and uncorrected fertilizer imbalances—further declines in soil organic carbon and increased carbon emissions from soils are predicted.

Policy and Practice Recommendations

- This underscores the immediate need for balanced fertilizer use, better crop management practices, and policy interventions targeting vulnerable regions and cropping systems.
- Adoption of these recommendations will be crucial not just for preserving soil health, but for achieving sustainable agriculture and climate goals in India.

BUSINESS

PRELIMS CORNER :

1. Which one of the following texts helped to identify the initial year of the Gupta era by stating that the Gupta era began 241 years after the beginning of the Shaka era ?

- (a) Raghuvamsa
- (b) Razmnama
- (c) Amarakosha
- (d) Tahqiq-i-Hind

2. Who among the following enhanced the power and prestige of the Maratha Empire by defeating the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Rajput Governor of Malwa and the Governor of Gujarat?

- (a) Balaji Viswanath
- (b) Baji Rao I
- (c) Balaji Baji Rao
- (d) Madhav Rao I

3. The earliest epigraphic reference to image worship in Jainism is found in :

- (a) Nashik inscription
- (b) Junagarh inscription
- (c) Hathigumpha inscription
- (d) Mathura inscription

4. Which of the below Articles of the Indian Constitution speaks specifically of religious and linguistic minorities ?

- (a) Article 30
- (b) Article 29
- (c) Article 350A
- (d) Article 16

DETAILED ANSWER KEY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE CHRONICLE PAGE

How is AI going to be regulated in India?

Context and Recent Developments

- On November 5, 2025, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) released the India AI Governance Guidelines, a 66-page policy outlining the regulation and promotion of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies in India.
- The guidelines are part of broader government preparations for the AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi, and reflect India's emergence as the world's second-largest user of large language models after the US.

Objectives of the Guidelines

- The guidelines seek to create a consistent regulatory environment for AI, focusing on safe and inclusive use, while maximizing benefits and mitigating risks for society and individuals.
- India's aim is to harness AI for development, global competitiveness, and equitable progress, recognizing risks like privacy and misuse that technological advancement can bring.

Key Principles and Recommendations

- The rules are backed by principles such as people-centricity, fairness, clarity, and inclusivity, with transparency strongly emphasized.
- The guidelines recommend establishing frequent communications among various government sectors, voluntary codes, standards, and a cross-ministerial 'AI Governance Group' to coordinate and update policies.
- Policy actions include building national data and computing infrastructure, and making AI resources broadly accessible; recommendations also cover global copyright/IP laws, and urge evaluation of cultural representation in AI models.

Comparison to Global Practices

- The guidelines differ from other nations by focusing on infrastructure-building and public accessibility, rather than just introducing restrictive measures.
- Previous multilateral summits (Bletchley Park, Seoul, Paris) mostly settled on broad principles; India's guidelines detail actionable steps and Indian-specific priorities like supporting local languages and representative datasets.

Implementation in Industry and Public Sectors

- Industry advice includes voluntary reporting, AI safety checks, and transparency, alongside sectoral impact assessments.
- The guidelines also propose creating standardization bodies and committees, such as an online India AI Standards Institute (AISI).
- Emphasis is placed on private sector cooperation and clear communication between ministries, regulators, and standard bodies, favoring coordinated rather than hands-off or purely pre-emptive regulation.

Intellectual Property and Data Issues

- The guidelines address copyright and intellectual property, recommending legal changes and Indian-specific pushes for culturally representative training data, including encouragement for local language models.
- They also reassert the importance of adapting global copyright reforms to suit Indian needs.

Consistency with Broader AI Policy

- The approach is broadly hands-off but advocates strong infrastructure, communication, and preparedness for future issues — an alignment with India's stated goals in the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and related tech policies.
- However, the guidelines stop short of formal AI legislation, which may come following further stakeholder and parliamentary consultations.

Strategic and Policy Impact

- The guidelines lay a foundation for India's regulatory strategy on AI, emphasizing actionable recommendations and forward-looking policy, while leaving open the possibility of future statutory regulation.
- They represent India's balancing act of fostering innovation while managing risks, public safety, and global competitiveness in AI technologies.

INTERNATIONAL

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)- Global Watchtower

CTBTO Background and Purpose

- The CTBTO was established from a global campaign to close the last legal gap in nuclear restraint—a worldwide, verifiable ban on all nuclear explosions.
- The CTBT (Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty) was adopted in September 1996 and opened for signatures; entry into force requires ratification by 44 “Annex 2” states with nuclear expertise, which has delayed full enactment.
- The CTBTO Preparatory Commission was set up in November 1996 to provisionally operate a global verification regime before the treaty comes into force.

Verification Infrastructure

- The centerpiece of CTBTO’s verification is the International Monitoring System (IMS), a network of 337 stations detecting seismic, hydroacoustic, infrasound, and radionuclide signals to monitor nuclear explosions worldwide.
- CTBTO’s regime created a de facto moratorium on nuclear testing, with practical restraint demonstrated even by non-signatory states like Pakistan, India, and North Korea.
- The system also provides scientific services, such as tsunami warnings, highlighting its broad utility.

Treaty Status and Challenges

- Most Annex 2 states have signed the CTBT, but eight holdouts (notably U.S., China, India, Pakistan, North Korea, Israel, Iran, Egypt) hinder entry into force.
- Russia revoked its ratification in 2023, though it pledged to continue observing the testing moratorium.
- The treaty itself remains in legal limbo, enforced by political norms and scientific verification rather than legal authority.

Risks Posed by Potential U.S. Nuclear Testing

- U.S. President Trump’s threat to restart nuclear testing would be a major setback, risking an immediate return to explosive testing and reciprocal actions by other states.
- This would challenge the moratorium, complicate verification, and weaken CTBTO’s core mission, raising costs and environmental risks by requiring major refurbishments and new technical investments.
- Opponents note that even preparing for underground tests would consume time and resources, and would undermine the U.S.’s obligations under earlier treaties like the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty.

Political and Strategic Implications

- The U.S. and successive administrations have certified IMS without explosive tests, with bipartisan support for norm-building rather than legal enforcement.
- Analysts argue that if the U.S. resumes testing, it might prompt others (China, Russia) to follow, with unpredictable global consequences.
- The strength of CTBTO lies in its ability to certify, monitor, and share reliable data worldwide, even if legal certainty remains unresolved.

Broader Consequences and Future Prospects

- The future of the CTBTO and the global test ban hinges on choices in major capitals—Washington, Moscow, Beijing—as ambiguities in legal status persist.
- An actual test would paradoxically showcase the system’s technical success but simultaneously undermine its raison d’être.
- The CTBT’s unfinished character and ongoing debate underline the need for political will, transparency, and potentially new agreements or national laws for durable nuclear restraint.

Bhutan eyes role of global spiritual peacemaker; to host annual prayer festival uniting religions

Bhutan’s Aspiration as a Global Spiritual Peacemaker

- Bhutan is seeking a global spiritual leadership role, aiming to project itself as a peacemaker and uniting force in a region troubled by conflict and polarization.
- The first-ever Global Peace Prayer Festival (GPPF), organized by Bhutan’s Central Monastic Body, brings together religious leaders, scholars, and thinkers from all three main branches of Buddhism—Mahayana, Theravada, and Vajrayana—for prayers and peace promotion from November 4–19 in Thimphu.
- The initiative has drawn encouraging responses from Buddhist communities both within and outside Bhutan, inspiring plans to make GPPF an annual event geared toward global transformative spiritualism and peacebuilding.
- The GPPF hosts lamas and spiritual participants from countries such as China, Singapore, Taiwan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and the Tibetan region, highlighting the international dimension and inclusivity of the festival.

Broader Participation and Interfaith Efforts

- The festival also includes plans for Hindu priests and spiritual leaders from India to participate in interfaith prayers—the convergence of various religious leaders being seen as crucial for global peace and healing.
- Bhutan’s monarchy and spiritual leadership view such interfaith events as a platform for co-creating a peaceful, cooperative future in a divided world.

Role of India and Transport of Buddha Relics

- The Government of India has provided significant support for the GPPF, including organizing mass prayers and transporting sacred relics of Lord Buddha from the National Museum in New Delhi to the Grand Kuenray hall in Thimphu for public veneration from November 12–18.
- The relics’ presence is timed to coincide with the 70th birth anniversary celebrations of King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, underscoring the cultural and spiritual depth of the bilateral relationship between India and Bhutan.
- Indian diplomats and Bhutanese officials underscored that the gift of relics and joint spiritual events symbolize deepening ties, not only politically but also in spiritual and cultural spheres.

Symbolism and International Messaging

- By convening GPPF and drawing participants from Asia and beyond, Bhutan is positioning itself as a global convenor for peace, harmony, and cross-religious dialogue at a time of increasing international discord.
- Organizers hope the annualization of GPPF will create new traditions fostering intercultural and interfaith unity.

Public Diplomacy and Future Directions

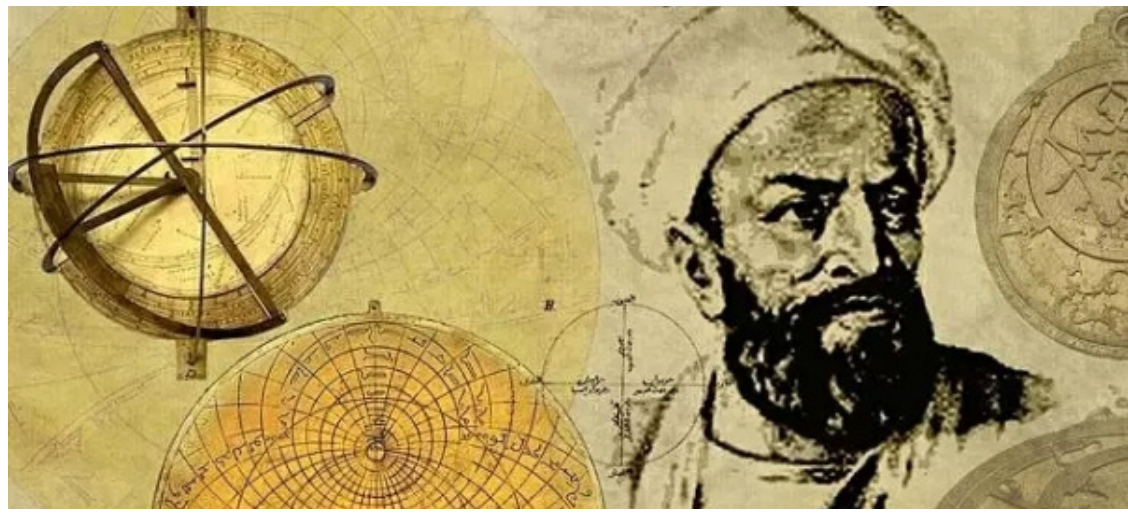
- Bhutan’s engagement, aided by Indian collaboration and the cross-border transport of religious relics, is likely to further solidify people-to-people diplomacy and give Bhutan greater moral and soft-power influence.
- This reflects and strengthens Bhutan’s reputation for spiritual diplomacy, while for India, the collaboration serves as a gesture of cultural outreach and regional friendship.



Prelims Corner: Explanations

Q1. Ans d

The political history of c. 300-600 CE, which in general, is known as the Gupta era in Indian history, has been largely reconstructed on the basis of inscriptions and coins. There are no specific details about the origins or social backgrounds of the Guptas. Apart from the historical value of his descriptions of 11th-century India, Al-Biruni helped modern historians identify the initial year of the Gupta era in his Tahqiq-i-Hind states that the Gupta era began 241 years after the beginning of the Shaka era. Since the Shaka era began in 78 CE, this places the beginning of the Gupta era in 319-320 CE.



Q2. Ans b

Baji Rao I (1720–1740) was appointed as Peshwa in 1720 by Shahu after Balaji Viswanath (father of Baji Rao I). Baji Rao's achievements include establishing Maratha dominance in southern India and political power in northern India. As a result, he played a key role in establishing Maratha supremacy in Gujarat, Malwa, Rajputana, and Bundelkhand, as well as liberating Konkan (India's western coast) from Janjira Siddis and Portuguese dominance. After consolidating Maratha power in central India, Baji Rao resolved to reassert the Maratha right to collect taxes from the prosperous province of Gujarat. Sarbuland Khan, the Mughal governor of the Gujarat province, gave permission to the Marathas to collect Chauth. The Marathas defeated the Nizam of Hyderabad, and Peshwa Baji Rao I forced him to sign a peace treaty on March 6, 1728, in the village of Mungi-Paithan. The Nizam agreed to make some concessions to the Peshwa under the Munji Shivagaon Treaty. Thus, Baji Rao enhanced the power and prestige of the Maratha Empire by defeating the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Rajput Governor of Malwa and the Governor of Gujarat.

Q3. Ans c

The 1st century BCE Hathigumpha inscription of the Kalinga king Kharavela refers to his retrieving an image of a Jina. This inscription is the earliest epigraphic reference to image worship in Jainism. The Udayagiri and Khandagiri caves in Orissa are among the oldest long-standing centres of Jaina monasticism. A large number of Jaina images and inscriptions from the Mathura area indicate the popularity of Jainism. Kharavela, the Chedi king of Kalinga (in eastern India), claims in his Hathigumpha inscription to have defied a king named Satakarni in his second regnal year. He also claims two years later, he defeated the Rathikas of the Maratha country and the Bhojas of Vidarbha, who seem to have been subordinates of the Satavahanas. A possible indication of Nanda military victories in Kalinga is suggested by the later Hathigumpha inscription of Kharavela, which mentions a king named Nanda building a canal and either conquering a place or taking away a Jaina shrine or image from Kalinga.

Q4. Ans a

Article 30 of the Indian Constitution speaks about the right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions. This Article consists of provisions that safeguard various rights of the minority community in the country, keeping in mind the principle of Equality as well. Article 30 (1): Promises to all linguistic and religious minorities the 'right to establish' and the 'right to administer' educational institutions of their own choice. This clause provides the right for two types of minorities, namely, religious and linguistic minorities. Article 30 (2): Restricts the State from making discrimination in the matter of providing help to any educational institution on the ground that it is managed by a religious minority or linguistic minority. Thus, Article 30 of the constitution speaks specifically of religious and linguistic minorities.

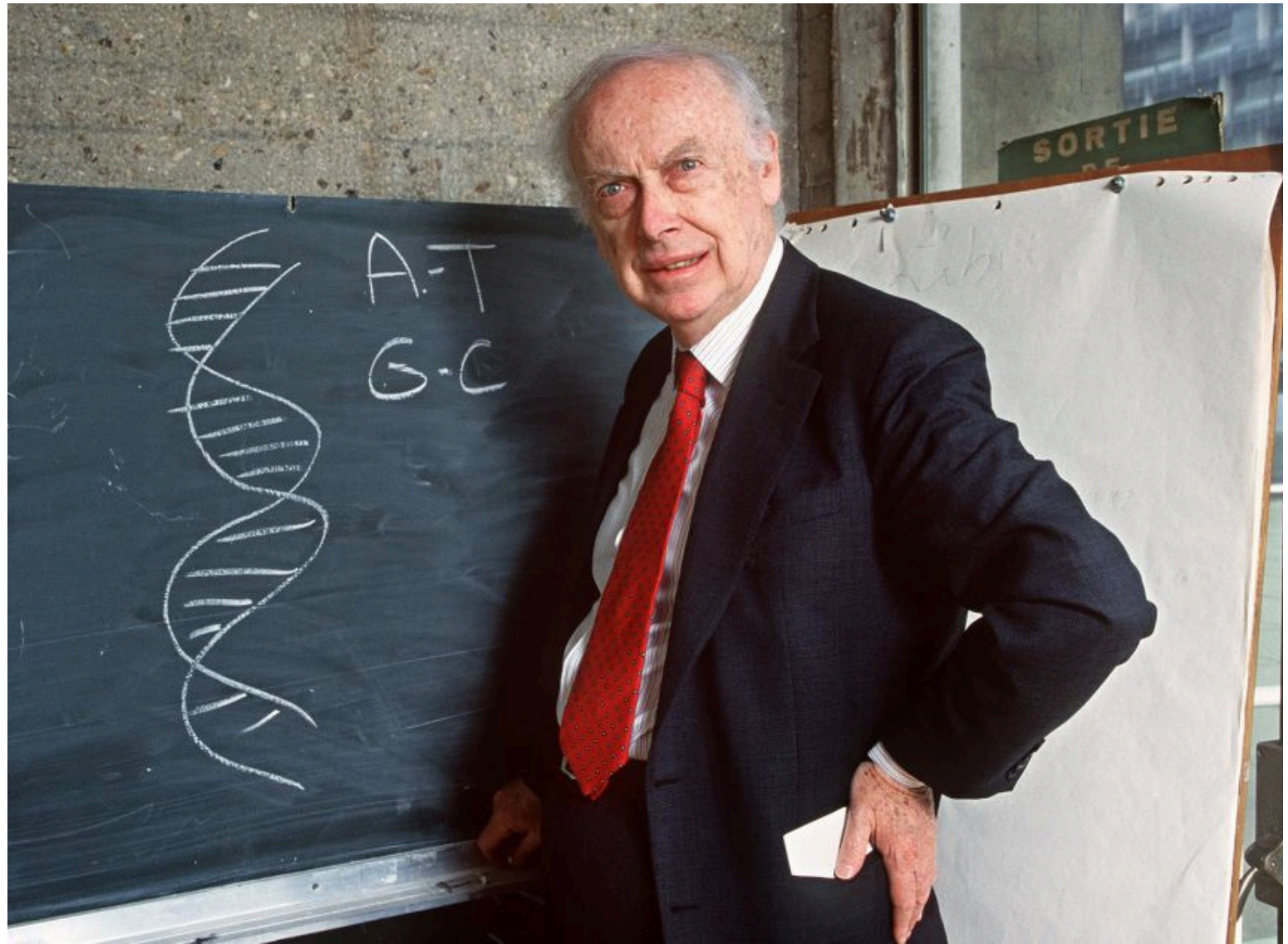
Case Study:



Local task forces tackle illegal gold mining in Ghana

As day broke in a remote part of western Ghana, a priest, farmers and other residents combed through the forests, looking for signs of illegal gold mining. They have done this for the past year as part of a grassroots task force created to combat the mining that has poisoned rivers in one of the world's largest gold producing countries. The task force's 14 members call themselves the Jema Anti-Galamsey Advocacy, and their arrests of suspected illegal miners have sparked debate in Ghana's Western North region over their potential abuse of power. Ghana has lost \$11.4 billion in the last five years to gold smuggling, the development nonprofit Swissaid said this year. As of January 2024, illegal miners were present in 44 of the country's 288 forest reserves, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources data show. It said nine of them were "taken by armed thugs." So far, the group has arrested two Nigerien nationals caught attempting to mine gold in the forest. The court case has proceeded slowly, and villagers seek the establishment of special courts to try illegal miners. Some residents said they wanted to work with the illegal miners for financial gain. Fertilizer prices have tripled since 2022. Residents called for investment in other work to make illegal mining less attractive.

DNA pioneer James Watson dies at 97



Nobel Prize-winning American scientist James Watson, one of the co-discoverers of the structure of DNA, has died aged 97. In one of the greatest breakthroughs of the 20th Century, he identified the double-helix structure of DNA in 1953 alongside British scientist Francis Crick, setting the stage for rapid advances in molecular biology.



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Arunapuram, Pala, Kottayam District, Kerala - 686574, Mobile No: 9539381100, 8281447770



27 YEARS OF LEGACY
375 SUCCESS STORIES
TRADITION * EXCELLENCE
SHAPING LEADERS SHAPING INDIA
SCIENTIA ET CIVITAS EMICEMUS

We Are Looking For...



Senior MENTOR

To conduct the ISP & Test Series

Key Roles:

- ✓ Set questions with answers
- ✓ Conduct the Prelims Test Series
- ✓ Conduct discussions of the Intensive Study Plan (ISP)
- ✓ Provide Prelims-focused Mentorship
- ✓ To be available on the campus from December 2025 to March 2026

Preference:

- ✓ Interview/Mains attended candidates



Drop your CV to:
principal.csipala@gmail.com

Contact Us
97448 85516

