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This led to a wave of widespread voting against the Bharatiya Janata Party in many places. The Opposition also tried to create fear about the BJP and the Modi government in the minds of the Muslim community by claiming that the CAA will drive Muslims out of the country. The results of two constituencies with a majority of Muslims show how intensely the polarization on religious grounds took place. In Malegaon Central Assembly constituency, which is a part of Dhulia LS constituency, Congress candidate Dr. Shaba Bachhav bagged 1,98,869 votes whereas BJP candidate Dr. Subhash Bhamre received only 4,542 votes. This was the only constituency where the Congress candidate secured such a huge margin of 1.94 lakh votes. In fact, in the five Assembly constituencies of Dhulia Lok Sabha constituency Dhulia Rural, Dhulia City, Sindkheda, Malegaon Outer and Satana-Baglan, BJP Dr. Bhamre was leading with over 1.88 lakh votes. But only because of less votes polled in one constituency, Dr. Bhamre had to accept defeat. He lost to Dr. Bachhav by 3,000 votes. In fact, in 8 constituencies in Maharashtra, BJP candidates lost by fewer than 30,000 votes. In Maharashtra, it is being painted that Mahout was rejected by the electorate. It is not true. In fact, there are just 2 lakh votes separating Mahout and Maha Vikas Aghadi in the vote totals. The Maha Vikas Aghadi received 2.50 crore votes or 43.91 compared to the Mahout 2.48 crore or 43.60. MVA won by a margin of less than 0.50 over Mahout. In fact, in comparison to 2019 results, BJP share of votes decreased by 1.50 whereas Congress share rose by 1 percent and its seats increased by 12. In Mumbai, despite registering an increase of 2 lakh votes, we lost. We lost eight seats by less than 4. This clearly shows that the election was close. After analysing the statistics, I am sure that the narrative that the electorate rejected the BJP and Mahout is untrue. The Opposition in this election had already decided that, come hell or high water, they would try to unseat the Bharatiya Janata Party by any means necessary. Social media helped propagate rumours intended to divert attention and instill fear in the minds of voters. All this was a calculated attempt to create instability throughout the country. Both, deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis and BJP state president Chandrasekhar Bawankule worked hard for the **party** success in Maharashtra. Fadnavis addressed 115 campaign meetings. He skillfully articulated the party position during his outreach program to every nook and corner of the state. Even BJP state president Bawankule addressed 147 meetings at the organization level in addition to addressing 100 other meetings such as Namo Samvad and interactions with Super Warriors. Bawankule had also addressed 69 public meetings during this period. I want to emphasize that, despite a few losses in Maharashtra and other states, we were completely successful in several other states. In states where our performance fell short of our expectations, our leadership will undoubtedly assess the errors that occurred at the organizational and strategic levels and take appropriate action to correct them. Every election has taught the BJP leadership and the organization as whole, new lessons. And that is how, our journey that began with two seats in 1984 election reached over 300 seats in 2019, over a span of 35 years. It is undeniable that winning a majority in three consecutive terms is indeed a noteworthy accomplishment. Undoubte

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When conflict between Israel and Hezbollah broke out in 2006, India launched Operation Sukoon to evacuate not just Indians but also nationals of neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka and Nepal with the help of the Indian navy. Then during Operation Rahat in 2015, India evacuated nearly 4,000 citizens along with foreign nationals of 26 countries from war torn Yemen. That said, now that the Ukraine rescue operation is winding down, the focus will shift back to India position on the war. Hitherto, the need to evacuate around 20,000 Indian citizens in Ukraine was seen as one of the factors influencing New Delhi neutral position on the war. But with most Indians out, pressure will grow on New Delhi to take a clear stand. This is already evident in France stated desire to see India play a more forceful role in the next phase of UNSC meetings, while the US has long made clear that India can have different standards for the Indo Pacific and what happening in Ukraine. There no denying that Russia aggression on Ukraine was militarily unprovoked and violated the sovereignty of an independent state. With China too violating India territorial sovereignty, the only way New Delhi can counter Beijing is through the support of the US and its allies. Plus, Russia is now primed to be in the China camp. India can afford to abstain from critiquing Russia any longer. Devas Multimedia is fighting an intense legal battle against Isro commercial arm Antrix Corporation and the Indian government in several international courts over its cancelled satellite deal. The company lead counsel and member of the global law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP Matthew D McGill and Devas senior adviser Jay Newman, both based in the US, tell Surendra Singh about their stand, strategy and the next course of legal action on behalf of the company foreign investors. Has time also become a four letter word, screwing the grocery delivery business? Looks like it, seeing how every player is trying to outdo the latest quickie of its rivals. Eat your heart out, pizza. You promised a free one if it was delivered in 30 minutes, but that record has fallen like dominoes. Q commerce will deliver packaged chickpeas in 10, and counting. Backwards. This sub vertical of online grocery is the new adrenaline, providing fresh case studies to replace the old PDQ speedometer, Pizza Delivered **Quickly**. Inventory control used to be the key to the competitive edge. It been driven out by logistics and reckless youths on scooters breaking the time barrier and traffic lights. We did need the lead story of a business section last Sunday to tell us how these whizzing kids weave manically through the street, jumping lights and making pedestrians do likewise as they turn pavements into their personal race track. Just as people and vehicles are driven off their legit space by these desperadoes, quick comma is driving out leg comm. No need to stock up or step out. No need.

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To savor the leisurely pleasure of browsing in supermarket aisles or banter and bargain with your local banyan. How anachronistic is the poet lament, what is this world if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare? Besides, who d want to tend beneath the bough and stare as long and moronically as sheep or cows? The instaworld has so telescoped that four letter fiend, that if you step beyond your ever shortened time span, you have no right to space. Snap chat self destructs after 30 days, and now What Sapp disappearing messages after their allotted hours. Everyone getting timed out. What are we? Net banking? And how cruel the terminology. Online is positive, happening. On is like a light switch. Offline is its dark side, like the dark stores of Q comma which dot the city, packed with in demand items which can be speedily delivered within a two km radius. Offline is negative, a has been. Off is like meat gone bad. Sad end to what was the warm norm of centuries. The Indian government stand on the Ukrainian conflict, advocating a cessation of hostilities without taking sides on the issue, called to mind a discussion I had with someone years ago about the Gandhi an principle of ahimsa, nonviolence, and the centrality of the Bhagwad Gita to that all embracing way of life and thought, which is often labelled with the shorthand tag of Hinduism. My interlocutor asked how India could claim a tradition of ahimsa while adhering to the teachings of the Gita in which a faltering Arjun is enjoined by Krishn, in his divine manifestation, to take up arms, without remorse, against his own kinsmen on the killing field of Kurukshetra. How can you preach non violence when your most sacred text enjoins you to kill without qualm or conscience? How is the Gita different from Hitler Mein Kamp that led to the Nazi Holocaust? I tried explaining that the Gita is a philosophical treatise which uses the metaphor of a battlefield to liberate us from the desires and devices of the ego, to be free of the ensnarement of the self and its attachments, and achieve cosmic consciousness. My arguments sounded hollow to my own ears. How does the 700 verse Gita fit into the 2,00,000 verse Mahabharata, an epic poem ten times longer than Homer Iliad and Odyssey **combined** and which, in its depiction of mass slaughter, is the most damning of all antiwar testaments? There are no good guys and bad guys in the epic. Everyone, including Krishn, is shown in shades of duplicitous grey. It is the holier than thou Yudhishtir whose weakness for gambling which makes him wager away Draupadi and his brothers, after he himself has been defeated in the throw of dice and thereby lost himself brings about the catastrophic conflict. In an attempt to reconcile the dissonance between the moral ambivalence of the main body of the narrative and the sublimity of the.

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Gita, some commentators have argued that the latter is a later interpolation, an add on or postscript, as it were, which sacralised the epic and turned what is a thundering good yarn, full of twists and turns of treachery and all kinds of skulduggery, into a religious text, highlighted and further hallowed by the endorsement of 19th century Indologists like Max Muller and, later, by Mohandas Gandhi who made it the cornerstone of his philosophy of asceticism and the sublimation of the self. While orthodoxy might deplore what it sees as heresy, the contextualising of the Gita as an interpolation is not only plausible but also helps to bypass the seeming contradictions between its Vedantic teachings and the main body of the epic. Composed in bits and pieces, rather like an extended television series, supposedly between the third and second centuries BCE, the Mahabharata has the fluidity of addition and omission, depending on who is doing the narration, when, and where. Vyas, the original narrator of the epic, who is also a participant in it, is said to have recited the entire story, without pause, to Ganesh who acted as his stenographer. Woven and re woven on the loom of millennia, the Mahabharata is a multi hued tapestry in which the Gita is a unique thread of dazzling singularity, beyond the war zone of Kurukshetra, beyond the boundaries of time and space, cause and effect, the karmic cycle of birth and rebirth. Strange are the ways of political destiny of a leader and the territory he leads. Years back Gujarat Chief Minister was about to be dismissed and replaced, just then some savior in the party prevailed and gone the time, the Chief Minister proceeded on adding feather after feather in his cap refabricating, redefining and establishing ever new mile stones of political achievements and glory unparallel in the country and unique in world political history. Merely few months back the UP Chief Minister too faced insurmountable pressures, dissidence and wrath of his party top bosses and eminent risk of being replaced before the entire party rallied behind him putting universal combined strength and might making him slated for creating his own unique destiny ahead. People must not have forgotten that five years ago the Gorakhnath monk was brought from nowhere to lead and head the most sensitive, volatile and fragile state when none expected so much like the very **way Narendra Modi was asked to proceed to Ahmedabad to take charge of a deeply politically divided and direction less state at the time. And much like Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister, people who mattered in politics envied, feared and funked Yogi too but public at large progressively indulged in euphoric love and respect while those standing at margins hated and hurled poison bombs. UP has never been a politically stable state. Even at the peak of post independence Congress days when the party won election after election, the Chief Minister was hardly ever allowed to complete his tenure and the.**

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Party allowed the state stalwarts to took turn to enjoy the top job. The state drifted, the political ills took roots and administrative bankruptcy prevailed. The SP and BSP govts too continued accelerating in same directions maximizing the menaces and perils albeit giving new slogans. Much has been said about the significance of just held state elections with very special reference to the political importance of UP mandate. Very less, however, have been discussed as to how these elections and of course the UP mandate was significant and was indicative, rather confirmatory, of the travail of strengthening democratic roots, socio economic direction of BJP led got s and rejection elitist Congress ethos. We have been made to overwhelmingly indulge ourselves analyzing, scrutinizing and scanning the voting patterns and equations of castes, creeds, sections and sub sections of societal formations. Defections of few BJP ministers and lawmakers were much overemphasized and the drawing room intellectuals concluded that the consequential cattiest equations were heavily tilted against BJP. The so called intelligentsia, even after so many years of BJP in power, refuse to accept the glaring fact that a BJP as a party has taken deep roots in Indian society at large and in general in every stratum and segment, b The BJP has ensured much better governance in the country and the states it commands and c the youth and women have adopted the party much like older generation had adopted Congress. They still feel that BJP only enjoys the new prevalent Hindustan and the resultant polarization and that it would prove to be short lived. The successive election results have just failed to make impact on their minds. This ignorance of the intelligentsia coupled with opposition read Congress day dreaming has provided BJP the much awaited feeder to strengthen and take roots. Given the fact that UP had been the worst governed state, it was rather easier to show improvements with little political will and commitment. But that did not appear so easy. Both SP and BSP, like RJD in Bihar, proved to be more perverted versions of Congress rule in the state. Misrule joined hands with corruption and mafia. No conventional leader of any party would be capable to break the numerous barriers the leaders had created for themselves to perpetuate the deep vested interests all over. Selection of Yogi as Chief Minister was a decision which indicated a **clear** revolt from the cheap concurrent politics that the state was trapped in. BJP was brave enough to run that unusual extra mile for Yogi was neither an RSS follower nor even the BJP staunch he had been a man of his own having his own unique convictions and style of politics which was not so political, if not apolitical. He was bound to become the champion of belling the cat. The way BJP rallied behind him and conducted the campaign challenged the way Indian politics had been so far running. No sitting Chief Minister had been glorified by any of.

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In 2022, Dr. "Gurumukhi launched" one of the most ambitious educational "development programs" aimed at transforming the way rural and semi-urban "communities accessed" digital knowledge. Recognizing the widening gap between technologically advanced cities and resource-limited villages, he designed a "comprehensive" model that blended digital tools, offline support, and community participation. Under his guidance, a series of Digital Learning Resource Centers were established, each equipped with computers, tablets, projectors, and reliable internet connectivity. These centers became hubs where students, teachers, and even elderly residents could explore new skills at their own pace. As part of this initiative, Dr. Gurumukhi developed specialized training modules tailored to different age groups. School children were introduced to interactive learning apps, while college-going youth were offered career-oriented courses such as computer programming, financial literacy, and communication skills. Farmers received digital training to help them access crop advisories, market prices, and government schemes more efficiently. Women from self-help groups were also encouraged to participate, gaining exposure to online entrepreneurship and digital banking. What would that day feel like no voice calls, messages, or access to social media But all too often, none is forthcoming I walked back from the park with a posse of neighbourhood ladies, all giggling and talking to me simultaneously like the panelists on a news hour debate. Kamala After the Delhi car blast, govt's priority should be to make people feel safe If the deadly blast outside Red Fort yesterday evening turns out to have a terrorist's hand behind it, it will be The Tirupati fake ghee case is a scary tale of how 'milk' suppliers cream public That a cheat in Uttarakhand passed off a synthetic concoction as ghee to one of India's most venerated temples in A scary story of fake ghee and how some people fool everyone Imagine finding out that the ghee used in the famous Tirupati laddoos wasn't real ghee at all but made of chemicals! The NDA government has rolled out an enormous welfare package to win Bihar voters. It will have dire fiscal consequences. My back-of-the-envelope math suggests that just the top two programmes have already raised state revenue expenditure Tariff turmoil and tax transformations have been topping headlines. But a few more Ts test us daily: traffic, trash and toxic air. Blackbuck, a logistics platform, considered moving out of Bengaluru's Outer Ring Road citing a year ago, Trump won Vance's home state Ohio **with** the biggest margin for the state. A year on, Trump has endorsed Vivek Ramaswamy for Ohio's governor race in 2026, a direct challenge to his The problem with re-litigation of the same issue over and over again is not just that this is exhausting for those concerned, but also that it keeps setting progress back. On Friday, the Supreme Court ordered the nose knows. The human animal has only to lift its head, breathe in, and the figure flashes before the mind's eye like in the movies, when Robocop gets a complete lowdown of the By Aditya Mukherjee Wouldn't we all do better by accepting that no human being will ever understand another? This sentence from Graham Greene's A Burnt-Out Case confronts one of the most enduring truths about humans. I always thought turning fifty meant finding your true self. Instead, it's losing hormones. And looking for your reading glass

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The political parties in India the way Yogi commanded the aura of resplendent throughout the campaign that BJP engineered so splendidly. This carried the irrevocable faith and confidence and an invincible urge of the inner fire to continual accomplishments and achievements for the state. The leaders who felt and even proclaimed that their respective castes were their captive power plants and they could deviate the power whichever direction they wanted to, embarrassed, if not humiliated, their followers who and just wished to revolt and retaliate. Though the entire unholy castle of caste still did not seem to collapse, an inherent challenge was more than visible which could take its root in times to come and that will have the potential of transforming the entire political culture of the state. It was not a battle of anti vest pro incumbency; it was much beyond that. The UP battle had been the battle of precise confidence of BJP in its people. The party took a huge risk but was seen to have the irreversible faith in its commitments. The UP battle also signified a calculated political experiment with a deep understanding of country journey of a maturing democracy. It had an unimpeachable imprint of extra ordinary Narendra Modi brand of politics remotely resembling the ultra risk taking polity of Indira Gandhi. A serious follow up Narendra Modi speech in rallies, road shows and mammoth meetings would provide very interesting research of his behavioral politics where he was seen progressively intensifying the pitch, intensity, focus and sharpness. In retrospect, it had been more than apparent that his conduct of electioneering was very closely crafted, meticulously planned and religiously implemented ensuring inculcating an enhanced, celebrated and lionized image of the Chief Minister. The other first benchers of his goat and party too followed these ends too nicely Rajneesh Singh assertion that Yogi was a better Chief Minister than himself spoke lots and meant huge. During last legs of campaign Narendra Modi calculatedly invoked the current troubled global situation needing a stronger political leadership. Was he really envisioning or envisaging a greater role for the Chief Minister in times to come? Yogi personality did always go beyond election and spoke of him too clearly, eloquently and loudly. He appeared to have nothing at stakes except his strong desire to continue his path of struggles for the state, strengthening his image of a leader at **work** without prejudice to anything and everything for he knew that he had nothing to lose and everything to gain. As the numbers unfold, so will be his persona. Whatever he would be, he would never be the same person. UP is going to achieve new heights of outstanding achievements and so would be his enhanced and enriched political journey. It would be seen with interest whether Gujarat reflects itself in UP Much ink has already been spilled on the ongoing scandal at the multibillion dollar Indian Fitch company Barite with investors, top management and founders trading barbs with each other.

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Allegations have ranged from unjustified lavish spending of company money, sexism on the Board to outright criminal breach of trust, fraud and financial misappropriation. The company caters primarily to small merchants and neighborhood korunas and was joined by co founder Asher Grover 4 years ago. His wife Madura Jain, a graduate of NIFT who earlier ran a clothing store, controlled finance, human resources and procurement at Barite. The Company reported revenues of about INR 700 core 93 million in 2021, and was last valued at over 3BN and was in talks to raise 150 Million in Series F at a valuation of about 4BN, as per Mint. In a hurriedly sent email to the Board on the 1 set of March 2022, Grover, the erstwhile MD and founder of Barite resigned from the Company and its Board, minutes after being notified of a board meeting on the same day to address his conduct. Grover fall from grace as a much feted entrepreneur has been rapid. And if recent allegations of siphoning of funds and financial misappropriation against him, his wife and her extended family carry any merit, an investigation under the stringent Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 cannot be ruled out. But the real question is this why did Barite Board tolerate these glaring instances of misfeasance, for as long as they did? In early January 2022, the Grover expletive laden, I all have you encountered outside your home, phone call to a whimpering Kodak Bank executive leaked online. The supposed provocation had been the Bank inability to provide timely financing for the much awaited IPO of a leading Omni channel retailer to the Grover. While initially denying the authenticity of the clip, Grover soon deleted his tweets about the audio clip being fake perhaps advised by the same set of lawyers who drafted a legal notice on his behalf to the Bank. Kodak Bank responded aggressively, denying the suggestion that they had been deficient in providing services to the Grover, and interestingly, the reply also referred to the Grover threatening and abusive phone call to their employee. Immediately after, and in what was perhaps an attempt at making peace, the Board announced that Grover would be going on a voluntary leave of absence until April. This is where the Board really played its hand. A few days after Grover exit, which was supposedly voluntarily, the Board on **the** 29 the of January 2022 publicly announced that it would be commissioning an independent financial audit of the Company citing concerns of corporate governance and due diligence. Perhaps sensing that the worst was about to come, and in an obvious state of panic, Grover engaged a law firm in less than 24 hours to oppose the Board decision to thoroughly investigate the Company financial transactions. I will skip some of the other developments which ensued such as Grover letter of the 2 ND of February seeking the CEO removal from the Board or rumors that emerged at this time about.

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India is one of the world fastest-growing economies, but its education system is still struggling to keep up with the demands of the country burgeoning population. While the government has made significant investments in education over the years, there is still a significant shortage of schools and qualified teachers, particularly in urban areas. To address this issue, India needs to prioritize the establishment of more schools with a dedicated urban planning department. The need for better urban planning and infrastructure to support education is more critical now than ever before, as the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the inequalities in access to education in India. According to a report by the National Statistical Office, only 65% of Indian households have access to the internet, and only 24% of rural households have a computer. This digital divide is a significant obstacle to remote learning, which has become the norm during the pandemic. Moreover, as per a report by the National Sample Survey Office, nearly 50% of schools in India have no drinking water facilities, while 40% of schools do not have separate toilets for girls. These basic infrastructure issues hamper the quality of education and lead to high dropout rates, particularly among girls. Establishing more schools with a dedicated urban planning department can help address these issues. Such a department can work to ensure that schools are built in areas with adequate infrastructure, transportation, and connectivity. They can also ensure that schools have basic facilities like clean water, toilets, and electricity. Moreover, such departments can work closely with school management to ensure that the buildings are designed to be energy-efficient, eco-friendly, and sustainable. This can help reduce the environmental impact of schools while also reducing their operating costs. The State of Education in India education system is one of the largest in the world, with over 1.5 million schools and 260 million students enrolled. However, the system is struggling to provide quality education to all its students, particularly in rural areas. One of the major challenges faced by the education system is the lack of access to education, particularly among girls and marginalized communities. According to a report by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, nearly 32 million children of primary school age in India are out of school. Additionally, the dropout rate in primary schools is high, with only 83% of children completing their primary education. The quality of education is **also** a concern, with many schools lacking adequate infrastructure, qualified teachers, and resources. According to a report by the Ministry of Education, around 45% of schools in India have only one teacher, and around 30% of teachers in government schools are untrained. The impact of these challenges on the development of India human capital and economy is significant. A study by the World Bank found that a lack of quality education could lead to a loss of 2-3% of India potential GDP growth each year. Additionally, a report by the McKinsey Global Institute found that India could add \$2.2 trillion to.

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Its GDP by 2030 by improving the quality of education. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the existing inequalities in India education system. According to a report by Oxfam India, the pandemic has widened the education gap between children in rural and urban areas, with only 24% of rural households having a computer for online learning. Urban Planning and Education Urban planning plays a critical role in supporting education and improving the quality of life for students and teachers. Well-planned and designed schools can have a positive impact on student achievement, while access to quality education can also drive economic growth and development. Many countries have successfully used urban planning to improve education outcomes. For example, in Singapore, the government has invested in high-quality school infrastructure and implemented strict planning regulations to ensure that schools are built in areas with easy access to public transportation and other amenities. This has helped to improve educational outcomes and ensure equal access to education for all students, regardless of their socio-economic background. In the United States, school districts have used urban planning to address issues of overcrowding and inequality. For example, in San Francisco, the city has worked with school districts to create a Public Education Enrichment Fund that funds school infrastructure improvements and creates partnerships between schools and community organizations. India needs to prioritize urban planning for education to address the challenges facing its education system. With a growing population and increasing urbanization, there is a need to build more schools and ensure that they are located in areas with adequate infrastructure and transportation. Additionally, the government needs to invest in high-quality school infrastructure and work with local communities to ensure that schools are designed to meet the needs of students and teachers. Furthermore, urban planning can help address the digital divide by ensuring that schools have access to high-speed internet and other digital technologies. This can help to promote remote learning and ensure that all students have equal access to education, regardless of their location. Establishing a Dedicated Urban Planning Department for Education Establishing a dedicated urban planning department for education can bring numerous benefits to India education system. Such a department would focus specifically on addressing the challenges facing the education sector, including lack of access, poor infrastructure, and low-quality education. One of the primary benefits of having a dedicated department for urban planning for education is that **it** can ensure that schools are built in areas with easy access to public transportation and other amenities. This can help to ensure that students from all backgrounds have equal access to education, regardless of their location. Additionally, such a department can ensure that schools are designed to meet the needs of students and teachers, with adequate facilities and resources. Countries such as Japan, South Korea, and Singapore have established dedicated departments for urban planning for education, and have seen significant success in improving their education systems. For example, in Japan, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is.

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Responsible for school planning and construction. This has led to the development of high-quality schools with modern facilities and advanced technology. In South Korea, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology is responsible for school infrastructure development and has implemented various policies to improve access to education and support underprivileged students. These policies have helped to reduce the education gap between different regions and socio-economic groups. In Singapore, the Ministry of Education is responsible for school infrastructure planning and has implemented strict planning regulations to ensure that schools are built in areas with easy access to public transportation and other amenities. This has helped to improve educational outcomes and ensure equal access to education for all students, regardless of their socio-economic background. To Conclude Education is crucial for the development of India human capital and economy, and investing in education planning and infrastructure is a key step towards ensuring the country future success. Therefore, it is time for India to prioritize the establishment of more schools with a dedicated urban planning department, and invest in the education system to ensure that all students have access to high-quality education. Urban planning plays a crucial role in supporting education by ensuring that schools are built in areas with easy access to public transportation and other amenities, and are designed to meet the needs of students and teachers. Countries such as Japan, South Korea, and Singapore have established dedicated departments for urban planning for education and have seen significant success in improving their education systems. India can also benefit from establishing a similar department, which would focus specifically on addressing the challenges facing the education sector. This would help to improve access, infrastructure, and quality of education, and ensure that all students have equal opportunities to succeed. A court in Gujarat has sentenced Rahul Gandhi, leader of the Opposition, to two years in jail in a defamation case. This is disconcerting. At a rally in 2019, Rahul had cracked a weak joke on Modi surname. This spurred a BJP politician, Purnesh Modi, to file a defamation case against him. Technically, the court found Rahul guilty of defaming all people called Modi, not the Prime Minister specifically. But had Rahul not mentioned the Prime Minister, nobody would have given his speech a second thought, let alone prosecute him. Nothing is commoner in India than people making adverse remarks about others of a particular **caste**, religion or region. This is regrettable but has never before resulted in a jail sentence for a top politician. Every nation has its share of internal problems and India is no exception. It is the joint duty of all political parties, both in power and outside, to work towards resolving the same. But when the opposition works on the principle of fishing in troubled waters, the resolution becomes more difficult. In such a situation the ruling dispensation will exploit its majority to the hilt. This makes them look autocratic despite being democratic. This is what is happening in our parliament.

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This was supposed to be the time when the Chairman of Adani Group, writing on the Google-Adani project to build an AI and data centre complex in Visakhapatnam, argues India will benefit at multiple levels & all data will be kept here The \$15bn That many women today can pursue men they like, reversing centuries-old dictum that men should chase & women should be chaste, is arguably the most fundamental demonstration of gender equality Lust is not gender-based. Until Narayani Ganesh The Gita, Buddhist and other faith teachings say that anger is one among the three poisons, the other two being ignorance and desire, the primary sources of suffering and distress. Why do bosses running bigger companies don't demand homage? Elon Musk moved closer to the first trillion-dollar pay package on Thursday. He's already worth \$491bn, as of Friday afternoon, and growing valuations of his major companies Goa's disturbing response to a spurt in crime The answer to the question why Goa imposed National Security Act in its north and south districts in the middle of peak tourist season, won't even be But not every 'team' fits the criteria It starts in the family, in our first playground, first school project. Our entire life is made up of navigating different groups' dynamics. The same applies to the (November 12, 2025) Women's Cricket World Cup: Why post-victory rewards miss the point The author, a native of Sitamarhi, is an associate professor at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, NY, USA. Let's begin with a roaring salute to our incredible women cricketers for winning the 2025 One-Day International World Cup. This wasn't just a sports triumph; it was a defiant victory, powered by athletes who succeeded despite the system, not because of it. The victory was immediately followed by state leaders across the nation announcing enormous gifts for the winning team members. Many state governments, including Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, announced rewards ranging from 50 lakhs to 2.5 crores for their state players. Some state governments also offered a government job and/or a residential plot to their player. The hypocrisy and opportunism of our leaders are startling, and their behavior runs counter to economic logic and social objectives. The most glaring political economy critique lies in the very justification for government funding. The state's primary economic role is to correct market failure: to step in when **the** private sector fails to adequately provide public goods. The moment of market failure requiring government intervention was years ago, when women's cricket lacked the most basic things, like decent coaching, proper facilities, and travel expenses. However, the government remained mostly absent. Now, professional cricket has achieved remarkable commercial success. The multi-billion dollar industry generates huge funds through TV rights, sponsorships, and entry tickets. The World Cup-winning team has earned over 90 crores in rewards from the International Cricket Council (ICC) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Every player in the national team is financially secure and a correlate. At a time when they are least needed, state leaders are rushing to the front of the line: not with long-term institutional policy, but with photo-op cash grants, land titles, and fast-tracked government jobs. Unfortunately, rather than injecting scarce public resources into the failing grassroots where fundin

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is desperately needed, it is being spent on the already successful celebrities. This is an inverted economic logic: intervention to correct success, not failure. These rewards are driven by the political utility of a concentrated, high-profile photo opportunity, rather than any genuine economic or social objective. Let's make no mistake: This isn't incentivizing excellence or care for sports; it's an opportunistic behavior: riding the high emotions of the public, finding some happiness in the moment of national pride in their difficult lives, for political gains. The opportunity cost and the illusion of incentive the ethical hurdle we face is the sheer waste of limited taxpayer money. State governments handing out crores of rupees are simultaneously struggling with crippling fiscal deficits, while their citizens are battling endemic poverty, disease, and unemployment. The crores of taxpayers' money would be better spent on things like health, education, and vocational training. Instead, the public's money was directed as a personal endowment to individuals who no longer needed it in a political spectacle. The argument that these rewards incentivize young girls to pick up a bat completely ignores the economic reality of an athletic career. The decision to commit to cricket, or any sport for that matter, is made decades before a person can participate in an international tournament at a time when the probability of reaching the national team is near zero. The massive post-victory cash award is effectively a lottery prize, not a structural incentive. It barely has any effect on the true incentive structure for a 10-year-old girl in a village. What actually incentivizes her is the availability of a functional local academy, a paid coach, and support navigating social norms the things the government failed to provide when it mattered most. By showering wealth on the successful few, the government is incentivizing celebrity and political optics while simultaneously neglecting the foundational support system that would create a true, broad talent pipeline. What could better underscore the need for such support at the grassroots level than India's continued poor performance in the Olympics? In the Paris 2024 Olympics, despite being the most populous nation, India won only 12 medals, ranking 71st! For comparison, China ranked second with 91 medals, and the United States tops the list with 126 medals. Politics without romance: The public choice con the idea, sometimes called politics without romance in the Public Choice Theory, can help us **understand** this political rush. It argues that politicians are rational actors primarily motivated by maximizing votes and power, not by some abstract notion of public interest. From this viewpoint, these lavish awards are a perfectly rational political investment. By announcing these rewards, the state leaders are directly associated with the wave of national pride and get guaranteed positive headlines and the emotional goodwill of millions of fans. The cost, on the other hand, is borne by taxpayers, spread across millions of them. The diffusion of the cost guarantees minimal backlash, while the concentration of the political benefit ensures maximum electoral return. The non-monetary awards are the most egregious example of political favoritism. Granting players a government job or prime land bypasses the entire system of public accountability, fostering a deeply corrosive culture of patronage. It signals to y

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Allegations have ranged from unjustified lavish spending of company money, sexism on the Board to outright criminal breach of trust, fraud and financial misappropriation. The company caters primarily to small merchants and neighborhood korunas and was joined by co founder Asher Grover 4 years ago. His wife Madura Jain, a graduate of NIFT who earlier ran a clothing store, controlled finance, human resources and procurement at Barite. The Company reported revenues of about INR 700 core 93 million in 2021, and was last valued at over 3BN and was in talks to raise 150 Million in Series F at a valuation of about 4BN, as per Mint. In a hurriedly sent email to the Board on the 1 set of March 2022, Grover, the erstwhile MD and founder of Barite resigned from the Company and its Board, minutes after being notified of a board meeting on the same day to address his conduct. Grover fall from grace as a much feted entrepreneur has been rapid. And if recent allegations of siphoning of funds and financial misappropriation against him, his wife and her extended family carry any merit, an investigation under the stringent Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 cannot be ruled out. But the real question is this why did Barite Board tolerate these glaring instances of misfeasance, for as long as they did? In early January 2022, the Grover expletive laden, I all have you encountered outside your home, phone call to a whimpering Kodak Bank executive leaked online. The supposed provocation had been the Bank inability to provide timely financing for the much awaited IPO of a leading Omni channel retailer to the Grover. While initially denying the authenticity of the clip, Grover soon deleted his tweets about the audio clip being fake perhaps advised by the same set of lawyers who drafted a legal notice on his behalf to the Bank. Kodak Bank responded aggressively, denying the suggestion that they had been deficient in providing services to the Grover, and interestingly, the reply also referred to the Grover threatening and abusive phone call to their employee. Immediately after, and in what was perhaps an attempt at making peace, the Board announced that Grover would be going on a voluntary leave of absence until April. This is where the Board really played its hand. A few days after Grover exit, which was supposedly voluntarily, the Board on **the** 29 the of January 2022 publicly announced that it would be commissioning an independent financial audit of the Company citing concerns of corporate governance and due diligence. Perhaps sensing that the worst was about to come, and in an obvious state of panic, Grover engaged a law firm in less than 24 hours to oppose the Board decision to thoroughly investigate the Company financial transactions. I will skip some of the other developments which ensued such as Grover letter of the 2 ND of February seeking the CEO removal from the Board or rumors that emerged at this time about.

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Downwards hanging on for dear life. There was nothing we could do. We could not jump the fence that separated the two compartments. Some years back, a minor girl was raped by a depraved man inside a moving Mumbai local. Onlookers could break the fence separating the compartments to save her. Tonight was one more reminder of the barriers that exist between genders. This steel was the gentle variety that could be bent or tampered even in an emergency. We could only scream or pray! Even if he had to come back to the compartment on his own, it was an uphill task. His upper body-weight would pull him down in no time. And there was not a soul in the ladies compartment who could at least pull his leg back into the train. To make matters worse the train picked up speed between Chunabhatti and Kurla. One of my co/passengers pulled the chain with all his might. The train finally showed signs of slowing down. But there was an omnipresent danger. If the train halted at the next station it would crush his head or upper torso between the platform and the train. Only a miracle could now save this life. Then we heard a thud. Tonight was not made to be kind. Would he have survived if he fell inside a gutter that separates the tracks? Would he have survived if a rather rude bone in me had asked him to get off the deserted ladies compartment at Mumbai CST itself? We could see the light of an oncoming train on the parallel tracks. His fate was probably sealed. The train reached Kurla and we peeked into the ladies compartment. There was just a blue slipper and the gunny bag left behind. Objects that were mute spectators, like the rest of us. In the general election of 2024, constituencies have sent out messages that uphold some of the sacred features of the country Constitution. For some time now, a narrative that gained traction is that deliverance of the country depended on a strong man leading a powerful centre for long. While there is obvious need for the country to have political stability and unified common market, to drum these up into asking for a dispensation that can function as elective dictatorship is ominous. The election results have thwarted that move. Political compulsions that have now emerged reaffirm **that** India is indeed a union of States rather than the States being mere divisions of India. By virtue of the provisions in the Constitution as originally framed, India is unequivocally a secular country. Therefore, inserting the term secular in the preamble of the Constitution in 1976 via 42nd Amendment was superfluous, obviously aimed for the ruling party of the time to gain political mileage. However, for those now in power to make noises to remove it is sinister. The voters have spoken by way of the election results, particularly of the Azizabad parliamentary constituency and its assembly segments including Ajodhya. Another addition to the preamble was the word socialist. Everything desirable that the term could envisage was already there in the Constitution as Directive Principles of State Policy. The insertion therefore was to justify unwarranted political control over the economy. However, the amended preamble did not at all come in the way of liberalization of the economy set out in 1991. Why then want its deletion now? Is it to remove anything that is even figuratively inconvenient to crony capitalism? Indeed, there were gleeful references to the stock market indices climbing in anticipation of the election results. The voters howeve

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New parliamentary constituencies to be created after a delimitation exercise that will inevitably reward States which have done poorly on population control at the expense of those doing better. The benefiting States are of course in the country heartland traditionally regarded as the power base of electoral arithmetic. More parliamentarians of the ruling party from those States could have insulated it from the vagaries of political dynamics of far-flung geographies. The outcome of this election has thrown a spanner in the works. Neither can the heartland be taken for granted nor can the hinterlands be ignored. This augurs well for democracy. Though chastised for its hype and hubris, voters have allowed BJP to emerge as the single largest party with rightful claim to lead an alliance in forming the government. This is no mean achievement when fighting anti-incumbency after two terms. In the new innings of enforced coalition, it must learn to respect the alliance partners and the opposition. Voters have also given the INDI Alliance a foothold which now must function as a principled block rather than an opportunistic cabal. Notwithstanding the noble intent to mitigate pollution, there must be a reason why the electric vehicles account for a very small proportion of the total number of new motor vehicles even as the first EV had debuted in 1881. Reasons include the early mover advantage for fossil-fuel based vehicles, the global oil economy, and the relatively slower progress in battery technology to address issues like range anxiety. A close shave involving two aircraft at Mumbai airport on Sunday morning has rightly sparked serious outcry. New civil aviation minister K Ram Mohan Naidu needs to take note. An IndiGo aircraft landed at the airport before a departing Air India plane had cleared the runway. The serious breach of SOP endangered hundreds of lives. DGCA has derostered the ATC official on duty. But reports say pilots of both departing and incoming aircraft may have contributed to the botch-up. There was also a fourth party involved: the huge infra constraint faced by India second busiest airport. Infra deficit | Mumbai airport has just one runway operational at any given time. As against a declared capacity of 46 aircraft an hour, it often caters unofficially to as many as 55. This makes ATC job highly stressful. It also increases the chances of misjudgement. The only fool proof way to avoid such incidents is **to** speed up work at the city second airport at Navi Mumbai. Civil aviation ministry has said it may be operationalised by March next year. Sunday incident is reason for the timeline to be met. Metro airports under pressure | High air traffic movement remains a concern at other metro airports as well. Delhi airport, among world 10 busiest, saw a similar near-miss last year. India is world fastest growing aviation market, and Indian carriers have an order book of more than 1,500 aircraft. This means pressure on airport infra in metros will only increase. The ministry has proposed developing six win City airports in metros by 2030. National Capital Region is likely to have its twin airport before year-end. Authorities would do well to get started on second airport projects in other metros before the situation turns alarming there. Books may come and books may go, but reviews live forever. Anyone can go online and leave a rating or comment behind in spectacular typos. No sooner is a book out than reviewers rush at the author, off

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The Board contemplating subsuming Grover stake in the company. There is an excellent timeline available here which covers the developments in that period. Sensing trouble, on the 22 ND of February, Grover moved the Singapore International Arbitration Centre SIAC, preferring an emergency appeal to protect himself from any future action from the Board obviously aiming for immunity to protect himself. Interestingly, in his Appeal, Grover sought to block a third party governance review by Barite board. Unconvinced, the SIAC threw out Grover Appeal on the 26 the of February. It was in this backdrop that Grover, cornered and about to be exposed, resigned from the Company and its Board. Over the next month or so, in late February and early March, multiple news reports began to emerge that the Board audit, done by Alvarez and Marshal, had discovered widespread evidence of fraud and financial embezzlement by Grover, his wife and her brothers. The Board Statement, released on the 2 ND of March, has been less than charitable. Without mincing any words, they have alleged that the Grover Family engaged in extensive misappropriation of Company funds by creating fake vendors which were used to siphon large sums of money from the Company, to enrich themselves and to fund their lavish lifestyles. One news report has even concluded guilt against the Grover family, given the overwhelming material that emerged in the audit. The Board was merciless in its appraisal of the Grover, at one point terming their conduct deplorable and terming Sheet hurried resignation as another attempt to fabricate a false narrative to win public sympathy. But there are bigger issues that will now have to be addressed. However aggressive sounding the Board statements now might be, they do very little to absolve the Board of its responsibility to its investors, shareholders and other stakeholders of the Company including the tens of thousands of customers it has accumulated. Their trust in the Company management will have to be restored and quickly. For starters, the Board must explain its delay in appointing an independent financial auditor. Who was pressuring them to avoid or delay an internal investigation? Was the Company existing auditor complicit in the widespread fraud which was being brazenly perpetrated by Grover and his family? Why did the statutory auditors flag the related party transactions worth tens of cores of rupees? If Barite Board wishes to retain even a semblance **of** credibility in the wake of this scandal, it will not be enough to merely issue a sharply worded statement or two. Investor and stakeholder confidence will hinge upon their willingness to take tangible steps to recover monies pilfered out of the Company. For starters, the Management must file a complaint with the Enforcement Directorate, as the third party auditor report prima facie indicates extensive cheating Section 420 of the Indian Penal Code, which is a scheduled offence under the PMLA, 2002, apart from the subsequent money laundering that took place to buy properties, luxury cars and expensive art doing so.

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Would also help the Board in ensuring that the Grover do not alienate, sell or transfer the multimillion dollar homes they have purchased in 2021. In cases involving financial fraud, time is of the essence. Experience tell us, that persons accused of white collar crimes start destroying incriminating evidence the moment they get a whiff of danger. Think Vijay Malaya, Nora Modi or Sanjay Bandar. Barite future will now largely depend upon the Board actions over the next few weeks. The phenomenal performance of the Aam Aadmi Party in Punjab from an outlier in politics to capturing power in an important state such as Punjab must have sent shock waves to all established political parties. For a political party that made its electoral debut in Delhi assembly elections of 2013. Arvind Kejriwal had made history by trouncing a very popular CM Sheila Dikhsit in her New Delhi assembly seat. The former IRS officer and Magsaysay winner however did not receive a resounding mandate in his first foray into politics. He had just won 28 seats, a little behind the BJP. After all, he had just made a transition from an anti-corruption activist to a politician. The Congress, which had bagged eight seats, chose to prop him at least the factions within the party that were so opposed to Sheila Dikshitar were all eager to extend an outside support to Kejriwal. Unfortunately, Congress leaders who shaped the first experiment of AAP Congress tie up to keep out the BJP are no longer around. The first Kejriwal government in Delhi lasted for 49 days. In 2015, when elections were held in 2015, AAP swept the polls winning 67 of 70 seats and the rest, as they say is history. Seven years later when news of the AAP tsunami in Punjab is pouring in, flattening all established leaders cutting across party lines it simply shows no one could have held on their own against the mood of public disaffection. It was as if people were tired of all public leaders and everyone seems to have been humbled. From Akali Dal veteran Prakash Singh Badal, his son Sukhbir Singh Badal to their close relative Bikram Singh Majithia, Chief Minister Charnajit Singh Channel and PCC chief Navajo Singh Sadhu, former Congress CMs Capt. Mariner Singh, and Rejoinder Kauri Chattel and Minaret Badal no establish leader has been spared Congress leaders are simply zapped by **the** enormity of the message delivered by the voters. Even the victors are quite taken aback by the depth of victory. As AAP leader Raghu Chatham succinctly put it we had asked Punjabis to use jade, they decided to use a vacuum cleaner. Could a better handling by Congress have averted this voter backlash until six months ago, it was one state where the Congress was poised to come back to power. Then we replaced our CM Capt Amarinder Singh. Since then we seem to have gone only downhill. Appointing a Dalit CM has not delivered community votes in fact out.

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CM have lost both the seats he contested recalled a Lok Sabha MP? Punjab Congress leaders feel the party lost the state because of Rahul Gandhi idea of experimenting with a non Jat Sikh CM a Dalit CM in a main predominantly Sikh state of Punjab. Will Rahul now take responsibility for losing this state Will advisors like Amibka Soni and Pawan Bansal answer the party mishandling party affairs. True, there was anti incumbency against Capt Amarinder Singh there was a lot of disenchantment with the manner in which he ran the government entirely depending on his coterie of bureaucrats. However, the manner of his sacking by Rahul Gandhi had simply not gone down well with the people. Capt Singh humiliation and then the continuous bickering between PCC chief Navajo Singh Sadhu and Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channel had also tired out people. It is being said Capt Singh was replaced only because he had withheld regular financial contributions to party bosses. Capt Singh was miffed with party high command for the manner in which it used Sidhu to administer pinpricks and humiliate him. But then Sidhu did not stop after Capt Singh exit he continued his hostile approach to the CM office even after Channi took over. Frankly, why would people of Punjab reelect an in cohesive political set up like the Congress that is at war with itself. Worse, the Congress leadership, it seemed, was also not keen on retrieving the state. It was as if the party high command was only interested in selling party tickets. Punjab elections were a multi core project for the Gandhi that they implemented through their functionaries Harish Chaudhary and Ajay Make. They were not interested in winning the hearts of Punjabis, only bleeding our pockets, says a Congress leader. This election also busts the myth of the dears mobilising votes for parties. The Congress which had enlisted support of a dear in Baba Bakala seat could not help its candidate win personally for Kejriwal, the Punjab verdict is a big step up it finally puts him in big league of national leaders accepting the humungous verdict, he announced Kejriwal is not a terrorist. He is a son of the country, a true patriot. While gloating about non entities that had defeated the big wigs, he admitted that the depth of the victory 92 out of 117 seats does scare him. **He** is aware, the key to the AAP tsunami seems to lie in the freebies he has promised Rest 1000 for every woman. If he does not fulfill his promises, he cannot simply afford to do a dharma in Delhi that had defeated the big wigs, he admitted that the depth of the victory 92 out of seats does scare him. He is aware, the key to the AAP tsunami seems to lie in the freebies he has promised Rest 1000 for every woman. If he does not fulfill his promises, he cannot simply afford to do a dharma in Delhi.

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India political tectonic plates have begun shifting once again after the latest round of state assembly elections. AAP stunning sweep in Punjab, and BJP equally majestic win in UP by overcoming anti incumbency and almost repeating its feats of 2014, 2017 and 2019, establish two things. One, BJP remains the primary pole of Indian politics eight years after breaking the old mould in 2014. Two, the opposition space has a new contender in AAP, a party that is not too rigidly regional in appearance. The 2022 state elections have thrown superlative results. BJP retains the four states it previously held and makes history in UP, by having its CM reelected after serving a full term, which had not happened since 1957. In Punjab, AAP adds 20 points to its 2017 vote share and wins a Delhi style election, defeating the state entire political establishment. Congress reaches a new low by collapsing in Punjab, squandering a winnable election in Uttarakhand, and disappearing from UP, despite an energetic campaign led by Priyanka Gandhi. The first point to note after March 10 verdicts is the sublime messaging of Indian democracy. Incumbent BJP beat history in UP and Uttarakhand and won. In Manipur and Goa, supposedly tough to win small states for the governing party, BJP improved its tallies. And in Punjab, voters showed how dramatic the fallout of popular anger against established parties can be, by giving AAP, in existence for only 10 years, a massive mandate. There more. Voters have demonstrated how emphatic they can be in their rejection of so called big names look at how many stars lost their seats in Punjab, look at the fast fading Nehru Gandhi brand across states, look at the virtual irrelevance of Mayawati in UP, look at the failure of Akhilesh Yadav to extend SP social base. As always in Indian elections, when old stars crash to the ground, new stars shine bright. Yogi Adityanath is now a politician with the potential to transcend his state boundaries. Arvind Kejriwal is now an opposition leader with the best potential to take the fight to BJP. And in Pushkar Dhami despite losing his seat, Pramod Sawant and N Biren Singh, BJP has found energetic state level champions in, respectively, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur. But, of course, the brightest star of this show is Narendra Modi. His popular appeal is clearly intact, he probably the most **important** reason why BJP win in UP was so handsome, why BJP won in Goa and Manipur, too. And that this has happened despite his government inability to create enough low and medium skilled jobs and the gathering inflation momentum speaks volumes for his political skill. Modi BJP has created a new model, at least in the politically most significant Hindi heartland continuous subliminal and or overt messaging to attract a pan caste Hindu vote and, by Indian governance standards, very effective delivery of welfare benefits. Kejriwal is another leader who earned voter trust on welfare delivery. But, despite his extraordinary.

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Performance in Punjab, he will need a massive political skills upgrade to take on BJP and replace Congress as the main challenger in the heartland, which is where he must succeed if he to challenge Modi in 2024. AAP caste playbook is very thin, and the question is whether it has enough time to change that for national polls. If AAP can upgrade fast enough and Congress continues to wither away, the opposition has a big problem: Who will effectively fight BJP in seat heavy north India Congress is also a lesson for other family led parties, as is SP. If you are bound hand and foot to a family and if that family does deliver, and if you have no culture of encouraging new talent, how do you imagine a new future Today BJP is so formidable only because in 2014, it made Modi its national face, in the teeth of opposition from many then prominent national leaders. As for the future of India economy and its ability to spread mass prosperity, these elections will be pivotal in one of two ways. Either party will think that welfares and rank populism will win polls and therefore reforms are unnecessary and probably politically costly. Or, hopefully, at least some of them will conclude that the fiscal limits of welfares will be reached very soon and that growth and jobs via smart policies is the only sustainable political economic formula in a country where a vast number of low income citizens are looking for reasonably well paid jobs. It is vital that BJP, the most influential party by far, chooses the correct alternative. There is a popular saying that success comes through lanes and backyards, not from the front door. That explains BJP remarkable success in UP. During the election campaign, we observed two trends. One, many people, after complaining shipway shikayat against BJP, concluded by saying: Vote toh Modi ji aur kamal ko hi denge Despite our complaints, we will vote for Modi ji and lotus. The political history of UP has turned a new corner. The BJP government is the first incumbent to be returned to power since 1989, and it has done so with a handsome near two thirds majority. In a bipolar election, it was always going to be a daunting task for SP to compete with BJP, a party which had commanded almost twice the **vote** share of SP in the last election. To win, SP needed to fulfill two conditions: It needed to consolidate the scattered opposition vote in its camp and it needed to shave off a section of the BJP vote. SP only partially fulfilled the first condition, while failing miserably in the second. The Covid 19 pandemic has made it abundantly clear that happiness is so essential to our ability to thrive as humans. Happiness is the building block of our being and for businesses that want to win the future. As science shows, when we re stressed, burnt out and depleted.

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Happiness is the first to disappear. No one comes to a job to feel unhappy. So the missing link in the workplace happiness must be addressed. Happiness in action envisions a road map for organisations to create a culture of happiness for both employees and customers. Customers happiness cannot be imagined in isolation with employees. Only happy employees can make happy customers. Values in action look like applied ethics, what would happiness in action look like Does the new economic paradigm capitalism pose a threat to capitalism Why are companies now appointing Chief Happiness Officers Is happiness opening doors we never knew existed At work, happiness is a verb and inextricably connected to productivity. Happiness makes people more productive, says research conducted by University of Warwick. A study by Oxford University has found a conclusive link between happiness and productivity. OC Tanner Learning Group found that 79 of the people who left their job did so because they did feel appreciated. A happy team is likely to be more energised, more creative, and will get more work done. It is amazing to see how deeply aligned people are who quit their well paid jobs and join philanthropic organisations for happiness and productivity missions. As much as business leaders talk about the importance of happiness, very few of them know how to put it into practice. And that because so many are still operating under the profit centric model, which focuses on metrics like cost cutting and efficiency. What needed is to switch to a customer employee centric model, with happiness at the core. Being happy at work means employees thoroughly enjoys what they do; and they love their workplace. Happiness based workplace in a business sense is he act of a company aiming for the happiness and wellbeing of their employees and customers, resulting in amazing employee customer centric experiences. It is about empowering employees to team up, give their best, agree to disagree and respond immediately and in real time and always with happiness. To be able to build and nurture the foundation of happiness, business leaders need to inculcate a sense of appreciation, gratitude, respect and cooperation among employees. One of the ways of putting happiness into action is to use tools such as yoga, meditation and mindfulness. The pandemic has been a powerful catalyst for change. It has given us an opportunity to deliver great life **experiences** at work. I reproduce exhortations of some leader in a rally. Was it the rally cry of Anna Hazard, in his fasting against the forces of corruption in 2011 Or a leader of anti CAA protests in 2020 21 Or It is on your shoulders that this huge country rests. You are the masters of these great armies and highly placed government servants. And yet you starve and submit to injustice. Why Because you are not aware of your own strengths. You must understand that one who cannot defend oneself would always be the victim of the selfish and the.

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Unjust today, a great man is staking his life for you. Thousands of young men are prepared to sacrifice themselves to end your miseries. How would those who think that you are helpless and rob you dry to see you get out of their clutches They inflict cruelty on your shoulders when lathes charges happen on the mochas. But you must think of how you can help us. Will you come out like men and save yourself from injustice or will you continue to sit back like cowards and curse your fate An opportunity like this may never come again? You will always regret it. We are fighting against injustice and for truth. And we have to fight with weapons of justice and truth. We need heroes who will banish violence and bitterness from their hearts and with complete faith in God, bear anything for what is right. How can you help us The police inspector, with a posse of constables, came and stood in front of the crowd. The people, with their eyes betraying fright and their hearts beating fast, looked around as if they were looking for a hole to hide in. Beat the scoundrels and drive them away, thundered the inspector Have you realized your sad state Do you still wish for some further proof We are not ruled by law, but by corruption. In spite of this disgrace, we say nothing. Had we not been selfish and cowardly, would they have dared exploit us As long as you behave like slaves and continue to serve them, you will get the bare necessities of life How long will you live like corpses and be subjected to being eaten up by vultures Show them that you are alive and that you have your self respect. One could go on adding more lines from the original text. Except that these lines are nearly a century old, written by Mushy Premchand, set in the period of Sara movement, when we were under the British yoke suffering the oppression of colonial forces, which used Indians to put down Indians. With the slightest of tweaks, the words may as well be relevant today. After all, are we still oppressed by our ineffectual and corrupt polity and the corrupt system Have we not accepted the slavery of these exploiters, who have merely supplanted the exploitation of the colonial rulers Hans this exploitation **left** nearly 400 million of us 75 years after gaining our Independence earning less than 2 a day, without a modicum of public education or health Arena we slaves of our fatalism Ah, but everybody is doing it; or, what can I alone do Don we continue to remain as divided within ourselves in terms of caste, creed and religion, as we were in colonial times, willing slaves in the hands of political puppeteers fathering votes at our expense The Congress may certainly be responsible for much of this failure over its 55 75 years of rule out of the country.

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Ultimately, this state action is a powerful symbol of a wider failure in our political economy. We must continue celebrating these phenomenal women, but we should demand accountability from the government. It shouldn't be applauded for its expensive, eleventh-hour grandstanding. Instead, it should be held responsible for its decades of neglect and its current decision to deploy scarce public money as a vote-buying tactic through celebratory fanfare rather than making the long-term, systemic investments that would truly lift up its most vulnerable citizens. Our cricketers won their battle on the field; it's time our leaders fought the right battle with the public's money. The author is an associate professor at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, NY. His research on cultural and institutional issues, including gender inequality, corruption, crime and conflicts, democracy, and racism, has appeared in many leading scholarly journals. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity one, security forces have busted many Islamist terror networks, arresting 80-plus this year. Two, no counterintelligence is fool proof. Three, Pakistan's jihad puppeteers may again look to create mayhem in India outside Kashmir. Four, this tactic as frequent as elections are in India, some are bigger and juicier. In that the themes resonate across the country, the contest is tight, and a measure of the national mood is on tap India by Sanjay Teotia Pollution has become one of the most alarming threats to both human health and the environment in the twenty-first century. While its effects on the lungs, heart and climate are widely discussed, Trump declares war on a city for something that took place 269 years ago Donald Trump in the Oval Office. Enter secretary of war, Pete Hugest. Trump: Wassup Pete? You're looking as grouchy as a Voting done, the state shows again its high political awareness despite its low per capita income & underdevelopment For a state that has seen 23 politicians become CM over 37 tenures central rule and The people of Bihar just finished voting and once again, they showed how smart they are about politics, even though their state is not very rich or developed. Bihar has had 23 chief ministers Emerging link of doctors from J&K to Delhi blast points to indoctrination of white collar professionals More than a day has passed since a car blew up outside Delhi's Red Fort in the evening rush 65% of households have a migrant. Their remittances are 50% of a household's income. Outmigration tripled Bihar's rural wages, ending exploitative relations. Manufacturing employs just 5%. And it's impossible for the state to create enough Climate meat in Brazil as govts and corporations are retreating from mitigation pledges. This would be disastrous and create a poorer & dangerous world. Developing nations must act for their own sake By Pratiksha Apurv What would happen if all the smartphones on the planet were shut down for 24 hours? What would that day feel like no voice calls, messages, or access to social media But all too often, none is forthcoming I walked back from the park with a posse of neighbourhood ladies, all giggling and talking to me simultaneously like the panelists on a news hour debate. Kamala After the Delhi car blast, govt's priority should be to make people feel safe If the deadly blast outside Red Fort yesterday evening turns out to have a terrorist's hand behind it, it will be The Tirupati fake

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That a cheat in Uttarakhand passed off a synthetic concoction as ghee to one of India's most venerated temples in A scary story of fake ghee and how some people fool everyone Imagine finding out that the ghee used in the famous Tirupati laddoos wasn't real ghee at all but made of chemicals! That's NDA government has rolled out an enormous welfare package to win Bihar voters. It will have dire fiscal consequences. My back-of-the-envelope math suggests that just the top two programmes have already raised state revenue expenditure Tariff turmoil and tax transformations have been topping headlines. But a few more Ts test us daily: traffic, trash and toxic air. Blackbuck, a logistics platform, considered moving out of Bengaluru's Outer Ring Road citing a year ago, Trump won Vance's home state Ohio with the biggest margin for the state. A year on, Trump has endorsed Vivek Ramaswamy for Ohio's governor race in 2026, a direct challenge to his The problem with re-litigation of the same issue over and over again is not just that this is exhausting for those concerned, but also that it keeps setting progress back. On Friday, the Supreme Court ordered the nose knows. The human animal has only to lift its head, breathe in, and the figure flashes before the mind's eye like in the movies, when Robocop gets a complete lowdown of the By Adyta Mukherjee Wouldn't we all do better by accepting that no human being will ever understand another? This sentence from Graham Greene's A Burnt-Out Case confronts one of the most enduring truths about humans (November 13, 2025) Red Fort Delhi Blast: The sleeping cells stir as India's terrorism challenge resurfaces Rd. Ashok Sharma is a Visiting Fellow at the University of New South Wales Canberra at the Australian Defence Force Academy and is an Academic Fellow of the Australia-India Institute at the University of Melbourne. His recent roles include Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University in the Department of Strategic & Defence Studies within the Coral Bell School of Asia-Pacific Affairs, and Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Canberra. There, he was the Head of the South Asia Strategic, State Fragile and Security Program and Conjoint Head of the Indo-Pacific Strategic Issues and Major Powers Studies at the National Asian Security Studies Centre. An alumnus of both Jawaharlal Nehru University and Delhi University, Rd. Sharma's academic journey **includes** Faculty, Fellow, and Honorary positions at the Australian National University, the University of Melbourne, the University of Auckland, and Victoria University of Wellington, as well as the University of Delhi. Notably, he served as the Deputy Chair of the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs, Auckland Branch, from February 2012 to June 2022. Rd. Sharma, one of the leading voices in the global affairs and security studies, is also the accomplished author of significant works including book titled India's Pursuit of Energy Security: Domestic Measures, Foreign Policy and Geopolitics and Indian Lobbying and its Influence in US Decision Making: Post-Cold War. MORE the November 10, 2025, car explosion near Delhi's Red Fort, which killed twelve and injured many, has left the capital on edge. The government swiftly termed it a terrorist attack by anti-national forces, with multiple arrests linking the case to Islamist organisations. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India had largely avoided major terrorist incidents.

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Corruption certainly may have become endemic, especially after Indira Gandhi took over reins of the nation. But did the current government came to power in the very wake of Anna Hazare revolution against corruption And yet, have there been any electoral funding reforms No. A functioning and powerful Local No. Has the quality of parliamentary declamation or even attendance improved No.? Have our experiences in the land registration offices or dealing with local governments say while building a house or setting up a business improved No. arena Indians continuing to put down Indians even today, exactly as we did a hundred years ago Yes. It surely cannot be a good sign if a diatribe of a century ago against the then political and socio economic situation still sounds so contemporary. And yet we carry on, happy in our slavish fatalism. I reproduce exhortations of some leader in a rally. Was it the rally cry of Anna Hazare, in his fasting against the forces of corruption in 2011 Or a leader of anti CAA protests in 2020 21 Or It is on your shoulders that this huge country rests. You are the masters of these great armies and highly placed government servants. And yet you starve and submit to injustice. Why Because you are not aware of your own strengths. You must understand that one who cannot defend oneself would always be the victim of the selfish and the unjust. Today, a great man is staking his life for you. Thousands of young men are prepared to sacrifice themselves to end your miseries. How would those who think that you are helpless and rob you dry to see you get out of their clutches They inflict cruelty on your shoulders when lathe charges happen on the mochas. But you must think of how you can help us. Will you come out like men and save yourself from injustice or will you continue to sit back like cowards and curse your fate An opportunity like this may never come again? You will always regret it. We are fighting against injustice and for truth. And we have to fight with weapons of justice and truth. We need heroes who will banish violence and bitterness from their hearts and with complete faith in God, bear anything for what is right. How can you help us The police inspector, with a posse of constables, **came** and stood in front of the crowd. The people, with their eyes betraying fright and their hearts beating fast, looked around as if they were looking for a hole to hide in. Beat the scoundrels and drive them away, thundered the inspector Have you realized your sad state Do you still wish for some further proof We are not ruled by law, but by corruption. In spite of this disgrace, we say nothing. Had we not been selfish and cowardly, would they have dared exploit us As long as you behave like slaves and continue to serve them you will.

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Get the bare necessities of life How long will you live like corpses and be subjected to being eaten up by vultures Show them that you are alive and that you have your self respect. One could go on adding more lines from the original text. Except that these lines are nearly a century old, written by Mushy Premchand, set in the period of Sara movement, when we were under the British yoke suffering the oppression of colonial forces, which used Indians to put down Indians. With the littlest of tweaks, the words may as well be relevant today. After all, are we still oppressed by our ineffectual and corrupt polity and the corrupt system Have we not accepted the slavery of these exploiters, who have merely supplanted the exploitation of the colonial rulers Hans this exploitation left nearly 400 million of us 75 years after gaining our Independence earning less than 2 a day, without a modicum of public education or health arena we slaves of our fatalism Ah, but everybody is doing it; or, what can I alone do Don we continue to remain as divided within ourselves in terms of caste, creed and religion, as we were in colonial times, willing slaves in the hands of political puppeteers fathering votes at our expense The Congress may certainly be responsible for much of this failure over its 55 years of rule out of 75 of the country. Corruption certainly may have become endemic, especially after Indira Gandhi took over reins of the nation. But did the current government came to power in the very wake of Anna Hazare revolution against corruption And yet, have there been any electoral funding reforms No. A functioning and powerful Local No. Has the quality of parliamentary declamation or even attendance improved No.? Have our experiences in the land registration offices or dealing with local governments say while building a house or setting up a business improved No. arena Indians continuing to put down Indians even today, exactly as we did a hundred years ago Yes. It surely cannot be a good sign if a diatribe of a century ago against the then political and socio economic situation still sounds so contemporary. And yet we carry on, happy in our slavish fatalism. would also help the Board in ensuring that the Grover do not alienate, sell or transfer the multimillion dollar homes **they have purchased in 2021. In cases involving financial fraud, time is of the essence. Experience tell us, that persons accused of white collar crimes start destroying incriminating evidence the moment they get a whiff of danger. Think Vijay Malaya, Nora Modi or Sanjay Bandar. Barite future will now largely depend upon the Board actions over the next few weeks votes at our expense The Congress may certainly be responsible for much of this failure over its years of rule out of the country. Corruption certainly may more have become endemic, especially after Indira Gandhi took over reins of the nation.**

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International impact investing funds have recently announced plans on entering the India market: India electric vehicle market size was estimated at USD 1.45 billion in 2021; it is anticipated to increase to USD 113.99 billion by 2029, at a CAGR of 66.52%, from USD 3.21 billion in 2022. According to Tracing, EV start-ups in India raised \$1.66 billion in total in 2022, an increase of 117% from 2021. In comparison to just two investment rounds totaling \$100 million or more in 2021, the industry saw just four such rounds in 2022. How overall Investment market is impacted by India bullish outlook In India, the impact investment has exponentially increased in recent years. Over the past five years, the number of big ticket deals (deals worth more than \$10 million) has more than doubled, while the number of sales over \$20 million or more has climbed by a ratio of 2.3. The need to address environmental and socioeconomic issues is greater than everywhere else in developing markets, which are home to 9 out of the 10 cities with the highest climate change vulnerability and 86% of the world population. Now, India is considered as the largest investment destination in the emerging countries, with excellent investor confidence, but investment interest is still far lower than it could be. Focus has thus far been on early-stage investments in non-scalable technologies. But, impact investments are increasingly going beyond financial inclusion in India and into new fields including agriculture, excellent technology, healthcare, education, and livelihoods. Let see the unique and strategic positioning of India Innovative impact-oriented business models: With India high digital adoption rate, tech-enabled companies have been able to scale their influence and promote innovation in a variety of emerging industries, including future of work and climate technology. The transition from microfinance to technology-driven models like sustainable mobility and small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) finance (16.7% and 11.2% of total equity impact capital were raised in 2022, respectively) reflects this diversification and proliferation of impact-oriented business models. Matching impact with strong returns: The Indian market offers social entrepreneurs a significant potential to have a large-scale effect and bring in money for investors. According to research from the IIC, equity impact investments in India with an average holding term of around 5.2 years have produced an overall internal rate of return of about 30% over the past ten years while having an influence on **more** than 500 million lives nationwide. Indian ecosystem maturing: With the help of stakeholders working to build a catalytic environment for such investments, the Indian impact investing ecosystem is steadily developing. This encompasses the development of ecosystems like the IIC, which aims to increase the flow of private wealth into social impact through lobbying and research. To increase the impact of their portfolios, domestic impact fund managers have more expertise finding financially viable impact firms and implementing stronger impact management techniques. With its stronger investment potential and matured ecosystem, India is becoming heaven for investors. While India G-20 presidency has been.

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One classic they read in college. They carry books much like Christ did the cross, bent over by the weight of all that terrible prose they must critique. Sometimes the difference between a good review and a bad one is the coffee they missed. AI will one day write books, but will it write a book review? Nah. Reviews require the hands-on human touch of literary snobbery and the primal urge to draw blood. The reviewer is faced with two choices: gush or gibe. When in doubt, the reviewer gives us the whole plot. Most of the tiny double-column space is swallowed by laborious displays of the reviewer intellectual prowess and command over the language. Many Indian novels are ignored back home until they make a shortlist or long list abroad, making critics scramble. Second novels are especially snubbed; the nerve of the writer June is designated as pride month, and for a great deal of queer individuals in India, pride comes and goes with these festivities. The queer population is publicly acknowledged and celebrated through major parades, community festivals, awareness events, rainbow dipped streets, and corporate logos. However, as June comes to a close, the community sees the end of rainbow-washed advertising and marketing tricks. The term Rainbow Washing refers to an organization that publicly declares its ally ship for the community while covertly engaging in behaviours that may be damaging to persons who identify as such. Not merely a catchphrase, ally ship is intricate and strongly emphasizes on continuous development. An ally is commonly characterized as someone who is not a member of a marginalized group but wants to support and assist individuals from that group. You can contribute to the establishment of a safer environment at work by providing ally ship support to others. But not all forms of ally ship look alike and it definitely not a straightjacket formula. Whether you are simply a confidant for your fellow queer workers or per formative by placing more queer representation in management, each small step goes a long way. But if you are not sure where to start and are overwhelmed by the number of recommendations available, you can begin with simple acts of ally ship. A good place to start is to use pronouns in your regular conversations, which normalizes discussions about gender and different gender identities. This can include signing off emails at work with **your** preferred pronouns, using your pronouns on online work discussions, and using other people preferred pronouns even when they are not physically present. Practicing using neutral pronouns and greetings is also a grammatically and queer-friendly approach to avoid instantly presuming someone gender identification on the first encounter. Another simple and impactful act of ally ship is by actively listening to and engaging with your peers. It might entail checking in with your peers, encouraging them to join the discussion, and assisting your neurodiversity colleagues by allowing for varied modes of functioning. And, while listening is an effective kind of ally ship, it is sometimes necessary to stand up for your fellow queers in order to demonstrate support. For instance, when you see a disabled or transgender person using the washrooms of their preference, make sure you respect their privacy and identity. If you notice your colleagues staring at them, insulting them, or making them feel conscious or uncomfortable, you should try to protect them from harm and anguish by stepp

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And accessories may be freeing and joyful for many. Most significantly, it allows marginalized queers to claim space and develop a feeling of belonging in their job. This pride might be your opportunity to intervene and affirm the opinions and difficulties of your fellow queers. While being an ally may appear to be an extra effort for some, it all begins with a desire to make your workplace more egalitarian and inclusive. After all, what is better than a polite laugh? Standing up tall for your peers! Visionaries alone can lead a generation. Only those with the foresight to anticipate future needs can be true guides to others. Intelligence is a prerequisite, without which farsightedness is not possible. A vision provides direction and the incentive to reach the goal, which cannot happen without intelligence. We all work hard and set targets for ourselves, but often lack the vision to back up our work and goals. Understanding the ultimate purpose of our endeavors is essential. For instance, the opening of a school may fulfil immediate goals. However, it is essential to know its ultimate purpose. Is it to earn money or fame, to achieve power, or for social welfare? A visionary leader possesses clarity of purpose and a long-term perspective. His wisdom-empowered decisions benefit the community, society, and the world. When confronted with eagerness and commitment obstacles fade away. True leaders face difficulties head-on, devising solutions without succumbing to setbacks. They are exceptional motivators with an unending zest for life and the desire to live and handle challenges. Unanimous, regardless of external circumstances, they inspire confidence in others. They take learnings from all experiences and appropriately apply them to deal with the vicissitudes of life. Upholding values is crucial for effective leadership. Leaders who demonstrate integrity, honesty, and ethical conduct inspire respect and set examples for others. They must be humble enough to listen to and accept other opinions when appropriate. Listening is important for gaining knowledge, whether in one profession or on the path of spirituality. Often, we become so inflexible that we do not listen to others. Sometimes, opportunities come, but we become blind to them; sometimes, solutions are simple, but we do not listen. There is a case that illustrates this point. A Japanese company received complaints from customers that some of their cartons were arriving empty. After an investigation, they found a defect in the packaging **unit**. Every hundredth carton would go empty. Numerous engineers were approached to find a solution to repair the machine. Meanwhile, a worker in the department requested an audience with the CEO. The CEO thought the worker was approaching him for personal gain or favor and disregarded him. Eventually, the worker barged into the CEO office and told him that he had a solution to the packaging problem only a hundred dollars were needed to install a powerful fan that would compel the empty cartons to fly off. Sometimes solutions are straightforward if only we pay attention a CEO, a leader, must listen. A competent leader reflects on the obvious, larger issues and detects subtle and hidden concerns. He transcends personal biases, exercising control over his ego to ensure impartial decision making. In an organisation, the evaluation of a person should be based on the quality of his work and not on the boss likes and dislikes. Favoritism can cause immense dam

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Richly discussed and debated in international policy circles from a variety of angles, what has perhaps received less attention is the priority India placed on women-led sustainable development and economic empowerment. Founded in 1999, the G-20 is an intergovernmental forum of 19 countries and the EU to tackle major challenges faced by the global economy. Key engagement groups such as Women20 (W20) and G20 Empower are entrusted with mainstreaming discussions on gender equity and translating them into actionable goals such as for the G20 Leaders Declaration. As an interdisciplinary Women and Cultural Studies scholar with a background in Economics, and theoretical and applied inter-sectorial work at the intersections of economy, polity and society, I was delighted that the five priorities of W20 are women entrepreneurship, including micro and Nano enterprise, women leadership, education and skill development, bridging the gendered digital divide, and addressing climate change. An in-depth article in The Economic Times last month quoted the United Nations Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, who termed these efforts remarkable, encouraging India G-20 Presidency to share developmental stories and pragmatic interventions that have already worked and disseminate technical and practical knowledge that can help the rest of the world. (India G20 Presidency a Real Opportunity for it to Share Lessons from Global South with Others, Says UN Official.) Indeed, these global priority areas and their local applications are critically important for advancing G-20 agenda. While incentivizing entrepreneurship is vital for economic growth, the inclusion of micro and Nano enterprises allows for targeted policy benefits to flow to the most disadvantaged in the entrepreneurial ecosystem cobblers and carpenters, tailors and tiny toymakers to whom banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) generally do not lend. Microfinance and community banking has served as a key tool for financial inclusion of the socioeconomically marginalized, including the poorest women, in many parts of South Asia and the world, since their lending policies do not include standard collateral and related requirements an oft-quoted example was Bangladesh Graeme Bank before it ran into challenges. But microfinance institutions also have their own limitations, due in part to how they and their small borrowers cannot benefit from economies of scale. The most efficacious as well as socio-economically just financial inclusion practices must therefore offer a combination of targeted initiatives for low-income women along with inclusion in the mainstream economy and banking system rather **than** operating solely through separate silos. The same is true for education and skill development. In many societies, higher education has traditionally served as a marker of status; and its limitations and scope for improvements notwithstanding, India highly subsidized public education did help many earn university degrees that would credit to such policies; the praise for public education is mostly reserved for European countries while keeping the focus on India backwardness in a continuation of a colonial gaze. That said, it is also true that degrees do not mean much if there are no matching jobs or if they cannot put.

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Global population without access to clean water has reached 844 million, in India the figure stands at a whopping 680 million. The answer is either water wars or water ATMs. Water ATMs are in vogue; these new machines driven by a common technology platform are the best answer to India safe drinking water crisis. Para Agawam, Founder & CMD, Jamaal, which sets up Water ATMs across India, says these machines not only deliver safe drinking water to people at an affordable cost compared to the expensive bottled water, but also create lucrative employment opportunities for the needy youth. Packaged water is a Rest 8000 core market in India. There are more than 3,000 unbranded players and 5735 licensed brands in and around Delhi, says Tasha Thrived of bottledwaterindia.org, a portal that offers information about the industry. The largest selling packaged water brand in India, Basler, has 120 bottling plants. Others in the market are Pepsi Aquafina, Coca Cola Kinsley, Himalayan and Kingfisher. People in India, who travel a lot more than before, does not want to carry water, say Agawam. Our ATMs have inbuilt purification plants where people can get a bottle filled for 5. The market is increasing, booming like never before, says Agawam. Experts admit the industry is growing briskly but there is also a lot of wastage. For the records, packaged water is drilled from the ground and then processed at plants, during which only 66 per cent of water is used and the rest is wasted due to reverse osmosis. Now, this very saline water can easily be used by the construction industry or for watering plants. But it is not happening. Agawam says the Economic Survey of Delhi 2017 18 states that around 6,25,000 households in the Capital, constituting more than 18 per cent of total households in the national capital, do not have access to piped water supply. His Jamaal till date has directly benefitted over 90 million in India with an approximate consumption of 8 10 liters per capita per day. There are not just ATMs; there is Water on Wheels and Community Drinking Water Projects. Time to fetch water prevents many from doing other jobs. This has a severe negative impact on the economic growth of the country, says Agawam. His Jamaal adopts a technology agnostic approach and believes in adapting to new water treatment technologies to solve different water related **issues**. Given that water changes every 5 10 mms in India, every water ATM is custom built to suit the environment in which it is intended to operate in. What next? Agawam wants the government to issue a national level water ATM policy and allocate funds to every State specifically for such projects so that they can be implemented across urban and rural areas besides smart cities and industrial belts. Decentralized water infrastructure is the order of the day and water ATMs are the ideal alternative. The hospitality sector spans a huge range of industries, from hotels and resorts to restaurants.

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Otherwise have been out of reach. The West, unfortunately, has not given due food on the table; nor it is useful to produce lackluster Ph.Ds who plagiarize entire dissertations off the internet. Hence along with higher education subsidies, skill-development and targeted vocational training programs must be expanded, along with a set of quantitative and qualitative tools to measure actual impact. Another W20 priority is addressing the global digital gender divide, and the social norms that prevent women participation. The Economic Times article quoted earlier also included insightful comments on the need to universalize access to digital technologies, make them affordable, and democratizing e-commerce through such measures as the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. Yes, it is true that, given the gendered economic impact of the pandemic job losses due to a global spike in women caregiving and homeschooling duties, for instance an expansion in digital access would also increase women participation in the labor force, at least in the organized sector. At the same time, it must be emphasized that it is not just access, affordability, or patriarchal social norms operating in the private sphere, but also the threat and reality of online gender-based violence that act as barriers for women in the virtual world. Recently I served as faculty advisor to a university research team for a policy project on technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), as a part of an innovative public-private collaborative initiative of the US Department of State Office of Global Partnerships and shaped by the Gender Policy Council in the White House. The team investigated various forms of online gender-based violence, including digital harms suffered by marginalized women, with a clear correlation emerging between TFGBV and women digital participation. Since online violence is an extension of real-world violence against women, we must include it in our analysis of the digital gender divide and formulate ways to effectively tackle present and future challenges. In other words, while the focus of the G-20 engagement groups mentioned in this article has understandably been on women economic empowerment and sustainable development, these cannot always be separated from other forms of gender justice. The second part of this column will take up three such additional areas of insecurity faced by women globally. India startup ecosystem has experienced rapid growth over the past decade, making it the third largest globally, with over 50,000 startups and 105 unicorns. India goal to become a **\$5** trillion market by 2024 is largely dependent on the significant economic contributions of startups. A combination of factors, including a large market, a fast-growing economy, government support, and a diverse and innovative startup culture, has contributed to this success. According to Global Data, a total of 1,726 Venture Capital funding deals worth USD 20.9 billion were announced in India in 2022 compared to 1,715 deals worth USD 33.8 billion in 2021. Harnessing the energy of India millennial: the story of the country startup revolution one significant advantage for startups in India is the country massive market potential. With over 1.3.

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BJP victories in the east Manipur, west Goa, north Uttarakhand and middle Uttar Pradesh of India and its poor showing in Punjab signify two facts. One, incumbency has done little to dent the immense popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. And two, India is not Punjab. The year long agitation by farmers and commission agents may have provided naysayers a platform to denounce government policies day after day and to predict its demise no sooner than elections were held but it found little resonance with the people of India outside Punjab. Yet again, and justifiably, chronicles of Congress death are being foretold. Here one statistic that sums up the enormity of Congress leadership ineffectuality. The party still, after all its debacles, including in the five state polls, has around 700 MLAs nationally, compared to BJP 1,300 plus. That shows Congress has the footprint. It just does not have the political smarts, a political identity or leaders to make something of this presence. And all quick formulas for Congress revival come with high risks. Nehru Gandhi seems to have entirely lost their power to pull in votes. But at least some of what is left of Congress cadre still puts value on the family. That may be because if Nehru Gandhi no longer lead GOP, it may disintegrate the family biggest contribution currently is probably being the glue that holds together a party prone to savage internecine battles. So, either Nehru Gandhi leads Congress to likely further humiliations or minus them, Congress splinters. And even if a non Nehru Gandhi were to emerge and the party does implode, it is unlikely that he or she will be able to command respect or loyalty from Congress state leaders. It is also important to note that the so called G23 offers exactly no hope at all most members of that group are relevant electorally in any meaningful sense. Some argue what Congress needs is a clear ideology, pitching hard secularism against BJP Hindustan. But India default political operating system may right now be defined by some version of emotive Hindiness, and clever politicians like Arvin Kejriwal have recognised this. Opposing this will need adroit realpolitik AL messaging, making the point about dangers of divisiveness without annoying the majority. Worse still, Congress has no governance appeal left. BJP and AAP have stolen its welfares clothes, everyone is equally cautious about reforms, and GOP carries **the** baggage of corruption. It does get tougher than this. With passing of time, voters constituency of India is improve of lots than to the post freedom era when Congress and its leader has to be consider to merely iconic figure to govern the nation amicably, even at demise of former PM Nehru and Indira Gandhi slogan was developed that Indira is India tear are rolling of eyes of public who will takes care of nation now But it remains only euphoric, nation is now advancing in every sphere with great pace and even the stigma of aberration is melting gradually.

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Events and cruise ships, to travel, tourism, and airlines, to name a few. And the range of careers awaiting graduates is just as varied and far reaching. The reasons to choose hospitality as an emerging career prospect are as many as the business itself and are as deep as its historical roots. As one of the world largest industries with a global economic contribution, the travel, and tourism industry is a great field to pursue a career. With every one in 10 jobs on the planet supported by travel and tourism, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council, the industry presents monumental career opportunities. Growth Prospects Even in the face of impending economic upheavals, the hospitality industry has always demonstrated considerable resiliency in its operations and has even managed to endure while other industries have failed. The global hospitality market is expected to reach billion in 2025 at a CAGR of 6%. With the growth of technology, the hospitality ecosystem has changed dramatically, and was now dealing with businesses that are evolving quicker than ever before. According to a report by the World Travel and Tourism Council, Travel & Tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors across the world. The hospitality sector is incredibly cosmopolitan, and being a part of it instantly makes you a member of the global hospitality community. Networking Opportunities Regardless of the direction, one wants for their career, networking and meeting new people is where an opportunity arises. On average, persons working in customer service and hospitality encounter three times as many people per day as those working in other industries. According to the Harvard Business Review, Millennial seek professions that will thrill them, and development opportunity is one of the most significant aspects to consider when picking a career. Employees in the hotel industry have access to a multitude of opportunities and never ending fresh contacts for building networks. Sense of Flexibility Hospitality management is one of the few professions that allows traveling the world and brings in a sense of flexibility. As one of the world fastest growing sectors, hospitality management includes hotels, events, travel & tourism, luxury services, culinary services, and other related industries. Hospitality management graduates are prepared for jobs in management within the hospitality business, such as hotel or catering manager, as well as experts or managers in certain industry activities, such as sales, marketing, food, and beverage **service**, housekeeping, front desk operations, or finance. Consultancy, research and advisory, and even design positions, as well as crossing into other industries, are all huge possibilities. The hospitality industry hones a skill set that is recognized worldwide and relevant to any industry, in the world. There a lot more to the industry than what meets the eye. The hotel business as a whole offers a wide variety of experiences. The tourism and hospitality business is a big umbrella that covers a lot of interesting jobs and provides an excellent platform for showcasing the hidden abilities to the rest of the world.

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Chilling reminder that Islamist terrorism has resurfaced with renewed sophistication and the threat is far from over. India's counter-terror narrative under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has seen significant progress. Between 2005 and the immediate pre-Modi era, India suffered major terrorist attacks, from the 26/11 Mumbai massacre in 2008 to serial blasts in cities and frequent jihadi incursions through Jammu & Kashmir. The Congress-led government under Dr Manmohan Singh struggled to contain this surge, hampered by weak responses and policy incoherence. Since May 2014, the Modi government has launched a strong, multidimensional offensive: surgical strikes across the border, revocation of Jammu & Kashmir's special status, crackdown on terror financing, enhanced intelligence coordination, and strengthened legislation. These decisive steps, backed by political will, ushered in unprecedented calm, making large-scale urban attacks rare. Modi's approach demonstrates that strategic offensives, robust legal frameworks, and vigilant domestic security can significantly mitigate the Islamist terror threat in India. The prevailing belief was that India was no longer a playground for large-scale Islamist militant attacks, with violence mostly confined to border or insurgency zones like the April 2025 Pahalgam massacre. Strategic measures cross-border strikes, diplomatic firmness, and internal security reforms had reinforced safety. Yet the Red Fort explosion shattered that illusion, revealing evolving terrorist networks infiltrating campuses, hospitals, and professional institutions, turning trusted spaces into fronts for radicalisation rather than relying on mass bombings. The Red Fort Delhi blast matters profoundly for three key reasons. Investigators have uncovered what they call a white-collar terror ecosystem a network of educated professionals using academic and medical institutions as cover. Among those under investigation is Dr Muzammil Ganaie, a 35-year-old doctor from Pulwama teaching at Al-Falah University, from whose accommodation police recovered 350 kg of ammonium nitrate, an AK-47, live rounds, and bomb-making materials. Dr Shaheen Sayeed from Lucknow is also being probed as part of the same module. Most alarmingly, the vehicle used in the blast is believed to have been owned or driven by Dr Umar Mohammad (Umar Un Nabi) of Pulwama, who remains absconding. In short, doctors, engineers, and academics meant to heal and educate became instruments of Islamist terror. The implications are grave: radicalisation has seeped into the very institutions once trusted to safeguard society. Second, the scale of the thwarted plot is staggering. Authorities seized nearly 2,900 kg of explosives and bomb-making materials in coordinated raids across Faridabad and other locations, pointing to plans **for** a large-scale, multi-city attack. The Red Fort explosion is believed to have been triggered prematurely, possibly out of panic after key arrests. While catastrophe was narrowly averted, the discovery reveals a chilling depth of Islamist radical networks and underscores how close India came to a coordinated mass-casualty event. Third, although cross-border militancy has long been India's primary terror concern, what this case highlights is the merging of external sponsorship with local professional networks. Investigators link the module to Pakistan-based organisations such as Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind.

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What has changed is that the 'ground' element is no longer alien "combatants infiltrating" across the border alone, but high-skilled domestic actors operating under the radar within the system and this hybrid threat demands a "fundamentally different" response. For the Indian government, the challenge is now twofold: maintaining an outward posture of "strength through offensive" operations, diplomacy, and border defence, while turning inward to reinforce domestic security. Central to this is strengthening intelligence capabilities to detect radicalisation within unexpected strata medical colleges, universities, research institutions, hospitals, and engineering institutes. The Al-Falah University case is a stark warning that sleeper cells can hide in plain sight. Urban security at high-profile locations such as the Red Fort, metro stations, transport hubs, and other crowded areas must be reinforced to prevent attacks. Legal frameworks like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Explosive Substances Act must be robustly applied, with seamless federal state coordination under the National Investigation Agency. Equally critical is dismantling terror financing networks, arms procurement, and explosives pipelines, including the ammonium nitrate-to-bomb nexus. The government must adopt a proactive, anticipatory posture to prevent plots before they materialise, combining vigilance, law enforcement, and institutional oversight across all sectors. For society, the message must be clear: counter-terror responsibility does not rest with the state alone. Community vigilance is essential. Professional institutions should adopt preventive education on radicalisation and extremist ideology infiltration. The media must avoid sensationalism or communal scapegoating, as the threat now comes not only from external militants but networks within society. Citizens in universities, hospitals, and offices must stay alert to unusual patterns foreign contacts, encrypted chats, sudden radical shifts in colleagues, and unexplained fund flows. For India's strategic security, the Modi government has achieved notable gains in defence, border management, and external counter-terror strikes. In the Indo-Pacific, India has emerged as a reliable partner in counter-terrorism, maritime security, and emerging-tech defence collaboration. Yet the internal front demands equal focus: homeland Islamist extremism is resurfacing, testing India's internal security architecture, intelligence integration, and socio-political resilience. The Red Fort blast is a stark wake-up call, not a one-off. It exposes the next frontier of Islamist militant strategy: radicalised, well-educated professionals, cohort-based terror networks embedded within society, suburban arms and explosives caches, and a shift to urban warfare over mountain infiltration. While India's strategic gains abroad and at the border under Modi remain, they are challenged, and the narrative that India **is** no longer a playground for major terrorist strikes is now under scrutiny. The takeaway is clear: neither the government nor society can assume safety from fewer attacks. Vigilance must be constant, adaptation rapid. Success now means countering not just external mass-casualty infiltration but the subtler threat of radicalised professionals, hybrid terror cells, and urban strikes. Islamist extremism, both domestic and external, remains active. The Red Fort car blast is a stark reminder that India must respond with s

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India is now more habitable than in archaic times. Media report if is to believed, 97 of Congress candidates in UP have forfeited their security is humiliation scenario. But for this mess, the public cannot allege, has already risen alarmed something is not transparent or sovereign in the Congress party, no one lends ear. Who relishing the aristocracy of power at behest without substance but at the plank of inheritance of party or its iconic leaderships, seems this privilege is evaporating with great pace. A Million dollar question begged that Gandhi family, which is relishing power as first family of the nation is relevant or has not moral accountability to renounce this privilege and for the sake of revival of party destiny involve themselves for the welfare s of the public than to tour Italy BJP UP performance hogged headlines. But equally impressive was the party showing in Manipur. Not only did BJP return to governing the state, this time it achieved a majority on its own. BJP is in government, on its own or in alliance, in all Northeast states. Credit for this feat in part goes to BJP Northeast Democratic Alliance that has since 2016 cultivated regional parties. Not surprisingly, NE is represented by two Cabinet ministers and three junior ministers at the Centre. It has seen a credible infrastructure push in the last eight years, catalysed by the Centre Act East policy and the urgent need to counter China. Yet, challenges remain. The shadow of militancy and draconian security laws like AFSPA both prevent normalisation. The region also remains predominantly a cash economy, even for big transactions, and that one reason for high levels of corruption. Last September the Union labour ministry deferred the mandatory seeding of Aadhaar in universal account numbers for NE states, citing low penetration of biometric IDs. At a bigger level, the DBT welfare payments system does have the same impact in NE as elsewhere. Another issue, potentially troubling, is RSS growing presence in the region and the friction it is creating with traditional cultures and religious practices. This is best exemplified by the Hindustan versus traditional Meitei Sanamahism debate in Manipur. BJP has plenty of work to do. Surgery is an active invasion of a body, to cure it. But what was once a gory and chancy affair is remarkably easy and safe today, and has improved billions of lives. Hardly **anyone** in the industrialiser world will avoid at least one surgical encounter in their lifetime, says Empire of the Scalpel: The History of Surgery by Ira Rothko. While early India might have had successes in reconstructive surgery, this is a survey of Western medical history from Greek and Roman antiquity to the barber surgeons of the Middle Ages, radical progress from the mid 19th century onwards to the current state of the profession. With Punjab under his belt, Arvin Kejriwal will now have a place at the opposition high table. Congress will no longer be able to deny him that unlike.

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AAP, other major non Congress parties govern in one state: Mamata Banerjee TMC in Bengal, K Chandrasekhar Rao TRS in Telangana, MK Stalin DMK in Tamil Nadu, Uddhav Thackeray Shiv Sena along with NCP and Congress in Maharashtra, Jagan Reddy YSR Congress in Andhra Pradesh, and Naveen Patnaik BJD in Odisha. A young friend, young as eight years old, recently asked, Is it easier to be unhappy than to be happy When adults ask such questions, chances are they already have an opinion or answer to hand over to you; children generally ask such questions because they really want to know, so I did give it some thought. It makes one wonder. So I asked around. One person said, Staying unhappy is easier; it does require much effort. Unlike being happy, it does not require a reason, or a thought or conscious effort. Anyone can be unhappy. For many, this is their default mode. We all know someone regularly unhappy about everything, never passing up an opportunity to tell you about it some person or the world is bad; awful things keep happening to them. They can point out all the very valid reasons to be unhappy and sad, and though a few of us can sidestep the grey clouds, chances are most others might begin to pull in the gloom, or some part of it, and allow this to ruin your mood or day. It not that some of what they say is not true, but the conclusions drawn and the overall worldview they promote are almost always dispiritingly negative. Some believe that to be happy requires more energy and more effort. Perhaps it does. But actually, what it needs is more attention and the dropping of those blinkers or filters that permit only the bad to creep in; maybe that what calls for conscious energy effort. Someone once sent me a tongue in cheek list on How To Be Unhappy that includes things that might just bring on a flash of rueful recognition: Blame your parents, siblings or anyone else for your circumstances; Hold on to grudges, big or small; Never forgive others while expecting others to excuse your behavior or actions; Compare your life unfavorably with that of others; Assume others success is only due to luck or connections; Assume your perceived lack of success is because you are so unlucky; Speak words full of negativity **and spread your negative thoughts; Listen to and spread unkind gossip; Listen to toxic news or speeches and share them around; Help others, but with high reciprocal expectations from them; Associate mostly with people who are equally negative. Being a storyteller, my mind immediately tossed up one that was lurking in what I think of as the story part of my neocortex. A wise man once sat before a crowd and told a funny story. His audience all laughed so hard, tears running down their faces. They took a while to settle down and he told them the same story again.**

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This time about half the crowd laughed, the other half smiled unsure smiles, maybe a bit indulgent of the old teacher. When he started talking again, he told the same funny story yet again. This time there was no laughter. And some worried looks. After a short pause, the teacher asked, When you can laugh at the same joke told again and again, why you cry over the same thing again and again and again ... Let be clear, unhappiness is a habit. Often fine tuned over the years. And like all habits, this is one hard to break. So, actually instead of removing which is sure to bring about resistance, how about replacing or adding Add the seeking out more good news stories, add a gratitude practice; add the counting of our blessings. One of the key takeaways of the assembly elections across three states Utrakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Goa is that the voter is no longer willing to take kindly to a party hopper or a turn coat. This was most starkly on display in Goa where the Trinomial Congress was extremely confident that a strongman like Churchill Aleman and his daughter Valance would at least fetch two seats Bensalem and Navel for the party. Unfortunately, the TMC drew a blank. Aleman, a four time MLA belonging to the NCP who had opted to contest on a TMC ticket from Bensalem lost to AAP candidate Enzi Velia by 1,271 votes in a last minute surprise. His daughter, Valanka, also lost to the BJP narrowly from Navelim from what was a traditional Congress seat once represented by TMC leader Lizinho Faleiro. TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee who had arrived in Goa with the idea of buying up support, to teach the BJP a lesson came a cropper with 5.2 votes while AAP which had worked in the state for a while now managed to push its vote share and managed to get two MLAs elected. Aversion to defectors was starkly seen in Utrakhand too. First, at a political level there was movement against defectors in both the BJP and the Congress ahead of elections. While the BJP took a grim view of ex Congressman in ranks Minister Harak Rawat hobnobbing with CLP leader Pritam Singh and sacked him for it, Congress leaders made it difficult for Harak to get a party ticket; he finally had to settle for a **ticket** for his daughter in law Anukriti Gosain Rawat from Lansdowne. However, she also lost. The only party hopper in the hills who managed to win was Yashpal Arya a minister in Dhami Government he had quit to rejoin the Congress; he got elected from Bajpur but failed to get his son Sanjeev elected from Nanital. Incidentally, Rahul Gandhi was very keen to have both Harak Rawat and Yashpal Arya back he wanted them as a trophy to herald that Congress was returning to power. Outcome turned out to be quite the contrary. In Uttar Pradesh, two of three BJP ministers.

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Who defected to the Samajwadi Party Swami Prasad Maurya and Dharam Singh Saini at the eleventh hour were humbled. It is entirely another matter however those 11 ministers in the Yogi Government lost to the SP RLD alliance. Deputy CM Kasha Prasad Maurya had to bite dust. He narrowly lost to Pahlavi Patel of SP, sister of Ana Dal leader Anuria Patel from Strathy. Ana Dal is an NDA ally. So did sugarcane minister Suresh Rena, who lost to the RLD in Shimla. Beyond these details of voter apathy for defections which means political parties will listen to its cadres, reward them and not thrust leaders from the top. There is another subtext to these results which is a phenomenal boost to regional parties like the AAP and the Samajwadi Party, the near elimination of the Congress and irrelevance of the Sherman Alkali Dal. Once a national party, the Congress is being pushed to the margins in Uttar Pradesh and has emerged as second largest in Punjab after AAP. Political analysts find emergence of regional players as good for national politics. Once a regional party does well electorally it begins to take interest in national politics and wants to participate in governance in Delhi. It happened with TDP, with the BSP in the past. The ambition of the regional parties for a slice of action will shift its focus away from governance in the state and thereafter its decline will begin, observed a senior BJP leader. In fact, now that AAP has won Punjab and opened an account in Goa, it will be interesting to see whether Opposition unity manager Mamata Banerjee will have the courtesy to include Arvin Kejriwal in her league. Lata Mangeshkar is no more but for billions of people who heard her sing she is alive and will live on through her voice and her love for her country. For me the most haunting song of hers was Mere Watan ke logo. It is a tribute to the armed forces who have died protecting our country. I had heard this song many times but the one time I could not stop crying was when I attended a memorial for Widows Welfare Association of which Mohini Giri, has been the guiding light and the backbone of young wives and their children, whose husbands were killed in action or fighting against terrorists to keep India safe. The **time** I heard it with the widows who Mohini Giri had helped was the time when the words got etched in my mind and when I truly cried along with the widows around me and felt their pain and what the every one of us should remember in the Lyrics. Not many people know it. But I want to publish it in English here just to acknowledge why it means so much to India and its people, than Abide with Me, at the Beating of the Retreat. Ask any Indian but please tell them the lyrics in Hindi or English. Here.

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Is the English Translation I am for one happy that Mere Watan ke logo, was played at the Beating of the Retreat, finally, and just before Lata Mangeshkar bid her goodbye to this nation. Her voice will be remembered for times to come, as will the immortal hymn she made so popular in her country for the Brave Hearts who died for India. This is what makes India great the art, the music, the voice and the people. This is truly the immortal soul of of a great civilisation. Lata will be remembered as one such soul. You must be hurting really bad. Life always seems to be going smoothly until something tragic like this happens. But know that you have the love of 1.4 billion Indians and many foreigners as well. There have only been a few electrifying Indian icons before you: Dilip Kumar, Lata Mangeshkar, Amitabh Bachchan, Sachin Tendulkar. But some have gone and some are past their prime. You are still reigning supreme. Public memory being short, you are the most iconic Indian alive today. Sometimes I think you miss the gravitas of who you are. Your rants against India, as well as the drunken misbehavior at the cricket stadium in Mumbai. Some stupid people say something stupid, why do you get so worked up Even Modi wins only half the vote. There are people cursing at him day and out, but he stays cool. He the king, like you are and a king must behave likewise. But India is forgiving, and it forgives its favorite son, you. Even when your son Aryan is caught in a drug bust. I am so glad he home. I hope him safe and sound and not terribly scarred by the experience. Somewhere, in your frenetic lifestyle, you seem to have neglected him. But that must change now. He your exact carbon copy. He deserves you now. There are only two possibilities. One is that Aryan is an innocent babe caught in the woods. If he is, that makes your life easier. You just fight his case and win it. On the other hand, the charges against him might be true. Then you are in a whole lot of trouble. If he into peddling drugs, that can be easily stopped. But if he into consuming the heavy stuff, that a whole another ball game. Aryan seems to have been caught **in** bad company. Why is he always around rich kids and models and star kids. Children of stars who have possibly themselves had a questionable record when it comes to drugs. You came from humble beginnings. Who are your best friends today Some big industrialist A fawning socialite writer, who has already given a clean chit to Aryan A Marathi politician who has decided to solve the case himself Do you have any friends from your school and college days to keep you grounded, or have they all been washed away Consider the politician. After aiming all his guns at Aryan.

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That two more Indian nationals have died fighting for the Russian army in Ukraine shows earlier GOI attempts to stop these recruitments haven't worked. As reported by TOI, one of those killed was Tejpal Singh, a young man from Amritsar who had travelled to Russia in Jan on a tourist visa, and then joined the Russian army. Cases like these present a serious dilemma for GOI, which has now called on Russia to ensure a verified stop to the recruitment of Indians in the Russian army. Overconfidence is not a danger unique to politics. When self-estimation remains defiant of all external assessment, that an HR manager's nightmare. In business, banking and medicine too, it can lead to damaging decisions. It can drive goats to wars, thinking these will be easily won. For Nobel-winning cognitive scientist Daniel Kahneman, overconfidence is the mother of all biases. It plays into the stereotype of politicians as egomaniacs. But succeeding in politics does not only demand unusual drive and self-confidence. There also has to be a surrender of ego from time to time. When Chandrababu Naidu went alliance shopping ahead of elections, he left his ego at home. Rahul Gandhi does strategy gushup with Kejriwal today, as if the India against Corruption wounds are history. Modi has been celebrating NDA win, not lamenting the absence of a BJP majority. In Freud's own thinking, the ego is actually a balancing agent, between id and superego. The way in which Sourav Ganguly built Team India into quite a force, but then adapted to batting under Dhoni's captaincy, is a storied example of such balance. Another great captain Sunil Chhetri has reportedly said, ego is only fine when it is working for your motivation. In an earlier avatar, when he had pulled out of NDA, Naidu complained about having to call Modi even though the latter is my junior in politics. Office games can be ego games along exactly the same lines. How to maintain motivation when someone else gets the promotion. Or how to not let your promotion go to your head. However, one thing does set politics apart. Its sheer volatility. A persona non grata one day, can be kingmaker the next. Perhaps nothing says Pandian is not a politician than that he is leaving the field after just one defeat. One classic they read in college. They carry books much like Christ did the **cross**, bent over by the weight of all that terrible prose they must critique. Sometimes the difference between a good review and a bad one is the coffee they missed. AI will one day write books, but will it write a book review? Nah. Reviews require the hands-on human touch of literary snobbery and the primal urge to draw blood. The reviewer is faced with two choices: gush or gibe. When in doubt, the reviewer gives us the whole plot. Most of the tiny double-column space is swallowed by laborious displays of the reviewer's intellectual prowess and command over the language. Many Indian novels are ignored back home until they make a shortlist or long list abroad, making critics scramble. Second novels are especially snubbed; the nerve of the writer there are two types of recruitment of foreign nationals into the Russian army. First, young people looking for employment opportunities are being duped by international recruitment agencies. They are promised lucrative jobs in third countries but find themselves being forced to join Russian forces. But there are also those who have been voluntarily joining. In fact, Moscow is offering fast-tracked citizenship f

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But there are also IPC provisions: Section 125 proscribes waging war against an Asiatic power in alliance with the government of India, while Section 126 penalises commissioning of depredation or plunder on territories of states at peace with the government of India. But revoking citizenship of such individuals would fall foul of international law. Then there the tricky area of war crimes India criminalises grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions. Deterrents needed it clear that advising Indians against taking up risky employment in Russia is enough. Applying legal provisions against Indians fighting for Russia can be an effective deterrent. Also, this is a larger South Asian problem, with hundreds being recruited from Nepal and Sri Lanka too. Colombo recently had some success and is sending a special delegation to Moscow to stop such recruitment. India should follow suit, discuss the matter at the highest level in Russia, and bring our boys back home. Human beings generally tend to be swept off their feet in two situations triumph, and tragedy. The person who can look at both sides of this parabolic sweep with equanimity, acknowledging the ephemeral quality of life cloaked in Maya, has truly evolved. Indeed, attaining such an ideal state of equanimity is the privilege of one who ironically has either lost one mind or is so wrapped in divine thoughts that the ego, fountainhead of pride, arrogance and misery, loses all potency. The latter category is more challenging as it implies a state where one is in the world and yet straddling a cusp of attachment-detachment. It effectively translates to being both within and without and in perfect harmony with this dichotomy. Those attuned to living in this state are well and truly on course to Self-realisation. The philosophy of Amiya Roy Chowdhury, aka Dasani, emphasises the connection between duty and devotion. According to him, the two concepts are not mutually exclusive but are the kind of inalienable realities that if conformed to in an egoless manner, offer perfect blueprint for Self-realisation and spiritual harmony. Regarding God as absolute Truth and one with the universe and all its subsets, he had observed that this Truth was, therefore, within each individual and manifested as a name in one consciousness. Dasani said that we are all born with this Mahanaam, but with time, it is forgotten and submerged in the business of life. It can be unearthed through deep **meditative** introspection. As the Mahanaam, akin to Shabd Brahmnin the Vedas, flows from the Truth within the human being; it becomes a pristine expression of God. The Truth manifests equally in macrocosm and microcosm as the moving force of all creation. In essence, Dasani philosophy was based on the premise that given the oneness of Truth all that stemmed from it whether mankind, religion or language, were all expressions of this Truth. Work undertaken in the reverberating aura of the Mahanaam is elevated to the level of worship. No rites, rituals, or dogmatic subservience are necessary in this do-it-yourself approach to Self-realisation and spiritual harmony. Such work, per se, becomes an act of sublime dedication. It is a statement of surrender and an acknowledgement of oneness with God, where the human ego is redundant and has no place. This one step demolishes the ego and its concomitant desire. It paves the way for undertaking one duty sieved through the Mahanaam. By dedicating one actions to God in the form of the Mahanaam

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But mum was not your lawyer who said why Aryan & Co. would be partying on the ship when they could have bought the entire ship. That just reeked of arrogance. Are these the kind of lawyers advising you If Aryan is into drugs, it might be a long road back. Rehabilitation in India is in its infancy. You will have to take him to the West. An adult member of your family will have to be there dedicated full time to his recovery. Maybe it going to be you. And it not going to be easy when the recovered Aryan gets back to India. Taunts in India can be mean. Maybe he will forge a career abroad. He has dreams of becoming a director. Maybe you will quit your career how much more do you have to achieve and dedicate yourself fulltime to your son. It imperative that Aryan lands on his feet. He your oldest offspring and an example for your younger kids. He already fabricating charges against the opposition in Maharashtra. The opposition politician he targeting is one of the favorite sons of the ruling dispensation at the Centre. And he not just targeting the politician, he taking aim squarely at his articulate wife, who not into politics. Do you want Aryan to get involved in all this mess If not, why do you get the Marathi politician to stop talking about Aryan case The other problem is that the politician is Muslim and so are you. Some Hindus might feel that you are playing the Muslim card. Are you if you are not, and then why doing you publicly tell the politician to shut up. And the fawning writer, penning column after column in injured innocence of Aryan, and castigating the narcotics control bureau. Please tell her to stop. Let the case proceed. The truth will come out. The investigating officer was Sameer Dagwood Winched. He is a scheduled caste with a Muslim mother. He is part of the most oppressed portion of our society. In their infinite wisdom, our founding fathers provided affirmative action to his kind, from which he has benefitted to make a life for himself. Just the reason that affirmative action was instituted in the first place. Sameer Dagwood Winched is an example of the success of the affirmative action programmer. By most accounts, he was only doing his job. You **might** hate him for how he treated Aryan. Like a common criminal. But in the eyes of the law, that how Sameer Dagwood Winched was supposed to act, with no special favors to the son of a superstar. But Sameer Dagwood Winched has been vilified, framed, and threatened with great harm by your supporters. Have you ever considered having a word with him in private or even saying something publicly to the effect that he the best thing that could have happened to Aryan, especially if Aryan is into drugs I am sure your lawyers have counseled you to keep mum.

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The future of home security lies in smart homes. A secure home security network can help prevent or reduce the risk of getting hacked and possible break INS today. With timely alerts, accessibility at a click, and easy ways to monitor your premises, smart security solutions are becoming a necessity. Convenient, effective, and accessible, most new age security systems rely on state of the art technology to help keep your home secure and protect your family and property. To cope with increased crime and safety concerns, these home security systems offer a plethora of tech driven features that ensure you and your loved ones remain connected, alert and protected. With features like motion sensors, high quality day and night video surveillance, and automated door locks these smart security solutions help empower the user and can easily be linked and controlled through an app. Programming and configuring settings to one needs, activating, and even disarming systems can now be done remotely. Proactive real time alerts or notifications help avoid fatalities and warn against intruders. These critical updates are crucial especially as most families have young children or elderly family members at home. To further ease and make monitoring practical, remote viewing options allow one to watch over their property with ease from anywhere, at any time. Effective solutions to protect your home security from getting hacked: Indian sports has witnessed many glorifying moments in the last 15 years. The year 2008 was a game changer for Indian sports when shooter Abhinav Bindra won the first individual gold for the country at the Beijing Olympics. The athletes from India have won 15 medals ever since, with the latest feat being one gold, two silver, and four bronze medals at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics (the highest for the country in one game). Out of these total medals, Indian women athletes have contributed nearly 50%. Prior to the 2008 Olympics, India had won just 17 medals, 11 of which came from hockey, with one off successes in sports such as wrestling, tennis, weightlifting, and shooting. Now, let look at India budget allocation for sports over the years. Let see if there is a correlation between the money that the government has spent on sports and Indian athletes performance on the global stage. Also, if there is a connection between the budget and India getting fitter and more proactive on the physical activity front. **Let** look at how much money India has allocated for sports and physical activity over the last 15 years. It was Rs 708 crore in 2007 08, but it swelled to Rs 3670 crore in 2009 10 thanks to Indians preparing for the Delhi Commonwealth Games. It was Rs 2841 crore in 2010 11, but it went down to Rs 1121 crore in 2015 16. With an increased interest in the Khelo India programme, the government also boosted its budget substantially to Rs 2636.06 crore in 2019 20. There was a significant dip to Rs 1800.15 crore in the corona virus.

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Affected financial year. The government has almost doubled the sports budget since then. India is reportedly the most populous country in the world. Despite its large population, the government has often been questioned for its lack of adequate and sustainable investment in the sports sector. In the last decade, while sports budget allocation in India has grown significantly, it is minimal compared to developed nations such as the UK, the US, Japan, and Australia. India sports budget for saw an 11% increase from last financial year. It reached crore this year. Out of which, Rs 1000 crore has been set aside just for the Khelo India project. If we analyse India current sports budget of crore for a population of more than 140 crore, this means every Indian is allocated Rs 24 per year for sports. When compared to leading sports nations such as the United Kingdom and Australia, India expenditures are significantly lower. The UK sports budget for 2022 23 was. Way forward: Khelo India While Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman did mention a word about sports in her budget speech, the budget fine print indicates that the focus is on boosting the Khelo India programme, which was started with the purpose of improving mass as well as youth participation in sports and promoting sporting excellence. Just in a year, the government has increased the fund for Khelo India the National Program for Development of Sports by more than 65%, from Rs 600 crore in FY23 to Rs 1,000 crore in FY24. The Khelo India programme aims to achieve the twin objectives of broadening the base of sports in the country and achieving excellence in sports. The government is hopeful that through such initiatives, a sports culture will be developed in the country. Whether these funds boost sporting infrastructure, talent development, and the overall ecosystem, will depend on how they are allocated and spent. While the government is clear that it wants to reap the benefits of sports through its cross cutting influence, such as gender equality and national integration, it would be best for India sport development and future sporting excellence if grassroots infrastructure and women in sports receive more funds from this allocated outlay. Mega event push The government aims to organise three national level Khelo India Games the Khelo India Youth Games, the Khelo India University Games, and the Khelo India Winter Games in 2023 24 **with** a total of over 10,000 participants, hoping to provide a robust competitive platform to encourage talented athletes across the country. The larger aim is to get a 3% increase in the number of records (national records and/or games records) broken during the national event. The target of over 50 women competitions with over 12,000 participants and a 20% increase in the number of athletes from extremism affected and other disturbed areas participating in events will promote inclusion through sports. A clear reflection of this approach is that in FY24, the government increased the budget for the enhancement of sports facilities.

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Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity J&K Police described an inter-state and transnational terrorist module it recently cracked open as a 'white-collar terror ecosystem'. In counterterrorism vocabulary, this is an expression both seemingly novel and unsettling because for decades, Bihar's Muslim electorate was front and centre of focus in electoral politics, the so-called 'M vote' both JDU's and RJD's base. But the 2025 election saw a shift during campaigning, enthusiasm in By Partha Sinha Kali is not a goddess carved in stone. She is the logic of decay wearing a garland of skulls. She is entropy, disguised as divinity. Where others promise salvation through order, Kali Islamabad blaming India and Afghanistan for terrorism on its own soil is laughable. Pakistan continues to live in a state of delusion. After a suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court claimed the lives of 12 He sounds keen on a trade deal now, but it's in India's interest to wait for US Supreme Court order on his tariffs After delays, disappointments and a brief falling out, the India-US trade deal New weapons of 'mass' destruction There was much buzz last week over weight-reducing drug Mounjaro becoming No. 1 pharma brand, outselling infection-reducing Augmentin. This not only knocks inches off its exultant users but now made one, security forces have busted many Islamist terror networks, arresting 80-plus this year. Two, no counterintelligence is fool proof. Three, Pakistan's jihad puppeteers may again look to create mayhem in India outside Kashmir. Four, this tactic as frequent as elections are in India, some are bigger and juicier. In that the themes resonate across the country, the contest is tight, and a measure of the national mood is on tap India by Sanjay Teotia Pollution has become one of the most alarming threats to both human health and the environment in the twenty-first century. While its effects on the lungs, heart and climate are widely discussed, Trump declares war on a city for something that took place 269 years ago Donald Trump in the Oval Office. Enter secretary of war, Pete Hegseth. Trump: Wassup Pete? You're looking as grouchy as a Voting done, the state shows again its high political awareness despite its low per capita income & underdevelopment For a state that has seen 23 politicians become CM over 37 tenures central rule and The people of Bihar just **finished** voting and once again, they showed how smart they are about politics, even though their state is not very rich or developed. Bihar has had 23 chief ministers Emerging link of doctors from J&K to Delhi blast points to indoctrination of white collar professionals More than a day has passed since a car blew up outside Delhi's Red Fort in the evening rush 65% of households have a migrant. Their remittances are 50% of a household's income. Outmigration tripled Bihar's rural wages, ending exploitative relations. Manufacturing employs just 5%. And it's impossible for the state to create enough Climate meat in Brazil as govts and corporations are retreating from mitigation pledges. This would be disastrous and create a poorer & dangerous world. Developing nations must act for their own sake By Pratiksha Apurv What would happen if all the smartphones on the planet were shut down for 24 hours? What would that day feel like no voice calls, messages, or access to social media But all too often, none is forthcoming I walked back from the park wi

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Kamala After the Delhi car blast, govt's priority should be to make people feel safe If the deadly blast outside Red Fort yesterday evening turns out to have a terrorist's hand behind it, it will be The Tirupati fake ghee case is a scary tale of how 'milk' suppliers cream public That a cheat in Uttarakhand passed off a synthetic concoction as ghee to one of India's most venerated temples in A scary story of fake ghee and how some people fool everyone Imagine finding out that the ghee used in the famous Tirupati laddoos wasn't real ghee at all but made of chemicals! That's (November 14, 2025) What's in a name: Indian, Hind Or Hindi? Zohran Mamdani, the first person of Indian origin to be elected as mayor of New York, in his victory speech, quoting Jawaharlal Nehru's famous 'Tryst with Destiny' speech, categorically expressed his commitment to reject the western paradigm of power politics and promote transformative and positive social action a typically Indian notion. According to Jawaharlal Nehru, the correct term to refer to everything commonly termed as 'Indian' is the word 'Hind', or 'Hindi', which is the shortened form of 'Hindustani'. He upheld that In the countries of Western Asia, in Iran and Turkey, in Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, and elsewhere, India has always been referred to and is still called Hind; and everything Indian is called Hindi. In the US and Europe, the relatively recent term 'Indian' is used to refer to our country, its culture, or the historical continuity of our varied traditions. The advantage of using the terms 'Hind' or 'Hindi', Nehru argued, was that this usage was a-religious, that is, it had nothing to do with religion. A Muslim or a Christian can be as much a 'Hind' or 'Hindi' as persons who follow Hinduism. However, he was fully aware that the word 'Hindi' has become associated in India with a particular script, the Devanagari script of Sanskrit and so it has become difficult to use it in its larger and more natural significance. He hoped that when present-day controversies subside, we may revert to its original and more satisfying use. Nehru realised that modern science does not help in moments of existential crisis, when we are faced with real-life dilemmas; when we are tortured by the conflict of duties. It is because Science explains phenomena in the material world and tells **us nothing about the purpose and meaning of life. A study of the humanities in general and philosophy in particular enlightens us about the crisis we face in our political, social, religious, and economic spheres, especially in our spiritual lives. Nehru regarded 'Hind or Hindi' thinking as much superior to philosophies that originated in other parts of the world. So, Nehru was very curious to find out the nature and scope of 'Hind or Hindi' culture, religion, philosophy, metaphysics, mysticism and spirituality. In his Discovery of India, Nehru categorically wrote, If i were asked under what sky the human mind has most fully developed some of its choicest gifts, has most deeply pondered over the greatest problems of life, and has found solutions of some of them which well deserve the attention even of those who have studied Plato and Kant i should point to India. He upheld that Indian philosophy is living philosophy as it answers the problems of today. Nehru was deeply influenced by writings of Bertrand Russell, Lenin, and also**

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In Jammu and Kashmir to Rs 15 crore from the existing Rs 5 crore. This scheme is an important tool for the promotion of peace and development in the region. The budget will be used to upgrade sports infrastructure and facilities in Jammu and Kashmir. While the government initiatives augur well for the growth of sports infrastructure in the country, a renewed focus is required for non student rural youth, who, at present, are engaged through community based youth clubs. Similarly, while the allocation of Rs 13 crore for the National Centre of Sports Science and Research is commendable, the government should allocate 10X, and attract more investment to match the expenditures made by developed countries to instill a sports culture that promotes healthy living and an active lifestyle, and ensures that excellence is achieved by design. The aim to establish over 1,000 sports centers is also a welcome step. It was also a good move to provide funds directly to the National Anti Doping Agency, ensuring sporting integrity is well maintained in India under independent supervision. This will also help the Sports Authority of India (SAI), our apex national sports body, focus on its core purpose of elite athlete training and management for sporting excellence. Sports inclusion also means giving support to our Para athletes. The government aims for 20% more Para athletes in Para sports disciplines, which will require a more nuanced approach and provide our special athletes with the requisite infrastructure. Social infra is critical While the plans to monetise infrastructure like sports stadiums may bring in more competition, existing bodies like the SAI, which were set up with the aim of providing infrastructure and equipment support, coaching, and other facilities, can be further strengthened. Another welcome move in the budget is the Rs 100 crore grants for the National Sports University, established by the enactment of the National Sports University Act, 2018. The first of its kind in the country, it focuses on high standard infrastructure for the development of sports sciences and athletes training. At the same time, it important that we have well qualified professionals running sports institutions. While the government should keep increasing the sports budget, it should also consider incentivising the participation of private sector companies in developing sports infrastructure. Many private bodies, such as Reliance Jio, JSW Foundation, and Herbalife, are promoting athletes and sports, either in collaboration with the **government** or individually. Furthermore, the government needs to ensure that the sports infrastructure is easily accessible to people of all socio economic backgrounds. Under the Fit India Movement, SAI stadium facilities are available to non SAI coaches to train their wards. However, such facilities are not many to meet the purpose of making India truly pursue a healthy & active lifestyle. What is required is to develop at least one all round sports facility in every district headquarters in India, accessible for all. Such steps will go a long way in not only helping the development of sports in the country.

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But also in creating job opportunities and guiding India to emerge as a sporting global superpower. Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink this predicament of the sailors in Samuel Taylor Coleridge famous poem is a portent to our collective futures; one with little to no access to safe water. In 2019, Chennai, a city that receives twice London average annual rainfall at 1,400 mm, had to meet its water needs by trucking in 10 million liters of water a day. The 2018 drinking water crisis in Queen of Hills Shimla made international headlines when policemen were deployed on the ground to manage water distribution. The NITI Aayog 2018 Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) depicts an unsettling picture of macro water availability in India despite being home to 17% of the world population; it has only 4% of the world freshwater resources. The total water demand in India is projected to increase by 22% and 32% in 2025 and 2050 respectively and, by 2050, 85% of this demand is expected to come from industrial and domestic sectors alone. Among the regions, the south and the northwest are expected to face the worst in next two years. About two lakh people die every year due to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene and ~820 million Indians living in twelve river basins across the country have per capita water availability close to or lower than 1000m³, the official threshold for water scarcity as per the Falkenmark Index. To address this looming water crisis and ensure water security, it is imperative to devise a holistic urban water management system that can help balance biodiversity by protecting and restoring the health of waterways and wetlands, mitigate flood risk and damage, provide for sustainable and resilient communities, promote sustainable development goals (SDGs), and address the needs of the last person in the queue. Some of the solutions available to this end include: Rejuvenation / conservation of water bodies: Replenishing and restoring the health of natural water bodies and wetlands is the single most effective way of securing a safe source of water. Cities, like Bangalore, have 210 lakes, covering 3,622 acres with a capacity of 35,000 million ft³. Long term efforts such as Namami Gange are also bearing fruits. However, for more localized solutions, it is important that traditional water storage structures such as vavs and baolis are rejuvenated and maintained. Rainwater harvesting: **India** receives bountiful rains last Monsoon; India received 925 mm rainfall in just four months. A part of the immense potential to create sources of water through rainwater harvesting is being realized as on February 2, 2023, more than 1.19 million water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures have been constructed across India. Government initiatives: In the past few years, the progress towards providing piped water supply and last mile delivery of water has been stupendous. The one of its kind Jal Jeevan Mission supplied tap water to 10.64 crore 55% households in rural India until November 2022 and more than 15.

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It was part of aspirational continental food in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata from the 1950s till well into the 1990s. It continues to be part of big fat shaadi menus even when dished out in steel dongas by the neighbourhood halwai. And of late it is in the news again. Russian Salad, arguably one of India favourite salad, has been the subject of much social media scorn, ire and memes as Russia war on Ukraine continues. A café in Kerala even announced that it is taking it off the menu. But this cancel culture with food is misdirected, with every dish being a product of diverse influences. First things first. The stodgy mayo slathered Russian Salad is not some bastardised Indian restaurant invention on the lines of gobi manchurian. In its present form, it is quite a Soviet era food for the proletariat, that was served in state run canteens all over the Soviet bloc as a convenient dish that could be mass assembled from canned ingredients and bottled sauce, as the state cultivated the culture and image of the hard working Soviet woman in its farms and factories in opposition to the American domestic goddesses of the 1950s and 1960s, with the family at the heart of capitalism, as a 1988 Los Angeles Times piece, *Women Stayed At Home During The Cold War* postulated. Canned products and factory produced sauces mayonnaise made from sunflower oil saved time on domesticity and thus the version of the Russian salad in our midst today it is popular the world over in countries as varied as Greece and Turkey, Iran and Spain besides almost all of eastern and central Europe is certainly a working class dish particularly suited to restaurants and mass caterings. Like many other foods, including our own biryani, it began its journey at the opposite end of the social spectrum, though, as food for the elite. The lofty salad Olivier was supposedly concocted by a cook in Tsarist Russia in the 19th century at Moscow Hermitage restaurant. Expensive ingredients such as grouse, smoked duck, capers and olives a product of southern Europe, not the frigid north were used in a dressing that resembles the southern European aioli an emulsion of olive oil and garlic often also incorporating egg yolks . But after the Russian revolution, as the aristocrats fled, the Olivier started using cheaper ingredients chicken or potatoes instead of grouse, gherkins instead of capers or pickled dill, peas instead of olives and so on. It is often a vegetarian salad, sometimes with the addition of cheap sausage, and a New Year special in many Slavic regions. But it reached its gastronomic nadir as also got a new lease of life as mass food in the Soviet canteens of yore, where it could be assembled from canned vegetables manufactured in state factories, and slathered in industrial mayonnaise made with sunflower oil. It is not by accident that mayonnaise defines Russian food even today the country is reputed to be the.

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Only in the world where industrial mayo is consumed more than industrial ketchup The Cold War influenced food and culture of the world in complex ways. If Russian Salad became popular as a convenience food all over Europe and in America before finding its way to Indian restaurants, so did other dishes. All these innovations impacted what we now dub the globalisation of the palate. The American image of women cooking wholesome food from scratch at home as an opposition to the Soviet stereotype had several ramifications. Innovation in and sale of cooking appliances went up for one, first in America, then Western Europe and elsewhere. Then, there were indirect effects: War veterans returning home from Europe meant a spurt in awareness of and fashion for French and Italian food and drink. Food columns, cookery books and TV shows detailing how to cook many of these grew; Julia Child became a cult, as did French food in the US, paving way for its recognition as the most influential global cuisine in the world. In the decades that followed, in the 1960s and 1970s, many of these dishes and fashions arrived in elite Indian restaurants too. Though McDonald that had kick started the chain restaurant enterprise, with hot dogs hamburger popular with World War II soldiers as the centerpiece, would only arrive in India post liberalisation. The Cold War neatly coincided with the years between Partition and liberalisation for India and Indian restaurants. These years saw the establishment and growing popularity of food that was clearly different from pre Independence past. In the aftermath of the Partition, many Punjabi and Sindhi immigrants set up restaurants in New Delhi as well as then Calcutta and Mumbai. The food these served was a mishmash of tandoori, bastardised Mughlai, Anglo Indian of the erstwhile colonial masters, as also the new Continental of the new world order. Restaurants such as Volga in Delhi, Mocambo and Peter Cat in Kolkata, all of which opened in the 1950s, served not just the Russian Salad or crab salad, another Soviet era invention, using chopped up crabsticks and canned sweet corn these went into the Indian Chinese staple Sweet Corn Soup too, also a popular recipe of this time, but also the Chicken Kiev and Stroganoff, highly fashionable as European food in America by the 1960s. In the wake of the Russian war on Ukraine, the western media **has** pointedly been using the Ukrainian spelling Kyiv instead of the Soviet Kiev, but Mocambo Nitin Kothari has refused to rename the iconic dish on his menu and change its spelling. Supposed to be based on an imperial dish of the 19th century using fattened poultry, Chicken Kiev, according to the Calvert Journal that documents Eastern European culture and food, was well known in menus of the Soviet era in tourist for tourists restaurants these menus had warnings against staining your clothes with the oozing butter . American and European diplomats who tried it were clearly smitten and took it with.

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Them to dining capitals of the West, from where it spread to Kolkata and Delhi. When the dish made its appearance as a Marks & Spencer ready to eat dish in 1979, its western was complete. Then, there is the Stroganoff. Again, a dish whose origin is usually traced to Imperialist Russia, it was nevertheless well known in Shanghai then known as the Paris of the East in the 1920s. As Russian immigrants reached the US post the revolution, it appeared on elite menus such as New York Russian Tea Room founded by members of the Imperial ballet in 1927. But its popularity soared only in the aftermath of World War II with American interest in ethnic foods at an all time high. Returning war veterans came back with a taste and yen for the global, even if the recreation became kitsch. Now concocted with canned mushroom soup, served on a bed of rice, with the addition of factory made tomato and often soy sauce to it, Stroganoff became this hybrid European Chinese American dish of dubious provenance. That how it reached us in India at our old favorites in Connaught Place and Park Street, to be eaten with chilled beer and dreams of sophistication. Health equity means every person has equal opportunity to remain healthy and no one is disadvantaged by their income, social position, location, or other circumstances to get the best healthcare available. The absence of high quality healthcare solutions during unprecedented times like the pandemic, or even during more normal times with accidents, natural disasters, and environmental factors puts people at risk. In many nations, access to health care is dictated by many factors, including affordability of services and proximity to healthcare facilities. Fundamentally, healthcare is a human right and all people should have access to it. Data from the National Health Profile NHP shows that in India there is only one government employed allopathic doctor for every 10,189 people and one state run hospital for every 90,343 people. The number of hospital beds per thousand people in India 0.5 is lower than some of the other emerging market countries such as Bangladesh 0.87, Kenya 1.4, and Chile 2.1. These figures are a cause for concern. A glaring spotlight illuminated the lack of hospital beds and resources in April 2021 as the healthcare system was overwhelmed with COVID 19 patients. Unfortunately, even when the limitation **in** hospital infrastructure is not national news, it still has an effect on people ability to access healthcare. While India is known for being the world pharm capital, its unequal healthcare system has created a situation where the wealthy have access to some of the best care in the world, and the impoverished have limited options. According to Oxfam India Inequality Report 2021, constant underfunding of the public healthcare system in the last decade has worsened health infrastructure, not improved it even as India becomes wealthier. The lack of health equity has been a major problem for a long time with.

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Well for education and awareness activities on diseases that are prevalent in the population. The private healthcare sector also has a big role to play, especially in combination with another of India strengths in the IT sector. Telehealth and other remote healthcare solutions are an extremely effective intervention to improve access to high quality care. Understanding community needs, focusing on education and awareness, and finding disruptive solutions in healthcare delivery is the way of the future in India. Fortunately, our healthcare system is now on the verge of a revolutionary shift, triggered by an unfortunate pandemic. Our response to COVID 19 is a stark reminder to us about the urgent need of making healthcare equitable in India. We can achieve health equity for all by working together and focusing on the most vulnerable among us. After all, healthcare is a fundamental human right. Ababa what to tell you Yesterday the Mister is reading newspaper and saying, Than, and shaking his head from left to right and right to left like pendulum in wall clock. I am asking him what the issue is. It seems our neighbor is making too much complaint and protest and all such things. No, no not the neighbor in our colony, but our neighboring country. Why Because it seems suddenly somebody from our side is sending rocket into their side and they are asking, Oye, what is the meaning of this And our people are saying, Airy it is by mistake , and those people are not believing and they are jumping about as if red ants are biting them Why all this amahs for one missile misfiring Why they are not understanding People at rocket office are simply getting up one morning and saying, today we will fire rocket, or what, like Kalama is getting up in the morning and saying, today I will make dose Aiyyo tchah, it is genuine mistake, ok They are doing maintenance work of rocket and little bit confusion is there with On and Off switch; something they are pressing by mistake and booosh missile is taking off These things are possible, no All people are making such mistakes, even worse sometimes, on daily basis, why to blame those poor fellows, even if they are big big scientists with double degrees and all Look at my Mister now So much high education and big position he is holding in **his** company but I have to be full alert when we are going somewhere. While entering main door, it is written clearly in big letters PUSH, but he will 100% pull and pull and pull. And I am standing behind him and saying, Are baba you have to push, but by that time, door handle is coming off in his hand and he is losing balance with the force. Kalama is already loaded with heavy purse and shopping bag and other luggage and I am in full confusion whether to carry one more extra weight of the Mister or simply step.

Word Count: 497, Character Length: 2813 characters

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The COVID 19 pandemic, more people than ever before are aware of what their healthcare needs and rights are, paving the way for improvements in health equity. Health eamarquity in India In India, social inequality is shaped by socioeconomic status, geography, class, religion, caste, gender, and sexuality. In general, Southern states are better off compared to Northern states in terms of human development. Despite the improvements in healthcare in India, true equity remains a long way off. Health equity is important in India because the existing health care infrastructure has always been centered on those who can pay. There 2 types of healthcare private and government with vastly different services and level of quality, meaning that the access to healthcare is not equal. Even if we set aside healthcare is a fundamental human right, the cost to society of unequal healthcare is high. If people wait until the last minute before getting care, they are generally much sicker and require a much more expensive intervention. The direct costs of this are obvious in terms of needing higher cost hospital services, but also the indirect costs with respect to the human cost should not be overlooked. When people are diagnosed at a critical stage, the recovery takes longer so they are out of the workforce for longer. Chronic diseases like diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease COPD, or sleep apnea are diagnosed later, delaying treatment, resulting in a lack of productivity and a shorter lifespan. These direct and indirect costs quickly add up taking a heavy toll on society. Managing the health of 1.3 billion people is complex, but there is much we can do to change the lack of healthcare equity in India. This includes improving hospital and clinic infrastructure and looking at non infrastructure based interventions like telehealth, channel non governmental resources in the most disadvantaged areas, and engaging with people to encourage them to prioritize their health. When it comes to the general population, education is essential in building awareness around chronic diseases and the importance of early diagnosing. The need to increase advocacy around healthcare issues, address the challenges in improving access to healthcare, and building capacity in different communities is a must at local, regional, and national levels. Probable Solutions Good healthcare should be available at affordable prices and access should extend outside of bigger cities. There are four things to focus on when a country **is** trying to achieve health equity: one is ensuring access to primary care, especially maternal and childcare, second is increasing education and awareness around specific diseases and the value of early diagnosing, third is finding innovative or disruptive ways to improve access to healthcare without needing costly infrastructure projects like tale health, and fourth is working directly in underserved areas to craft hyper local solutions to fit their unique needs. Primary Health Centers, which are already found in many parts of rural India, can be improved by adding to the quality and services offered. These can be great community outreach points.

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Haj, the pilgrimage to Mecca, is a profound act of worship in Islam. It is obligatory only for those in good health and who can afford the journey. Those who are indigent, sick, or disabled are excused from this duty. To perform Haj, a pilgrim leaves their home and travels to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. Upon entering Mecca, the pilgrim first goes to the Kaaba to perform the Tawas, which is the circumambulation of the Kaaba. Next, the pilgrim performs SA if, a brisk walk between the two hillocks of Safe and Marwan. The rites also include a halt at the plain of Arafat, where pilgrims stand in prayer and reflection. Additionally, pilgrims cast stones at a pillar in Mina, symbolically stoning Satan. The culmination of these rituals is the sacrifice of an animal. These essential rites of Haj are performed during the month of Dhal Hijab, the twelfth month of the Islamic lunar calendar. What is Haj? It is a journey undertaken for God. It involves spending one time and wealth to reach those places associated with the memories of God and His true servants. All the rituals of Haj are a practical demonstration that a person is striving for God, centring his life on Him. Haj is akin to visiting the Almighty. It represents the highest form of nearness to one Lord during worldly life. If other acts of worship are reminders of God, Haj itself reaches directly to God. Haj has always held extraordinary significance among Islamic acts of worship. In one hadith, it is referred to as the most virtuous act of worship. It encompasses all acts of worship and invigorates all of them. However, its true importance lies in its spiritual essence, not merely in the external rituals and ceremonies. In other words, Haj is not just about going to the sacred land, performing certain rituals, and returning. Regarding the essence of Haj, the Quran states the pilgrimage is in the appointed months. Whoever intends to perform it during them must abstain from indecent speech, wicked conduct, and quarrelling while on the pilgrimage. Whatever good you may do, God is aware of it. Make provision for yourselves but surely, the best of all provision is God-consciousness. Always be mindful of me, you that are endowed with understanding. Whenever a few people gather or live together, some grievances inevitably arise. This situation **manifests** on a much larger scale during Haj as people of various kinds gather in vast numbers at a single location. Consequently, during Haj, people frequently cause discomfort to each other. If individuals start quarrelling over personal grievances, the spirit of worship would be lost, and the purpose of Haj would not be fulfilled. Therefore, quarrelling and losing one temper are strictly prohibited during Haj. This prohibition makes Haj a means of training for a significant aspect of life. Just as fighting nullifies Haj, it also distances a believer ordinary life from Islam. The writer was an Islamic scholar and founder, Centre for Peace and Spirituality International In 1973, Bunny and I were on a shoestring trip through Europe. In Rome we stayed at the least expensive accommodation we could find, Pensioned Katy. Our room could have passed muster as a walk-in closet. The bathroom was down the corridor. We had our meals at a nearby Tivoli Caldas Hot Table an eatery serving no-frills food at no-frills prices. On our first visit, the waiter asked, Vino? Wine in Italy being as much a part of a meal as food. Regretfully we shook our heads; our thri

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Of the Sabarmati Sent, but also aware of his principle of temperance. After that, each time we came in, he would greet us with cries of Gandhi and bring us a carafe of suitably abstemious water. In 1991 Bunny and I were in Moscow, which was basking in the morning sun of glasnost and perestroika, with Boris Yeltsin having succeeded Mikhail Gorbachev as the country president. We went to see a performance of Swan Lake. During the interval Bunny went to the washroom. The venerable lady attendant asked where she was from. When she heard India, her eyes glowed with a rapturous fervour. Gandhi She said and then, indicating her eyes, in halting English she continued in an awed voice When I was little girl, these eyes have seen him. In Buenos Aires in 2001 we were in a restaurant specialising in Argentina famous steaks. India? Said our server, having asked from where we were, Gandhi, yes? He asked us how we had liked our steaks, knowing the name but, unlike the Roman waiter, ignorant perhaps of the dietary dos and don s of the Mahatma and, by extension, those of his country folk. David Attenborough? Ben Kingsley? Don ring too many bells. Promise, large promise, is the soul of an advertisement, said Dr Johnson. But what happens when the projected promise is too large for the advertisement? Or, conversely, the advertisement too much for the promise? Say, a mega blockbuster movie is announced. The all-star cast is led by an icon of the industry whose face and name are indelibly imprinted on the collective public psyche by ever-recurring exposure through a blanket bombardment of advertisements, in the press, on TV, and kiosks and hoardings, for all products for all people, from pan masala to penthouse apartments, from A-class automobiles to Ayurveda treatment for piles (getting to the bottom of your problem). The screenplay for the film has been scripted by a writer whose inexplicable omission from the roster of winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature reveals a lamentable lack of discernment on the part of the judges. The musical score for the epic has been composed by a maestro who, had they been around today, would have given Hansen and Tchaikovsky a run for their melodious money. The director of the film has been hailed by critics as being a worthy successor not only to Satyajit Ray **and** Sergei Eisenstein, but also to Charlie Chaplin, the Marx Brothers and The Three Stooges. Finally, to a rising crescendo of drumrolls and clashing of cymbals, the long-awaited movie is released. As audiences stream out of the theatres their comments are solicited. I never actually saw the movie. I went to get popcorn in what I thought was the interval, and I saw everyone coming out, so I went home. I was too busy talking on my cell to Auntie about all the celebs who were there, to look at the screen. It was fantastic the best cure for insomnia ever invented. Sometimes too large a promise can turn advertisement into advertisement. As in, make people feel they vet had enough. The ballot box has once again proved to be a jack-in-the-box out of which pops many a surprise. Not a few have got their comeuppance. Rani I vet never understood why it should be called a comeuppance when it really a comedownance, in that it brings someone down from their pride of place. Anyway, I think the results are perfect, by and large. Perfect? How come? The NDA lot are disgruntled because they did get the thumping majority they had expected. And the INDIA guys are downcast because they

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Acting upon my human psyche I immediately framed myself into a similar situation and made a complete bulletproof plan to put into action if need be. I knew I would get swindled on the pretext of love because I am a middle class Indian student who has recently learnt that CTC and in hand salary is a lie, much like the credo of social media influencers they are both not uniformly divisible. So, I would at most send the fellow a GIF of Dec Bahia and laugh on being broke by capitalism. However, I bet the women and men who got conned by this up roaring cataclysmic love scam thought the same. 8 in 10 people who get conned are confident that they are too smart to be scammed And when judgments are clouded by feelings of trust, friendship and respect victims just feel like they are being supportive to the person they perceive to be someone special. Simon Levied and Anna Sorokin Delve are few televised stories of seamstress with massive coverage, all blanketed with brands, lavish lifestyles and gram worthy photos. You can leverage their fake identities from social media, right But, hey picture this a bespectacled 66 yr. old, 5ft 2inch, toothbrush mustache man in India conned 27 women, defrauded 13 banks in Kerala, 128 forged credit cards and swindled cores from women and families who trusted Ramesh Kaman Swain alias Bibful because of his government job Now being called the Desk Tinder Swindler, Mr. Swain from Bhubaneshwar, Odisha when caught had nothing but an innocent smile on his face. A puzzled squad of policemen was left speechless when they understood that the conman they had been chasing for 8 months was a little Indian man with auricular hyper. Many cases of romance fraud become a full fledged wedding affair in India and that is where Dolly Ki Dole makes an entry. But here, Tan may COSWAY had different plans when in 2018 he conned 8 women of Rs.1.5 crs with ease and charm using Matrimonial sites no less. Apparently a chunk of women hunting for husbands on matrimonial still tick off the boxes with Engineers and Doctors first Baaki Ram bharose. What next, Tanmay played his lone hand in Hyderabad, Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai overconfident that the women would not come ahead and report a case against his identity. As of 2021, romance scams **have** surged up to 80% higher than the previous year. It reached a record high of 1.3 Billion dollars in 2021.Data from the Federal Trade Commission FTC highlights that romance scams in the US cause higher losses compared to any other scam. A research from Pew, states that the Lockdown during the pandemic motivated many to explore online via social media or dating matrimonial sites to find someone to talk to and maybe more. A dark spectrum of tactics used to make you believe that you can should trust them in all aspects and financial help is after all only an.

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Centrism isn't "nostalgia" it is survival' rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity J&K Police described an inter-state and transnational terrorist module it recently cracked open as a 'white-collar terror ecosystem'. In "counterterrorism" vocabulary, this is an expression both seemingly novel and unsettling because for decades, Bihar's Muslim electorate was front and centre of focus in electoral politics, the so-called 'M vote' both JDU's and RJD's base. But the 2025 election saw a shift during campaigning, enthusiasm in By Partha Sinha Kali is not a goddess carved in stone. She is the logic of decay wearing a garland of skulls. She is entropy, disguised as divinity. Where others promise salvation through order, Kali Islamabad blaming India and Afghanistan for terrorism on its own soil is laughable. Pakistan continues to live in a state of delusion. After a suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court claimed the lives of 12 He sounds keen on a trade deal now, but it's in India's interest to wait for US Supreme Court order on his tariffs After delays, disappointments and a brief falling out, the India-US trade deal New weapons of 'mass' destruction There was much buzz last week over weight-reducing drug Mounjaro becoming No. 1 pharma brand, outselling infection-reducing Augmentin. This not only knocks inches off its exultant users but now made one, security forces have busted many Islamist terror networks, arresting 80-plus this year. Two, no counterintelligence is fool proof. Three, Pakistan's jihad puppeteers may again look to create mayhem in India outside Kashmir. Four, this tactic as frequent as elections are in India, some are bigger and juicier. In that the themes resonate across the country, the contest is tight, and a measure of the national mood is on tap India by Sanjay Teotia Pollution has become one of the most alarming threats to both human health and the environment in the twenty-first century. While its effects on the lungs, heart and climate are widely discussed, Trump declares war on a city for something that took place 269 years ago Donald Trump in the Oval Office. Enter secretary of war, Pete Huges. Trump: Wassup Pete? You're looking as grouchy as a Voting done, the state shows again its high political awareness despite its low per capita income & underdevelopment For a state that has seen 23 politicians become CM over 37 tenures central rule and The people of Bihar just **finished** voting and once again, they showed how smart they are about politics, even though their state is not very rich or developed. Bihar has had 23 chief ministers Emerging link of doctors from J&K to Delhi blast points to indoctrination of white collar professionals More than a day has passed since a car blew up outside Delhi's Red Fort in the evening rush 65% of households have a migrant. Their remittances are 50% of a household's income. Outmigration tripled Bihar's rural wages, ending exploitative relations. Manufacturing employs just 5%. And it's impossible for the state to create enough Climate meat in Brazil as govts and corporations are retreating from mitigation pledges. This would be disastrous and create a poorer & dangerous world. Developing nations must act for their own sake By Pratiksha Apurv What would happen if all the smartphones on the planet were shut down for 24 hours? What would that day feel like no voice calls, messages, or access to social media But all too often, none is forthcoming.

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I walked back from the park with a posse of "neighbourhood" ladies, all giggling and talking to me simultaneously like the panelists on a news hour debate. Kamala After the Delhi car blast, govt's priority should be to make people feel safe If the deadly blast outside Red Fort yesterday evening turns out to have a terrorist's hand behind it, it will be The Tirupati fake ghee case is a scary tale of how 'milk' suppliers cream public That a cheat in Uttarakhand passed off a synthetic concoction as ghee to one of India's most venerated temples in A scary story of fake ghee and how some people fool everyone Imagine finding out that the ghee used in the famous Tirupati laddoos wasn't real ghee at all but made of chemicals! That's (November 14, 2025) What's in a name: Indian, Hind Or Hindi? Zohran Mamdani, the first person of Indian origin to be elected as mayor of New York, in his victory speech, quoting Jawaharlal Nehru's famous 'Tryst with Destiny' speech, categorically expressed his commitment to reject the western paradigm of power politics and promote transformative and positive social action a typically Indian notion. According to JawaharlalNehru, the correct term to refer to everything commonly termed as 'Indian' is the word 'Hind', or 'Hindi', which is the shortened form of 'Hindustani'. He upheld that In the countries of Western Asia, in Iran and Turkey, in Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, and elsewhere, India has always been referred to and is still called Hind; and everything Indian is called Hindi. In the US and Europe, the relatively recent term 'Indian' is used to refer to our country, its culture, or the historical continuity of our varied traditions. The advantage of using the terms 'Hind' or 'Hindi', Nehru argued, was that this usage was a-religious, that is, it had nothing to do with religion. A Muslim or a Christian can be as much a 'Hind' or 'Hindi' as persons who follow Hinduism. However, he was fully aware that the word 'Hindi' has become associated in India with a particular script, the Devanagari script of Sanskrit and so it has become difficult to use it in its larger and more natural significance. He hoped that when present-day controversies subside, we may revert to its original and more satisfying use. Nehru realised that modern science does not help in moments of existential crisis, when **we** are faced with real-life dilemmas; when we are tortured by the conflict of duties. It is because Science explains phenomena in the material world and tells us nothing about the purpose and meaning of life. A study of the humanities in general and philosophy in particular enlightens us about the crisis we face in our political, social, religious, and economic spheres, especially in our spiritual lives. Nehru regarded 'Hind or Hindi' thinking as much superior to philosophies that originated in other parts of the world. So, Nehru was very curious to find out the nature and scope of 'Hind or Hindi' culture, religion, philosophy, metaphysics, mysticism and spirituality. In his Discovery of India, Nehru categorically wrote, If i were asked under what sky the human mind has most fully developed some of its choicest gifts, has most deeply pondered over the greatest problems of life, and has found solutions of some of them which well deserve the attention even of those who have studied Plato and Kant i should point to India. He upheld that Indian philosophy is living philosophy as it answers the problems of today. Nehru was deeply influenced

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Us thing and will get resolved soon There is no answer to why he she broke my heart and my bank balance. But, I am sure people come out of it with a better sense of humor if not a longer moratorium period. And I am no expert in the concept of the heart or Anup Soni from Crime Patrol, but I just want to say avdhan Rahe, Satark Rahe. The evolution of money is interesting, starting with the exchange of goods to coins and paper money, and now digital currency. However, the basic features of money are always the same. It is used to store assets, can be used as an exchange and serves as an accounting unit. Today, the concept of Central Bank Digital Currency gained a lot of attention and interest around the world and Federal banks are now exploring and assessing opportunity is a digital form of fiat currency issued by a central bank and is equivalent to fiat currency. A study by the Bank for International Settlements in 2021 revealed that 86% of central banks around the world were actively researching opportunities for CBDCs, 60% were experimenting with related technologies, and 14% were deploying experimental projects. In a recent speech, the Deputy Governor highlighted India long awaited position and the need for in India. While these debates and considerations continue, we present our point of view outlining how retail can impact lives. I would like to bring to the attention of readers that the purview of this article has been limited to only the retail aspect of and not wholesale. First, let us understand what retail serves is as a digital fiat currency format intended for the general public and to be used to make financial transactions for day to day operations. Typically, CBDC exchange is based on Distributed Ledger Technology similar to a government funded private block chain network that helps track transactions anonymously. It also helps to reduce the involvement of the private parties, thereby preventing any illegal activity, such as money laundering or fraud. The CBDC can be delivered directly to the people by a Federal Bank. Alternatively, Retail CBDC can be issued to intermediaries which can be public private banks who then offer the same as fiat money. Benefits of CBDC in the context of Retail Direct beneficiary transfer are a great way to ensure that money spent on programs **and** schemes by the government reach recipients directly and are used for their intended purpose only. The Federal Bank can pay the recipients of the pre arranged agencies and will, otherwise, be rejected. LPG agencies can convert this into a common purpose or fiat money to any commercial bank, which may have the required consent to modify the CBDC type. Such grants can also be extended to other sectors such as agriculture, where fertilizer subsidies can be transferred through the Cross border remittance can be used for quick cross border payments. International cooperation between major world economies, including India, could help.

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Create the necessary structure and agreements for the transfer and exchange of the CBDC. In such a delivery can take place in real time, reducing the time needed for the disbursement to be received by the proposed beneficiary. Furthermore, the emergence itself evolves. As a cooperative that is neutral and currency agnostic, with a reach across institutions in more any future evolution of money and experiment involving a cross border transaction between a platforms. Being an integral part of the financial services will play a critical role in supporting its members as begins to transform the and scape. Will be used for making payments. The distributed by the RBI and commercial banks will be held in e wallets by end users. This would enable payments between consumers to consumers or to a business where an exchange of between their wallets can will enable wallet creation directly with which is unprecedented. This will have a direct impact on to build a history with the and eventually will help them get loans and access to other financial products directly from the Central Bank. Additionally will allow for instant lending to opt for stimulus distribution by the Federal Bank. Furthermore, tracking can help prove their creditworthiness. However, it would be worthwhile to see if RBI will go down this path and risk disinter mediating legacy banking considers a real life scenario in which smart contracts can be used effectively. Suppose you are at the airport, and your flight is delayed an insurance company, provides flight delay insurance utilizing smart contracts. So, how do they compensate you in case there is a flight delay The smart contract is linked to the database recording flight status. The smart contract is created based on terms and conditions. The condition set for the insurance policy is a delay of two hours or more. Based on the code, the smart contract holds money until that certain condition is met. The smart contract is submitted to the nodes on a runtime compiler to execute the smart contract code for evaluation. All the nodes on the network executing the code must come to the same result. That result is recorded on the distributed ledger. If the flight is delayed more than two hours, the smart contract self executes, and you are compensated. Smart contracts are immutable; no one may alter the agreement. Using it makes the transactions traceable, transparent, **and** irreversible. In conclusion the fear of exclusion is the biggest. In a country like India, where over half a billion people still use nomad phones, it is important to ensure that is not relegated to a few with technological know how. Furthermore, the success of will be dependent on the inclusion of people from lower socio economic groups in the country. If we want the ecosystem to be sustainable, we need to address a variety of issues and make the work as an inclusion tool. We need to solve problems by innovating, such as in the case of offline payments.

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Russia attack on Ukraine took the world by surprise, including many foreign affairs experts. Though a conflict had brewed for a while, nobody expected a full blown military offensive on Ukraine, including on its capital Kyiv. In 2022, actually it was almost impossible to imagine a sovereign nation attack another like this. Now the world is horrified and mesmerised. News channels are covering this war non stop. Social media is flooded with videos, opinions and countless memes. There seems to be a general condemnation of Russia, particularly from the Western countries, for this unprovoked attack that threatens world security. There are also sanctions against Russia, some quite severe. Yet, Ukraine fights this war alone, facing a far stronger, nuclear armed enemy. The accidental launch of an IAF Brahms supersonic cruise missile that landed 124 km inside Pakistan is one of those accidents everyone wants never to happen, especially in the context of nuclear armed neighbors. The missile was inadvertently launched during a training and maintenance exercise near an air force base. That the missile was tipped with a warhead and that there was no loss of lives are what saved the situation. But, bear in mind that there are no way Pakistani authorities could have known that the missile was unarmed. Had their air defence systems picked up the BrahMos, they could have easily judged it as a hostile attack and retaliated. Plus, the reaction time in the event of missile launches between the two neighbours is only a matter of minutes. This makes conflict escalation a real danger. What is baffling here is that the accident happened with much tested BrahMos, which has been in service for many years now. And the missile launch system comes with multiple mechanical and electronic locks. Therefore, either these locks were accidentally bypassed by operators during the training exercise or there was a serious technical malfunction. Both are extremely worrying. If human error is to blame, then the operational, command and control procedures must be reviewed. On the other hand, a technical glitch of this nature will cast doubts over the weapon system itself, especially at a time when India is looking to export Brahms to countries like the Philippines. True, a court of inquiry has been ordered to determine the chain of events that led to the mishap. But responsibility needs to be fixed and heads must roll if required. The **seriousness** of this incident demands that IAF inquiry pulls no punches. The other point to note is that despite their history of hostility, India and Pakistan do not have robust risk reduction protocols or mechanisms to deal with such mishaps. This is something that New Delhi and Islamabad must look into now. Maunder standings have happened elsewhere. In 1983, during the height of the Cold War, the nuclear early warning radar of the Soviet Union reported the launch of intercontinental ballistic missiles from the Luckily, World War III was prevented because Soviet officer Stanislaw Petro rightly judged the warning to be.

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Lakh women were trained for testing water quality through field test kits. Digital interventions: Technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and Internet of Things Iota can help in flood prediction, rain forecasting, detecting water leakages, treating wastewater and harvesting rainwater. AI tools are capable of analyzing the data from recycling plants and suggesting ways to reduce energy consumption up to 30, contributing to overall sustainable practices. Stemming groundwater depletion: Since agriculture utilizes the majority of groundwater, the World Bank has been supporting innovative projects targeted at the agrarian communities. These include Atal Bhujal Yojana, the world largest community led groundwater management program and Paani Bachao, Paisa Kamao in Punjab that resulted in water savings between 6 and 25 without any adverse effect on the yield. With states like West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Assam and Manipur among others reporting high levels of arsenic in the groundwater, efforts for decontamination would also have to become part of the plan. There is no doubt that the problem of water scarcity is one of environment, population, governance, health and well being. Having to walk long distances and stand in long lines every day, 163 million people across the country continue to live without clean water close to their homes and 0.2 million people die every year due to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene. The population concentration is disproportionately high in Indian cities, 30 of which, according to the World Wide Fund for Nature WWF, stare at a grave water risk. Given the seriousness and complexity of the problem, policymakers must therefore employ systems thinking an approach that can create an ecosystem for innovation that develops big picture perspective, focuses on opportunities in a problem, and fosters adaptation amid rapidly evolving environments. There is no doubt that greater involvement of communities can heavily alter the outcome of urban water management solutions. At the same time, funding such programs can meet a roadblock, especially in the wake of the devastating impacts of the pandemic. Therefore, fostering public private partnerships PPP that can work by engaging communities, funders, corporate stakeholders and creating awareness will play a critical role in achieving the goal ahead. We are all justifiably proud of the strides we have made as a country over the last few years particularly with regards to gender disparity. However, there are still several issues that need to be addressed. One of the most pressing concerns is **the** need to enhance women healthcare in India, particularly when it comes to access to health insurance. According to data from the World Health Organization, India has a maternal mortality rate of 174 deaths per 100,000 live births, which is significantly higher than many other countries in the region. Around 50 million women in India suffer from reproductive health problems. Anaemia affects around 50 of women of reproductive age in India, leading to complications during pregnancy and childbirth. Also, breast cancer and cervical cancer remain the most common cancer among women in India. According to the National Health Profile 2019, there.

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False due to malfunctioning detection systems. Thus, it is high time India and Pakistan work out protocols that can prevent hostile responses to any kind of accident or false alarm. Prime Minister Narendra Modi strong pitch for police reforms during his Gujarat tour is workable only if state governments join his call for change. Policing is a state subject, limiting the Centre ability to force reforms. In a telling remark, Modi said: Even now, the perception about police is that one should stay away from them. The incentive for reform is missing because state governments often rely on police to do extracurricular jobs, including setting the course of politically sensitive cases. Political control is primarily achieved through dictating postings and transfers, which put extraneous pressures on officers. The Supreme Court 2006 guidelines for police reform in the Parkash Singh judgment are gathering cobwebs. There been no credible attempt to implement them. But there are now political costs in failing popular expectations on law and order. RJD in Bihar and SP in UP remain scarred by perceptions of greater lawlessness during their stints in office. Yogi Adityanath free hand to police to act against lawbreakers without being hampered by local party bigwigs, despite some allegations, worked electorally in his favor. Besides not meeting bare minimum yardsticks like functional autonomy for cops, nets are also depriving policing of qualitative improvements. Sexual offences, which need better forensics and sensitive handling of witnesses, have abysmally low conviction rates. Women suffer as a result. Rising cybercrimes demand that police must simultaneously upgrade both tech and physical interface to ease reporting of these crimes. The Status of Policing in India Report 2019 reveals that 44% cops work over 12 hours a day; one in two don get a weekly off day. Meanwhile, around 5.3 lakh sanctioned posts 20% lie vacant nationally. Such tough working conditions are amenable to fostering a humane or well trained police force. Unless politics changes, policing may not get the kind of reforms the PM spoke of. Decisions taken at the Congress Working Committee meeting on Sunday may offer a ray of hope to some, but not to this writer. It may be foolish to write an obituary of a political party almost twice older than India as a republic, but when the cure demands surgery, band aid won help. Electoral reversals are routine in democracies, but Congress has been witnessing a structural decline for at least three decades. The party leadership has yet not fully comprehended the depth of its organisation decline and ideational crisis. Congress not only shuns normal politics, but it takes a false moral high ground. Both mainstream and social media are full of bad language. Bad language not as in indelicate four letter words which ought to be used in polite company, but bad language as in the wrong use of everyday words. The other day there was a large ad in the newspaper for online degree courses being conducted under the aegis of a renowned Indian.

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Lucknow, often celebrated as the City of Tehzeeb, is admired for its rich cultural depth and timeless architectural charm. If recognized as a UNESCO Heritage Site, the city would stand as a global symbol of Indo-Islamic art, Nawabi traditions, and literary brilliance. The monumental structures such as Bara Imambara, Rumi Darwaza, and the historic Residency reflect the city's layered past, where creativity and resilience shaped every corner. Lucknow's streets echo with classical music, traditional craftwork, and the aroma of world-famous Awadhi cuisine, offering visitors a living museum of heritage. The city's cultural fabric blends poetry, etiquette, and craftsmanship in a way that very few places can. Its artisan communities preserve delicate handicrafts like chikankari and zardozi, keeping centuries-old techniques alive. Recognizing Lucknow as a UNESCO Heritage Site would not only honor its artistic legacy but also inspire future generations to protect history with pride. Such recognition would support sustainable tourism, cultural preservation, and global appreciation for the city's unique identity. Lucknow remains a shining example of how history, art, and humanity can coexist beautifully across time. He was also impressed by the apparent material achievements of Western nations, especially the Soviet Union and Europe. Thus convinced, he developed a rationalist, materialist, and humanist mindset. Nehru's rationalistic thinking out rightly rejected revelation as the source of religion. This thinking, in combination with his observation of religious practices, led him to conclude that religion inevitably results in superstitions, belief in the supernatural, bigotry, exploitation and preservation of vested interests, prejudice and dogmatic beliefs. Nehru argued that people who are slaves to dogma and dogmatic mentality cannot progress. Nehru ardently believed in promoting scientific temper, modern education, and industrialisation. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity There's no one in the driver's seat Dipak Dash is a Senior Assistant Editor with Times of India (Delhi). He covers road transport & highways, railways, housing & urban affairs, and food & consumer affairs ministries MORE In less than a month, six major road crashes involving buses and passenger vehicles four major ones in Rajasthan, Telangana and Andhra have claimed at least 70 lives. Last Dec a fatal crash on NH-48 near Jaipur of an LPG tanker carrier and a truck claimed 20 lives. It was a rare collision and the sheer impact and destruction prompted ministries of road transport and highways, and petroleum and natural gas to announce **corrective** steps. Similarly, the two recent bus fires in sleeper coach buses in Jaisalmer in Rajasthan and Kurnool in Andhra triggered a lot of debate on flouting of regulations and no monitoring of such buses carrying passengers at night. In each case, govt brass conceded multiple failures. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity mood or someone's incredible charisma. It's déjà vu for the opposition INDIA coalition that, after Haryana and Maharashtra, is again outpaced by an entrenched NDA incumbent. The defeat is another reminder for it to reinvent its template for increasingly bipolar By Surakshit Goswami The mind is skilled at holding on to sorrow, which is why most people are drawn to sad songs. Though songs are written about both

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For modern electrical engineering. His innovation was based on the idea that magnetic fields could be measured, controlled, and strengthened with greater accuracy than earlier scientists believed possible. Fairade spent long years testing coils, iron cores, rotating plates, and moving conductors to understand how magnetic lines passed through different materials. In his early experiments he noticed that a small change in current produced a large shift in magnetic behavior, and this observation became the foundation of his well-known flux control theory. By the late years of his research Fairade had designed a simple yet powerful model that explained how magnetic flux density could be increased without losing stability or efficiency. This model helped engineers build safer motors, stronger transformers, and more reliable measuring devices. His findings also supported the development of high speed generators used in heavy industries. Many students today study his principles to understand how energy conversion works inside modern machines. Michel Fairade believed that scientific progress must be shared, and he wrote long notes describing every test, every equation, and every correction. His relentless dedication inspired future researchers and proved that disciplined observation can transform even the smallest discovery into a major technological breakthrough. the mind wants to know how BJP-JDU can start changing Bihar's economic trajectory. Plus, lift the ban on booze What does NDA's massive win mean for Bihar's future? One key takeaway from BJP-JDU's seat haul is that it's clear the lapses of memory regarding old companions make for many delightful reunions. I keep forgetting old friends. These memory lapses, far from being something that I regret, are what is known as a felix culpa, Latin US lawmaker rides bike 1,532km to vote on ending shutdown. Would that all legislators showed such drive? Politicians rarely ride motorbikes, and the loss is entirely theirs. When sculptors immortalise today's heroes and Negroes in Worrying levels of child malnutrition in Maharashtra has HC worried. What about the government? Bombay HC has upbraided state govt for taking public health in this case child malnutrition extremely casually. HC was responding J&K Police described an inter-state and transnational terrorist module it recently cracked open as a 'white-collar terror ecosystem'. In counterterrorism vocabulary, this is an expression both seemingly novel and unsettling because for decades, Bihar's Muslim electorate was front and center of focus in electoral politics, the so-called 'M vote' both JDU's and RJD's base. But the 2025 election **saw** a shift during campaigning, enthusiasm in By Partha Sinha Kali is not a goddess carved in stone. She is the logic of decay wearing a garland of skulls. She is entropy, disguised as divinity. Where others promise salvation through order, Kali Islamabad blaming India and Afghanistan for terrorism on its own soil is laughable. Pakistan continues to live in a state of delusion. After a suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court claimed the lives of 12 He sounds keen on a trade deal now, but it's in India's interest to wait for US Supreme Court order on his tariffs After delays, disappointments and a brief falling out, the India-US trade deal New weapons of 'mass' destruction There was much buzz last week over weight-reducing drug Mounjaro becoming No. 1 pharma brand, outselling infection-reducing Augmentin.

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That meets their specific healthcare needs. Need for better awareness However, making health insurance more affordable will not automatically result in making women healthier. It is equally important to improve awareness of the benefits of health insurance among women in India. Many women are unaware of the benefits of health insurance and may not realize that it can help them access quality healthcare services when they need them most. Governments and insurers can work together to develop public awareness campaigns that educate women about the importance of health insurance and the specific benefits that it can provide. It is also important to ensure that women in India have access to quality healthcare services. This includes not only access to medical facilities and healthcare providers, but also access to necessary medications and treatments. By ensuring that women have access to the healthcare services they need, it will be easier for them to stay healthy and avoid serious health problems. Enhancing women healthcare in India is a crucial need of the hour, and requires a multifaceted approach. Technology, sex aware care, gender sensitive mental health services, collaboration, public private partnerships, women leaders in the healthcare workforce, better awareness and access to insurance and related healthcare facilities are all critical to driving change. Many are already working towards these goals; it is now time to bring them in synergy. We all know the women in our country don't just need it, they deserve it. The world has been experiencing a digital revolution since the past few years; however, only recently we have acknowledged its depth and contribution to healthcare. For instance, on a hot summer day, seven year old was playing on the terrace while his grandmother kept a watchful eye on him. He suddenly became unconscious while running around, leaving his grandmother in a frantic state. She immediately called his parents for help. Due to the spread of the pandemic in the city, his parents were wary of taking him to the doctor. Hence, they contacted his pediatrician over the phone and told him about his illness. The doctor, over the video call, diagnosed his condition. Additionally, based on the symptoms shared by his parents, the doctor figured out that the child was dehydrated because of the heat and wrote a prescription. He further asked them to update him on his condition after an hour. Thanks to teleconsultation, Akash got the **right** care at the right time. In another instance, a forty five year old, in the middle of the night suddenly had trouble breathing. Since she was alone at home, she could have driven to the nearest hospital. However, her smart watch sensed the distress and alerted the hospital, and the ambulance reached her doorstep within a few minutes to rescue her. The pandemic necessitated the re invention, re imagination, and transformation of the healthcare sector. Across the world, governments, healthcare organizations, and other stakeholders increasingly relied on digital solutions to combat the health emergency. Telemedicine, real time tracking and monitoring.

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False due to malfunctioning detection systems. Thus, it is high time India and Pakistan work out protocols that can prevent hostile responses to any kind of accident or false alarm. Prime Minister Narendra Modi strong pitch for police reforms during his Gujarat tour is workable only if state governments join his call for change. Policing is a state subject, limiting the Centre ability to force reforms. In a telling remark, Modi said: Even now, the perception about police is that one should stay away from them. The incentive for reform is missing because state governments often rely on police to do extracurricular jobs, including setting the course of politically sensitive cases. Political control is primarily achieved through dictating postings and transfers, which put extraneous pressures on officers. The Supreme Court 2006 guidelines for police reform in the Parkash Singh judgment are gathering cobwebs. There been no credible attempt to implement them. But there are now political costs in failing popular expectations on law and order. RJD in Bihar and SP in UP remain scarred by perceptions of greater lawlessness during their stints in office. Yogi Adityanath free hand to police to act against lawbreakers without being hampered by local party bigwigs, despite some allegations, worked electorally in his favor. Besides not meeting bare minimum yardsticks like functional autonomy for cops, nets are also depriving policing of qualitative improvements. Sexual offences, which need better forensics and sensitive handling of witnesses, have abysmally low conviction rates. Women suffer as a result. Rising cybercrimes demand that police must simultaneously upgrade both tech and physical interface to ease reporting of these crimes. The Status of Policing in India Report 2019 reveals that 44% cops work over 12 hours a day; one in two don get a weekly off day. Meanwhile, around 5.3 lakh sanctioned posts 20% lie vacant nationally. Such tough working conditions are amenable to fostering a humane or well trained police force. Unless politics changes, policing may not get the kind of reforms the PM spoke of. Decisions taken at the Congress Working Committee meeting on Sunday may offer a ray of hope to some, but not to this writer. It may be foolish to write an obituary of a political party almost twice older than India as a republic, but when the cure demands surgery, band aid won help. Electoral reversals are routine in democracies, but Congress has been witnessing a structural decline for at least three decades. The party leadership has yet not fully comprehended the depth of its organisation decline and ideational crisis. Congress not only shuns normal politics, but it takes a false moral high ground. Both mainstream and social media are full of bad language. Bad language not as in indelicate four letter words which ought to be used in polite company, but bad language as in the wrong use of everyday words. The other day there was a large ad in the newspaper for online degree courses being conducted under the aegis of a renowned Indian.

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Artificial intelligence AI, the Internet of Things Iota, and digital platforms are assisting healthcare workers with case based surveillance, remote consultations, and information dissemination. This has also opened new avenues for ManTech concerns across the patient care continuum from prevention to treatment. This digital transformation has fostered tremendous innovation and modernization in the sector. In India, the government introduction of the National Digital Health Mission NDHM and National Digital Health Blueprint NDHB has been instrumental in strengthening the accessibility and equity of health services, firmly placing patients at the center of the care delivery system. It has leveraged the power of IT and other associated technologies to support the existing healthcare infrastructure and streamline health information. These supportive government policies, coupled with the ubiquitous use of the internet and smart phones, are expected to propel the growth of the digital health sector from Rs. 524.97 ban in 2021 to Rs. 2,528.69 ban by 2027. Accessible healthcare for all In 2022, India digital connectivity stood at 47 and is expected to grow to 80 by 2034. This has increased the adoption of telemedicine and other digital health technologies facilitating remote and affordable consultations across India. It has also connected multiple stakeholders across the health ecosystem. Additionally, innovative diagnostic tools such as wearable, remote tracing applications and distance monitoring are a boon for the population which is aging and suffers from chronic diseases. To address the accessibility gaps in tier 2 and tier 3 cities and reduce the burden on tertiary care hospitals, healthcare providers are embracing a diverse set of tools. Some of the emerging trends in digital healthcare delivery are: The government has given impetus to the adoption of digital healthcare with NDHM, which creates a unique digital ID that provides the patient with one stop access to all relevant health data. Along with an integrated digital health infrastructure, an increase in health start up funding is also helping entrepreneurs work on innovative solutions. Path to progress The country is at the cusp of a digital revolution. Despite its numerous benefits, these technologies face various challenges. While the infrastructure is in place, more awareness, education, and accessibility to the digital ecosystem need to be emphasized. Digital healthcare has immense potential in terms of addressing challenges of accessibility, affordability, and quality of healthcare. However, enhancing the capabilities of the existing workforce and robust data security guidelines can further take the **nation** on a path of progress. As the newest generation to enter adulthood, Gen Z is soon becoming a force to be reckoned with. Born between the mid 1990s and 2010s, this generation has a unique perspective of the world and its place in it. They are more diverse, tech savvy, socially conscious, and individualistic, hence less likely to conform to traditional expectations or norms. India has the largest number of Millennial and Gen Zeros in the world. These two groups make up fifty two percent of our population. Since they are the latest generation to join the workforce and will.

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University the courses being offered were for mom, Become and MA degrees, and the headline of the advertisement read: A reputed online degree from and gave the name of the university. The adjective reputed means alleged, something which is said to be so but is not so in fact. Something, or someone, who is worthy of repute, or has a good reputation is said to be reputable, not reputed, which has a connotation contrary to what is sought to be conveyed. This confusion between reputed and reputable, which is antonyms, or opposing words to each other, is common in spoken and written communication. But in this particular case the error was unintentionally being endorsed, and given official sanction, by an institution of advanced learning. So big deal. Why be so picky about the use of language and the meaning of words? Why can we be like Lewis Carroll Humpty Dumpty who proudly proclaimed, when I use a word, it means just what I choose it to mean neither more nor less. After all, as Humpty went on to ask, should we be the master of language, or should language be our master, whose rules we must follow? Language, the bridge, or link, which joins us to each other and with what we call society as a whole, is based on a set of common rules we must all follow if we are to understand and make sense of each other at all. If, like Humpty Dumpty, we make language follow our rules, instead of the other way round, language becomes a barrier not a bridge between us. This is exactly what is happening between those who impart opposing meanings to words like liberalism, secularist, dissent, nationalism, among others. All of which might make us ask whether ours is a reputable democracy, or a reputed one. Or are the two interchangeable? Was Albert Einstein an atheist or a believer? Neither. The theoretical physicist never called himself an atheist, something the likes of Richard Dawkins and Daniel Dennett will have you believe. Einstein was an agnostic, a sanshyatma, skeptic, in the true sense of oriental philosophical traditions. He believed that God could never be understood through rigmarole of religious and ritualistic mumbo jumbo. His Miramar, formless, God was a transcendental consciousness. Finding God Einstein found God in the perfect symmetry of the cosmos. His cosmic religion and distant deistic God of **cosmic** order and elegance fit neither the agenda of religious believers nor that of tribal atheists. His highly evolved scientific brain never anthrax poor God the way general people do. He never attended religious services or prayed. He could not conceive of a God who punished and rewarded people, partly because he was a thoroughgoing determinist. Einstein repeatedly distanced himself from the idea of a personal God. He refused a traditional Jewish burial. All in all, not very religious. But he was a spiritual man and a moralist who abhorred wars to the point of being an irenic, a pacifist. Religion.

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One classic they read in college. They carry books much like Christ did the cross, bent over by the weight of all that terrible prose they must critique. Sometimes the difference between a good review and a bad one is the coffee they missed. AI will one day write books, but will it write a book review? Nah. Reviews require the hands-on human touch of literary snobbery and the primal urge to draw blood. The reviewer is faced with two choices: gush or gibe. When in doubt, the reviewer gives us the whole plot. Most of the tiny double-column space is swallowed by laborious displays of the reviewer intellectual prowess and command over the language. Many Indian novels are ignored back home until they make a shortlist or long list abroad, making critics scramble. Second novels are especially snubbed; the nerve of the writer in the aftermath of the recent election results, many are questioning whether the BJP seat losses can be attributed to Dhruv Rathee videos. With approximately 250 million views and 6 to 7 million new subscribers during the election period, it would be naive to dismiss their influence. If Dhruv Rathee indeed played a role, then Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP government they significantly contributed to his emergence. This may not sit well with Modi supporters or Rathee critics, but it remains an undeniable truth. Consider this: in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP secured 37% of the votes, and the NDA garnered 45%, meaning that 55% of voters did not consider the BJP or NDA as their primary choice. Now, reflect on the representation of this 55% in mainstream media. It virtually non-existent. Whether due to external pressures, the media own loyalty to the government, or the ideologies of certain anchors, there was almost no anti-BJP content on mainstream platforms despite the significant portion of the populace that opposed the BJP or NDA. I am not advocating for anti-government content for its own sake, as many You Tubers do, but you know how seldom you vet encountered such content over the past decade. This absence of anti-government news from mainstream media created a void. Many TV journalists, previously part of the mainstream, capitalized on this gap. Upon leaving their TV positions, they often cited being forced to venerate the government. These individuals, unable to broadcast anti-government news despite their inclinations, turned to **YouTube** out of necessity or desire, running channels with an anti-government agenda. They raised issues ignored by mainstream media, but often exaggerated trivial matters. After departing from their TV roles, these journalists channelled their efforts into fostering anti-Modi sentiment. They understood that they had cultivated an audience through anti-Modi rhetoric, and thus never deviated. They never praised Modi occasionally or advised Rahul Gandhi. Like a local confectioner who knows his customers preferences, these You Tubers knew the type of content their audience craved. Consequently, they amassed views and subscribers, but their criticisms lacked credibility. They merely became another outlet in the political news market where people sought anti-Modi narratives. Enter Dhruv Rathee. Pay close attention here. Although Dhruv Rathee political videos revealed his bias or disdain, his overall image was that of an educational content creator. A creator who had been producing content for nearly nine years, amassing millions of young followers. Many of these followers had bee

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This not only knocks inches off its exultant users but now made One, security forces have busted many Islamist terror networks, arresting 80-plus this year. Two, no counterintelligence is foolproof. Three, Pakistan's jihad puppeteers may again look to create mayhem in India outside Kashmir. Four, this tactic As frequent as elections are in India, some are bigger and juicier. In that the themes resonate across the country, the contest is tight, and a measure of the national mood is on tap India By Sanjay Teotia Pollution has become one of the most alarming threats to both human health and the environment in the twenty-first century. While its effects on the lungs, heart and climate are widely discussed, Trump declares war on a city for something that took place 269 years ago Donald Trump in the Oval Office. Enter secretary of war, Pete Hegseth. Trump: Wassup Pete? You're looking as grouchy as a Voting done, the state shows again its high political awareness despite its low per capita income & underdevelopment For a state that has seen 23 politicians become CM over 37 tenures central rule and The people of Bihar just finished voting and once again, they showed how smart they are about politics, even though their state is not very rich or developed. Bihar has had 23 chief ministers I have had the opportunity of working closely with Nitish Kumar. In Jan 2013 when, after resigning from IFS, I had joined him, he carried a formidable reputation: the most polished product of the socialist Indian elections is narrated in familiar terms. Someone 'wins', someone 'loses', and the result is framed as a wave. We assume that decisive verdicts emerge from large swings in the electoral mood or someone's incredible charisma. It's déjà vu for the opposition INDIA coalition that, after Haryana and Maharashtra, is again outpaced by an entrenched NDA incumbent. The defeat is another reminder for it to reinvent its template for increasingly bipolar By Surakshit Goswami The mind is skilled at holding on to sorrow, which is why most people are drawn to sad songs. Though songs are written about both joy and grief, the mind wants to know how BJP-JDU can start changing Bihar's economic trajectory. Plus, lift the ban on booze What does NDA's massive win mean for Bihar's future? One key takeaway from BJP-JDU's seat haul is that it's clear the lapses of memory regarding old companions make for many delightful reunions. I keep forgetting old friends. These memory lapses, far from being something that I regret, are what is known as a felix culpa, Latin US lawmaker rides bike 1,532km to vote on ending shutdown. Would that all legislators showed such drive? Politicians rarely ride motorbikes, and the loss is entirely theirs. When sculptors immortalise today's heroes and Neros in Worrying levels of child malnutrition in Maharashtra has HC worried. What about the government? Bombay HC has upbraided state govt for taking public health in this case child malnutrition extremely casually. HC was responding J&K Police described an inter-state and transnational terrorist module it recently cracked open as a 'white-collar terror ecosystem'. In counterterrorism vocabulary, this is an expression both seemingly novel and unsettling because for decades, Bihar's Muslim electorate was front and center of focus in electoral politics, the so-called 'M vote' both JDU's and RJD's base. But the 2025 election saw a shift during campaigning, enthusiasm in By Partha Sinha Kali is not a goddess

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She is the logic of decay wearing a garland of skulls. She is entropy, disguised as divinity. Where others promise salvation through order, Kali Islamabad blaming India and Afghanistan for terrorism on its own soil is laughable. Pakistan continues to live in a state of delusion. After a suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court claimed the lives of 12 He sounds keen on a trade deal now, but it's in India's interest to wait for US Supreme Court order on his tariffs After delays, disappointments and a brief falling out, the India-US trade deal New weapons of 'mass' destruction There was much buzz last week over weight-reducing drug Mounjaro becoming No. 1 pharma brand, outselling infection-reducing Augmentin. This not only knocks inches off its exultant users but now made One, security forces have busted many Islamist terror networks, arresting 80-plus this year. Two, no counterintelligence is foolproof. Three, Pakistan's jihad puppeteers may again look to create mayhem in India outside Kashmir. Four, this tactic As frequent as elections are in India, some are bigger and juicier. In that the themes resonate across the country, the contest is tight, and a measure of the national mood is on tap India By Sanjay Teotia Pollution has become one of the most alarming threats to both human health and the environment in the twenty-first century. While its effects on the lungs, heart and climate are widely discussed, Trump declares war on a city for something that took place 269 years ago Donald Trump in the Oval Office. Enter secretary of war, Pete Hegseth. Trump: Wassup Pete? You're looking as grouchy as a Voting done, the state shows again its high political awareness despite its low per capita income & underdevelopment For a state that has seen 23 politicians become CM over 37 tenures central rule and The people of Bihar just finished voting and once again, they showed how smart they are about politics, even though their state is not very rich or developed. Bihar has had 23 chief ministers (November 16, 2025) Six months ago, the NDA looked vulnerable. Nitish's credibility had eroded after multiple political somersaults, the BJP could not come up with a better alternative, and the insurgent Jan Suraaj threatened to walk away if I had the opportunity of working closely with Nitish Kumar. In Jan 2013 when, after resigning from IFS, I had joined him, **he** carried a formidable reputation: the most polished product of the socialist Indian elections is narrated in familiar terms. Someone 'wins', someone 'loses', and the result is framed as a wave. We assume that decisive verdicts emerge from large swings in the electoral mood or someone's incredible charisma. It's déjà vu for the opposition INDIA coalition that, after Haryana and Maharashtra, is again outpaced by an entrenched NDA incumbent. The defeat is another reminder for it to reinvent its template for increasingly bipolar By Surakshit Goswami The mind is skilled at holding on to sorrow, which is why most people are drawn to sad songs. Though songs are written about both joy and grief, the mind wants to How BJP-JDU can start changing Bihar's economic trajectory. Plus, lift the ban on booze What does NDA's massive win mean for Bihar's future? One key takeaway from BJP-JDU's seat haul is that it's clear the Lapses of memory regarding old companions make for many delightful reunions I keep forgetting old friends. These memory lapses, far from being something that I regret, are what is known as a fe

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As having strong affiliations with any particular party. He had a substantial following of 15 million people who trusted him. In this context, when Dhruv produced anti-Modi content, exposing the Brand Modi, people took him more seriously than others. In TV journalism, it is often said that journalism is 25% on screen and 75% about presentation. The presentation often matters more than the content itself. Dhruv Rathee production quality was significantly superior to other anti-Modi You Tubers. As I mentioned, in visual communication, the delivery is often more impactful than the content. In this aspect, Dhruv Rathee outshone everyone. Neil Postman Amusing Ourselves to Death explores the power of manipulation in visual communication and is worth reading. Even the most ardent Modi supporters may deny it, but with 20 to 30 million views per video, dismissing Dhruv influence as mere manipulation is short sighted. I also firmly believe that in the social media arena, where the BJP was once a master, Dhruv Rathee played a superior technical game and triumphed. Many claim that Dhruv Rathee presents half-truths and misleads people. However, the core issue is not the extent of truth he tells. Why should it be incumbent upon him to tell the whole truth? If mainstream media can construct their narratives with half-truths, then Dhruv Rathee is equally entitled to present his perspective. Mainstream media channels, with their longer histories, bear a greater responsibility for impartiality. When they shirk this duty, it is unjust to single out Dhruv Rathee, an individual and independent creator, for manipulating the truth. We must understand why he excelled in perspective building. Why fear criticism? A common trait among Indian leaders is their fear of criticism. Be it Magmata Banerjee in Bengal, Kejriwal in Delhi, past Congress governments, or the current Prime Minister Narendra Modi, there is a pervasive belief that they must always win the perception game. They think criticism tarnishes their image, but this is not true. It is unnecessary to appear right or victorious in every communication battle. For any government, it is crucial to appear vulnerable at times. A head of a family, supporting several people, cannot claim that all are content with him. Similarly, in a country of 1.4 billion people, why should governments care so much that all mainstream voices favour them? If a person supporting five people cannot control all their opinions, why do governments strive so **hard** to achieve the impossible? It is essential for the media to discuss government shortcomings. The media should have the freedom to highlight these flaws, presenting a human face of the government to the public. It should be evident that despite their best efforts, governments can make mistakes. Attempting to appear perfect becomes implausible. Consistently portraying an overly positive image of the country or society can create resentment. When people compare the rosy picture with their personal lives, they become angrier. Therefore, any government should not be overly aggressive in making claims of development or trying to appear perfect. Being overly aggressive suggests a lack of trust in the public understanding. Just like overselling in marketing is counterproductive because it makes the customer feel underestimated, governments can alienate the public by constantly praising themselves. Remember 2014, when a large section of mainstream media was against Modi. The Congress c

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And a generous Cop for the world. Starting from the end of the World War II, the U.S. became relaxed in her efforts, and arrogant. In her belief that with her power, guns and money, she could achieve anything in the world. After the Second World War, the United States ignored the gobbling up of Eastern European and Central Asian Countries by the Soviet Union. By the time, the United States realized the Russian extended her empire from Atlantic to Pacific oceans. In order to discourage Russia expansion, led by the United States, Western Countries started a process of consolidating NATO and encouraging East European Countries to join NATO. Mr. Putin, ex head of KGB, was furious about the Soviet Union exit from the East European and Central Asian Countries in 1991. He called it the greatest catastrophe of the twentieth century. In 1994, Russia agreed to respect the independence and sovereignty of the Countries which were part of the Soviet Union. In 1997, the U.S. and other NATO Members assured then Russia President Gorbachev that NATO would not extend eastwards of the NATO Members; however, there is no written agreement. Russia had realized the U.S. lack of reaction to her military activities in Georgia, Crimean and Belarus. Further, the United States did very little, if anything, in helping the citizens of these countries to regain their independence. Except issuing strong words, the United States did not do much against Russian invasion of Hungary in 1986 when Hungary tried to disassociate from Soviet Union. In her enthusiasm to counter Soviet Union, starting from John Foster Dulles, the U.S. would even tolerate Dictators as long as they were with the United States. The U.S. also started disfavoring nonaligned countries such as India, for not aligning with the U.S. and did not like them dealing with Soviet Union. By opposing the movements against the dictators in some countries, the United States pushed them into the communist camp such as Cuba. Then a chapter of the American decline started. In early 1960s, when French left Vietnam, the United States moved into South Vietnam. As usual, the United States relied primarily on guns and money and not on diplomacy and Vietnamese people. The United States made further mistakes by replacing Cambodia King or Odom Sihanouk by military dictator and bombing Cambodia. Similarly, the U.S. started bombing Laos. The North Vietnam, with their local **allies**, moved into Cambodia and Laos and installed communist governments there. Had the United States negotiated with North Vietnam and Cambodia King, the United States would have avoided genocides in Cambodia and with less bombing the United States would have achieved an honorable deal with Vietnam and a peaceful withdrawal. However, the United States stuck with her guns and was eventually forced to abandon South Vietnam and leave Vietnam in a hurry. That disastrous departure was later repeated in Afghanistan in 2021. Starting from the Vietnam War, the Americans started losing the will to fight. The United States was rightly upset.

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An impediment the spiritual facet of Einstein persona underlines that one does have to tie oneself to the apron strings of any organised religion whatsoever. His whole life was a living manifestation of the exalted spiritual concept of Sufis, called Shavanaaii, belief sans religion in Persian. The soil distant God is independent of all religions. In sooth, religion is an impediment to reaching and realising God, he wrote to his friend and fellow Nobel laureate Niles Bohr. Einstein hated extremism both in belief and unbelief and tellingly wrote in 1940, there are fanatical atheists whose intolerance is of the same kind as the intolerance of the religious fanatics. The atheists may lap up the words in a letter written to Jewish philosopher Eric Gut kind, the word God is for me nothing more than the expression and product of human weaknesses, the Bible, a collection of honorable, but still primitive legends which are nevertheless pretty childish. But the same atheist Einstein could euphorically say in public that Sebastian Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms ethereal creations were God symphonies. Ultimate compass Einstein God was the epitome of the highest moralistic virtue and value. His God was a metaphor for immaculate existence and a spotless spirit of Elysian blissfulness. In other words, Einstein saw God as the ultimate compass of universal rectitude and perfection. He could strike an admirable balance between theism and atheism. That why, his amorphous spiritual fluidity is happily atheistic to non believers and satisfactorily theistic to believers. To sum it up, like his famous Theory of Relativity, Einstein God was a relative concept and a fiercely subjective perception, which was a part of a universal belief system. Because of her struggle against and independence from the British Empire, strong belief in people voice and freedom, vast land, huge natural resources and hardworking people, the United States, not only became an unchallenged superpower, it also became an inspiration for freedom fighters all over the world. In his famous book, Common Sense written before the U.S. Independence in 1776, Thomas Paine severely criticized Britishers for their atrocities in their empire. He condemned Britishers for sucking the blood of Indians. Despite being a superpower, the U.S. was the first country which did not colonize any country except Philippines. The United States helped a number of countries in their struggle for independence and the removal of the apartheid governments such as in **South** Africa. The U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt pressurized Britishers to free India. The United States gave huge amounts of financial aid and loans to almost all countries around the world. The United States allowed immigration to millions, which not only resulted in her unique culture, it strengthened her academic, financial and industrial excellence. The USA has excellent educational research facilities which are unparalleled in the world. The United States has acted as a buffer to brutal dictators such as Hitler, Stalin, etc. and became a messiah for encouraging democracy, human rights, and preventing genocide. In fact, the U.S. became a Super.

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When Russia invaded Afghanistan in 1978. However, instead of blindly training fundamentalists to fight Russians, the USA should have a well planned strategy to encourage public to resist and fight the Soviet installed government. The United States trained and relied on Taliban, fundamentalist Muslims who later turned their guns against America. Russia was wise enough to realize that it and its puppet head of the Afghanistan government would not be able to hold on for too long, the Russians left well before the fall of the government there. In contrast, the United States withdrawal in 2021 was the second worst withdrawal of the very powerful country. President Bush decision of attacking Iraq on fictitious grounds was another historical blunder which resulted in the ongoing chaos, a large number of deaths, atrocities, rapes and displacement of huge population in Middle East. Now, Russia has more influence and better presence in the Middle East. After Russia attacks in Georgia and Crimea, her previous colonies, the United States and European Countries should have gotten a wakeup call. West European Countries continued concentrating on their industries, economic and business ventures. They continued their reliance on the United States for military related activities. They ignored that in order to survive economically; the country has to be strong militarily. There should have been some strong retaliation by the United States against the Russia aggression in Georgia and Crimea. After almost no reaction to her aggression in Georgia and Crimea, Russia moved into Belarus to prop up the Belarus President Alexander Lukashenka. The United States should have worked with the Belarus military General, who publicly opposed the government repressive actions against the protestors. After America disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, Russia started believing that the American will to fight or take any military action is almost gone. Russia reached the conclusion that it was the opportune right time to move its army into Ukraine There is speculations that Russia will move out after she installs her selected government or will annex Ukraine again and make it a part of Russia; only time will tell. Some experts believe that Russia Ukraine aggression was to discourage Ukraine and other Eastern European Countries from joining NATO, The West should make it clear that the agreement of not doing so would be honored. Anyway, NATO does not serve any purpose as no NATO country has a will or desire to fight. **As** someone said, NATO means No Action Talks Only. In general, the East European and Baltic Countries, except Hungary, have easily submitted to aggression. One time when I was visiting Prague, the Capital of Czech Republic, our guide said, why do we waste money on army, with one exception, we had lost every war. Thus, even if NATO decides to be a serious military organization, NATO is better off not encouraging those countries which could needlessly annoy Russia. It is not known whether economic sanctions would have any serious effect on Russia as Russia has accumulated at least half a trillion.

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Dollars of foreign reserves because of recent crude oil high prices. The turmoil caused by Russia would further raise oil prices highly benefitting Russia as there are a number of countries which buy and will continue to buy Russian oil. A number of countries large and small, including large economic powers such as China, India, Brazil, UAE, etc. will continue to do business with Russia. Now the question is what else NATO countries could have done? Had they stationed their well equipped joint forces at the Ukraine border, Russia would have thought twice before engaging with a direct military fight with the West. Even if Russia had decided to invade Ukraine and fight with NATO forces, it would not have a cake walk to Kyiv. Alternatively, NATO countries could have bombed the Russian army at least when it was inside Ukraine. I am sure that the NATO army leaders would have come up with some military plan to inflict heavy casualties and losses to the Russian Army if the politicians had consulted them. It should be acknowledged that the Ukraine invasion has caused unprecedented reaction around the world. There has been opposition even in Russia and China. As it stands now, Russia may achieve its goal and may even stay in Ukraine. The Western European Countries, which would also bear huge economic losses, may sideline or ignore the Ukraine issue and get back to business as usual. Consequently, the lack of fighting will on part of the Western Countries could become a norm and Russia will soon be considered supreme world power. It could also encourage China to invade and occupy Taiwan. Now coming to India. China has not been happy about India refusal to negotiate the border disputes and her joining the Quad. India other activities such as arming of Philippines and Vietnam to be anti China. It is also possible that China may attack India and annex more of India territory especially Arunachal Pradesh. What should India do? India cannot totally discard Russia which has been her constant supporter. In the past Russia had also discouraged China from a full scale war against India. So far India has played her cards well. India should actively arbitrate a ceasefire and become a channel of negotiations between Russia and West which India can do, because of her close proximity to both sides and economic power. Hopefully, economic and other **Sanctions** and worldwide uproar would compel Russia to leave Ukraine or reach a compromise. If not, something else for reversing Russia aggression is needed such as a military action to halt the current turmoil and assure the world peace. Manjari Sihare Sutin, Head of Sotheby New York Sale of Modern & Contemporary South Asian Art has put together a stellar suite of works for the Sotheby sale on 21st March 21st at New York. Spanning South Asia across the late nineteenth, twentieth and twenty first centuries, the collection of works in the sale is testament to the diverse, idiosyncratic and extraordinary.

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Corpus of art from this region. More than 70 artists will be offered in the auction Sotheby first Modern & Contemporary Art Sale of the year from some of the biggest names in the field, as well as lesser known artists who more recently are gaining their due recognition, says Sihare Sutin. Bhupen Khakahr Sheikh Shoe Mart is one of numerous little seen paintings to emerge from distinguished private collections in the sale. But all eyes will be on three dulcet delights by V.S.Gaitonde, Ganesh Pyne as well as M F Husain. The first painting combines everyday preoccupations in a reverent portrayal of people with their large rough hands and upright torsos, reflecting the toil of the working classes surrounding him. It brings alive the words of his friend the brilliant Ebrahim Alkazi. Here is an exalted dignity about the people who inhabit Husain canvases. Peasants, workers, craftsmen, women toiling in the fields, or huddled together in conversation all have self contained poise, the stoic patience, and grace associated with the common people he captures in their poses and lineaments their distinctive ethos and culture not by physiognomy or costume alone are they differentiated, but in their total bearing and presence. Here, the male and female figures slightly overlap, and their faces have a dramatised quality. Husain carefully constructs his characters to emphasise their humanity, taking care to engage the viewer in the theatre of life, couples, chores, and time. The man gaping mouth, the animated pose in his left wrist, and the woman hyper bent neck add to the scene drama. Perhaps they are reacting to the document or textile in his hand or demur to yet another day work in the scorching heat. Husain figures are arranged in the form of highlighted vignettes out of a distant tableau because the form provides an enclave within reality in which the figures can work out different permutations of their relationship. Most of his figures are like actors, and most of his paintings have a staged quality. The rooster, symbolizing the traditional village, and the painting earthy palette pay tribute to the rural people and landscape that Husain respected and romanticized in equal measure. In this private, shadowy world, Husain unites line and form, angle and curve to portray the determination and tenderness ever present in the heart of India. The second figure is longer, created as a vertical study **Woman** with Instrument. It reminds me of his great work Shola. It has the same intonations and intensity of the narrative. His finesse at handling the human figure with the long necked instrument has been seen in some of his old works. Indeed the 50 and 60 saw his greatest churning of masterpieces. The music series were a part of his oeuvre. When he came to Delhi he loved attending concerts at Kaman Auditorium as well as. He would often be invited by his friends for baithaks at the homes of the rich and famous. All in this entire sale brings.

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The Congress Working Committee meeting produced no surprises and followed a familiar script. Interim president Sonia Gandhi said her family was willing to make any sacrifice for the party but this was rejected. Some members, notably the today wbpsc announced for typing test conduct as per schedule but instruction is waiting for tying related guidelines. G23 voiced some critical opinions but their numbers were too small to matter. The big outcome of the meeting was Congress plan to conduct a Chintan Shivir in April. The last time this was held was way back in 2013 in Jaipur when the party was in office. In the interim, Congress has suffered innumerable setbacks and the leadership has been faulted for moving at a leisurely pace to institute course correction. Also read Family ready to tep back, says Sonia stunned Congress junks offer despite the scale of the setback it is noteworthy that none of the voices for leadership change are coming from within Congress. Even those who have expressed concern over the defeats have held out vague promises to revive the party but none have been bold enough to demand that the family that controls the party must go or loosen its control. While Sonia Gandhi has been empowered to institute organisational changes, the lack of urgency in conducting the elections for the Congress president post is quite noticeable. It seems to signal that Rahul Gandhi is not yet keen to retake formal control of the party yet. Elections to Gujarat and HP are coming up this year besides five other big states in 2023. Congress has high stakes in all of them. In contrast to the lack of a strong central command structure in Congress, parties like BJP and AAP are benefiting from energetic leadership that keeps showing immense political hunger for growing into new areas and embracing new social constituencies. It looks increasingly unlikely that Congress can throw up any surprises on the road to 2024. Faridabad is currently drawing a large number of real estate developers and investors factors such as affordability, adequate land supply, and proximity to Delhi, Gurugram, and Greater Noida contribute to its attractiveness as a realty destination. One area standing out in the city is Neharpar, a popular destination for residential and commercial segments. The city is home to several MNCs, large scale businesses, and medium and small scale manufacturing facilities, which have sparked **real** estate growth, especially in the residential segment. The sectors closest to Delhi, and the main bypass route, such as Sector 81, Sector 82 and Sector 84, have emerged as prospective investment hubs in Faridabad. Neharpar, often known as Greater Faridabad, comprises residential Sectors 75 89 by 2031, it is estimated that close to 31 lakh people will live here. We offers both residential and commercial projects from a group housing to a larger township for catering to the future requirement of residences, office spaces and shopping complex. Projects like District 1 5 spread across various sectors offers plotted development and .

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Commercial development, District walks to name a few. The city real estate market has been given a new glimmer of optimism thanks to improved access to Faridabad via the Delhi Metro and several initiatives under the Faridabad Master Plan 2031. According to Research, Faridabad was the only city in the NCR, or even other major cities, to see a 7 per cent increase in total new housing supply in 2020 despite the pandemic. People working in South Delhi who cannot afford homes near their workplaces due to high rental rates frequent Neharpar. The area is around a 20 minute drive from Nehru Place in South Delhi. In comparison to South Delhi, where a 2 BHK starts at Rest 25,000 per month, Neharpar rents 2 BHKs for Rest 6,000 10,000 per month and 3 bhks for Rest 8000 15000 per month. Many infrastructural improvements are being made in the area, such as road widening and flyover construction, which will improve the area connectivity. The area acceptance can also be linked to the excellent connectivity to the nearby regions. The 56km long FNG Expressway comprises 20 km in the Noida Greater Noida region and 8 km in Ghaziabad. The highway is projected to increase property prices once it is operating. Then we have 135 km long Eastern Peripheral Expressway EPE that runs on the eastern side of Delhi, which serves as a major impetus for residential and commercial growth in Faridabad. The extension of the Delhi Metro to Raja Nahar Singh Ballabgarh in Faridabad has greatly enhanced connectivity with Delhi. Other infrastructure projects, such as the modernization of Mathura Road, are expected to boost the real estate market in Faridabad. The cost of a residential apartment here ranges from Rest 2,850 to Rest 3,530 per square foot. Around 85 of properties for sale in Neharpar are ready to move in, while 15 are under development. In residential apartments, the most popular configurations are mid sized 2BHK and 3BHK units. A 2BHK costs between Rest 20 and 50 lakhs, while a 3BHK costs between Rest 30 and 1.7 crore, depending on the developer and location. According to the author of the book Mindset Carol Dweck, mindsets are self conceptions, the way we structure ourselves and guide our behaviours. These reflect our own capabilities. These are views about our own abilities. According to her, everyone has two kinds of mindsets Fixed Mindset and **Growth** Mindset. Our thoughts are either affected consciously or subconsciously and the degree of achieving what we want entirely depends on the kind of mindset one possesses. A fixed mindset can lead to ignorance of criticism and feedback as people with a fixed mindset believe themselves to be overly smart and someone who does not require any further growth or learning. Whereas having a growth mindset fuels a strong passion for learning. It makes one believe that intelligence can be learned and hug our imperfections and create room for further learning. Every leader possesses a growth mindset that helps them to.

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Data, and implementing feedback mechanisms and processes to improve the accuracy of data. Perhaps the most important need is to bring trust to the process of data generation itself. The data should enter the system at the point of interaction, and the tools used to enter data should automatically generate metadata, including who collected the data, the time of the test, the location of the source, the methodology of the test, and the equipment used, with a clear chain of custody, and makes it available along with the data. The system will feel more confident about opening up the data, and the people collecting the data would feel more accountable if this happens. The entire ecosystem should acknowledge that there will always be an opportunity to improve the quality of data and focus on constructive criticism. Feedback mechanisms and processes should be implemented to improve the accuracy of data. In conclusion, the Jal Jeevan Mission program has made significant progress in collecting water quality data from habitations across India. The collection of over one million data points is a valuable asset that can be unlocked to benefit communities, government departments, civil society actors, researchers, and policymakers. However, the data is currently only available at aggregated levels and only to the state level in the public dashboard. Unlocking granular data in the public view would enable a range of stakeholders to address water quality issues more effectively. To achieve this, the system needs to generate trusted, verifiable data, create an environment for constructive feedback to improve data quality, establish feedback mechanisms to improve data accuracy, and leverage technology to improve the quality of data. By making the data public, the Jal Jeevan Mission program can continue to work towards providing safe water delivery to every household in the country and improve India ranking on the Composite Water Management Index. The caste net has caught big fish, but us Parsis haven't got away. The recent brouhaha does make a Modicum of sense to our community which also has this family name. In fact it has caused such disquiet in our gated colonies you'd think pair doll jevi dikri (daughter) had run off with a parjaat. Or eggs had disappeared from the market. Those with this surname are staggering under a double whammy. The conviction and subsequent disqualification have reminded everyone that all Modis were branded chors, that too by a **guy** who is quarter-Parsi, and, arguably worse, our Modis have got lumped with all OBCs who were allegedly insulted by Rahul's ill-advised jibe. The first destroys our upright reputation; the second our uptightness about being twice-born. Before this aafat befell us, we had only two castes: those who belonged to Mumbai Willingdon Club and those who did not. Till Gandhi's silly joke ballooned into his existential crisis, the only problem for my qaum with the once-innocuous surname was that Modi meant your forefathers were kirana-sellers. Not as desirable as Engineer, Doctor, or even Coachbuilder, but certainly above Grave-digger (Ghodkhodu) and arguably Soda.

BSF-HCM-TEST-Dated-2025-12-07-Test NO.-23911

India is facing a severe water crisis with the water quality deteriorating rapidly. According to the Composite Water Management Index report published by Niti Aayog in June 2018, India ranks 120 amongst 122 countries on the Water Quality Index, with nearly 70% of water being contaminated. In this context, the Jal Jeevan Mission program has rightly emphasized the importance of safe water delivery to every household in the country. The program has done excellent work in setting up National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and training 5 women to collect water quality data from habitations across the country. Till now, over 1 million data points have been collected, and this data is currently being used by the program administrators to help resolve water quality issues in the habitations. However, there is huge value that can be unlocked across the ecosystem actors, including communities, government departments, civil society actors, researchers, and policymakers, by making the data public to the ecosystem. The granular data at the village level may be available to the Jal Jeevan Mission officials, but making it public could help address an array of prerequisites for a variety of stakeholders. The data made accessible as information that the communities can engage and understand can empower the communities whose problems it is trying to solve. Government departments can use this data to give their immediate focus and response to the highly water quality affected areas and seek information on the right solutions to be implemented to address the water quality issue. Civil Society members can focus their efforts on interventions in the water quality affected areas instead of spending time and effort on collecting water quality data again. Funders (CSRs and philanthropic organizations) can direct their funds in highly water quality affected areas. Markets can create affordable household/community-level solutions for local contextualized issues. Researchers can look at the data, correlate with other openly available data, and provide recommendations to policymakers, implementers, and WQ practitioners. Therefore, it is important to unlock the value of this data by making it public to the ecosystem. The Water Quality Management Information System (WQ-MIS) has already collected rich data, including about 10 million data points of water quality across the country. However, this data is available only at aggregated levels and only at the level of the states in the public dashboard. External stakeholders do not get to view whether the **FTK** (Field test kits) tests and the samples tested in laboratories are pre or post monsoon, what the nature and extent of contamination is if the samples are found contaminated, and what remedial action is being taken. Given the large scale of data collection, there may be some challenges with respect to the quality of data. However, instead of finding faults with the data, the ecosystem should work constructively to improve its quality and find the right solutions. This will require generating trusted verifiable data, creating an environment where errors in data are taken as opportunities to improve and correct the.

Spl-BSF-HCM-TEST-Dated-2025-12-07-Test NO.-23912

Shocked that an acid attack victim had not got closure 16 years after the crime was committed, the Supreme Court of India made a slew of oral observations early this week calling the slow pace a mockery of the system. The Chief Justice of India (CJI), Justice Surya Kant, said acid attackers must not be shown any sympathy by courts, and called for the entire system to respond against them. Shaheen Malik was 26 and was studying for an MBA degree when she was attacked outside her office in Haryana in 2009. Till 2013, nothing happened in her case, she told the CJI. The case was finally transferred to Rohini court in Delhi from Haryana, where the trial is pending and final arguments are on. Ms. Malik has undergone reconstructive surgeries, and in 2021, she set up Brave Souls, an NGO which offers medical and legal support to acid attack survivors. In fact, she was knocking at the Court's door with a PIL seeking formal recognition of survivors as persons with specified disabilities under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. She was bringing the Court's notice to those acid attack victims who had been forcibly fed acid and were not marked for life like others who had acid thrown at them but nevertheless lived with terrible suffering. The CJI asked the Centre to consider bringing an ordinance. Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said no respondent could oppose the cause of the petitioners. Perpetrators of acid attacks who leave victims, mostly women and minors, scarred inside and outside for the rest of their lives must meet with the same ruthlessness as they showed their victims he said. The CJI ordered the Registrar-General of the High Courts to provide the number and details of pending trials in acid attack cases; he also proposed setting up of special courts to exclusively conduct acid attack cases on a day-to-day basis. In the past, in *Laxmi vs Union of India and Ors*, the Court had directed the government to ensure that acid attack victims got proper treatment, aftercare and rehabilitation, also asking it to look into the banning of sale of acid across the counter. Section 124 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita deals with acid attacks and the punishment to be meted out, but reality paints a grim picture, with trials being long-drawn and conviction rates low. According to latest **National** Crime Records Bureau data, there were 207 incidents of acid attacks across the country in 2023, with West Bengal ignominiously topping the list with 57 cases, followed by Uttar Pradesh (31). Victims of acid attacks, one of the worst forms of gender violence imaginable, deserve a lot better. President Donald Trump counts the crisis in Congo as among the conflicts he has helped resolve. On December 4, he hosted the leaders of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Washington for the signing of a formal peace agreement, which endorsed an earlier deal concluded by the Foreign Ministers of both countries. Mr. Trump hailed the accord as a historic step towards bringing prosperity to Africa, while Congolese President Félix Tshisekedi and his Rwandan counterpart Paul Kagame, who had frequently exchanged insults, praised his mediation. Mr. Trump also promised American investments in the resource-rich Congo if peace holds. On Thursday, he said he would send our biggest and greatest companies over to the two countries adding that we are going to take some of the rare earth.

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Take out some of the assets and pay and everybody is going to make a lot of money But beyond the grandiosity of the ceremony, the situation remains complex and violent, with fighting continuing to rage in eastern Congo between Congolese forces and the M23 rebels. Under the agreement, Rwanda wants Congo to disarm the Hutu militias operating from its territory, while Congo wants Rwanda to withdraw troops from the east. Ultimately, however, the success of the deal hinges on securing peace between the Congolese governments and Would that all legislators showed such drive Politicians rarely ride motorbikes, and the loss is entirely theirs. When sculptors immortalise today's heroes and Neros in Worrying levels of child malnutrition in Maharashtra has HC worried. What about got? Bombay HC has upbraided state got for taking public health in this case child malnutrition extremely casually. HC was responding J&K Police described an inter-state and transnational terrorist module it recently cracked open as a 'white-collar terror ecosystem'. In counterterrorism vocabulary, this is an expression both seemingly novel and unsettling because it is in for decades, Bihar's Muslim electorate was front and center of focus in electoral politics, the so-called 'M vote' both JDU's and RJD's base. But the 2025 election saw a shift during campaigning, enthusiasm in By Partha Sinha Kali is not a goddess carved in stone. She is the logic of decay wearing a garland of skulls. She is entropy, disguised as divinity. Where others promise salvation through order, Kali Islamabad blaming India and Afghanistan for terrorism on its own soil is laughable Pakistan continues to live in a state of delusion. After a suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court claimed the lives of 12 He sounds keen on a trade deal now, but it's in India's interest to wait for US Supreme Court order on his tariffs After delays, disappointments and a brief falling out, the India-US trade deal New weapons of 'mass' destruction There was much buzz last week over weight-reducing drug Mounjaro becoming No. 1 pharma brand, outselling infection-reducing Augmentin. This not only knocks inches off its exultant users but now made one, security forces have busted many Islamist terror networks, arresting 80-plus this year. Two, no counterintelligence is foolproof. Three, Pakistan's jihad puppeteers may again look to create mayhem in India outside Kashmir. Four, this tactic as frequent as elections are in India, some are bigger and **juicier**. In that the themes resonate across the country, the contest is tight, and a measure of the national mood is on tap India by Sanjay Teotia Pollution has become one of the most alarming threats to both human health and the environment in the twenty-first century. While its effects on the lungs, heart and climate are widely discussed, Trump declares war on a city for something that took place 269 years ago Donald Trump in the Oval Office. Enter secretary of war, Pete Hegseth. Trump: Wassup Pete? You're looking as grouchy as a Voting done, the state shows again its high political awareness despite its low per capita income & underdevelopment For a state that has seen 23 politicians become CM over 37 tenures central rule and Ivy League or India, universities need public funding for innovation Rao is vice chancellor for BITS Pilani group of institutions and former director of IIT Delhi When Trump recently cut federal research funding, the tremors were felt even in America's rich

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Some gentrified the spelling. A head honcho at HUL, which arguably is the MNC version of the corner-bania, signed himself as Moddie. Mody is the commoner aristo variation, as in that of Sir Homi. His irrepressible son, Piloo, however, said he chose this because he did want anything to do with the letter I; he too was allergic to Indira. Btw, in Gujarat, neighbourhood grocers are also addressed as Gandhi because they are usually from that bania community. Raga 2019 election-rally remark has become his double-knotted noose. But we are concerned about the logic-deficient fact that Alit is a bania, Nirav a Jain or even that NaMo successful Gandhi community was included among Other Backward Classes till 1999. It the overnight underrating that got our Parsi Modis so down-caste. Communication is only effective if it is targeted at the right audience using the right formats and at the right time. Seems counterintuitive, right? But most of us do not get the balance right resulting in a campaign that does not deliver results. In the development sector especially where the end goal of a campaign is behavior change, not getting the mix right can be ineffective, detrimental even. Let us take a trip down memory lane and look at some campaigns that have been successful and what could have been the reasons for their success. The NECC campaign, unday ho ya Monday, roz khao ande from the 1980s come to mind. Created with the intent to promote daily consumption of eggs, the campaign came to life with a catchy jingle. The campaign used popular celebrities of the time, elaborated on the benefits of eggs, the many ways in which it could be consumed, all tied in neatly with the jingle that most of us remember even today. Another example is the Wonderful Doodh campaign that was conceived to promote consumption of milk in the 1990s. At the turn of the millennium, there was the Balbir Pasha campaign, primarily targeted at Mumbai that touched upon the sensitive topic of HIV-AIDS. What was common among these campaigns? They were all dealing with topics that were supposedly serious subjects but by integrating a fun/inquisitive element, they were able to draw the attention of potential audiences and hold it, thus delivering the message effectively. Sustained reinforcement through various mediums further cemented recall and possible action. Does this mean that we are recommending doing fun **campaigns** irrespective of the subject in question? Absolutely not. But they have valuable lessons that we can apply to our contexts for successful results. Who are you communicating with? Both nutrition and sanitation are issues that do not have an immediate or urgent action point that can drive people to change their behavior immediately. They are subjects that require coaxing and convincing over the medium term, if not long term, to bring about lasting change. If that is the case, then it becomes imperative that we identify the cohorts that we are speaking to and craft communication strategies that are relevant.

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In last week blog, we learned about the harmful effects of sugar so a natural question that comes to mind is why not use artificial sweeteners. In today blog, we will explore this subject. The use of substitute sweeteners has expanded rapidly in the last half-century. There is a lot of confusion about the benefits and harms of artificial and low calorie sweeteners. Many people, especially those who are overweight or diabetic, consume them thinking they are helping themselves. I hope this post will debunk that myth. History The story of artificial sweeteners begins in 1879 when saccharin was inadvertently discovered. Its popularity grew during the sugar shortages of the world wars. Saccharin led to further research, and in 1951, cyclamate was approved as a food additive. The combination of cyclamate and saccharin became America most popular sugar substitute and Sweetens Low was created in 1957. Initially popular for its low cost, its low-caloric value soon became the primary interest during the automobile boom, leading to the start of obesity. Diet sodas emerged, and Sweetens Low gained popularity. Stevia, used as a sweetener in South America for centuries, and in Japan since 1970, was approved by the FDA in 2008. Truvia and Pure Via, derivatives of Stevia, were developed by Coca-Cola and Pepsi, respectively. The world most commonly used sweetener, sucralose Splendid, was discovered in 1976 and approved by the FDA in 1998. Erythritol, introduced in the US in 2001, is a sugar alcohol found in natural fruits but usually made synthetically or from corn. Current Status Despite health concerns, aspartame continues to be a frequently used food additive since 1983. All sweeteners sold in the US have gone through testing and been found to be harmless, otherwise, they would not be approved. However, this does not mean they are truly harmless, as studies can be structured to achieve desired results. Science Our bodies evolved to sense the desirability of food with the tip of the tongue. Sweet food signaled to eat as much as possible until full, a behavior that led to the concept of appetizers. Hunger is more related to our circadian rhythm and the Ghrelin hormone, which is released based on the circadian rhythm. However, even when not hungry, tasting sugary or fatty food triggers an immediate appetite. When you taste an artificial sweetener, the body believes the food is desirable and wants to eat more. **However**, artificial sweeteners don't lead to satiation, resulting in overeating. There is growing evidence that non-caloric sweeteners lead to obesity and increase the risk of diabetes. Food companies argue and present many studies that have concluded otherwise or shown mixed results, but we know how these studies have a way of achieving results depending on who is funding them. A 2016 study titled Effects of Artificially Sweetened Beverages on Weight Outcomes A Systemic Review of Reviews found that review results depended on who was sponsoring the study. Diet alternatives to most beverages have filled the market in the last five decades. However, most independent research points out that all non-caloric sweeteners, whether artificial or natural, are unhealthy. Some sweeteners are toxic and may cause cancer or other serious diseases. Some people seek unprocessed versions like stevia, monk fruit and agave, thinking they are safer, but even these can lead to overeating and obesity. The issue is necessarily with the substance itself; it's about how our bo

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A higher insulin level indicates an abundance of glucose in the blood. When the liver receives this message, two reactions occur I always wondered why God was supposed to be a father, she whispers. Fathers always want you to measure up to something. Mothers are the ones who love you unconditionally, don't you think? Jodi Picot Nothing moves a loving father soul quite like his child cry. When the mother sugary affection gels with the father stern love, the all-round development of children becomes easier and better. Children require love as well as discipline for balanced growth. They get love from their mother and are disciplined by their father. There is no teacher equal to a mother, and there nothing more contagious than the dignity of a father. To quote Urdu poet Univar Rana, Ammi se milti hai nihilist muhabbat Abba se mil jail hai kasha daunt Bhi pure love is received from mothers fathers, at times, rebuke their children. But this so-called scolding has a profound meaning. What we become depends on what our dads teach us at odd moments, even when they are not trying to teach us anything at all. We are formed by little scraps of wisdom. A dad will teach his children the ways of life so that they can face challenges and vicissitudes with equanimity and equipoise. But he does this sans fanfare. What he faces in life and learns, he passes it on to his offspring. He a living and walking school for his children and embodies all that is wise, profound, and sacred. The Padma Purana states, Sarvadevmayh Pita father is the embodiment of all devtas, gods. That why Hindu scriptures say, Pita dharmah, pita swargah, pita hi Parham tape Patria preetimapanne predate sarva devtah a father is as sacred as dharma, as divine as the heavens and is one of the greatest symbols of austerity in this world. The gods are pleased if one can make one father happy. A father is never a draconian taskmaster. In other words, he not a martinet. He loves, albeit dispassionately. Ralph Waldo Emerson says, Father love is understood only in retrospect. When you grow old and become a father, you understand and appreciate your dad, whom you may not have liked much while growing up. A father role may appear marginalised initially in a family setup, but it not. It central and crucial **to** the growth and development of not just children but the entire unit. A father who is responsible for his family has to don the mantle of seriousness. Like the headmaster in a school, a dad is the principal in a family. He has to be calm, cool, collected, and also calculated; his heart is pure sterling. Antoine Franois Prevost rightly said, The heart of a father is the masterpiece of nature. The Taittiriya Upanishad exhorts, Pitradevo Bhava your father is like a god on earth. Whether he a deity or an angel is inconsequential. Your dad is a human endowed with humane attributes such as love, emotion, affection and intimacy. A dad needs nothing more than a smile. Let send our love to all dads on Father Day with a note of gratitude from Robert Southey immortal poem, 'My cheeks have often been bedewed With tears of thoughtful gratitude.' Take a bow, all dads. In the context of BJP, the lack of coordination between candidates and cadres, as well as between BJP and its allies in planning the joint campaign may have also contributed to setbacks in UP. As for the much-touted Modi magic, it did work impressively well in other parts of the country but in UP, it actually proved to be a disadvantage. Candi

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To each For instance, targeting the woman of the household would perhaps be the most effective when it comes to nutrition because she may be the one deciding what is consumed during meals on a daily basis. However, she may or may not be the one with the financial prowess to influence purchasing decisions. Similarly, when it comes to sanitation, women may be the right target group when it comes to effecting behavior change such as disinfecting hands after defecation, washing hands before eating, etc. but the decision to build a toilet in the home will involve convincing others in the household. No communication campaign is targeted at a single group. Recognizing that and crafting strategies to reach out to each is essential to a successful behavior change campaign. What could be the most effective medium of communicating with them? Having identified the different target groups, it is essential to identify the mediums through which this message can be delivered effectively. If the target group is women, places that they frequent as members of society from SHGs to community gatherings could be ideal locations to target them. If the target group is men, street plays, radio and even television could be effective modes of communication. Targeting the youth would mean experimenting with new age platforms and content formats that they identify with. Demographics, literacy levels and even access are important factors to be considered when determining the medium of communication. Is your strategy aligned with your end goal? Apart from identifying the various target groups and the mediums through which you will communicate with them, it is equally important to align your communication strategy to drive them towards the end goal desired behavior change. Behavior change, as we all know, is a tall order, and cannot be achieved in the short term or with a single campaign. Therefore, a behavior change communication strategy on issues such as nutrition and sanitation need to be designed to gradually transition target groups from awareness to belief and subsequently, action. At each stage, the communication formats and mediums need to be calibrated to the audience and the objective. The world is fast becoming a digital ecosystem with transformations penetrating every sphere of human endeavor. In fact, experts warn that organizations and sectors that fail to digitally transform in the coming years may be left to settle for the crumbs that fall off the **table** of commercial boom in the future. In India, one sector that has enjoyed technology penetration and some level of adoption is agriculture. The last decade has ushered in massive innovation that is leading to the transformation of the sector. India agricultural sector has come of age, growing exponentially in recent years to become an important global player. As a major producer and exporter of rice, wheat, fruits, vegetables, spices, pulses, sugarcane, and several other agro products, agriculture forms a major part of the nation foreign exchange earner, raking in \$41.25 Billion from exports in 2021 and contributing around 17% to.

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The recent BJP triumph in the state elections has been attributed to the overwhelming political machine created by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. What struck me most, however, as I followed the campaign through UP, was something different a hunger mismatch between BJP top leaders such as Modi, Amit Shah, Yogi Adityanath and most of their rivals, particularly those who lead Congress. It is a mismatch of hard working and self made entrepreneurs versus fifth generation party scions, with their palace intrigues, philosophical musings, pet liberal causes and overseas vacations. Trustees of the Employee Provident Fund last week recommended an interest of 8.1 on the fund accumulations for 2021 22 the lowest interest rate since 1977 78, when a rate of 8 was notified. But a blind comparison of interest rates over time can be misleading as the financial instruments available to EPF have been expanded to include equities. Yet, shortcomings of India huge social security scheme remain unresolved. EPFO had 46.2 million contributing members at the end of FY 2020 21. Its legal mandate covers three separate schemes, of which EPF and Pension Scheme are the most important. However, these two schemes are intertwined as the PF deductions and an employer contribution are spread across them. Returns on EPF are linked to the investment performance but the Pension Scheme is hybrid there is a partial government guarantee built into it. Most accumulated funds are directed into debt instruments over Rest 14 lakh crore at the end of FY21. About 50 of this is invested in Go and state government debt. Interest rates have trended downwards over the last three years and returns on EPF have followed suit. In 2020 21, the yield on debt investments was just 6.8. So, how does EPFO declare returns over 8 Extra returns comes from investing up to 15 of the annual inflows into financial instruments linked to equities? The risk return profiles of EPF and Pension Scheme have changed over the last few years. However, there inadequate information on what happening to this retirement saving scheme, which is growing fast because of EPF mandatory nature and Go subsidies to formalise jobs. Publicly available data on EPFO investments is scanty. This heightens concerns on lowering returns when retail inflation is firming up, even though the broad logic of lowering the rate is right. EPFO needs to be more transparent about details of its investments. **Separately,** the Pension Scheme needs timely actuarial assessments as there is a sovereign guarantee involved. These are pretty urgent as the number of organised sector workers as well as pensioners is going to grow, and markets and the economy will face many uncertainties for a while. Improving maternal health is a multi sectorial endeavor encompassing better access to inputs ranging from education and nutrition to contraceptives and institutional delivery. So the welcome decrease in India maternal mortality ratio from 122 to 103 maternal deaths per lakh live births between 2015 17 and 2017 19, shown by SRS data, is actually the.

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The recent BJP triumph in the state elections has been attributed to the overwhelming political machine created by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. What struck me most, however, as I followed the campaign through UP, was something different a hunger mismatch between BJP top leaders such as Modi, Amit Shah, Yogi Adityanath and most of their rivals, particularly those who lead Congress. It is a mismatch of hard working and self made entrepreneurs versus fifth generation party scions, with their palace intrigues, philosophical musings, pet liberal causes and overseas vacations. Trustees of the Employee Provident Fund last week recommended an interest of 8.1 on the fund accumulations for 2021 22 the lowest interest rate since 1977 78, when a rate of 8 was notified. But a blind comparison of interest rates over time can be misleading as the financial instruments available to EPF have been expanded to include equities. Yet, shortcomings of India huge social security scheme remain unresolved. EPFO had 46.2 million contributing members at the end of FY 2020 21. Its legal mandate covers three separate schemes, of which EPF and Pension Scheme are the most important. However, these two schemes are intertwined as the PF deductions and an employer contribution are spread across them. Returns on EPF are linked to the investment performance but the Pension Scheme is hybrid there is a partial government guarantee built into it. Most accumulated funds are directed into debt instruments over Rest 14 lakh crore at the end of FY21. About 50 of this is invested in Go and state government debt. Interest rates have trended downwards over the last three years and returns on EPF have followed suit. In 2020 21, the yield on debt investments was just 6.8. So, how does EPFO declare returns over 8 Extra returns comes from investing up to 15 of the annual inflows into financial instruments linked to equities? The risk return profiles of EPF and Pension Scheme have changed over the last few years. However, there inadequate information on what happening to this retirement saving scheme, which is growing fast because of EPF mandatory nature and Go subsidies to formalise jobs. Publicly available data on EPFO investments is scanty. This heightens concerns on lowering returns when retail inflation is firming up, even though the broad logic of lowering the rate is right. EPFO needs to be more transparent about details of its investments. **Separately,** the Pension Scheme needs timely actuarial assessments as there is a sovereign guarantee involved. These are pretty urgent as the number of organised sector workers as well as pensioners is going to grow, and markets and the economy will face many uncertainties for a while. Improving maternal health is a multi sectorial endeavor encompassing better access to inputs ranging from education and nutrition to contraceptives and institutional delivery. So the welcome decrease in India maternal mortality ratio from 122 to 103 maternal deaths per lakh live births between 2015 17 and 2017 19, shown by SRS data, is actually the.

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Fruit of multiple interventions. Likewise, further improvements will also need sustained effort along all relevant vectors. India SDG target is to bring its MMR below 70 by 2030, which it can well meet in advance. Beyond this it should take inspiration from countries that have already brought their MMR down to single digits like Belarus, Poland and the UK. Large disparities in states performances need to be understood and addressed. Kerala MMR improved from 42 to 30, suggesting it kept pushing up standards from an already high level. UP continues to have among the highest MMRs in the country at 167, but it has delivered a dramatic 49 points improvement from 216. By contrast, Bengal performance worsened from 94 to 109. State or region wise solutions will vary. One may need to focus on increasing marriage age and another, on increasing antenatal care visits. The Centre too needs to assess different schemes objectively and increase investment or undertake reform where needed. An issue that needs disentangling is why the distribution of iron and folic acid supplements has not reduced severe anemia, as envisioned. The most immediate nationwide need is to take stock of how the pandemic has hurt reproductive care services, to ensure that hard won gains are not seriously reversed. Institutional deliveries, a core factor in improving MMR, took a hit. As did women access to Ash workers and their health counseling. The list goes on. The important question is whether all such services are now back on track, as Covid deaths drop back to the level of the pandemic initial weeks. India has seen health interventions improve health outcomes. But it can do much better. Improving maternal health is a multi-sectorial endeavor encompassing better access to inputs ranging from education and nutrition to contraceptives and institutional delivery. So the welcome decrease in India maternal mortality ratio from 122 to 103 maternal deaths per lakh live births between 2015 17 and 2017 19, shown by SRS data, is actually the fruit of multiple interventions. Likewise, further improvements will also need sustained effort along all relevant vectors. India SDG target is to bring its MMR below 70 by 2030, which it can well meet in advance. Beyond this it should take inspiration from countries that have already brought their MMR down to single digits like Belarus, Poland and the UK. Large disparities in states performances need to be understood **and addressed. Kerala MMR improved from 42 to 30, suggesting it kept pushing up standards from an already high level. UP continues to have among the highest MMRs in the country at 167, but it has delivered a dramatic 49 points improvement from 216. By contrast, Bengal performance worsened from 94 to 109. State or region wise solutions will vary. One may need to focus on increasing marriage age and another, on increasing antenatal care visits. The Centre too needs to assess different schemes objectively and increase investment or undertake reform where needed. An issue that needs disentangling is why the.**

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The Divine for giving you this wonderful opportunity to exist, grow and blossom. Get in touch with your innermost and sincerest aspiration and make a resolve to live your life in the light of this aspiration. Don't worry about the past, because the cosmos is giving you a second chance for revival, regeneration and rebirth. Peruse your life history and recall the people who have given you unconditional love, care and support. Take out time to tell them how grateful and blessed you feel to have them in your life. There may have been people who felt wronged by you and those who have hurt you. Whatever be the context, try to understand that blame game would never resolve anything. Welcome forgiveness in your heart, forgiving yourself for hurting others and forgiving those who have hurt you, cleansing yourself of all the bitterness. After doing this, concentrate within and feel the Divine presence. Think of ways in which you can deepen your surrender and see the eternal flame in your consciousness for all the times to come. Never lose hope even during the darkest moments, because this eternal light continues to glow within you.

While on the 11th March the UNSC discussed an important issue of biological labs in Ukraine on the insistence of Russia, the matter was given a very casual approach missing an opportunity to have a serious discussion to comprehensively deal with the issue to eliminate possibilities of dangerous pathogens being weaponries. The cryptic statement of Izumi Nakamitsu, the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, that the UN is not aware of any biological weapons programmes in Ukraine was a testimony to such an approach. She further remarked that both Ukraine and Russia are state parties to the Biological Weapons Convention BWC, an international treaty that prohibits such weapons. Biological weapons have been outlawed since the BWC entered into force in 1975. Such an approach was all the more shocking as the world has not yet recovered from the Covid 19 devastation. The Russian Foreign Ministry had pointed out that there were 30 laboratories funded by the US which were running a secret military biological programme for the US with full support of Ukraine. On the 10th March, the Russian Defence Ministry released documents that it claimed to have been acquired by the personnel of a bio lab in Ukraine. Russian Permanent Representative Vassal **Nebenzia** said in the UNSC that we discovered truly shocking facts of emergency clean up by the Kyiv regime of traces of a military biological programme being implemented by Kyiv with support by the US Ministry of Defense. He further stated that in Ukraine there was a network of 30 bio labs where very dangerous biological experiments were being conducted aimed at strengthening pathogenic qualities of plague, anthrax, cholera and other lethal diseases using synthetic biology. Linda Thomas Greenfield of the US countered it by accusing Russia of attempting to use the Security Council to legitimise disinformation and deceive people to.

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Justify President Vladimir Putin war of choice against the Ukrainian people. The representatives of UK and Ukraine also supported the view of the US. Thus, the matter ended without going into the larger issue of placing effective mechanism to check any such possibility in future. The biological and chemical weapons had been used in the past and some steps were taken to ensure that they are not used. These are included in the Weapons of Mass Destruction WMD. Two important Conventions are in place to prohibit their development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, transfer and use. While the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention BTWC entered into force on 26 the March 1975 and has 183 States Parties including all P5 countries and Ukraine, the Chemical Weapons Convention CWC, which came into force on 29 the April 1997. However, the CWC received more attention and a mechanism was created for its implementation. The CWC is administered by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons OPCW, with a permanent Secretariat and a Secretary General, while there is no such apparatus for BTWC. In fact, the biological pathogens are more dangerous than the chemical elements. It is not only Russia but the US Undersecretary of State Victoria Nuland also indicated during a hearing that Ukraine has biological research facilities when asked if Ukraine has bioweapons. She was also reported to have stated that the US was working with Ukraine to prevent Russia from getting those research materials. In addition, the WHO is reported to have advised Ukraine to immediately destroy high threat pathogens stored at Ukraine bio labs to prevent any potential spills that would have catastrophic consequences. In view of the foregoing, it was imperative on the part of UNCS to take cognizance of the reports and work out a plan to establish a mechanism like we have for the CWC. Unfortunately, there was no attempt in this direction. The issue got lost in the accusations and counter accusations. India did try to focus on the larger issue. India Permanent Representative at the UN T S Tirumurthy highlighting the importance of the BTWC as a key global and non discriminatory disarmament convention, stressed that India believes that any matter relating to obligations under the BTWC should be addressed as per the provisions of the Convention, and through consultations and cooperation between the parties concerned. This approach is based on realism and needs **to** push up to ensure establishment of a strong multilateral apparatus to verify such matters. If it is not done, Covid 19 type of viruses can keep on visiting this planet with devastating consequences. India social sector is witnessing unprecedented growth as well as disruption. The robust civil society in India continues to work tirelessly towards accomplishing transformational change in socioeconomic structures to bring prosperity for all where the benefits of growth and opportunities are more fairly distributed across communities and regions. Simultaneously, there has been rapid growth of the philanthropic community both in terms of increase in the amount of.

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The academia in the US soon realised that private donations and endowment income cannot replace the steady flow of govt support. That decision has shaken the very foundation of the "American" research ecosystem and offers an important lesson for the rest of the world. Public funding is not charity. It is the backbone of a nation's "knowledge" economy. Not charity but investment: When govts withdraw support, universities begin to behave like businesses every great university system, both public and private, is built on predictable govt support. In the US, private universities like Stanford, MIT and Caltech each receive hundreds of millions of dollars annually from federal agencies. Every grant carries an overhead, often between 40 and 60%, to support laboratories, staff, and maintenance and compliance systems. These overheads sustain the invisible infrastructure that keeps research alive. Without them, even the wealthiest private universities would struggle to survive. In India, we've taken a very different approach. Research grants rarely include realistic overheads, and often none at all. Public institutions may receive less than 10%, while private universities are sometimes required to provide co-funding to qualify for govt grants. In effect, the overheads are negative. Instead of being supported for taking up research, universities must spend their own resources to participate. Many private institutions hesitate to take govt projects simply because they cannot afford to subsidise them. Without adequate overheads, universities cannot maintain advanced laboratories, retain skilled staff or build compliance systems. This policy flaw has prevented India from building a strong and sustainable research culture across both public and private institutions. While universities should aim for financial resilience, expecting them to be entirely self-supporting is unrealistic. Govts must stop asking universities to stand on their own feet and instead encourage them to diversify responsibly. A university that relies entirely on govt grants may stagnate, but one that depends only on private sources risks losing its academic freedom. The goal should be balance, not withdrawal. Diversification can take many forms. Universities can build endowments, encourage alumni giving, develop continuing education programmes, license intellectual property and create start-ups around their research. These activities make them more resilient and socially relevant but cannot replace stable public funding. Govt support provides continuity and confidence. It allows universities to take long-term risks and pursue ideas whose impact may take decades. Industry funding brings practical relevance but is short-term and guided by corporate priorities. Philanthropy adds **flexibility** but fluctuates with economic cycles. Only govt support provides the stability required for true innovation. When govts withdraw support, universities begin to behave like businesses. They raise tuition, trim faculty and focus on revenue-generating programmes. Over time, this undermines both excellence and access. Students from modest backgrounds are priced out, and researchers become risk-averse. India cannot afford to take that path. Our higher education system is still evolving, and the culture of alumni giving and endowment building is only beginning to grow. Expecting self-sufficiency without a supportive financial framework is neither fair nor wise. Govt funding must remain the backbone, but i

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The academia in the US soon realised that private donations and endowment income cannot replace the steady flow of govt support. That decision has shaken the very foundation of the "American" research ecosystem and offers an important lesson for the rest of the world. Public funding is not charity. It is the backbone of a nation's "knowledge" economy. Not charity but investment: When govts withdraw support, universities begin to behave like businesses every great university system, both public and private, is built on predictable govt support. In the US, private universities like Stanford, MIT and Caltech each receive hundreds of millions of dollars annually from federal agencies. Every grant carries an overhead, often between 40 and 60%, to support laboratories, staff, and maintenance and compliance systems. These overheads sustain the invisible infrastructure that keeps research alive. Without them, even the wealthiest private universities would struggle to survive. In India, we've taken a very different approach. Research grants rarely include realistic overheads, and often none at all. Public institutions may receive less than 10%, while private universities are sometimes required to provide co-funding to qualify for govt grants. In effect, the overheads are negative. Instead of being supported for taking up research, universities must spend their own resources to participate. Many private institutions hesitate to take govt projects simply because they cannot afford to subsidise them. Without adequate overheads, universities cannot maintain advanced laboratories, retain skilled staff or build compliance systems. This policy flaw has prevented India from building a strong and sustainable research culture across both public and private institutions. While universities should aim for financial resilience, expecting them to be entirely self-supporting is unrealistic. Govts must stop asking universities to stand on their own feet and instead encourage them to diversify responsibly. A university that relies entirely on govt grants may stagnate, but one that depends only on private sources risks losing its academic freedom. The goal should be balance, not withdrawal. Diversification can take many forms. Universities can build endowments, encourage alumni giving, develop continuing education programmes, license intellectual property and create start-ups around their research. These activities make them more resilient and socially relevant but cannot replace stable public funding. Govt support provides continuity and confidence. It allows universities to take long-term risks and pursue ideas whose impact may take decades. Industry funding brings practical relevance but is short-term and guided by corporate priorities. Philanthropy adds **flexibility** but fluctuates with economic cycles. Only govt support provides the stability required for true innovation. When govts withdraw support, universities begin to behave like businesses. They raise tuition, trim faculty and focus on revenue-generating programmes. Over time, this undermines both excellence and access. Students from modest backgrounds are priced out, and researchers become risk-averse. India cannot afford to take that path. Our higher education system is still evolving, and the culture of alumni giving and endowment building is only beginning to grow. Expecting self-sufficiency without a supportive financial framework is neither fair nor wise. Govt funding must remain the backbone, but i

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Without this, none can build the "administrative and technical foundations" that world-class research demands. India must also recognise that funding research is a long-term "investment" in the country's future. Every rupee spent on research creates value through innovation, employment and technology creation. The money invested in universities returns to society as economic growth, intellectual capital and national strength. The best higher education systems treat public and private universities as part of one integrated ecosystem, not as competing silos. Trump's funding cuts reminded America's universities that autonomy is not isolation. True independence requires steady public support the financial stability that allows intellectual freedom. India must absorb that lesson. The state must remain the backbone of education and research while promoting efficiency, transparency and responsible diversification. Universities can be self-confident, but not self-supporting. They exist to serve society, not to behave like corporations. The real question is not whether universities can support themselves, but whether a nation can progress without supporting its universities. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity (November 17, 2025) A Bow to Good Governance, A Slap to Fake Narratives Keshav Upadhye, a young, dynamic and prominent face, has been working with the Bharatiya Janata Party for over two decades. In 2014, the then state president Devendra Fadnavis had appointed Upadhye as the spokesperson in his team. Owing to his journalistic background and better understanding of the socio-economic issues of the state, Upadhye made a mark as a spokesperson in a short span. He articulates the views of the party and aggressively defends the party on various platforms including the Marathi and Hindi national news channels. Keshav Upadhye worked for the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) and after completing his degree in Journalism from Ranade Institute, Pune, he began his career as a journalist with daily Pudhari, Loksatta and Mumbai Tarun Bharat. Knowing the pulse of the news, he writes on varied topics and on various platforms like the newspapers, blogs and other social media platforms. He was involved in two study groups formed by the Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini in 2006 to study the naxalite movement and its adverse impact on the development of Chhattisgarh. The Prabodhini later published this report. He was also a part of the Prabodhini's fact-finding committee formed to study the Sholapur riots. MORE The results of the Bihar Assembly elections are significant in many ways. In this **election**, the voters have given a big bow to the development schemes and good governance of the Modi government at the centre and the NDA government in Bihar, while thoroughly rejecting the Congress's malpractices like vote theft propaganda. The Bihar election has once again shown that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's charisma still exists. This bow from Bihar's voters should be humbly accepted by the Congress and all opponents. However, some groups like Sanjay Raut have evaded accepting reality by targeting the Election Commission. During this election, issues related to a state like Bihar, which has been in the news for various reasons, and other development issues there got discussed.

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Low sell high credit models The solution lies in providing deep, lasting value to end users while containing lurking risks. First, liquidity needs to be addressed in progressive horizons. Individual or household needs range from recurring shortfalls to meet monthly or even weekly expenses to multiyear finance to make long term investments in their future e.g., education, security, productive assets. Our data shows that over 75 of platform gig workers, typically on task or attendance based contracts, repeatedly face salary shortages and are looking for solutions to bridge gaps created by rigid payout schedules. This opens up an opportunity to start with small ticket and short tenor loans, loans as low as a few hundred rupees a week, linked to future earnings, which current digital technologies now make possible to deliver in affordable and convenient formats. Our data indicates that 80 of such early payout linked credit is spent on essentials like rent, fuel, and groceries. To deliver these loans scalable and cost effectively, alternative data especially in the form of digitised work parameters like earnings capacity, regularity of activity, and performance consistency can be crucial. Digital transactions and broader mobile linked behaviors e.g., social graphs, app usage can further help monitor user risks. The intelligence value of such data far exceeds that of traditional credit scores, which are thin and not optimised for the segment. Further, once a user is on boarded onto a financial path, their behavior say making timely repayments can be positively reinforced and deeper value say in the form of higher credit limits or longer term loans can be progressively unlocked while capping risks. Digital payment integration can create embedded finance wherein credit is directly channeled to provide access to relevant goods & services, say a vehicle rental or a new skill building course. Such purpose driven credit is more likely to reap productive gains and be repaid. Second, financial solutions should be approached holistically. Appropriate types of credit is a big part of the solution, but how does it assure long term resilience and growth for vulnerable workers It is as important to create opportunities to harness surpluses generated by workers, even if periodic or erratic. We need solutions that allow workers to invest the smallest amounts in higher interest assets and as easily withdraw these funds in times of need. Similarly, we need products that solve specific idiosyncratic vulnerabilities faced by low **earning workers, which can range from occupational hazards to family health to loss of work. Targeted insurance products with short coverage periods and sachetised premium structures that are aligned with worker cash flows are ideal and can boost insurance adoption. This is also good risk economics since such shocks often trigger loan defaults and create systemic imbalances. Providing contextually and intuitively integrated financial services also alleviates cognitive overloads of low income workers, who are otherwise hard pressed to manage cash inflows and outflows, or to plan and budget for the future. Third, sustainable finance requires building the right ecosystem and engaging.**

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In a traditional model, the teams work in silos, managing servers, network storage, applications, etc. In this model of operations, a ticket is raised to resolve an issue, and it goes through a series of escalations, adding to downtime and affecting the end user. In the new model, Site Reliability Engineering SRE teams takes ownership of resolving the issue proactively, instead of raising tickets. Understanding the state of the system through data becomes critical here. Applications should be designed to provide metrics that operations and development teams can use to jointly resolve issues. When a system is down, the goal is to stay within an established error budget. It important to have a team that understands both costs and cloud complexity. Observability is crucial to understanding the Service level Objective SLO of a product in the cloud to improve cloud reliability. There are several tools available on the market, such as product development and debugging tools that can help improve observability, but they are not comprehensive. If the engineering teams provide the tools with data, they can do their magic. However, not many of these tools are ready to provide extreme observability. The cloud industry is still catching up. The focus needs to be placed on improving the observability of these tools, and, therefore, improving cloud reliability. Experts from the industry suggest that as customers migrate to cloud platforms and modernize their monolithic type workloads, they need to rethink how they collect output signals, such as logs, metrics, and traces. Aiming to improve observability and evaluate the health of their own cloud applications. Making site reliability engineering a priority Davos today is more focused on automating the operations part of development cycle until a product gets to production. In SRE, the development and operations teams work together to help in product evolution and maintain reliability in production, a manifestation of development and operations coming together. As far as security is concerned, the cloud provider is responsible for the security of the cloud and ensuring infrastructure is secure and reliable. However, the customer is responsible for security in the cloud. The way these security features are implemented in your application is up to the development team or the consuming client. It much like how a car comes with safety features such as a seatbelt and breaks. However, it up to the occupants to use these features. By itself, the car **is** safe. Similarly, the cloud provider incorporates all the safety features but it up to the end user to use them. Managing cloud costs Cloud spending accounts for a significant portion of IT spending. The 2021 State of the Cloud Report from Flex era estimates that around 30 per cent of enterprises cloud spending is wasted. According to a report by McKinsey Digital Insights, around 80 per cent of enterprises find it challenging to manage cloud spending. According to the study, more than 70 per cent of enterprises cite optimising cloud spending as a major goal, but it remains a elusive.

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A major skills shortage. By continuing to equip workers with the digital skills of the future we can unlock new growth and opportunity whilst addressing upcoming challenges whether they are new pandemics, economic shocks or sustainability related. More companies recognised their duty to help build a sustainable future for everyone. The relationship between digital up skilling and sustainability is a growing concern, increasing the demand for digital skills for operating technology that promotes sustainable business activities such as tracing, measuring and analyzing climate data within an organization. Sales force Global Skills Index reveals that, the five most important digital skills business needs to invest in today, and over the next five years are collaboration technology skills, digital administrative skills, encryption and cyber security skills, e commerce and digital trade skills, and project management technology skills. In India, Digital marketing has been ranked the top workplace skill in India, with only 39 respondents rating their workplace digital marketing skills level as advanced. Skills and Business Competitiveness Increasingly business competitiveness, employee performance and customer experience rely on the combination of technological advancements and skills readiness. Boosting confidence over hope in our capability to leverage new technologies effectively and participate in the digital economy is key to unlocking major socio economic change that ensures growth, innovation and happiness in equal measure. Globally 51 of respondents and in India 54 of respondents want to learn new skills to help them grow their current career. By harnessing the potential of existing workforces, businesses can speed progress towards closing their skills gaps. Now more than ever, businesses must work closely with governments and community stakeholders, to ensure that training and recruitment scales up to match digital demand, to reach all aspects of society, and to accelerate recovery and growth. Together, we can rethink digital transformation and lifelong education, ensuring a digital first mindset to help close digital skills gaps more efficiently. In 2021, the large scale adoption of multi cloud and hybrid cloud strategies by enterprises was observed. Flex era reports that 92 per cent of enterprises have adopted hybrid and multi cloud strategies in its 2021 State of the Cloud Report. End user spending on public cloud services has increased, reaching USD 396 billion in 2021. It is expected to surpass USD 482 billion this year. Gartner predicts public cloud spending will exceed 45 per cent of enterprise IT spending by 2026, up from **less than 17 per cent in 2021. Clouds teams must manage both costs and business outcomes while being resilient and dependable. In 2022, cloud businesses will focus on optimising their engineering centric operations to become more efficient. Modern applications must be operated in a way that considers app, data and the server side infrastructure holistically rather than in silos. The key is to move away from traditional operations towards a more integrated approach. Improving observability must be built into the application and platform. The applications themselves must be designed for reliability and cost. They must be optimised and provide feedback continually.**

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Eat fruit rich diet, curd and garlic. Consult a doctor in case of an infection. Women in low income group also have the challenge of access to menstrual hygiene materials because of costs, availability and social norms. Menstrual cups are a solution for these women. These do not have to be replaced, they can be washed in water and reused and stored when not in use. They have more than five years life. Therefore, their long term cost is low, even though their initial cost is higher than sanitary pads and tampons. Government should create awareness about menstruation hygiene; and should distribute free menstruation cups among the needy and teach them how to use it. The savings in working days lost to illness because of improper hygiene, and the cost of treatment of illness, will far outweigh the cost of the cups. The improvement in low income women life and earning will be an added bonus. According to the Reserve Bank of India Monthly bulletin released on Tuesday regarding India being on the cusp of a long awaited economic take off is growing internationally. The bulletin observation is based on the pace of increasing aggregate demand and recovery of the rural spending. The bulletin notes that for the first time in two years, rural demand for Fast Moving Consumer Goods has outpaced urban demand, with, the growth of volume of 6.5 % being driven by rural growth of 7.6 % relative to the urban growth of 5.7 % on the back of robust demand for home and personal growth of care products. An article in the RBI bulletin prepared by a team led by RBI Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra opines that, while the outlook for the Global economy is turning fragile with the fall in inflation stalling, the Indian economy has demonstrated marked resilience in the face of geopolitical obstacles impacting the supply chain with the retail inflation falling to an 11 month low at 4.83% year on year in April, 2024 from 4.85% in March, 2024, as per the data released by the Statistics Ministry of the Government of India on Monday, 20th May, 2024. Observation of IMF April 2024 World Economic Outlook The RBI bulletin points out that revising India GDP growth upwards by close to 2 percentage points for 2023 24, the IMF April 2024 World Economic Outlook WEO has alluded to the robustness of **growth** in India expected in 2024 and 2025, reflecting continuing strength in domestic demand and a rising working age population. Observations by OECD The bulletin highlights that, according to the OECD, India is expected to continue to experience broadly stable and rapid growth, with inflation moderating further. The OECD May 2024 Economic Outlook has reportedly pointed out strong momentum in India recent monthly indicators expecting strong investment and improved business confidence in India to sustain real GDP growth. World Bank on India achievement in Reducing Extreme Poverty Referring to the wide appreciation of India for the dramatic reduction in poverty in the country, the bulletin draws attention towards the estimates of the World Bank, which indicate that, while at the height of the pandemic in 2021, only 12.9 % of the population in India was living on US\$ 2.15 a day, the global benchmark for extreme poverty, recent estimates show that extreme deprivation, once considered synonymous with India, is set to become extinct. Focus on India achievements on the physical infrastructure & digital infrastructure front Pointing towards the worldwide focus on the transformation of the

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Continuing to develop. The RBI bulletin states that currently: India has the highest number of digital transactions fueled by a massive internet user base; Broadband connectivity has also seen a significant leap, reaching over 93 % of villages; The Bharat Net project will connect all villages through high speed internet; Digital platforms like the Open Network for Digital Commerce ONDC are empowering small businesses by providing a larger marketplace, and; India digital public infrastructure, the India Stack the project of creating a unified software platform to bring India population into the digital age is boosting productivity, efficiency and generating employment, besides enabling better targeting of fiscal transfers. India achievements in the Power Sector The bulletin points out that India power sector has attained 100 % electrification and has been integrated into a single grid across the country resulting in: All these achievements have led to the International Optimism that India is on the cusp of an economic take off driven by increasing aggregate demand and heightened non food spending in rural areas. With a visionary leader like Narendra Modi being at helm as PM after the 2024 General Elections, the country can now hope to continue with the robust growth it has achieved so far. A massive effort was launched to disseminate false narrative about Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party, citing things like the CAA and Constitution getting altered. In addition to this, in Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis is similarly being slandered over the Maratha reservation issue. The Bharatiya Janata Party was impacted by this negative campaign during the Lok Sabha elections. In fact, the regret expressed by Devendra Fadnavis while speaking at the BJP Legislature Party meet was indeed a reflection of the effects of the fake narratives, creating a stir in politics. While Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray won support from the electorate despite not proposing any decision in favor of Maratha reservation, Fadnavis bemoaned at BJP garnering such hostility despite fulfilling everything in favor of the reservation. As the chief minister of Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis had established the Annasaheb Patil Arthik Magas Vikas Mahamandal. Through this corporation, business loans are provided to the youth of the Maratha community, the interest for which is paid by the corporation, i.e., the state government. This scheme has benefitted nearly 70,375 youths and loan amount to the tune of Rs 5,220 crore has been disbursed. For a **period** of 15 years, from 1999 to 2014, the state was governed by the Congress NCP coalition. But the Maratha youth never received loans in this manner. In fact, the community youth never received a penny from this government. Fadnavis also played a key role in the establishment of the Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Research, Training and Human Development Institute or SARTHI, that offers scholarships to Maratha students who want to achieve academic excellence. The decision to provide scholarship worth Rs 60 lakh for an MS degree and Rs 1.60 crore for PhD was taken by Fadnavis. This scheme helped around 75 youngsters from the Maratha community who wanted to pursue studies overseas. Additionally, 23,224 students studying in Grade IX to Grade XI were given scholarships to the tune of Rs 31 crore under the Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj Sarthi initiative. It was under the Sarthi initiative that Fadnavis had started the practi

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Better understanding of how and where the money is being spent is essential when it comes to cloud computing costs. Tagging is the first step in identifying where the costs are being incurred. Identifying spending areas helps to put together an implementation plan and define budgets. In the year ahead, cost reduction on cloud services will become a priority area for most organisations. It encouraging that industry leaders are working together to address these issues through organisations, such as the International Finance Corporation IFC. As costs skyrocket, for all enterprises, knowledge sharing within the industry will scale. Following the increased enterprise adoption of cloud over the past two years fuelled by the pandemic, 2022 will be the year where the sector will priorities Clouds efficiency. Change, regardless of its nature or scale, is generally met with one common reaction resistance. However, the workplace today is more dynamic than ever before, and from shifts to hybrid working styles to constantly changing technology, it is safe to say that change is the only constant. Often, a gap emerges between the need for employees to constantly adapt to the changing workplace environment, and the lack of skills needed to do so. The pandemic has definitely served to prove to us that it is no longer sufficient to equip employees with the skills needed for the present, as the sudden nature of disruption can lead to the adaptation period generating immense losses for companies. In this context, prevention is indeed better than cure, and companies must build adaptability into their workforce, to ensure that they are equipped to quickly adapt to change. While adaptability is often understood in different ways, it can be broadly understood as the time taken to seamlessly integrate with new needs in a changing environment around us. These changes could involve mindset shifts often the toughest to tackle, plans, strategies, ways of execution, technology, customer needs, place of work, working culture, management shifts etc. Thus, L&D strategies must upgrade from equipping the workforce for the needs of the present to building adaptability and resilience as well. Adapting to Changing L&D Needs The pandemic definitely served to highlight the infinite potential of individuals to make possible what was previously considered impossible, when presented with the need to. Several tasks and events that were previously considered impossible to execute remotely, are now being done virtually on a daily basis from working **to attending weddings. Learning systems too have changed, and companies have adapted to newer models of blended learning, online self-paced learning and creating individualised learning paths and journeys. Organizations have moved from traditional methods of manager nominating an individual for a program to defined career frameworks, where the learner takes ownership of upgrading himself herself. While self driven learning must be promoted, the L&D team must also have a say in overall skill building and competency of an employee. Certain course modules certifications need to be made mandatory for an employee to complete to meet potential business needs and customer demands.**

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Issued by banks and non banks after obtaining minimum details, necessarily including a mobile number verified with and a self declaration of name and unique identity identification number of any mandatory document or any such document with any name listed for this purpose in the Master Direction on of the PPI holder. These can be used only for the purchase of goods and services and do not permit funds transfer or cash withdrawal. Small PPIs can be used at a group of clearly identified merchant locations or establishments which have a specific contract with the issuer or contract through a payment aggregator payment gateway to accept the PPIs as payment instruments. Such are issued by banks and non banks after completing the KYC of the PPI holder, along with a Video based Customer Identification Process V CIP, and can be used to open beneficiaries and INR Reloadable, Max value shall not exceed INR 3K, Cash out or Funds Transfer not permitted for such Instruments. Apart from MTS, such PPIs shall be used only at those merchant outlets whose activities are allied related to or are carried on within premises of the MTS. Now, let come to the interoperability mandates on these instruments Interoperability is the technical compatibility that enables a payment system to be used in conjunction with other payment systems. As per the Master Directions on Prepaid Payment Instruments, interoperability has been mandated on all Full KYC Wallet Cards, and interoperability is mandatory on the acceptance side as well. As such, the QR codes in all modes will be interoperable by 31st March 2022. In effect, money loaded on one PPI can now be used across card and UPI acceptance network in India. While Full KYC PPIs issued in the form of wallets will feature interoperability across PPIs through UPI, Full KYC PPIs issued as cards, physical or virtual, will be affiliated to the authorized card networks. Finally, the PPI MTS will be exempted from interoperability, while Gift PPI issuers will have the option to offer interoperability. This is a beneficial step for financial inclusion and towards reducing cash usage in the country. Requirement to achieve interoperability through issuer will act as the Payment System Providers PSP in will issue a handle to per its policy guidelines taking risk management aspects into for UPI by their link its customer wallets to the handle issued to its customers of **any** bank or any other PPI issuer. Authentication shall be completed by the PPI holder as per their existing wallet credentials. In other words, a transaction will be pre approved before it reaches the UPI. For the purposes of settlement, a be in line with Prepaid Card Interchange. Currently there is no clarity on this. To co create new innovative products riding on PPI, UPI and Cards payment rails. Globally, business has undergone a dramatic transition during the last decade. Global economic developments, technical changes, and dynamic market conditions all contribute to this shift. Due to this, sustaining and being competitive.

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To enable informed decision making. However, digital is not a defined project which has a start and end date. It is an evolutionary process that the companies must go through to keep up with their ecosystem which, in turn, is increasingly powered by digital technology. What missing It is commonplace for companies to identify some legacy applications and try to modernize them. Adoption of new age digital tools is also considered to be a visionary step. However, a holistic approach or roadmap that can stitch together various digital initiatives into the organizational fabric and embed it into the company DNA and culture is where the true value is. Many companies have overlooked this important aspect in their zeal to embrace digital as well as due to their fear of missing out FOMO or lagging competition. How do we go about it Creating a roadmap for digitizing the business is critical. This needs to be undertaken in four simple steps abbreviated as RISE. Reimagine Every touch point or interface that the company offers its stakeholders needs to be examined. It could be revenue generating touch point accessed by customers. It may also be an operational or business enhancing interface utilized by employees and other relevant stakeholders. Digital has changed the ecosystem and the way customers access, interact, and engage with businesses. Envisioning a customer journey or the employee engagement in a digitized ecosystem and simulating journeys can help organization to prepare a blueprint for its digital transformation initiatives. Augmenting it with a detailed plan and timelines can generate a roadmap which can be the compass that guides the digital transformation ship in the right direction. Integrate The roadmap enables the teams to understand how the entire IT landscape applications and the underlying technology layer can be modernized. Curating the landscape of applications by running it through a functional and technical feasibility prism may create the newer spectrum a leaner, relevant, significant, and digitally attuned IT landscape. This exercise may also help to optimize investments made towards digital and enhance confidence with respect to adoption of digital technologies and ROI generation. Structure structured digital transformation is the most critical aspect. We must appreciate that digital tools, technologies, and solutions span across the IT landscape. Getting lost in the milieu of tools, technologies, programming languages, and jargons that often get presented with the digital or next gen tag and implementing the most **cost** effective ones across the technology landscape of the company is not necessarily beneficial for the organization. The lack of value which companies often experience post adoption of such tools is greatly linked to the lack of structured method of adoption. A recommendation would be to structure the digital transformation across three layers customer centric, business centric, and technology platform centric. Customer centric layer Digital transformation journeys must reimagine the interfaces. The interface where the customers meet the business must be immersive. Every journey wherein customer interacts with the business must be engaging enough to hold their attention and mindshare and.

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Get the desired reaction from them. **Business centric Layer** The enterprise business application landscape must accommodate the macro changes in the form of hybrid work models, VPN based connectivity from multiple devices and unfamiliar networks etc. The applications must also align to the dynamics that the API economy brings about with respect to multiple integrations, inter connection across departmental applications, and connecting seamlessly with self serve interfaces handled by business users. Hence, the business centric layer is a constant work in progress in terms of modernization, cloud adoption and automation to create swifter processes, and augment the security of data and systems. The digital transformation roadmap needs to structure and carefully consider this business centric layer and wedge it perfectly into the digital transformation blueprint.

Platform centric layer With the extent of digital transformation and modernization that application landscapes are undergoing, the underlying IT infrastructure also needs to scale dynamically and adapt to new technologies faster. Be it the transformation from a monolithic to micro services architecture to optimize consumption of network, storage, and processing resources or accommodating the need to manage proliferation of data and access points, the platform centric layer also calls for deep thought and planning in terms of implementation of the apt digital tools and solutions. Enhance A structured digital transformation exercise will convert the digital roadmap into a structured implementation blueprint across the customer centric, business centric and the platform centric layers. This sets a robust base on which progressive digital initiatives can be built and organizations can enhance the value that their systems, and data can generate. The value of a well structured digital transformation implementation comes in the form of accelerated, yet well informed decision making, higher levels of quality, governance, and compliance, and augmented customer delight. All these factors contribute to sustained growth and enable companies to not only stay ahead of their competition and grow their top line but also consolidate and enhance market share. I hope adding structure to the digital transformation effort can enable companies to RISE to the unprecedented opportunity that digital presents. The companies which successfully embrace this challenge will undoubtedly be the leaders in their sector and harbingers of change for the greater good. In January 2020, India reported its first case of COVID 19, an infectious disease that had already reached various corners of the world, causing death and destruction. While medical personnel remained **at** the forefront fighting the deadly disease, Information Technology personnel and new adaptations played a big role in the backend to bring COVID under control. The pandemic ushered in a new era of digital health, wherein we saw a rise in digital consultations, healthcare apps, contactless delivery of medicines, and contactless payment solutions. With all these innovations, hospitals, clinics, government, health tech firms, and startups had to up their game to ensure smooth IT integration in healthcare to help the medical professionals in the long and ongoing battle against COVID. Various components are playing a role in this digital healthcare it.

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Ecosystem these components are primarily Hospital information systems HIS, Call Centre Solutions, CRM systems, self service kiosks, Patient App with Video Consultation feature, Homecare App, Payment gateways, Internet of things Iota, AI ML, WhatsApp integration, Backup office ERP, IT enabled Ambulatory response and control systems, among others. Hospital Information System HIS Hospital Information System HIS is a core component for any hospital to manage various services and processes within the hospital. This is similar to a core banking solution in the banking industry. HIS handles the entire patient journey within the hospital right from registration appointment to consultation, pharmacy, outpatient services, inpatient services, lab radiology, and health checks, etc. HIS integrates with all the associated add on solutions for a seamless data exchange. A stable, reliable and scalable HIS is at the core of the IT landscape for any hospital wanting to provide good patient experience and process transparency. ERP is used for back office functions like finance, purchase and HR, and is a key component of Hospital digitization. Healthcare institutions across India use SAP solutions for back office functions. SAP ERP is closely integrated with HIS for exchange of information, such as revenue consumption posting which is used for various reporting purpose. Furthermore, integration of SAP and HIS is crucial for automated and seamless flow of information between these two core systems. Call Centre & Queue Management System Call centers are the first point of contact for patients wanting to enquire or take appointments from doctors. Hence, this is an entry point for a patient journey through the hospital. Appointments can be booked for a video consultation or a face to face consultation with a doctor. Through an internal queue management system, hospitals now have a simplified process of managing appointments of doctors. Call center software are tightly integrated with the Core HIS for exchanging doctors and slot details and keep the information up to date on the call center software. Patients have an option to book appointment through call center, portal, patient mobile app as well as self service kiosks installed in hospitals. Customer Relationship Management CRM The CRM plays an important role in capturing all the digital journey leads of a patient and creates the funnel for conversion. It also captures lead management and lead journey within the system. CRM is tightly integrated with the HIS to track the patient visit along with revenue details. It **has a mechanism for tracking the feedback received against the patients leads and closure, along with escalation with given Turn Around Time TAT and service level agreement SLA. Self Service Kiosk You would have operated self service kiosks at airports, restaurants, cinemas, and malls. When it comes to hospitals, a self service kiosk can handle anything from registration of patients, to helping them with booking appointments, and even payment options through its touch based options. It has truly helped make the hospital journey seamless for patients. Mobile Applications apps Mobility using smartphone has transformed the customer experience across various industry verticals.**

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The Modi government has started many infrastructure development schemes in Bihar in the last 11 years. With the support of these schemes and the schemes of the Nitish Kumar government, the people of Bihar have started getting their fruits in tangible form. The voters have acknowledged this by voting overwhelmingly for the National Democratic Alliance in the assembly elections. In Bihar, which was once mocked as a BIMARU state, many development projects have been realized in the last 11 years. That is why investment Moues worth Rest 1. 81 lakh crore have been signed in Bihar. The conclusion that emerges from this is that investors from home and abroad have started finding Bihar a state suitable for investment. According to the latest report by the Confederation of Indian Industry, Bihar's economy is estimated to be worth around \$219 billion by 2030-2031. The report also estimates that Bihar's economy will grow to \$1. 10 trillion by 2046-2047. Railways, airport, electricity and other projects worth about 40 thousand crore rupees for Bihar were recently inaugurated and foundation stones were laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The terminal building of Purnia Airport in Bihar was constructed in less than 5 months. Due to this new airport, Purnia and Seemanchal will have direct connectivity with major cities and commercial centres in the country. The Modi government has started construction of many national highways in Bihar. Along with this, the doubling of several railway lines will further speed up the communication facilities in Bihar. The central government has announced the establishment of a Makhana Board for makhana producing farmers of Bihar in the 2025-2026 budgets. Besides that, the central government has emphasized on setting up food processing institutions in Bihar as well as increasing the production of crops like tur, urad, and major in the state. There are lakhs of beneficiaries in Bihar of various schemes by the Modi government like the PM Awas Yojana and Ujjwala Yojana. The general public has immense faith in the Modi government as the government is depositing government grants and financial assistance directly into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. This faith is reflected in the results of the assembly elections. Lalu Prasad was in power in Bihar for 15 consecutive years from 1990 to 2005. During this period, the people of Bihar experienced jungle raj. During that period, there was no constitution and rule of law in **Bihar**, but the dictatorship of the Yadav family. The people of Bihar have not yet forgotten the hooliganism that was nurtured under the auspices of the Yadav family during that period. The alliance government of Nitish Kumar and the BJP decisively broke the hooliganism of the Yadav family. The common people are experiencing the difference between the terrorism during Lalu Prasad's jungle raj and the determination and campaign to bring this hooliganism to an end during the NDA government. Therefore, common voters have generously showered votes on BJP and Nitish Kumar in this election. No one will claim that all problems in Bihar are over. However, instead of taking up the issues of common people and fighting on them, the opponents relied on fake narratives like vote theft, and the opponents have suffered the blow of that. Before this election, Congress's crown prince Rahul Gandhi had taken out a march opposing the Election Commission's voter list intensive verification campaign.

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In this march which toured the entire Bihar, Rashtriya Janata Dal's Tejashwi Yadav had participated with full force. Before this march, Rahul Gandhi had held a press conference in New Delhi and alleged that the names of voters against the BJP were being systematically excluded in the voter list verification program in Bihar. While presenting at this press conference, Rahul Gandhi had made some of the voters whose names were excluded stand before the journalists. An appeal was filed in the Supreme Court against the Election Commission's voter list correction program. The Supreme Court, understanding the Election Commission's side, rejected the objections to this program, but Rahul Gandhi continued harping on the voter list. It is expected that the opponents will learn a lesson from Bihar's results. Attempts to constantly create confusion in people's minds do not succeed. In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Congress benefited from the propaganda of constitutional amendment. If the opponents take help of such propaganda instead of going to the people and doing actual work among the people, the voters will reject the opponents; this is what the message of Bihar's results is. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity back in 1987, India and Pakistan faced off on a diabolical pitch in Bengaluru. Every batsman was at sea. There was one exception: Sunil Gavaskar, playing his last Test innings. Summoning every inch of his what reasons do we discern for the scale of NDA's victory 202 of Bihar's 243 assembly seats? The win is especially significant for the pan-Bihar spread and unidirectional mandate in disparate geographies of Magadh-Shahabad, Why did President Trump suddenly decide to lower taxes (called tariffs) on coffee and other foods from other countries? Because many people in the US are getting upset about rising prices and angry voters Healthy food is about policy and quality control. As train stations are redone, include that in the blueprint South Central Railway's proposal to open up train stations to single-brand company-owned food retail is a smart what made Trump cut tariffs on coffee and other farm produce? Voter pain that's turning into anger It's taken Trump nearly eight months to wake up and smell the coffee. What woke him up actually In politics and life, don't rush to write off people I was sitting looking despondent on the front step as Kamala returned from her walk. **Are** you still thinking about the Bihar election results? she Indian Railways is planning to redo about 1,200 train stations, and one new idea is to let big, single-brand food companies open shops there. This could make stations feel a bit like airports, where you Six months ago, the NDA looked vulnerable. Nitish's credibility had eroded after multiple political somersaults, the BJP could not come up with a better alternative, and the insurgent Jan Suraaj threatened to walk away with I have had the opportunity of working closely with Nitish Kumar. In Jan 2013 when, after resigning from IFS, I had joined him, he carried a formidable reputation: the most polished product of the socialist Indian elections is narrated in familiar terms. Someone 'wins', someone 'loses', and the result is framed as a wave. We assume that decisive verdicts emerge from large swings in electoral mood or someone's incredible charisma. It's déjà vu for the opposition INDIA coalition that, after Haryana and Maharashtra, is again outpaced by an e

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A major pillar of the healthcare delivery ecosystem with an ever increasing demand for more and more hospital beds, the government is also investing in a proper framework and regulatory mechanism to encourage the use of digital technologies. This will improve the quality of care, creating a centralised repository of health data records, maintain confidentiality of electronic health record EHR electronic medical record EMR data and extend the healthcare services to more and more citizens across the country. Digital Transformation is going to be a strong focus area, especially for large enterprise hospitals in the country. Some of the use cases of this digital transformation would be To improve Patient Experience by providing self service, real time, on demand, transparent, reliable and easy to use access to healthcare services for patients. Use of technology in the areas of ICU management monitoring icu & ambulatory Control & response systems with a centralised digital command center, 3D Printing for surgeries as a part of targeted treatments, use of portable sensors, tags, etc. will redefine the care delivery model for these core areas of hospital. Robotic process automation RPA & AI to automate the complex processes and documentation so that the caregivers can spend more time with patients rather than be busy with documentation. Use of technologies like ERP, RPA, AI ML etc. for better operational efficiency. Integration with the vendor ecosystem supply chain automation, vendor payments, etc. is also an integral part improving operational efficiency. The bottom line here is that while digital technology will be used extensively to automate processes and transform the overall care delivery experience, there will still be a need for human expertise for complex procedures and seriously ill patients. As of today, Prepaid Payment Instruments PPIs are well ingrained into the country payment landscape. Individuals and businesses use these instruments on a day to day basis in the form of mobile wallets or prepaid cards to facilitate simplified payments. In essence, users pay the desired value for PPIs using credit cards, debit cards, cash, or other PPI. This value is stored in these instruments and can be used instantaneously and conveniently across several platforms. As the usage of PPI gains traction, this article covers important updates regarding the interoperability of these ubiquitous payment instruments. However, before delving into the interoperability of these instruments, let us first take a look at the various types of PPIs. As **per** the updated Master Directions on Prepaid Payment Instruments MD PPIs released on 12th November 2021, there are 3 types of PPIs 1. Closed System PPIs These PPIs are issued by an entity for facilitating the purchase of goods and services from that entity only and do not permit cash withdrawal. Users cannot use these instruments for payment or settlement for third party services. The issuance or operation of such instruments is not classified as a payment system requiring RBI approval or authorization and is, therefore, not regulated or supervised by the RBI. 2. Small PPIs Minimum detail PPIs These are.

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Issued by banks and non banks after obtaining minimum details, necessarily including a mobile number verified with and a self declaration of name and unique identity identification number of any mandatory document or any such document with any name listed for this purpose in the Master Direction on of the PPI holder. These can be used only for the purchase of goods and services and do not permit funds transfer or cash withdrawal. Small PPIs can be used at a group of clearly identified merchant locations or establishments which have a specific contract with the issuer or contract through a payment aggregator payment gateway to accept the PPIs as payment instruments. Such are issued by banks and non banks after completing the KYC of the PPI holder, along with a Video based Customer Identification Process V CIP, and can be used to open beneficiaries and INR Reloadable, Max value shall not exceed INR 3K, Cash out or Funds Transfer not permitted for such Instruments. Apart from MTS, such PPIs shall be used only at those merchant outlets whose activities are allied related to or are carried on within premises of the MTS. Now, let come to the interoperability mandates on these instruments Interoperability is the technical compatibility that enables a payment system to be used in conjunction with other payment systems. As per the Master Directions on Prepaid Payment Instruments, interoperability has been mandated on all Full KYC Wallet Cards, and interoperability is mandatory on the acceptance side as well. As such, the QR codes in all modes will be interoperable by 31st March 2022. In effect, money loaded on one PPI can now be used across card and UPI acceptance network in India. While Full KYC PPIs issued in the form of wallets will feature interoperability across PPIs through UPI, Full KYC PPIs issued as cards, physical or virtual, will be affiliated to the authorized card networks. Finally, the PPI MTS will be exempted from interoperability, while Gift PPI issuers will have the option to offer interoperability. This is a beneficial step for financial inclusion and towards reducing cash usage in the country. Requirement to achieve interoperability through issuer will act as the Payment System Providers PSP in will issue a handle to per its policy guidelines taking risk management aspects into for UPI by their link its customer wallets to the handle issued to its customers of **any** bank or any other PPI issuer. Authentication shall be completed by the PPI holder as per their existing wallet credentials. In other words, a transaction will be pre approved before it reaches the UPI. For the purposes of settlement, a be in line with Prepaid Card Interchange. Currently there is no clarity on this. To co create new innovative products riding on PPI, UPI and Cards payment rails. Globally, business has undergone a dramatic transition during the last decade. Global economic developments, technical changes, and dynamic market conditions all contribute to this shift. Due to this, sustaining and being competitive.

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Organizational innovation based on workplace creativity has emerged as a separate source of competitive advantage. Innovation is defined as the application of new ideas that are innovative and valuable to the organization in order to bring new products and services to market or to change how work is done. Employee creativity, according to researchers, contributes to significant organizational innovation and determines an organization sustainability. Modern managers must encourage staff to be more creative in their approach to work as part of business change. Creativity is influenced by HR interventions such as creativity training, rewards and incentives, and organizational learning. Researchers define creativity as taking a unique approach to solving issues, bringing innovation to old ideas, and coming up with a new solution. The members of the organization are the source of creativity. As a result, many researchers believe that people are an organization most valuable resource, and that in order to succeed, companies must learn how to manage, motivate, and reward them. As it excites and inspires individuals, providing rewards and incentives to employees appears to be the most realistic strategy to boost employee innovation. According to empirical research, paying an employee for their innovative achievement increases the employee interest. How Human Resource Management Enhances Creativity and Innovation Employee creativity and invention have been widely acknowledged as contributing to corporate effectiveness in recent years. Many elements have been identified by researchers as stimulating or inhibiting creativity and innovation. Top level leadership, organizational culture, R&D investment, and organizational structure and design are all examples of these factors at the organizational level. Leadership at the managerial level, as well as coworker support, play important roles on the job. Human resource management HRM can play a proactive role in supporting innovation in a changing environment, according to a previous argument. According to research, certain HR practices, including as human resource planning, profit sharing, and result oriented assessments, as well as selectivity in staffing, training, and incentive compensation, boost performance. Others link various sorts of HRM bundles, systems, or configurations to various metrics of organizational performance. High involvement work systems and high performance work systems are two terms used to describe these integrated systems of HRM practices. These findings make a significant contribution to our understanding of the relationship between HRM and performance nevertheless, we still don know how much HRM supports employee creativity and organizational innovation. The relationship between HRM and employee **creativity directly and organizational innovation indirectly has been assumed but not evaluated, which is of special importance. The importance of human resource management on employee creativity and corporate innovation cannot be overstated, and it may be a significant factor in comprehending. HRM activities, it is further believed, may be related to organizational innovation in two ways how to choose, develop, and motivate people to generate ideas, and how to assist employees in putting their innovative ideas into action. HRM may help employees examine difficulties and encourage them to learn more about what they already know, which can lead to corporate innovation.**

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Firms can, for example, acquire new employees with a high level of creative capability, provide training, and re design compensation systems to encourage and reinforce employees creative behaviors. Summing up the shift from the perception of creativity as the domain of a select few gifted individuals to the belief that individuals creativity can be influenced by groups, organisations, and even entire societies reflects the growing relevance of creativity as a driver of innovation and economic success. Human resource management and her professionals play a critical role in encouraging a creative environment that reaches across organisations through rewards, recognition, management practices, and the communication of organisational values that respect and support each individual unique skills and creative potential. In this era of the aging world population, chronic diseases are growing in incidence and prevalence despite medical and technical advances. According to the national kidney foundation inch, New York, 10 of the population worldwide is affected by chronic kidney disease Indian, and millions die each year because they do not have access to affordable treatment. According to the 2010 global burden of disease study, Indian was ranked 27th in the list of causes of a total number of deaths worldwide in 1990 but rose to 18th in 2010. This degree of movement up the list was second only for hive and aids. In India, it represents the 8th most leading cause of death. Over 2 million people worldwide currently receive treatment with dialysis or a kidney transplant to stay alive, yet this number may only represent 10 of people who need treatment to live. A lancet report of 2013 estimated that number of cases of kidney failure would increase disproportionately in developing countries, such as china and India, where the number of older adults is increasing. The same report outlines that in middle income countries, treatment with dialysis or kidney transplantation creates a substantial financial burden for the majority of the people who need it. In another 112 countries, many people cannot afford treatment at all, resulting in the death of over 1 million people annually from untreated kidney failure. With increasing life expectancy and the prevalence of lifestyle diseases, countries have seen a significant increase in the majority of chronic kidney disease Indian in the last decade. Diabetes and hypertension account for over 2 3rd of the cases of Indian. In India, too, diabetes and hypertension today account for 40 **60** of cases of Indian. As per recent Indian council of medical research data, the prevalence of diabetes in the Indian adult population has risen to 7.1. In the urban population over the age of 40 years, the majority is as high as 28. Likewise, the reported prevalence of hypertension in today adult population is 17 14.8 from rural and 21.4 from urban belt. With the rising prevalence of these diseases in India, the prevalence of Indian is expected to rise, and obviously, this is the key target population to address. Patients with kidney diseases face multiple medical and social challenges.

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Such as coping with several comorbidities, pill burden, and compromised quality of life. Quality of life deteriorates as the severity of kidney disease increases. Other reasons for sudden deterioration of kidney function acute kidney failure are Severe until Dehydration due to prolonged poor intake or losses from the body in a severe episode of diarrhea or vomiting. Home care he services can eminently help these patients cope with these challenges, maintaining their independence and fulfilling their preferences of receiving care at home. He services provide support to patients and help them manage their diseases in their communities. The independent treatment modalities for eased peritoneal dialysis, pad, and home hemodialysis, had have become popular as suitable alternatives to hospital based treatment modalities. One of the significant advantages of he is avoidance of hospital acquired infections, which can lead to increased morbidity and mortality. Especially in this covid time, he is a very suitable option. It avoids exposure to pathogens and dramatically saves the expenditure of transport and other hospital expenses. A trained team of health care workers, including nurses and doctors, can improve the quality of life of such patients with their flexible and empathetic care in the home environment. Mental and spiritual wellbeing is needed for recovery from any illnesses and to prevent the progression of chronic diseases. He will add to this aspect of healing our precious patients. Hence, he may help provide more efficient and higher quality care for these patients. In addition, the cost of providing he services is significantly lower than that in a hospital. Apart from regular monitoring of sugar and blood pressure to keep the disease under control by modifying medication as per need, advanced he services for critically ill patients with comorbidities are also now available in India. Multi disciplinary teams mates of doctors and clinicians are constituted, and an ice type environment can be created in the home complete with medical equipment, expert nursing, and other medical staff as well as consumables. Such a facility at home could cost less than half of being in an ice of a hospital. All aspects of kidney care, including dialysis at home and kidney transplant care can be provided in the comfort and congenial environment of the home. The package consisting of close monitoring of vital parameters, catheter, bowel, and edema care, along with infection control diet and medication management can go a long **way** in preventing further deterioration or an improvement in the patient health. We live in a world that is evolving at a breathless pace. A digital world in which opportunities are becoming more accessible and equal. Today, women in India are far more self aware and self focused than a few decades ago. And this awareness does stop at just self improvement. As one half of our modern workforce becomes increasingly participative in a fast paced world across both the financial and digital spaces, they not only keep up, but are often in full control of their investments and assets Jeweler.

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Contrast the arrogant Ab ki Baar 400 paar call before the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections that was supposedly intended to make major changes in the Indian constitution (as mentioned by many BJP insiders with the post-election images of the humbled Modi paying obeisance to a large copy of the Indian constitution, and one gets the summary of this election result. The elections have thrown up a verdict that not only seemed unexpected to many mainstream-media pundits even as counting started, but also one, which, in many ways, has shifted the moral compass of the country. It is precisely because of this reason that Rahul Gandhi and for that matter, all members of the INDIA alliance have reason to cheer. This was perhaps for the first time in independent India history that in a democracy an election was fought over the core ideology of the country rather than populist, economic issues. The core narrative for the 18th Lok Sabha elections as set by the INDIA Alliance was to save the soul of the country, the constitution, and to safeguard the principles of democracy, social justice, secularism, and socialism enshrined in the Constitution. The BJP failed in its intent to subvert the constitution altogether by securing an overwhelming majority. As the political leader of the INDIA alliance, Rahul Gandhi had the courage to make the Constitution and especially social justice an issue during the recent elections. Only a small number of individuals, even within the Congress may have had confidence in its success. While Assembly elections have previously been fought on the issue of social justice, it is noteworthy that this is the first instance in the Lok Sabha elections that this issue gained significant traction. And importantly, this time, there was no polarisation among the people on this topic. The present discourse on social justice is intricately linked to the campaign to create and save government jobs. The message that was successfully conveyed was that if government jobs would cease to exist, then reservations would be rendered meaningless. It is important to understand that the reservation of upper castes would also be impacted in this situation. Rahul Gandhi successfully expanded the principle of social justice during the campaign by incorporating within it, five distinct categories of justice for different sections of society. While in the past, disputes would arise over a single point, but this time an additional five **justices** were included. Each one of them received a warm welcome. Elections are fought on various issues, without knowing completely which issue would gain traction among voters. The issues gradually come to light during the campaign, and in fact, it is only when the results are declared that a clear picture emerges. Individuals with a keen political foresight and understanding and with an ear on the ground tend to make more precise predictions. Those who have connect at the grassroots level, those who regularly interact with the public and have the patience to listen to their Mann Ki Baat are adept at gauging the mood of the nation. Rahul Gandhi therefore deserves credit for successfully connecting Indian politics with serious issues. Another message that the common people of India have shown to the powers that be derives from the narrative of the Ramayana. The story goes that in the epic, Raavan rode a chariot filled with weapons and supported by the privileged. Lord Ram on the other hand fought on the ground, ass

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The Government machinery the the CBI and other such forces. It was not just a fight against the Government and an ideology but also a fight to safeguard the pillars of democracy on which the foundations of the country had been built and which are gradually being eroded. In the democracy or Loktantra the Lok was with Rahul Gandhi while the entire antra machinery was with the BJP! And Rahul Gandhi was fighting along with Vanchit Sena. The wise electorate has shown the people in power a disapproval of their arrogating themselves to such misuse of power. In contrast to humbling those in power, the people of India have shown their acceptance and appreciation for Rahul Gandhi persistent messaging. From Bhatta Parsaul in 2012 to Niyamgiri and even in the initial days of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Rahul Gandhi faced constant ridicule, harassment and mockery from those in power and the mainstream media. His Parliamentary membership was revoked; his house was taken back; he was questioned for more than 55 hours by the ED and the CBI. A part of the government and party machinery of the BJP have been dedicated to mocking him, making memes, jokes on Rahul Gandhi and trying to construct a Pappu image for him and build a perception that that he was not a leader, that he was a reluctant politician. And this harassment was also extended to the Congress party leading to even the freezing of the Congress party bank accounts on the eve of the elections. Yet Rahul Gandhi has remained undeterred and unwaveringly focussed on his goal. He has consistently practiced what he preaches, that, for him, politics is not only the battle for power, but also a battle for an ideology at the core of which lies the principles of democracy, the existence of nation, the existence of politics and the way the politics is being done in the entire country. Both the Bharat Jodo Yatras have played a crucial role in this context, and depicting that principles are far dearer to him than simply being in power. Not only Rahul Gandhi, but any leader from the Opposition alliance who dared to question the Prime Minister or his coterie were indirectly threatened by the Government. The people have given him unexpected victories and have endorsed his messaging and ideology. Thirdly, what the elections have proved beyond doubt is the political **maturity** and sagacity that Rahul Gandhi has depicted during this entire election process. By bringing multiple like-minded parties together at the macro level, even though there were multiple contradictions within those at the micro level required a political maturity, and a consistent focus on the larger picture to safeguard democracy, secularism, socialism, and social justice. He did not even campaign in a state like West Bengal because he did not want to split the votes in a state where there was no formal umbrella alliance with the TMC. The making of this alliance was therefore a Herculean effort as many of the parties had been ideologically opposed to the Congress and, and in fact the growth of many of the regional parties had been at the cost of the Congress party. The entire environment was totally hostile to him, but Rahul Gandhi, the Congress and the INDIA alliance took up the cudgels and fought against all odds. The results are there for all to see. The election results may not have been sufficient to form a government, but the circumstances in which the speed of Modi chariot has been slowed down are not trivial. In independent India, Nehru, Indi

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As a commodity is pass in the world to take our Indian see In India, jeweler has always held cultural relevance and a place of pride within bridal trousseaus, heirlooms, and heritage. While both jeweler and gold are still considered valuable in terms of financial security and sound investment women are now moving away from tradition dictated designs rife with ornate and heavy pieces. In our modern world, jeweler is no longer seen as a financial asset. For the contemporary Indian woman, it has come to mean much more than that. From style to statements. As more and more women chalk out careers for themselves, assert their financial independence, and liberate themselves from the social constriction of gender based roles, their jeweler choices evolve with them too. Increasingly, women are choosing jeweler to embrace their femininity, enhance their style, and make powerful statements. No longer is jeweler just an accessory, but also a means of self expression. Jeweler says a lot about a woman. Research has frequently shown that the modern Indian woman is now selecting jeweler that is increasingly abstract in form and in tune with her own personality. Traditional trousseaus and ornate designs have given way to elegant everyday wearable. In fact, a woman choice of jeweler is a clear reflection of who she is, or how she wishes the world to perceive her. For instance, a corporate powerhouse usually chooses sleek, contemporary designs that give her boardroom armor an extra edge. A woman who loves big, chunky jeweler will more often than not have an active and bubbly personality. While someone who tends to be more organized and put together, prefers to wear matching sets. Today, women see jeweler as something extremely intimate and inextricably entwined with their personality much like an extension of themselves. This often inspires a sense of comfort and confidence in their own skin. Traditions are giving way to trends. As women move away from traditional, heavy and intricate pieces, the jeweler market has seen a boom in the demand for designs that are contemporary, light, abstract and unique. While her financial literacy now informs her choices in considering gold as well as digital gold fruitful investments, the Indian woman no longer believes that jeweler should be old fashioned or cumbersome. Finding a personal connection with a particular piece, set, or collection has become a pivotal factor in driving most consumer choices **when** it comes to jeweler. To sum it up. Financial awareness and global cultural cues are encouraging Indian women to opt for jeweler that feels personal and connected. Traditional, heavy ornaments are no longer leading purchase decisions when it comes to weddings, occasion wear and traditional ensembles. The demand for unique, abstract, and modern designs is booming. While the modern woman is intuitively interested in investing in gold as well as jeweler, she does not necessarily restrict her choices to heritage and heirloom pieces. Jeweler has now become an enabler giving women the power to express their personas in multiple, gorgeous ways.

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The Constitution of India is a secular document. It does not declare a state religion, provides everyone the freedom to profess, practise and propagate their religion and prevents the state from discriminating on religious grounds. Yet, the pages of the original Constitution now encased in Parliament which contains these secular precepts are adorned with beautiful artwork featuring Ram, Lakshman, Sita, Krishn, Mahavir, Gautam Buddha, Guru Gobind Singh, Akbar amongst a host of Indian cultural, religious and historical icons. It is at once a celebration of India history, its religiosity, and its achievements over time. Nandalal Bose of Shantiniketan found no contradiction in embellishing a secular document with artwork that included religious figures. Rabindranath, the founder of Visva Bharati where Nandalal honed his craft, himself had compared India to a pot of holy water purified by the touch of a myriad religions and races. Reports that India is close to clinching a deal with Russia for buying 3.5 million barrels of its crude at deep discounts appear to have divided opinions in the West. But crucially, the US has indicated that should India go ahead with the purchase, it may not violate American sanctions already in place against Russia. After all, despite the war in Ukraine, European nations are continuing to buy energy from Russia. The European dependence on Russian energy is also why the US did not go for a complete ban on Russian oil exports and chose instead to just bar Russian energy imports into the US. In fact, the EU recently discussed new sanctions against Russian oil majors Rosneft, Transnet and Gazprom Neft but clarified that it will continue to buy oil from them. Hence, nobody has moral grounds to question India in case it goes ahead with the Russian oil deal. Besides, 3.5 million barrels don constitute a big volume for India given its daily consumption of 4.5 million barrels. In any case, Russian oil only accounts for 2% of total Indian imports. Therefore, the transaction is more symbolic in nature and will serve as a test case for New Delhi Moscow trade in the new environment. Of particular interest is the payment mechanism for the transaction with a rupee trouble arrangement reportedly under consideration. Since most of the Russian banking system is under sanction, payment would also have to be routed through Indian banks that don have any business in Western nations. Actually, sanctions on **Russia** have once again provided impetus to calls for reviewing the dollar as a reserve currency and the primary currency of global trade. According to reports, Saudi Arabia is already in active talks with China to price some of its oil sales to the latter in yuan. True, Riyadh motives here are driven by its irritation with Washington over progress in talks to revive the Iran nuclear deal. Riyadh recently rebuffed Washington attempts to persuade it to produce more oil in the wake of the American ban on Russian imports. Thus, the current state of geopolitical play should compel India to.

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Look at internationalising the rupee to firewall future strategic trade from Western sanctions. Both Trump with Iran sanctions and Biden administrations have now forced India to rejig its trading patterns. And while Russia has not made things easy with its unjustifiable Ukraine invasion, India should be compromising its strategic autonomy in trade. The latter is a matter of how India should view the Ukraine war. It is a geoeconomic strategy commensurate with India position in the global order today. Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar outburst against assembly speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha is a dramatic demonstration of increasing problems in the BJP JD U coalition. The proximate cause complaints about policing in the speaker constituency of Nitish ire against Sinha is less important than the root causes. Nitish frustration at being the junior partner in the governing alliance is not a secret, and neither is bigger partner BJP problems about what it sees as the CM stranglehold over the police and bureaucracy. Bihar is the one heartland state BJP has won on its own as yet. And given the party fierce ambitions, it stands to reason that a solo Bihar victory is somewhere in BJP to do list. Nitish, on the other hand, as a canny politician may know his future will be about maintaining political relevance. Of course, neither partner can afford a divorce right now. For Nitish, with just 45 legislators against BJP 74 and RJD 75, the RJD Congress Left alliance, which is only marginally behind NDA in numbers, is hardly a better choice than BJP. More so since BJP governs at the Centre and is better positioned to bring more projects and funds into the state. BJP is grooming caste leaders and wooing women in Bihar. But it will remember that breaking the JD U RJD mahagathbandhan in 2017 paid rich rewards for it in 2019, with NDA bagging 39 of Bihar 40 Lok Sabha seats. JD U EBC Mahadalit axis against Yadav dominated RJD and Paswan dominated LJP is a valuable addition to BJP base. With 2024 in sight, BJP central leadership may want to keep Nitish in good humor, despite grievances of local leaders miffed over not being consulted even on key policy issues like reviewing the liquor ban. Given the iron hand of BJP central leadership, the party Bihar unit can grumble but, unlike in Congress, will not be allowed to spoil a **larger** game plan. The triumph of Aam Aadmi Party in Punjab could well be a real life replay of Shola, Seven Samurai, and dozens of other movie blockbusters. Just as in those hits, Arvin Kejriwal, and his band of outsiders ride in to save hapless insiders from other insiders . His outsider status was his winning charm, his USP, and all routine state level caste, class and religion based calculations were blown off the door once election winds picked up. Of course it is Bhagwant Singh Mann who has taken oath as the new chief minister of Punjab. But all AAP.

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Though songs are written about both joy and grief, the mind wants to How BJP-JDU can start changing Bihar's economic trajectory. Plus, lift the ban on booze what does NDA's massive win mean for Bihar's future? One key takeaway from BJP-JDU's seat haul is that it's clear the Lapses of memory regarding old companions make for many delightful reunions I keep forgetting old friends. These memory lapses, far from being something that I regret, are what is known as a Felix culpa, Latin US lawmaker rides bike 1,532km to vote on ending shutdown. Would that all legislators showed such drive Politicians rarely ride motorbikes, and the loss is entirely theirs. When sculptors immortalise today's heroes and Neros in Worrying levels of child malnutrition in Maharashtra has HC worried. What about govt? Bombay HC has upbraided state govt for taking public health in this case child malnutrition extremely casually. HC was responding J&K Police described an inter-state and transnational terrorist module it recently cracked open as a 'white-collar terror ecosystem'. In counterterrorism vocabulary, this is an expression both seemingly novel and unsettling because it is in for decades, Bihar's Muslim electorate was front and centre of focus in electoral politics, the so-called 'M vote' both JDU's and RJD's base. But the 2025 election saw a shift during campaigning, enthusiasm in By Partha Sinha Kali is not a goddess carved in stone. She is the logic of decay wearing a garland of skulls. She is entropy, disguised as divinity. Where others promise salvation through order, Kali Islamabad blaming India and Afghanistan for terrorism on its own soil is laughable Pakistan continues to live in a state of delusion. After a suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court claimed the lives of 12 (November 18, 2025) the only way to beat AI is to become more human Dr Krishna Athal is a renowned life and executive coach. He is currently the Executive Director of the International Coaching Institute (ICI). He writes and talks about leadership, coaching, strategy, entrepreneurship, management, and decision-making. He is a recipient of numerous national and international leadership and innovation awards. MORE Artificial intelligence has become the loudest guest in the room. It sits in our offices, our kitchens, our pockets and even in our private WhatsApp spirals at two in the morning. It writes, calculates, predicts and remembers far better than we ever will. Yet every time I sit **across** a client who is wrestling with identity, burnout, heartbreak or purpose, one truth becomes clear. The only way to beat AI is for us to become more human. Not faster. Not smarter. Not more efficient. More human. I realised this a few months ago while coaching a senior business leader who felt secretly threatened by the pace of AI adoption in his company. He said, with a half-embarrassed laugh, that he felt replaceable. As if the more his organisation embraced automation, the more he disappeared. I smiled and told him what I often remind myself. A machine may predict your behaviour, but only a human can understand your pain. That conversation stayed with me. It reminded me that we fear AI because we have forgotten the power we carry. We worry about losing relevance because we have stopped valuing our own emotional depth. Humanity is not a feature. It is a force. Whenever I speak of this philosophy, I do not mean we must become touchy-feely beings who move around with oversized feelings.

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I mean, we must reclaim the psychological muscles we have neglected while chasing speed and productivity. AI thrives on data. Humans thrive on meaning. Meaning is born from reflection, self-enquiry and emotional honesty. These are not things machines can do for us. At least not in any real sense. One of my clients once asked me if AI would ever replace therapists, coaches or mentors. I told her that AI can offer advice, but it cannot feel the texture of your silence. It cannot sense the slight tremble in your voice when you say you are fine. It cannot bear the weight of a childhood wound surfacing after three decades. It cannot see the flicker of hope that returns to your eyes when you hear the right question at the right moment. Coaching is a human art. Transformation is a human journey. Healing is a human rebellion. Yet here is the uncomfortable truth. Many people expect AI to feel wise because they themselves have stopped cultivating wisdom. We outsource our thinking, our decisions, our self-knowledge and sometimes even our intuition to technology. We allow machines to answer questions we have not even asked ourselves. The more I see this, the more I believe that the real competition is not between humans and AI. It is between humans and their own emotional laziness. Becoming more human is not a poetic suggestion. It is a strategic necessity. Society often forgets that our most valuable traits cannot be automated. Curiosity. Compassion. Imagination. Courage. Vulnerability. Humour. Spiritual insight. These sit outside the computational universe of AI because they require consciousness. They need the messy, unpredictable, contradictory and beautiful complexity only a human psyche can generate. I remember a young woman I coached who struggled with the pressure to appear perfect online. She told me she used ChatGPT to write captions that sounded more confident than she felt. She believed her authenticity was too unpolished to be liked. This is the psychological trap of modern life. We compare our raw selves with the polished output of machines and then wonder why we feel inadequate. AI is not the problem. Our relationship with ourselves is. The antidote is not to outperform technology, but to our human it. When you sit with your emotions rather than escape them, you become more human. When you listen rather than react, you are becoming more human. When you express a truth that scares you, you are becoming more human. When you seek purpose rather than applause, you become more human. These are not skills machines can steal because they are not skills at all. They are states of consciousness. AI forces us to confront a very old question: what makes us human? It is not our intelligence. It is our awareness. Intelligence can be replicated. Awareness cannot. A machine can analyse a million data points, but it cannot feel the bittersweet nostalgia that rises from a song your mother once played on a Sunday morning. It cannot experience the quiet dignity of choosing forgiveness when revenge is easier. It cannot understand the sacred softness of holding someone who is breaking and realising that compassion has its own language. As a life coach, I see AI as a mirror that magnifies our blind spots. It challenges us to upgrade our humanity. It asks us to use our emotional intelligence more deliberately. It pushes us to access our spiritual intelligence, a part of us that machines cannot touch. Every significant transformation in human history began

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Candidates including Mann, have acknowledged being beholden to Delhi for inspiration and guidance. Kejriwal leadership in the 2022 elections was clearly evident when Mann came to the capital to seek his blessing immediately after AAP was declared a clear victor. The gratitude that Mann has shown is fulsome and unbegrudging. It began with Sonia famous no. It has ended with the electorate shame us no. In 2004, Mrs Gandhi stunned everyone by declining the Pushpin after she led her party to spectacular victory. Today, Congress only feat is defeat. Yet, last Sunday, after the total assembly elections rout, CWC members said a unanimous No to Sonia Gandhi equally stunning offer to step back along with both Rahul and Priyanka. Sadly, the party would be over even if they had said yes. Who would take their place was too terrifying to contemplate. Only the Gandhis can hold the Congress together. But there no glee in their glue. In 2019, Rahul said No to continue as party president after the drubbing at the Lok Sabha polls. But even his Yes seems like a No and vice versa. In the early days, the clearly more capable Priyanka was told to say No, and hand the reins over to her naming brother, the son preference indicating the total Indification of Sonia not that the Italians are any different. By the time mulish Mama allowed her to say yes, most other parties had galloped ahead. Einstein said I m grateful to all those who said No to me. It because of them that I m doing it myself. It fitting that a dynastic party should find relevance in the words of the progenitor of the theory of relativity. No is the default setting down the leadership line. As soon as the High Command said No to Captain Amarinder Singh, Sidhu kept saying No to Channi, and now former PCC chief Jakhar has jumped on the damnwagon. In Rajasthan, Pilot and Gehlot refuse to cast their lots with each other. It same differences in MP, Karnataka. Kerala All this is turning the party into a No Man Land, and into an All Fly Zone. So, net, this is the takeaway. Congress perverse genes have twisted conventional belief. The ability to say No is the marker of empowerment, but the party has turned it into the exacting opposite. Or take another example from the playbook of **women** rights: No is a complete sentence. For the Gone Old Party, it a death one. Completely. Mohalla means mock fights between contending armies, tussles without causing physical injury to each other. And these fights are a part of Hola Mohalla, a fair that held every year in Anandpur Sahib, Punjab, around Holi. Hola Mohalla fair has a two centuries old history. It was initiated by the tenth Sikh guru, Gobind Singh ji, in Anandpur Sahib on Holi, to inspire the community and showcase the skills of his warriors, the Khalsa, in outdoor sports, such as Khundi di Khedari, tent pegging.

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Astride a galloping horse. Martial arts swordplay and archery that were practised by his warriors daily under his guidance too were displayed in this fair. The Guru laid the tradition of rewarding on this occasion all those who showed exemplary talent, diligence and devotion. The festival of Holi from then on gained a new significance at Anandpur Sahib. The festival of colour now showcased the talent of people in martial arts and horse riding. With this, Guru Gobind Singh added a touch of masculinity to the festival, infusing it with the martial spirit. Gurdwara Takhat Sri Keshgarh Sahib located in Anandpur Sahib, being one of the four seats of Sikh religious authority, is the main source of attraction for devotees during the fair. It was here that the baptism ceremony of the Khalsa Amrit Sanskar was initiated by Guru Gobind Singh. Amrit Sanskar continues even today and a Sikh is transformed into Singh, a Khalsa, when he partakes of the amrit, nectar, prepared by the Panj Piaras, the Five Beloved Ones, here. A grand procession, about half a mile long, is taken out during Hola Mohalla, with the Nihang Sikhs in the forefront. In the vanguard of the procession, a gatka party stages mock encounters to display their swordsmanship skills, while the Nihangs, dressed in typical blue uniforms, adorned with weapons, ride along on horseback. Every now and then you can hear the congregation chanting at Sri Akal loudly in unison. And as they march through Anandpur, they throw Holi colours, gulal, on onlookers. The Hola Mohalla celebrations last for a week and also include kirtans, and lectures and symposiums on Sikhism. Langar, a communal free kitchen, is also a key feature of the fair. It is organised in an open ground where 3,000 4,000 devotees can partake of the langar together. The rich and poor all mingle and are treated equally, irrespective of the caste differences, and with a unifying spirit. In his eyewitness account of the Holla Mohalla, Bhai Nand Lal Goya, Guru Gobind Singh poet, described the joyous moments thus: When the flower of Holi blossomed in the garden of the world, it brought rejoicings and a smile on all dry lips. Rosewater, scented, powdered colours and fragrant gulal were showered profusely like the rain from heaven. Sprinkling of gulal and scented colours by the benign hands of the Guru. Hola Mohalla festival teaches us to **face** all challenges with faith, perseverance and determination. It reminds us that evil and virtue are always at loggerheads. And that by following the Guru teachings, we can receive physical, moral and spiritual guidance and strength at all times. Submitting to surgical procedures is an inescapable part of treatment regimen for many conditions. Whether it is severe disorders of the abdominal parts such as stomach, pancreas and gall bladder, etc., requiring general surgery, or gynecological conditions requiring specialized surgery, or endocrine disorders, or orthopedic, ophthalmologic, or neurological conditions, each of these besides many others require a specialized surgical intervention In other.

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Words a surgical procedure becomes inevitability in the course of treatment for many diseases. Given the innate sensitivity of any surgical procedure, obtaining informed consent constitutes an integral part of the whole process. With India bearing a high disease burden and the accompanying need for high number of surgeries, the country has a mammoth requirement of modern informed consent solutions. Estimates of need for surgery in India According to Lancet commission on Global surgery, there is a need for 5,000 surgeries per year per 100,000 people in lower middle income countries LMICs. India is an LMIC as classified by the World Bank. Looking at it differently, in an estimate, 11% of global burden of disease requires surgical care or anesthesia management, or both, with some studies calculating this burden to be as high as 30 percent. That India has a high disease burden cannot be questioned. A Springer study has estimated that as many as 3,646 surgeries per 100,000 populations are needed to meet the surgical needs of the Indian population. Another India based study without accounting for the pediatric population has estimated that 2,650 individuals needed surgery among 100,000 adults in India. The sheer number of surgeries conducted in the country in an estimate for the year before Covid 19 struck India, a staggering two core surgeries had been conducted in the country in a single year. And of these, 80 lakhs were general surgeries, followed by 50 lakh gynaecological surgeries, 70% of which were C sections. Oncology, cardiology, neurology, orthopedic and gastro intestinal surgeries were recorded at 10 lakh each. The year before, in 2018, in a world record, AIIMS, the country premier hospital alone had conducted 1.94 lakh surgeries. However, in the immediate aftermath of the Covid 19 outbreak, there was a precipitate decline in elective and non emergency surgeries in the country. By May 2020 itself, there were reports of more than 5.8 lakh elective surgeries having been delayed or cancelled in the country due to the pandemic. In fact, the authorities in several states and districts had to direct that the surgeries be kept on hold in order to ensure that Covid 19 patients received utmost attention and care. However by January 2021, surgery numbers had again picked up, reaching 80-85% for Covid 19 numbers. While these numbers would have again waxed or waned depending on the severity of Covid 19 situation, there can be no doubt **on** the colossal market size for surgeries that exists in the country. And this in turn implies the extent of the requirement and potential for informed consent solutions. All surgeries require informed consent Contrary to the popular perception that only major surgeries and those addressing life threatening conditions require obtaining of informed consent, the truth is that even seemingly very harmless and minor operations too necessitate this. So, whether elective or routine, or emergency surgeries to treat grave, life threatening conditions, all surgeries call for informed consent. At the same time, we must remember that many elective surgeries are time sensitive, which means.

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Recent global headlines on quality of service at Air India should be a wakeup call for the Indian airlines sector. With global travel now growing, India is both a potential destination for tourism and business as well as a hub to connect Europe and Asia. Current geo political issues are also playing a role in the process. The Ukraine Russia war has meant that several countries are putting restrictions on their airspace. Given the geographical position, India could become a hub where the East meets the West. This means, several partnerships and code sharing arrangements. What is more, the rise of India middle class has meant that domestic tourism is also increasing. Yet, in addition to price, recent headlines remind us that quality of service increasingly is important for travelers. The good news is that the Indian government has taken some important steps to improve the aviation infrastructure. According to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, India spent around twenty thousand crores over the past five years on airport construction. During the initial stages of the pandemic, while the entire country came to a literal standstill, construction of airports continued at a breakneck speed. Airport construction was not just limited to expanding the major airports, but also to construction of newer ones, often in tier 2 cities. Ostensibly, while one of the reasons behind such construction is to ensure that the burgeoning demand for air travel from tier 2 cities along with the rest of the country is catered for, the other reason could be to exploit the externalities airport construction would bring. For instance, as larger swathes of the country become more accessible by air, international tourism industry in India will likely see a significant expansion. In a diverse country such as India, tourism can now expand and provide a myriad of opportunities for an international traveler. This growth of airports will have a potentially significant effect in local markets in terms of job creation in the services sector and improve global logistics to improve India internal supply chain and promote a more globally driven export based economy, which digital platforms can help to create. With all these changes, the Indian airline industry is bound to undergo massive transformation. Airlines in most countries must be domestically owned so growth depends on the establishment of global alliances with other airlines. Quality of service plays an important role in such alliances. **Increased** foreign expansion into Indian cities will help feed the local carriers networks through a more seamless coordination. However, a few news items cast a doubt on such arrangements. Massive congestion in several major Indian airports, reported during the Christmas New Year seasons suggest that, not just new airports, but also upgrading of new airports is the need of the hour. Increased entry means more competition. In the past this has meant consolidation between airlines. Recent events remind us that While the CCI would assess the impact of such mergers on consumer welfare, and suggest a path forward largely on price.

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That if they are postponed for an unduly long time, the condition of the patient can deteriorate and even turn life threatening. How modern consent solutions differ from traditional ones before a doctor proceeds with an operation, he must explain in detail the whole procedure, the risks and benefits, and even the risks of not opting for a procedure. So, it is expected and indeed mandatory that the doctor or the hospital obtains the consent of the patient or family members. For his part, the patient must have the capacity to broadly understand the process and the consequences. And all this needs to be documented. However, unlike the traditional paper based and rather rudimentary consent process which often entails one way communication and exchange of sketchy information, today modern informed consent solutions are completely digitalized two way communication platforms enabling a more detailed and elaborate exchange of information between the doctor and the patient. Not only are they user friendly, but are also available in simple and easy to understand language, making it worthwhile for everyone, including the doctors, the hospitals and of course the patients. As such, they address the cause of patient education while also minimizing the possibilities of unnecessary post operative lawsuits against doctors and hospitals. Now that the omicron wave of the Covid 19 pandemic has shown signs of ebbing, there is every likelihood of cases of routine and elective surgeries, which had been kept on hold due to the pandemic, would again appear in extraordinary numbers. While traditionally serious and lifesaving surgeries along with C sections would continue to drive the demand for informed consent solutions, propelled by an increase in discretionary income, modern lifestyle changes would also give an impetus to surgeries for weight loss or plastic and reconstructive surgeries, or many other milder conditions. This again would trigger a high demand for modern informed consent solutions in the country. Reports are buzzing around about the thinking to relax the eligibility qualifications for professors associate professors in higher education institutions and term such supernumerary appointments as professor of practice associate professor of practice. The logic behind this is to hook up industry experts and professionals who want to teach. Undoubtedly, the idea of engaging experts from different areas for enriching the quality of higher education is a welcome move. But, it seems a repetition of an attempt in the past under which the University Grants **Commission** UGC rolled out Guidelines for Empanelment of Adjunct Faculty in Universities and Colleges. As per earlier UGC guidelines, the engagement of Adjunct Faculty in higher education institutions HEIs majorly aimed to following: Develop a useful and viable collaboration between institutions and industry and enhance the quality of education and skills by the involvement of academicians, scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and skilled professionals in teaching, training, research, and related services on regular basis. Attract distinguished individuals who have excelled in their field of specialization like science and technology, industry, commerce, social research, media, literature, fine arts, civil services, and public life into.

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Recent global headlines on quality of service at Air India should be a wakeup call for the Indian airlines sector. With global travel now growing, India is both a potential destination for tourism and business as well as a hub to connect Europe and Asia. Current geo political issues are also playing a role in the process. The Ukraine Russia war has meant that several countries are putting restrictions on their airspace. Given the geographical position, India could become a hub where the East meets the West. This means, several partnerships and code sharing arrangements. What is more, the rise of India middle class has meant that domestic tourism is also increasing. Yet, in addition to price, recent headlines remind us that quality of service increasingly is important for travelers. The good news is that the Indian government has taken some important steps to improve the aviation infrastructure. According to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, India spent around twenty thousand crores over the past five years on airport construction. During the initial stages of the pandemic, while the entire country came to a literal standstill, construction of airports continued at a breakneck speed. Airport construction was not just limited to expanding the major airports, but also to construction of newer ones, often in tier 2 cities. Ostensibly, while one of the reasons behind such construction is to ensure that the burgeoning demand for air travel from tier 2 cities along with the rest of the country is catered for, the other reason could be to exploit the externalities airport construction would bring. For instance, as larger swathes of the country become more accessible by air, international tourism industry in India will likely see a significant expansion. In a diverse country such as India, tourism can now expand and provide a myriad of opportunities for an international traveler. This growth of airports will have a potentially significant effect in local markets in terms of job creation in the services sector and improve global logistics to improve India internal supply chain and promote a more globally driven export based economy, which digital platforms can help to create. With all these changes, the Indian airline industry is bound to undergo massive transformation. Airlines in most countries must be domestically owned so growth depends on the establishment of global alliances with other airlines. Quality of service plays an important role in such alliances. **Increased** foreign expansion into Indian cities will help feed the local carriers networks through a more seamless coordination. However, a few news items cast a doubt on such arrangements. Massive congestion in several major Indian airports, reported during the Christmas New Year seasons suggest that, not just new airports, but also upgrading of new airports is the need of the hour. Increased entry means more competition. In the past this has meant consolidation between airlines. Recent events remind us that While the CCI would assess the impact of such mergers on consumer welfare, and suggest a path forward largely on price.

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There are quality standards that need to be considered. This includes the value creation of alliances, on time arrivals, and other quality of service factors. If India does not want to be left behind globally and to benefit from increased tourism and business travel, Indian companies need to understand that branding matters and that quality of service will be judged by more global standards. It is not just up to the government in creating appropriate infrastructure; even corporate response needs to align itself to the global standards. Recent response by Air India to the recent unsavory episode and Go Air response to leaving about fifty five passengers on the tarmac, leaves much to be desired. So, a few million dollars question, literally speaking is: can the Indian airline industry afford such negligence as we have seen in recent weeks? As Indian airlines open themselves up to the rest of the world, it is only fair that the rest of the world will assimilate some of the quintessential Indian values. At the same time, it is reasonable to expect the Indian firms to pay credence to the values some of the best foreign firms uphold. The Kala Ghoda Art Festival of Mumbai is one of a kind. The epicenter is the Kala Ghoda statue surrounded by art galleries like the Jahangir Art Gallery, Modern Art and Science Gallery, and educational institutions such as the Mumbai University, the Elphinstone College, and popular boutiques like Fab India, and Sabyasachi spread across the heritage buildings of the city. It is the center of art and culture, tracing back to the British era. It is a nine day festival which starts on the second Saturday of February and ends on the third Sunday. The festival started in 1999 to promote visual arts, dance, music, theatre, cinema, literature, children workshops and literature, heritage walks, urban design and architecture, and visual arts which included exhibitions, standup comedy, and stalls selling ecofriendly, handmade art and craft wares from almost 20 states, besides food stalls and blind people giving massage services and street shows, performances at cooperage band stand and grand stand. Though it is centered around the Kala Ghoda statue, the entire street area of Kaikashru Dubash Marg extends to several locations in south Mumbai like the auditoriums at CSMVS, the lawns of Prince of Wales Museum, Cross Maidan, Horniman Circle garden, M C Ghia Hall, the **cafeteria** at Westside, Tata store at Army and Navy Building, the Max Mueller Bhavan MMB Gallery, the auditorium at National Gallery of Modern Art, garden at David Sassoon Library, and the Asiatic Library. Entry and participation in the festival is free of cost which has made it even more popular and there is a footfall of around one lakh people every day, as per Vrinda Miller, the chairperson of the KGAF Foundation, a nonprofit organisation. She is an artist who has been presiding over the festival for the last 23 years with a core team of four to five energetic, enthusiastic.

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As investigation gets underway into Monday Kanchanjunga Express-cargo train accident near Jalpaiguri, the question that asked after every rail tragedy is back: why do train accidents happen so frequently in India. Answer: because the railways is doing the basics right. Of course, Kavach, the indigenous hi-tech rail safety system, must be installed across the rail network. But there are interim measures the railways can take. Media today what disaster will a few critical channels cause Despite this, there was an excessive attempt to control the narrative through mainstream media. Excessive hype was created in their favour, and in this process, Dhruv Rathee was given a chance to grow stronger. That why I said at the beginning that Narendra Modi and the BJP had a significant role in Dhruv Rathee rise, more than the public. If there was room for anti-Modi content in mainstream media, if the public was accustomed to such criticism, Dhruv Rathee anti-Modi videos would not have been as surprising. The public would not feel they were hearing something new. They would have the option to choose between truth and falsehood, weighing both sides. They would compare Modi work with his opponent claims and decide. But you created a one-sided narrative, boring a section of people with constant praise. Especially those who were fence-sitters, who could go either way. You pushed those people away from you. You tried to present such a perfect image that they distrusted it. As the saying goes, Too good to be true. This was a mistake by the BJP-supporting media in the narrative game. Whenever people discuss communal politics, I often say that the public is not so foolish to believe in a reality that does not exist. If a person in a town in UP feels a particular community is extreme, they form their opinion based on experience, not any party narrative. A narrative that does not exist. Therefore, I do not believe any party can engage in pure communal politics. Parties can exaggerate the truth by 5-10%, but they cannot fabricate a reality that does not exist in society. The same applies to government performance. Whether the Modi government is doing well or poorly, the common man will judge from his experience, not by an anchor shouting on TV. On the contrary, if that anchor oversells the government achievements, it will irritate the public. A wise person was asked how **much** time to devote to any task. Their answer was as much as necessary not less, not more. If a peanut can be extracted from its shell with a slight click of the thumb, you cannot hit it with a hammer. Do your work. Promote it. But do not overdo it. This is democracy. Have faith in the people discernment. Trust their decision-making ability. Our belief in the people judgment keeps us a democracy and will continue to do so. Be human, not superhuman. US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy call for a warning label on social media platforms he said they are dangerous for the mental health of teenagers is an idea that can spread globally. Murthy argues teenagers who spend more than three hours a day on social media are twice as much at risk of facing anxiety and depression symptoms. He wants the warning labels done along the lines of action against tobacco use in US decades ago. But can govts influence individual behaviour beyond a point Mental health issues on rise since 2010, rates of anxiety and depression have gone up sharply for teens in many countries. This is also the period that saw smartphones take

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Guardians But, research on what too much social media use does to teens does not throw up definitive answers. Murthy argues that waiting for perfect information could have serious consequences. EU has already taken steps to try and check the power of social media platforms. Yet, a warning label would only tart the conversation. Anti-tobacco labelling has been around for years. But in more than a few countries, smoking is down but far from out. At 26.5%, the Southeast Asian region has the highest percentage of population using tobacco; the more developed European region is not far behind at 25.3%. Perhaps, warnings will make social media platforms more careful when planning their marketing techniques. Ideally, they should also spend more resources insulating adolescents from toxic content. But they probably won. Onus is on guardians ultimately, ensuring warning labels are heeded is squarely the responsibility of parents and other responsible adults. Doing this job would require not just smartphone rules for teens but also difficult guardian conversations. Psychologists and educators say teens must be made to cut down on screen time in general and engage more in unstructured play and offline activity. Since practice is the best form of preaching, it would help if parents begin by first limiting their own social media use, at least in children presence. That the problem. Too many of these Carbars start with MUAs, Maximum Uncommon Agendas. Here are the keys to your guardians Carbar. Safe driving. And let hope you don make your Coalition into a Go-alition, with each one going their own way till they are all collectively asked to go A customer walks into the showroom of Coalition Carbar Company, where a red carpet has been laid out, and is greeted with a guardians respectful namaste by the salesperson. Politics influencing social science textbooks is unique to India. Examples include the critical race theory controversy in US, and the debate over Chiang Kai-shek legacy in Taiwanese history books. But NCERT textbooks are arguably crossing a line. This is NCERT fourth round of textbook revision since 2014. Many are arguing these revisions are geared solely to pushing the political right-wing ideological agenda, often by deleting or diluting topics like Gujarat riots and Babri Masjid demolition. There a case to be made that academia in India and other parts of the world has had a left-liberal bias. In the West, for example, East **European** studies are subsumed in Russian studies in many schools and universities reflecting an old left-liberal bias for Soviet Union. But the answer is not to replace this with even worse right-wing bias, as seems to be happening in NCERT textbooks. Education should provide students with multiple narratives and then let them make up their minds. But that can happen if, for example, the contribution of Mughal dynasties in art, architecture and jurisprudence is diminished. Similarly, selectively presenting Supreme Court judgments to suit the governing party narrative does not create intellectually supple minds. Ultimately the goal of education is to equip students for the modern world where multiple narratives co-exist. A student can go on to favour any shade of political ideology. But that not for educators to pre-judge. Their job is to provide a menu of perspectives, and provoke questioning. Towards that end, a liberal approach to guardian education, which recognises multiple viewpoints, is by far a better option. Thin

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AI is simply the next chapter that forces us to ask it again. If we aspire to thrive in an AI-dominated world, we need to master the qualities that define what it means to be human. The world does not need humans who behave like faster machines. It requires humans who act like conscious beings. Let me offer you a small reflection. When you meet someone, what is the moment that stays with you? It is never the information they shared. It is the feeling they left behind. Humanity is emotional residue. Humanity is the energy that lingers after the words fade. Humanity is that invisible presence that AI cannot replicate because it comes from lived experience. Machines may be brilliant at providing answers. Humans are brilliant at holding questions. The quality of your life is determined by the quality of the questions you dare to explore. Machines can support your thinking, but they cannot travel your inner landscape. They cannot walk you through grief. They cannot sit with you while you confront your fears. They cannot illuminate your conscience. They cannot teach you how to love. So yes, the only way to beat AI is for us to become more human. To feel deeply. To question bravely. To relate wholeheartedly. To listen consciously. To choose presence over performance. To live with integrity. To honour our inner world with the same seriousness with which we upgrade our devices. AI may shape the future, but humans shape meaning. And meaning is the most powerful intelligence we possess. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity When Taleb enters LinkedIn and exits as herbal tea As the Business Head for The Times of India, I lead strategic initiatives and drive growth for one of the nation's most influential media organisations. My journalist friends believe I've crossed over to the proverbial dark side. Living on the edges of a dynamic newsroom, I dabble infrequently into these times that we live and believe in the spectatorial axiom 'distance provides perspective'. MORE Somewhere between a congratulatory post for a new VP of Synergy and a humblebrag about someone's 4 am productivity routine, LinkedIn occasionally throws up something that truly tests your epistemic resilience. This week, for reasons best explained by cosmic randomness or poor algorithmic karma, I stumbled upon a post earnestly summarising why Nassim Nicholas Taleb says you **should** not read the news. Not Taleb himself. A LinkedIn distillation of him. Which, as I discovered, is a genre of its own: philosophy rendered into bullet points, sharp ideas flattened into carpets, and intellectual battles narrated in the tone of a man explaining how to descale a coffee machine. Taleb, reduced to a polite suggestion. Taleb, served warm. Taleb, with the crusts cut off. This is not how the man writes. Taleb does not whisper. He rants. He roars. He wages a one-man war against fragility, noise, pseudo-experts, Gaussian smugness, and every consultant who has ever declared that the world is predictable if you have the right model. Taleb is the literary equivalent of a Lebanese espresso: bitter, strong, and absolutely not to be consumed lightly. Yet here he was on LinkedIn, repackaged like an air-fryer recipe. The post in question laid out Taleb's grievances with news: noise, narrative fallacies, evolutionary mismatch, and skin in the game.

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All the right keywords, none of the right fire. Reading it felt like encountering a tourist who visited Varanasi for 18 hours and is now explaining Hindu cosmology. The itinerary is correct. The spirit has left the building. Taleb's ideas are not decorative. They are structural. They attack the very bones of how information flows through society. But in the hands of the LinkedIn summariser, they became a soothing bedtime sermon. News is noise. Books are better. Old ideas survive. Journalists tell stories. Well, yes. And gravity makes things fall. Taleb's work is a furious argument about convexity, fragility, opacity, and our catastrophic overconfidence in interpreting randomness. The summary in question was about as close to that rage as a lemon-scented tissue is to a monsoon. What struck me most was the portrayal of news itself. A convenient monolith from which one can extract sweeping moral conclusions. Apparently, news consists entirely of: One could sense that the writer's relationship with news is similar to his relationship with Indian classical music: respectful from afar, intolerant in practice, and mostly reconstructed from YouTube summaries. There was no distinction between wire updates and investigative series, between breaking alerts and reportage, between a desk rewrite and a six-month exposé. Taleb's critique is not that all news is bad. It is that your brain is wired to mistake noise for signal if you do not calibrate consumption. But reducing the entire ecosystem to a hazard, without understanding how it functions, is the philosophical equivalent of calling cricket just throwing balls at sticks. Then came my favourite part: the section on skin in the game. Taleb's crusade against asymmetry is a potent ethical framework. It is about the moral cost of being wrong and the social architecture of responsibility. The summary reduced it to: Journalists do not suffer consequences. Right. Tell that to the reporter who loses access, credibility, employment, reputation, or sleep. Tell that to the editor who lives one typo away from a legal notice. Tell that to the beat journalist who has more stakeholders than a Fortune 500 CEO. People who have never lived near a newsroom tend to imagine it as a spa day for ideologues. Spoiler: it is just caffeine, deadlines, and regret. The section on evolutionary mismatch was delivered with the anthropological insight of a supplement label. Our brains evolved in small tribes. News is fast. Beware. Taleb's actual **point** is about systems that scale unpredictably, information that travels too quickly for our decision-making to comprehend, and the fragility of judgment under accelerating stimuli. The summary made it sound like the human brain melts when exposed to an NDTV alert. Taleb's Lindy effect is a heuristic of cultural survival. Longevity predicts future endurance. The LinkedIn version: Old books good. New headlines bad. Which is like announcing: Rasam is healthy. Energy drinks are not. True, but lacking the metabolic science. Taleb's point is not nostalgia. It is temporal robustness. Books that last do so because they can take a beating. News that fades does so because it should. The biggest absence in the summary was Taleb's tone. He writes with a fury sharpened by mathematics and a contempt fuelled by experience.

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And passionate members. The event management company appointed around 55 volunteers, while another 40 volunteers served for free out of their interest and passion this year. Under her leadership, the festival has grown, expanded, and become more popular than before. The festival collaborates with the Maharashtra government, UNESCO, US Consulate, among others, and meets its financial needs through sponsorships with a budget of around Rest 3 core 2023. The stall charges are Rest 90,000 for the first five days and Rest 80,000 for the last four days. The performing artists mostly do honorary performances, but those who charge, take nominal fees. The festival is well organised and managed despite its magnitude, with a variety of national performing artists from across the country. It is one of Mumbai favorite cultural festivals in which visitors come from far off suburbs. It is a festival that gives opportunity and a platform to deserving budding artists and to senior popular national and international artists. It helps in generating earnings for the artisans who sell their products in the stalls around the festival. Others. India is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of heritage and culture. It is worth visiting this festival which is keeping up and maintaining the art and culture of modern India year after year, and encourages creative talents of the youth, performing artists, and handicrafts of many states supporting literary growth and mythological practices. Being a part of the residential schools for more than two decades I can advocate more on the importance of these schools over any day schools. Most of the parents are confused whether their child should study in a day school or in a boarding school. This question is really an open question, and the answer is just like the edge of a sword. Let me throw some light on the importance of residential schools. All schools say that their curriculum is child centric, and they focus on the overall development of the students. First, we must understand what an overall development is. Overall development is the intellectual, physical, emotional, and spiritual development of a child. Getting the quality education and inculcating the core values of holistic learning i.e., perseverance, conceptual learning, and the application of the learned concept in a day to day life lead toward intellectual development. Participating in almost all major games and excelling in any one sport, jogging, **running**, yoga, and gymnastics develop a child physically. Emotional development is central to the growth of the children. Every day, the child faces different situations and has various moods and behavioral changes. How to cope up with these situations and how effectively one should present himself herself can be learned through managing the feelings and emotions. Each one of us has emotions such as joy, anger, fear, shyness, surprise, embarrassment, shame, guilt, pride, empathy, kindness, and sense of self. It is essential to understand why these emotions happen and how to manage them appropriately. In residential schools, the students learn from.

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Their peers, teachers, and counselors to manage these emotions. In these schools, the students learn to share and believe in collaboration due to the ambiance of these schools. Spirituality is not to be a religious, but it is a way of living. To know yourself and to be a rational thinker is a spiritual development of the child. To have faith in values and to respect the faith of others is to be a spiritual person. Most of the residential schools claim to cater the needs of the children and prepare them to face the challenges of the modern world. It is true that if a child is skilled with intelligence, values, and logic, he she will certainly excel in this competitive world. The residential school child is independent, a collaborative learner works comfortably in a group, develops leadership quality, and leads with an example. He she is a risk taker and never hesitate in taking initiatives, analyses the situations and reflects upon the actions. As these schools have a well-planned schedule and routine, that teaches the children how to become an effective and systematic in their areas of action. Most of the boarding schools have their own curriculum, which gives an opportunity to each student to recognize his her strong and grey areas and work on these for further development. In day schools lack of time is a major constraint which limits the innovative ideas, whereas in boarding schools students work till late night and even on holidays on the various projects to shape the innovative ideas. Under one roof, all facilities are available that increase the quality of the productivity of activities, whereas in most of the day schools due to the lack of resources, children and teachers become subjective and lack in the objectivity of the concepts. Let me mention that some of the major activities occur in a boarding school in which children take part after the academic schedule of a day. These are various societies viz. Debating, science, mathematics, business, art, music, astronomy, quizzes, poetry recitation, and adventurous, etc. Apart from these children take part in games and sports, swimming, golf, boxing, shooting, chess, cycling, horse riding, and community service. The various well structured avenues for the children to get more exposure i.e., Model United Nations MUN, International Award for Young People IAYP, Round Square, etc. Through these activities, children become a responsible, motivated, **and** well versed citizens. Some of the day schools also follow some of these activities but they conduct all these activities during their academic hour only that affect the quality of the outcome. Children broaden their horizons by taking part in an exchange programmer and explore the culture, educational rigour, and system of other countries. It is observed that some of the day schools focus on academics only and make the children get the highest marks in the board exams and even don complete the class 9th and 11th syllabus. They do the syllabus several times and emphasis upon the rote .

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If you plan to celebrate the festival of colours, popularly known as Holi, you need to do some skin prep. The tanning caused by the harsh sun and the colours may damage your skin, but there a routine you can follow to ensure your skin stays hydrated and cool all through the festival. Ahead are some tips that you should keep in mind before you step out for a Holi celebration. The co living sector in the country has the ability to completely disrupt the commercial realty sector in the coming year. Although the sector experienced significant decline in occupancy due to the pandemic, it is set for a strong recovery in 2022, mainly driven by the rising vaccination rates and resumption of offices and colleges. The co living sector is likely to grow rapidly in the next few years, with bed occupancy numbers predicted to rise from. With a population of over 440 million, India is the world largest millennial market. As a result, the demand for the co living sector is set to rise rapidly in the next year due to the rapid growth in urban city migration. There is a rising awareness of the co living concept, and more millennials are moving towards this concept as it provides a low entry cost with an access to social and physical infrastructure, in desirable housing markets at affordable costs. Given the current market volatility, millennials are recognizing the value in renting a space, and having ample mobility for the future. Additionally, since the pandemic, young people are demanding better living conditions that fulfils their needs without burning a hole in their pockets. Interestingly, even landlords are now keener than ever to rent out their space to co living operators resulting in a rise of supply as well. In a bid to leverage the growth in demand, the co living sector is set to witness more flexible options and innovations in the coming year. Operators are mapping out all the requirements and upgrading facilities to a standard that appeals to the current generation. These spaces are adopting more technology, creating productive workspaces and making the space more contemporary and suitable for millennials. Now more than ever, people understand the importance of community living. A key proposition of co living operators in the next year would be their ability to offer a fulfilling community experience. While companies are ensuring the **highest** level of standards in their workplace, they are falling behind in delivering optimum living standards outside the workplace. In the coming year, more institutions will collaborate with co living operators to provide a safe and fulfilling living experience post work hours. Moving forward, as work becomes more remote and agile, the convenience of co living will make it an even more preferred housing solution. Post the second wave, parents are mindful about sending their kids to a safe and hygienic place that meet the highest standards. As a result, colleges which were earlier averse to give away departments within the.

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System such as hostel and canteens are now open to professional options to satisfy the evolved mind set of students. In the coming year, we are expecting co living to not just be a unique residential offering, but rather a space that can provide a comprehensive housing solution to the evolving millennial needs. The sector is set to witness new technological adoptions, innovative pricing, and a more fulfilling living experience. Starting a D2C business might now be easier than ever before because of enablers like Amazon, Shoplift, Ship rocket, Razor pay etc. striving hard to help the eco system grow. But scaling a D2C business is now more challenging than ever because of rapidly changing consumer behavior. The pandemic threw all predictions about consumer behavior to the wind, both in terms of direction and speed: A whopping 94% of Indian consumers have tried new shopping behavior during the pandemic. Understanding and keeping up with how a consumer fundamentally thinks and makes decisions is a nonnegotiable for anyone in the eco system, from founders to marketers to investors. So here a breakdown of the anatomy of today consumer

- 1 Wants to read, understand labels about 63% of Indian consumers today specifically look for healthy ingredients in food and beverages, a 5% increase from 2019. Globally, 62% consumers say they are willing to pay a premium for products with nontoxic ingredients. The few customers that do not read ingredients immediately feel the need to justify why they have not read them. Apparently, appearing aware and educated is also extremely important to consumers today.
- 2 Brand Disloyalty Availability of a plethora of great brands means consumers loyalty to a specific brand has taken a huge hit. As US and UK show no brand loyalty at all. Loyalty is lowest in the e commerce segment only 9%. We have observed a similar trend for Indian customers which partially explains the increasing CACs. Gary Arnold, customer data director at Kin to Carat, believes that the old definition of customer loyalty is redundant. A loyal consumer is someone who also engages with the brand content, subscribes to and opens communication, takes the time to give feedback and actively recommends the brand to friends.
- 3 Purpose Driven Today, brands risk losing a large chunk of their audience if they do not have a set of values and beliefs, and communicate these through various touch points. A **survey** shows that an astounding 63% of consumers are more willing to buy from a brand that speaks about politics. Only 17.4% people said it will harm their purchasing decisions
5. Brands have been called out for being silent, for taking picking the wrong side, for being insensitive, and for woke washing the past few years. Communicating a brand values should be done in a carefully planned, meticulous fashion. Ben and Jerry, for example, once spent 18 hours in crafting a tweet. Belief driven consumers are pushing even huge brands to change their core positioning and ethos. For example, Victoria Secret.

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Recently hired their first even model with Down syndrome lives in the Physical world the pandemic has not only accelerated transformation to digital, but also changed how we look at physical retail. Convenience and availability have always been top priorities, but today consumers want a seamless integration between the physical and digital options. They learn or discover, shop, and buy on different channels, so being present everywhere is the nonnegotiable first step. Hybrid models like order online & pick up at store, in store self checkouts, check out online & return in store, etc. are gaining popularity rapidly. Wants to feel special A few years ago, personalization was a moat or an innovation, with businesses like Skink raft and Vedic being the first movers to monetize on the then nascent trend. But today, personalization is a basic necessity for any consumer business. So much so that 76% consumers actually feel frustrated when they don't get the personalization they expect. A survey shows that 25% consumers would like exclusive products or first opportunity to purchase. Gen Z consumers saw exclusivity as particularly appealing, with nearly a third 30% interested in first opportunity to purchase. 6 Buys and supports local businesses The Make in India movement started a trend that saw immense growth after the pandemic. Consumers want to buy from and support local/small businesses due to the realization that things like skin type, genes, diet, weather conditions, and culture are different in different regions. Home grown brands are therefore better able to understand and cater to consumer needs. The pandemic gave this trend a huge push. About 58% of consumers in India stated they would prefer to support and shop from small online businesses 8. The tendency to buy local coupled with brand disloyalty means consumer landscapes and market shares are going to see further disruption in the next few years. All these trends are inter related, and a combination of two or more of these is likely to give rise to more interesting consumer behavior, so it is important to always keep your ear to the ground. Simply put, Indian consumers still want their free Dania Marche; they just have more expectations from it than ever before! As technology became the only available option to keep things going in the wake of the Covid 19 to pandemic, work culture, recruitment processes and almost every other aspect of commercial establishments witnessed a dramatic shift. While layoffs marred the early months of the pandemic, resignations are becoming a new challenge as we move out of the shadow of the virus. It has been termed as The Great Resignation people quitting jobs to focus on personal life. As if the pandemic onslaught was enough, the Great Resignation wave is further testing the skillfulness of the HR experts. In such times, HR leaders are expected to play an important role in evaluating and determining solutions that best suit their organizations. Thankfully, this Great Resignation is being complemented by what I like to call Reformed Recruitment.

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The people who are quitting their jobs are joining at places that provide them greater flexibility. Today, more and more people both employees and employers are going for permanently remote or hybrid work models as this cuts operational costs for the company and transportation expenses for its workers. Besides, people are taking up a job for money anymore but are also evaluating the values that the company stands for. In view of this, businesses are leveraging artificial intelligence AI to find the right person for the job even if they are hiring someone just for a specific duration. Besides finding the right fit, the use of tech in the recruitment process is also helping companies weed out any possible human bias. HR Tech & DEI Technology plays a pivotal role in achieving the diversity, equity, and inclusion DEI work goals. As a concept, it means employees should not encounter any inequality due to their race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, gender identity, religion, language, age, marital status, veteran status, mental ability, physical ability, and disabilities among others. In addition, the DEI goals also advocate embracing differences and promoting justice, fairness, and impartiality at the workplace. To ensure these values, the adoption of Artificial Intelligence AI by a business has become more crucial than ever. Technology provides data driven insights and multiple scalable solutions which influence processes, challenge thinking, and ultimately lead to a more bias free hiring process. According to research published by the World Economic Forum, these three factors have benefited the organizations in terms of profitability, innovation, decision making, and employee engagement. Also, the digital transformation spurred by the pandemic in the hiring process has led to strong employee engagement in the organizations. Bringing a similar trend to the fore, a study by Intel revealed that around 81 percent of business leaders said that the technology disruptions which occurred during the pandemic have brought positive impact concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in the organization. The root cause of all forms of biases at workplace is human decision making. AI has the potential to enable organizations to make decisions independent of biases that are likely to creep up in the recruitment process when used in the right manner. Analytics enabled by digitization can promote transparency that also helps reduce unconscious biases. The mitigation of such biases is extremely crucial for a firm health. Implementation of strategies **involving** DEI demands adequate data and information, one of the most indispensable sources of which is the digitisation of the hiring process itself. Furthermore, deeper analysis enabled by AI driven tools to evaluate and analyze skills and aptitudes of multiple candidates to assess their flair, removing the possibility of any bias and making merit the only criterion. HR: In Coming Times AI is here to stay and the technology is already being widely used. The use of AI technology, coupled with digitisation of the hiring process in line with the expansion of the remote working facility, has also ensured a level.

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Playing field for all talent people with disabilities, new mothers, the transgender community, and the elderly have better chances of finding work today as the use of technology is a great leveler. Sophisticated AI tools ensure that inclusion does not just remain limited to being a buzzword but become a part of the work culture. AI based tools enable organizations to evaluate more applicants per job and also compare between candidates more objectively. Meanwhile, for those at the forefront of this disruption in the HR world, it is like what Charles Dickens wrote in A Tale of Two Cities it was the best of times, it was the worst of times. Best for those who have been agile in adopting digitisation and artificial intelligence driven mechanisms for recruitment, worst for those who continue to hire people traditionally at a time when most of the people don't want to step out for job interviews or for the job itself. Not to forget, DEI is most likely to remain key traction for employees while choosing an employer. The war in Ukraine is not just a European event. It has global geo strategic and geo economic implications. The trifecta of problems in Russian mobilisation and logistics, the strength of the Ukrainian resistance and the rapid Western response, has transformed it into real conflict. No one is following these developments more closely than China. The military lessons are important, but even more important are the lessons from the impact of the total financial war that America and its allies are waging on Russia. China wants to identify and address vulnerabilities in the Chinese economy in order to harden it from future Western assault. This will mean greater, not lesser, economic decoupling with consequent knock on effects for the Indo Pacific economies. A renewed surge in Covid infections across Europe, East Asia and Australia, likely being driven by Omicron stealth sub variant, BA.2, has prompted GoI to insist on greater disease surveillance and genomic sequencing. In countries like the UK, Germany and Australia the new wave has taken shape in a matter of weeks after the Omicron wave of December January appeared to abate. Contrast this to the gap of several months between earlier waves. Admittedly, India Covid trajectory is far from alarming at present. Just over 2,500 infections were detected on Wednesday and the weekly positivity rate is a low 0.4%. However, the **surge** in other countries does raise worries over the duration of immunity even though most testing positive have mild symptoms. There, however, no cause to jump to quick conclusions or be complacent: Disease behaviour could be getting modified and moderated because these countries have administered plentiful booster doses. Against South Korea 63 booster doses per 100 people the corresponding numbers for other affected countries like UK, Germany and Australia are 57, 57 and 48 respectively. India, meanwhile, is at a low 1.4 booster doses per 100 people. GoI decision to remove the comorbidity precondition for the 60 plus age group to.

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Avail precaution doses is welcome. Allowing those over 45 and any adult with comorbidities to avail booster doses is the next logical step. Many adults received second doses over six months ago. Their waning immunity is an uncomfortable prospect amid massive infection surges abroad and the resumption of normal international air travel operations from March 27. While Gol experts have claimed that the Omicron wave renewed mass immunity, this still does explain the ongoing Covid surges in countries equally hit by Omicron. Changes may also be needed to the precaution dose programmer going by the initial reports of the CMC Vellore mix and match study. That a booster dose of Covishield for those double dosed with Coaxing induces a six fold rise in antibodies questions the current strategy of homologous boosting. However, the Vellore trials found the impact of Coaxing for those administered two doses of Covishield underwhelming. This is where other studies, for Bharat Biotech intranasal vaccine, SII Covovax and Biological E Corbevax, will offer greater clarity given that over 80% adults received Covishield. With the bouquet of vaccines growing, Gol should reveal a timeline for the booster programmer. This will help vaccine companies to calibrate production. The bottom line is India should get caught napping by emerging variants as had happened during last year Delta wave. A renewed surge in Covid infections across Europe, East Asia and Australia, likely being driven by Omicron stealth sub variant, BA.2, has prompted Gol to insist on greater disease surveillance and genomic sequencing. In countries like the UK, Germany and Australia the new wave has taken shape in a matter of weeks after the Omicron wave of December January appeared to abate. Contrast this to the gap of several months between earlier waves. Admittedly, India Covid trajectory is far from alarming at present. Just over 2,500 infections were detected on Wednesday and the weekly positivity rate is a low 0.4%. However, the surge in other countries does raise worries over the duration of immunity even though most testing positive have mild symptoms. There, however, no cause to jump to quick conclusions or be complacent: Disease behaviour could be getting modified and moderated because these countries have administered plentiful booster doses. Against South Korea 63 booster doses per 100 people the corresponding numbers for other affected countries like UK, Germany and Australia are 57, 57 and 48 respectively. India, meanwhile, is at a low 1.4 booster doses per 100 people. Gol decision to remove the comorbidity precondition for the 60 plus age group to avail precaution doses is welcome. Allowing those over 45 and any adult with comorbidities to avail booster doses is the next logical step. Many adults received second doses over six months ago. Their waning immunity is an uncomfortable prospect amid massive infection surges abroad and the resumption of normal international air travel operations from March 27. While Gol experts have claimed that the Omicron wave renewed mass immunity, this still does explain the ongoing Covid surges in countries equally.

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First of All Happy holi, Now start needed to the precaution dose programmer going by the initial reports of the CMC Vellore mix and match study. That a booster dose of Covishield for those double dosed with Coaxing induces a six fold rise in antibodies questions the current strategy of homologous boosting. However, the Vellore trials found the impact of Coaxing for those administered two doses of Covishield underwhelming. This is where other studies, for Bharat Biotech intranasal vaccine, SII Covovax and Biological E Corbevax, will offer greater clarity given that over 80% adults received Covishield. With the bouquet of vaccines growing, Gol should reveal a timeline for the booster programmer. This will help vaccine companies to calibrate production. The bottom line is India should get caught napping by emerging variants as had happened during last year Delta wave. The US Federal Reserve increased its policy interest rate, the federal funds rate, by 0.25 percentage points to a range of 0.25 0.5%. It the first increase since 2018 and the central bank has indicated that it will be just the first of more increases likely in 2022. America economic context made an increase in interest rates inevitable. The unemployment rate is 3.8%, close to a 50 year low, and annualised inflation is 6%. The influence of the US economy, when juxtaposed with the ongoing Russia Ukraine war, will complicate matters for India economic policy makers. There already an outflow of foreign portfolio investment as capital shifts to safe havens to net FPI outflow in February was \$5.4 billion. Outflows, which cause rupee depreciation, along with a surge in prices of commodities such as crude oil, will harden inflation in India. However, RBI large fore reserve of \$631.9 billion is adequate to smoothen currency movements. It can partially offset the inflationary impact of a depreciation of the rupee against the dollar. There are two key issues at stake. RBI next monetary policy meeting will take place in the backdrop of a worsening outlook on inflation. Notwithstanding that, there should be a status quo on interest rates. Inflationary pressure is coming through higher commodity costs and supply chain disruptions. Neither problem can be solved through an increase in interest rates. Moreover, local developments provide reason to keep rates steady. CMIE jobs data showed that the unemployment rate increased from 6.6% in January to 8.1% in February. Corroborating it were the PMIs of employment in both manufacturing and services which shrank for the third straight month in February. Weak purchasing power, not overheated demand, is the main problem. The solution lies in fiscal policy, beginning with a reduction in central fuel taxes. JRR Tolkien wrote in his epic fantasy novel The Children of Huron, False hopes are more dangerous than fears. And indeed, history is replete with examples of rulers having made strategic miscalculations based on false hope offered by their allies. Let flip through our history book to understand this. In India, the 1757 Battle of Plessey resulted in a complete defeat of.

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Holi is a festival of colours, love and spring. It marks the triumph of good over evil. On this day king of demons, planned to kill his own son, Prahlad, because he was a devotee of Vishnu. The king asked his sister, Holika, who was immune to fire, to sit with Prahlad on her lap. He meant to set them on fire. She was to survive and Prahlad would have died in this fire. Instead, Holika got burnt and Prahlad emerged unscathed. The story highlights the power of goodness. Prahlad did not defend himself, but the fire lost its power to burn him. It was as if God was supporting him. On the other hand, Hiranyakashyapu, the mighty king, failed every time he used his strength against Prahlad. This may seem like just a mythological story, but you experience the sovereignty of goodness when you live it. We often undermine virtue because we see the good being overpowered by the wicked, and the selfish ones getting away with murder. However, it is not goodness that creates suffering but passivity and lack of use of intellect. Those who are evil minded, tend to operate with intellect, while the good are often led by just noble emotions. The way to go is to harbour noble emotions and use intellect to guide your actions. Krishn was an epitome of this rare combination of a good heart and strong intellect. It made him invincible. The Nawab of Bengal; Sire us Duala, at the hands of the British East India Company. The Nawab was misled by false hope that his previously dismissed commander in chief, Mir Afar, would come to his support. Leon Musk, the richest man in the world, the driving force behind the battery powered Tesla, and pioneer of space tourism, is known for pulling his punches when he gets into verbal wrangles, as he did with fellow billionaire, Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg. But now the feisty car czar has shown that he no mere motor mouth and is prepared to put his muscle where his mouth is by challenging Russia Vladimir Putin, to a man to man bout of fisticuffs in a bid to put paid to the Kremlin unprovoked assault on Ukraine. Despite his cloak and dagger KGB background and the macho image he likes to project, the Moscow strongman is unlikely to pick up the gauntlet, perhaps not least **because**, though being a self professed martial arts expert, a couple of years ago he was sent for a toss by a woman member of the Russian Olympic judo team during a practice session, thereby turning a photo op into a photo oops. However, if what might come to be called the Leon Example were to be put into general practice, thereby replacing the mass murder of pitched battles by one on one slugfests between two voluntary contestants, it would go a long way to counter the charge that wars are engendered by old leaders as revenge against the young who.

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Academics without skin in the game forecasters who worship models journalists who retrofit causes economists who predict last year's crises and anyone who pretends to understand complex systems with linear thinking. He is not politely advising you to read less news. He is declaring that epistemic confidence is a moral hazard. The LinkedIn version was a calming herbal reminder to avoid stress. Taleb is mace. This was chamomile. This is the tragedy of deep thinkers who wander into social media. Their complexity gets strip-mined. Their philosophy becomes a set of Post-it notes. It is not the writer's fault. The platform rewards simplification. Nuance is expensive. Ambiguity underperforms. And Taleb, dense and volatile, is kryptonite for algorithmic digestion. Yet it also reminds us of something Taleb himself would underline: the problem is not information. The problem is our appetite for half-digested ideas. We want wisdom without labour. Conviction without doubt. Certainty without skin. Philosophy without turning a single page. It fed me a thought-provoking accident. A well-meaning attempt to summarise a man who cannot be summarised. A philosophical Everest turned into a motivational trek. Taleb would call it noise. I call it content that made my morning slightly more ant fragile. I closed LinkedIn shortly after. Not because Taleb says not to read the news, but because even noise needs calibration. Sometimes, wisdom lies not in deleting the app. It lies in laughing at the algorithm, thanking serendipity, and moving on with the day a little better aligned with reality. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity If a rose by any other name smelled just as sweet and a Chrysanthemum by any other name would be easier to spell, then Artificial Intelligence (AI) by any other name would Social welfare schemes have played a key role in the massive NDA win in Bihar. Now, design improvements can play a key role in improving these schemes' outcomes. In this context, there are powerful lessons while many major democracies are angrily turning incumbents out of power, India is not and NDA's re-election victory in Bihar is just the latest case. This is not necessarily a good sign, especially in what links America's Epstein scandal to Bihar elections? The power of comedy As much as the Epstein saga seems like a bottomless cesspit, its central disjuncture is how many of America's rich and powerful, have Hidma's **killing** further weakens Maoists. For total victory address tribal grievances, rehabilitate surrendered cadres The killing of top Maoist commander Madvi Hidma in a security forces encounter yesterday marks yet another success in GOI's ongoing What connects a big scary scandal in America to elections in Bihar? Believe it or not comedy The Epstein scandal in the US is a huge, messy story about a powerful man who did A study reveals that AI sucks up to people more than people suck up to each other When asked if he were a chamcha of Indira Gandhi, whom he openly and frequently championed, Khushwant Singh Hasina show trial, repression of Awami League & official support for Islamist militia heighten the prospect of civil war in Bangladesh. That and not costing up to Pak's jihadist general Munir, should be Yunus's priority it has cultivated a monoculture, leaving no space for conservatives and their ideas. It must begin by creating conditions for diversity of thought and freedom of speech Harvard has been i

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By Minoru "Harada" Life's greatest "victories" often begin in the heart with the courage to rise again, to start afresh, and to move forward with hope. Nichiren Buddhism teaches that courage is the starting Help's on the line but its unhelpful 'Emails have been hacked all over the world. You need to change your passwords ASAP!' read the lad's frantic message on WhatsApp. I had just about managed to Judgment on Hasina is legally dodgy. And Dhaka is now a major security concern for New Delhi She may not appreciate the irony the court Sheikh Hasina set up in 2010 sentenced her yesterday all studies show vehicle emissions are strongly tied to mileage, not age. When will law take note? Nowhere in the democratic world, barring India, are owners forced to scrap old vehicles. Berlin or London, you back in 1987, India and Pakistan faced off on a diabolical pitch in Bengaluru. Every batsman was at sea. There was one exception: Sunil Gavaskar, playing his last Test innings. Summoning every inch of his what reasons do we discern for the scale of NDA's victory 202 of Bihar's 243 assembly seats? The win is especially significant for the pan-Bihar spread and unidirectional mandate in disparate geographies of Magadh-Shahabad, Why did President Trump suddenly decide to lower taxes (called tariffs) on coffee and other foods from other countries? Because many people in the US are getting upset about rising prices and angry voters Healthy food is about policy and quality control. As train stations are redone, include that in the blueprint South Central Railway's proposal to open up train stations to single-brand company-owned food retail is a smart what made Trump cut tariffs on coffee and other farm produce? Voter pain that's turning into anger It's taken Trump nearly eight months to wake up and smell the coffee. What woke him up actually In politics and life, don't rush to write off people I was sitting looking despondent on the front step as Kamala returned from her walk. Are you still thinking about the Bihar election results? she Indian Railways is planning to redo about 1,200 train stations, and one new idea is to let big, single-brand food companies open shops there. This could make stations feel a bit like airports, where you By Christopher Mendonca If a rose by any other name smelled just as sweet and a Chrysanthemum by **any** other name would be easier to spell, then Artificial Intelligence (AI) by any other name would Social welfare schemes have played a key role in the massive NDA win in Bihar. Now, design improvements can play a key role in improving these schemes' outcomes. In this context, there are powerful lessons While many major democracies are angrily turning incumbents out of power, India is not and NDA's re-election victory in Bihar is just the latest case. This is not necessarily a good sign, especially in What links America's Epstein scandal to Bihar elections? The power of comedy As much as the Epstein saga seems like a bottomless cesspit, its central disjuncture is how many of America's rich and powerful, have Hidma's killing further weakens Maoists. For total victory address tribal grievances, rehabilitate surrendered cadres The killing of top Maoist commander Madvi Hidma in a security forces encounter yesterday marks yet another success in GOI's ongoing What connects a big scary scandal in America to elections in Bihar? Believe it or not comedy The Epstein scandal in the US is a huge, messy story about a powerful man who did A stu

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World Music Day, also known as Fete de la Musique, celebrates the beauty and diversity of music. Sangeet transcends boundaries, cultures, and genres. People worldwide embrace music and its profound impact on their lives. In his essay Music at Night, Aldus Huxley rightly said, after silence, which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music. Music is to the soul what words are to the mind. Everything in the universe has a rhythm; everything dances. Science has proven that rhythmic tones diminish the feral instincts not only in humans but also in animals. Rangers at Kruger National Park in South Africa play instruments to tranquilize rogue elephants. Urdu poet Naubat Rai Nazar wrote, Patthar ke seene mein bhi dil ubhar aata hai Iss qadar asar hota hai mausiqi ka Heart appears even in a stone This is how music impacts. The Arabic word mausiqi became music in English. The universal language of symphonic serenity, which the cosmos uses to express itself, neither has geographical barriers nor requires learning a new language to appreciate. One only needs ears to appreciate nature soulful cadences. Kaanon mein jo shahad ghol de Pahunchaye jo dil ko sukoon Usi ko naam diya hai mausiqi ka What pours honey into the ears Gives solace to the heart That what we call music. Don we say in English that it mellifluous to our ears? Anything with the power and quality to transport us to an ethereal realm is tuneful. Listen to Chopin classical piano masterpieces, Yehudi Menuhin and Niccolo Paganini gossamer creations on a violin or Beethoven most famous compositions, including Symphony No 5 in C Minor; you are bound to say, Agar firdaus var-roo-e-zameenast Hameenst, hameenst, hameenst If there heaven elsewhere on earth It here, here and here. Tuneful soulfulness also has a therapeutic impact on the human mind. Many prisons in the western world have a specific room where prisoners can go and listen to symphonies because rhythms can curb criminal tendencies. In other words, music has a humanising quality. It makes us human and humane. Tunes and tenors are also cathartic. That the reason heartbroken people listen to sad songs and ghazals. They feel better after that because signet purifies from within and is heart-cleansing. To quote Mirza Ghalib, Rone se aur ishq mein bebaak ho gaye Dhoye gaye hum aise ke bas paak ho gaye I felt more liberated in love Once I shed tears and became sanctified. Let listen to soothing music in these times of utter cacophony and merge ourselves into the Elysian bliss because Life is for the living Death is for the dead Let life be like music And death a note unsaid. Remember, some people have lives; others have musical notes as boon companions. Does it sound like an ethereal symphony to your ears? It may be recalled that during Uddhav Thackeray tenure as the chief minister, former MP Subodh Mohite and the then MP Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje had staged hunger strike outside Sarthi office protesting its closure and to demand that funds be disbursed under the scheme in the similar manner. Unfortunately, despite Uddhav Thackeray and Sharad Pawar flagrant disregard for Sarthi and not providing scholarships to Maratha youth, none of the protestors seem to be uttering a word against them. The Maratha reservation issue had erupted in the state during Devendra Fadnavis tenure as chief minister. The state wide marches conducted by the Maratha community created a stir. Even during this trying time, Fadnavis had handled the issue cal

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Given to the Other Backward Classes OBCs to the Maratha community and open dorms for Maratha students. Also, waiving Maratha students education loans up to Rs 10 lakh and reducing their fees to half was an easy task as doing so would have placed a significant financial strain on the government coffers. But Fadnavis took those decisions without hesitation. Following the declaration of Maratha reservation, the court ruled that reservation for medical courses will not be applicable. This angered the karyakartas of the Maratha Kranti Morcha who again started talking about launching an agitation against the government. During that time, a suggestion was made to Fadnavis that the Maratha students are allowed to take admission to private medical colleges and that the government will bear the burden of their educational fees. At that time, Fadnavis, who was the Chief Minister, said that the students must pay fees equivalent to the government medical colleges and the remaining fees will be paid by the government. The government was supposed to set aside Rs 28 crore for the same. No sooner did the figures arrive, Fadnavis immediately gave his approval for the same. The state government also issued an ordinance regarding Maratha youth admittance to medical colleges. Making such decisions is easy as it calls for setting aside a few hundreds of cores. His government could have easily relaxed and pointed fingers at the court ruling. When Supreme Court was hearing arguments into the Maratha reservation issue, Uddhav Thackeray had assumed the role of chief minister with backing from the Congress and Sharad Pawar. When the matter was being heard, Uddhav Thackeray Sharad Pawar changed the lawyer. Even worse, the Supreme Court was not provided with the translation of the report that was prepared about the entire reservation issue. In a letter to Uddhav Thackeray, Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje had questioned why the government had substituted another attorney. He had also brought up in this letter the fact that the state government attorney was not present at the Supreme Court hearing. Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje had also warned Uddhav Thackeray that the state administration needs to give reservation issue significant consideration or else it would have to brace for harsh repercussions. Mukul Rohatgi, a prominent attorney, was chosen by the state government to represent the Maratha reservation case in the Supreme Court. Rohatgi had officially acknowledged in the court that they were unable to build a **compelling** case as they were not receiving information and documentation from the state government representatives. Mukul Rohatgi statement made it to the news. Fadnavis had also publicly advised the state government to take cognizance and precautions in this regard. But Rohatgi was not given serious consideration by the Congress NCP Shiv Sena government. Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray also failed to identify who was responsible for not providing the desired information and documents to the lawyers. Today, both Pawar and UBT have managed to get out of this issue whereas Fadnavis is being singled out and accused for no reason. In politics, disagreement, criticism, accusations and recriminations are inevitable and occur frequently. It depresses to see accusations being leveled against Fadnavis and false narratives being spread about him. Fadnavis is capable of overcoming this maze of false narratives and emerge victorious. In the words of a famous Marathi poet and le

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Goodness is eulogised in all cultures because it yields success and happiness and enables spiritual growth. Not only did Prahlad become the king of demons after Hiranyakashyapu was killed, but the entire clan of demons stopped being evil. When we entertain noble thoughts, we are joyous and when we have selfish thoughts, we experience stress. As we cultivate higher desires, lower, selfish desires drop and we evolve into purer individuals. We all are a mix of divine and demonic traits. It is important to invest in the good, court the divine, encourage and nurture finer qualities. Holi reminds us that selfishness is not an option. We can use the gift of choice to sculpt a brilliant future for ourselves. Thought is the building block of life. In the armoury of thoughts, we can fashion weapons of destruction or design our own excellence. We can create a powerful, positive environment in the mind, in which good tendencies flourish and evil propensities perish. This can be done through satsang, drawing inspiration from past luminaries who have forged ahead with goodness, and reading scriptures and imbibing their knowledge. Sita made the right choice after she was abducted and held captive by Ravan. She refused to indulge in the enjoyments that Ravan offered and chose to live in Ashok Vanam, garden of no sorrow. When you choose the higher over lower, you are in a zone of no sorrow. Eventually, Sita reunited with Ram. So will us, if we resist the lure of instant joy and opt for deferred gratification and use intellect and follow our conscience to choose the right path. It is widely known that private schools PSs are mushrooming all over the country. The enrolment in private schools may be about 60 percent in India whereas as per a survey in 2019, it was 60 percent in Haryana, 55 percent in Punjab, and 44 percent in Delhi. There were newspaper reports that some parents had shifted their wards to government schools GSs during covid 19 to save the fees. But, it may be a short term phenomenon I decided to test checks the quality of government and private schools by holding a mathematical competition in my native area, the Bashar sub division in Charkha Dari district of Haryana. The participants were 75 students of 10th class and 17 of 12th class from seven schools Table 1. Besides, the purpose of the **test** was to motivate students for studies especially in math by giving them; a certificate, memento, and cash prize. We categorized the sample schools in GSs and PSs for comparison. It enabled students of the GSs to win prizes who were likely to be excluded if clubbed with the PSs. The Table shows that the average score in the test was 24 percent of the sample 10th class students of the GSs as compared to 33 percent of the students from the PSs. The students who got 30 percent or more marks were 22 % in the GSs and 59 percent.

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Billion people and over 600 million internet users, India presents a lucrative opportunity for startups to tap into. India has the highest millennial population in the world, with over 400 million people aged between 18 and 35. This demographic is known for its tech savvies and entrepreneurial spirit, making it an ideal breeding ground for startups. They are also the driving force behind India rapidly growing online consumer market. With the rise of e commerce platforms and the increasing number of internet users in India, online shopping has become a trend among millennial. In fact, according to a report by Bain & Company, India e commerce market is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate CAGR of 28 to reach \$200 billion by 2026. This presents a huge opportunity for startups that can cater to this growing demand. Moreover, the pandemic has accelerated the trend towards online consumerism in India. With people staying at home to avoid contracting the virus, online shopping and e commerce platforms became the go to options for many consumers. According to a survey, online shopping in India grew by 60 70 during the pandemic, and this trend is expected to continue in the coming years. Apart from online consumerism, the pandemic has also changed media consumption habits in India. With people spending more time at home, they turned to various forms of media, such as OTT platforms and social media, for entertainment and information. According to a report, the OTT market in India is expected to grow at a CAGR of 28.6 to reach \$12.5 billion by 2030. This presents a huge opportunity for startups in the media and entertainment industry. The Indian Government Role in Nurturing Startups: India economy is one of the fastest growing globally, with a projected GDP growth rate of 9.5 in 2021. The government focus on building infrastructure, digital connectivity, and financial inclusion has fueled the growth of various sectors, including e commerce, finch, and healthcare. This growth, combined with a large and aspirational middle class, has created a significant consumer market for startups to tap into. India government has been instrumental in supporting the growth of startups in the country. With new policies every month to support entrepreneurs, the government is committed to boosting the Indian startup ecosystem. Reforms like tax holidays, private participation in space tech, and the creation of state run incubators are helping **startups** to grow and reduce their burn rates. India startup culture is diverse and innovative, with startups working on a wide range of areas, such as agriculture, education, health, and finch. The diversity of startups reflects the country rich cultural and linguistic diversity. The startups have also come up with unique business models to cater to the Indian market, such as low cost e commerce platforms, vernacular content platforms, and mobile based financial services. Despite the significant progress, India startup ecosystem still faces challenges, particularly in terms of access to funding. The government is working to improve the funding environment for startups, with the Fund of Funds for Startups FFS scheme, the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme SISFS, and the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups CGSS providing capital at various stages of the business cycle. The recent budget announcements, extending the period of incorporation of eligible budding entrepreneurs for providing tax incentives, is a significant st

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Under the Startup India initiative. In conclusion, India startup ecosystem is thriving, driven by a large market potential, fast growing economy, government support, and a diverse and innovative startup culture. The success of Indian startups has attracted the attention of international investors who see immense potential in the country startup ecosystem. With continued support from the government and private investors, India startup ecosystem is poised for significant growth and innovation in the coming years, especially in the healthcare and education sectors, which the pandemic has highlighted. Have you ever wondered how quickly sun sets? For the whole day, it was right out there. And now, I looked away just for a moment and it was gone... Leaving the dull looking sky behind. The sky at this moment, looks just like my face when I see it in the mirror these days. It looks faded. People in our life are no different. They come and acts to be permanent and then leave. Sometimes without even bidding a proper goodbye. But then, how would it have changed anything if they had announced it in advance. Nothing in this world can prepare you to witness the departure of your loved ones. Every morning when I wake up, I don't want to open my eyes knowing, you would be a part of this new day anymore. Every evening when I am alone at terrace, I walk. I walk a lot. And I walk so fast that I won't have to struggle falling asleep when I go to bed at night. Brisk walking is the only thing that keeps me sane these days. All day and night, I see your memories dancing in front of me. So I walk. I all keep walking. Till the time I leave your memories far behind so that they all never come back to haunt me again. Sometimes I feel okay too. This morning when I cooked breakfast at home, you were in my mind at that also. But I was missing you that much. And it felt good. In that moment, I felt I could survive. But then how long can I use these new hobbies as an escape from your thoughts? In the evening when I was on terrace, I saw few boys, there. I had never seen them before. It was hard to ignore them or to stay there while they were there too. I **walked** toward them. I wanted to ask what they were doing but then backed away. If I could lose a place in your heart that was once mine, how would keeping a terrace to myself make me any better? My heart ached. Ye Bhi le lo. I am mostly fine around people but the moment I am left alone, I sit and cry. And now it happens naturally, like that lady who knits sweater anytime she alone and has nothing else to do. The only difference is that she can estimate the time it will take to complete her sweater but I can. Customers today have a heightened awareness of the importance of quality sleep and the role of the right mattress in achieving it. The middle aged demographic, in particular, is increasingly health conscious, leading to a surge in demand for orthopedic mattresses. Unlike in the past, customers now conduct thorough research online before deciding on a purchase, comparing prices and reviews. While a mattress is typically replaced every seven years, many customers return to purchase pillows and accessories within a year and a half. However, the industry faces several challenges, including a lack of standardization. While the West has only five standard sizes, India has 18, and mattress thickness also lacks uniformity. Local players can easily fulfill customized size orders, giving them an edge over organized players. Furth

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Control and a challenge for organized players. Although many customers now purchase mattresses online, some still prefer to test the product before buying. To accommodate this, companies are expanding their brand stores. The wellness sector is one of the fastest growing D2C segments, with the potential to surpass the more narrowly focused health segment. Despite the challenges, the mattress industry is seeing rapid growth due to the increasing awareness of the importance of sleep and the health benefits associated with quality rest. According to industry reports, the global mattress market is projected to reach \$43.43 billion by 2024, driven by factors such as urbanization, rising disposable income, and changing lifestyles. To keep up with the changing market demands, mattress companies are investing in research and development to create new and innovative products that cater to specific customer needs. For instance, some companies are developing mattresses with advanced cooling technologies to combat overheating during sleep, while others are introducing eco-friendly and sustainable options to meet the growing demand for environmentally conscious products. Additionally, there is a growing trend towards customization, with companies offering personalized mattresses tailored to individual preferences and body types. Such products are gaining popularity, as customers are willing to pay a premium for a comfortable and personalized sleep experience. Overall, the mattress industry is evolving rapidly, with new players entering the market and existing companies adapting to meet changing customer demands. As customers become more health conscious and prioritize quality sleep, the industry is likely to see continued growth and innovation in the years to come. Mental health and wellbeing are becoming as important as physiological wellness. The D2C wellness market can broadly be classified under three major umbrellas nutrition, fitness, and sleep which has in the past been the most neglected. Wellness is a relatively price elastic segment in an otherwise sensitive D2C ecosystem. Certifications are critical to establish credibility of a product and command a premium price. Recently, our Honorable Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman commenced her budget speech by calling it the first budget of Amrit Kaal. What was particularly interesting is how the Hon blew FM noted that the seven key priorities including infrastructure investment, reaching the last mile and inclusive development are set to complement one another and act as the apt rishi to guide us towards the Amrit Kaal. The Budget 2023 accurately captures the hope filled sentiment of the common Indian **who is content with the status quo, but also, firmly believes that our country has much more potential. Despite several global headwinds throughout the recent few years including the Covid 19 pandemic, Russia Ukraine war, and India own concerns with maintaining economic stability in the South Asia region, India has continued to prove itself as an economic bright spot for growth and investments. However, that is not the peak of what India can achieve. It is no doubt that India is still within its PPF Production Possibility Frontier, and there is immense scope to reach a state of higher maximum productivity and efficiency. India revenue per employee RPE one of the wider metrics to gauge productivity has been falling from 2019 to 2021, and the sector wise RPE shows that the manufacturing sector faced**

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Growth targets, for economic industrial complex to continually contribute to it, enhancing productivity seems to be the need of the hour. It the Ashtha eighth rishi for the Amrit Kaal. Therefore, it critical to analyse the current state and trends of the productivity of our economic complex, and accordingly develop implementable interventions. Available literature on economic development such as the Three Sector or Fisher Clark Kuznets Hypothesis suggests that production in a country shifts from agriculture to manufacturing sector first, and then to services sector. This could be an underlying reason for why India has seen lower levels of overall productivity perhaps due to the lower exposure to a highly productive industrial set up. Of course, other factors play a major role as well, especially when we consider the presence of a large number of fragmented small and micro manufacturing companies. This was largely a consequence of certain pre liberalization era Industrial Policy 1956 policies whose effects can be seen to this day. For example India toy industry wood or plastics was reserved for small scale sector; as were some textile processes like hosiery, knitting & weaving. This undoubtedly limited efficiency levels of the Indian economy as preexisting larger players, who had the capital, were able to adopt practices that improved efficiency across its verticals in order to deliver competitive products. However, owing to most new entrants being smaller players who lacked capital we saw not only a lack of ability in these companies to compete with bigger firms through improving efficiency but also posed a limited threat to large firms. As a result, a paradox emerges wherein efficiency does remain a consistent priority for larger firms who have already established themselves, while smaller firms deal with a similar prioritization, and a unique affordability challenge. Indian industries and services sectors thus require efficiency and productivity as a priority to not just improve their competitiveness in the global marketplace, and profitability, but also align their trajectories to the economic ambitions of the country. In this regard, Government can also undertake a comprehensive role in enhancing the focus for prioritizing productivity and efficiency. A systematic two pronged approach can be deployed for this, with one prong focusing on the large enterprises to enhance their awareness, incentives and responsibility towards making their enterprises more efficient and productive, and the second focusing towards MSMEs, with measures enhancing awareness and affordability for MSMEs for **undertaking measures to improve efficiency and productivity. The recently announced revamped version of MSME LEAN Manufacturing scheme is a step in the right direction by the Government to enhance MSMEs affordability of external interventions for enhancing efficiency and productivity. Large scale and efficient implementation of the scheme, however, will be the key factor which results in value realization. Similarly, the Government should also adopt productivity as the Ashtha Rishi for the Amrit Kaal and strategize a manner to gauge, prioritize and support productivity enhancement measures by large enterprises in the country. The National Productivity Council in this regard can play a robust role, in commissioning knowledge periodic reports which can provide an institutional barometer to gauge efficiency across large enterprises, as well as work with indus**

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Is to be done by authorities like Food and Drug Administration. Lastly, a patent is acquired by the organization for this approved drug. To recover the cost of research and development, companies usually price their brand name drugs on the higher side. This drug enters into the market including all costs born by the parent company for all the stages, which in turn makes the branded medicines costly for the end users. Now after a fixed period the patent of a drug expires and thereafter manufacturers can mimic the drug and make their own version. Now manufacturers do not go through the mundane process of clinical trials to prove the efficacy of the drug. Due to this, generic drugs cost less as compared to branded medicines. The generic medicines have the same molecular structure in comparison to the branded medicines, which means there is no compromise in the quality of ingredients. The active ingredient of the generic drug is the same as that of the branded drug, however, the inert ingredients, which give the drug its color, shape, or taste, vary from the brand name drug to the generic drug. As per the rough estimates, a generic medicine costs at least 50% cheaper than the same medicine with a brand name. Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana PMBJP stores have been set up to provide generic drugs. It also reduces the out of pocket expenditure on medicines and thereby redefines the unit cost of treatment per person. Perhaps this can be a game changer for the health sector of our country. Artificial Intelligence AI and Machine Learning ML are certainly the most revolutionizing industrial technologies we know today. More business organizations are leveraging AI every year, enhancing their products and bringing more competitive and insight backed advantages to their strategies. So, it is certain that AI can overhaul any fragmented business perhaps in the storage space too The way AI innovations are accelerating, one should soon be able to witness expansions from Edge to enterprise infrastructures in a simple and cost effective manner. The only major hindrance in this progression is storage and deployment challenges. But the question arises could AI by itself address these challenges? AI for Smart Storage? In our modern world, AI is powered by data, but the only problem being data is either stored or managed in a way that makes it difficult and costly to **access**, maintain or expand. For mitigating this, enterprises must evaluate the value and purpose of this data, eliminate the unwanted fragments, and streamline the valuable data with compliance checks, data governance, and cataloging. This is where AI enabled storage steps in, providing real time updates from several data sources in an optimized manner and automating workflows while minimizing human interventions. According to recent market study, AI powered storage market is set to be worth around 25 Billion by the end of 2025, reflecting at 17.56% CAGR over the period. Now, the real question that arises is what are the advantages of.

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Data, and automatically regulates data enter temperatures, all while reducing energy usage. AI improves storage accurate and dependability with smart security features that identify data packet loss during transit or within data centers, which in turn reduces data loss, improves availability, and speeds up turnaround time especially during downtime. Another developing benefit of AI enabled storage is neural storage. Despite the absence of human assistance, neural class storage can easily perceive and respond to storage issues and opportunities. Future of Data Storage with AI Going forward, when AI demands to increase the size of storage systems, the capacity of human engineers to manage, monitor, and maintain this large scale data storage becomes compromised. This bottleneck in scalability and efficiency is resolved with AI enabled data storage. While modern storage systems and applications can gather large data volumes and create actionable information, it is difficult to move forward without the intelligence and automation of AI powered storage systems the ones that can self predict and analyze data in real time. The union budget for 2022 was announced amid much fanfare. We waited to hear about funds allocated to the healthcare sector with bated breath. While some promising features were added to aid public health tele mental health centres, digitising the health ecosystem, uplifting districts lagging in the health care system, the entire healthcare system had mixed feelings towards this budget. While digitising the system is a welcome change, considering digital therapeutics and allocating funds or drafting policies to help the public benefit from it could have been an enormous step forward in improving public health. However, this might be a far fetched dream for the big names in the Detox domain because there are still many pain points that need to be addressed at the moment and one of them remains the eternal debate on insurance coverage and diabetes in a country which is the Diabetes capital of the world. According to the International Diabetes Federation, the estimated number of diabetes patients in the 20 79 age group is 74.2 million in 2021 and is likely to increase to 124.8 million in 2045. A campaign in August 2021 showed some startling data For people over 40, with BMI above 23 and a family history of type 2 diabetes, the risk of developing type 2 diabetes increases by 40 times. Furthermore, with over 90 million people with prediabetes, 70% will convert **to** type 2 diabetes in the next 5 10 years. Going by these numbers, it is evident that the burden of diabetes brings along with it the economic burden of its treatment and care. A decade back, buying insurance for people living with diabetes was difficult because of the risk involved. Nevertheless, government policies and diabetes specific insurance have been rolled out, seeing the growing numbers. There are many plans that one can choose from. However, one might still find it challenging to find an insurance policy that covers all costs medicine, hospitalisation, and complications due to comorbidities to relieve financial.

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AI enabled storage? Let dig deeper. Exploring the Advantages of AI enabled Storage Data being the new fuel for AI; it follows the need for legacy data storages to be transformed into smart storage solutions. This requires embedded deep learning and GPU processors which enables them to process real time insights and leverage advantages for AI enabled storage as follows: Scalability: AI algorithms can process huge data volumes in real time, demanding a need for significant storage demands. By provisioning of AI enabled cloud storage, storage can scale up intelligently as per the business requirements. Shared Data vs. Stored Data: In a data driven world, shared data proved to be more valuable than stored data. AI enabled storage makes it happen using advanced analytics and AI processed workloads, which helps scale out storage platforms that resolve downtime issues through data driven insights. Data Insights: AI powered storage uses various analytical tools to deliver fast, reliable insights from billions of stored objects and files. This makes data more useful for major business decisions for organizations. Automation: With help of Software Defined Storage, along with AI and ML, storage ecosystem can now add software layers on top of hardware and tracking more data. This allows managers to focus on strategic initiatives. Also, automation of storage facilities can be powered by AI and with their flexible and adaptable design, it is easy to manage, access, and reroute data center traffic to regulate datacenter temperatures automatically. Reporting and Alerting: AI enabled storage further enables organizations to build reports based on the insights delivered, which then enables alerting system configurations, data storage failure mitigation, and anomaly remediation. One such example of reporting is Power BI by Microsoft. This promotes Learning Data Lifecycles and helps regulate data storage in the best possible way. Failure Prediction: Productivity can be hugely impacted by storage failures. And, if the failure happens, organizations might recover lost data, restore it from a backup, but ultimately it will hinder productivity. With AI enabled storage, there a seamless detection of failures and data recovery happens instantly from the point of failure. Cost effective: AI assisted storage aids in the identification of data utility and usage patterns. This aids in the decisions on data storage, data management, and unwanted data filtration. As a result, enterprises may make informed decisions about data storage capacity and save money on the expenses of holding massive amounts of data. AI enabled Storage vs. Cloud Storage There are multiple ways in which AI enabled storage over performs than a typical cloud storage, to name a few: AI enabled storage enables us to deploy cost effective software defined storage, which efficiently allows data storage and easily recovers data from customers for insight led actions. The automation of operations connected with infrastructure, capacity, and storage management and maintenance is another benefit of AI enabled storage above traditional cloud storage. AI enabled storage provides a more agile and flexible architecture for enterprise storage ecosystem. It intelligently monitors access rights, dynamically reroutes datacenter.

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When asked if he were a chamcha of Indira Gandhi, whom he openly and frequently championed, Khushwant Singh Hasina show trial, repression of Awami League & official support for Islamist militia heighten the prospect of civil war in Bangladesh. That and not cosying up to Pak's jihadist general Munir, should be Yunus's priority It has cultivated a monoculture, leaving no space for conservatives and their ideas. It must begin by creating conditions for diversity of thought and freedom of speech Harvard has been in a hard place since By Minoru Harada Life's greatest victories often begin in the heart with the courage to rise again, to start afresh, and to move forward with hope. Nichiren Buddhism teaches that courage is the starting Help's on the line but its unhelpful 'Emails have been hacked all over the world. You need to change your passwords ASAP!' read the lad's frantic message on WhatsApp. I had just about managed to Judgment on Hasina is legally dodgy. And Dhaka is now a major security concern for New Delhi She may not appreciate the irony the court Sheikh Hasina set up in 2010 sentenced her yesterday all studies show vehicle emissions are strongly tied to mileage, not age. When will law take note? Nowhere in the democratic world, barring India, are owners forced to scrap old vehicles. Berlin or London, you back in 1987, India and Pakistan faced off on a diabolical pitch in Bengaluru. Every batsman was at sea. There was one exception: Sunil Gavaskar, playing his last Test innings. Summoning every inch of his what reasons do we discern for the scale of NDA's victory 202 of Bihar's 243 assembly seats? The win is especially significant for the pan-Bihar spread and unidirectional mandate in disparate geographies of Magadh-Shahabad, Why did President Trump suddenly decide to lower taxes (called tariffs) on coffee and other foods from other countries? Because many people in the US are getting upset about rising prices and angry voters Healthy food is about policy and quality control. As train stations are redone, include that in the blueprint South Central Railway's proposal to open up train stations to single-brand company-owned food retail is a smart what made Trump cut tariffs on coffee and other farm produce? Voter pain that's turning into anger It's taken Trump nearly eight months to wake up and smell the coffee. What woke him up actually **In** politics and life, don't rush to write off people I was sitting looking despondent on the front step as Kamala returned from her walk. Are you still thinking about the Bihar election results? she Indian Railways is planning to redo about 1,200 train stations, and one new idea is to let big, single-brand food companies open shops there. This could make stations feel a bit like airports, where you (November 20, 2025) Have we forgotten how to see without measuring? Ravi Singh is an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer who takes a keen interest in technology and philosophy. Before joining the civil services, he has worked in consulting roles with EY and KPMG. He is also a TED speaker and a sports enthusiast. (Views expressed on the blog are personal). MORE A rose can be understood in two distinct ways. One approach begins with the direct experience of its beauty, color and fragrance. The other begins from the smallest constituents and moves upward through subatomic particles and cells to arrive at the idea of a flower. Both approaches have value but they lead to very different ways of seeing the worl

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The scientific revolution in the 16th and 17th centuries encouraged a way of thinking that relied on breaking down phenomena into smaller parts. This method produced extraordinary progress. Physics advanced by splitting the molecule into atoms and then the atom into even smaller constituents. Industries borrowed the same logic. Frederick Taylor, the father of scientific management, reorganised work by dividing tasks into smaller components. Renowned American industrialist, Henry Ford increased factory productivity by creating assembly lines based on the same principle. Later, the information age pushed this approach into many other areas of life. Gradually this method became the instinctive way in which we interpret almost everything. The difficulty begins when this same model is extended to areas where it is not suited. Happiness is an example. It is widely believed that happiness can be assembled from a few broad components such as health, meaningful work and good relationships. These are again divided into smaller categories. Health includes nutrition, exercise and sleep. Work is categorised into goals and performance metrics. Even relationships are analysed through communication frameworks and psychological models. While each element may be valuable in itself, the expectation that happiness will automatically emerge from assembling them creates a problem. This tendency to break life into components is reinforced by the culture around us. Social media also encourages this approach. Wellness practices are often spoken of through the language of measurement. Sleep is quantified through devices. Food is reduced to numbers. Exercise is tracked. Meditation becomes another routine to be performed. In the process, many people find themselves doing everything that appears correct yet a sense of heaviness persists. They wake up tired despite proper sleep and feel disconnected despite having the elements that were supposed to bring satisfaction. Philosophy becomes relevant at precisely such a moment. It is not merely an academic subject. It offers the capacity to examine assumptions, question inherited ideas and think from first principles. It also offers something equally important. It encourages a way of seeing that is not based entirely on analysis. Indian traditions call philosophy darshan which means to see. It points to a mode of perception in which one allows an experience to reveal itself rather than immediately dividing it into causes and constituents. Philosophers across traditions have warned that when we rely only on analysis, we lose contact with the lived texture of experience. The phenomenologists made this point **with** great clarity. German philosopher, Edmund Husserl urged a return to the things themselves, meaning that before we classify or evaluate anything, we must first encounter it as it appears in consciousness. Similarly, Martin Heidegger argued that modern thinking often converts the world into an object to be inspected rather than a presence to be experienced. He believed that this attitude blinds us to what is most essential. These ideas resonated with me deeply during the ten day Vipassana retreat where the emphasis was on observing sensations exactly as they arise without naming them or constructing stories around them. When I tried to apply the usual analytical habit to the practice, the experience collapsed immediately. But when I allowed the sensations to reveal themselves in their own time they carried a clarity

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One way to curb this socio economic problem is to mandate corporate insurance coverage for diabetes. There are various benefits to this approach: It alleviates the economic burden from the workforce: A study published in 2007 suggests that an estimated USD 2.2 billion would be needed to sufficiently treat all cases of type 2 diabetes in India. Another study suggests that by 2025, most people with diabetes in developing countries will be in the 45 to 64 year age group, thus threatening the economic productivity of the country and the income earning ability of individuals. Mandating corporate insurance coverage for diabetes can help cover the cost, go for timely checkups, and take preventive measures to avert complications. Enables better productivity and ensures timely treatment: In the urban working class section, medical expenses and hospitalisation have always been a concern. A zone wise study published in for the south zone, for the north east and the west zone. If the employer gives this cost exemption, it becomes a huge relief for the employees to do timely tests and lessen the number of absenteeism due to complications of diabetes. A 2007 ICRIER survey showed that almost a quarter of the companies lose approximately 14% of their annual working days more than 51 days in a year due to sickness, and one can expect an equal percentage of loss in their productivity and profits. If we take the case of diabetes, an estimation of the loss to an organisation on account of absenteeism, loss of productivity of peers, subordinates, and managers due to a condition like diabetes is boosts employee wellness and leads to a happy work culture too: Including corporate insurance for diabetes would also help boost employees morale, a company that cares, thrives better with their workforce ready to push the limits. Furthermore, if a financial burden of diabetes treatment and care can be lifted it can also lead to a happy work culture. In our initial data from Fitter fly, we have found that some of these changes and benefits extend beyond the employee to the whole family. A better plan with better to individual to find an insurance policy that can suit their needs, with a diagnosis like diabetes might be difficult, but if big corporates take a step to secure employees living with diabetes, insurance companies can roll out policies that cover comorbidities or give better benefits **than** an individual plan, though it looks like a far cry at the moment, but could turn into possibility with corporations stepping up to mandate diabetes insurance cover. Apart from incorporating insurance for diabetes in corporate plans, organisations can also focus on preventive health care schemes to curb the problems of lifestyle diseases before it is too late. Incorporating Detox programs is one way to do that. In addition, helping employees live a better life by driving behavioral changes that are the core of Detox programs can also help save on corporate funds and improve the collective productivity of the workforce.

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Ever since India gained independence, it has been on a progressive path of development. For the past several decades, India has been one of the fastest growing major economies in the world. However, India development has not been uniform. Some of the cities in the country like Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore have seen world class development with modern infrastructure, high living standards, medical facilities, educational institutions, and high per capita income. The situation, however, beyond the major cities has been totally different. Until recently, most tier 2 and tier 3 cities lacked basic infrastructure, facilities, and opportunities. This forced people from these towns to migrate to the bigger cities in search of jobs, education, medical facilities, and better living standards. The situation in the rural areas was even worse. However, things have rapidly been changing in past few years. The efforts of the government and the emergence of digital technologies have led to a rapid transformation of life in these cities. The change brought about by these factors is can be seen in almost every field of life and work. The education sector has been one of the primary beneficiaries of this transformation. Detach has emerged as the spearhead of the development of tier 2 and tier 3 cities. Before we jump further into this discussion, it would be noteworthy that India has had several education hubs beyond the big cities. Smaller cities like Dehradun, Bhubaneswar, Kota, and Vishakhapatnam have always been considered good for quality education. The amalgamation of technology and education has revolutionized education in many more tier 2 and tier 3 cities in the country. Role of the internet Internet and the digital technologies associated with it have been the most important reasons that have brought about the educational revolution. The Internet has opened the doors to the global standards of education in these cities. Teachers are now equipped with world class knowledge and have access to the latest devices and technology. Students and parents have also embraced technology with open arms. Earlier, any new development in the education sector remained confined to the bigger cities. By the time it reached the smaller towns, cities, and rural areas, it was already outdated. However, the internet has changed it all. Today, the knowledge available to the big cities is also readily available to the smaller towns and cities. The Internet has also removed the barriers of time **and** place. In the pre internet era, students had to migrate to bigger cities for better and latest education. Those who could not afford the migration were devoid of it. The Internet has also raised the level of aspiration of the students. Now they are not satisfied with what they are getting, they are demanding more. This is also creating pressure on educational institutions to provide the best quality education to them. Investors are bullish No revolution has ever been successful without the support of money. The education revolution is no different. With cut throat competition and almost saturation in the.

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Questions about the all India pre medical entrance test conducted, still don't have good answers. So, the cancellation of a day after it was held was a particularly nasty shock. More so, because it is now tasked with investigating irregularities that led to the cancellation. But we shouldn't be surprised. The flaws are built into the system. Both tests were conducted by National Testing Agency set up in 2017 to centralise entrance exams to higher education institutes. The goal was One Nation One Test. Yet, given the mixed experience every year with biggest exams and central university entrance it is worth asking if that goal is not misplaced.

The Ashram is a cozy, intimate retreat that accommodates up to 10 guests at a time. This smaller group size creates a more personal and connected environment, allowing for deeper relationships to form among participants. The 10 acre property itself is more compact, fostering a sense of community and togetherness. A bipartisan US delegation meeting the Dalai Lama in Dharamshala has brought back the Tibet issue to the front burner. Of course, China has objected to the visit. The delegation included former US House speaker Nancy Pelosi, who had also visited Taiwan in 2022 despite Beijing's protests. Biden is going to soon sign the Resolve Tibet Act, which calls on Beijing to negotiate with the Dalai Lama or his representatives. This puts India, the host country of the Tibetan government in exile, in a decision spot. Question of future Given the Dalai Lama's advanced age, the matter of his inevitable succession assumes salience. The US delegation affirmed that Washington would not allow Beijing to interfere with Dalai Lama's succession. Meaning, it will not accept a Beijing appointed Dalai Lama. India, however, has remained relatively quiet on the matter. But its opinion will matter for the future of the Tibetan movement. It must start thinking now. Moral imperative India is expected to continue its support to the Tibetan government in exile and the more than 70,000 Tibetan refugees in the country even after this Dalai Lama. Tibetan refugees also constitute one of the most successful examples of rehabilitation in modern history. At a time China has even stopped referring to Tibet by name using the Chinese term Xizang instead it's India that has emerged as the cultural home of Tibetans. Strategic imperative Plus, India China relations are at a major low. China has repeatedly intruded into and occupied Indian Territory. Both armies are eyeball to eyeball in the higher Himalayas. India has stopped referring to the One China policy for years. And since China does not see India as an equal and treats the border dispute as a convenient political tool, New Delhi should have no hesitation in backing the Tibetan cause. India needs leverage. And the Tibet issue is a big one. Feeling frazzled and flabby, with late night snack attacks and zero motivation to move, I was desperately seeking a reset. Enter: two back to back weeks of wellness wonder at The Ashram, Calabasas and The Ranch, Malibu, both located near Los Angeles. Both retreats promised to reboot my mind, body, and soul. Here's my firsthand account of this rejuvenating journey this June, comparing everything from food to fitness, and more. It may be recalled that during Uddhav Thackeray tenure as the chief minister, former MP Subodh Mohite and the then MP Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje had staged hunger strike outside Sarthi office protesting its closure and to demand that funds be

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The Maratha reservation issue had erupted in the state during Devendra Fadnavis tenure as chief minister. The state wide marches conducted by the Maratha community created a stir. Even during this trying time, Fadnavis had handled the issue calmly and made a number of important decisions. Some people had taken to using the foulest language possible on social media to criticize Fadnavis. Fadnavis remained undeterred. He persisted in providing facilities and concessions to the Maratha community till the issue of reservation was decided. He was the one who decided to grant the concession given to the Other Backward Classes OBCs to the Maratha community and open dorms for Maratha students. Also, waiving Maratha students education loans up to Rs 10 lakh and reducing their fees to half was an easy task as doing so would have placed a significant financial strain on the government coffers. But Fadnavis took those decisions without hesitation. Following the declaration of Maratha reservation, the court ruled that reservation for medical courses will not be applicable. This angered the karyakartas of the Maratha Kranti Morcha who again started talking about launching an agitation against the government. During that time, a suggestion was made to Fadnavis that the Maratha students are allowed to take admission to private medical colleges and that the government will bear the burden of their educational fees. At that time, Fadnavis, who was the Chief Minister, said that the students must pay fees equivalent to the government medical colleges and the remaining fees will be paid by the government. The government was supposed to set aside Rs 28 crore for the same. No sooner did the figures arrive, Fadnavis immediately gave his approval for the same. The state government also issued an ordinance regarding Maratha youth admittance to medical colleges. Making such decisions is easy as it calls for setting aside a few hundreds of cores. His government could have easily relaxed and pointed fingers at the court ruling. When Supreme Court was hearing arguments into the Maratha reservation issue, Uddhav Thackeray had assumed the role of chief minister with backing from the Congress and Sharad Pawar. When the matter was being heard, Uddhav Thackeray Sharad Pawar changed the lawyer. Even worse, the Supreme Court was not provided with the translation of the report that was prepared about the entire reservation issue. In a letter to Uddhav Thackeray, Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje had questioned **why** the government had substituted another attorney. He had also brought up in this letter the fact that the state government attorney was not present at the Supreme Court hearing. Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje had also warned Uddhav Thackeray that the state administration needs to give reservation issue significant consideration or else it would have to brace for harsh repercussions. Mukul Rohatgi, a prominent attorney, was chosen by the state government to represent the Maratha reservation case in the Supreme Court. Rohatgi had officially acknowledged in the court that they were unable to build a compelling case as they were not receiving information and documentation from the state government representatives. Mukul Rohatgi statement made it to the news. Fadnavis had also publicly advised the state government to take cognizance and precautions in this regard. But Rohatgi was not given serious consideration by the Congress Shiv Sena government. Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray al

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We do not live in the cycle of typing more and more keystrokes, let us choose as many as you need with the best accuracy, what matters most to you and always do well in the typing test for your better. Big cities, investors have been looking for new avenues for investment in the education sector. The availability of adequate infrastructure, high penetration of the internet, the of the middle class, lesser availability of high quality education, and relatively low competition present lucrative investment opportunities in the smaller towns and cities. Investors are pumping in money in these cities and fueling the education transformation. In the year the Detach industry in India saw an investment of clear again all of you. We do not live in the cycle of typing more and more keystrokes, let us choose as many as you need with the best accuracy, what matters most to you and always do well in the typing test for your better. Like every other sector, startups are playing an important role in shaping the education sector. With strong competition from larger players in the bigger cities, many startups are looking towards smaller towns to find their feet in the market. These startups not only bring new technology and innovation to these smaller places but also attract investors. They are also helping the students by building alternative channels for financing education. School dropout rate due to lack of funds has been a major issue in India. Startups are helping solve the problem by providing easy access to finance. Fee financing is one of the most revolutionary ideas brought in by startups in the education sector. These startups pay the student entire semester fee to the school upfront. The parents can then gradually repay the amount to the company in easy installments that are often interest free. This arrangement creates a win situation for the schools and the families of the students. As the entire year or semester fee is paid up front, the schools have a larger capital in hand. With this capital, they can plan their and invest. On the other hand, the parents do not have to of income disruption. Fee financing which started as basic school financing is gradually becoming a preferred option for students going for higher education, especially those who do not have access to conventional banking. During the pandemic, fee financing served as a boon for many students and educational institutions and continues to do so even now. The adoption of technology in the education sector was somewhat forced by the Covid 19 pandemic. However, for the in the smaller towns and rural areas, it came as a blessing in disguise. What came as a forced change triggered the transformation of the entire education sector in these cities. The dependence on big cities for good quality education is rapidly declining. Due to the initiatives by, and efforts from the industry, very soon, we can expect uniformity in the quality of education across the nation.

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Karnataka has seen charges and counter charges by leaders of both BJP and Congress ever since the hijab controversy erupted. Different political players, especially at the local level, allowed the controversy to reach alarming proportions because they hoped to reap maximum political benefits from this escalation of tensions. As the full implications of this week high court judgment sink in, it remains to be seen how political parties will leverage it to gain crucial electoral points. Would it be an easy way to side step issues of governance and development? It good that India has agreed to provide a 1 billion line of credit for Sri Lanka in the midst of the latter economic crisis. This is on top of the 500 million line of credit for purchasing fuel and a currency swap of 400 million that India has facilitated in recent months. Sri Lanka has a total deficit of 9.4 billion in foreign exchange and is facing the worst economic crisis in decades. Its official reserves fell to 2.36 billion in January with a sovereign bond repayment of 1 billion due in July. Things have come to this pass because Sri Lanka accumulated excessive debt over the years, particularly on account of sovereign bonds. And its only strategy to repay this debt was to bank on its tourism industry and foreign remittances. However, Lankan tourism took a big hit due to the Covid pandemic. Add to this populist policies of the Lankan government such as implementing tax concessions amounting to 1.5 of GDP and other missteps like switching to 100 organic agriculture. This led to a huge shortage of dollars for import dependent Sri Lanka, which in turn led to an acute crisis of essentials like fuel, medicines and food, and ballooning inflation which hit a record 25 last month. In fact, the crisis ridden Lankan economy has also made China circumspect about offering further financial assistance to Colombo. This, despite the fact that the current first family of Lankan politics, the Rajapaksas, is known to have a preference for Beijing. True, China did facilitate a yuan swap amounting to 1.5 billion to shore up Sri Lanka reserves. But there appears to be an understanding in Beijing that a lot of the loans it extended to Colombo were sunk into white elephant projects that neither helped the Lankan economy nor earned the Chinese a good reputation. This is **precisely** why Colombo is now looking to New Delhi for help. But India needs to be careful here. While the present moment does provide an opportunity for New Delhi to enhance its strategic relationship with Colombo, fundamental issues remain. Sri Lanka economic woes can only be resolved through IMF mediated debt restructuring something that Colombo now appears amenable to. Plus, there is also the Tamil issue and the implementation of the 13th Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution for devolution of powers. This has to be negotiated tactfully as overt Indian interference could once again create conditions for Sinhala nationalism to.

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Be deployed as a political tool. The Rajapaksas will try to play both New Delhi and Beijing. India, therefore, has to be smart. Women as a constituency provide a decisive edge in electoral contests. It led to welfare policies and poll promises tailored to address their specific needs and subsequent analyses of the impact of these. Welfare, however, has limitations. It is a safety net, not a tool to empower women. Empowerment will come with jobs, which are often the gateway to financial security and a sense of self worth, and political power. There are signs that political parties are now beginning to move beyond targeted welfare schemes to measures which can truly empower women. Two recent examples are worth noting. Delhi government is trying to get more women to own and operate public transport through measures such as reserving licences and joint ownership. In Tamil Nadu, the DMK success in urban local body polls led it to appoint women as mayors in 11 of the 20 corporations, including Chennai. Important as these measures are they are not foundational. The precondition in empowering women is to impart confidence that they can access public spaces without fear. Data shows a strong correlation between perceptions of safety and women participation in the workforce. Gol employment data for the last full pre pandemic year, 2018 19, showed that 53.6 of the population in the 15 59 age group was in the job market. The discrepancy between women and men was stark. A mere 26.5 of the women were in the labour force as compared to 80.3 of the men. It the regional variation that foregrounds the safety factor. Southern states, Goa, Maharashtra, HP, Chhattisgarh and Sikkim were among states with a relatively high percentage of women in the workforce. Among states trailing the national average were UP, Bihar, West Bengal and Delhi. There are other reasons why so few women look for work. But unsafe public spaces are the most important. Goa just witnessed one of the most tempestuous elections in recent times and proving everyone who predicted a fractured verdict wrong, BJP got a decisive mandate to be in office for the third term. Contesting all 40 seats, the saffron party reached the half way mark on its own the second highest number of seats in the party political history in the tiniest state. Pramod Sawant comes of age This election **was** also the coming of age of Pramod Sawant, whose appointment as CM in the wake of Manohar Parrikar death looked fortuitous and under whose leadership BJP went to the polls. Sawant battled dissension and sabotage, anti incumbency, charges of corruption and allegations of cash for jobs, rising unemployment and misgovernance during Covid, to come up trumps. I have no problem with people who live in a ten bedroom house and do not answer their mobile phone. If they have gone swimming downstairs can appreciate the phone is not with them. And if someone does answer and says I will just.

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Our character. Without getting into the complexity of action, let us first understand how action is performed. Action is done in two ways one is with effort and the other without effort. Effortless action is true yoga. Achieved we all perform actions with effort. This is the beginning of action action is done with me consciousness. Action thus performed, with me consciousness, is not yoga because it involves effort. Yoga emphasises swift action without giving much credence to I thought. When we want to excel in one skill, we need to put in a lot of effort in the beginning. In time, it becomes effortless. This is called efficiency. Take teaching as an example. Teaching a particular subject requires effort in the beginning, such as preparing notes, rehearsing before stepping into a classroom, self evaluating, and so on. As we teach the same subject, assisted by our constant learning that enhances our knowledge, we gain efficiency in time. We need not take lecture notes to the classroom, we need not prepare seriously. We might as well walk into the classroom empty handed and deliver the goods. Or we may take along lecture notes but not look at them now and then while teaching as we did in the beginning. This way efficiency is achieved. Effortless action is nothing but achieving efficiency. When we gain this efficiency in whatever we do, we are in a state of yoga. Our bodies and minds get totally involved in whatever we do with no effort. That is, we do not feel tired or become a spent force. The whole creation is moving in this direction effortless action. The only difficulty is that we are not aware of it. Effortless action also means responding to a situation spontaneously, without thinking too much about it. Otherwise, it would bind us to karma, which is inescapable. Instead, we wait for the situation to unfold before us and when it does, we act like a cat on the wall that lies in wait for a rat to come out of its hole. Once the rat appears and is close enough, the cat jumps and catches it. This is true action. There is no effort involved. Climate change is a complex challenge facing mankind. It is much more than just an environmental concern. It has far reaching consequences for sustainable development and equity. To mitigate climate change, there **is a global effort to reach net zero by mid century. This mitigation plan intends to reduce the emissions and concentrations of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere. The impacts of climate change will be felt across a range of sectors and businesses. Business as usual will not cut it. Action to become more resilient to current and anticipated risks are ongoing with sectors transitioning into low carbon operations. These include the introduction of renewables as alternate energy systems, adopting climate smart agriculture, and decarbonising manufacturing among others. Such transitions not only take us towards a carbon neutral economy but also prevent.**

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Is believed as a necessary part of personal and professional development. The education ecosystem has been rapidly changing over the last few years. Because of technological advancements after the pandemic, physical education modes have rapidly shifted to online classrooms. The pandemic situation in the world has forced even the most reputable universities and schools to turn to digital platforms. This leveled the playing field for detach startups leveraging the digital space to provide education, initially resulting in tremendous growth for detach companies. The new finch education solutions came into the picture and are progressively filling the funding vacuum for education. Fitch alternatives for education are resolving issues with traditional finance methods. As per the recent report by Technavio on the Online Education Market, India online education market is set to grow at a of 21 between to reach a market size of US\$ 14.33 billion. This has resulted in constant innovation in the education finch space. By using digital and technology enabled resources, this segment strives to bridge the gap and thereby transform the education financial market. As technology evolves, unlike traditional institutions which take time in processing Detach loans, digital app based lending solutions make it more accessible and user friendly with flexible repayment models that suit learners across categories. Below are some key aspects that accelerate the growth of finch solutions in the educational sector: Asian economies are projected to propel the global real GDP in 2023, despite the ransacking inflation circling the continent compeers Europe, Latin America, and the US. This is a golden hour; or rather a bright green year for India, as while the talent force shrinks around the world, the working age populous balloons up to favor our national demographics. A lucrative means, then, to push India professional pool to the global forefront, is developing its technical and interpersonal capacities to overshadow foreign workforces. The former of these has been continually honed in the preceding decades, and our nation takes immense pride in Indians spearheading distinguished positions in global organizations overlooking dexterous mechanics and or tech. The latter provides an increased scope for introspection, as noticeable interpersonal skills might not be easily acquirable traits. Further, a special focus is to be laid on one of these profound skills of success communication. Businesses thrive on communication. Relationships sustain through communication. Ideas come to fruition via communication. And with the standard language for cross border **communication** being accepted and celebrated as English, like it or not, a superior linguistic capacity blesses one to carry out business correspondence with ease, flair, and confidence. It is estimated that over 1.5 billion people speak English worldwide, making it an essential language for international communication and trade. In recent years, India has emerged as a global hub for various industries, including IT, finance, healthcare, and hospitality. As Indian businesses increasingly interact with international contemporaries and customers, English language proficiency has proved to be a critical arrow in the quiver for Indian professionals to hit the bull eye. With the wild rise of globalization and outsourcing, Indian organizations can churn every bit of this opportunity through enhancing the linguistic and cognit

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With the widespread adoption of affordable mobile devices and low cost data access, online gaming became the go to recreational activity for several men and women across the country. Currently, India is the 5th largest online gaming market. As the industry continues to be buffeted by winds of change, women make up for half of the hyper casual gamers. Catering to the nuances of audience segments is as much a priority in online games as other media, for instance in understanding primary motivations. For women, the research uncovered that easy access, ease of use, convenience, and low investment in online games are the most common motivators behind gaming habits. It is worth noting that 77 of India women mobile gamers are committed gamers, playing at least once a day spending an average of 53 minutes per day. Popular e sports genres include adventure, first person shooters, multiplayer online battle arenas, survivalist horror, virtual sports and strategy. Today, we are also witnessing a substantial increase in the share of serious women gamers mostly home makers and college students who are looking to boost their income by playing real money skill based games. Change makers As more and more women get involved in the gaming ecosystem, they are forming a major part of decision makers and reshaping the gaming landscape for the better. Not just limited to gamers and streamers anymore, women are now at the forefront of developing women themed designs, graphics and lead characters, breaking gender stereotypes and establishing a leading presence in the industry. In the coming years, the Indian gaming ecosystem can take cues from South East Asia where women game developers are continuing to enhance existing games and create new formats with art styles and graphics that offer exclusive experiences to female gamers and also fight the gender stereotypes that continue to prevail in online games. Way forward The engagement of women in online gaming is poised to increase exponentially in the coming years with the increase of advancement, accessibility and affordability of gaming technology. It safe to say that a large part of the future growth will come from female mobile gamers who do not fit the gaming stereotype of young urban males. As we move towards improved age and gender parity among online gamers, it about time that the gaming industry becomes adequately structured to serve this growing consumer segment. There could not be a better time for women developers and gamers to start their careers in this emerging industry. E waste refers to the waste arising from end of life electronic appliances like computers laptops and mobiles phones. International Finance Corporation, the advisory arm of the World Bank, says that the management of e waste becomes complex because of the presence of toxic metals, which causes severe environmental as well as health concerns. India is facing challenges in managing the existing e waste dump. There is a continuous increase with technology changing every day and users adopting the same. According to Global E Waste.

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The Upanishads also describe knowledge that arises not from reasoning alone but from an inner seeing. The aesthetic traditions of India and the wider world have also spoken about the value of perceiving beauty without immediately turning it into a problem to be solved. When we look at a painting, listen to a raga or watch the colors of an evening sky the value lies in the experience itself. It is absorbed through the heart rather than the calculating mind. Many of us have spent years trying to optimise our lives through rules, targets and frameworks. Yet some of the most meaningful moments arrive unexpectedly in the form of beauty, stillness or simple presence. These moments cannot be constructed by thought. They can only be met. They suggest that a good life is not merely an organised one but also an aesthetically alive one, one in which the heart is allowed to participate as much as the intellect. World Philosophy Day is therefore a good moment to pause and look at life with a slightly different lens. Life is not a problem to be decoded and it loses something when we approach it with too much seriousness. From a distance the world can look like a tightly assembled structure with nothing beyond its moving parts. Yet the same world can also appear full of small, quietly astonishing moments. The fragrance of a flower, a sudden breeze on a warm day or the smile on a child's face often carries more truth than any theory we apply to them. Einstein once said, there are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is. Ultimately the choice of how we see rests with us. World Philosophy Day is being observed on 20th November 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity When the air turns heavy and the city speeds up Barsha Nag Bhowmick has an opinion on anything and everything. A scribe for more than two decades, she writes on various topics including art, literature, relationships, lifestyle and anything that arouses her interest from time to time. When not into writing, she paints. Follow barshanag on Twitter MORE These days, Delhi feels different. The mornings look pale, the air smells tired, and people have quietly adjusted their routines. The walkers are missing **from** the parks. Some have moved their walks to rooftops, pacing between flowerpots and water tanks. Others have taken short breaks abroad, calling it a pollution getaway. And yet, the roads tell a different story. They are busier than ever. The city may be struggling to breathe, but its engines keep moving. As if nothing is wrong. In their own small ways, people are learning to adjust. The evening jogger now checks the AQI before lacing up. Families avoid parks and choose malls instead. Parents ask their kids to stay inside. Outside doesn't feel safe anymore. There's a new normal in how Delhi lives one that accepts the mask as casually as sunglasses, and the grey horizon as routine. The season once called autumn has become a time to endure. Camelia Nandi, a Delhi resident now spending a few months in Mumbai for her husband's work, calls herself a bit of a city-hopper moving between Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Bengaluru. But this year, she says, there's one city she's avoiding. No way is I coming to Delhi now, she admits. I'm really worried about my daughter living there. It's a strange contradiction the air unfit to breathe, yet we are spending more time in cars. For many, th

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A moving bubble that filters out the dust but adds to the same smoke we are running from. In those morning rush hours, we don't even know anymore, are we avoiding the pollution or making it worse? Rahul (name changed) drives every day from Noida to Gurugram for work. I still use my car, he says quietly. Public transport isn't practical for this route. What's the way out? Delhi now has over seven million registered vehicles and keeps adding more each year. Experts say vehicles cause a big chunk of Delhi's air pollution. More than half, by some estimates. The figures may vary from one report to another. But the message doesn't change. The more we drive, the more we end up breathing what we create. It's not just the factories or the stubble burning. It's also us, the regular people, stuck in traffic, windows rolled up, and engines running. Still, this quiet acceptance is worrying. A city that once loved its morning walkers, cyclists and tree-lined streets now moves less and breathes less. We tolerate the haze. We no longer shout about it. We have made peace with the haze. Almost as if it's another festival season that will pass. On bad days, the Air Quality Index crosses 400, the severe mark where the government's emergency plan kicks in. Construction halts, and advisories urge people to stay home. But look outside and the flyovers are still jammed. There's no sign of restraint. Everyone is still rushing somewhere, as if speed can outpace smog. It's not that people don't care. They do. But modern life in this city leaves little space for pause. There's a job to reach, a delivery to make, a child to drop off. The collective exhaustion has dulled our sensitivity. We talk of clean air, yet we lean on air purifiers. We complain of pollution, yet hesitate to give up that one unnecessary drive. We are both the victims and the contributors of this haze. Every year, the same questions return: Who's responsible? What can the government do? But the more uncomfortable question is, what can we do personally, quietly, without waiting for a directive? Maybe it starts with smaller acts. Skipping that short car ride. Turning off the engine at a long signal. Walking when the air clears, even for ten minutes. And above all, refusing to treat this grey air as normal. The **real** danger isn't just in the air we breathe. It's in what we stop feeling. When we stop missing the blue sky, something inside us fades. When we no longer notice the trees or the morning walkers, a part of us hardens too. There will always be reports. There will be bans and campaigns too. But real change will come only when we see clean air as a right, not a luxury. Something we all must protect together. Till then, Delhi will keep moving through its own fog. Hurried. Closed in. Tired. Waiting for a wind that may never come. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Times of India - India Voices Blogs (November 21, 2025) India can be a leader in women, peace and security. A national action plan is necessary Debotri Dhar is an author, editor, educator, academic, and social commentator. Dr. Dhar earned a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Shri Ram College (Delhi University), Masters in Women's Studies from Oxford University (UK), and Ph. D. in Women's and Gender Studies from Rutgers (USA). She has authored books, articles, policy papers, and edited volumes, and lectured or presented at universities such as Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Pennsylv

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Which integrates the innovative technologies such as the Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, cloud computing, and analytics into Society 5.0. This term concerns using and creating technology on behalf of society. More than a tool to improve production, technology should contribute to people well-being. The future of education will redefine the best practices in Management Education 5.0 where the special lab classes can be introduced to improve the weak area of students. The onus of transforming conventional students into active learners rests on the teachers. In this strictly outcome-based education, the role of the teacher is required to be that of a guiding force or a mentor rather than that of just imparting knowledge. The lack of face-to-face contact with the class requires unique behavioral and instructional skills and competencies in the teacher and this master class is about what these skills are and how to develop them. Management Education 5.0 will be the future in our educational systems. The stubbornness of high inflation could force the Reserve Bank of India RBI to hike the repo rate again in April. To be sure, inflation based on the Consumer Price Index CPI moderated to 6.44 in February, from 6.52 in January, thanks to easing fuel prices. But it failed to bring relief because the stickier components of inflation food and core remain high, and CPI inflation is still outside the RBI target band of 2-6. In fact, it stayed above 6 in 10 of the past 12 months. What worries is the rising build-up of risks, especially on the food price front. If the risks materialise, food prices could feel the heat for the second year in a row, hitting household budgets. Broadly, throughout this fiscal, the trajectory of headline CPI inflation has mirrored the movement in food prices. The next few months will not be any different. Food prices will continue to guide headline inflation. As food inflation softens in the base case of normal monsoon in 2023, headline inflation, too, should moderate. In the base case, headline CPI inflation is seen coming down to 5 in fiscal 2024, from an estimated 6.8 in fiscal 2023. Despite the softening, inflation rates for most sub-components will be higher than the pre-pandemic five-year average, which suggests a lower-than-desired extent of moderation in inflation. Food inflation is expected to moderate, assuming a normal monsoon. However, some headwinds could limit the extent of **moderation** or, worse, flare inflation further. In the worst case, where food inflation remains as high as in fiscal 2023, the headline inflation forecast gets pushed up 80-90 basis points, inching closer to the uncomfortable 6 mark. Crosscurrents in food inflation Food inflation is typically influenced by three factors: climate patterns monsoon and weather disruption, minimum support price MSP movements, and global food prices. This year, there is limited relief on these fronts amid a build-up of risks of late. But one more factor that matters, is certain to provide some respite the high base-effect from fiscal 2023. The food index climbed almost 6.8 on-year in fiscal 2023, with prices of cereals mainly wheat up over 10 and milk over 7. Inflation in meat and fish, edible oils, pulses, and vegetables has either moderated or seen a modest rise. A high base effect should statistically lower food inflation in items that saw prices jump. But the weather risks to inflation are climbing higher. After four consecutive normal monsoons, c

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Southwest monsoon this year. According to Skimmed Weather, 80 of El Niño years end with subnormal monsoon. Meanwhile, as we await the southwest monsoon, unseasonal rains in mid-March have damaged standing, ready-to-harvest rabbi crops in several parts of the country. As per CRISIL Market Intelligence and Analytics the damage to wheat, onion, tomato, and mango is expected to impact their prices. This is bad news given that cereal wheat and paddy inflation is already in double digits. Meanwhile, vegetables, the only category providing some respite from high food inflation could also face higher prices because of weather disruptions. Then there is milk, where prices have risen 7 on average in fiscal 2023, driven by higher cost of procurement, animal feed, and the demand drive due to reopening of hotels, restaurants, and similar activities. Milk, which occupies 13 weight in the CPI food index, is expected to see demand continue to strengthen, allowing producers to increase prices further in fiscal 2024 to pass on the high procurement costs. That said, limited easing in global food prices can cap the downside to domestic prices of certain commodities. The continuation of geopolitical strife and reduced supply from affected regions, and the resultant export restrictions globally, remain pressure points on global food prices. As per World Bank forecasts, the overall food index is expected to soften in 2023, though prices of certain commodities are considerably higher than in 2019, when they started climbing up. These include wheat, edible oils, maize, and sugar. However, an extended ban on wheat exports would curtail the upside to wheat prices that could have come from the global side. Prices of millets bajra, jowar, rage spiked 12 in fiscal 2023, much higher than the decadal average of 2.1. The increase is due to higher demand, led by substitution away from wheat and rice which have turned dearer, and given the government thrust on higher consumption of millets due to their nutritional benefits. These factors are expected to keep the pressure high even in fiscal 2024. In the base case, CPI inflation is expected to moderate in coming months, pulled down mainly by base effect and food inflation. Pressure on food has worsened and threatens to keep headline inflation high in a year when gross domestic product growth is projected to slow. However, if the southwest monsoon is normal, which is our base case, higher production could keep prices **in** check. Despite a large part of the recent inflation push originating from the supply side, rising pressure on the headline inflation which the RBI targets does put it is a tight spot to push rates higher. This is especially when, after the failure of Silicon Valley Bank and rising banking stress in the West, most global central banks have indicated that they are closer to their terminal rates and could likely pause soon. Much of this growth can be attributed to factors such as government support, heightened environmental awareness, and technological advancements. Tax breaks, subsidies, and investment in charging infrastructure have been among the initiatives aimed at promoting the adoption of EVs. Increased environmental awareness among the populace has also contributed significantly, with people seeking more sustainable and eco-friendly alternatives to traditional fossil fuel-powered vehicles. Additionally, advancements in battery technology and the emergence of convenient charging options have bolstered t

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Monitor Report 2020, India e waste production has risen almost 2.5 times in 6 years, and managing this waste is not easy. The e waste management rules in India, which was introduced first in 2011 and amended in 2016; make electronics producers responsible for managing their share of e waste. The concept is called Extended Producer Responsibility EPR. So, even if consumers decide to manage their e waste, there is a lack of formal channel. The e waste management rules specify not just the need to handle e waste in an environmental friendly way, but also its transportation, storage and recycling, from where the journey starts. Here is where a Producer Responsibility Organization PRO comes in. PROs can work with the producers to manage the rising e waste crisis in India. A PRO role is to collect the e waste on behalf of the producers and ensure safe recycling through authorized recyclers only. The rules amended in 2016 allow having a PRO on board for a smooth collection and recycling of e waste, as per the recycling share allocated to a particular producer. According to the Central Pollution Control Board CPCB, India has 51 registered PROs in the country. CPCB mandates the PROs to be registered with them, to be called as a legal and formal entity to work in the sector. Despite these registered PROs, much of the e waste has been collected through informal sources like rag pickers, which never reach the right channel for recycling. While producers have been directed to manage their share of e waste and are continuously working with the PROs, the need of the hour is to build a cost effective business model to channelize e waste from users for recycling using a legal and formal sector. This will encourage more private players to become PROs or authorized recyclers. For this, government and producers should work closely to establish a formal route that can help the country to manage this low visibility crisis, which can impact the environment and health extensively, if not addressed immediately. Ever since India gained independence, it has been on a progressive path of development. For the past several decades, India has been one of the fastest growing major economies in the world. However, India development has not been uniform. Some of the cities in the country like Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore have seen world class development with **modern** infrastructure, high living standards, medical facilities, educational institutions, and high per capita income. The situation, however, beyond the major cities has been totally different. Until recently, most tier 2 and tier 3 cities lacked basic infrastructure, facilities, and opportunities. This forced people from these towns to migrate to the bigger cities in search of jobs, education, medical facilities, and better living standards. The situation in the rural areas was even worse. However, things have rapidly been changing in past few years. The efforts of the government and the emergence of digital technologies have led to a rapid transformation of life.

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Yoga, in a generic sense, refers to Karma Yoga, Bhatia Yoga, Raj Yoga, Jan Yoga, Hath Yoga, Mantra Yoga, Lay Yoga or Kundalini Yoga. In a restricted sense, it means the Ash tang Yoga or Raj Yoga of Patanjali Maharishi only. The word yoga is also applicable in a secondary sense to all those factors and practices that are conducive to the final achievement or fulfillment of yoga, and as such indirectly lead to final freedom or perfection. Similarly, though the one who has reached the final asamprajnata Samadhi or union with Reality is called a yogi, one who is attempting to get perfection in yoga is also called a yogi. Yoga philosophy is one of the six systems of Hindu philosophy. Unlike so many other philosophies of the world, it is a philosophy that is wholly practical. Yoga is an exact science based on certain immutable Laws of Nature. It is well-known to people of all countries of the world interested in the study of Eastern civilisation and culture. It is held in awe and reverence as it contains the master-key to unlock the realms of peace, bliss, mystery and miracle. Yoga is that state of Absolute Peace wherein there is neither imagination nor thought. Yoga is control of mind and its modifications. Yoga teaches us how to control the modifications of the mind and attain liberation. It teaches us how to transmute the unregenerate nature and attain the state of Divinity. It is the complete suppression of the tendency of the mind to transform itself into objects, thoughts, etc. Yoga kills all sorts of pain, misery and tribulation. It gives you freedom from the round of births and a death bestows upon you all the Divine Powers and final liberation through super-intuitional knowledge. There is a busy road in front of my house which remains crowded most of the time. I often use this road. Sometime I am walking on it and sometime I am driving my car on it. When I am driving the car, most of the time I am in hurry. The pedestrian walking on the road are obstructions on my way to reach the destination in time. Most of the times, these are many in numbers. Their slow speed appears to me as disgusting. I often wonder why there are so many people moving around on foot? Why can they sit in their **home** and relax? When someone crosses the road suddenly that too not on a zebra crossing s he appears as a villain vamp to me. I feel like hitting him her. I curse him her cruelly from my heart. But there are times when I myself do have to walk on the same road. At this time, the stream of thoughts in my mind flows in a totally reverse direction. Now the fast moving cars and vehicles appears to be villain vamp to me. Why these people are in so much hurry? When some vehicle passes with very close proximity or touches me, then I curse the driver badly from my heart. Life too is like that. The world around us remain the same, but when a role reversal takes place, everything changes suddenly inside our mind and we start cursing mostly in side our mind only the persons we encounter see who have an opposite point of view than us. Our point of view takes a 180 degree turn with the change of our role and the blame game starts in our minds for the people on the other side of the fence. Is it necessary to blame others if we suddenly feel discomfort due to role reversal in a situation? To answer this question, let us sincerely understand & analyze the pair of roles in the society and switching phenomena of these roles between the two opposite sides. In some settings

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Sometime we are in with the government and sometime in with the opposition party. Duality is present everywhere and it is a normal way of life. The situations are temporary. Therefore it is evident that it is necessary to prove someone wrong to prove ourselves right. If we can tune ourselves with the duality in the life and the paradoxes do not perplex and confuse us then we are spiritual person and not biased to any particular way of thinking or rituals. If we are true to ourselves and convinced that what we are doing is the right way in that situation, then there is no point proving others wrong to prove our point of view. It is a waste of time and energy. Technical prowess is essential to be a good data scientist. Business and functional knowledge are crucial, too. Technical skills would encapsulate statistical concepts, programming, visualisation, and presentation expertise. A model that does not solve a business problem well but is used frequently to comply with the pressure of adopting analytics is like a cancer to business. On the other hand, a model that provides recommendations well but is not used enough by users due to a lack of sensitisation to the benefits of analytics is a loss of opportunity. Either way, data does not play the pivotal role it should play in giving a competitive advantage to the organisation. Data science is not machine learning training the model alone. It includes all activities from understanding the business problem to finally implementing and monitoring the solution in the live environment. The outcome of this exercise should be an end-to-end solution that could flourish either standalone or in tandem with an existing IT application. Most of the cases I have seen belong to the second category. It might be that I have not seen enough yet. Attributing revenue growth to an analytics solution alone is very tricky. One must be careful to eliminate all other possible revenue boosters. Conversion of a business problem statement to an analytics problem statement is equally tricky. For example, let us say that the business problem is that the organisation revenue has decreased consistently over the last four years. Decide on the scope products, timeline, and extent of the problem by working with the appropriate business teams. In this context, let assume that the scope is defined. What could be the various **possible** analytics problem statements? First, identify high-potential products from the list in scope that the sales team can focus on. Selling popular products to someone new will be smoother. Second, identify the high-potential prospects the marketing team could target with customised and personalised campaigns. One could determine what kind of prospects would be easier to convert. Third, arrive at the best market mix. How much should you spend on which channel for the best returns from the marketing campaigns? Allocate the budget where it is the most useful. Fourth, forecast next quarter sales and alert with recommendations. If the forecast is done at different levels of aggregation region, store, product category, product, and item, it would be possible to narrow down the entity that is misbehaving. Fifth, predict ticket resolution times, communicate the same to customers, and improve their experience with the business. An enriched customer experience will ensure winning new customers with less effort. The above options need to be discussed with business stakeholders. One or more of them should be select

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With the widespread adoption of affordable mobile devices and low cost data access, online gaming became the go to recreational activity for several men and women across the country. Currently, India is the 5th largest online gaming market. As the industry continues to be buffeted by winds of change, women make up for half of the hyper casual gamers. Catering to the nuances of audience segments is as much a priority in online games as other media, for instance in understanding primary motivations. For women, the research uncovered that easy access, ease of use, convenience, and low investment in online games are the most common motivators behind gaming habits. It is worth noting that 77 of India women mobile gamers are committed gamers, playing at least once a day spending an average of 53 minutes per day. Popular e sports genres include adventure, first person shooters, multiplayer online battle arenas, survivalist horror, virtual sports and strategy. Today, we are also witnessing a substantial increase in the share of serious women gamers mostly home makers and college students who are looking to boost their income by playing real money skill based games. Change makers As more and more women get involved in the gaming ecosystem, they are forming a major part of decision makers and reshaping the gaming landscape for the better. Not just limited to gamers and streamers anymore, women are now at the forefront of developing women themed designs, graphics and lead characters, breaking gender stereotypes and establishing a leading presence in the industry. In the coming years, the Indian gaming ecosystem can take cues from South East Asia where women game developers are continuing to enhance existing games and create new formats with art styles and graphics that offer exclusive experiences to female gamers and also fight the gender stereotypes that continue to prevail in online games. Way forward The engagement of women in online gaming is poised to increase exponentially in the coming years with the increase of advancement, accessibility and affordability of gaming technology. It safe to say that a large part of the future growth will come from female mobile gamers who do not fit the gaming stereotype of young urban males. As we move towards improved age and gender parity among online gamers, it about time that the gaming industry becomes adequately structured to serve this growing consumer segment. There could not be a better time for women developers and gamers to start their careers in this emerging industry. E waste refers to the waste arising from end of life electronic appliances like computers laptops and mobiles phones. International Finance Corporation, the advisory arm of the World Bank, says that the management of e waste becomes complex because of the presence of toxic metals, which causes severe environmental as well as health concerns. India is facing challenges in managing the existing e waste dump. There is a continuous increase with technology changing every day and users adopting the same. According to Global E Waste.

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Transition brings the opportunity to not reduce barriers in entry or improve retention, but to encourage growth for women workers. The renewable energy sector employs about 32 women, compared to 22 in the energy sector overall. Implementing the transformation Gender equity, economic expansion, and climate action can operate in silos they are entwined in a thread that can help in the fabrication of a better world. To sum up, it becomes important to meet a set of short term milestones to achieve the long term goal of India gender equitable transition as we head to achieve our net zero goals. Since there is a lot of momentum towards education, we should expand on our beti bachao, beti padho initiative. This can be done by encouraging public private partnerships. It also gets critical to strengthen national policy to increase women participation so that all stakeholders are invested towards a defined goal. India did have a policy on women empowerment in 2001, which was even amended in 2016. Yet to see some mandates to be executed towards equitable energy transitions, there is a need to build an implementable roadmap with a measurement metric to monitor and evaluate progress across institutions and companies. Simultaneously, mentorship from employers and promoting women to productive and leadership roles will create a snowballing effect towards enabling environment for women. At the same time attention must be paid to recognising people power and considering the willingness to change. Lastly, building commitment to increase accountability, transparency and gender sensitizing the stakeholder towards the intersectional benefits from gender equity will strike a good balance towards the goal. Conclusion The correlation between gender equity, economic development, and climate action forms a tripartite bond. They all depend on each other. Climate action creates better workspaces for women, and consequently, gender equity creates economic expansion. The authorities involved need to prepare for a scalable transformation that creates resourceful changes moving forward. The question is what is India big win with the ongoing efforts towards development and clean transition should we encourage startups focused on gender sensitisation? or share success stories to encourage leadership and inclusion? or build tools where beneficiaries and stakeholders can introspect and communicate their experience and have community programs to sensitize families? With the tremendous influx of women gamers in the last couple of years, online gaming is no longer a niche pursuit for men. Be it gamers, streamers, **game** developers, or entrepreneurs, today, women are increasingly straddling different roles in the online gaming industry, making it more diverse and inclusive. A recent report by the All India Gaming Federation AIGF unveiled that India is home to over 400 million gamers, with a corresponding increase in the number of women gamers. While the user engagement levels of women gamers saw a sharp rise, particularly during the Covid 19 pandemic induced lockdown when 49 of the women started playing games, it is promising to see how it has still maintained a healthy momentum even after the ease in restrictions. Committed gamers.

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The change brought about by these factors is can be seen in almost every field of life and work. The education sector has been one of the primary beneficiaries of this transformation. Edtech has emerged as the spearhead of the development of tier 2 and tier 3 cities. Before we jump further into this discussion, it would be noteworthy that India has had several education hubs beyond the big cities. Smaller cities like Dehradun, Bhubaneswar, Kota, and Vishakhapatnam have always been considered good for quality education. The amalgamation of technology and education has revolutionized education in many more tier 2 and tier 3 cities in the country. Role of the internet Internet and the digital technologies associated with it have been the most important reasons that have brought about the educational revolution. The Internet has opened the doors to the global standards of education in these cities. Teachers are now equipped with world class knowledge and have access to the latest devices and technology. Students and parents have also embraced technology with open arms. Earlier, any new development in the education sector remained confined to the bigger cities. By the time it reached the smaller towns, cities, and rural areas, it was already outdated. However, the internet has changed it all. Today, the knowledge available to the big cities is also readily available to the smaller towns and cities. The Internet has also removed the barriers of time and place. In the pre internet era, students had to migrate to bigger cities for better and latest education. Those who could not afford the migration were devoid of it. The Internet has also raised the level of aspiration of the students. Now they are not satisfied with what they are getting, they are demanding more. This is also creating pressure on educational institutions to provide the best quality education to them. Investors are bullish No revolution has ever been successful without the support of money. The education revolution is no different. With cut throat competition and almost saturation in the big cities, investors have been looking for new avenues for investment in the education sector. The availability of adequate infrastructure, high penetration of the internet, the economic rise of the middle class, lesser availability of high quality education, and relatively low competition present lucrative investment opportunities in the smaller towns and cities. Investors are pumping in money in these cities **and** fueling the education transformation. In the year 2020, the Edtech industry in India saw an investment of around 1.4 billion USD. Startups are paving the way India is a country of startups. Like every other sector, startups are playing an important role in shaping the education sector. With strong competition from larger players in the bigger cities, many startups are looking towards smaller towns to find their feet in the market. These startups not only bring new technology and innovation to these smaller places but also attract investors. They are also helping the students by building alternative channels for financing.

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She served as an expert reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, National Women's Studies Association conference, Indian Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship, and a judge for the Barbara Deming Fund for Women Writers in New York. Dr. Dhar is the founder of the Hummingbird Global Writers' Circle and Global Leaders Forum. On 31st October 2025, the United Nations Organisation marked the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). Launched in 2000, WPS is a framework emphasising the inclusion of women in efforts to promote global peace and security through conflict prevention, equal participation in processes of conflict resolution, protection from gendered harms such as conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) in war zones and under militant extremisms, and integration of gender concerns in post-conflict humanitarian relief and socioeconomic recovery. UN Women leads the preparation of the Secretary-General's annual report on women, peace and security presented in October and has advised the UNSC in country-specific situations such as Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Haiti, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen through UNSC's Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security, established via UNSC resolution 2242. Yet, the ethical as well as strategic importance of WPS and gender-responsive peacekeeping notwithstanding, a recent UN article ('The Women, Peace and Security Agenda at a Crossroads,' November 12) notes that WPS is at a crossroads, not having been able to move beyond rhetoric into resolute action. In October, I organised and spoke on a panel discussion on 'Women in International Relations' featuring panelists from three continents. Hosted by the International Studies Association, the webinar attracted a global audience of 200 professors, researchers, students from more than 25 countries. The panel discussed some themes that are also a part of a university course I have been teaching on 'Feminist Foreign Policy', such as the appointment of women to senior policy, diplomacy and peacekeeping positions, making appointments more than about numbers and tokenism to bring gender mainstreaming into domestic and foreign policies, addressing the racial dimensions of international relations and inequities between the Global North and Global South, and the gendered impact of war. Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in war generally, was a component of the discussion, with Kara Hooser (Committee on International Relations, University of Chicago) and me also addressing various strengths and limitations of the Women, Peace and Security **framework**. During a robust engagement with the audience, a key limitation of WPS was highlighted that numerous countries becoming WPS signatories, signaling a commitment to a global vision of gender-informed sustainable peace and security, has nevertheless failed to prevent the harms of global wars in order to discuss steps to make WPS more inclusive and effective. In the Indian context, peacekeepers play an important role in UN peacekeeping in conflict zones, with the country ranking among the top contributors to UN peacekeeping missions. From the world's first all-female Formed Police Unit deployed to Liberia from 2007-2016, to female officers playing key roles in subsequent missions such as in Congo and Sudan, to women presently comprising over 22% of deployed o

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According to an article in the Times of India published earlier this year ('India Remains Cornerstone of UN Peacekeeping, its Women Peacekeepers Indispensable' February 23), the UN Under-Secretary General for Peace Operations emphasised Indian women's participation in UN peacekeeping missions and praised India's leadership in capacity building to improve operational outcomes and humanitarian outreach during a 2025 conference on the role of women in peacekeeping in the Global South held in New Delhi. Building on the momentum, more must be done. Sexual violence, earlier seen as an unintended yet unavoidable consequence of war, collateral damage as it were, is now recognised in public international law as a weapon of war and genocide. Thus, the understanding of the collective nature of SGBV in war and international policies has come a long way. The same is true for domestic development policies in several nations, including India. During the webinar, former President of the International Association for Feminist Economics, professor and panel chair, Yana Rodgers, explained the policy impact of a gender lens on women's inclusion and development. I mentioned that Bretton Woods institutions like the World Bank, which had a traditional understanding of development, now recognise how sexual and gender-based violence is a barrier to development, a gender-responsive definition also reflected in India's framework of women-led development. The emphasis needs to be on implementation, with gender-sensitisation, budgetary allocation and public education. Connections must be established between the gender dimensions of domestic and foreign policies. Along with India's sizeable developmental assistance, including infrastructural assistance, and credit lines such as for smaller nations in the Indo-Pacific region, gender-sensitive humanitarian assistance must also be widened. A note of caution was sounded by a webinar panelist from the European Union, who said that agendas like Women, Peace and Security are seen to function as separate from mainstream international relations and should connect more with realpolitik. Such synergies are already present, such as through WPS' attention to gendered harms under militant extremisms, inclusion of affected communities in post-conflict reconstruction and civilian-military partnerships, as there can be no development without peace and no peace without community buy-in. There must be more gender-responsive training, both for domestic troops and peacekeeping staff deployed abroad. Local women's organisations can be included more in peace building, to help with early warning systems as well as different stages of conflict resolution. As of 2025, India does not have a National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security. Such a WPS policy blueprint is an important step to further strengthen India's position as a leading force in UN peacekeeping and of the Global South. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity What just happened in Bihar Contrary to what many analysts were saying on TV studios and digital platforms in the immediate aftermath of results, the MGB vote share or core voter support has not completely collapsed and scattered to the winds. As per the Election Commission of India results, close to 47% of the vote share came to the NDA, while close to 38% came to the MGB. What this means is that the.

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Shorts chapels lower anything they could lay their hands on. The Kashmir Files a film based on the exodus of Kashmiris Pundits from Kashmir is an attempt to uncover the distortions of the history of Jammu and Kashmir. The Kashmir Files is a 2022 Indian Hindi language drama film written and directed by Vivek Agnihotri. Produced by Zee Studios, the film is based on the exodus of Kashmiri Hindus during the onset of Kashmir Insurgency. It stars Anupam Kher, Darshan Kumar, Mithun Chakraborty and Pallavi Joshi. Such distortions are not limited only to Kashmir and go back to the Vedic period, and these biases were deliberately created by the invaders who attacked Bharat. Sadly such distortions were supported by the scholars groomed by colonial scholarships. There has been a synergetic struggle to deny any Hindu Identity, Hindu history or eternal values of Hinduism. This strategy was further extended to deprive the rightful Identity of Bharat and its history and ancient civilisation. The film almost made everyone cry, but many didn't cry. It would have been easy to cry, but it takes a lot of effort not to cry because it is an act of conscious restraint when confronted with the bestiality of wretchedness. Globally all communities have suffered some less, some more, which makes us all equal & human. It was the 19th of January, 1990, and days were cold and nights bitter, though there was no snow on the ground. By 10 PM, many people collectively raised thunderous Islamic and pro Pakistan slogans by pro Pakistan elements and relayed through powerful loudspeakers almost pierced eardrums. Though KPs were used to such slogans, the timing and synergy of tumultuous bang and loudspeakers was the cause of concern. Suddenly telephone bells rang; each caller on the other end of the line asked their relative, friend or acquaintance whether they were safe. This question carried more meaning beneath its simple words. KPs were asked to come out of their houses on that dark and dreary night and see themselves strange scenes on streets and in open places unfolding. Crowds of the Muslim population, young, old, children, and women, came out of their homes jam-packed the streets, gesticulating vigorously and yelling slogans in favour of Islam, Pakistan and the insurgency. People carried rugs, carpets, mats and furnishing and spread it out on the streets and squares. They brought wood and lit bonfires **to** keep their bodies warm. People sat, squatted, danced, shook fists, made violent gestures as loudspeakers were fixed and microphones blurred a mix of religious verses, revolutionary songs, anti India vitriolic and the supremacy of Islamic faith, all by turn making rounds from one to another speaker, each speaker more rabid firebrand than his predecessor. This rant and rave continued till the early hours of the following day. The message went to the Hindus that they were in the line of fire. Frightened like pigeons, they hold up in their nests throughout the night. Not a single soul came out of.

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His house to go to the temple for prayers or to Hari Parbat heights to pay usual obeisance to the deity. On the one hand, the night long tirade against KPs and lionising of Islamic warlords snatched whatever remnant of peace of mind they were left with. The question that caused them grave distress was how they could live in the Valley of Kashmir without the goodwill of the majority community. They have had centuries of excellent and brotherly relations. Overnight their Muslim brothers had become their worst enemies as they threw their masks which they wore for centuries. Suspicion loomed largely among Muslims and Hindus of the Valley of Kashmir. This single night of defiance and revolt paralysed the govt machinery, and not a single policeman was visible anywhere in the city the following day. From the next day, it was the rule of the mosque, the priest and the anti national forces. Loudspeakers fixed to mosque tops blurred uninterruptedly, cautioning the Hindus to leave the Valley. Nevertheless, the hate campaign carried forward through barbaric and inhuman means of violence struck fear among the entire KPs population. The eviction of KPs from the Valley in Kashmir was only the latest. Before this, many such displacements took place. Nevertheless, the largest exoduses fled their homeland for fear of being persecuted. This was a genocide. They went together with so much bloodshed, anguish, chaos and suffering. The injustice and callousness they faced were shocking. Beyond everything, they were not refugees from another country but were rendered homeless and stateless in their nation India. What was their fault In a state where our external and internal enemies wanted to break from India and turn into an Islamic republic. Hence the cry of Azadi freedom. Freedom from what From Hindu majority India. Sh Jagmohan, who was then Governor of the erstwhile state of J&K, sent enough warning signals, but no attention was paid by those sitting at the helm of affairs. The forgiving and lenient attitude was inherent in the politics of deception and duplicity of the state. In tiny minor matters, hypocrisy and unproductivity were interwoven. Most politicians were adapted in speaking dual voices, one for the state and the other for the nation. This politics created different illusions for different actors of the drama. They continued to operate without checks and balances. Some underlying forces command the life of a **nation**, and such forces comprise the concealed channels of its social and political setup. Religion is one of these channels, which is most potent and essential. Throughout the history of humanity, religion has remained a powerful tool, despite its merits and demerits. In Kashmir, the religious orders of Sufis and Rishis had inbuilt sources of love, harmony, compassion, holiness, etc. Still, unfortunately, these traditions were not rejuvenated, not refashioned to narrow down the differences between the two communities. This was undoubtedly a leadership failure since independence. Article 370 of the Indian Constitution was one of the most robust roots which fomented.

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Feeling aggrieved and dissatisfied with the impugned judgment and order dated 11.03.2019 passed by the high court of karnataka at Bengaluru in regular first appeal raft no.1674 by which the high court has allowed the said appeal preferred by respondent no herein employee and has quashed and set aside the judgment and decree passed by the learned trial court consequently dismissing the suit filed by respondent no.1 herein original plaintiff declaring the date of birth of employee the original defendant karnataka rural infrastructure development limited hereinafter referred to as the original defendant appellant corporation has preferred the present appeal. Feeling aggrieved and dissatisfied with the impugned judgment and order dated 05.11.2019 passed by the high court of karnataka at dharwad in writ petition sres, by which the high court has partly allowed the said writ petition, relying upon the judgment and order passed in raft matter of civil appeal no karnataka rural infrastructure development limited to reconsider the decision of original writ petitioner with respect to change of date of birth, the original respondent karnataka rural infrastructure development limited has preferred leading to the present appeal in nutshell are as under 3.1 that respondent no.1 herein original plaintiff was appointed with the appellant corporation in the year 1984. In the service record his date of birth was reflected as 04.01.1960 as per silk marks card. After the lapse of nearly 24 years, respondent no.1 herein original plaintiff requested for change of date of respondent no.1 filed a suit for declaration before additional city civil and sessions judge at Bangalore to declare that his date of birth suit was opposed by the appellant corporation relying upon the karnataka state servants determination of age act, 1974 hereinafter referred to as the act, 1974 and resolution corporation adopting the karnataka civil service rules and allied laws. The said rule provided that the request for change of date of birth in the service record shall be made within a period of three years from the date of joining or within one year from commencement of the karnataka act opposed on the ground of delay and laches on the part of respondent no.1 original plaintiff in requesting to change the date of birth. Relying upon section 5 2 of the act, 1974 the learned trial court dismissed the suit vide judgment and dissatisfied with the judgment and decree passed by the learned trial court **dismissing** the suit, respondent no.1 original plaintiff preferred regular first appeal The high court by the impugned judgment and order dated 11.03.2019 has allowed the said appeal by observing that it was highly impossible that the plaintiff should have availed the remedy within three years from the date of joining of service and also observing that the resolution corporation adopting the karnataka civil service rules and allied laws was not brought to notice of the plaintiff. 3.3 feeling aggrieved and dissatisfied with the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court dated 11.03.2019 allowing the said appeal and quashing and.

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The Credit Guarantee Scheme for Start-ups CGSS. As a result, investment in EV start-ups skyrocketed, surging by 255 in 2021 to \$444 million in 2022. With continued public and private investment, the growth of the EV market in India is poised to continue on an upward trajectory in the coming years. Nitti Analog released a draft policy in April 2022 on battery swapping for two- and three-wheelers as a means to reduce nearly 1 Giga tons of carbon dioxide emissions by 2030. Battery swapping involves exchanging discharged batteries for charged ones. However, many experts claim that battery swapping is a technical and market dead-end that will only disconnect the vehicle from the fuel, which in this case, is a battery. The concept of battery swapping was once deemed a practical solution to the limited driving range of electric vehicles EVs and the scarcity of public charging stations. However, in 2022, the idea is increasingly being viewed as a technical dead-end, unlikely to provide a sustainable solution. The current state of the EV market, with many models offering a range exceeding 100 miles, renders battery swapping redundant. Furthermore, the infrastructure required to facilitate such a system is expensive and logistically complex, rendering it unfeasible for widespread adoption. Consequently, many industry experts predict that continued support for battery swapping will only serve to drain green investors funds, without offering a viable solution. Another major challenge is the intricate issue of battery ownership, and the need for standardization across different vehicle models to optimize performance. This could stifle innovation in the EV industry, limiting opportunities for manufacturers to develop more efficient and cost-effective battery technology. Additionally, the implementation of a battery-swapping system would require a higher number of batteries per vehicle, leading to increased production costs and environmental concerns related to battery disposal. It also goes against the very essence of India Atmanirbhar Bharat mission as the two-wheeler industry relies heavily on Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises which account for over 80 of auto component manufacturing. The transition to EVs must be carried out in tandem with global markets to ensure cost-effectiveness and avoid making the domestic two-wheeler market too expensive for customers. It is crucial to acknowledge that India holds the distinction of being the world largest two-wheeler manufacturer and exporter, owing to significant investments, a focus on Make in India, leading-edge technology, innovative products, and cost-effective production methods. Furthermore, empowering **consumers** with the freedom to choose the technology or solution they prefer is imperative for a sustainable and dynamic EV market. Imposing mandates on the use of specific technologies could prove to be short-sighted, given the rapidly evolving nature of the industry. Allowing auto manufacturers to determine their approach to battery-swapping implementation would enable the establishment of standardized battery specifications, ensuring interoperability across different vehicle models. However, this could pose a challenge in terms of providing a unique experience to consumers and distinguishing between the varied performance and features offered by different manufacturers. Therefore, an approach that prioritizes consumer choice will assist in promoting innovation and will drive the growth and succes

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Auto companies could lead to a semi-monopoly that would have a detrimental impact on other vehicle makers by necessitating consolidation. Standardizing swappable batteries could lead to the establishment of a monopoly for a handful of companies that would dictate their own standards and ensure that their vehicles are interoperable with those standards. Such an approach would stifle innovation and result in the entire industry profits being channeled towards one particular company or group. This, in turn, could lead to a dependence on imported technologies, with domestic manufacturers suffering the brunt. Vehicle manufacturers typically do not share their battery technology, and implementing swappable batteries could result in a surplus of unused batteries, leading to environmental degradation and cost inefficiencies. India is fast emerging as a leader in the global digital economy. The country digital economy has grown rapidly over the last few years, thanks to a range of factors, including the contributions of Narendra Modi, private players, India technical golden age, digital initiatives of the government, market changes, Make in India, and Digital India programs, and the Indian population eagerness to adapt quickly. In this article, we will provide a comprehensive analysis of these factors that have enabled India to lead the digital economy globally. Contributions of Narendra Modi Prime Minister Narendra Modi have played a significant role in driving India digital transformation. In 2015, he launched the Digital India program, aimed at transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Under this program, the government has launched several initiatives to promote digital literacy, digital infrastructure, and digital services. One of the key initiatives under Digital India is the Aadhaar program, which provides a unique identification number to every citizen of India. This program has made it easier for people to access government services and has helped the government to plug leakages in the delivery of subsidies and other welfare measures. Private players India digital economy has also been driven by the private sector, with several startups and established players investing heavily in the sector. The country startup ecosystem is one of the fastest-growing in the world, with several unicorns emerging in recent years. The success of companies such as Flipkart, Ola, Paytm, and Zomato has attracted significant investments into the sector, helping to create jobs and boost the economy. The country IT sector is also a major contributor to the digital economy, with Indian IT firms providing **services** to clients around the world. India technical golden age India is currently experiencing a technical golden age, with a growing number of skilled professionals and a supportive government policy framework. The country has a large pool of tech talent, with several world-class educational institutions producing graduates in fields such as computer science and engineering. The government has also launched several initiatives aimed at developing digital skills, such as the Skill India program, which aims to train 40 crore people in various skills by 2022. Digital initiatives of the government The Indian government has launched several digital initiatives aimed at promoting the growth of the digital economy. One of the most significant initiatives is the BharatNet project, aimed at connecting all villages in India with high-

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Program, launched in 2016, aims to make at least one member of every household digitally literate. Market changes The Indian market has also undergone significant changes in recent years, with a growing number of people adopting digital technologies. The proliferation of smartphones, affordable data plans, and increasing internet penetration has enabled more people to access digital services. This has created a large market for digital services, including e-commerce, digital payments, and online entertainment. Make in India and Digital India programs The Make in India and Digital India programs have played a significant role in promoting the growth of the digital economy. The Make in India program aims to promote manufacturing in India, while the Digital India program aims to promote the adoption of digital technologies. The two programs complement each other, with Make in India promoting the production of digital devices, while Digital India promotes the adoption of digital services. Indian population eagerness to adapt quickly Finally, the Indian population eagerness to adapt quickly to new technologies has also played a significant role in driving the growth of the digital economy. Indians are known for their adaptability and eagerness to learn, which has enabled them to quickly adopt new technologies and platforms. This has created a large user base for digital services, which in turn has attracted significant investments into the sector. Impact of the Digital Economy The digital economy has had a significant impact on India economy and society. It has created jobs, boosted productivity, and enabled more people to access services and opportunities. The growth of the digital economy has also led to the emergence of new business models and industries, such as e-commerce, digital payments, and online education. However, the digital economy has also brought some challenges. One of the key challenges is the digital divide, with many people in rural areas still lacking access to digital services. The digital economy has also created new forms of inequality, with some people benefiting more than others. Finally, the growth of the digital economy has raised concerns about data privacy and security, with many people worried about the misuse of their personal information. Conclusion India is fast emerging as a leader in the global digital economy, thanks to a range of factors, including the contributions of Narendra Modi, private players, India technical golden age, digital initiatives of the government, market changes, Make in India, and Digital India programs, **and** the Indian population eagerness to adapt quickly. The growth of the digital economy has had a significant impact on India economy and society, creating jobs, boosting productivity, and enabling more people to access services and opportunities. However, the growth of the digital economy has also brought some challenges, including the digital divide, inequality, and concerns about data privacy and security. As India continues on its digital journey, it is important to consider the impact of the digital economy on all sections of society and to work towards creating an inclusive and sustainable digital ecosystem. Women from indigenous and grassroots communities are frequently considered custodians of tradition. It is essential to mention that simultaneously they are notable contributors to the economy as informal workers, wage earners, farmers, and micro-entrepreneurs. In addition to

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And coasted to a very impressive victory in MP, and a strong performance in Bihar. Why is it so? In my view, in Bihar the NDA alliance has big faces of non-Yadav OBC politics like Nitish Kumar, Samrat Choudhary, and Dalit leader Chirag Paswan from the Dusadh caste which is the largest Dalit community in Bihar. They also have a face like Jitan Ram Manjhi who leads Musahars rat eaters, another large Dalit community of Bihar. These factors together proved hurdles for INDIA bloc. In MP, BJP has the credible OBC face of Shivraj Singh Chauhan and chief minister Mohan Yadav who countered the Congress narrative. Congress lacked a credible OBC political face in these states. A factor that not many talk about is the fact that development also produces discontent sometimes. There were reports that a section of villagers was not happy with compensation for land acquisition for highway projects. Most of this land belonged to the landed class of OBCs, Thakurs, Jats etc, and these small dissatisfactions may have also contributed towards creating an anti-BJP mahaul atmosphere in UP. However, BJP is likely to work hard to regain its lost ground in the state so that they redeem themselves in 2027. SP and Congress will face the challenge of retaining what they have achieved in this election and building their electoral politics around it. What will happen in the future is difficult to say, but one thing there is no doubt about UP matters for the inghasan of Delhi Narayan is director of the GB Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad Switching to a plant-based whole food PBWF diet, particularly one that incorporates green smoothies or juices, may lead to some stomach issues. These issues often depend on your previous diet and lifestyle. For instance, if your diet lacked fiber, you might notice changes in your bowel movements. Here are some signs and symptoms that might indicate you're increasing your fiber intake too rapidly. Constipation or diarrhea Excess fiber can lead to constipation or diarrhea. Fiber acts as bulk that draws water into the gastrointestinal GI tract. If you're not hydrated enough, this can cause the GI tract to dehydrate, making stools hard and difficult to pass—common with soluble fiber. Conversely, too much insoluble fiber can cause diarrhea and loose stools. It best to increase your fiber intake gradually to avoid these issues. Bloating Rapidly increasing your fiber **intake** can cause bloating. This most often happens when you eat too much fiber too quickly because most of the fiber won be digested or broken down while moving through the GI tract. Bloating is also quite common when you consume smoothies as there is air finely mixed in the smoothies. Gas problems Increasing fiber feeds the microorganisms in your colon micro biota leading to gas production. This is more of a social issue than a health problem, as all mammals pass gas. Abdominal pain Excessive fiber can slow down digestion or even cause it to stop, leading to cramping along with changes in bowel movements, gas, and bloating. Mineral deficiencies Fiber can bind to some nutrients, preventing their absorption. This is especially true for minerals like iron, chromium, copper, zinc, and calcium. Consuming adequate amounts of vitamin C may help counteract this effect. Losing a significant amount of fat can sometimes lead to skin issues like pimples. These typically resolve over time. The human body can hide away some toxins in fat. As the body burns fat for energy during ketos

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Regular consumption of specific beverages and foods stimulates dopamine release, temporarily enhancing our mood. Once the effect wears off, the body returns to normal or experiences a low, creating a desire for more. These foods and beverages are inherently addictive. Furthermore, every cell in our body contains a clock programmed to a set pattern of behavior. Consuming addictive substances at regular intervals can cause significant harm. A change in dietary habits and behavioral patterns is often resisted by the body, leading to what we refer to as withdrawal symptoms. While these are commonly recognized with substances like alcohol, tobacco, and drugs, they also apply to caffeine and certain common foods. Caffeine is particularly addictive and can impair the ability to perform daily activities without it. Many regular consumers of tea or coffee develop a dependence, with headaches being the most common withdrawal symptom. Those who attempt intermittent fasting by delaying their morning meal until after 10:00 AM often experience this. The reason caffeine is so addictive is its integral role in our daily routines and social interactions. Caffeine increases the production of the neurotransmitter dopamine, which affects our attention level. Food as an addiction Apart from well-known addictive substances like caffeine, alcohol, and tobacco, certain foods can also be highly addictive. These include sugar, cheese, chocolate, potato chips, French fries, ice cream, breakfast cereals, pizzas, biscuits, and cakes. These addictions can surface during periods of fasting like Ekadashi and Navratri, highlighting our dependencies. Headache Regular caffeine consumption reduces cerebral blood flow due to the narrowing of blood vessels. Although blood flow initially increases after caffeine intake, it soon diminishes, and the expected circadian rhythm-associated boost at a specific time leads to headaches if caffeine is not consumed. It happens within 1-4 hours of missing the regular dose of caffeine. It is usually most common among people who consume three or more cups of coffee tea each day. Constipation Those accustomed to starting their day with tea or coffee may experience constipation when they stop. Both caffeine and hot water stimulate bowel movements and therefore abruptly stopping caffeine intake can cause constipation. This is where the term bed-tea originated. Replacing coffee with warm water in the morning or herbal teas later in the day can help, especially for those practicing intermittent fasting. Fatigue Caffeine increases alertness by blocking adenosine receptors, a neurotransmitter that induces feelings of tiredness. Without this stimulant, **feelings** of fatigue can occur. The habit of a late afternoon cup of coffee causes slow down an hour or two after lunch. Brain fog The release of dopamine from consuming caffeine and other addictive foods sharpens our attention. Without regular intake, our attention span may become foggy. Irritability Low energy and headaches can lead to irritability. Techniques like deep breathing Pranayama, stretching, or stepping outside can alleviate this symptom. Anxiety & depression Caffeine addiction can make some individuals feel jittery and anxious, and for some, stopping caffeine can produce similar effects. Additionally, because caffeine elevates mood, its absence can lead to depression. Nausea Withdrawal from caffeine can disrupt the digestive system and sometimes causes nausea. Insomnia This comes as a

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Setting aside the judgment and decree passed by the learned 4 trial court dismissing the suit preferred by respondent no.1 herein and consequently decreeing the suit and declaring the date of birth of respondent no.1 original plaintiff in the service record, original defendant employer corporation has preferred the present appeal. 4. Sheri goudas s. Kannur, learned senior advocate appearing on behalf of the appellant corporation has vehemently submitted in the facts and circumstances of the case more particularly when the request for change of date of birth was made after 24 years and dehornes the statutory provisions, the high court committed a grave error in decreeing the suit and granting the declaratory relief. It is submitted that as mandated by section 5 2 of the act, 1974 no such alteration to the date of birth to the advantage of a state servant be made unless the employee has made an application for the purpose within three years from the date on which his age and date of birth is accepted and recorded in the service register or book or any other record of service or within one year from the date of commencement of the act, 1974, whichever is later. It is submitted that the by the appellant corporation in the year 1991 and therefore respondent no.1 original plaintiff ought to have made the request for change of date of birth at least within one year from was passed by the appellant corporation adopting the act, 1974 and allied laws. It is submitted that in the present case respondent no.1 employee made the application for the first time vide notice dated 23.06.2007 i.e. After the lapse of 24 years since he joined the service and nearly after the lapse of 16 years from the date of adoption of corporation. 4.1 it is submitted that the high court ought to have appreciated that the ignorance of law cannot be an excuse. It is submitted that being an employee in fact he was supposed to know the rules and regulations applicable to the employees of the corporation. 4.2 it is submitted that in any case, the high court ought to have non suited the employee on the ground of delay and laches as the request for change of date of birth was made after lapse of 16 years from the date of adoption of enactment upon the decisions of this court **in** the cases of home depot. V. R.kirubakaran of india & others v. R. ors. V. Shyam kishore prayed to allow the present appeal. 4.4 learned advocate appearing on behalf of the appellant corporation had fairly admitted that so far as respondent no.1 herein employee is concerned, the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court has been implemented. However, as others suits are pending, he has requested to decide the question of law so that the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court may not come in the way of corporation. 5. Sheri ashok bannidinni, learned advocate.

Word Count: 484, Character Length: 2864 characters

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Appearing on behalf of respondent no.1 original plaintiff has submitted that so far as respondent no.1 original plaintiff is concerned the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court has been implemented in the year 2019 and even thereafter he has attained the age of superannuation treating and 7 considering his date of birth as 24.01.1961, nothing further is required to be done in the present appeal and as such the present appeal has become infructuous so far as respondent no.1 original plaintiff is concerned. 5.1 now so far as civil of 2020 is concerned, it is submitted that even the said appeal has also become infructuous as after the impugned judgment and order dated 05.11.2019 passed by the high court in writ the high court has directed the appellant corporation to reconsider the request of the writ petitioner respondent herein for change of date of birth in light of the judgment and order passed in raft no.1670 of 2013, thereafter the appellant corporation reconsidered the application representation of the writ petitioner respondent herein and his prayer for change of date of birth came to be rejected against which even the writ petition was preferred before the learned single judge and the same has also been dismissed. It is submitted that therefore even civil appeal no. 5721 of 2021 arising out of slap no.1062 of 2020 has become infructuous. 8 5.2 learned senior advocate appearing on behalf of appellant corporation is not disputing the aforesaid factual matrix. 6. Heard the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the appellant corporation and respondent no.1 employee. 7. The dispute is with respect to change of date of birth in the service record. The employees of the state government for the determination of the age are governed by the karnataka state servant determination of age act, except under the act, of age or date of birth of state servants which provides that subject to subsection 2, the state government may, at any time, after an inquiry, alter the age and date of birth of a state servant as recorded or deemed to have been recorded in his service register or book or any other record of service. Subsection 2 of section 5 further provides that no such alteration to the advantage of a state servant shall be made, unless he has made an application for the purpose within three years from the **date** on which his age and date of birth is accepted and recorded in the service 9 register or book or any other record of service or within one year from the date of commencement of act, 1974, whichever is later. Section 6 of the act, 1974 further provides that no court shall have jurisdiction to settle, decide or deal with any question which is required to be decided under the act, 1974. It also further provides that no decision under act, 1974 shall be questioned in any court of law. Section 4, section 5 and section 6 which are relevant.

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Bondi Beach in Sydney, one of Australia's most iconic locations, turned into a scene of massacre on December 14, the first day of Hanukkah, when two gunmen opened fire at a Jewish gathering. At least 16 people, including a 10-year-old girl and an 87-year-old Holocaust survivor, were killed and 40 others wounded. Police said the attackers were a 50-year-old man, who held licensed firearms, and his 24-year-old son, who had been under investigation by Australia's domestic intelligence agency for six months. The father was shot dead by police, while the son has been taken to hospital under custody. The attack was the deadliest shooting since the 1996 Port Arthur massacre in Tasmania, in which 35 people were killed. In recent years, Australia has witnessed growing antisemitic incidents, targeting its Jewish community, which makes up some 0.4% of its population. Last year, in October, a kosher-food business in Bondi was targeted, while in December, a synagogue in Melbourne was firebombed. In August this year, Australia accused Iran of directing such attacks, and expelled the Iranian Ambassador and three other diplomats. After Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack on Israel and Israel's retaliatory genocide war on Palestinians in Gaza, antisemitic incidents in Australia rose by 316%, between October 2023 and September 2024, with more than 2,000 cases reported, according to the country's special envoy to combat anti-Semitism. MGB, core vote share has remained intact. And of this, the traditional MY vote bank, or the Muslim Yadav vote share, at about 30% has largely remained intact with the MGB, with minor additions from the smaller allies. In contrast, the vote share of the NDA, which was already arithmetically far higher than that of the MGB because of the entry of LJP of RAM Vilas Paswan, actually ended up being far more superior in arithmetic terms during the time of the polling and when results came out. So that about sums up the real election results of Bihar, both in terms of the Post poll survey, reflecting the mood of the voter and the actual results as declared by the ECI. It would be unwise to write off the future of Tejasvi Yadav as a mass leader. Now, whenever there is big time defeat during elections, there is a tendency for analysts and commentators to think that the political career of this particular leader or party is over. **Usually, they turn out to be wrong, and it goes a long, long way back in the 1984 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP won just two seats out of 543 and a lot of analysts wrote it off. Even in the 2017 recent assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, the Samajwadi Party Congress Alliance was obliterated by the BJP, and again, a lot of people said that the Akhilesh Yadav led Samajwadi Party is now seeing its last days because the traditional voting patterns have changed. Come to 2024 Lok Sabha elections, and one witnessed how resilient the Samajwadi Party has been and how it did spectacularly well in the Australia's Labour Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, has urged unity and asked citizens to be each other's light. The rise in antisemitic violence should be a grave concern for Australia, which hosts the world's eighth largest Jewish community. His government must swiftly investigate the attack and bring all to justice. He should also remain alert to forces, domestic and foreign, that seek to divide Australian society. While antisemitic extremists target the local Jewish community, critics of Mr. Albanese, including Israeli Pr**

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Netanyahu under whose watch Hamas killed 1,200 people in Israel have sought to blame Mr. Albanese's policies, including his government's recognition of Palestinian statehood earlier this year, for the Bondi shooting. Mr. Albanese should ignore such attacks and focus instead on healing society, combating hate crimes, and addressing concerns over gun violence. Australia introduced tough gun control laws after the Port Arthur massacre and enforcing a strict licensing regime, leading to a significant decline in gun-related violence and deaths. However, the Bondi shooting has again raised concerns about gun safety. Australia should now tighten regulations further, enhance monitoring of extremist ideologies and isolate and punish those who perpetrate hate crimes. Lok Sabha elections. In the same vein, Tejasvi Yadav remains popular in particular; voters in the age group of 18 to 24 and to some extent, even in the age group of 25 to 34 still have a large preference for the MGB, which cannot be seen in any other age category. And that means that the youth voter, the genuine youth voter, which is between the ages 18 to 34 still supports the MGB and the leadership of Tejaswi Yadav. So, Yadav definitely has a chance of coming back in the future. The age-wise difference also makes it very, very clear, the support for the MGB declines there to as low as 28% when you take into account those who are 55 years and above, while the support for MGB goes up to more than 40% when you take into account the age group, 18 to 34. Quite clearly, one can safely say that Tejaswi Yadav does have a future and that the MGB has not been wiped off the electoral map. There has definitely been a dent in the traditional bastion of the MGB in the Seemanchal region, particularly amongst the traditional voting communities of the MGB. Now, one reason for this is that leaders like Asaduddin Owaisi, with his party AIMIM has taken away a large chunk of Muslim voters away from the MGB. That is one reason. The other reason is that even in Seemanchal, larger proportion of females has supported the NDA rather than the MGB. And the end result has been that there has been a significant vote share gap between the NDA and the MGB, even in the Seemanchal region, which is approximately about 8%. That is too large a **vote** share gap to not end up losing a large chunk of seats, and that is what has happened to the MGB throughout Bihar, not just in Seemanchal. Now we come to the most important and significant development of the 2025 Bihar Lok assembly elections, the female vote share has been very, very, very decisive in deciding the final electoral outcome. Media reports and Election Commission of India releases had already indicated that the female voter did not just have a larger voter turnout, but they actually outvoted their male counterparts, even in absolute numbers. Now that is a significant change, and as one can see from the Post poll survey as well as the data released by the Election Commission of India across almost every age category, caste category, region and other categories, the female vote has gone to the NDA in very, very large numbers compared to the MGB. It's only amongst Muslims and the traditional OBC or the Yadav vote that the Muslim vote for the NDA is substantially lower. But even here, the percentage of Muslim women, or Yadav women, who have voted for the NDA, is substantially larger than that of the males who have voted for the NDA.

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For our purpose are reproduced herein below 4. Bar of alteration of age except under the act. Notwithstanding anything contained in any law or any judgment, decree or order of any court or other authority, no alteration of the age or date of birth of a state servant as accepted and recorded or deemed to have been accepted and recorded in his service register or book or any other record of service under section 3 shall, in so far as of birth of a state servant as recorded or deemed to have been recorded in his service register or book or any other record of service provided that no such alteration shall be made if the age and date of birth of a state servant has been accepted and recorded or deemed to have been accepted and recorded in the service register or book or any other record of service in pursuance of a decree of a civil court obtained by the state servant 1 after he became further that no such alteration shall be made without giving the state servant concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard. 2 no such alteration to the advantage of a state servant shall be made unless he has made an application for the purpose within three years from the date on which his age and date of birth is accepted and recorded in the service register or book or any other record of service or within one year from the date of commencement of this act, whichever is later. 6. Bar of jurisdiction of courts. 1 no court shall have jurisdiction to settle, decide or deal with any question which is required to be decided under this act. 2 no decision under this act shall be questioned in any court of law. Therefore, as such the request for change of date of birth as per the act no.1 employee within a period of one year from 17.05.1991 being the employee of the appellant corporation. However, respondent no.1 employee made the request for change of date of birth vide years since he joined the service and nearly after the lapse of 16 years from the date of adoption of enactment act, 1974 by the appellant corporation. The high court in the impugned judgment and 11 order has observed that nothing is on record that resolution to the notice of the employee and that **therefore** respondent no.1 employee might not be aware of the applicability of the act, 1974. Aforesaid cannot be accepted. Being the employee of the corporation, he was supposed to know the rules and regulations applicable to the employees of the corporation. Ignorance of law cannot be an excuse to get out of the applicability of the statutory provisions. Even to otherwise and assuming that the reasoning given by the high court for the sake of convenience is accepted in that case also even respondent no.1 employee was not entitled to any relief or change of date of birth on the ground.

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Of delay and laches as the request for change of date of birth was made after lapse of 24 years since he joined the service. At this stage, few decisions of this court on the issue of correction of the date of birth are required to be referred to. 9.1 in the case of home depot. V. R.kirubakaran supra, it is observed and held as under 12 7. An application for correction of the date of birth should not be dealt with by the tribunal or the high court keeping in view only the public servant concerned. It need not be pointed out that any such direction for correction of the date of birth of the public servant concerned has a chain reaction, inasmuch as others waiting for years, below him for their respective promotions are affected in this process. Some are likely to suffer irreparable injury, inasmuch as, because of the correction of the date of birth, the officer concerned, continues in office, in some cases for years, within which time many officers who are below him in seniority waiting for their promotion, may lose the promotion for ever... 9.2 in the case of state of m.p. V. Premlal shrivas, supra in paragraph 8 and 12, it is observed and held as under 8. It needs to be emphasised that in matters involving correction of date of birth of a government servant, particularly on the eve of his superannuation or at the fag end of his career, the court or the tribunal has to be circumspect, cautious and careful while issuing direction for correction of date of birth, recorded in the service book at the time of entry into any government service. Unless the court or the tribunal is fully satisfied on the basis of the irrefutable proof relating to his date of birth and that such a claim is made in accordance with the procedure prescribed or as per the consistent procedure adopted by the department concerned, as the case may be, and a real injustice has been caused to the person concerned, the court or the tribunal should be loath to issue a direction for correction of the service book. Time and again this court has expressed the view that if a government servant makes a request for correction of the recorded date of birth after lapse of a long time of his induction into the **service**, particularly beyond the time fixed by his employer, he cannot claim, as a matter of right, the correction of his date of birth, even if he has 13 good evidence to establish that the recorded date of birth is clearly erroneous. No court or the tribunal can come to the aid of those who sleep over their rights see union of india v. Harnam singh 1993 2 scc it may, in our opinion, the delay of over two decades in applying for the correction of date of birth is ex facie fatal to the case of the respondent, notwithstanding the.

Word Count: 491, Character Length: 2739 characters

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Fact that there was no specific rule or order, framed or made, prescribing the period within which such application could be filed. It is trite that even in such a situation such an application should be filed which can be held to be reasonable. The application filed by the respondent 25 years after his induction into service, by no standards, can be held to be reasonable, more so when not a feeble attempt was made to explain the said delay. There is also no substance in the plea of the respondent that since rule 84 of the m.p. financial code does not prescribe the time limit within which an application is to be filed, the appellants were duty bound to correct the clerical error in recording of his date of birth in the service book. 9.3 In the case of life insurance Corporation of India & others R.basavaraju supra, it is observed as fewer than 5. The law with regard to correction of date of birth has been time and again discussed by this court and held that once the date of birth is entered in the service record, as per the educational certificates and accepted by the employee, the same cannot be changed. Not only that, this court has also held that a claim for change in date of birth cannot be entertained at the far end of retirement 9.4 in the case of bharat coking coal limited and ors. V. Shyam kishore singh supra of which one of us justice as. 14 bananas were a party to the bench has observed and held in paragraph 9 & 10 as under 9. This court has consistently held that the request for change of the date of birth in the service records at the far end of service is not sustainable. The learned additional solicitor general has in that regard relied on the decision in the case of state of Maharashtra and any. V. Gorakhnath sitaram kamble a series of the earlier decisions of this court were taken note and was held as hereunder 16. The learned counsel for the appellant has placed reliance on the judgment of this court in up. Madhyamik shiksha parishad v. Raj kumar scc l&s 96 . In this case, this court has considered a number of judgments of this court and observed that the grievance as to the date of birth in the **service** record should not be permitted at the fag end of the service career. 17. In another judgment in state of uttaranchal v. Pitamber dutt denied to the government employee on the ground that he sought correction in the service record after nearly 30 years of service. While setting aside the judgment of the high court, this court observed that the high court ought not to have interfered with the decision after almost three decades. 19. These decisions lead to a different dimension of the case that correction at the fag end would be at the cost of a large number.

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Of employees, therefore, any correction at the fag end must be discouraged by the court. The relevant portion of the application for correction of the date of birth by a public servant cannot be entertained at the fag end of his service. It need not be pointed out that any such direction for correction of the date of birth of the public servant concerned has a chain reaction, inasmuch as others waiting for years, below him for their respective promotions are affected in this process. Some are likely to suffer irreparable injury, inasmuch as, because of the correction of the date of birth, the officer concerned, continues in office, in some cases for years, within which time many officers who are below him in seniority waiting for their promotion, may lose their promotion forever. According to us, this is an important aspect, which cannot be lost sight of by the court or the tribunal while examining the grievance of a public servant in respect of correction of his date of birth. As such, unless a clear case on the basis of materials which can be held to be conclusive in nature is made out by the respondent, the court or the tribunal should not issue a direction, on the basis of materials which make such claim only plausible. Before any such direction is issued, the court or the tribunal must be fully satisfied that there has been real injustice to the person concerned and his claim for correction of date of birth has been made in accordance with the procedure prescribed, and within the time fixed by any rule or order. The onus is on the applicant to prove the wrong recording of his date of birth, in his service book. 10. This court in fact has also held that even if there is good evidence to establish that the recorded date of birth is erroneous, the correction cannot be claimed as a matter of right. In that regard, in state of m.p. Vs. Premlal shrivas, supra it is held as hereunder 16 8. It needs to be emphasised that in matters involving correction of date of birth of a government servant, particularly on the eve of his superannuation or at the fag end of his career, the court or the tribunal has to be circumspect, cautious and careful while issuing direction for correction of date of birth, recorded **in the service book at the time of entry into any government service. Unless the court or the tribunal is fully satisfied on the basis of the irrefutable proof relating to his date of birth and that such a claim is made in accordance with the procedure prescribed or as per the consistent procedure adopted by the department concerned, as the case may be, and a real injustice has been caused to the person concerned, the court or the tribunal should be loath to issue a direction for correction of the service book. Time and again this court has expressed the.**

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View that if a government servant makes a request for correction of the recorded date of birth after lapse of a long time of his induction into the service, particularly beyond the time fixed by his employer, he cannot claim, as a matter of right, the correction of his date of birth, even if he has good evidence to establish that the recorded date of birth is clearly erroneous. No court or the tribunal can come to the aid of those who sleepover their rights see union of india v. Harnam. Be that as it may, in our opinion, the delay of over two decades in applying for the correction of date of birth is ex facie fatal to the case of the respondent, notwithstanding the fact that there was no specific rule or order, framed or made, prescribing the period within which such application could be filed. It is trite that even in such a situation such an application should be filed which can be held to be reasonable. The application filed by the respondent 25 years after his induction into service, by no standards, can be held to be reasonable, more so when not a feeble attempt was made to explain the said delay. There is also no substance in the plea of the respondent that since rule 84 of the m.p. financial code does not prescribe the timelimit within which an application is to be filed, the appellants were duty bound to correct the clerical error in recording of his date of birth in the service book. 10. Considering the aforesaid decisions of this court the law on change of date of birth can be summarized as under i application for change of date of birth can only be as per the relevant provisions regulations applicable ii even if there is cogent evidence, the same cannot be claimed as a matter of right iii application can be rejected on the ground of delay and laches also more particularly when it is made at the fag end of service and or when the employee is about to retire on attaining the age of superannuation. 11. Therefore, applying the law laid down by this court in the aforesaid decisions, the application of the respondent for change of date of birth was liable to be rejected on the 18 ground of delay and laches also and therefore as **such respondent employee was not entitled to the decree of declaration and therefore the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court is unsustainable and not tenable at law. 12. However, considering the fact that when the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court has been implemented and respondent no.1 has retired thereafter considering his date of observed that the present judgment and order shall not affect respondent no.1 employee and we decide the question of law in terms of by the high court in wept. the appellant corporation to consider the case of the original writ petitioner.**

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Advertising is a powerful tool that can influence millions, ergo must be used wisely. From conventional advertising that focused solely on selling products to emotional marketing, advertising has evolved over the years as a medium to establish deep connections with the audience. The power of advertising is especially to the eveil evident during conflicts and crisis situations when the right message can inspire masses to take meaningful actions. It is quite common for brands to leverage current trends and events to promote their brands in the name of moment marketing. While moment marketing is often a hit among consumers when done right, there are times when such moment marketing attempts backfire. Conflicts and crisis situations are a prime example. There is nothing wrong with advertising during conflicts per se. The problem arises when conflicts are viewed as a marketing opportunity by brands. There have been several instances in the past where brands tried to leverage conflict situations to promote their brands. Miracle Mattress is one such brand that received severe backlash for its win Tower Sale ad inspired by the 9/11 attack. Fast forward to 2022 and some brands haven shied away from taking advantage of the ongoing Russia Ukraine war to create rending ads based on a hot topic. Should brands resort to moment marketing even during war situations? They should and the below mentioned reasons explain why moment marketing during conflicts need to be avoided. Brands risk being perceived as insensitive Unfortunately the fierce competition has led brands to resort to aggressive advertising tactics.. In a desperate attempt to stay relevant and not miss out, they try to make use of every situation to increase followers, likes and shares. But consumers today are clever enough to understand the intent behind the ads. Brands that go about making ads simply to seek attention are perceived apathetic by the masses. We are living in a day and age where brands are more than the products/services they offer. While brands can express solidarity with the war victims through an ad, making an ad to draw a connection between your product and the conflict situation would be perceived as outright insensitive. What worse, it may take forever for brands to recover from the reputational damage due to a careless approach. A conflict is a sensitive issue, not a rending topic a war is not a trending topic or a golden opportunity **for** brands to ramp up sales or mint money. A conflict is a sensitive issue and must be treated as one. Brands should steer away from building advertising tactics around the conflict. While some brands successfully distance themselves from moment marketing, something as simple as mindless use of hash tags gets them in trouble. Brands should never use hash tags related to conflict in an attempt to increase their ad reach. While you may think that the ad in itself does touch upon the conflict, any attempt to capitalize on the situation is bound to face severe criticism It not just.

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About saving your brand from public backlash. It about being sensitive and sensible enough to maintain a certain level of dignity and integrity during a crisis. Political overtones could spark controversies while brands are expected to take a stand, taking political sides is not recommended. A conflict may be a result of clashes between two political parties or ideologies. A hasty moment marketing effort could end up in a poorly crafted ad that reflects your inclinations towards a certain political party. Brands may receive flak for taking sides just to appear trendy or to leverage the topicality of the war. It can spark major controversies. The worst part about moment marketing on sensitive issues is that you can never predict audience response. Something that seems totally fine to you may be interpreted in a totally different manner by the audience. Poor ad placements can hurt people sentiments let suppose you refrained from any kind of moment marketing during the conflict. You could still risk being perceived as insensitive. Poor ad placements are to be blamed for this. Brands must be extremely careful while advertising during conflicts. You don't want your ad to appear beside disturbing images of war. Wrong ad placements could easily ruin your brand image. A luxury resort ad appearing beside a war image will never be appreciated irrespective of how good the ad is. Your marketing efforts should reflect sensitivity and empathy especially during a conflict. Advertising during conflict may need extra effort and attention from brands as a seemingly minor error could blow out of proportion resulting in financial and reputational damage. Taking political stands to appear trendy or creating controversies for negative publicity and deviating from your core brand values just so you don't miss out on a few extra likes or shares could lead to boycott from consumers. A conflict situation is different as people sentiments may get hurt easily and the repercussions could be more severe. While brands must refrain from leveraging war or tragedy for marketing purposes, it does mean brands should act oblivious to things happening around them. A thoughtful and empathetic approach is the way to prevent any unintended consequences. According to the data, the Gini coefficient of India is rising post lockdown, which means the inequality is rising. The best way to measure inequality is the Gini coefficient model said Mr Ankit Yadav Wealth Manager, USA the Gini **coefficient** ranges from 0 to 100, where 0 means perfectly equal and 100 means full inequality. Finding is that post lockdown inequality falls only for a short period & after that, since 2021, after the economy got back on track, inequality again started rising. The same point has been reflected in the world inequality report 2022, where they quote India is one of the most unequal countries in the world, with rising poverty and an affluent elite, which is the cause for concern. How can we improve the gap in inequality in India take the findings are that the wealth of.

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Post demonetization has led the digital payments revolution touching a large section of people including based and quick to set up if one has a functional bank account. Numerous fintech platforms have mushroomed offering a plethora of use cases. Reserve Bank the launch of a new digital payment mode for feature phones called transactions even without a smart phone and an internet phones will help people in rural areas who do not have a smart phone to participate in the digital economy giving added impetus to the growth of the digital payments landscape. Adoption of digital payments grew leaps and bounds during the pandemic resulting in an exponential growth in both volume and value of transactions. The general merchants have started leveraging the prowess of digital payments making it increasingly pervasive. Contactless payments, UPI apps, pre-paid instruments have all become very popular during these last couple of years. RBI & the Government have been extremely forward looking and have set up a Payments Infrastructure Development. The objective of the scheme is to encourage deployment of Point of and digital centres. The scheme also includes street vendors and other beneficiaries. This decision to expand the targeted beneficiaries under the provide fillip to digital transactions at the grassroot level. Solution providers have developed affordable tech for digital payments go together, and this alliance is impacting every industry segment be it financial services, education or consumer markets; changing the way people live, work, shop, play & pay. India has Gen population, and this young segment is leading the adoption of digital payments while expecting a frictionless, secure and speedy transaction experience. The rich falls dramatically more often than the poor. This is not surprising that this happens due to social mobility post lockdown, the higher income group invests in bigger corpus as compared to lower so the risk is more. That why inequality fell. However, other recent studies cited a research such as the world inequality report. As a result, a major question arises: how to measure accurately a country inequality. There are some of the best tools that could reduce income wealth inequality. I believe that by combining these tools, we can improve the lives of individuals while also assisting in the development of a strong economy in our country. There are various ways in which we can fix the inequality gap and build a stronger economy. These are the best **tools** suggested to reduce the gap of inequality. of the working class can be improved by raising minimum wages. Over the past few years, we have seen continue to grow, but our labour wages has not grown that much. We have the ability to simplify and progressively reform the tax system. Raise some taxes on extraordinary luxury items. This will also promote our government imitation of make to the taken to the fact coffee in India. Also, raising taxes on luxury goods will be beneficial for curbing models the model in past proved beneficial for bringing the gap down of inequality.

BSF-HCM-TEST-Dated-2025-12-17-Test NO.-24071

India education system is currently navigating a turbulent phase marked by significant challenges in exam administration, particularly highlighted by recent controversies surrounding the National Testing Agency NTA. The abrupt cancellation of the UGC-NET exam, affecting over nine lakh aspirants, has exposed deep-seated flaws in our centralised approach to educational governance. Many had invested significant time, effort, and resources in preparing for this crucial test, only to face uncertainty and disappointment. The NTA journey itself raises relevant questions about its evolution and management. The decision to transition UGC-NET from an offline exam, under CBSE administration until 2018, to an online format by the NTA was ostensibly aimed at modernising and streamlining the process. However, this year saw a regressive shift back to pen-and-paper testing, a move that has raised eyebrows given its potential vulnerability to leaks and malpractices. Such inconsistencies demand explanation and highlight the need for a robust, coherent strategy in conducting national-level exams. This incident is not an isolated one. Similar irregularities have marred other prominent exams like NEET-UG and JEE, raising serious questions about the NTA ability to conduct fair and secure assessments. These developments bring out a broader issue within India centralised approach to educational administration. The decision-making power concentrated at the national level, while intended to ensure uniformity and standardisation, has also magnified the challenges of managing exams of such scale across diverse regions. Centralization primary flaw lies in its struggle to manage the scale and diversity of India educational landscape effectively. The country vast geographic spread, socio-economic disparities, and regional educational variations pose formidable challenges that centralised bodies like the NTA often struggle to address comprehensively. Technical glitches, leaks, and allegations of malpractice have tarnished exams under its purview, eroding trust and questioning the agency ability to uphold assessment integrity. Moreover, centralization tends to create bureaucratic bottlenecks and delays in responding to emerging issues. The slow bureaucratic machinery often hampers swift corrective actions, as witnessed in the delayed responses to past exam irregularities. This not only frustrates stakeholders but also undermines the credibility of the entire examination system. In contrast, decentralisation could spur innovation in exam administration and evaluation methods tailored to local educational contexts. It would empower states to explore alternative assessment models that align more closely with their educational objectives and student demographics. This flexibility not only promotes educational diversity but also encourages continuous improvement in exam administration practices. States are often **better** equipped to address local nuances and challenges, thereby potentially reducing logistical hurdles and enhancing responsiveness to regional needs. The call for decentralisation is not merely about administrative restructuring; it is about ensuring greater transparency, accountability, and effectiveness in the examination process. While central oversight maintains national standards and equity in access to education, collaboration with states could fortify the resilience of the examination system against malpractice and technical failures, backed by robust supp

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The distribution of power and responsibility in educational administration. Critics, including various opposition leaders, have called for dismantling the NTA altogether and redistributing its responsibilities to state-level bodies. The argument is that such a move would not only address administrative inefficiencies but also promote a more responsive and accountable approach to exam management. Transparency and accountability must form the cornerstone of any reform agenda. The path forward requires careful consideration and consultation with all stakeholders, including educators, students, and policymakers. They should be actively involved in shaping and monitoring the implementation of exam governance reforms. Clear communication channels and regular consultations can help build consensus and ensure that reforms are responsive to the evolving needs of the educational community. It is essential to strike a balance that preserves national standards while harnessing the strengths of regional expertise and governance. This approach could pave the way for a more resilient and inclusive examination system that inspires confidence among students and ensures fair opportunities for all aspiring learners. Decentralisation, with increased state-level involvement, offers a promising path forward to address challenges and uphold India educational assessment integrity. Misery piles on for our young examinees. Last Wednesday, education ministry cancelled UGC-NET exam, conducted a day earlier, fearing a paper leak. On Saturday, it postponed PG exam scheduled for the next day, over logistical issues. When seen together with NEET-UG controversies, the message is loud and clear: something is seriously wrong with the National Testing Agency NTA functioning. And fixing the problem poses the first big challenge for new NDA govt. Problems evident for long the crisis may have blown up this year, but the signs have been there for years. Exams like NEET and JEE conducted by NTA have run into controversies regularly. In NEET 2022, CBI had to step in following allegations of impersonation in the exam. In 2021, a Russian hacker even hacked into the software for that year JEE to help examinees cheat. It is the reluctance of authorities to take timely action against such episodes that is responsible for the present mess. This was made clear, when despite ample evidence, the education ministry remained in denial of a paper leak in this year NEET, ordering a CBI inquiry only on Saturday. Remedy has failed us What is galling is that NTA was put in place precisely to weed out issues we are facing today. So, one of the **questions** that needs to be asked is whether there are in-built flaws in conducting a mammoth exam like NEET, with 2.4mn examinees taking it in 13 languages across 4,500 centers. It is welcome that govt has set up a high-powered committee to examine NTA functioning and recommend ways for fair conduct of exams. It has also brought into effect the Public Examination Prevention of Unfair Means Act, 2024 to prevent use of unfair means in public exams. Nothing should be off table But the panel work will have to be more than a bureaucratic exercise if the system is to be rid of its flaws. We need genuine reforms that address the spectrum of concerns that experts have been raising. The use of technology that allows algorithmic question patterns is one answer to paper leaks in vast system with innumerable nodes. Conducting exams more than once a year, as is the cas

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Pollution is the act of harming the ecosystem over a long period of time. One of the most important causes is the very high use of energy in the present day world. Pollution is found in air, water and land. Air pollution is the addition of toxic waste to the air in very large quantities that are harmful to human health and have side effects on animals and plants. The major source of air pollution is from the coal power plants. The burning of solid wastes and the very high rise in numbers of cars and trucks in the last few years are other major reasons. Water pollution is the letting into fresh or ocean waters chemicals or biological waste that spoils the quality of the water and affects the fishes and other animals living in it. This ranges from addition of sewage to the most toxic metals and chemicals. Land pollution is the damage of the land surface by acts like mining for coal and iron which causes soil to be lost for a very long time. Urban waste is becoming a very big problem for the cities in our country. Garbage is used as landfill and causes pollution of the soil. These wastes threaten the health of people in residential areas. Dumping of waste leads to rise in the number of pests like rats, which in turn spread diseases. A nation cannot grow if steps are not taken to stop pollution now. Progress will depend on unity in positive action by the world leaders. Earth is not owned by those living in the present. The world belongs to those who are yet to come in the future. The voter decision, which eventually reflects in the election results, was decided long before the actual Hungama, the tantrums, the campaign, the noise, the dust and the slogans were raised in the run up to the Bihar Assembly elections. According to the Post poll, survey data, more than 54% of the voters in the state stated that they had made up their minds on whom to vote for at least 15 days, or one month before the actual voting began. Now, those who have been following the Bihar assembly elections would know that the real campaign and the real campaign promise of Tejasvi Yadav and the MGB related to one government job for every household in the state, and massive **cash dolls for women in the state. It all was announced in the last phase of the Bihar election campaign. It seems that by then, most of the voters in Bihar had already made up their minds to vote It is not a surprising result, but the Post poll survey reveals that unemployment is the single most important issue that dominates and worries the voters of Bihar. And why not? It's abundantly clear to all and sundry who see media reports that unemployment and the consequential migration of young males from Bihar to earn a basic simply livelihood is a serious concern. No wonder, two-thirds of the respondents in the Post poll survey stated that unemployment remains the single most important issue, the second most important issue, which was inflation, gathered a vote share of just about 10% now across all age categories, across ethnic divides, across regional divides, two-thirds of the voters in Bihar stated that unemployment is the single most important issue that concerns them. This was also reflected in the response of the voters to the promises made by both the NDA and the MGB. Now the NDA had already doled cash amounts to Jeevika. Did these prior to the elections and had made promises for further assistance for Jeevika did these and other females in the state to earn a livelihood through various schemes**

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Grand announcement that the MGB, if voted to power, will give one government job to every family in the state. Quite surprisingly, amongst the voters of Bihar, the grand promise of giving one government job to every single household in Bihar actually resonated more amongst the voters of the state. For instance, while 28% of the voters in Bihar, rather, 24% of the voters in Bihar said the Rs 10,000 in account of female voters, or the DAS Hazari scheme of Nitish Kumar resonated. 38% of the respondents said that the Sarkari Rojgar promise of Tejashwi Yadav resonated much more, that gap is quite significant. What one can see is come to two basic conclusions in this number one is that unemployment is a very, very, very serious concern. And number two that the voters of Bihar, at least the large majority of voters still trust the Nitish Kumar-led NDA to deliver on promises in this particular issue, rather than Tejaswi Yadav. Nitish Kumar has already been chief minister of Bihar for 20 years. So, it is quite natural for anti-incumbency as well as fatigue to set in. In the tracker surveys of C Voter for the last many months, Tejasvi Yadav has been the preferred choice of chief minister by the voters of Bihar by a long distance. In fact, the percentage of people who wanted him as the Chief Minister on some particular weeks or occasions has been more than double that of Nitish Kumar. However, when the same set of respondents were asked a question as to whom you would pick as the Chief Minister if you had only two choices, Yadav and Nitish Kumar, a simple majority gravitated towards Nitish Kumar. Now this also explains the electoral outcome, in some ways, the defeat of the NGB and the astonishing victory of the NDA. A large proportion of the voters, which is close to more than 41% were not just angry with the regime in Bihar, but they were angry enough to change it. Now that number really often rings alarm bells for the ruling regime. In this case, the Savior was that not just about 1/3 of the voters responded by saying that they are angry but do not want to remove the government. Another substantive more than 20 through 23% said that they are neither angry and nor want to remove the government. So, **in** many ways, the anti-incumbency factor was largely ruled out, as far as the NDA is concerned. Over the last three decades, one accurate barometer has been responses to the question: Irrespective of whom you voted for, who do you think is forming the government? The NDA had a decisive edge here and that has been reflected in the results. Last is the issue of Jungle Raj. The post poll survey did not ask any direct questions. But the issue continues to linger, not just anecdotally, but also in voting preferences. Voters above age 55 have actually lived through the so-called Jungle Raj. 54% of males and 58% of females in that age group voted for NDA. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Times of India - India Voices Blogs (November 22, 2025) A brother lost too soon: A tribute to inspector Shah Asrar Ul Haq There are moments in life that carve themselves so deeply into one's memory that they alter the shape of time. Some nights refuse to fade, no matter how many dawns arrive after them. For me, the night of the Nongame Police Station blast is one such night a night that split my life into a before and an after. It took away not just a cousin, but the person I knew as my elder brother, my confidant,

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Obnoxious razzle dazzle of life. The annual UN Sponsored Index does not think so! Its gives credence to the structural anatomy of life. Do not loathe what goes against you; things destined for you are the palatable symphonies playing unattended embrace it because acceptance is the real happiness. Where we all lose tract is between the bludgeoned battle of for and against. In the ambush of temporal resistance, we become negligent in assessing the rationale of every being survival thereby sabotaging the social structure and integrity. India is bang on!! 126th position out the 137 countries contesting all this does not come as a shock. India today is a distressed fish with high concentration of corruption, social standoffishness and impaired freedom. The other day while sitting at a popular café, the hoarding read, Happiness is free coffee. The act to liberate yourself to attain something relieves you of any baggage. A coffee for free is like the breath resuming an accentuated flow, money finally a deuce clamped controllably in the patch pocket. Are Indians really getting access to free coffee. India falling so hard in terms of happiness is definitely paying through the nose the sputum settling in is a farrago of religious caucus belli and nationalistic agendas. All this prompts an antagonistic battle axe to either dump the belittles in the seismic grinding of a pothole or rabble-rouse atavistic idealism to clear the territory of any sclerosis. Am I a happy Indian? Not much!! My incredulous laughter reverberating inside the four walls is tiresome. Gradually the reality invades; the toxic penetration of unpardonable calumnies and incendiary issues of identities. No country is bereft of their personal agendas but any attack on the personal reservoir of sanctified hymns creates fear and resentment. So why is India unhappy? We have the Johnny Levers and the Kapil Sharma to make us laugh; how their shows make us precipitously tap the foot on the ground and make the stomach beat the drum. But ins happiness an illusion; the moment the rope breaks from the hook, its dexterity is questionable and so is the quantum of happiness that gradually seals the lips in memory of inscrutable unhappiness. How every year pollution and other health hazards grip the country and the menace people go through. The bedeviling broadcast arrives every morning No. of cases, survival rate and deaths as if an all-encompassing train halts **at** every station without contemplating how many passengers it can accommodate. One thing more, there is a difference between momentary happiness and an eternal one. The former is about waiting to receive something grandeur or an influx of celebrations. The latter is an unconscious one making you cogent, and results from the carte blanche of perspicacious awakening. India definitely falters in the latter, thus the unhappiness! We are seeing the country crumble in the panjandrum of religious scruples. Integrity has become a sham! Islamophobic is on a rise, the conversions trail an apocalyptic blunder and the recent Khalistan propaganda is a brush with deleterious foliage of intemperate ambitions. To make India a Hindu Rashtra, the minorities are getting their comeuppance by being imprecated to Go to Pakistan or resorting to brutal genocides like the one happened during the Dharam Sansad in December 2021. How can a country be happy or shade itself under a safe cocoon if it indulges in what abutter? A country cannot be happy if the women are

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When Omicron was first reported by South Africa and Botswana in November 2021, there was fear around the world that the variant may wreak havoc like Delta. Later, there was frustration that breakthrough infections were occurring despite full vaccination and further boosters. While some countries claimed that Omicron was a milder variant, the World Health Organisation warned that it was unwise to underestimate the threat posed by the variant. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Saturday expressed disapproval of English as a medium of instruction while inaugurating the South Asia Institute of Peace and Reconciliation in Hardwar. He was articulating a widely held view among India political class. The problem with this argument is that it frames the issue in a false binary. It not a case of English versus other Indian languages. Both are indispensable. English thrives because of a utilitarian value. It opens the door to a rapidly expanding universe of knowledge, whose production is global in nature. What does the data say Go annual data on schoolchildren shows that English medium enrolment is growing fast. To illustrate, UDISE Report of 2019 20 put out granular data on 265 million schoolchildren. The highlight was that about 26 of children are in English medium schools, next only to the 42 in Hindi medium. The trend over time shows that the English medium is set to be dominant in the future. Over a five year period, Haryana and Telangana witnessed the sharpest increase in the relative proportion of children enrolled in English medium schools. In all, at least seven states have already seen English medium enrolment exceed the medium of instruction in the local language. Parents have a practical reason to choose English medium instruction. As the National Education Policy 2020 observed, Indian languages have suffered because of an inadequacy of learning material and dictionaries. The problem is compounded by a shortage of skilled instructors. Therefore, the growth in English medium instruction is being driven by aspiration, not a colonial mentality. It offers Indian children an opportunity to tap into a vast pool of knowledge and easily fit into global commerce. Many countries, including Japan and China, are actively promoting teaching of English in their curriculum to equip their students with a tool to thrive in a knowledge economy. The popularity of English medium instruction does hinder Indian languages. Here, governments have to accept the responsibility of shortcomings in **pedagogical** material. This gap can be plugged and governments should not just piggyback on tools introduced by Big Tech firms. A lot more research and development on pedagogical tools need to be done by Go and states. Indians are uniquely placed to be multilingual, which has positive cognitive effects. Given this, education reforms need clear headed thinking and not romanticism. English medium instruction is an advantage that needs to be built on. It that most stressful time of the year for CBSE students of Classes 10 and 12, with practical exams already underway and Term 2 theory exams to begin in.

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And prolificacy of indissoluble patriarchy. Her restraint is tormented by the fear that awaits the outside world, though the four walls too are a slaughter house to wool off her respect and dignity. So, how can India be then happy? I, being a woman, am not and vouch for the obsequious ladies residing in the fault lines of their home. The news of the prestigious, Inter IIT Tech Meet the 11th edition was held in IIT Kanpur in mid-February 2023 piqued my interest. I am a keen observer of these Tech fests because of the emergence of tech talent in hackathons. These fests are a reliable conduit for identifying crucial technical talent. Corporate sponsors are keen to keep themselves visible among the emerging technical talent and there is a veritable competition to grab sponsorship titles. The much-awaited results came in. I speculated the first-generation IITs to bag the top positions. But to our pleasant surprise, the new generation IITs had pipped the older and much-venerated IITs, with the IIT Mandi finding itself in the top ten! A satisfying feat to be on the much-vaunted leaderboard. Like almost everyone, I was afflicted by the anchoring bias, anchored to the reference point that the first-generation IITs, given the resources and the reputation would mow down the competition. But I was proven wrong and felt good at that! Talent in this competitive forum is not the domain of the select institutes. These events, rightly so, celebrate the aptitude and gumption of the individual, irrespective of the institute they represent. The afflictions in HRM. The launch of ChatGPT in November 2022 has taken the world of AI ML by storm. I enjoy teaching the AI ML course to young students of management because it helps me stay abreast with these wildly galloping technologies. It is a biennial exercise. The course is about the relevance and application of AI ML in the area of Human Resources Management. Artificial Intelligence may appear to be an inapposite concept to teach in the world of Human Resource Management HRM and that is exactly what makes it interesting. The lecture sections dwell on the proliferation of HR Tools and their rationale, Startups in the HR Tech space, and the interest of Venture Capitalists in HR Tech. As one would guess, the recruitment process is the one that is the most amenable to embracing technologies like AI ML in **the** world of HRM. If the recruitment process is there, the study of bias cannot be far, whether it is human-based or the bias through algorithms-created AI tools. Biases like confirmation, halo-effect, similarity, groupthink, and anchoring afflict the talent acquisition recruiting process in a significant manner. Pristine may not be that color, blue. Any visitor to Mandi is encouraged to take a trip to the stunning freshwater lakes which ring the outer ridges of the district; namely the Parasher, Rewalsar, Kamrunag, and Servalsar. What color comes to our mind when we talk about these pristine lakes? Blue, is it? thanks to the ubiquitous portrayal of this color in water bodies depicted in photographs, artworks, and book illustrations. What color makes the aforementioned lakes in Himachal Pradesh? Green! We assume that blue is the classic color of a pristine lake and not green. We attribute certain qualities and characteristics to a lake solely based on the color it presents. The streak of bias inevitably slips in. However, the perception of the color of a lake depends on a range of factors such as the depth of the

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The water in these green lakes of the Himachal is considered to be sacred and pristine and the locals vouch for its portability. Biases slip in unnoticed passively. These anecdotes present one unconscious bias is in a typical day in the life. Life is rife with biases. These examples may seem innocuous. But are they trivial to be ignored? Unconscious bias is so subtle that it slips in and resides in us, and we may not be aware of it. Most of us may not even realize that our thinking is biased. And it does not get remediated by taking humans out of the equation and replacing the human brain with AI algorithms. Why? Because the AI tools are devised from archived human data. Machine Learning involves learning from the archived data but not it is not understanding. Are we creating a wild horse a mustang? While writing this column calls for a moratorium on the ChatGPT successor have come in, pleading for a pause in developing more powerful AI systems! Possibly trying to make the horse canter and not gallop!! The Large Language Models LLMs with generative algorithms are bolting ahead to accept text and image input simultaneously and drafting a learned reply, remember not a thought-through or understood one. Will the outputs be factually, correct? Do we know the inner workings of the thought process, when the technical report does not provide the pertinent details? We all know that the training of the data is from the data that is already there to be mined from the internet. Are the harmful biases and stereotypes getting incorporated at a humongous scale per the Large Language Models? While explanations may be provided that the larger the data set, the more diverse and representative it is, but who is in charge of defining what is large. Are we creating a technological mustang through the rules imposed on the machine? Can we tame the mustang into a workhorse? Are we dealing with lazy methods of working on larger data sets? Is that putting a blinkered view towards working on smarter methods that look for meaning and train on curated data sets? Can the mustang be ever tamed to be a workhorse? Managing technology as powerful as Generative AI used in ChatGPT could be addressed if we do the following consciously prior to use and not as an afterthought. The cardinal rules **should** be: To bring in diversity in teams and competencies. Diverse and interdisciplinary teams could help identify biases that homogenous teams would not be able to capture and act upon. Next would be the importance of data cleaning and duration. Need to ensure that data used to train algorithms is clean and representative of the population, to reduce the impact of bias. Continuous testing and evaluation are an absolute must. This is how the new biases which could creep can be nipped in the bud. Parting words Implicit bias begins as early as childhood. This is when the human brain is developing its nerve centers and training its visual, auditory, and olfactory faculties. We become favorably disposed to the known and the familiar patterns and recognize them as good refer back to the first-generation IIT as the brand while the unknown and alien are treated with suspicion remember the green lake. While the anecdotes presented are innocuous, the roots of social maladies can be traced to unconscious bias exhibited in individuals in isolation or exacerbated by social media in collected groups. The hate speeches, the sickening violence, and the social stigma for a community, all manifest

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Independence with the 75-week long Azadi kea Amrit Mahotsav guided by the spirit of AtmaNirbhar Bharat, the country aspires to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2025 and a \$10 trillion economy by 2030. As we celebrate this Amrit Kaal of building India 2.0, we are operating in the backdrop of accelerated technological, geopolitical, social and environmental changes and a slowing global economy. Our success as a country and our ability to achieve these goals will largely depend, besides other factors, on our people capabilities, especially of the working-age population 15-64 years of age. This is over 65 of the 1.41 billion people. India is uniquely placed to reap the demographic dividend this working-age population bestows on it, provided they are productively employed and contribute to the national GDP. A 2020 report estimates that India needs to create at least 90 million new non-farm jobs by 2030 to absorb the 60 million new workers who will enter the workforce based on current demographics and an additional 30 million workers who could move from farm work to more productive non-farm sectors. World over, two out of three jobs are created by small and medium enterprises. In many developing economies, more than 50 per cent of total employment creation in the private sector can be attributed to enterprises with less than 100 employees. SMEs also represent the vast majority of economic units, with over 90 per cent of the business population. In short, SMEs are a central economic and social force for generating employment and reducing poverty and inequalities. For this reason, start-up and SME development have become a high priority for the Union and State governments in the country in recent years. National programmers and schemes such as Start-up India, Make in India, Atal Innovation Mission, MUDRA Banks, and AtmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge have facilitated funding, mentoring and innovation. Simultaneously, the country has seen growth in private corporate sector initiatives to improve innovation, incubation and acceleration of early-stage start-ups. Moreover, the mature technology-driven ecosystem in the country has provided a fertile ground for new entrepreneurial ventures to prosper. These initiatives, along with improved ease of doing business, and improved angel, VC and private equity investments, have enabled the rapid growth of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country. Today, the perception that entrepreneurial ventures are risky, unstable and lack social acceptance as opposed to a stable job no longer holds **weight** in people minds. It is recognised as a prominent way to address unemployment and the need for dignified livelihoods, taking a center-stage in the micro-economies, even in rural India. A fine example is The Kaun Banega Business Leader KBBL Who will be a Business Leader competition in rural Bundelkhand under the Work 4 Progress W4P India programme of Development Alternatives. After the initial success, KBBL 2.0 launched in 2020 in 40 villages of Bundelkhand. On the other hand, entrepreneurship is fast permeating into the consciousness of urban India and even into their living rooms through popular business reality television series such as Shark Tank India. In short, entrepreneurship is enabling communities to explore new opportunities, ideas and innovations, showing the potential to invigorate local markets and economies. It is a game-changing tool for economic growth. Even though the inclination to pursue e

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A month on the upside, with the pandemic currently in a controlled phase, these board exams may actually proceed in standard offline fashion, after a gap of two years. It is well known that the hardships students have faced during this period have been exacerbated by constant changes in the evaluation process. While some of these alterations have been necessitated by Covid taking unforeseen turns, others have betrayed an insensitive carelessness. The latest case of negligence is CBSE releasing Term 1 results in the middle of Term 2 exams. Term 1 exams were conducted as far back as in November December, that too in the objective format, with optical mark recognition OMR answer sheets. The CBSE collected lots of bouquets for good design thinking at that time, with many expecting both greater transparency and speedy same day grading from the new process. It is therefore shocking that the results have instead taken longer than the traditional board exam. And during their long wait, students, schools and parents have not been given the courtesy of coherent explanations or updates. There are new uncertainties. What will replace the well defined, transparent and centralised process for appeals for revaluation To date, the specific weightage of the two sets of marks has also not been declared. CBSE should be showing leadership to state boards who don't have its human and financial resources, and deal with more poorly equipped schools. Instead, whether in consistent setting of question papers or clear and reliable assessment protocols, it sets a poor example again and again. Around 36 lakh students who took the Term 1 exams, deserved much greater empathy and consideration from CBSE. Recent Chinese moves such as renaming districts in Arunachal Pradesh or the viral video of the PLA unfurling the Chinese flag in Galwan as a New Year greeting tell us 2022 will be more of the same in India China relations. As India and China negotiate this new normal, what New Delhi really needs is a new discourse on border connectivity. While strategic aims naturally guide the agenda, the conversation must be reimagined with local needs and context. This requires humanising our borders and a deeper awareness of our frontier states. While we've been worrying over gale main which being Covid or not, and whether love handles are easier to hide than thunder thighs, separated couples have been slowly inching closer and almost **holding** hands. We take our eye off them for one second and they look ready to remarry. Ex etiquette is at its most pacifist these days white flags in the wash and window sills covered in peace dove droppings. Before the ink is dry on the divorce papers, they vow, till death do us part. Once upon a time partners on their way out freely bad mouthed each other and tugged the children this way and that. In films, where a lot of drama depends on idealistic monogamy, stalking a reluctant better half has been the cinematic staple of hetero happily.

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Ever after from Ha Jin who began his novel waiting with every summer Lin Kong returned to Goose Village to divorce his wife to Elle King And then I let him go in her song ex and oh, separations have travelled long desperate paragraphs of prose and peppy lyrics. Time to throw a divorce party Called lihun dianli in Mandarin and rikonshiki in Japanese, the ceremony comes with a divorce ring and pie in the face. Catch the bouquet and be the next divorcee As the estranged pair get into cars with Just Divorced banners, there are two sunsets to zoom off into. When actor Dhanush and Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth announced their split, fans were comforted by their buddy banter on social media. His my friend and her hank you had the audience go appadiya Really Aamir Khan is putting on record his appreciation of first and second ex wives. As Farhan Akhtar tied the knot a second time, former wife Adhuna warned trolls she d block anyone who was positive in her social media space. Susanne Khan defence of ex husband Hrithik Roshan during Kangana times is legendary. Only Kanye West is yet to get the memo. Bury rival Pete Davidson in animated videos all you want, once Kim Kardashian decides on a couple nickname PetKi or Kim Pet Chime will be history. Katia means no wife, no beastie. If wondering what to do with pre loved spouses, wonder no more. Convert them into BFFs. Co parenting requires somebody else to blame, and an ex is a sitting duck. And, oh, the joy of seeing your parents face when their main deity is now your wingman. Storytelling is the technique by which a culture stories are passed on to subsequent generations, and it reinforces ideals in any civilization. Fables, folktales, myths, and legends are among the numerous formats in which these stories are transmitted. When one considers that the majority of books, newspapers, videos, news broadcasts, social media discussions, and so on, consist of someone presenting a narrative in some form, the centrality of storytelling in culture becomes evident. Storytelling arose as a means for our forefathers to entertain the community. Storytelling is a powerful tool for bringing people together. People strengthen their collective identification when they share the same mythologies or histories, which improves their ability to pool resources and collaborate with each other. This social togetherness, aided **by** storytelling, may have contributed to our ancestors evolutionary success. The way people tell tales and keep themselves updated about events has transformed to a more all encompassing experience due to the usage of emerging technology such as the printing press, internet, and social media platforms. Through the years, technology has enabled humans to employ all types of storytelling visual stories in images, spoken stories in movies and recordings, and written words on blogs and social media statuses. Many people make great vernacular material in old media such as movies, television, printed books, newspapers, and songs. However, one has difficulty finding.

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Tools to generate or consume such material in the faster growing, rapidly increasing new media web, mobile apps, e books, and social networking. There might be two explanations behind this. For starters, the great majority of Indians about 75 of the population do not have access to the internet. Second, even for those who have access, the technology does not support vernacular languages. Fortunately, both of these barriers are crumbling. Storytelling has undergone a paradigm shift with the introduction of Artificial Intelligence AI. A script with brilliant plot twists and genuine dialogues is written by human storytellers. AI would help them do their jobs better by delivering insights that strengthen the emotional pull for example, selecting a musical score or visual image that allows to elicit feelings of hope. This game changing technology would give storytellers an extra boost, allowing them to prosper in a world where audience demand appears to be limitless. Accurately analyzing and effectively explaining findings is becoming a key talent in today era of AI and machine assisted analytics to bridge the expanding data literacy gap. One must assist decision stakeholders in understanding the process and making sense of the results to achieve the most value from AI projects and generate better outcomes. It might be challenging to understand and describe machine learning use cases, measurements, and graphics. Machine learning models and the correlations between variables are typically subtle, surprising, and sophisticated when describing the AI challenge to solve. Successful analytical communicators don't wait until the end of a project to communicate their findings, and instead, they educate stakeholders throughout the process. The other major turning point for the evolution of storytelling has been the emergence of content creators, particularly in vernacular languages. While many of the tools that are used in the digital age are tailored to specific digital mediums, old storytelling practices need still to be maintained in order to tell excellent stories. Framing, plot, character development, and narrative are all storytelling methods that have a critical place in content creation. Trans media storytelling works particularly well with social media, so it is such an essential aspect of digital storytelling. Trans media storytelling entails distributing various components of the story across several platforms. Because different social media sites appeal to other mediums and audiences, posting intentional material to various social media channels may benefit brand storytelling. Sharing blog posts on social media is **the** most apparent approach to include social media into a content marketing strategy. In this regard, Twitter and LinkedIn are beneficial. Visual social media platforms are also ideal for visual storytelling via posts. The time has come for vernacular languages to explode in popularity thanks to the multiplier effect of new media. Vernacular is the way to go if one is a content provider, a ravenous consumer, or an innovative business looking to grab vast segments of the Indian market. It's fascinating to see how language influences storytelling. There's a complete history of a culture in how someone talks or a.

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Her budget speech which will enable new use cases advancing the adoption of digital payments. This can include direct benefit transfers, improving financial inclusion, ease up cross border payments at a much lower cost and cost reduction by saving the cost of printing money. However, this is a new area and work needs to be done to ensure that the right technology is utilised. There needs to be relevant resiliency and security that needs to be built into the framework, so that the integrity is maintained. India continues to be a cash economy with 70 per cent of retail payments in cash. While this percentage has reduced over the last few years, cash in circulation is close to 30 lakh crores. We have come a long way with the technology developments, but a lot more effort is needed to digitise India completely. With the right regulatory framework, support from the Government, investments in the Indian finch sector and a penchant for Innovation, we are on the right path of development in this sector. Much more advancements are needed to ensure availability of technology infrastructure supporting digital payments and ever spiralling transaction volumes, security, awareness & education of citizens if digital payments are to become a true new normal. Advertising is a powerful tool that can influence millions, ergo must be used wisely. From conventional advertising that focused solely on selling products to emotional marketing, advertising has evolved over the years as a medium to establish deep connections with the audience. The power of advertising is especially evident during conflicts and crisis situations when the right message can inspire masses to take meaningful actions. It is quite common for brands to leverage current trends and events to promote their brands in the name of moment marketing. While moment marketing is often a hit among consumers when done right, there are times when such moment marketing attempts backfire. Conflicts and crisis situations are a prime example. There is nothing wrong with advertising during conflicts per se. The problem arises when conflicts are viewed as a marketing opportunity by brands. There have been several instances in the past where brands tried to leverage conflict situations to promote their brands. Miracle Mattress is one such brand that received severe backlash for its win Tower Sale ad inspired by the 9 11 attack. Fast forward to 2022 and some brands haven shied away from **taking** advantage of the ongoing Russia Ukraine war to create rending ads based on a hot topic. Should brands resort to moment marketing even during war situations they should and the below mentioned reasons explain why moment marketing during conflicts need to be avoided. Brands risk being perceived as insensitive unfortunately the fierce competition has led brands to resort to aggressive advertising tactics. In a desperate attempt to stay relevant and not miss out, they try to make use of every situation to increase followers, likes and shares. But consumers today are clever enough to understand the intent behind the ads.

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Language grammatically puts things together or treats things. One can choose to engage in the culture history when they speak the language, even if they don't know or comprehend the history. Given the healthcare utilization disparities across India, men outnumber women in seeking healthcare, despite females deserving priority as mothers, homemakers and more. According to the World Health Organisation, health can be defined as a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Women health is often treated as simply reproductive health, and a broader definition for the general health of women is required. In developing nations such as India, women health remains one of the most neglected issues. Despite rising awareness about the rights of women in all aspects of life, many are still unaware of women health and its implications. Challenges and significance of women health some laypersons may wonder why women health needs prioritisation. In a nutshell, simply because women symbolise the silent pillars of a family overall health. Ensuring women have access to quality care can promote improved health for their children and families. Inadvertently or not, the health of entire families and communities are intertwined with the holistic health and well being of women. Maternal malnutrition and anemia are leading causes of the greater health burden of women in the country. Herein, maternal malnutrition is exemplified by low energy intake eating small portions and inadequate dietary diversification. This results in low birth weight progeny for women with anemia and chronic malnutrition, which manifests in infantile stunting and wasting, among other negative health outcomes. One of these outcomes is a self-perpetuating and multifactorial disease burden that cannot be addressed via dietary guidelines alone. More than seven decades after Independence, although progress has been made on multiple health parameters, women mortality levels continue to remain high, especially during their childhood and reproductive phases. In India, women health is intrinsically connected to societal status. In the 1940s, the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) was estimated to be 2,000 per 100,000 live births. Reportedly, this dropped to but these figures do not compare favorably with neighbouring nations such as Sri Lanka, China and Thailand where the MMR is in moderate double digits. As a result, India is estimated to contribute to 15% of maternal deaths globally. However, women's contributions to society cannot be restricted only to childbearing and child **raising**. While these are no doubt crucial cogs in the growth of children and the family, women have more to offer society at large beyond these fundamental responsibilities. Benefits of better health for women Not surprisingly, ongoing studies show that healthier women and children foster more productive and better educated societies. Moreover, healthier women ensure lower healthcare spending in families, thereby lowering the burden on public healthcare infrastructure and government spending. Better health also boosts women's dignity, self-esteem and self-confidence. Women can multitask with ease, managing dual roles as a mother and an earning member of the family if.

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Agency (SIA) Headquarters, Humhama, he was known for his sincerity, precision and silent dedication. He was the kind of officer who earned respect not through authority, but through character. Whenever I visited him at SIA, he introduced me to his seniors with a mixture of affection and humor: (Adnan is the cure for a hundred illnesses.) His colleagues would smile, but behind the joke was the truth he trusted me, relied on our bond, and valued our connection. Officers who worked with him describe him using words that in today's policing environment are rare: humble, balanced, professional, soft-spoken, reliable. His approach to work was not marked by bravado or display; he quietly completed tasks that demanded both discipline and discretion. His calm temperament made him an anchor even in high-pressure situations. On the night of the incident, around 11 pm, I stepped outside and heard a loud explosion in the distance. Kashmir, unfortunately, is no stranger to such sounds, yet that night, something about the blast unsettled me. I brushed it off, not knowing that life had already shifted beneath my feet. Five minutes later, a Twitter notification appeared on my phone. Journalist Ahmad Ali Fayaz had posted about a blast in Nowgam. A sense of dread washed over me. My instinct sent me straight to my phone. I called Asrar Bhai. The first call showed busy. An inexplicable fear tightened around my chest. I immediately called his wife, Shahida, whom we affectionately call Dia. By then, I was already rushing towards Nowgam. Something inside me kept repeating a truth I did not want to accept: something has gone terribly wrong. On the way, I phoned my cousin Zaheer in Kupwara. My voice trembled as I said, Leave immediately. Come to Srinagar. And don't tell anyone anything. I then tried calling my father multiple times. When he finally returned the call, I was crying uncontrollably. He panicked, thinking I had met with an accident. No, Abba not me, I said, fighting my breath. Then came the words that broke both of us: My father's silence on the phone cut deeper than any sound. Another cousin, Arif Rasool, who works for a multinational company in Srinagar, called me, asking, where are you? Tell me where to come. Everyone was moving, calling, searching yet the truth was racing ahead of all of us. I kept driving between Nowgam Police Station and **Budshah** Flats, where Asrar lived. My mind was in a storm one part rushing to the station to find him, another part rushing to his home to somehow shield his wife from immediate heartbreak. I told her only that he was injured, sparing her the unbearable truth for the moment because the children were asleep. His father our Dadijaan reached the Police Control Room (PCR) soon after. I held his hand and repeated the only thing I could: We haven't found him yet, but we heard he might be injured. It was a sentence made of hope, fear and denial. We lived that way till 8 in the morning suspended between the faint hope that he might still be alive and the crushing fear that he was gone. At 8 am, I finally went to Budshah Flats again. This time, I sat with his father and gently told him what I had known in my heart since midnight: Dadijaan it is possible we have lost Asrar. That moment broke him and broke all of us in ways words cannot fully capture. The requirement for DNA sampling at that stage confirmed what none of us wanted to believe. Nothing prepares a family for that kind of news not in Kashmir, not anywhere in th

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After that, everything turned into a blur of grief, of silence, of formalities, of prayers, and of an aching emptiness that began settling into our home. What remains vivid; however, are the extraordinary gestures of compassion shown in the hours that followed. Senior officers of the Jammu & Kashmir Police visited our home in Drugmulla soon after the tragedy. Their presence was not ceremonial; it was human, empathetic and deeply felt. DGP Nalin Prabhat, in particular, said something to me that has stayed etched in my memory: It has been a year since I took charge, and I did not know him personally. But what I have heard about Inspector Asrar from different officers is mind-blowing. Coming from the highest-ranking officer in the police hierarchy, this was not merely a condolence it was an acknowledgement of Asrar's character, professionalism and silent contributions. It affirmed something I already knew: he was respected not just by those close to him, but across the ranks. Inspector Asrar Ahmad Shah was many things: His life was anchored in qualities that seem almost old-fashioned today: sincerity, humility, discipline and an unwavering sense of responsibility. He approached his work with quiet dignity and his family with tender devotion. He never boasted of his achievements. In fact, he rarely spoke about himself at all. His integrity did not need a spotlight; it revealed itself through actions in the way he handled difficult assignments, supported his colleagues, or patiently navigated complex situations. His death is not merely a personal loss for our family. It is a loss for the police force and for the society he served. Officers like him are not easily found men who wear the uniform not for power, but for purpose; not for recognition, but for responsibility. On the day of his funeral, I was overwhelmed by a strange, painful realisation: God had chosen me to accompany him from the first moment of the tragedy to the last moment at the graveyard. I was the one who waited for him that night, expecting him to return from duty. I was the one who walked with him to his final resting place. I was the one who lowered him gently into the grave, handing him back to the Almighty. It was the heaviest honor of my life one that will stay with me forever. Asrar Bhai Gone Too Soon is not just a headline. **It** is the truth of our lives now. He left us quietly, abruptly, painfully but he left behind a legacy that will continue to guide us. His children will grow up knowing their father was a man of honor. His wife will forever carry the strength he admired in her. His parents will remember him with pride. His colleagues will recall him as a rare officer who embodied integrity without noise. And I will remember him as the boy I grew up with, the man who trusted me with every thought, and the brother whose absence has carved a silence in my days. May Allah grant him the highest place in Jannah? May He give patience and strength to his family, his friends and everyone whose life he touched? 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity India's climate hotspots demand a national adaptation goal at COP 30 The writer is a climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and contributor to IPCC reports As global leaders convene at COP 30 in Belem, Brazil, a major goal is to agree on a 'Global Goal on Adaptation' to build resilience for countries and communities most severely affected by climate

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Through the most effective marketing channel and ensuring that any ticket raised related to that item is resolved within the promised time. Or should I say, promise the time based on when the resolution can be achieved? Remember that all five solutions need not cater to the same business team, meaning five teams can come forward simultaneously and show interest. Ranking will help to priorities. Training a model is not a mandatory activity in a data science project. You would often encounter situations where an exploratory data analysis EDA alone provided the necessary insights. When the business team uses the insights to solve their problem, it becomes an elegant analytics solution. Equanimity is yoga. Serenity is yoga. Skill in actions is yoga. Anything by which the best and the highest in life can be attained is also yoga. It is thus all-embracing, all-inclusive and universal in its application, leading to all-round development of body, mind and soul. Yoga is primarily a way of life, not something which is divorced from life. Yoga is not forsaking of action, but is efficient performance in the right spirit. Yoga is not running away from home and human habitation, but a process of molding one attitude to home and society with a new understanding. Yoga is not a turning away from life; it is the spiritualisation of life. It depresses to see accusations being leveled against Vadnais and false narratives being spread about him. Vadnais is capable of overcoming this maze of false narratives and emerge victorious. In the words of a famous Marathi poet and lecturer Shaker Data Stoneware waghachya jabdyat galloon hat, monitor data, jag hi much Paha, chillum pane amuchya itihisachi which means put your hands in the tiger jaws, count the teeth, look at us, sift through the pages of our history Knowing Vadnais well, I am confident that he surely will come out of this labyrinth. With over 65% of its youth in the working age group, India has an advantage of a demographic dividend unlike any other country in the world. However, the full benefits of this dividend can be realised only if the youth is equipped with the right kind of skills, skills that are required to meet the demands of modern, cutting-edge jobs. Under these circumstances, focus on innovation, education, and nurturing talent would be key in making India the skill capital of the world. **The** Indian government has been conscious of this potential and has undertaken various initiatives to bridge the skill gap to develop a formidable workforce. Creating a Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship To this end, for the first time since Independence, a separate Ministry, Ministry for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship was created in 2014 to ensure that the youth can keep up with the changing needs of the job market thereby enhancing their productivity and employability. The Modi government accordingly launched the Skill India Mission in 2015 to focus upon skilling, re-skilling, and up-skilling, through short-term and long-term training programs. The Mission offers courses in almost 40 sectors across India specifically designed to equip individuals with hands-on knowledge and practical skills required for their job, so that once employed, their employer would not be required to make further investments in their training and capacity development. The Mission ensures that these courses are in line with the standards recognised by both public and private sector under the National Skill Qu

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PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana aims to impart short-term skill development training and certification to youth, including youth from the rural areas. With dual training components, such as Short-Term Training and Recognition of Prior Learning establishes Skill Development Infrastructure in the form of PM Kaushal Kendras. Under there are nearly 2,640 training centres, including PM Kaushal Kendras offering latest pedagogy i.e., the approach to teaching, backed by use of technology. Till October 2023, these centres have trained over 1.40 crore candidates, with a funding of more than Rs. 10,000 Crore. Recognition of Prior Learning under PMKVY has significantly helped the transition from unorganised to organised sector, as it assesses and recognises the skills of an individual acquired through informal means. Over 50 lakh persons have received certification under this component, not only enhancing their employment opportunities but also paving the way for a more organised and skilled workforce within the economy. Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Vocational education and training have also been high on the agenda of the government, to not only equip students with practical skills and experience needed for specific trades and technical careers, but also develop them to be career-ready and employable. For this, the JSS Scheme was initiated with a view to provide comprehensive support to individuals who are non-literates, neo-literates, school drop-outs, and those with rudimentary education, including divyangjans. The primary objective of the scheme is to equip such individuals with essential vocational skills, improving their access to livelihood opportunities. Here, priority is given to SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities, and women. Since 2018-19, over 22.58 lakh persons have been trained under JSS. Craftsmen Training Scheme through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) The Craftsmen Training Scheme provides long-term training through a network of ITIs. So far over 5000 new ITIs have been set up, resulting in an addition of over 4 lakh new seats. The ITIs Provide Skill Training and Vocational Courses across a variety of economic sectors, facilitating Industry access to a Skilled workforce, as well as Self-employment opportunities. Today, reportedly nearly 15,000 centres are functional across India, having trained over 65 lakh students since FY2018. Vocational education has also been given its due importance in the National Education Policy 2020. While integrating vocational education with academic education, the policy gets rid of rigid separation between disciplines, and encourages students to choose from a variety of vocational courses to acquire specialised skills. This emphasis has given a renewed push to the research environment in higher educational institutions and promotion of industry-academia linkage. National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme Building upon the idea of Industry-Academia linkage, the government has started the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme. The Scheme provides financial assistance to industrial establishments that conduct apprenticeship programs under the Apprenticeship Act, 1961. It incentives active participation of apprentices and foster apprenticeship training, bridging the gap between theoretical education and practical skills. The Scheme has got increased support with the participation of nearly 50,000 establishments. Over 28.22 lakh persons have reportedly undergone training under the program since 2018-19. The government

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Her budget speech which will enable new use cases advancing the adoption of digital payments. This can include direct benefit transfers, improving financial inclusion, ease up cross border payments at a much lower cost and cost reduction by saving the cost of printing money. However, this is a new area and work needs to be done to ensure that the right technology is utilised. There needs to be relevant resiliency and security that needs to be built into the framework, so that the integrity is maintained. India continues to be a cash economy with 70 per cent of retail payments in cash. While this percentage has reduced over the last few years, cash in circulation is close to 30 lakh crores. We have come a long way with the technology developments, but a lot more effort is needed to digitise India completely. With the right regulatory framework, support from the Government, investments in the Indian finch sector and a penchant for Innovation, we are on the right path of development in this sector. Much more advancements are needed to ensure availability of technology infrastructure supporting digital payments and ever spiralling transaction volumes, security, awareness & education of citizens if digital payments are to become a true new normal. Advertising is a powerful tool that can influence millions, ergo must be used wisely. From conventional advertising that focused solely on selling products to emotional marketing, advertising has evolved over the years as a medium to establish deep connections with the audience. The power of advertising is especially evident during conflicts and crisis situations when the right message can inspire masses to take meaningful actions. It is quite common for brands to leverage current trends and events to promote their brands in the name of moment marketing. While moment marketing is often a hit among consumers when done right, there are times when such moment marketing attempts backfire. Conflicts and crisis situations are a prime example. There is nothing wrong with advertising during conflicts per se. The problem arises when conflicts are viewed as a marketing opportunity by brands. There have been several instances in the past where brands tried to leverage conflict situations to promote their brands. Miracle Mattress is one such brand that received severe backlash for its win Tower Sale ad inspired by the 9 11 attack. Fast forward to 2022 and some brands haven shied away from **taking** advantage of the ongoing Russia Ukraine war to create rending ads based on a hot topic. Should brands resort to moment marketing even during war situations they should and the below mentioned reasons explain why moment marketing during conflicts need to be avoided. Brands risk being perceived as insensitive unfortunately the fierce competition has led brands to resort to aggressive advertising tactics. In a desperate attempt to stay relevant and not miss out, they try to make use of every situation to increase followers, likes and shares. But consumers today are clever enough to understand the intent behind the ads.

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Brands that go about making ads simply to seek attention are perceived apathetic by the masses. We are living in a day and age where brands are more than the products services they offer. While brands can express solidarity with the war victims through an ad, making an ad to draw a connection between your product and the conflict situation would be perceived as outright insensitive. What worse, it may take forever for brands to recover from the reputational damage due to a careless approach. A conflict is a sensitive issue, not a trending topic. A war is not a trending topic or a golden opportunity for brands to ramp up sales or mint money. A conflict is a sensitive issue and must be treated as one. Brands should steer away from building advertising tactics around the conflict. While some brands successfully distance themselves from moment marketing, something as simple as mindless use of hash tags gets them in trouble. Brands should never use hash tags related to conflict in an attempt to increase their ad reach. While you may think that the ad in itself does touch upon the conflict, any attempt to capitalize on the situation is bound to face severe criticism. It not just about saving your brand from public backlash. It about being sensitive and sensible enough to maintain a certain level of dignity and integrity during a crisis. Political overtones could spark controversies while brands are expected to take a stand, taking political sides is not recommended. A conflict may be a result of clashes between two political parties or ideologies. A hasty moment marketing effort could end up in a poorly crafted ad that reflects your inclinations towards a certain political party. Brands may receive flak for taking sides just to appear trendy or to leverage the topicality of the war. It can spark major controversies. The worst part about moment marketing on sensitive issues is that you can never predict audience response. Something that seems totally fine to you may be interpreted in a totally different manner by the audience. Poor ad placements can hurt people sentiments. Let suppose you refrained from any kind of moment marketing during the conflict. You could still risk being perceived as insensitive. Poor ad placements are to be blamed for this. Brands must be extremely careful while advertising during conflicts. You don't want your ad to **appear** beside disturbing images of war. Wrong ad placements could easily ruin your brand image. A luxury resort ad appearing beside a war image will never be appreciated irrespective of how good the ad is. Your marketing efforts should reflect sensitivity and empathy especially during a conflict. Advertising during conflict may need extra effort and attention from brands as a seemingly minor error could blow out of proportion resulting in financial and reputational damage. Taking political stands to appear trendy or creating controversies for negative publicity and deviating from your core brand values just so you don't miss out on a.

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Out UPI transactions even without a smart phone and an internet connection UPI on feature phones will help people in rural areas who do not have a smart phone to participate in the digital economy giving added impetus to the growth of the digital payments landscape. Adoption of digital payments grew leaps and bounds during the pandemic resulting in an exponential growth in both volume and value of transactions. The general populations including small merchants have started leveraging the prowess of digital payments making it increasingly pervasive. Contactless payments, UPI apps, pre paid instruments have all become very popular during these last couple of years. RBI & the Government have been extremely forward looking and have set up a Payments Infrastructure Development Fund PIDF Scheme. The objective of the scheme is to encourage deployment of Point of Sale Pops infrastructure both physical and digital modes in tier 3 to tier 6 centers. The scheme also includes street vendors and other beneficiaries. This decision to expand the targeted beneficiaries under the PIDF scheme will provide fillip to RBI efforts in promoting digital transactions at the grassroots level. Solution providers have developed affordable tech for merchants which support UPI, QR, cards, Andhra based payments along with mobile & soft POS. Buy Now Pay Later BNPL is getting extremely popular and contributing to the next wave of digital adoption. While shopping online or in store, customers are offered this option and its very convenient to opt for it. Know your customer KYC, credit checks are done instantly, leveraging the power of technology to accord the credit. Market places, stores are offering credit for a variety of goods including electronics, lifestyle products, bill payments, groceries, hospitality etc. which is leading to an increase in consumption and therefore contributing to the GDP. An innovation revolution is happening to extend the reach of digital payments with fitness playing a key role. Banks may not have the necessary distribution & fitness are partnering with banks to extend the reach to every nook and corner of the country. This complimentary partnership is enabling ways to address requirements of people and MSME in area which were excluded earlier. Digital payments is enabling MSMEs service to a wider range of customers. There is a growing requirement for instant & transparent cross border payments. Several global companies are leading the innovation and working towards connecting global payment rails, banks, finch, **leveraging** cloud native solutions and API which will transform cross border payments and improvise the digital payments landscape in India. NPCI has setup an international arm National International Payments Ltd NIPL to deploy Repay and UPI outside of India. NIPL is enabling acceptance of the Repay card when Indian travellers pay internationally. Recently, it has signed up with Abu Dhabi Monetary Fund AMF to facilitate cross border payments and enhance economic ties between India and the Arab region. This arrangement will allow interoperability and make secure cross border payments instantly. Our Hon. FM also announced launch of RBI digital currency in.

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Studies have shown that starving yourself once every week might be good for your health. Fasting has become popular among people over the last few years, especially among the health community. It helps you maintain the weight that can reduce the risk of several diseases. However, many health practitioners are afraid to advise eating less due to the stigma. But this does not lessen the benefits of fasting if done sensibly. If you will fast sensibly, you will be able to lose some of that belly fat. There are studies that have shown that intermittent fasting can help in losing weight. Intermittent fasting is a type of fasting that you can control within a set number of hours. This allows your body to burn fat cells more effectively than just regular dieting. The main aim of intermittent fasting is to manipulate your body in using stored fat instead of sugar as a primary source of energy. This type of fasting is used by athletes these days to hit the low body fat percentages for competitions. With fasting, your body can break carbohydrates more efficiently. Fasting has an amazing effect on insulin sensitivity. Studies have shown that if you do fast regularly, insulin of your body will become more effective and will take up glucose from the blood. When you do not eat for a day, it gives your digestive system a rest that can energize your metabolism to burn through calories more efficiently. A poor digestive system directly affects your ability to metabolize food and burn fat in a negative way. Intermittent fasting on the other hand can help with your digestion and promote healthy bowel function, which will improve your metabolism. Fasting can increase lifespan and you can live longer. You can also enhance your immune system by fasting. Studies have shown that starving yourself once every week might be good for your health. Fasting has become popular among people over the last few years, especially among the health community. It helps you maintain the weight that can reduce the risk of several diseases. However, many health practitioners are afraid to advise eating less due to the stigma. But this does not lessen the benefits of fasting if done sensibly. If you will fast sensibly, you will be able to lose some of that belly fat. There are studies that have shown that intermittent fasting can help in **losing** weight. Intermittent fasting is a type of fasting that you can control within a set number of hours. This allows your body to burn fat cells more effectively than just regular dieting. The main aim of intermittent fasting is to manipulate your body in using stored fat instead of sugar as a primary source of energy. This type of fasting is used by athletes these days to hit the low body fat percentages for competitions. With fasting, your body can break carbohydrates more efficiently. Fasting has an amazing effect on insulin sensitivity. Studies have shown that if you do regularly.

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And equip them with the necessary entrepreneurship education and skills. Even as one might argue that entrepreneurship cannot be taught in a school, studies show formal education has a positive correlation to entrepreneurship. I believe entrepreneurship education is one of the influential forces that shape a person attitude and aspirations to give wings to their professional dreams. Higher Educational Institutions HEI have an essential role in addressing this supply side of entrepreneurial ecosystem with programs designed to expand students knowledge and experience in entrepreneurship. A benchmarking study points to a major global trend towards strengthening entrepreneurial capabilities in universities worldwide. It is time for Indian HEIs to move from the traditional paradigm of creating graduates looking for employment to nurturing successful entrepreneurs who create jobs that fuel the economy. However, HEIs must recognise that entrepreneurship education goes beyond teaching typical management subjects such as strategy, finance and marketing in a classroom setting. Young minds, especially in STEM education streams, typically have a maker instinct to build, test and operate things. Along with entrepreneurship education, they need experiential opportunities in innovation labs, maker spaces, and mentoring clubs. These facilities help inculcate skills such as design thinking, idea generation, hands on discovery, inter disciplinary approach, peer collaboration, sharing of resources, prototyping and testing. More importantly, students gain the ability to challenge the status quo and recognise and act on the opportunities. These skills could further be channeled by empowering students to bring their ideas to life by facilitating in house incubators and accelerators that could potentially snowball their ideas into business opportunities to be exploited commercially. Further, linkages with local industry will enable the HEIs to proactively explore, create and incubate industry relevant products solutions services that can complement and supplement the industry needs while simultaneously improving the time to market. Educators involved in entrepreneurship education have the potential to make a difference when a student stumbles upon a validated business idea. Even if a majority of student developed design ideas remain un validated and do not make it to the market, students still benefit from the entrepreneurial mindset. It will remain a valuable skill set they could leverage throughout their profession and practice. Even when they join an existing company, these skills support their agility and responsiveness and transform them as entrepreneurs leading their teams and organisations. China provocations against India have increased along the Indo Tibetan border in the **last** few years. It is pressuring India on four fronts. First, the Eastern Ladakh, where the standoff has continued since May 2020 and China is dragging its feet on the process of disengagement. Its objective is to prolong the process of settlement and find an opportunity to occupy strategic points with a view to strengthen its claims. The manner in which it opposed the revocation of Article 370, indicated that it has an eye on the entire so that there may not be any threat from India to its China Pakistan Economic Corridor CPEC. Second, it has pushed Nepal to claim areas of Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura almost at the time of Galwan Valley clashes. On the 9 the June ,2020 the

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On March 11, when Kashmir Files opened in the theatres across India, I was very eager to watch the movie as it claimed to tell the story of our exodus that had previously only been talked about during elections. I and my sister went to watch the last show in Gurgaon and took a dozen tissue papers along to wipe our tears since we were already privy to the horrors of the exodus. The movie is based on the true testimonies of Kashmiri Pundits who were killed during the insurgency. The movie also portrays full fledged barbarisms meted out to the minority community that was not spoken about openly by the intellectuals as it did cater to their broader political narrative. However, the movie, while chronicling the atrocities perpetrated against the minority community in Kashmir, was simultaneously instilling hatred towards the minority community Muslims in the rest of India. While the film accurately depicted the horrors of the exodus, it also pushed a narrative around it in order to facilitate the director personal and political propaganda which seemed akin to that of the ruling party. The film depicts the lives of Kashmiri Pundits through the eyes of Krishna, a young Kashmiri Pundit boy who attended a university similar to JNU and was brainwashed, as Methuen Charkarvatry puts it in the end. JNU has been in the middle of the raging controversy since 2016 for raising anti India slogans which resulted in three student activists Umar Khalid, Anirban, and Kanhaiya Kumar being sent behind the bars. Since then, the University has found its way into the speeches made by the political leaders that have done the much needed polarisation. I, as a Kashmiri Pundit, could understand why and how JNU was important while showcasing a movie on our forced migration. The storyline of the movie moves back and forth from the lives of Kashmiri Pundits during the 90s to Krishna life in JNU and his transformation. The impeccable and emotive acting of Anupam Kher made me cry. Kher accurately narrates the lives of many Kashmiri Pundits, who had fled under the shadow of terror, with his impeccable cinematic presence and polished acting skills. However, he is also shown holding a placard saying Abolish Article 370 while living in the camp. I have grown up hearing stories of the lives in the camps to learn that abrogation of Article 370 was **not** the prime concern of Kashmiri Pundits but water, ration, and good governance that could facilitate their return was. It appeared as if the movie is promoting the achievements of the ruling party It is not to say, that Kashmiri Pundits never wanted Article 370 to be abrogated but it was not their primary desire while living in the camp. The same Article 370 was abrogated by the Modi government but yet, Kashmiri Pundits have not been rehabilitated. When I was born, my family lived in a one room rented accommodation. My grandfather, at an age when he should have retired.

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He was an English teacher and secretary of the Kashmir Teacher Association yet he had a difficult time in finding a new job to feed the family of five. My father toiled for hours to make sure that the family had enough to survive on a day to day basis. We lived at the rented accommodation for years till we realized that our dream of going back to Kashmir won be fulfilled in the near future. That when we laid the foundation of our current house in Jammu. It is not as big as the one we had in Kashmir, but it is a house made with sweat and blood in misery. It is the house where my grandfather died with the longing to return to his homeland. During the days, I was reporting from Jammu and Kashmir, a senior reporter from Jammu told me how he and his friend would carry boxes of ice for the Pundits living at the camps as they were unable to bear the heat of Jammu plains. Pundits would take the bare ice and apply to their face and body in desperation. My grandmother, an Urdu teacher, had a difficult time communicating in Hindi. Her Hindi still features half Kashmiri and Hindi with a tinge of Punjabi words she has picked from the local Dogri language. So when the movie came, we felt overwhelmed. While narrating the story of our exodus, the director touches upon many political aspects. The movie subtly holds the Congress government and Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed and Abdullahs responsible for the exodus, but conveniently ignores the Vishwanath Pratap Sigh VP Singh government at that time which was running at the center with the support of Bharatiya Jannat Party BJP. The movie does show the electoral rigging prior to militancy nor does it touch upon Pakistan and its role in fuelling the insurgency in Kashmir with money given by Afghanistan to decimate the Soviet Union. Nor does it talk about Kashmiri Muslims who died for supporting India. For Kashmiri Pundits, the movie has triggered a cascade of emotions. After watching the film, the scars they had learned to conceal with time were exposed. They could see the scars, bare, with blood oozing out, screaming for attention which they had received after 32 years. Many KPs, I spoke to, were also reassured about their rehabilitation after watching the movie. For a person, who has lived terror and left his homeland, to relive the incidents after 32 years is not easy. Nor are they in the position to absorb the juice and leave the leftovers and that what the movie did. While depicting the realities of Kashmiri Pundits, the film also promoted its own purpose. For a middle class man who toils day in and day out and has no time to read history, cinema plays a significant role in shaping his psychology. When a movie on such a sensitive issue is not made with sensitivity and nuance, it does more injustice.

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Dispute with China that would have serious security implications for India. Fourth, China has not only named eleven places in Arunachal Pradesh, but it has also claimed sovereignty over the entire Arunachal Pradesh. While the recent Bhutanese PM statement has not been officially responded to by China, an article in the Global Times has revealed its thinking. It termed the Bhutanese PM interview a victory for China and a setback for India. The Global Times, quoting Zhang Youngman, Director in the Tibet Research Office of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Institute of Frontier Affairs, stated that India hegemony and great power influence in South Asia are not conducive to the development of Bhutan. There were other articles as well, which projected the cultural differences between India and Bhutan and how India dominating influence was not conducive to the development of Bhutan. On Arunachal Pradesh, Indian MEA response that the Chinese statement was merely a repeat of 2021 statement that Arunachal Pradesh is and will always remain an inalienable part of India, was not sufficient to make China understand its unreasonable approach. Such defensive statements do not carry the right message to expansionist China. China reacted to this statement by declaring its sovereignty over Sagan, the name it gives to South Tibet. Mao Ming, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said: Hangman is part of China territory. In accordance with relevant stipulations of the administration of geographical names of the State Council, competent authorities of the Chinese government have standardised the names of some parts of Hangman. This is within China sovereign rights. The Chinese audacity was shocking. The Chinese game plan is now clear. It is on expansionist mode and does not desire normalisation of relations with India. India needs to shed its pusillanimity in dealing with China. Defensive statements like Arunachal Pradesh belongs to India are not working on China. China, which is testing India patience, may be getting the wrong signals that it can push India further. Simultaneously, China is pushing its narrative over its perceived claims through aggressive propaganda that is not countered equally forcefully. The lack of effective counterpropaganda strengthens illusions among Chinese policymakers that China has legitimate claims over these areas and that it can occupy Indian areas by force with little resistance. India needs to clearly indicate that China should stop crossing its red lines. China is speaking with a forked tongue: it is **threatening to use force in its periphery, while talking about peaceful solutions elsewhere projecting that it is a responsible nation. The escalating cartographic aggression coupled with the aggressive propaganda of its narrative must be blunted. For this objective, India should now seriously consider stronger options. India should now make it clear that it has accepted Tibet as an autonomous state. Since there is no autonomy and the Tibetans are ruthlessly suppressed and their culture and religion is being erased, India cannot accept this situation. India should respond to the Chinese cartographic aggression with its own cartographic offensive. Former Foreign Secretary and a well-known strategic expert Ambassador Kanwal Sibal has rightly suggested that India should show Tibet bordering India and not China and that Greater Tibet should be shown with dotted lines. In fact, Tibet can be shown as the Chinese occupied territo**

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Journalist friends believe I've crossed over to the proverbial dark side. Living on the edges of a dynamic newsroom, I dabble infrequently into these times that we live and believe in the spectatorial axiom 'distance provides perspective'. Somewhere between the fourth unboxing of the same serum and the seventeenth raw, unfiltered, honest breakup reel, the creator economy quietly slipped from revolution to tele-shopping with better ring lights and worse fashion sense. We were promised a new cultural renaissance. We got a nation full of people waking up, adjusting a tripod, and lying straight to camera: So many of you have been asking about my morning routine when the only person who asked was the brand manager on email. For a decade, brands treated attention like oxygen. Impressions, views, likes, watch time. Entire careers were built on dashboards that looked like Diwali lights on a sugar high. Attention was the currency. Platforms were the central banks. CMOs went on stage and showed bar charts as if they were liberation theology. Then the bots punched in. Click farms did overtime. Fake accounts multiplied like spam OTPs. One awkward moment later, someone realised that a large chunk of those eyeballs did not, in fact, arrive with brains, wallets, or pulse. Attention turned out to be cheap. The only truly scarce resource was the thing everyone had treated like background noise: trust. In the West, influencer marketing looks like a neatly structured pyramid. Celebrities and mega creators at the top, micro-influencers somewhere in the middle, and millions of people at the bottom liking things they can't afford. India took one look at that and said, Nice but have you tried chaos? Instead of a top-down pyramid, we are building a bottom-up gossip network. Millions of Nano-creators scattered across Bharat, shooting on cracked phones, uploading on patchy 4G, and speaking the language people actually use to fight with their parents, not the one they use on LinkedIn. Your typical Western influencer: perfect lighting, perfect teeth, perfect nonsense. Your typical Indian nano-creator: tube light, plastic chair, steel cupboard in the background, and a brutally honest review that starts with Dekhiye, main aapko sach bataungi and ends with a discount code. Language diversity, regional loyalties, nosy neighbours, joint families, and a permanently anxious middle class everything that made traditional advertising a migraine is now creator rocket fuel. Your mother may roll her eyes at a pan-India **campaign**, but she will absolutely trust the girl from her own town that explains a savings app in her dialect and tells you what her father said about risk. This isn't influencer marketing in the slide-deck sense. This is digitised mohalla gossip with a tracking link. The creator economy's fatal assumption is that Gen Z and Gen Alpha are gullible because they live online. In reality, this is the most suspicious generation we've produced since teenagers discovered existentialism and cheap coffee. Relationships announced like product launches Apology videos with better scripting than some web series they have seen so much edited realness that they can smell fakery before the video hits the three-second mark. Glossy ads don't dazzle them; they trigger skip reflex. Aspiration is fine, but if it doesn't come with some mess, some contradiction, some I'm figuring this out too, they swipe away. The line that works now is not, this changed my life. It's: Listen, this is

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The honesty is more compelling than the product. There is no open revolt, no angry letter to the editor, no boycott call. Just silence. And in the creator economy, silence is the loudest cancellation. While all this is happening on feeds, a familiar ghost wanders through meeting rooms every quarter: Does influencer marketing actually move sales? What they get is messier. Creators are brilliant at discovery and conversation. They are top-of-funnel specialists. They smash through apathy, humanise boring categories, and make people type brand names into search bars they didn't know existed yesterday. When used sensibly, they can absolutely drive action. But they are not vending machines where you insert a brief and withdraw a revenue spike. Someone, inevitably, pulls out the Harvard Business Review stat: in many categories, word-of-mouth generates about twice the sales of paid ads. Heads nod in synchronized wisdom. The irony, of course, is that we are now trying to industrialise word-of-mouth scheduling it into content calendars and judging it on weekly dashboards. Word-of-mouth was your friend swearing by a product over chai, with no camera, no script, and no coupon code. Influencers are that friend now except they show up with an invoice, a deck, a tracking link and three mandatory hooks. It still works. But only when the person talking would have said something similar even without the money. Here's the core comedy of the creator economy: everyone is obsessed with authenticity, but almost nobody wants to admit they are being paid. Brands want raw, honest conversations, but please keep the #ad small, late, and preferably invisible. Creators want to appear like they just stumbled upon this amazing brand you guys, and then somehow also negotiated usage rights, deliverables and a performance bonus. Audiences are not stupid. They see the jump cut from I was just journaling this morning to That's when I realised I needed a better credit card. It's not storytelling. It's hostage negotiation with soft lighting. Trust, unfortunately for everyone, is not a vibe. It's a ledger. Every non-disclosed paid post is a small withdrawal. Every fake I've been using this for months for a product that launched last Tuesday is a bigger withdrawal. Every obviously forced brand integration is a full-blown bank robbery. Eventually, the balance hits zero. That's when you get creators with a million followers and comment sections that look like a forgotten Facebook page from 2013. **The** creator economy isn't collapsing. It's just running out of places to hide its insincerity. The ones who will still be standing are not necessarily the most aesthetic or the loudest. They will be the ones who talk to their audience like grown-ups: Yes, this is paid. Here's what I like. Here's what I don't. Here's who it's for. Here's who should save their money. In a feed full of performance, a plain sentence is borderline revolutionary. The creator economy loves the word democratisation. In theory, anyone with a phone can become a star. In practice, we have simply replaced a small, privileged group of endorsers with a massive, precarious class of creators all doing high-risk, low-stability work for platforms and brands they do not control. Instead of five famous faces on hoardings, we now have five million semi-famous faces dealing with: Brand briefs that read like exam questions Audiences that can disappear faster than a limited-period offer The attention era told creators.

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On March 11, when Kashmir Files opened in the theatres across India, I was very eager to watch the movie as it claimed to tell the story of our exodus that had previously only been talked about during elections. I and my sister went to watch the last show in Gurgaon and took a dozen tissue papers along to wipe our tears since we were already privy to the horrors of the exodus. The movie is based on the true testimonies of Kashmiri Pundits who were killed during the insurgency. The movie also portrays full fledged barbarisms meted out to the minority community that was not spoken about openly by the intellectuals as it did cater to their broader political narrative. However, the movie, while chronicling the atrocities perpetrated against the minority community in Kashmir, was simultaneously instilling hatred towards the minority community Muslims in the rest of India. While the film accurately depicted the horrors of the exodus, it also pushed a narrative around it in order to facilitate the director personal and political propaganda which seemed akin to that of the ruling party. The film depicts the lives of Kashmiri Pundits through the eyes of Krishna, a young Kashmiri Pundit boy who attended a university similar to JNU and was brainwashed, as Methuen Charkarvatry puts it in the end. JNU has been in the middle of the raging controversy since 2016 for raising anti India slogans which resulted in three student activists Umar Khalid, Anirban, and Kanhaiya Kumar being sent behind the bars. Since then, the University has found its way into the speeches made by the political leaders that have done the much needed polarisation. I, as a Kashmiri Pundit, could understand why and how JNU was important while showcasing a movie on our forced migration. The storyline of the movie moves back and forth from the lives of Kashmiri Pundits during the 90s to Krishna life in JNU and his transformation. The impeccable and emotive acting of Anupam Kher made me cry. Kher accurately narrates the lives of many Kashmiri Pundits, who had fled under the shadow of terror, with his impeccable cinematic presence and polished acting skills. However, he is also shown holding a placard saying Abolish Article 370 while living in the camp. I have grown up hearing stories of the lives in the camps to learn that abrogation of Article 370 was **not** the prime concern of Kashmiri Pundits but water, ration, and good governance that could facilitate their return was. It appeared as if the movie is promoting the achievements of the ruling party It is not to say, that Kashmiri Pundits never wanted Article 370 to be abrogated but it was not their primary desire while living in the camp. The same Article 370 was abrogated by the Modi government but yet, Kashmiri Pundits have not been rehabilitated. When I was born, my family lived in a one room rented accommodation. My grandfather, at an age when he should have retired.

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He was an English teacher and secretary of the Kashmir Teacher Association yet he had a difficult time in finding a new job to feed the family of five. My father toiled for hours to make sure that the family had enough to survive on a day to day basis. We lived at the rented accommodation for years till we realized that our dream of going back to Kashmir won be fulfilled in the near future. That when we laid the foundation of our current house in Jammu. It is not as big as the one we had in Kashmir, but it is a house made with sweat and blood in misery. It is the house where my grandfather died with the longing to return to his homeland. During the days, I was reporting from Jammu and Kashmir, a senior reporter from Jammu told me how he and his friend would carry boxes of ice for the Pundits living at the camps as they were unable to bear the heat of Jammu plains. Pundits would take the bare ice and apply to their face and body in desperation. My grandmother, an Urdu teacher, had a difficult time communicating in Hindi. Her Hindi still features half Kashmiri and Hindi with a tinge of Punjabi words she has picked from the local Dogri language. So when the movie came, we felt overwhelmed. While narrating the story of our exodus, the director touches upon many political aspects. The movie subtly holds the Congress government and Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed and Abdullahs responsible for the exodus, but conveniently ignores the Vishwanath Pratap Sigh VP Singh government at that time which was running at the center with the support of Bharatiya Jannat Party BJP. The movie does show the electoral rigging prior to militancy nor does it touch upon Pakistan and its role in fuelling the insurgency in Kashmir with money given by Afghanistan to decimate the Soviet Union. Nor does it talk about Kashmiri Muslims who died for supporting India. For Kashmiri Pundits, the movie has triggered a cascade of emotions. After watching the film, the scars they had learned to conceal with time were exposed. They could see the scars, bare, with blood oozing out, screaming for attention which they had received after 32 years. Many KPs, I spoke to, were also reassured about their rehabilitation after watching the movie. For a person, who has lived terror and left his homeland, to relive the incidents after 32 years is not easy. Nor are they in the position to absorb the juice and leave the leftovers and that what the movie did. While depicting the realities of Kashmiri Pundits, the film also promoted its own purpose. For a middle class man who toils day in and day out and has no time to read history, cinema plays a significant role in shaping his psychology. When a movie on such a sensitive issue is not made with sensitivity and nuance, it does more injustice.

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Doing the rounds on social media is a debate between a conservative and a liberal, expressing diametrically opposing views. The conservative extols what she sees as the benefits of the British Empire to its colonies, such as the bringing of railways to India. The liberal argues that the British brought the railways to India not to benefit Indians, but to facilitate military deployment in the event of a repeat of the 1857 uprising. He also highlights the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, and the man-made Bengal famine of 1943 which resulted in the starvation deaths of millions, and for which no apology, let alone any form of reparation, has been made. However, no matter how deeply he disagrees he cannot, because of his liberal standpoint, deny his opponent the right to hold and express her opinions. This is the paradox of the liberal. An outspoken conservative can give vent to views that are patently intolerant, and objectionable to those who take exception to such ideas and attitudes, but nonetheless can deny their espousal. I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it, is a quote attributed to Voltaire, and is a cornerstone of liberal ideology. Liberals are enjoined to speak out against anything which is deemed to be prejudicial in terms of gender, or religion, or social or political orientation. They are compelled not only to oppose what they see as intolerance in any form but must publicly do so, because silence implies consent, and to be silent in the face of bigotry is to acquiesce in it. At the same time liberals must not only grant their ideological adversaries the right to broadcast their creed, but must also endorse their entitlement to do so under the rubric of freedom of expression, as long as it does not violate the laws of the land or incite violence. Caught between opposing the illiberal, yet supporting its advocacy, liberals can find themselves tied up in a knot of Gordian dimension which even Alexander would be unable to cut. Citizen science – the once niche realm of butterfly enthusiasts and birdwatchers – is undergoing a revolution. Today, armed with Smartphone and laptops, everyday people are transforming from passive consumers of knowledge into active contributors to scientific discovery. This democratization of research is not only shaking the foundations of traditional scientific hierarchies but also yielding groundbreaking **results** across a vast array of fields. Citizen science is no longer the domain of a select few. Platforms like Vigyan Jyoti, AstroskyIndia, and Project Pigeon are witnessing a surge in participation. In 2023, the Indian Bird Nest Survey on Vigyan Jyoti enlisted over 10,000 volunteers, generating crucial data on bird nesting patterns across the country. This information is invaluable for conservation efforts, helping protect India rich avian diversity. The beauty of citizen science lies in its hyper local focus. Unlike traditional research, citizen science projects can address issues specific to Indian regions. For example, the naturalist India project empowers users to document flora and fauna in their backyards or local parks. This data helps researchers track the spread of invasive species, monitor the health of ecosystems, and identify areas of critical biodiversity. Citizen science is just about the environment. Projects like the Monsoon Monitor on Project Pigeon use volunteers to report rainfall data. This real-time information helps meteorologists improve weat

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Significant concern in a country like India. The future of citizen science in India is a unique blend of online and offline participation. Imagine using your phone to identify plant diseases in your local farms or participating in community bioblitzes to document local biodiversity. This physical approach not only fosters scientific discovery but also strengthens community engagement and environmental awareness. So, the next time you're sipping your chain, consider contributing to science. With a few taps on your phone, you could be helping conserve endangered species, improve weather forecasting, or even contribute to medical research. Citizen science is democratizing research in India, making it accessible, engaging, and most importantly, a way to give back to the nation you love. It's time to ditch the passive routine and become a citizen scientist – the power of discovery is literally in your pocket. Citizen science projects have exploded in popularity in recent years. Platforms like Zooniverse, Galaxy Zoo, and iNaturalist host thousands of projects, attracting millions of participants globally. In 2016, for instance, the Milky Way Project, a collaboration between Zooniverse and Adler Planetarium, enlisted over 1 million volunteers to classify stars and galaxies, leading to the discovery of new stellar streams and revolutionizing our understanding of the Milky Way structure. The beauty of citizen science lies in its accessibility. Unlike traditional research, which often requires specialized training and equipment, citizen science projects are designed for the general public. With minimal training, anyone can participate in tasks ranging from analyzing telescope data to transcribing historical weather records. This inclusivity opens the door for a wider range of perspectives and ingenuity to contribute to scientific progress. Citizen science is just about busy work. The sheer number of participants allows researchers to tackle massive datasets that would be impossible for a single team to analyze. In 2020, for example, the COVID-19 protein folding home project harnessed the computing power of millions of personal devices to simulate protein folding, a crucial step in drug discovery for diseases like COVID-19. This collaborative effort significantly accelerated the development of potential treatments. Citizen science also fosters a deeper connection between the public and scientific research. By actively engaging in the research process, participants gain a firsthand understanding of the scientific method and the challenges faced by researchers. This newfound appreciation can combat scientific misinformation and foster trust in the scientific community. As technology continues to evolve, **the** potential of citizen science expands. The rise of artificial intelligence, for example, is opening doors for even more sophisticated citizen science projects. AI can automate mundane tasks, allowing volunteers to focus on more complex cognitive contributions. Additionally, the increasing availability of affordable sensors and mobile technology paves the way for real-time citizen science projects that can monitor environmental changes or track disease outbreaks. The democratization of research through citizen science holds immense promise for the future. By leveraging the collective power of the public, we can solve some of the world's most pressing challenges, from climate change and biodiversity loss to disease prevention and space exploration. So, the next time you

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Post enough, hustle enough, bleed enough on camera and maybe, just maybe, you'll blow up. The trust era comes with a ruder message: viral is temporary; credible is compounding. You may never get 10 million followers. But if 50,000 people genuinely believe you, listen to you, and stick around for years, you are more powerful than the celebrity whose views spike every time there's a scandal and crash every time there's work. We're past the stage where raw attention is impressive in itself. Another eight-figure view count on a dance trend no one remembers after Thursday is not success. It's noise with analytics. The only real question now is brutally simple: When this person speaks, do people believe them enough to act? The ring light can fix your lighting. It cannot fix your character. And somewhere in a Tier 2 town, a Nano-creator has just recorded a shaky vertical video. She starts with, Brand new paise diye hain, but suno she clearly labels it as an ad. She mentions that her mother thinks the price is ridiculous. She still explains why she bought the product and where it genuinely helped. She will probably never trend on a global chart. No panel will call her iconic. She may never get a blue tick. But when she speaks, people listen, think, maybe buy, maybe don't and come back anyway. That, sadly for the worshippers of views and virality, is what a real trust economy looks like: small, specific, stubbornly human and absolutely ruthless the morning after. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Times of India - India Voices Blogs (November 24, 2025) What the NDA's Bihar sweep reveals about BJP's election planning Mukesh Arora is an Assistant Professor at Jindal Global Law School, O. P. Jindal Global University. He holds a from Queen Mary University of London. The Bihar election results have dramatically reshaped the state's political landscape and delivered one of the most decisive mandates the NDA has secured in recent years. With the alliance sweeping 202 seats and the BJP emerging as the single largest party with 89 seats, its strike rate crossing an unprecedented 90%, the verdict is not only historic for the NDA but also a reaffirmation of the BJP's growing organizational strength in a state once considered politically unpredictable. For Union home minister Amit Shah, the Bihar victory adds a new interesting chapter to his already formidable reputation as the BJP's chief strategist. After the tough battles of Maharashtra, Haryana, Delhi and now Bihar, Shah has once again demonstrated why he remains the BJP's most effective planner someone who blends macro-level electoral arithmetic with granular micro-management on the ground. Leaders like Dharmendra Pradhan and Vinod Tawde worked closely alongside him, forming the core team that helped translate strategy into an airtight, winning campaign. Entrusted with steering the NDA through this challenging electoral battle, Shah camped in the state for days, running a war-room style operation that penetrated every layer of the organisation. From the day the election was announced, he chaired over 20 divisional and district-level meetings, held closed-door huddles with workers, addressed 35 rallies, led a roadshow, and participated in a total of 46 campaign events. This intensive groundwork was not only about strengthening the BJP's machinery, but it was also designed to ensure that by the time Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the stage acro

BSF-HCM-TEST-Dated-2025-12-20-Test NO.-24117

Roughly 80 percent of India 1.35 billion residents depend on groundwater for both drinking and irrigation. Even though groundwater is a resource what lies beneath, there are so many ways in which it makes itself visible, and yet we sometimes choose to unseen it. Guzzling groundwater India is more dependent on groundwater than any other country in the world, accounting as it does for around one fourth of the global demand of groundwater. Groundwater irrigation has been expanding at a very rapid pace in India since 1970s and now accounts for over 60 percent of the total area irrigated in the country. About 85% of the rural drinking water supply is also met from ground water sources. The most significant change in the groundwater scenario in India is that the share of bore well irrigation went up from a mere 1 percent during 1960 61 to 60 percent during 2006 07 as per Indian Agricultural Statistic, 2008. The estimated number of wells and bore wells in India is now around twenty seven million, with bore wells accounting for more than 50 percent. Already food insecurity bells are ringing at the rapid depletion. Groundwater contamination around 75 per cent of India water both ground and surface water are contaminated. In October 2019, the Atomic Minerals Directorate (AMD) found dangerous levels of uranium concentration in the groundwater samples tested in the Lambapur Peddagattu region of Alagona district in Telangana, known for its uranium deposits. These findings came at a time when concerns are already being raised around high levels of uranium in Tummalapalle, Kadapa district, Andhra Pradesh, where uranium is being mined. Uranium contamination in Punjab has been reported since the early 1990s, with little information on where it has come from. Uranium is also found in Rajasthan and Gujarat. Consumption of uranium causes kidney problems. More than 82,000 rural habitations, home to some 45 million people are exposed to excessive salinity, iron, fluoride, arsenic and nitrate. And this is only the tip of the iceberg. Groundwater reserves are contaminated with biological, toxic, organic and inorganic pollutants, due to deficiencies in wastewater treatment and over extraction. Increase in overall salinity of the ground water and/or presence of high concentrations of fluoride, nitrate, iron, arsenic, total hardness and few toxic metal ions have been noticed in large areas in several states of India. Groundwater and health consumption of contaminated water has serious **and often inter generational health effects. Consumption of excessive fluoride through drinking water causes deformities in bones and teeth. Muscles and digestive system are affected as well. Fluoride is found in 20 states. Arsenic is found in seven states. Harmful effects of arsenic consumption include bladder, lung, liver and skin cancer, heart disease, stroke and diabetes. Excessive salinity affects kidneys. Excessive iron consumption can cause hemochromatosis. Toxic metals such as cardiovascular disease, gastrointestinal disease, kidney disorders, skin disorders, lung damage and mental health problems as well. Is water then the elixir of life? If not, we only have ourselves to blame.**

BSF-HCM-TEST-Dated-2025-12-20-Test NO.-24118

In his post election victory address at BJP headquarters last week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi pointed to what he viewed as an important message of the largely favourable electoral verdict. At a time when the world is in the grip of conflict, instability and mounting inflationary pressures, said the PM, the electorate, especially in the heartland of UP, has voted in favour of political stability at home. Domestic political stability in the face of external threats and challenges has been an important concern and theme of successive PMs. Modi referred to the rising price of oil, gas, coal, fertilisers and vegetable oils on account of the current global security and economic environment. He claimed the Union Budget had strengthened the foundations of his economic strategy of building an Atmanirbhar Bharat, an agenda that has gained traction given the new constraints imposed on economic growth by the global situation and Western economic sanctions. The PM did well to flag India own developmental concerns at a time when the so called Big Powers have been focussed on their own material interests in the name of democratic values. Suzuki Motor Corporation on Saturday signed an MoU with Gujarat to invest about Rs 10,440 crore over a four year period to manufacture electric vehicles and related batteries. Almost 70 of the proposed investment will go into battery manufacturing. The real significance of this investment is the transition it represents in the automobile world. The internal combustion engine ICE is being replaced by EVs. It a monumental shift, powered globally by generous regulatory incentives in the backdrop of anxiety over climate change. To get a sense of the scale of transition ahead, consider the following data. In 2020, electric cars were 4.6 of the total car sales globally. By 2030, the EU aims to ensure 60 of new sales comprise EVs. India is moving in the same direction, with a goal to ensure at least 30 of new vehicle sales by 2030 are electric. Niti Aayog estimates it presents a cumulative investment opportunity of Rs 19.7 lakh crore over the next eight years. There been policy action at the level of both GoI and states to realise these goals. There are demand side incentives for potential customers through fiscal measures. Equally important are the supply side measures to encourage investment and manufacturing. Supply side incentives need to be located in a global context, given **the** nature of the industry. Batteries are the most valuable parts of EVs, with estimates putting them at 40 of the total value. Japan, South Korea and most importantly China dominate this segment. China is the major player along the entire lithium ion cell supply chain. Given this context, does India have the best possible supply side incentives through GoI Production Linked Incentive Scheme and also individual state government policies India policies are designed to encourage investment through subsidies. These subsidies are linked to investments made by firms and subsequent sales. What odd is the extent of domestic focus in sales.

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Understanding groundwater surface water relationships for water security Rivers and groundwater aquifers share a mutually beneficial relationship. Replete aquifers provide to base flows of rivers. During the monsoon, it payback time for the river as it replenishes the aquifer. Floodplains provide space for rivers to spread their water and allow for recharge. In the dry season, as river levels fall below groundwater levels, it gets its flow from the aquifers. There are underground interconnections between the two below the ground and it is important that the two remain connected. The above is an ideal scenario. As groundwater levels fall, the link between the symbiotic connection snaps. As both river flows continue to be tampered with on one side, and groundwater extraction continues unabated on the other, water resources simply run out, tipping the balance towards water scarcity, or floods. The link must continue to be forged. Groundwater and surface water thus go hand in hand. If we work towards replenishing our groundwater aquifers using the numerous indigenous and modern technologies that are available to us, we will not only fill up these underground reserves but also provide base flows to rivers. Meanwhile river systems need to be protected from the encroachment, over exploitation, pollution, catchment destruction and other necessary interventions. This has been amply proved by river rejuvenation work in states across India including drought prone Bundelkhand, Maharashtra, Rajasthan. These examples have sufficiently proved that if structures suited to local topography and rainfall are constructed, these slow down the flow of rainwater, giving it time to seep into aquifers, and then, lo and behold, streams and rivers become alive and even perennial. While we support surface water bodies and groundwater to soak up the water, simultaneously we need to prevent, rather than treat pollution, respect water, reduce use, retreat it and recycle it. Groundwater challenges are visible, in the drying of wells and bore wells and in the manifestation of disease. Its up to the people to now acknowledge their dependency on what should really have been a reserve water source and act to reverse the trajectory. River rejuvenates groundwater aquifers and vice versa. The Indian Himalayan River Basins Council formed for the 22 Himalayan river basin states aims to focus on small that the two remain connected. The above is an ideal scenario. As groundwater levels fall, the link between the symbiotic connection snaps. As both river flows **continue** to be tampered with on one side, and groundwater extraction continues unabated on the other, water resources simply run out, tipping the balance towards water scarcity, or floods. The link must continue to be forged. Groundwater and surface water thus go hand in hand. streams and rivers as one key area so that rivers are rejuvenated and so are groundwater aquifers, since one will not be possible without the other. A contribution to make the invisible, visible, through perennial and clean river flows and brimming wells dry groundwater levels, it gets its flow from the aquifers. There are underground interconnections.

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And value addition in an industry with a very global supply chain. There a risk that India policies will not result in a globally competitive scale in production, which will then influence both products and their cost of manufacture. Separately, the demand side incentives need a lot more work on public charging infrastructure, which influence operating costs of EVs. EVs present India a great opportunity, particularly with China losing its sheen on account of geopolitical risks. To capitalise on it, our policies need to be more outward looking. In a correct but much delayed move, the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation has recommended reducing the minimum gap between two Covishield doses from 12 weeks to 8 weeks the maximum interval is unchanged at 16 weeks. Reportedly, the Centre is also evaluating the need to expand the booster programme. As we have argued repeatedly, this is prudent. Although fresh Covid cases and deaths in India are at a two year low weekly inflections are down by 40 at just over 15,800 cases while weekly fatalities are below 200 global Covid cases have surged by 4 in the last seven days. The current fall in Indian Covid numbers should therefore be no basis for comfort. Around 81 of Indians over 15 have been covered by the two doses Covishield being the most prominent while around 96 have received at least one shot. In absolute terms, therefore, the number of adults yet to take the second dose is not small, and the new Covishield interval will help. Also note that by May 20, of India estimated 345 million people above the age of 45, around 53 who have received their second shot will complete six months. This likely means they may have little to no protection going forward. The latest WHO data shows an appreciable decline in vaccine induced immunity including that produced by Covishield against both severe and symptomatic disease at the six month threshold. Another study by University of Edinburgh notes a fourfold rise in chance of death and hospitalisation four months from the second dose compared to two weeks. Therefore, greenlighting boosters for all above 45 and reducing the interval between second and third doses to 6 months from 9 months are essential. Shortage of vaccines is not the issue, neither is availability of different vaccines if Gol decides on a mix and match option, as it should. **The** unconscionable delay in reducing the Covishield interval should be repeated in booster dose expansion. Now is the time to consider a Research Linked Incentive Scheme and also consider offering subsidy for access to and the implementation of new technology in projects under the existing PLI Scheme, to enable better output. Plus the 41 identified products as well as any future inclusions for KSMs, DIs and APIs should be exempted from any price controls under the Drugs Prices Control Order, 2013 for a period of 10 years, or till the end of the tenure of the scheme. The scheme should allow.

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The backward integration of identified products, which would help broad base it. Such schemes, along with a well defined policy including IP protection as well as innovation driven private enterprises, will go a long way in creating India as a center of excellence. Though dharma is regarded as the highest virtue in our polity and Indic thought, its precise meaning continues to be an enigma for scholars. That because dharma is a comprehensive term used in different senses. According to KV Ram swami Ingra, Dharma is used in so many senses that it eludes definition. It stands for nature, intrinsic quality, civil and moral laws, justice, virtue, merit, duty and morality. Besides referring to the Rig Vedic notion of Rita, cosmic order, as PT Raja has pointed out, dharma also has such varied and diverse meanings as law, nature, rule, ideal, norm, quality, entity, truth, element, and category. After a survey of Rig Veda and Upanishads, PV Kane shows how the usage of dharma has passed through several transitions of meaning and how its meaning finally has settled down to signifying the privileges, duties and obligations of a man, his standard of conduct as a member of Aryan community, as a member of one of the castes, as a person at a particular stage of life. The difficulty in defining the notion of dharma is further compounded by its different kinds. A tentative list may include Vyatka dharma, kutumbha dharma, somatic dharma, rattrap dharma, Varna dharma, ashram dharma, guan dharma, Saharan dharma, svadharma and aped dharma. Each one of them describes a rule of action that may at times conflict with other rules. Since there are different sources of dharma, it cannot be explained in terms of its source. According to Sage Yajnavalka, sources of dharma include the Veds, Smritis, practices of noblemen, and also what helps one in the pursuit of virtuous goals. The last one makes dharma a dynamic concept, the meaning of which changes from yug to yug, time to time, society to society and from context to context. The Mahabharat explicitly states the ever changing character of dharma in the following words In Sat Yug, dharmas are different from the ones in Dwapar Yug, and dharmas prescribed for Dwapar are different from the ones in Kali Yug. Dharmas change as per the needs, aspirations and capabilities of individuals living in the specific era. That is **why** Smriti granthas and Purines agree that ways of dharma are indeed hard to comprehend. Due to the basic, non static and evolutionary nature of dharma, Donald Brown concludes, Dharma is more than laws, for it underlies a law and is responsible for the creation of laws in the universe. Basic to dharma is the view of order or law pervasive in the universe. Dharma, therefore, is that which makes us aware of our duties, and that of the others. However, it must be noted that dharmas are not rigid and static. Dharmas are persistently evolving and adapting to the needs.

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The Red Fort car "bombing in Delhi" with a module traced back to Kashmir, underscored the menace of terror. In each of these incidents, what was common was overt targeting of "specific communities" and groups and the hatred it intended to create- and the justification they received from many Kashmir based politicians. A PDP legislator described a gripping fear among Kashmiris due to over 83,000 domicile certificates issued to outsiders, calling it a deliberate attempt to alter the region's identity. An NC MP went further, branding the post-370 tourism boom a cultural invasion by purpose and by design. After the Red Fort bombing, former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti declared that the problems of Kashmir were expressed in front of the Red Fort, suggesting that the attack stemmed from alienation caused by central policies. These are not fringe voices. These are legislators, former chief ministers, and party heads. Their words shape perception, influence discourse, and set the boundaries of what is considered legitimate political sentiment. When such voices speak in the language of grievance and suspicion, they create space however unintentionally for violence to be rationalised. Not surprisingly, therefore, if you ask a Kashmiri today what is the biggest achievement of Narendra Modi in J&K, he would say 'abrogation of article 370' without mincing words. If you ask the same man what is the biggest mistake of Narendra Modi in J&K, it is possible that he would say 'assembly election in 2024'. The cycle of violence in J&K is not random. It has unfolded in an environment where political rhetoric has returned to familiar patterns: grievance, blame, and dangerous insinuation. What has been missing is a single, clear political message that terrorism has no cause, no constituency, and no justification. Terrorism does not need endorsement. It only needs a few political sentences that blur the lines between politics and secession, between peace and violence, and between people and self-aggrandisement creating. When elected leaders frame killings as reactions to policies or symptoms of anger, they offer ideological legitimacy to those who shoot. When Assembly members speak of demographic change and cultural dilution, they turn development into conspiracy and outsiders into targets. When hate is spoken inside the legislature, it gains the cover of law. The post-election months saw exactly this. Omar Abdullah's return as chief minister was followed not just by administrative changes but a discursive shift. On the assembly **floor**, known terrorists were eulogised. Politicians warned of being strangers in our own land, fuelling resentment toward non-locals. Claims of demographic invasion were made without data. Speeches vilified pilgrims and migrant workers, creating a psychologically permissive culture for violence. The political class blamed the Reasi and Pahalgam massacres on intelligence failures. Few asked what narratives had been aired in the months prior. The truth is hard but necessary: the bullets were fired by terrorists, but the ideological ammunition came from elected representatives. The return of violence in 2024 25 was not spontaneous. It was the logical outcome of a political doctrine that treats terror as grievance and not crime. This is how radicalisation is mainstreamed not in enemy camps but in legislatures. Not through fatwas, but through press conferences. Not in camps across the border, but on the Assembly floor. Between 2019 and 202

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Terror incidents fell from 153 in 2019 to just 46 in 2023. Recruitment dropped from 129 to just 1 in the last one year. Organised stone pelting went from over 1,200 to zero. The few attacks that did occur increasingly targeted Jammu province a subtle shift as militants found Kashmir too hostile and well-policed. This was not merely the result of better policing. It was the outcome of a political resolve where no one dared offer linguistic cover to terror. What returned after 2024 was not democracy. It was a broken politics one that speaks to constituencies, not principles. One that reverts to vote-bank calculations, even at the cost of peace. The Pahalgam or Red Fort terror incidents were not simply security failures, they were consequences of politics of poisoning of minds. Violence committed with guns, but nurtured in speeches. The time to name the enablers is now. If we fail again, the next massacre will not be a surprise. It will be a designed outcome. The answer is not less democracy. It is a different democracy: one that refuses to provide even a sentence of cover to the politics of terror. Only then will the idea of India- government of the people, by the people, for the people- begin to mean something real in Jammu & Kashmir. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Asim Munir's power grab in Pakistan makes South Asia a more dangerous neighbourhood. The Pak military is no longer a state within a state. It is the state Yesterday's attack on the Peshawar headquarters of SC must not fall for the trap of defining these ancient hills by height. It will severely fragment the range and open it up for expanded mining and real estate, dealing a blow to ecology Migration of superrich is as natural as that of skilled people. For them, passport is just an I-card When France proposed a 75% super tax on millionaires in 2012, actor Gerard Depardieu promptly became a Why many competing small subnational identities are good for a country Even as he fights back xenophobic attacks from MAGA folk, Kash Patel is getting some heat from desis too. Firefighting politically, he said his Lies, damned lies and statistics Kamala was counting the change I handed over after buying groceries. I agree that math was always my weakest subject, but that's because **I've** never been a calculating person. Kamala by Sadhu TL Vaswani We speak much of our civilisation. We speak, again and again of the achievements of science. We speak of the wonderful things done, according to some, in the past two centuries. New US franchise has no golden arches. Instead, the American megaphone is now being used to cheer the inversion of norms, from South Korea to Brazil A hard-line politician who complained about immigrants' propensity to Lanka's PM is popular and was given a grand welcome by New Delhi. Knotty bilateral issues remain as difficult though Once again highlighting legacy issues between India and Sri Lanka, the Madrashigh court recently directed By Narayani Ganesh Who thought that '6-7' would be selected as 'word' of the year 2025 by Dictionary. Com, while conceding that '6-7' is a usage that is impossible to define? And on his talk show, Thanks to SIR, bhooth-capturing may become a thing of the past If indeed the 65L names deleted from the records by the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) were of bona fide living residents of Bihar whom As the Trump-Mamdani meet goes viral, remember fun political theatre is often nothing mo

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Of the lived society they help society resolve stresses, strains, conflicts and confusions it faces over time. Making a distinction between eternal and ephemeral, S Radhakrishnan says, While the truths of spirit are permanent, rules change from age to age. Ramakrishna Paramhans summarises the essentially changing character of dharmas thus The Mughal coins have no currency under the Company rule. Binding dharma in the past may be insupportable, even objectionable, today. The post pandemic world is trying to slowly resume the flow from where it paused. In our country where unemployment is high, ironically, studies have revealed that post lockdown, India will face labour shortage in the coming years. Not only that, but the International Labour Organisation has also stated that by 2030, India will face a whopping 29 million skill deficit which will cause huge dent in our economy. It is high time that the country with one of the youngest populations in the world taps into that bottomless well of untapped potential. And for that, we need career counselling. Career counselling is the process of informed, insightful, and instructive guidance by an expert to help students know and understand themselves and the choices they have, to make educational, career, and life decisions. Career counsellors are increasingly being sought out in recent years as parents and students realise the need for making sensible decisions regarding one future. Having been familiarised with only a chosen few out of the myriad of work spheres out there, throughout school, a student steps out into the world with a narrow view. They are then bombarded with choices that they either never give much thought to or overthink about. This is where career counselling steps in. As a country that has never been one to invest in counselling of any type, we have failed to provide guidance, a beacon, a pathfinder, that our young generation desperately needs. India ranked 139 out of 149 countries in the annual World Happiness Report 2021. And of the numerous factors that contributed to this low happiness index, job dissatisfaction is a major factor. The biggest issue with the Indian population has been that we make choices by limiting ourselves to the narrow spectrum of opportunities that we are familiar with. The education sector has also been constantly changing in the past decade. The introduction of smart classrooms, online digital learning, National Education Policy, and the likes have **opened** the sector to a promising future. As the technology evolves over time, newer techniques, and methods to blend education and technology have also come up. One of the resulting trends of these changes has been ease of access to the psychometric tests that have been in use for decades in various capacities. Psychometric tests are tools to objectively assess, measure, and identify a person personality traits, aptitude, intelligence, skills, cognitive abilities, and behavioral styles. These are being increasingly used in career counselling to match students and employees to a suitable career or role. Career counsellors are using such tests to.

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Asset quality improved amid the pandemic stress could be as under when the lockdown was imposed, it was banks that were functioning taking risks and assuring customers availability of basic services. Even some of the benefits of stimulus packages were routed through banks. Cash was made available at branches and ATMs. Responding to the needs, many services were moved to offsite to deliver them on contactless mode. The sustained response reinstated the confidence of the users and those who could repay loans have started repaying them reducing their outstanding commitments. That was one reason why deposit growth slowed down but recovery in some loans were forthcoming. **ii deleveraging balance sheets:** the enthusiastic entrepreneurs and corporate sector sat through to deleverage their balance sheets. They consolidated their sources and deployment of funds, trimmed their balances sheets, pruned debt equity ratio and removed the flab to turn into smarter entities. In the process, some portions of loans were repaid as part of rejigging their own balance sheets. This also helped banks. **iii rbi relaxations to withstand covid stress:** rbi came to the rescue of banks immediately after the national lockdown was announced beginning 27 the march 2020 on account of pandemic. The moratorium of 6 months provided for borrowers to repay their loans was enough time for the borrowers to readjust their finances. They brought down their exposures and eligible borrows availed fresh loans under emergency credit line guarantee scheme cells. The constant up gradation of cells scheme and extension of time lines regulated many borrow accounts. The interest on interest compound interest on loans up to rs.2 cores was also reimbursed to borrowers to reduce the load. It has added to the relief. **iv restructuring facility:** looking at the prolonged pandemic trends, rbi came up with loan restructuring framework i & ii. A onetime restructuring of existing loans to get registered exempted memos classified as standard without a downgrade in the asset classification was permitted, provided the aggregate exposure, including non fund based facilities, of banks and nbfc's to the borrower does not exceed 25 crore as on January 1, 2020. Even if the borrower loan account was in default but if it was standard asset as on January 1, 2020 was made eligible for restructuring. The loan account should have continued to be classified as a standard asset till the date of implementation of the restructuring scheme that was **open** until December 31, 2020. It was followed by second restructuring framework with extension of time lines. Total loans restructured by Indian banks under two rounds of resolution schemes announced by rbi in the wake of the covid 19 pandemic crossed rest 1.5 lakh crore at the end of September 2021. **v Klamath committee panel:** in order to provide restructuring facilities to general category of borrowers stressed due to covid19, rbi has set up the kiva. Klamath committee thereby creating a special window under the prudential framework on resolution of stressed assets to allow restructuring from September 7, 2020. The committee.

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In the digital economy and earn a sustainable livelihood. This has not only improved their financial situation but has also empowered them to become self-reliant. With the rise of digital platforms and online marketplaces, rural entrepreneurs now have access to a broader customer base beyond their local markets. This has opened up new opportunities for small scale businesses in remote areas, allowing them to reach customers nationwide. Moreover, e commerce has enabled rural artisans and craftsmen to showcase their unique products to a global audience. This has not only helped to preserve traditional art forms and handicrafts but has also generated employment opportunities for many skilled workers in rural areas. Additionally, e-commerce has brought about a significant shift in the way rural consumers shop. With the convenience of online shopping and doorstep delivery, people in rural areas can now access a wide range of previously unavailable products. This has also helped to bridge the gap between urban and rural markets, bringing about greater economic inclusivity and reducing regional disparities. The emergence of rural tech has not only improved rural house hold living standards but has also created new opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs. As we move towards a more digitally connected world, the rural tech will continue to play a crucial role in bridging the gap between urban and rural India. H3N2 VIRUS is a non-human influenza virus that normally circulates in pigs and that has infected humans. Influenza A H3N3 is responsible for present rise in flu cases as notified by ICMR. Both H1N1 and H3N2 subtypes are variants of influenza A which change genetically as well as antigenic ally to produce new variants. H3N2 tends to change more rapidly, both genetically and antigenic ally, compared to H1N1. H3N2 is the cause behind rise in flu case that we have been seeing recently. Influenza H3N2 pandemic was first reported in 1968 in the USA for the first time and recently in the year 2011 and again 2020-21. Influenza viruses can spread from pigs to people and from people to pigs. Spread from infected pigs to humans is thought to happen in the same way that seasonal influenza viruses spread between people; mainly through infected droplets created when an infected pig coughs or sneezes. The symptoms of H3N2 virus are similar to other respiratory viruses, including fever, sore throat, nasal discharge, headache, coughing, myalgia, and nasal discharge. In severe **cases**, pneumonia and bronchitis could happen, which can lead to death. As we know that there is no targeted therapy for most of the viral infections and specially for flu it is symptomatic therapy that is advised for patients. Oral anti vials like oseltamivir, zanamivir, peramivir can be used. Preventive measures like using masks, frequent hand wash, cough etiquette and self isolation are recommended to minimise the risk of disease transmission to other members in the community. There is no specific vaccine for h3n2 variant of influenza A virus but research to develop a vaccine has started. A pilot H3N2 virus vaccine was produced and preliminary clinical studies indicated that it leads to a significant immune response. Seasonal flu vaccine will not protect against H3N2v. Seasonal flu vaccines protect against seasonal influenza viruses. CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older get a seasonal flu vaccine each year. Many types of seasonal influenza vaccines are available in

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Influenza vaccines, though, generally have variable and only moderate efficacy; they remain a critical preventive strategy for controlling the disease and its consequences. The egg-based quad trivalent vaccines have been recommended as they give protection to both influenza A and B variants. In the case of influenza, effectiveness is expected to be lower than the efficacy reduction in risk of a disease in a given condition because it is measured using the rates of influenza-like illness, which is not always caused by influenza. Studies on the effectiveness of flu vaccines in the real world are difficult due to many reasons vaccines and also because influenza is often confused with other influenza-like illnesses. However, most of the times the flu vaccine strains have been a good match for the circulating strains and even a mismatched vaccine can often provide cross-protection. The effectiveness of seasonal flu vaccines varies significantly, with an estimated average efficacy of 50-60% against symptomatic disease, depending on vaccine strain, age, prior immunity, and immune function. Though vaccinated people can still contract influenza, The effectiveness of flu vaccines particularly among the elderly and immune compromised is still beneficial in reducing the mortality rate and hospitalization rate due to influenza as well as duration of hospitalization stay. Vaccination of school-age children has shown to provide indirect protection for other age groups as well. Considering the point that seasonal flu vaccine reduced chances of serious illness and complication leading to hospitalization and even death in certain cases it is advised to take a flu shot. Especially immunocompromised and elderly people above 65 years are recommended to take the vaccine annually. As organizations adjust to the realities of the pandemic era, business leaders are expected to prioritize opportunities for learning and development to make existing employees feel satisfied and enthusiastic, in addition to attracting a new workforce from an agitated and expanding talent pool. To foster an atmosphere that values education and progression, these organizations should position Learning and Development prospects as rewards from the commencement of an employee tenure. Incorporating such opportunities into performance management not only incentivises individuals to explore possibilities but also stances them as a reward. Starting performance management immediately after onboarding enables managers and their teams in coordinating organisational and personal objectives and requirements. Companies should introduce prospects for learning and development in from the beginning itself phase and discuss career trajectories and advancements in **the** industry. As per the facts 1267 USD is the average annual spend per employee on L&D across the globe. An employee centric approach to business is essential for sustainable success. It is imperative to draw some guiding principles and use development and training as hiring and retention tools. Improved innovation Employees benefit from L&D programmers as they keep them up to date on industry trends and emerging technologies. This understanding spark new ideas and solutions. Learning and development programmers can assist employees in identifying and solving problems in unique and creative ways by providing them with the necessary problem-solving tools and techniques. Learning encourages risk-taking and experimentation, which can lead to

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The traditional degree based as well as the classroom trainings are too inflexible and inefficient to serve the needs of lifelong learners. Many functions in companies have evolved with Technology and AI, and monotonous tasks or services are productized using Software like etc. In learning and development, we will see a similar transformation and we will have Learning as a Service Lamas, where companies will have a one-stop solution for all their Learning & Development needs, she adds. Increased productivity the training programmers equip employees with new skillset while improving the existing ones. This can result in increased productivity as employees become more capable of handling their job roles responsibly. Employees are more motivated to perform well and are more willing to take on challenging tasks and responsibilities when they are able to apply the learning outcomes in the real world. It improves employee communication and teamwork, which can lead to better collaboration and more efficient work processes, ultimately increasing productivity. A better work culture Employees are more likely to embrace a growth mindset when they are encouraged to learn and enhance their abilities. This indicates that they are open to new challenges and willing to take risks, which can lead to a more innovative and creative workplace. Providing opportunities for learning and development demonstrates to employees that their employer is concerned about their personal and professional development, which increases engagement and commitment to their jobs. This can foster a sense of community and belonging, which can improve work culture, increase engagement, improve teamwork, increase productivity and performance and assist in attracting and retaining top talent. Building strengths and resolving inadequacies Employees can benefit from L&D programmers by receiving assessments, feedback and coaching to better understand their strengths and weaknesses. Employees can use this to identify areas where they are already excelling and areas where they need to make improvements. The programmer allows them to learn new skills and techniques that will let them capitalize on their best attributes and conquer their flaws. These initiatives boost confidence in their abilities, which can result in improved productivity. Employees can feel more prepared to take on new challenges and responsibilities when built on their strengths and resolve areas where they feel inadequate. Reskilling and up skilling can help in managing multitasking often requires employees to be adaptable and flexible. By learning new skills or improving existing ones, employees can become more **adaptable** and better able to handle changing situations. Reskilling and up skilling can improve a person ability to perform multiple tasks efficiently as it requires strong time management skills. Reskilling and up skilling programs can help employees learn to prioritize tasks, manage their time effectively, and stay organized, all of which can improve their ability to multitask. Learning new skills and improving existing ones can increase an employee confidence and sense of competence, which can make them more willing and able to take on multiple tasks. Bottom-line Learning and development play a critical role in navigating employee performance within an organization. By providing employees with the necessary training, resources and support, organizations can ensure that their employees have the skills and kn

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In the current political environment any matter that has the need for the Centre and State to have their laws, will not succeed because of non-co-operation from the politically opposed states. They will sit tight and not announce their proposals of Rules and Regulations for implementation. It is here that the Centre must follow the path laid out when GST Law was implemented across India. States passed their own GST laws closely linked to the Model Central GST Law. After all, the parties comprising current Central Govt also have state govts under control while some states are under opposition parties control. Let the states governments aligned with the Central Government pass Agriculture Laws and Labour Codes closely aligned with the Model Laws and Practices desired by their political parties already passed earlier and go ahead with implementation. This concept of Big Bang implementation is a failure and will not always work in the Indian political landscape. This is the only way that competitive federalism will work. States which are not interested in passing progressive laws on agriculture and labour current examples taking the financial and economic environment of today and not of the 1970 and 1980 will find that Capital and Technology are not coming to their states. Capital and Technology will move towards more responsive and forward looking states. It is only when the states find themselves being pushed aside in preferences for both agriculture and industry development thru modern and responsive agriculture and labour laws that they will be pushed to do a rethink on their political responses. The best way to get positive responses is to show that a different way has better end output realisation and more beneficial to the state. The NDA BJP government must start implementation in states where they govern. Also, at least in agriculture the centre is often funding the subsidies and MSP payments. A mechanism can always be found out to make reluctant state governments come on board. The political environment of India today needs a different way of managing conflicts and competitive federalism is a good and effective way forward. For some years, there could be confusion and a mix of applicable laws across states. However, finally everything will move towards joint consensual working away from conflict working that we have today. Let the action for competitive federalism start. There is no point of passing laws which are not **implemented**. The implantation can be in bits and pieces, but at least the way is slowly forward rather than at a standstill. The ball as if his life depended on it. That intensity of involvement, which pushes human beings beyond their limits, makes the whole world sit up and watch. However, the fundamental premise of any sport is this: you must have the fire of wanting to win but also the balance to see that if you lose, it okay. You never play a game to lose. But if you do lose, it is still alright with you. If you maintain this balance within you, you are a sportsman. This is a perfect metaphor for life. As a high-voltage election reached its culmination and the results were announced, it was time for us to take our inspiration from the playing field. Many have forgotten what it means to live in a modern-day democracy. In this system, we have collectively decided to choose our leaders through the power of the ballot box. Maybe somebody I don't like has just been elected, but I still have to bow down and accept the ver

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If we choose democracy, it is time to abandon our tribal mind-set. Above all, the vile speech and gang warfare on social media where people endlessly spew toxicity at each other should come to a halt. It is time to stop being sore losers or boastful winners. Trying to paint the other as evil just because the verdict is not to our liking is juvenile. A mature democracy has to outgrow such pettiness. Does this mean that we have lost our right to speak or protest? No. A democracy means we retain our right to disagree, dialogue and debate, but it is important not to succumb to hatred. For the victor, the sweetness of triumph should not turn into the lethargy of complacency. For the loser, the bitterness of defeat should not turn into despair. Victory should be the stepping stone for heightened levels of performance. Defeat should lead to an honest evaluation of what was done and what could be improved. Ultimately, there is no such thing as triumph or loss. As humans, we come into life with nothing and go with nothing. In a limited context, some win and some lose. But to rise beyond limited notions of victory and defeat is the whole point of the game of life. It is also the essence of every spiritual process. A recent study published in Nature Communications journal has revealed that our attention span, or the ability to focus on something for an extended period, is becoming shorter. In present times, an information overload from digital gadgets, numerous apps and social media channels confronts the limited resources of our brain. To cope with this onslaught, our mind sifts through the incoming information and rapidly shifts from one thing to another. It develops the habit of getting distracted frequently and loses the capacity to engage in activities which require sustained attention, focus and patience. Psychologists have called this phenomenon popcorn mind, as it resembles popping corn kernels. The phenomenon is so prevalent that most of us don't even see it as a problem. In other words, it has just become the way we are and the way the world around us happens to be. Without us realising, this syndrome creates havoc in our system. It leads to problems, including mental fatigue, stress, boredom, meaninglessness, irritability, anxiety, poor decision making, disturbed relationships and lack of initiative in the real world. **The** first crucial step in rewiring our mind is to become aware of our short attention span, its negative effects and the amount of time we waste in dealing with the inconsequential information overload. This awareness will make us see through our denial and we will acknowledge the gravity of the situation. As we become aware of the problem, we can use our discernment and inner power to overcome it. The Bible states, the eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! Our eyes, senses and minds are not passive entities that must grapple with whatever is presented. Rather, they are powerful entities that can choose what to take in, when, how much, and when to stop. Let us begin by becoming conscious of our body and its associated physical sensations. The body sends strong signals when it is at ease and when it is in distress. We need to receive these signals, nourish it with care and love and make sure that we are not subjecting it to toxic st

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With her elegant saris and grey streaked hair evoking her formidable mother in law, Sonia Gandhi can rally her party like no other Congress leader. At the recent Congress Working Committee meet, the script was pre written. After near annihilation in state polls, the moment Sonia Gandhi said we three the Gandhi are ready to step back, an immediate chorus rose: There was no question of the Gandhi resigning. It a refrain at least as old as 2004 when Congress lined up to plead for Sonia Gandhi to reconsider after she sacrificed her claim to the prime minister ship, harking to her inner voice. In Punjab the messy change of the Congress guard bore Rahul Gandhi imprimatur, and in UP, Piranha Gandhi led the party campaign. In both states, Congress has been pulverised but the party has vociferously rejected any accountability for Gandhi siblings. At the center of this fatally defeat proof mindset is the enigmatic figure of Sonia Gandhi. Invested with the aura of sacrifice, she is both goddess and nemesis of Congress. In an expected but still path breaking education reform, the Common University Entrance Test is set to extend to all central universities and affiliated colleges. Each of their undergraduate courses will see admissions on the basis of students CUET scores, from the coming session itself. This test has been tottering on since its launch way back in 2010, but the National Education Policy 2020 and the pandemic firmed up the resolve around it. Chaotic admissions that exhausted students and faculty alike, should now segue into an efficient process that reduces the burden on all concerned dramatically and also creates a more level playing field. A radical departure is the shift from an admission process that was often about board exam marks alone to one where these marks will have zero weightage. This part of UGC announcement on Monday was a surprise, while central universities shift to CUET had been announced last year itself. Many Class XII students are dismayed. With this year CBSE board exam having been split into two terms, moreover with marks from the first term having been released only when the second term exam is upon them, these students feel the rules keep getting changed on them, randomly and stressfully. And it is true that with CUET applications likely opening in the first week of April with the test itself taking place **in** the first week of July, the window for adjusting to the new entrance system is nervily narrow. Still, binning the board exam marks was necessary. These kept breaking records even in 2021, when students seldom went to school. Differing evaluation standards also tilt the scales for different boards very unevenly. CUET is expected to be more credible and fair. Plus, as NEP suggests, instead of hundreds of universities devising their own entrance modules, the new system will create efficiencies across the entire education system. Right now CUET is being mandated only for the 45 central universities. For state, private and.

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Deemed universities this is optional. They should opt in. CUET gives students a wide choice of subjects. But before they make a choice, colleges have to finalise which subject tests are required for which courses. There will be teething troubles. UGC needs to address each of these with urgency. Finally, while CUET is aiming to provide fairer access to quality education, it does change the quantity at all. Delhi University will still have legions more aspirants than seats. Bigger reforms are needed to fix that bigger problem. While Yogi Adityanath return as Uttar Pradesh chief minister was a certainty, suspense over the fates of three other incumbent BJP CMs had continued for 10 days. Ultimately, their success in trumping anti incumbency was rewarded. The troika of PS Dhami, N Biren Singh and Pramod Sawant are heavyweights and BJP central leadership had to contend with other claimants for their jobs. But the present BJP, with its powerful high command led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who is also a key factor in helping BJP win state elections, has ensured that state leaders fall in line. Uttarakhand choice was complicated by Dhami personal loss in the assembly election. But the party could ignore how Dhami steadied the state government after Tirath Singh Rawat brief, disastrous stint. He also paid a heavy price for devoting too much time to spearhead the campaign in other seats. But putting the party above self has come back to help Dhami even in defeat. This is indeed among the remarkable features of the post 2014 BJP. Those showing the stomach for difficult fights have been rewarded even when the outcomes haven been immediately positive. Smriti Irani willingness in 2014 to contest against Rahul Gandhi in his pocket borough Amethi despite being a rank outsider to the constituency ended in defeat. But the coveted HRD ministry portfolio awaited her soon after. Junior I&B minister L Murugan as Tamil Nadu party chief had led a yatra moored around the locally worshipped deity Murugan amid stiff opposition from both DMK and ally AIADMK ahead of assembly polls, and he lost a closely fought election from western TN. The promising Dalit leader was promoted as Rajya Sabha member and Union minister, signaling that intrepid nets could win Modi approval. For first timer BJP CMs Bhupendra Patel Gujarat, Jai Ram Thakur Himachal, Basavaraj Bommai Karnataka and Biplab Deb Tripura facing voters in next 14 months, Dhami should be motivational precedent. Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi is expected to visit New Delhi shortly. This is being seen by some as an overture by the Chinese to rebuild fences with India. Some opinion writers have stated that India and China need to work together again. China is the current Chair of BRICS for 2022 and is exploring the possibility of a physical summit later this year. Since the summer of 2020, when China moved large numbers of troops to Eastern Ladakh in an attempt to change the status quo on the ground in that.

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And improved performance. Additionally, ongoing learning and development opportunities can help employees stay up-to-date with the latest industry trends and best practices, which can help them make better decisions and contribute more effectively to the Organisation. The Indian dairy business needs innovation now more than ever. Even though the dairy business has had difficulties lately, there is a growing market for dairy products. India is well-positioned to lead the dairy industry as a major player in the global market, following which India is the world largest producer of milk, and the dairy industry is important to the nation economy. The sector does, however, confront a number of difficulties, such as rising demand, shifting customer tastes, competition, and sustainability issues. The industry may use innovation to overcome these obstacles and seize new possibilities. For instance, firms may stand out in the market and increase their client base by creating new dairy products that adapt to shifting consumer demands. Similar to how firms may boost production, cut expenses, and increase efficiency by implementing new technology like automation and artificial intelligence. Indian dairy industry innovations and advancements India is a major participant in the dairy sector, and the potential for expansion is substantial as the world top milk producer. The Indian dairy business has seen major technical developments in recent years. For the market to stay on top of trends, it is critical to connect with the shifting requirements and aspirations of customers. Innovation may also aid in addressing issues related to sustainability, including lowering the industry carbon impact, enhancing animal welfare, and guaranteeing the wise use of natural resources. For instance, creating innovative feed formulations with lower greenhouse gas emissions can contribute to the industry sustainability and environmental friendliness. Increasing production and efficiency is one of the main problems facing the Indian dairy sector. This may be overcome by utilizing automation and technology, such as automated feeding systems and cutting-edge data analytics. The dairy business in India is one of the biggest in the world, but despite its size and scope, the sector is dealing with a variety of problems that call for creative solutions. India dairy business is highly fragmented, with more rural farmers joining cooperatives rather than major companies. Dairy farming is still integrated into the farming system and is not a standalone business. Big data is another area that Indian corporations are focusing on, in addition to technical **advancements** to enhance farming practices and the organizational supply chain. The use of cutting-edge techniques like precision farming, which uses sensors, data analytics, and machine learning to optimize farm operations, can increase the productivity of Indian dairy farms, which is currently low. Moreover, innovation can aid in the development of fresh and cutting-edge dairy products that reflect shifting customer demands. By decreasing the rate of adulteration and contamination, innovative solutions can aid in improving milk quality as well. Innovation is also required in the fields of animal genetics and breeding in addition to these domains. Farmers may enhance the quality of their milk while simultaneously lessening their influence on the environment by creating new varieties of cows and buffaloes that are more suited to Indian

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Rabindranath Tagore and the Nobel Prize Rabindranath Tagore was one of the greatest literary figures of India and a towering personality of world literature. He was born on 7 May 1861 in Calcutta (now Kolkata) into a culturally rich Bengali family. A poet, writer, philosopher, painter, educationist, and social reformer, Tagore reshaped Indian literature and music and gave it global recognition. His contribution was honored when he became the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913. Rabindranath Tagore received the Nobel Prize for Literature for his collection of poems titled Gitanjali (Song Offerings). The English translation of Gitanjali, done largely by Tagore himself, deeply impressed Western readers with its spiritual depth, simplicity, and universal appeal. The Nobel Committee praised his work for its profoundly sensitive, fresh and beautiful verse through which he expressed his poetic thought in English, making it accessible to the world. Gitanjali reflects Tagore's deep faith in God, nature, humanity, and the inner soul of man. His poetry emphasizes love, devotion, freedom, and harmony between human beings and nature. The spiritual tone of his writings resonated strongly during a time when the world was struggling with materialism and conflict, especially before World War I. Tagore's Nobel Prize was a moment of great pride for India, which was then under British rule. His achievement showed that Indian literature and philosophy could stand equal to the finest works of the West. The prize brought international attention to Indian culture, traditions, and spiritual values. Tagore donated a significant portion of his Nobel Prize money to Visva-Bharati University at Santiniketan, an institution he founded to promote holistic and global education. Apart from poetry, Tagore made remarkable contributions in other fields. He wrote novels, short stories, essays, and plays, and composed over 2,000 songs, now known as Rabindra Sangeet. He also authored the national anthems of India (Jana Gana Mana) and Bangladesh (Amar Sonar Bangla), a rare honor achieved by any individual. In 1915, the British government knighted him, but he renounced the title in 1919 in protest against the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, showing his strong moral and nationalistic values. Rabindranath Tagore passed away on 7 August 1941, but his legacy continues to inspire generations across the world. His Nobel Prize was not just a personal achievement but a historic moment for India and Asia. Tagore's life and works symbolize the power of **literature** to transcend borders, unite humanity, and promote peace, truth, and universal brotherhood. Enemies become lovers. Friday's Trump-Mamdani meet at the White House saw them cosplaying all kinds of bromance Govt must upgrade auto safety norms more than it's planning to do finally, stricter norms are to be rolled out for automobile safety in the next phase of Bharat NCAP starting Oct 2027. Cars will Man is basically a hunter; he is not by nature vegetarian. First, he became a hunter, and for thousands of years he was just a meat-eater all of that is carried in the unconscious of GOI's junked archaic, anti-entrepreneurship labour laws. But mega factories need more liberal rules. States that relax provisions further will attract big investment & create jobs PM Modi has taken the courageous step of replacing 29 To stay on in it is to keep suffering. Exit is the only wise course. You may be tempted to maintain the tax

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Indian history is rich and diverse, beginning with the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation and reaching great political and moral heights under rulers like Chandragupta Maurya and Ashoka. These three phases show the growth of Indian society, administration, and culture. The Indus Valley Civilisation (also called the Harappan Civilisation) was one of the earliest urban civilisations in the world. It flourished around 2500 BCE in the north-western parts of the Indian subcontinent, mainly along the Indus River and its tributaries. Important cities such as Harappa, Mohenjo-daro, Dholavira, and Lothal reveal advanced town planning. The cities had well-planned streets laid out in a grid pattern, brick-built houses, covered drainage systems, and large public buildings like the Great Bath. The people practiced agriculture, domesticated animals, and were skilled in crafts like pottery, bead-making, and metalwork. Trade was carried out with Mesopotamia, showing economic prosperity. The script of the Indus Valley Civilisation is still undeciphered, making it difficult to fully understand their political and social structure. Despite this, the civilisation stands as a strong foundation of Indian culture and urban life. After many centuries, India witnessed the rise of the Maurya Empire, founded by Chandragupta Maurya around 321 BCE. With the guidance of his teacher and advisor Chanakya (Kautilya), Chandragupta overthrew the Nanda dynasty and established the first large and centralized empire in India. His empire extended from present-day Afghanistan to eastern India. Chandragupta Maurya set up a strong administrative system, maintained a powerful army, and ensured efficient tax collection. The administration was well organized, as described in Kautilya's famous work, the Arthashastra. Chandragupta later adopted Jainism and spent his final years in spiritual pursuit, showing a balance between power and renunciation. One of the greatest rulers of ancient India was Ashoka, the grandson of Chandragupta Maurya. Ashoka initially followed a policy of military expansion, but his life changed after the brutal Kalinga War. Deeply disturbed by the loss of life and suffering caused by the war, Ashoka embraced Buddhism and adopted the policy of Dhamma, which emphasized non-violence, tolerance, kindness, and respect for all living beings. Ashoka spread his ideas through inscriptions and edicts carved on rocks and pillars across his empire. These edicts provide valuable historical information and reflect his concern for public welfare, including healthcare, road construction, and moral education. In conclusion, the Indus Valley Civilisation represents the beginning of organized urban life in India, while Chandragupta Maurya laid the **foundation** of a powerful empire. Ashoka transformed kingship by promoting moral values and non-violence. Together, they highlight the political, cultural, and ethical development of ancient Indian civilization. Don't. Just close this chapter so a nice By Meena Om The proposal to increase work hours to fourteen hours a day, six days a week, for the sake of productivity, keeps surfacing repeatedly. Gita offers better solutions guidance. Employees could inculcate Tejas, despite Dubai tragedy, remains vital for IAF It was a terrible tragedy, bad optics for India, and it put a sharper focus on a critical indigenous defence project. The pilot didn't survive the Tejas Its old liberal face was a triumph of PR Remember when Elon Musk was in

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The history of ancient India shows a long journey of social, political, and cultural development. From the early urban society of the Indus Valley Civilisation to the powerful rule of Chandragupta Maurya and the ethical governance of Ashoka, India experienced major transformations that shaped its future. The Indus Valley Civilisation emerged around 2600 BCE and is considered one of the earliest examples of advanced human settlement. It developed in regions of present-day India and Pakistan, along the Indus River system. Archaeological sites such as Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Kalibangan, and Lothal reveal a high level of planning and organization. The cities were built with baked bricks and had straight roads, efficient drainage systems, and well-constructed houses. Agriculture was the main occupation, supported by fertile land and river water. People grew crops like wheat and barley and also practiced animal husbandry. The discovery of seals, weights, and measures indicates a strong trade system and economic control. Although the script used by the Indus people remains undeciphered, their artistic skills and technological knowledge show a mature civilization with peaceful social life. Several centuries later, India saw the rise of the Mauryan Empire, marking the beginning of political unity on a large scale. Chandragupta Maurya, with the support of Chanakya, established this empire in the 4th century BCE. Chandragupta defeated the Nanda rulers and unified much of northern India under a single administration. He introduced a centralized system of governance with clear laws, taxation, and military organization. The empire maintained internal security and promoted economic stability through state control over trade and agriculture. Chandragupta's reign is remembered for strong leadership and administrative discipline. In his later years, he accepted Jain philosophy and left his throne, showing a unique combination of royal power and spiritual detachment. Among the Mauryan rulers, Ashoka stands out as one of the most influential kings in world history. At the beginning of his reign, Ashoka followed the traditional path of conquest. However, the Kalinga War became a turning point in his life. Witnessing the destruction and human suffering caused by war deeply affected him. Ashoka then embraced Buddhism and adopted a new policy based on Dhamma, which promoted peace, compassion, tolerance, and respect for all religions. He took several steps for the welfare of his people, such as building roads, planting trees, digging wells, and establishing hospitals. Ashoka communicated his ideas through inscriptions written on rocks and pillars in different **parts** of his empire, making them accessible to common people. In summary, the Indus Valley Civilisation represents India's early achievements in urban planning and social organization. Chandragupta Maurya created a strong political foundation through unity and administration, while Ashoka introduced moral values into governance. Together, these phases reflect the growth of Indian civilization in administration, culture, and ethical thinking.

He said Trump didn't seem to have the sort of character that reflects well on the US. Kissing is an evolutionary tradition. Moral police, take note Trust scientists to take the thrill out of kissing, tracking its roots back 21mn years ago to find most apes locked lips before modern 'we' happened, The long, funny history of kissing Scientists have discovered something surp

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Sector, there have only been meetings between army commanders of India and China aimed at resolving these issues and some meetings between the foreign ministers of India and China in third countries. PM Modi has attended a few summit level meetings where China President Xi Jinping was present but only virtually. There have been no other exchanges between India and China over these past two years. Last week Bunny and I went back to school and learnt an important lesson. The school is the all girl Him Jota free boarding school in Dehradun, founded in 2005 by the then governor of Uttarakhand, Sudarshan Agarwal. Having heard a lot about it from friends, we decided to pay the school a visit. We were greeted by a helpful of smartly uniformed students, ranging from age 10 to 17, bright eyed and melodic as a flock of songbirds as they wished us Good morning in unison. The school has 280 pupils from Grade 5 to Grade 12, all from subsistence farming households from the neighbouring hill tracts. We were told that when they enter the school most of them can speak only the local dialect. Yet, within weeks, they begin to pick up Hindi and English, the medium of instruction. Two large cabinets laden with trophies for achievements in fields as wide ranging as athletics, soccer, and debating, won against opponents including the renowned Doon School, attest to the all round education that Him Jota provides, a true light of learning, a resolute candle of hope against the darkness of deprivation and despair. If I were to believe in miracles, I d say that the school is a minor example of this phenomenon. So what the secret of such benign sorcery Speaking with Bunny, one of the senior teachers suggested a clue as to the answer. She said that over the years she had learnt more from her students than she d taught them. This implies that true learning is a loop in which the teacher learns from the taught, the guru from the chela, the leader from the led. To be able to teach effectively the teacher must learn, from the needs and hopes of the students, how best to stimulate and satisfy their innate hunger for knowledge. This learning loop is relevant beyond the classroom. Successful marketing is all about listening to what consumers want and supplying it, not predetermining **what** is wanted and foisting it on unwilling recipients. Successful political leaders are those who listen and respond to the voter and amend their agenda accordingly, instead of trying to impose their will upon the won of the people. Energy Poverty is a stark reality for around 1.3 billion people globally. And the age old Indic climate ethics can provide solutions and practices to mitigate many climate issues we face today. Indic traditions consider nature as powerful and divine, seen in practices such as revering the rivers, mountains, trees, animals, and the earth. Although the famous Chick tree hugging Movement led.

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By women is one of the widely known examples of exemplary Indian environmental leadership in recent times, numerous other environmental practices being followed for generations can help shape energy ethics for the planet even today. Diverse Indic notions on energy conservation suggest that: The five elements space, air, fire, water, and earth are interconnected and provide us with renewable energy sources that can continue to support the web of life on earth. Hence, we must practice our dharma in harmony with the earth to protect and conserve energy resources rather than destroy or misuse them. Each local and national community can advocate for an end to exploiting the earth through polluting, extractive processes. Simple living is a powerful enabler for developing sustainable economies, and energy must be consumed sustainably and responsibly by and for humankind. Our treatment of nature and usage of energy directly affect our karma. We can choose to protect energy resources in the future, replacing destructive karmic patterns with good ones. Gandhi ji is an inspirational model for simple living. His entire life can be seen as an ecological treatise his every minute act, emotion, and thought were aligned with the Indic values of truth, nonviolence, and simplicity. Belief in the cycle of rebirth, wherein every being travels through millions of cycles of birth and rebirth in different forms, depending on their karma from previous lives, makes people respect every form of life on this planet. A person may reincarnate as a human, animal, bird, or another member of the broader community of life and traverse through many lives before achieving liberation. Reincarnation creates a sense of solidarity between humans and all living beings. For example, several rural communities such as the Bishops, Bhils, and Swadhyayis have maintained strong practices to conserve their local ecosystems, such as water bodies, flora and fauna as part of their daily lives. When Bishnois are protecting animals and trees, the Swadhyayis are building Vrikshamandirs tree temples and Normal Nirs water harvesting sites and the Bhils are practising their rituals in sacred groves, they are simply expressing their reverence for nature according to Indic teachings and not restoring the environment. They and several other communities do not view religion, ecology and ethics as separate but as an integral part of their dharma to treat nature with respect. The one important environmental message Indic traditions can share with the rest of the **world** is that human beings must be grateful and protective towards energy resources as we stand to benefit from their proper usage. Ancient beliefs and traditions are a strong indicator of Indic climate ethics and are closely linked to the wellbeing of the people and environment on this planet. It is time the rest of the world embraces these practices. While the world attention is focused on the Ukraine issue, PMs of India and Japan held an important summit on the 19th March 2022 to work towards creating a world order that would ensure peace, stability and prosperity in the world.

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The summit not only discussed the issues pertaining to the free, open and inclusive Indo Pacific but also the threats arising from terrorism in the Afghan Pak region, North Korean ballistic missile tests, disarmament and importantly the growing challenges in the East and South China Seas. First, the Joint Statement placed emphasis on the commitment of the two sides to working in tandem towards a peaceful, stable and prosperous world, based on a rules based order that respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations, and emphasized the need for all countries to seek peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law without resorting to threat or use of force or any attempt to unilaterally change status quo. They stressed their common vision for a free, open and inclusive Indo Pacific free from coercion. Japan also supported India concept of the Indo Pacific Oceans Initiative IPOI. Japan is participating as the lead partner on the connectivity pillar of the IPOI. Both the countries place emphasis on the ASEAN Outlook of Indo Pacific AOIP which also upholds the principles such as the rule of law, openness, freedom, transparency and inclusiveness. Second, maintaining peace and stability in the East and South China Seas have been specially mentioned as the priority areas. While expressing their shared interest in the safety and security of the maritime domain, freedom of navigation and over flight, unimpeded lawful commerce and peaceful resolution of disputes with full respect for legal and diplomatic processes in accordance with international law, they expressed their determination to continue prioritizing the role of international law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea UNCLOS, and facilitate collaboration, including in maritime security, to meet challenges against the rules based maritime order in the East and South China Seas. They emphasized the importance of non militarisation and self restraint. Crucially they stressed the need for the early conclusion of a substantive and effective Code of Conduct Coca in the South China Sea in accordance with international law, especially UNCLOS, without prejudice to the rights and interests of all nations including those not party to these negotiations. This has become very significant in view of the Chinese aggressiveness and the fact that three islands in the South China Sea have been fully militarised. Third, they resolved to strengthen the economies of the two countries powered by robust bilateral investment and trade **flows** through diversified, resilient, transparent, open, secure and predictable global supply chains that provide for economic security and prosperity of their peoples. Observing that India has taken several steps to improve the business environment for the Japanese investors, they hoped that JPY 5 trillion Rest 3,2 Lakh core of public and private investment and financing from Japan to India in the next five years, to finance appropriate public and private projects of mutual interest, would be realised. Both sides stress the need for giving a greater push to the digital partnership between the two countries. Japan is looking forward to attracting.

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More IT professionals from India to help Japan in this field. Fourth, the Joint Statement also stressed strengthening the defense cooperation between the two countries. Both sides welcomed the operationalization of the Agreement Concerning Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services between the Japan Self Defense Forces and the Indian Armed Forces. They expressed their commitment to continue bilateral and multilateral exercises including Dharma Guardian and Malabar respectively and welcomed the participation of Japan for the first time in exercise MILAN. A fighter exercise between the Japan Air Self Defense Force and the Indian Air Force has been planned. Both the countries are going to identify more areas of defense equipment and technology for future cooperation. Fifth, the need to counter terrorism received due importance. They noted the need for ensuring that the Afghanistan soil is not used for sheltering, training, planning or financing terrorist acts and in this context reaffirmed the importance of UNSCR 2593 2021. They also called upon all countries to work together for rooting out terrorist safe havens and infrastructure, disrupting terrorist networks and their financing channels, and halting the cross border movement of terrorists. 26 11 attacks were specially mentioned. The Pakistan support to the terrorist organisation remains a prime concern for India security. Sixth, besides emphasising the need for disarmament and the challenges arising from North Korea, the PMs expressed their serious concern about the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and assessed its broader implications, particularly to the Indo Pacific region. They reiterated their call for an immediate cessation of violence and noted that there was no other choice but the path of dialogue and diplomacy for resolution of the conflict. A very reasonable approach. India and Japan both desire that the instruments of conflict management should be used and not force. The primacy of dialogue was stressed to resolve the issue. If Biden terms this approach shaky, it is his problem. The US should desist attempts to force the Quad members to pursue its policy. This would turn the Quad into an alliance and not a grouping of like minded nations and the larger purpose of establishing peace, stability and prosperity of Indo Pacific would become a pipe dream. Such an attempt would make the smaller nations uncomfortable to work with India IPOI or support the FOIP. They do not wish to take sides in the US China rivalry. Along with **the** many reforms in the policy to strengthen higher education in the country, the NEP mandated accreditation of all state run schools from grade to accreditation is a process carried out to improve the standards of education, outcomes, and governance of schools. It looks at measures such as the quality of teaching, attendance, number of teachers across subjects and grades, safety, financial probity, curriculum, basic sustainable infrastructure, resources, community participation, governance process, and accountability. A fair, transparent, and rigorous accreditation and evaluation process can enable education systems to change the academics, management, and leadership of institutions for the better related Article.

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Under this system, all schools state run and privately run have to ensure adherence to established minimum standards in key performance domains. These include the school administrative responsibility, its infrastructure, teaching quality, community participation, integrity, and inclusion. The process is based on predefined standards by the states for their schools, and is carried out by an authorised body of the state education department. Accreditation is not new to the Indian education system. These are some examples of accreditation bodies that already exist design institution specific standards on which evaluations can be based. The National Programme on School Standards and Evaluation, also known as Shaala Siddhi, was launched in 2015 to conduct school evaluations aimed at improving the quality of school education. In 2009 the Gujarat state government started an initiative called Gunotsav celebration of education to help government and government aided elementary schools identify areas of self improvement, such as infrastructure and teacher training. In 2019 this was revamped and introduced as with the support of multiple stakeholders including schools, education departments, and nonprofits in order to implement the policy effectively. The framework they develop will focus on setting parameters of school performance such as academia, infrastructure, finances, and teaching quality and identify critical areas for improvement. All the schools will be assessed on these set standards, and the self disclosure of all essential information will be published on the SSSA website as well as on the website of each school. At the end of the assessment, all schools will be provided with a report card consisting of comprehensively analysed data and schools must provide children with basic infrastructure, including separate toilets for boys and girls. Building on the RTE, the NEP 2020 mandates schools to disclose accreditation data on public domains the state departments and authorities would be given a list of requirements they have to meet, and their ability to meet them will be made public this, in turn, will help improve the accountability of the system. By introducing minimum quality standards for schools to follow, the proposed measures to accredit schools can help monitor and build an ecosystem of transparency and accountability to ensure quality education in even the most remote parts of the country. Moreover, it will aid schools, states, communities, and their respective stakeholders in determining these minimum quality standards for education. Future pathway and implementation challenges A successful example of accreditation is **the** Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau DISB. The DISB engages school assessors from all over the globe to evaluate their schools. As a result, Dubai schools have a culture of transparency and accountability, which has helped improve the overall quality of education in the country. In India the process of accreditation is being operationalised in accordance with the NEP 2020. The formation of SSSA bodies should help guarantee the maintenance of minimum quality standards based on predetermined parameters. Furthermore, the policy emphasises transparency by making all fundamental regulatory information available on a public platform. Nonetheless, it is important for us to keep a.

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Few potential challenges in mind: Resources: While accreditation will shed light on the areas where schools need support, will each state be able to provide its schools the resources both monetary and otherwise that they need to improve their infrastructure, curriculum, teacher quality, teacher recruitment, etc. Accessibility: While the NEP 2020 asks for all accreditation information to be made publicly available, we need to ensure that this is done in a way that will allow community members especially parents to understand and engage with it. Potential for uptake: Schools themselves need to be coached to understand the importance of the accreditation process, what data they need to collect and the importance of data transparency, and how they communicate their gaps to their communities. Today, states are gearing up for the process of accreditation. And while they are faced with real concerns, the expectation is that each state will embrace the process and use it to improve the overall quality of its schools. According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey PLFS , the unemployment rate in urban India stood at 9.4 percent between January and March 2021, with an even higher proportion of youth unemployment 22.9 percent. In the same time period, more than 11 percent of the urban workforce reported working for less than 36 hours in a typical week. During the pandemic induced lockdown in 2020, urban unemployment had reached unprecedented peaks approximately 21 percent in April June 2020. Moreover, employment in much of urban manufacturing and service industries tends to be highly seasonal and contractual, with greater casualisation being reported over the last decade. Given these facts, an urban employment guarantee UEG scheme is imperative to provide livelihood security for the urban poor. The parliamentary committee on labour had recently recommended instituting a scheme in line with the MGNREGA, which would offer income support during lockdowns, mandatory health insurance, and an increased number of maximum work days. Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Odisha already experimented with versions of UEG during the 2020 lockdown, and Kerala has had one since 2010. Although varying in scope and design, each of these schemes at its core has a shared policy framework that guarantees minimum wage employment to all who demand work for a stipulated period. Reports suggest that this has benefitted a significant proportion of the urban poor. Gig workers, or platform workers, are increasingly providing crucial services across urban areas **as cab drivers and couriers delivering food, groceries, medicines, and other essentials. Therefore, it important that we include them in discussions around formulating UEG schemes. Why should gig workers be included in UEG programmes Digital platforms such as Ola, Uber, Zomato, and Swiggy are credited with heralding a new age of entrepreneurship, autonomy, flexibility, and formalisation. Despite their booming expansion, the very people who make these platforms work have not been able to reap the benefits of their success. Public dialogue shaped by gig workers has highlighted the dark underbelly of the exploitation and vulnerability they are subject to. Due to.**

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Low base pay, incentive based payout structures, high commissions, and arbitrary surveillance systems that gauge work quality, these workers spend long hours under hazardous conditions, working or searching for work. Moreover, their status as independent contractors forces them to bear several other costs associated with purchasing fixed assets and fuel, without any legal claims to social security benefits. Even though workers such as delivery partners were deemed to be providing essential services during the pandemic, platforms reduced incentives and changed payment structures, causing many to earn less than minimum wage for 12 15 hour work days. Many also lacked access to insurance, safety equipment, and affordable healthcare. Research on delivery and taxi driving sectors has shown that platforms rely on a pool of migrant workers from historically dispossessed communities who already had severely limited claims to social security during the pandemic. Despite these layers of precarity, platform workers remain ineligible to claim social security under existing schemes, even ones with the most significant coverage such as the PDS. In the case of the PDS, exclusion may have resulted from outdated definitions of urban poverty households eligible for PHH ration cards under the National Food Security Act must not possess four wheeler vehicles or internet enabled laptops computers. There are other restrictions on families that possess two wheelers. This immediately introduces barriers for delivery workers and taxi drivers, who have to self invest in many of these assets, often by entering into long term debts, to sustain their livelihoods. These workers, apart from ride hailing drivers, also did not explicitly figure in any of the targeted relief packages offered by governments. Such conditions pushed many workers into chronic debt. The Code on Social Security 2020, for the first time, recognised platform workers as eligible for social security benefits, albeit with many limitations. It fails to recognise these workers as employees, and also introduces several exclusionary eligibility criteria for social security benefits. More importantly, the code fails to uphold the accountability of gig platforms beyond a nominal mandatory contribution to the gig workers social security board. Other labour codes, as already implemented, do not mention platform work workers, thereby precluding their rights to minimum wage, occupational safety, and decent work. Even as gig workers organisations continue to struggle to achieve legally enforceable protection, their inclusion in UEG programmes could serve as a step towards short term measures that safeguard rights. But **how** can this be done related article: How did India labour policies fare in 2021 Reimagining urban public works Public policy responses during the pandemic have encapsulated an expanded imagination of public works. Urban infrastructure systems were expanded through state platform partnerships to enhance access for under serviced neighbourhoods and regions. For instance, the Delhi government partnered with Swiggy to deliver cooked meals to migrants living in temporary shelters during the lockdown. In another move, governments also tied up with Ola and Uber to provide free transportation facilities to frontline workers. However, these works are rarely included within considerations of public.

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Securing a training contract in corporate law is a significant milestone for aspiring solicitors. It difficult, but very possible to achieve. As an ex corporate law recruiter who has worked with professionals from Associate to Partner level from elite US firms, Magic Circle firms like Allen & Ovary and Clifford Chance, and Silver Circle firms such as Amherst and Herbert Smith Free hills, here is a guide securing a corporate law training contract in London. I have also directly helped clients secure training contracts at elite US law firms such as Sidley Austin. Here is exactly what you need to get into this prestigious and elite career. Understand the corporate law landscape Corporate law is a competitive field, especially in London, home to many top law firms. Start by researching the industry, understanding what corporate lawyers do, and familiarizing yourself with the major firms and their specializations. For instance, there is a huge difference between the specialism of top firms like Bristow whose focus is on IP and Kirkland & Ellis whose focus is private equity. Start early and plan ahead Begin your preparation early in your academic career. Many top law firms recruit up to two years in advance, so it essential to plan ahead. Make a timeline that includes important dates for application deadlines, internships, and networking events. The earlier you apply to a vacation scheme, the better. Conversely, some firms like Clifford Chance have a non rolling application deadline, so more time can be given Excel academically Strong academic performance is crucial. Aim for a high GPA and strive for excellence in your law degree. Top firms typically require at least a degree from a reputable university. Highlight any awards or distinctions in your applications. For law students particularly aim to secure high modular marks in contract and tort the former is key for a career in corporate law Gain relevant experience Practical experience is highly valued. Seek internships, vacation schemes, or paralegal roles at law firms. Vacation schemes are the principal recruitment mechanism for many firms and provide invaluable insights into the workings of corporate law, while demonstrating your commitment to the field. Develop key skills Corporate law firms look for candidates with strong analytical, research, and communication skills. Participate in moot courts, join debate clubs, and engage in activities that develop these skills. Focus on honing your attention to detail, teamwork, and commercial awareness. **Drawing** from my experience working with clients from prestigious institutions such as Warwick, LSE, and Oxford, I can say firsthand that building a strong skill set and gaining relevant experience is crucial. These steps not only prepare you for the demands of a corporate law career but also make your application stand out. You simply will not be successful if you don have legal experience. Craft a compelling application Your application must stand out. Tailor your CV and cover letter to each firm, highlighting your academic achievements, relevant experience, and why you are interested in corporate law. Be specific about why you want to work for that particular firm and how your skills align with their practice areas. It needs to be hyper specific each firm is unique! For instance, a point worth mentioning for Latham & Watkins has specialist Diversity Leadership Academies for professional development and growth. Ace the psychometric tests Many law

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Prepare thoroughly for interviews and assessment centers If your application is successful, you all likely be invited to an interview or assessment centre. Prepare thoroughly by researching the firm, reviewing your application, and practicing common interview questions. Be ready to discuss your experiences, demonstrate your skills, and show your enthusiasm for corporate law Show enthusiasm and professionalism during the interview and assessment process, demonstrate your enthusiasm for the role and the firm. Be punctual, dress professionally, and engage positively with everyone you meet. Follow up with a thank you email to express your appreciation for the opportunity. Conclusion Securing a corporate law training contract in London requires dedication, strategic planning, and a proactive approach. By understanding the industry, excelling academically, gaining relevant experience, and building a strong network, you can increase your chances of success. A well prepared candidate stands out in the competitive landscape of corporate law. Follow these steps, and you all are well on your way to securing a coveted training contract at an elite city law firm. Hopelessness arises when life does not go our way. We feel everything is working against us, and life will never be better again. The mind drives us into a negative downward spiral with every new thought. During such times, it is easy to leave activities or routines that could be helpful to us. Instead, we adopt unhealthy habits to cope and fill the void. When faced with various life challenges, we succumb to the difficulty and inevitably get waylaid from our path. We tend to worry and live in fear about what the future holds for us. That worry only wastes our time and energy. It does not solve anything. The key is not to be affected by what is happening around us. We must remember the importance of focusing on the positives we face life challenges. Especially during these times of despair, we must work extra hard to keep the habits that will benefit us. Contrary to how we may feel, this is when we need to do the work to tap into our inner strength. We should develop the habit and skills to dig deep into the spiritual lesson hidden within each experience. We must find comfort and solace in tracing our way back to our normal state. How can we find comfort in times of hopelessness? When we learn to control our thoughts, still the **mind**, and focus our attention on God through meditation, we can experience the light of God, which has the power to illuminate and transform our lives. We are then bathed in joy and bliss that eclipse any pain we may experience in the outer world. As we have a direct experience of God in meditation, our faith in God is strengthened. We recognise God presence in our lives and realise that God always supports us. Anchored in God abiding love, we can walk through life without fear or worry. Our most precious capital in this world is the time we have been given. Yet, we are surrounded by distractions, attractions, and enticement thieves who compete for our time and deplete our precious capital. If we want to succeed in our goal, we must learn to develop filters that keep all distractions at bay to continue undeterred toward our spiritual goals. It happens when, through regular meditation, we strengthen our connection with God, the all knowing source of all happiness, joy, inner wisdom, love, calm, and bliss. The Creator knows our past, present, and future. When we connec

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Worse, it may take forever for brands to recover from the reputational damage due to a careless approach. A conflict is a sensitive issue, not a trending topic. A war is not a trending topic or a golden opportunity for brands to ramp up sales or mint money. A conflict is a sensitive issue and must be treated as one. Brands should steer away from building advertising tactics around the conflict. While some brands successfully distance themselves from moment marketing, something as simple as mindless use of hash tags gets them in trouble. Brands should never use hash tags related to conflict in an attempt to increase their ad reach. While you may think that the ad in itself does touch upon the conflict, any attempt to capitalize on the situation is bound to face severe criticism. It's not just about saving your brand from public backlash. It's about being sensitive and sensible enough to maintain a certain level of dignity and integrity during a crisis. Political overtones could spark controversies while brands are expected to take a stand, taking political sides is not recommended. A conflict may be a result of clashes between two political parties or ideologies. A hasty moment marketing effort could end up in a poorly crafted ad that reflects your inclinations towards a certain political party. Brands may receive flak for taking sides just to appear trendy or to leverage the topicality of the war. It can spark major controversies. The worst part about moment marketing on sensitive issues is that you can never predict audience response. Something that seems totally fine to you may be interpreted in a totally different manner by the audience. Poor ad placements can hurt people's sentiments. Let's suppose you refrained from any kind of moment marketing during the conflict. You could still risk being perceived as insensitive. Poor ad placements are to be blamed for this. Brands must be extremely careful while advertising during conflicts. You don't want your ad to appear beside disturbing images of war. Wrong ad placements could easily ruin your brand image. A luxury resort ad appearing beside a war image will never be appreciated irrespective of how good the ad is. Your marketing efforts should reflect sensitivity and empathy especially during a conflict. Advertising during conflict may need extra effort and attention from brands as a seemingly minor error could blow out of **proportion** resulting in financial and reputational damage. Taking political stands to appear trendy or creating controversies for negative publicity and deviating from your core brand values just so you don't miss out on a few extra likes or shares could lead to boycott from consumers. A conflict situation is different as people's sentiments may get hurt easily and the repercussions could be more severe. While brands must refrain from leveraging war or tragedy for marketing purposes, it does not mean brands should act oblivious to things happening around them. A thoughtful and empathetic approach is the way to prevent any unintended consequences.

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The winter session of Parliament, which had 15 sittings, witnessed significant and controversial legislative business, along with political grandstanding by the government to mark the 150th anniversary of the national song, Vande Mataram. Ten Bills were introduced and eight were passed by both Houses. Notable Bills that won parliamentary approval include one repealing or amending dozens of outdated laws; another allowing 100% FDI in the insurance sector; one facilitating private sector investment in nuclear power by reducing the liability of suppliers, and, importantly, major changes to the rural employment guarantee scheme, a flagship welfare programme started by the UPA government in 2005. The titles of several Bills, which were in Hindi, caused consternation among Members of Parliament from non-Hindi regions. They pointed to constitutional provisions that require legislation to be drafted in English, with translations made available as required. The insurance Bill is titled Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha, while the rural employment guarantee Bill is called Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin), or VB-G RAM G, which became an Act on December 21 with the assent of the President. In the discussion on Vande Mataram, Members spent over 11 hours in the Lok Sabha, with 65 participants, and nearly 13 hours in the Rajya Sabha, with 81 participants. Parliament could instead have passed a unanimous resolution commemorating the song rather than using it as yet another occasion to question the patriotic credentials of political opponents. A heated debate on electoral reforms went on for nearly 13 hours with 62 speakers in the Lok Sabha and for nearly 11 hours with 57 speakers in the Rajya Sabha. This too was a missed opportunity for an open-minded discussion beyond party lines to address the crisis of credibility in Indian elections. The closed-minded approaches of the BJP and the Congress towards questions of election integrity are not helping India's parliamentary democracy. The Opposition sought a discussion on air pollution in Delhi, a massive public health crisis, but the government did not allow it. Bills were rushed through, and the role of parliamentary committees in shaping legislation remains limited, though Question Hour and Zero Hour were more productive. This winter session was far less acrimonious than in the recent past, a fact acknowledged by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge. As a result, Congress representatives accepted the customary invitation for tea by the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman at **the** end of the session. These meetings also led to pleasant exchanges between the government and the Opposition. This practice is worth continuing and building upon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's three-nation tour to Jordan, Ethiopia and Oman, last week, had some common and connecting threads. The visit was primarily an attempt to draw closer bilateral ties with each country in a world that is turning increasingly transactional. Beyond that, however, all three countries belong to the Global South that India seeks leadership of and each is an important development partner in their respective regions. Mr. Modi's talks with Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq saw the signing of the Cooperation Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

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Oman-India trade has doubled to \$10 billion in recent years. CEPA is expected to smooth the path for free trade agreement talks between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council. In Jordan, Mr. Modi met with King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein, with the two sides launching cooperation agreements on renewable energy and water management. Mr. Modi's visit to Addis Ababa saw the launch of a strategic partnership. In the meet with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, the talks were on strengthening trade and knowledge and technology exchanges. The discussions were also key in terms of scheduling the much-delayed Africa-India summit, to be held in India. Ethiopia is not just the headquarters of the African Union, it is a new member of BRICS, and with India taking over the Chairmanship in 2026, it will be an important partner in setting out development and economic relations within both groupings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's three-nation tour to Jordan, Ethiopia and Oman, last week, had some common and connecting threads. The visit was primarily an attempt to draw closer bilateral ties with each country in a world that is turning increasingly transactional. Beyond that, however, all three countries belong to the Global South that India seeks leadership of and each is an important development partner in their respective regions. Mr. Modi's talks with Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq saw the signing of the Cooperation Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Oman-India trade has doubled to \$10 billion in recent years. CEPA is expected to smooth the path for free trade agreement talks between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council. In Jordan, Mr. Modi met with King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein, with the two sides launching cooperation agreements on renewable energy and water management. Mr. Modi's visit to Addis Ababa saw the launch of a strategic partnership. In the meet with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, the talks were on strengthening trade and knowledge and technology exchanges. The discussions were also key in terms of scheduling the much-delayed Africa-India summit, to be held in India. Ethiopia is not just the headquarters of the African Union, it is a new member of BRICS, and with India taking over the Chairmanship in 2026, it will be an important partner in setting out development and economic relations within both groupings. ADVERTISING In Amman, India and Jordan had less significant bilateral agreements but the talks were understood to be important in terms of the West Asian conflict and the Gaza Peace proposal. The tensions between Israel and its Arab neighbours have now imperilled the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor which is meant to traverse through Jordan. The Joint Statement in Amman had no mention of the corridor. Mr. Modi's presence in Jordan and a reiteration of India's traditional support for the Palestinian cause at a time when External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was in Israel to meet Netanyahu government leaders was possibly meant to reassure the Arab leadership and those in the Global South strongly opposed to Israel's actions, that India's principled stand has not changed. The joint statement with Oman underlined the need for a resolution in Gaza including the establishment of a sovereign and independent Palestinian state . However, unless that message is reiterated with India's Israeli interlocutors, especially Prime Minister Netanyahu who is expected to visit India in the new year, the import of vis

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The negative effects of dairy farming on the environment. And to do this, a variety of approaches are being experimented with, such as developing new sustainable feed, forming partnerships with businesses that can assist them with methane capture, etc. When it comes to the nutrition part of feeding infants, because of apparent freshness, many still choose unpackaged, raw milk brought by a neighbourhood milkman in many regions of the nation. Hence, large companies play a crucial role because they can ensure quality. However, the demand for nutrition products has increased as people understanding of children health and the significance of a newborn first few days of nutrition has increased. India has made significant progress in the dairy industry, going from a severe milk crisis to becoming the largest producer. Ultimately, the expansion and success of the Indian dairy business depend heavily on innovation. Long term success and contributions to the industry general growth and development are more likely for businesses that embrace innovation and maintain a competitive edge. The rise of ransom ware is a disaster that has affected enterprises all over the world. With more people working remotely, ransom ware exposure and infection risk are increasing at an alarming rate. Even if you pay the ransom amount, there is absolutely no assurance that you will receive the decryption key. Some organisations refuse to pay and instead rely on their backup to recover the lost data. However, according to a recent report, 92 organisation believe that they have efficient data resiliency tools, however 67 of those hit by ransom ware were still forced to pay. The resultant downtime, data loss, business disruption, and damage to consumer trust can all be disastrous. Ransom ware is a kind of malware that locks the victim files, device, or system holding this information. It involves encrypting files on the target system, blocking access, and threatening to erase critical files. It demands the victim pay the ransom before the encrypted files are unlocked. This attack can be dangerous particularly when it attacks emergency call centers, hospitals, and other critical infrastructure. In today diversified and distributed IT infrastructure, recovering your organization applications and data rapidly in the case of a ransom ware attack is a big problem. According to an analysis of clients ransom ware preparedness, sound security fundamentals, including an effective backup and recovery strategy, can prevent over 90 of ransom ware attacks. Backup **and** recovery are critical lines of defence against ransom ware. Backups are critical for ransom ware vulnerable data and applications such as end user data, NAS, file sharing, virtual machines, and Saabs apps such as Microsoft 365. One of the foremost challenges for those in public life is knowing where to stop, and in knowing what not to say. With the Constitution, laws, judicial precedents and, of late, an enhanced sense of political correctness redefining the boundaries of good taste, the old fashioned use of ambiguity and double entendre has been supplemented by what is called a dog whistle. The preamble of the Forest Conservation Amendment Bill, 2023, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on March 29, invokes India rich tradition of preserving forests and their importance in achieving national targets of net zero emission by 2070. The substance of the proposed changes, however, emasculate the original Forest Conservation

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Worse, it may take forever for brands to recover from the reputational damage due to a careless approach. A conflict is a sensitive issue, not a trending topic. A war is not a trending topic or a golden opportunity for brands to ramp up sales or mint money. A conflict is a sensitive issue and must be treated as one. Brands should steer away from building advertising tactics around the conflict. While some brands successfully distance themselves from moment marketing, something as simple as mindless use of hash tags gets them in trouble. Brands should never use hash tags related to conflict in an attempt to increase their ad reach. While you may think that the ad in itself does touch upon the conflict, any attempt to capitalize on the situation is bound to face severe criticism. It's not just about saving your brand from public backlash. It's about being sensitive and sensible enough to maintain a certain level of dignity and integrity during a crisis. Political overtones could spark controversies while brands are expected to take a stand, taking political sides is not recommended. A conflict may be a result of clashes between two political parties or ideologies. A hasty moment marketing effort could end up in a poorly crafted ad that reflects your inclinations towards a certain political party. Brands may receive flak for taking sides just to appear trendy or to leverage the topicality of the war. It can spark major controversies. The worst part about moment marketing on sensitive issues is that you can never predict audience response. Something that seems totally fine to you may be interpreted in a totally different manner by the audience. Poor ad placements can hurt people's sentiments. Let's suppose you refrained from any kind of moment marketing during the conflict. You could still risk being perceived as insensitive. Poor ad placements are to be blamed for this. Brands must be extremely careful while advertising during conflicts. You don't want your ad to appear beside disturbing images of war. Wrong ad placements could easily ruin your brand image. A luxury resort ad appearing beside a war image will never be appreciated irrespective of how good the ad is. Your marketing efforts should reflect sensitivity and empathy especially during a conflict. Advertising during conflict may need extra effort and attention from brands as a seemingly minor error could blow out of **proportion** resulting in financial and reputational damage. Taking political stands to appear trendy or creating controversies for negative publicity and deviating from your core brand values just so you don't miss out on a few extra likes or shares could lead to boycott from consumers. A conflict situation is different as people's sentiments may get hurt easily and the repercussions could be more severe. While brands must refrain from leveraging war or tragedy for marketing purposes, it does not mean brands should act oblivious to things happening around them. A thoughtful and empathetic approach is the way to prevent any unintended consequences.

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From the Union government for de reserving a forest or undertaking any non-forestry activity commonly referred to as Forest Clearance on notified forests and lands recorded as forest by the government. Despite the laissez faire manner of giving forest clearances, the FCA has decelerated forest loss. Between 1951 80, 4.3 million hectares of forest area was diverted for non-forestry purposes which reduced to about 40,000 ha annually after FCA regulations came into force in 1980. The amendment is set to reverse this by exempting certain categories and vast tracts of forests from the Act purview. For instance, forests within 100 km of international borders or Line of Control will no longer require any forest clearance to construct highways, hide power projects etc. This is deeply problematic. India 15,100 km international terrestrial border houses rich ecosystems grasslands, deserts, wetlands, lowland forests, evergreen rainforests that are mostly untouched due to their remoteness. These borderlands harbor a spectrum of India endangered species such as the Great Indian Bustards, elephants, tigers, red pandas, snow leopards, Hillock Gibbons to name only a few. Crucially, Himalayan glaciers form the headwaters of rivers such as the Ganga, Brahmaputra, Indus and others which provide sustenance to millions downstream. Unchecked construction on such seismically and geologically sensitive landscapes not just threatens rare wildlife and the country water security but also renders these regions vulnerable to earthquakes and landslides. The justification on strategic grounds is appreciable. Even so a case by case safeguard is still critical from the ecological, geological, social and economic perspective. Besides, rare is the case that a strategic project or for that matter any proposal is rejected. From 2014 to 2020, less than one percent of proposals for forest diversion were rejected while approvals led to a loss of over 14,800 sq. km of forest, or about 10 times the size of Delhi. The 2023 amendment will likely dilute the Supreme Court 1996 landmark Godavarman judgment which had widened the scope of the FCA to apply to any land recorded as forest by the government irrespective of its ownership; though the ministry has issued a clarification, saying that the proposed changes will not negate the SC order. If the Act ambit is limited to include only those lands which are recorded as forests on or after October 25, 1980, significant forests will be exempted. Put another way, bulk of the Aravallis, tiger habitats of the **Terai** and Central India, the Western Ghats and the biodiversity hot spots of the north east, may no longer be considered forest and can potentially be sold, diverted, cleared, felled, utilised, exploited without any regulatory oversight, if the Bill is passed. Impacts on wildlife could be catastrophic. It is a misconception that wildlife is confined to protected areas PAs. Over a third of India tigers, 70 of elephants and a good part of wolf, bustard, leopard populations reside in landscapes outside of PAs. Zoos, safaris and ecotourism facilities have been couched in the language of management and conservation of wildlife and forests, but these can be destructive. Safari parks such as the one proposed in the Aravallis will destroy the native vegetation and wildlife habitat. Tourism can be a force for good, but massive tourism infrastructure has obliterated and fragmented wild habitats and corridors the Corbett landscape and Niagara Bi

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High levels of potent antibiotics have been found in the river Sirsa, Cauvery, and the Yamuna. Given the interconnectedness between animal, human and environmental ecosystems, the high levels of antibiotic residue would ultimately contribute to AMR uptick in humans. AMR is likely to increase further due to the overuse of antibiotics to treat COVID 19. Researchers estimate that about 216 million additional doses of various antibiotics were sold during the first phase of the pandemic in the country. As the first five years of the NAP AMR close in 2022, AMR mitigation efforts must be recalibrated to account for the uptick during COVID 19 along with robust solutions for driving down environmental AMR. Additionally, collective efforts of corporate bodies, policymakers, and other stakeholders are needed to find collaborative solutions and to support successful monitoring and implementation of the initiatives taken by the government. While policymakers can leverage behavioral change campaigns to raise mass awareness for overuse and misuse, surveillance mechanisms must be deployed to limit the discharge of untreated effluents into the environment. On this World TB Day, a renewed emphasis on ending TB as a public health concern is the need of the hour, but this goal will not be realized without the mitigation of AMR. Whatever path India chooses for its economic growth, capabilities of our people will matter. And while our best hospitals and schools compare with the best in the world, our healthcare and education systems grossly underserve the ordinary citizen. Even before accounting for the devastating effect of the pandemic on our children learning, ASER reported in 2019 that only about half the students in Standard III could read at Standard I levels. The rate of malnutrition amongst India children stays stubbornly over 30, which is higher than in Ghana or Kenya. Why has a vibrant electoral democracy not been able to deliver on education, health and other public goods Russia pre sanctions 1.4 trillion economy is lopsided. It relies hugely on exports of two products, oil and arms. The trade relationship with India revolves mainly around arms as we source our crude needs primarily from West Asia. It is our import of arms from Russia that is in the limelight as the Quad members and Europe aim to persuade India to take a more critical diplomatic position on Russia invasion of Ukraine. So, is India in a vulnerable position because of its dependence **on** Russian arms imports Not really. Note that although Western sanctions against Russia left a loophole for oil exports, it may not help Moscow much. According to the International Energy Agency, Russia 8 million barrels day exports of oil and petroleum products the world largest may come down to 5 million barrels day as many customers are wary of renewing contracts. Therefore, Russia needs arms exports even more. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute data showed that Russia was the world second largest arms exporter behind the US with a market share of 19 during the period 2017 21. Its largest customer.

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COVID 19 pandemic has alerted the global health community to the constant threat of communicable diseases caused by viral and bacterial infections and its impact on the good health and wellbeing of people. Thus, as we emerge from this pandemic, eradicating Tuberculosis TB, a communicable bacterial disease, assumes greater significance. Ending TB as a public health challenge, a key pillar for realizing the UN SDG of good health and wellbeing will positively affect the development paradigm for the next ten years. TB has been a silent killer. Before COVID 19, it was the primary cause of mortalities from a single infectious agent. Despite being a health threat since the 19th century, TB, unlike COVID 19, has received inadequate visibility and funding from governments. Worsening the situation further, the pandemic has reversed even the limited progress so far on global and national TB eradication goals. Due to the onset of lockdowns and associated restrictions to curb COVID 19, severe drops in TB notifications have been reported globally, the most substantial reduction being from India. Compared to 2019, TB notifications dropped by 41% in India in 2020. In the light of these reversals, it is of utmost importance that TB mitigation efforts are strengthened. Antimicrobial resistance AMR, also known as drug resistance, impedes TB mitigation. The level of drug resistance to rifampicin, a commonly used antibiotic against TB, has increased by over eight times between 2012 and 2019. A survey estimating the prevalence of multidrug resistant TB MDR TB in India found that about 30% of the new cases exhibit resistance to multiple drugs. With 26% of the global TB burden in India, our vision to eliminate TB by 2035 would never be fulfilled, if drug resistance continues unchecked. AMR reduces the efficacy of existing treatments, and in some cases, the drugs cease to affect the patient. The key drivers of AMR are overuse of drugs like antibiotics amongst humans, misuse of drugs in livestock, the agriculture sector, and the irresponsible discharge of untreated pharmaceutical effluents and hospital wastewater into the environment. The National Policy for Containment of AMR and India National Action Plan on AMR NAP AMR, launched in 2011 and 2017, respectively, attempted to curtail these drivers. Consequently, the government banned the use of Colistin in the livestock and poultry industry and initiated the Red Line Campaign attempting to restrict the over the counter sale of antibiotics. Further, to **curb** the spread of AMR through agriculture, recently, two TB drugs have been banned from usage in farming. Due to these efforts, some headway has been achieved on limiting AMR from overuse and misuse of drugs. However, the growing uptick in environmental AMR is still a cause of concern. Through a January 2020 draft notification, the government attempted to curtail the antibiotic residues present in untreated pharmaceutical effluents, but the notification was never finalized for issuing out. In the absence of stringent policies and monitoring mechanisms, frequent cases of antibiotic pollution have been reported from various corners of the country, Dangerously.

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Was India, the recipient of 28 Russian arms exports gauge the importance of India to Russia arms exports, consider the previous four year period, 2012 16. During that phase Russia had a global market share of 24, which subsequently fell by five percentage points mainly because India began to diversify its sources. In the 2017 21 period, India and Saudi Arabia were the largest arms importers in the world. This puts India in a powerful position to negotiate with Russia and gives it the room to critique it because in trade a large buyer has as much clout as a dominant seller. Plus, when trade involves complex products, diversification is not easy. India bilateral trade with China drives home this point. Despite India attempt to mark down its trade ties with China, the latter still remains our largest source of imports, including for key sectors like electronics. Trade ties are harder to shift than diplomatic positions. Therefore, India is actually not in a weak position in relation to Russia. If India needs Russia arms, it is also true that Russia needs India to buy them, more than before given the economic hit Moscow is taking. And there no reason to believe China will buy more Russian arms. China needs are different and its capabilities are much higher. In sum, India has diplomatic leverage against Russia. It should use it. Delhi dubious reputation as the world most polluted capital and 12 cities in the larger NCR that spans UP, Haryana and Rajasthan figuring among the 25 most polluted cities is a public health crisis demanding greater inter governmental coordination. From coal used for power generation, biomass burning for cooking, dust spewn by land degradation, construction and road dust to vehicular emissions and stubble burning, NCR has become a victim of its economic success and weak governance. Delhi PM2.5 concentration is now over 19 times the WHO safety limit of. While the shift away from coal, biomass and IC engine vehicles will take longer owing to economic reasons and technology still maturing, stubble burning and dust sources demand tackling on a war footing. Though straw management machines have struggled because of additional costs incurred by farmers, a bio decomposer jointly developed by ICAR IARI and pesticide company UPL holds great promise for its reported ease of spraying, scalability and contribution to soil nutrition. Scaling up its production before kharif harvest, when **stubble** burning kicks off and triggers winter pollution spikes, requires ground work starting today. With AAP in office in both Punjab and Delhi, the party has no excuse for failing to control stubble burning. BJP governments in Haryana and UP have just as much stake in the NCR future and must join the clean air cause. No less a stakeholder is Gol Commission for Air Quality Management set up with great fanfare and parliamentary backing last year. Dust, accounting for nearly 30 of air pollution, is a result of an abject failure of governance in Delhi, Haryana, UP, and to a.

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Smaller extent Rajasthan. Schemes for reversing Aravalli degradation, compensatory afforestation and tackling construction and road dust must start in earnest. If eliminating middlemen in welfare delivery has been a great success of governance, climate change and air quality are new frontiers begging for smart interventions. General Valery Gerasimov, the current chief of Russian General Staff, had gained fame for his theories on hybrid wars and spearheaded the present Russian army doctrine against Nato. His strategy includes direct action by highly manoeuvrable elements called Battalion Tactical Groups BTGs. BTGs are made up of 600 800 members, comprising mechanised troops integrated with air defence, artillery, engineers and logistics elements. In theory, the result is a formation that can enter all types of terrain and take on the enemy. In early February, the Russian army had an estimated strength of 170 plus BTGs, of which 87 have been inducted inside Ukraine. Itsy bitsy, teenie weenie, polka dot on the demography. Parsis are like the bikini of that old catchy ditty. We may have punched our way out of anonymity, but we certainly are spared ignorance when it comes to our festivals. It not as if we have one a day like The Majority, or almost as many as The Minority pulls out to match. Sure, we can drum up about a dozen, but only our holier than thou smuggies flaunt them. Most Parsis are quite content to let bank holidays recognise only our two main celebrations Jamshedi Navroz always on the March 21 vernal equinox, and just Navroz, its date determined by the lunar calendar. Yet even this modest duo is plagued by an irritation of errors. As happened again last Monday. Media photographs had the standard extremes of doddering bawas and or cute babies, the caption invariably misspelt and mis anointing. Some called it Jamshed JI Navroz as if it was about the Tatas, and some elevated it to Parsi New Year. It was, in fact, initiated by the legendary Persian king Jamshyd, hence Jamshed i Navroz. Iranians worldwide do celebrate it as their New Year. So do the Irani Zoroastrians of India, but we Parsi Zoroastrians do NOT. We landed here almost a thousand years earlier than the Iranis, and can be forgiven the kind of snobbery that those who came on the Mayflower had vis later, bedraggled immigrants. The sail Parsi New Year is the un prefixed Navroz, which **now** comes early August. But most of the time we are greeted with Happy Patti. Patti is actually our New Year eve, and is meant to atone for past sins, patent. So, what you re wishing us is Happy Sinning. Never mind, both mistakes maar. It hardly your fault if both festivals are perversely called Navroz, which, to confound the confusion, does mean new day. Still, more than, the Patti Mubarak puts egg on your moon. So, with the usual Parsi magnanimity, let just turn the mis wish into a standard dish, and call the lapse ignorance purr eyed why do.

Word Count: 495, Character Length: 2939 characters

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Decade pandemic has only amplified the healthcare industry by emphasizing the need for health insurance coverage to the masses. The consumption expansion eventually paved the way to increased adoption of cutting edge technology that can help make healthcare processes more efficient, cost effective, error free, and decrease overall manual efforts. Health insurance providers and third party administrators have worked relentlessly to meet this growing need for enhancing operational processes. Insurance companies have been upgrading the overall health coverage in terms of cost, inclusions, benefits, etc., and third party administrators use technology to help process the health claims raised. But before we jump in, it is essential to understand the role of a third party administrator in the health insurance ecosystem. Third Party Administrators TPA are government regulated entities that work as intermediaries between insurance providers and policyholders. Insurance providers outsource their operational processes, such as claims processing, benefits administration, enrolment, etc., to TPAs. TPAs then work in tandem with health insurance providers and hospitals to Smoothen the claims processing & settlement Deliver value added services. Create a hassle free enrolment process Partner with hospitals to provide more reasonable tariffs. Historically, TPAs have relied heavily on manual interventions to process claims, which were inefficient and resulted in higher errors. The introduction of technology has enabled a structured means to manage and process claims. TPAs use homegrown technologies with AI ML for efficient digitization and processing of claims. Claim processing is a complex process that requires processors to have the skill to interpret the policy conditions to understand discharge summaries. The processor further needs to decide which bill items are relevant to the medical condition and shall be payable. Adding to the complexity, there are hospital tariffs for each insurer, group, and TPAs. To automate the claim processing process, technology players and TPA build components that can fit in. Some are straightforward digitization tools, while others are complex ML models. But, of course, this success depends on the available amount of data. Automating these core functions has multiple benefits faster claims processing, lesser human intervention, the ability to analyze and make decisions based on data, and improved customer experience. The technology uses workflows, rule driven automation, interfaces, data enrichment to automate processes and bring transparency into the system. In addition to the above, fraud detection engines can help TPAs identify and prevent financial losses to customers. In addition, TPAs also use **auto** adjudication using Artificial Intelligence to scan and process incoming claims. A good use case is India largest TPA uses auto adjudication can process claims in under 10 minutes. TPAs are evolving the way they used to manage the customer experience. While earlier it was limited to calls and emails, the newer communication channels help customers on the fly. What Sapp is becoming one of the de facto platforms for getting connected with TPAs to stay connected during and beyond the need of claims. TPAs can connect everyone in the healthcare ecosystem, which helps them deliver better outcomes. From policyholders to.

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Speaking of the year 2024, the current investments have been going through radical changes. Currently, there is massive discovery of new opportunities by investors in new fields and technologies that result from innovation, demands and transformation of the global economy. Take a look at the following to get an idea of the trending investments that are currently determining the shape of the financial markets this year. Tech remains one of the most coveted areas as far as investment is concerned with a particular focus on AI & ML. As technologies such as natural language data processing, self-governing systems and analytical tools are employed by businesses, the corresponding massive funding is realised. It is necessary to mention several trends, such as applications in healthcare, finance, and customer service where AI technologies can bring about a change in the nature of these industries by providing effectiveness. The senior global trends have emerged, and sustainable development has attracted serious investment attention to renewable forms of energy. Concerning the renewable energy sources, the solar, wind and hydro-electrical power undertakings have been growing rapidly. Moreover, the stakeholders focused on the energy storage solutions including batteries and hydrogen fuel cell technologies are emerging. This is a sustainable investment trend for the green economy since it is being backed up by some of the government policies as well as the consumer choices. Although the fluctuations characteristic to such assets as cryptocurrencies have been observed, the latter retains its status as a trend in 2024. Bitcoin, Ethereum and other forms of Altcoins are preferred by investors who base their investment products on high risk/high return strategy. Also important to note is that the technology of block chains is not only used in digital currencies but also it poses certain opportunities in many fields connected with increase in safety, openness and effectiveness of transactions and records. The healthcare sector stands out again with the help puff the pandemic effect, thus it remains an appealing industry for the investment. Biotechnology, new models of disease diagnosis, treatment, and evolving system of medicine in the form of personalized medicine, and virtual systems of doctor-patient interaction in the form of telehealth are the dominating technologies. Biotech especially those that are around gene editing, new therapies and drugs, and health technology are some of the most attractive. The main goals are the enhancement of patients quality of life, containing costs and, providing worldwide **access** to medical services. The EV market is expanding globally, in consideration with global environmental issues and has also improvement in battery technology. Almost every contemporary car maker and new entrants are working towards building better and cheaper electric cars. Besides, advanced driving assistance systems, including self-driving cars, are already progressing, and many investors are focusing on those firms that are designing software and hardware for self-driving automobiles. The definition of metaverse as a single virtual world or society for all is gradually coming to life due to the continued innovations in the virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) domains. The spending in companies in the development of VR/AR hardware, Software, and contents is increasing. The metaverse written as a possibility of the new type of en

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The history of "Indian Railway's began on 16 April 1853, when the first passenger train ran from Bombay (Mumbai) to Thane, covering a distance of 34 km. Since then, the railway network has expanded rapidly. Today, Indian Railways operates over 68,000 km of route length and carries millions of passengers daily. It is one of the largest employers in the world, providing jobs to more than 12 lakh people. Indian Railways is divided into several zones and divisions for efficient administration. Each zone is headed by a General Manager. Trains are categorized into passenger trains, express trains, superfast trains, and premium trains such as Rajdhani Express, Shatabdi Express, Durgam Express, Vande Bharat Express, and Gatimaan Express. Suburban rail services play a crucial role in cities like Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, and Hyderabad. Indian Railways has made significant progress in modernization and technology. Introduction of electronic ticketing (e-ticketing), online reservation through IRCTC, GPS-based train tracking, and digital displays at stations have improved passenger convenience. The use of LHB coaches, better safety systems, and automatic signaling has enhanced travel comfort and security. Electrification of railway lines is a major step toward energy efficiency and environmental protection. Indian Railways aims to become a net-zero carbon emitter in the coming years. The use of electric locomotives reduces dependence on diesel and lowers pollution levels. Freight transport is another important function of Indian Railways. It carries coal, food grains, iron ore, cement, petroleum products, and other essential goods across the country. Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFC) are being developed to increase speed and efficiency in goods transportation. Indian Railways also contributes to tourism through luxury trains like Palace on Wheels, Maharajas' Express, and heritage railways such as the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. These trains promote Indian culture and attract foreign tourists. In conclusion, Indian Railways is the lifeline of the nation. It supports economic growth, provides affordable transportation, creates employment, and strengthens national unity. With continuous reforms and modernization, Indian Railways is moving toward a safer, faster, and more sustainable future. Like, 21 million years old. That's way before humans even existed! They say many kinds of apes used to touch Times of India - India Voices Blogs (November 26, 2025) A regenerative turn for Indian capitalism: Why the gig worker fund matters Research Assistant at the Center of Policy Research and Governance India's notification of the Code on Social Security, which **formally** includes gig and platform workers and calls for the creation of a Social Security Fund partly financed through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions, is an encouraging step in the country's ongoing struggle to define the relationship between capitalism and welfare. As Indian society still grapples with striking a balance between socialist ideals and market-driven growth, this move could contribute to reforming the relationship between money and society, creating an early blueprint for a regenerative economic model with philanthropy as a core element. Globally, the booming gig economy has managed to provide employment for several workers from both informal and formal sectors due to the relatively low barriers of entry and the appeal of flexible working

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The December 19 judgment by a "Supreme Court" Bench placing corporate environmental responsibility inside the legal meaning of corporate social responsibility (CSR) reframes how the Court reads CSR in Indian company law while continuing its attempts since 2021 to reduce deaths of great Indian bustards from power infrastructure. The Bench has treated the CSR regime as an enforceable obligation rather than an undertaking at companies' discretion while also reading social responsibility to include environmental and wildlife protection through the Companies Act itself. According to the Court, a corporation as a legal person shares the duty under Article 51A(g), which means spending CSR funds on environmental measures can be framed as discharging one's constitutional obligation rather than engaging in charity. For great Indian bustards, the Court has thus strengthened the legal basis for conservationists to demand corporate financing for projects to recover species endangered by corporate activity. The Court's 2021 interim order restricted overhead transmission lines across 99,000 sq. km and required a committee-led approach to feasibility and undergrounding. In 2024, it constituted an expert committee to balance species protection with climate commitments and renewable energy build-out, which the new order has operationalised. If CSR and project-linked financing become easier to compel, they can support the recurring costs of breeding and releasing chicks and of restoring grasslands and maintaining them. However, the verdict is also a legal interpretation; it does not specify which companies must pay how much, where, when, and with what audit trail (the penalty for non-compliance will remain according to existing provisions). The Court's shift from a large-area approach, as in its 2021 order, to revised priority areas also reduces conflict with renewable energy deployments while pushing some of the onus to the accurate mapping of habitats a problem given bustards move around and infrastructure risks can lie outside formal boundaries. The judgment improves the legal position for getting companies to pay for prevention and recovery and specifies a narrower but more detailed habitat and infrastructure plan. Whether it is sufficient will depend less on the doctrine it announces and more on whether governments and utilities can deliver the undergrounding and rerouting work at the required pace, and whether corporate funding translates to outcomes on the ground. However, since this growth has been characterized by the 'fissured workplace', wherein corporations have outsourced their work to smaller firms and gig workers under distinct arrangements, workers' experience has often **not** been positive (Weil, 2024). As a result, in this extractive economy in India, workers have been subjected to vicissitudes marked by income instability and limited concern for employee welfare. These conditions have eroded the very promises that once drew people into gig work, particularly in urban India. For instance, the promise of flexible working hours has resulted in mental health issues arising from excessively long shifts, often caused by corporations' carrot-and-stick approach. The enduring imagination of painful capitalism these individual hardships map onto a broader structural pattern. When a large segment of workers experiences insecurity within an economy that celebrates innovation, it exposes the limits of growth-led narratives. Importantly, it feeds into t

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Imagination of evil capitalism in the subcontinent, as many aspects of capitalism-led development still have not reached much of the population. Such experiences also expose the underlying assumption of such economic structures: the historical capitalist logic that offers a rationalization of vast inequalities and concentrated economic power as unavoidable conditions that have to be accepted as absolute truths (Carnegie, 2017). Further, even as capitalism remains mistrusted, the pressure to survive in unforgiving urban settings drives gig workers to accept unequal power relations and remain silent about their challenges. Subsequently, an imagination of capitalism is internalized that includes a vicious cycle of psychological pain being gradually accumulated in cracks as capitalism transmogrifies with innovative, cost-effective advances. So how do we mend the cracks that have quietly accumulated in this system? By placing incentives towards a regenerative economy. It is no secret that the enactment of the CSR law in India roughly a decade ago has proven inadequate in making corporations actually deliver justice. Instead, like other parts of the world, Indian corporations have used their philanthropy for profit and diluted their philanthropic efforts to a set of superficial goodwill gestures that fail to disrupt extractive structures. This is perhaps why, for instance, even after an intensive CSR campaign, poor farmers remain hostile to large companies like Wal-Mart and Flipkart in the agricultural supply chain, or residents in Kerala protested strongly against beverage companies contaminating groundwater resources. There is resistance amongst Indian people to accept the status quo of an extractive economy. Since capitalism has produced these cracks, repairing them requires tools that challenge the extractive logic of capitalism. This is where the idea of the 'healing power of money' is foregrounded. Therefore, the Indian Government's decision to devise a social security fund for gig workers funded by contributions from CSR is symbolically powerful. It would allow an entire class of Indians to experience the healing power of money for the first time in this modern economy. Nonetheless, these lofty implications will only bear results depending on the finer policy design as well as the pace of implementation. For instance, Rajasthan's law on gig workers' rights remains non-operationalized even after two years of its passing, as its rules are yet to be notified. If implemented well, the policy could also have important second-order effects, especially in the legitimization of philanthropic capital and efforts in India's nascent philanthropic ecosystem. It could send a message to all stakeholders that philanthropic capital is geared towards meaningfully redistributing corporate power while removing dependency on corporations. Moreover, concerns around CSR's misuse may also be partly addressed by deliberately arming philanthropic capital in this manner for the greater good. In a diverse society that is still finding its identity between the polarities of socialist welfare and capitalist growth, such policies are effective in finding the unique, middle path that operationalizes the idea of using money to nourish a regenerative economy. In many ways, the proposed Social Security Fund invites us to see whether corporate capital, when properly governed and incentivized, can evolve from symbolic generosity to substantive justice in messy, developin

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Block chain for secure transactions, AI for tracking frauds, and mobile application for financial services make the handling of money a new face. Companies in this area are already raising large amounts of venture capital financing. This makes it even more necessitating for organizations to adopt the appropriate measures of cyberspace security as digital transformations increase. The businesses that target on safeguarding the valuable data, networks, and devices from the cyber criminals and advanced attacks are always in great demand. Cyber security is quickly becoming a necessary investment because hack attacks are on the rise and new, more serious threats appear every year. Real estate assets are experiencing advancements through technology, which is why investing in Protect is so important. Change in the property management and the flow of transactions, smart buildings investors are being attracted. Technology applications in property markets are rapidly changing the nature and performance of purchases and rentals. E commerce remains a strong and active sector with the customers being more incline into shopping online. The growth in investment for enablers of e-commerce comprising of logistics solutions, payment gateway, and digital marketing solutions is also growing significantly. Also, there are such specific segments as subscription business and online shops operating with exclusive commodities. 2024 is a great year for investors, as there are quite a lot of opportunities within almost all industries. The main principle to follow in this environment is to be aware of the new trends appearing and what technologies and market forces drive such investments. Thus, by following the growth of innovation and sustainability sectors, investors are ready to take advantage of the growth potential in the mentioned fields. When we experience God love in meditation, we are reassured that we are loved and protected. We simply have to tap into this love, and we can do that when we take the time to sit in silence and reach out to God. De facto border between the two countries in the disputed region. The conflict, referred to as Operation Vijay by India, began when Pakistani troops, masquerading as Kashmiri militants, infiltrated into key strategic positions on the Indian side of the Loch These positions included high altitude peaks and ridges, which provided significant tactical advantages. The high altitude and harsh weather conditions added to the challenges faced by the Indian forces. Despite the challenging conditions and the well fortified positions of the **infiltrators**, the Indian forces gradually regained control of the occupied areas. By the end of July 1999, the Indian Army had successfully pushed back the infiltrators, and the conflict officially ended on July 26, celebrated annually in India as Kargil Vijay Diwas. The Kargil War resulted in significant casualties on both sides. India lost 527 soldiers, while the number of wounded soldiers remains disputed. With these universally known facts and the sacrifices of our soldiers and their families, throughout, should our MPs have behaved more properly? Does a soldier ask for the region or religion he is dying for? He gets killed in action protecting our country and what are we doing as countrymen? Are those lives not precious which are lost protecting us? Why could the MPs keep their differences aside in the parliament while taking the oath and stood as citizens of one nation? This has been

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Smaller extent Rajasthan. Schemes for reversing Aravalli degradation, compensatory afforestation and tackling construction and road dust must start in earnest. If eliminating middlemen in welfare delivery has been a great success of governance, climate change and air quality are new frontiers begging for smart interventions. General Valery Gerasimov, the current chief of Russian General Staff, had gained fame for his theories on hybrid wars and spearheaded the present Russian army doctrine against Nato. His strategy includes direct action by highly manoeuvrable elements called Battalion Tactical Groups BTGs. BTGs are made up of 600 800 members, comprising mechanised troops integrated with air defence, artillery, engineers and logistics elements. In theory, the result is a formation that can enter all types of terrain and take on the enemy. In early February, the Russian army had an estimated strength of 170 plus BTGs, of which 87 have been inducted inside Ukraine. Itsy bitsy, teenie weenie, polka dot on the demography. Parsis are like the bikini of that old catchy ditty. We may have punched our way out of anonymity, but we certainly are spared ignorance when it comes to our festivals. It not as if we have one a day like The Majority, or almost as many as The Minority pulls out to match. Sure, we can drum up about a dozen, but only our holier than thou smuggies flaunt them. Most Parsis are quite content to let bank holidays recognise only our two main celebrations Jamshedi Navroz always on the March 21 vernal equinox, and just Navroz, its date determined by the lunar calendar. Yet even this modest duo is plagued by an irritation of errors. As happened again last Monday. Media photographs had the standard extremes of doddering bawas and or cute babies, the caption invariably misspelt and mis anointing. Some called it Jamshed JI Navroz as if it was about the Tatas, and some elevated it to Parsi New Year. It was, in fact, initiated by the legendary Persian king Jamshyd, hence Jamshed i Navroz. Iranians worldwide do celebrate it as their New Year. So do the Irani Zoroastrians of India, but we Parsi Zoroastrians do NOT. We landed here almost a thousand years earlier than the Iranis, and can be forgiven the kind of snobbery that those who came on the Mayflower had vis later, bedraggled immigrants. The sail Parsi New Year is the un prefixed Navroz, which **now** comes early August. But most of the time we are greeted with Happy Patti. Patti is actually our New Year eve, and is meant to atone for past sins, patent. So, what you re wishing us is Happy Sinning. Never mind, both mistakes maar. It hardly your fault if both festivals are perversely called Navroz, which, to confound the confusion, does mean new day. Still, more than, the Patti Mubarak puts egg on your moon. So, with the usual Parsi magnanimity, let just turn the mis wish into a standard dish, and call the lapse ignorance purr eyed why do.

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Decade pandemic has only amplified the healthcare industry by emphasizing the need for health insurance coverage to the masses. The consumption expansion eventually paved the way to increased adoption of cutting edge technology that can help make healthcare processes more efficient, cost effective, error free, and decrease overall manual efforts. Health insurance providers and third party administrators have worked relentlessly to meet this growing need for enhancing operational processes. Insurance companies have been upgrading the overall health coverage in terms of cost, inclusions, benefits, etc., and third party administrators use technology to help process the health claims raised. But before we jump in, it is essential to understand the role of a third party administrator in the health insurance ecosystem. Third Party Administrators TPA are government regulated entities that work as intermediaries between insurance providers and policyholders. Insurance providers outsource their operational processes, such as claims processing, benefits administration, enrolment, etc., to TPAs. TPAs then work in tandem with health insurance providers and hospitals to Smoothen the claims processing & settlement Deliver value added services. Create a hassle free enrolment process Partner with hospitals to provide more reasonable tariffs. Historically, TPAs have relied heavily on manual interventions to process claims, which were inefficient and resulted in higher errors. The introduction of technology has enabled a structured means to manage and process claims. TPAs use homegrown technologies with AI ML for efficient digitization and processing of claims. Claim processing is a complex process that requires processors to have the skill to interpret the policy conditions to understand discharge summaries. The processor further needs to decide which bill items are relevant to the medical condition and shall be payable. Adding to the complexity, there are hospital tariffs for each insurer, group, and TPAs. To automate the claim processing process, technology players and TPA build components that can fit in. Some are straightforward digitization tools, while others are complex ML models. But, of course, this success depends on the available amount of data. Automating these core functions has multiple benefits faster claims processing, lesser human intervention, the ability to analyze and make decisions based on data, and improved customer experience. The technology uses workflows, rule driven automation, interfaces, data enrichment to automate processes and bring transparency into the system. In addition to the above, fraud detection engines can help TPAs identify and prevent financial losses to customers. In addition, TPAs also use **auto** adjudication using Artificial Intelligence to scan and process incoming claims. A good use case is India largest TPA uses auto adjudication can process claims in under 10 minutes. TPAs are evolving the way they used to manage the customer experience. While earlier it was limited to calls and emails, the newer communication channels help customers on the fly. What Sapp is becoming one of the de facto platforms for getting connected with TPAs to stay connected during and beyond the need of claims. TPAs can connect everyone in the healthcare ecosystem, which helps them deliver better outcomes. From policyholders to.

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The Indian healthcare system has been open to the participation of traditional systems of medicine alongside modern medicine to ensure the optimum use of all systems for healthcare delivery. The systems that have been healing the masses for centuries are now being evolved to bring them to a level so that these are effectively utilised and imbibed in the healthcare system. A cafeteria approach involves empowering the patients to choose the treatment approach while informing them about the pros and cons of each system of medicine. Such an informed choice will improve the acceptability of medical interventions and patients compliance to treatment. Integrative medicine clinics in all parts of the country must be promoted, where doctors from all systems of medicine sit together and offer a choice to the patients. The integrative approach involves utilising the strength of each system of medicine in the patient management plan. For example, people prefer some systems of medicine like homoeopathy due to fewer or no side effects, affordability, and palatability. Also, in chronic ailments, like joint pains, or kidney diseases, where there is not much that modern medicine can do to alleviate the sufferings, the benefits of homoeopathy can be utilised. In acute diseases also like fever, or cough and cold, which are distressing for the patients, homoeopathy can be of use, while modern medicine provides some symptomatic relief only. Homoeopathy has a clear cut advantage in some areas. In fact, the growing concern about antimicrobial resistance could have a solution in Homoeopathy, since these medicines are not anti-pathogen in action. Rather, they are given with a wider, personalised approach to treat a condition. There have been encouraging studies to explore this aspect. While in some other areas it may not help in curing the disease, but the quality of life, which is also an important aspect, can be improved. Treatment in modern medicine continually evolves with the advent of modern technology. One such concept is metronomic therapy, in which very low doses of anti-cancer drugs are given as frequent, scheduled doses. Another recent trend in medical science is the Nano medicine or Nano delivery systems, whereby very small doses of therapeutic agents are employed in a controlled manner. For example, in patients having rheumatoid arthritis, those who do not respond to larger doses of conventional medicine, have been found to respond to Nano doses of the same compound. These technologies are **in** line with one of the age old principles of homoeopathy, which advocates minimum dosage. By such methods, the therapeutic properties of even toxic substances can be utilised in a harmless way without any adverse effects or development of drug resistance. Such similarities in the concepts pave the way for further research to validate the principles of homoeopathy by generating scientific evidence by rigorous studies. The homoeopathic medicines are manufactured with a starting substance, the source of which could be a plant, animal, or a mineral, which is then diluted serially as per the manufacturing norms laid out in the standard pharmacopoeias. As compared to other traditional systems, in homoeopathy, the protocols related to standardisation and preparation of medicines are better worked out. With many GMP certified homoeopathic manufacturing units coming up, this has given a boost to quality of homoeopathic medicinal products. Further, the concept of personal

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Confirmed that some persons having the same disease, classified into subsets as per their genomic data, need different strategies of treatment. Such an approach is being studied for auto immune diseases like multiple sclerosis. This concept can be qualified further with more rigorous studies and cues from homoeopathic principles. In the present healthcare scenario, everything must be based on research evidence. Hence, efforts to enhance the evidence data repository of homoeopathy must be made. Also, principles of public health, good data analysis and new drug discovery are the aspects that must be worked upon vigorously. Since scientific works are advancing fast, treatment also has to be based on evidence based medicine. With the integration of various approaches, the endpoints of assessment should be defined, whether it is a cure, alleviation of distressing symptoms or improvement in the quality of life, or prolonging life span in diseases like diabetes or autoimmune diseases, so that the scope of medical management offered to our patients is enlarged, with a pluralistic approach. In today market, companies can benefit greatly from a public listing through a Special Purpose Acquisition Company route as it provides more certainty about the capital they can raise and secures commitments before closing. The route also offers more time efficiency compared to traditional and smaller companies can showcase their growth potential to a broader market and investor base, along with regulators. In the case of an auto route, the target company is usually the same entity that created the in the first place. Once the merger or acquisition is complete, the combined entity will become a publicly traded company with the shares of the original target company becoming the publicly traded shares. Overall, the auto route through a can provide companies with a faster and potentially less expensive path to going public. However, it is important to carefully consider the risks and benefits of this approach before pursuing it. The route is a method for companies to go public without going through the traditional initial public offering process. In a group of investors raise money from the public through an IPO, with the intention of using that money to acquire another company. The then seeks out a private company to merge with or acquire, usually within two years. If a suitable acquisition target is found, the uses the funds raised to acquire that company and take it public. This is **known** as a reverse merger or a merger. India fast growing economy provides entrepreneurs with unique opportunities to scale up their ventures and deliver social impact through tech enabled service offerings. Sustainable self-drive models are essential to cater to the challenges in mobility at large and become part of India growth story. To succeed, entrepreneurs need incredible belief, dedication, and motivation. The business model should revolve around sustainability while catering to the market need for convenient self-drive mobility. Every auto marketplace relies on a supply demand balance, and it is essential to look at the business at a neighborhood level to ensure a balanced supply and demand. Launching a new category always involves some risk, but several startups and cab aggregators following the lead into self-drive mobility validate the vision. The shared mobility vision fits perfectly with emerging markets, where low vehicle ownership creates untapped demand among a risi

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Into a full marketplace model. The ticket size has also increased significantly, similar to what happened with other digital or e-commerce platforms during the pandemic. With travel restrictions now eased, post-pandemic behavioral changes have resulted in families taking more frequent long weekend trips in bigger cars and with greater flexibility. The Competition Amendment Bill, 2023 the Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha recently. The Bill, which has been updated to a limited extent in light of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance the Committee recommendations, warrants further critique and discussion. In August 2022, the Bill was referred to the Committee, which comprised 31 expert parliamentarians. In August 2022, the Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance the Committee which comprised 31 expert parliamentarians. The updated Bill does not sufficiently account for the recommendations of the Committee, on major areas including abuse of dominant position, settlements and commitments process S&C and anti-competitive agreements. Further, it introduced a surprise provision on global turnover being considered for the imposition of penalties, a provision that has not been subjected to stakeholder inputs and analysis. The Committee had held extensive discussions in the form of meetings and written stakeholder submissions engaging a diverse group of stakeholders including the MCA, Department of Consumer Affairs, Competition Commission of India CCI the Commission, industry bodies, civil society organisations and the legal fraternity, in accordance with its intention of incorporating concerns of maximum stakeholder groups. The committee analysed these submissions, along with past literature including the report of the Competition Law Review Committee CLRC and came up with significant recommendations. Abuse of dominance in a commendable move, the Committee recommended two major changes to the current provision on abuse of dominance. Firstly, the Committee recommended incorporating an effects based test wherein the Commission would have to assess the actual impact of the company behavior on the market and consumers. The Bill does not accept this recommendation, which may lead to irregular reliance on this test. A per se approach, despite allowing for shorter investigation periods, potentially results in over-enforcement by presuming anti-competitive effects, which can especially be harmful in digital markets that have not received sufficient antitrust scrutiny in the past. Secondly, the Committee, in line with the CLRC report and the 2020 Bill, recommended extending the IPR exemption to abuse of dominance cases. The exemption is in **the** interest of harmonisation of Section 3 and Section 4 of the Act and takes into cognizance the innovation incentive of entities. The Bill has not incorporated this recommendation either. Settlement & Commitment S&C The Bill does not accept two notable recommendations of the Committee that could ensure progressive implementation of the S&C. First, the Committee had suggested broadening the scope of settlement proceedings to include cartel cases. Cartels, though more pernicious in nature, are challenging to investigate and adjudicate as evidence of collusion is often difficult to establish. Allowing parties to voluntarily reach a settlement could have significantly shortened the process, leading to a more effective and speedy resolution of potential anti-competitive

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As ETF investors one is safeguarded from these risks to large extent Lower learning curve there is quite a bit of jargon, like mining, staking, wallet etc. that one needs to be familiar with while investing in crypto. While its easier to understand for tech professionals, non techies find it quite confusing. With ETFs there is no such hassle. But there are challenges for Indian investors to invest in crypto ETF; an Indian investor will need to open an account with a global investment or a brokerage platform. This will require them to transfer money through the LRS route. The RBI approved channel to invest overseas. But they will face resistance from banks; most of the banks don permit usage of money sent through LRS to be invested in crypto assets. This is a grey area. Since investing in ETFs does not tantamount to owning digital assets, it is possible that some banks may permit it. But it is advised to check with the respective banks before transferring funds through LRS. Crypts are not gold In the footnote, it is important to note that it a very volatile asset. They are not an alternative to gold as they have no storage value. Hence one should not put more than 4 5 of their investment portfolio in crypts. If you play within your risk appetite, crypto can surely add value to one investment portfolio. In the digital driven era, the Internet now controls every aspect of our lives altogether The Internet has been in the picture for more than two decades. It has grown immensely to the extent that India holds the title of the world second largest country of internet users after China, with a total of 560 million users at the worldwide level, as reported by Statist. The internet gives high end experiences through diversified channels to businesses. Due to digitization, people can run their businesses holistically through an online platform across different sectors. The world has a voracious appetite for content. The internet is dynamic but is muddled up with advertisements, pay walls, and even privacy breaches. Content creators explore ways to earn from their services and content. Even the block chains need mining power to ensure their system functions well in a quick and secure manner. However, the fact of the matter is that the users don like pop up ads, and companies despise the bouncing **rate** of the membership pay wall. Therefore, Web3, a hypothetical new generation of the internet that runs on block chain systems, the record keeping technology best known for processing crypto currency transactions, plays a key role in monetizing digital content. Monetizing in the online space Monetizing digital content is an important way to garner brand revenues. To achieve this objective, publishers can choose various monetizing strategies as per their business goals, creative content format, audience target, etc. Publishers are those who own, ell and supply, the ad space online on the digital platform. The concept of monetizing the online network is.

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The Committee recommendation aligns with the CCI efforts to preserve the confidentiality of proceedings. For instance, the CCI General Amendment Regulations 2022 established confidentiality rings, allowing only authorised representatives of the parties to access the confidential information of the other party. The Bill, however, ignores the Committee recommendation, potentially deterring parties seeking to leverage the S&C mechanism. Global turnover A significant recommendation that did not form a part of the Committee report but has found a place in the updated Bill concerns the imposition of penalties. The amendment will allow the Commission to impose penalties based on global turnover. This contravenes the principles established by the Supreme Court in the case of Excel Crop Care Limited v. Competition Commission of India. The Court had observed that the penalty imposed cannot be so disproportionate that it might end up endangering the company and economy. The amendment was surprisingly passed without any consultation with the parliamentary committee and other stakeholders. The amendment may have significant ramifications as the CCI looks to arrive at final decisions in ongoing investigations against global technology companies. Conclusion The Committee recommendations, by and large, represented the culmination of an extensive consultation process that goes back more than 4 years. The process began with the constitution of the CLRC in October 2018 and has since seen 2 draft bills, 2 committee reports, and a public consultation process. The exclusion of the recommendations from the final Bill dilutes the effect of the extensive efforts that went into the past few years. However, the 2023 Bill has various progressive provisions that will allow India to move to a more modern competition regime, equipped with provisions on deal value thresholds, S&C mechanisms and hub and spoke cartels. It is crucial, however, that regulatory developments, at each stage, give due consideration to stakeholder inputs and committee reports. The construction industry is huge: it is among the largest sectors in the world economy, and in 2023, the industry is forecasted to reach approximately \$10 trillion. The industry has been booming for the last decade, and it does seem like it will be slowing down any time soon. Construction business leaders must adjust and adapt to remain successful in a constantly changing world. However, most new entrepreneurs don't realize how complex this industry can be when they first get started. But with a solid strategy and some growth hacks at your disposal, you **can** achieve the growth you've been hoping for. Below are some tips to help you successfully grow your construction business: Enhance Data Insights Every construction project is unique, so you need to show clients that your company has the necessary flexibility and creativity for each job. One way of doing this is with data insights. Presenting these findings during a pitch or proposal helps convince them that your team can handle whatever comes their way. Connect Workflows and Automate If you want to scale your business and take on more projects, then it is necessary to automate some of the workflow. Once a project begins, employees should be able to input data and create documents using their smartphones so you can get updates wherever you need them. It will allow everyone to work together as a team, even if they are in different locations. It is an essential factor in s

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A great shift and there are a number of cases that can be foreseen as particularly appealing. By using the capitalization method by the platform, the internet could become a far more equitable place, at least from a revenue perspective. Monetizing without ads The key to successfully monetizing content is to experiment with different models and evolve with the trends constantly. Monetizing with ads is a simple process and can earn revenue accordingly. However, there are solutions and providers in the market that enable publishers to monetize without ads or memberships, and set to change the way of online business. Through such platforms, users provide a small amount of computing power while accessing ad free content. This way block chains get the power they need to keep functioning and the content providers get paid. These solution providers aim at rewarding both content creators as well as consumers, for the time they spend on individual sites via their route. They alter the processing power of the website without changing the site performance. The processing power is further used for a variety of tasks. The value of this processing power is subsequently distributed among content developers and consumers. After that, the website owner may choose to get paid in both crypto currency or fiat money. After the pandemic outbreak, the new era of digitalization came as a blessing in disguise. It helped businesses cope with unforeseen situations as well as enjoy a competitive edge in the market. In the journey, to resolve all the issues of revenue generation and achieve their business objectives, adopting innovations was the ideal way out. Creating an innovative business model for the creators through power processing with the digitally monetized route to fix an internet space offers the benefit of tracking the ad free cost, ensures big tech surveillance, and enables an enterprise to adjust for security purposes. Summing up We no longer need to rely on digital ads. Instead, publishers can be put in charge of their revenue. They can be the first party to generate revenue by associating with the service providers that help publishers adopt the ad free route, even run fewer ads, or use them as an addition to their existing ads on their site. In this journey, the innovative platforms running in the background of the publisher website with the consent of the user can be the ideal companion. They aggregate **the** idle processing power of the user computer and work as per the needs of the users. These platforms run in the background of the websites with the consent of the user and aggregate the idle processing power of the user computer. From there, it is distributed to the enterprises that need it for cloud computing as well as to the developers for securing block chains & crypto currency mining. As a result, the publishers would receive payment and the users will be able to enjoy an ad or membership free experience. Since the experience is frictionless, the users are likely.

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To return to the publisher website this will eventually be a win situation for the users as well as publishers and the latter will be able to benefit immensely from ad free spaces. There is a common misconception, particularly in the realm of personal finance, that making money is directly linked to saving money. The more than one can possibly hoard, the more they are making. Unfortunately, this is strictly true. While having a large bank balance might be reflective of liquidity, it is also susceptible to drainage particularly if you don't have job security or alternative sources of income. But you don't need to be a financial whizz to be able to recognise a good investment opportunity. Nor do you need to have a hefty sum in your account to be able to invest. Small, but smart, investments actually rely more on consistency than lump sums to be able to give you fruitful gains. Whether you've just gotten your first job, or you're well into your fifties, investments are a great, secure way to earn more money.

Risk Profile The word risk might sound scary, but understanding it can help you avoid it as much as possible. In order to do that, you need to know what your risk profile is. Simply put, an individual risk profile is how much will they have to take risks. In the case of investments, the risk profile determines how much they can play around with what and how much they invest. This willingness to take risks is not always a personality characteristic. A risk profile is built on the basis of your age to gauge how long the investment can be, your financial situation in order to decide how much you should invest, and your job security to determine liquidity. For instance, a younger individual with a secure job is able to invest for longer in smaller increments. On the other hand, someone in their middle age might have to keep aside savings for debt payments, children education, and other necessities. Once you've determined your risk profile, you can then look into smart investment options for your specific budget.

Smart Investment Options for a Small Budget

- 1. Mutual Funds** Mutual funds are a safe way to invest in the stock market if you don't have the knowledge about equity investments. While we do recommend that you **learn** more about the market and how to make your own investment choices in specific companies, a small or mid cap mutual fund is a good place to start. The benefit of investing in a mutual fund is that your stock portfolio is very diversified. It is recommended to opt for a SIP systematic investment plan to even out your dividend and yields across market fluctuations, especially if you are a beginner investor.
- 2. Insurance and Government Schemes** The government has created a lot of opportunities for investment. Some of these are funds that you might already be investing in, through your.

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The Bahubali missile, officially designated as the K-4, is a cornerstone of India's strategic deterrence and a critical component of its nuclear triad. It is a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The name Bahubali (inspired by the legendary warrior known for his immense strength) is often used colloquially in media circles, symbolizing the missile's formidable payload and reach. Its primary purpose is to arm India's Arihant-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs), ensuring a secure second-strike capability. The K-4 is a technological marvel, designed to be launched from the confined spaces of a submarine's vertical launch tube. It is approximately 12 meters long, weighs around 17 tonnes, and has a diameter of about 1.3 meters. Its most significant feature is its range of approximately 3,500 to 4,000 kilometers, bridging the critical gap between the shorter-range K-15 Sagarika missile (750 km) and future longer-range SLBMs. This intermediate range allows Indian SSBNs, patrolling in the secure depths of the Indian Ocean, to hold targets across nearly all of China and parts of the Middle East under threat, thereby significantly enhancing the credibility of India's nuclear deterrent. The missile is believed to be a two-stage, solid-fueled system, which provides quick reaction times and easier maintenance compared to liquid-fueled missiles. It is capable of carrying a substantial strategic warhead with a reported payload capacity of up to 2,000 kilograms, which can include a single or multiple thermonuclear warheads (MIRVs Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicles). Its sophisticated navigation system, likely combining inertial guidance with possible stellar updates, ensures the high accuracy necessary for its strategic role. The development and induction of the K-4 are pivotal for India's nuclear doctrine of No First Use (NFU) and credible minimum deterrence. A second-strike capability, the ability to retaliate after surviving a first attack is the bedrock of this doctrine. By deploying missiles like the K-4 on stealthy, nuclear-powered submarines, India ensures its nuclear assets are survivable, dispersed, and undetectable. This survivability makes a disarming first strike by an adversary virtually impossible, thus deterring conflict at a strategic level. The successful testing of the K-4 from underwater pontoons and, crucially, from the INS Arihant itself, marks India's entry into an elite club of nations with a functional and indigenous sea-based nuclear deterrent. It completes the triad by adding a reliable, long-range maritime leg to the existing land-based (Agni series) and **air-based** (fighter-bomber) delivery systems. In summary, the Bahubali (K-4) missile is not merely a weapon but a strategic asset of paramount national importance. It represents a leap in India's technological prowess and a calculated enhancement of its defensive posture. By providing a deep-strike, survivable retaliatory option, it solidifies India's strategic autonomy and contributes directly to regional stability through the balance of power, ensuring that any aggression against the nation would meet with an assured and devastating response. Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity A. Ramachandran's Sandhya Raga at Shridharani Critic and Curator Uma Nair has been writing for the past 35 years o

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She has written as critic for Times of India and Economic Times. She believes that art is a progressive sojourn. She learnt by looking at the best shows in Washington D. C. and New York. As an author her most important books are Reverie with Raza and Meditations on Trees by Ompal Sansanwal. A. Ramachandran's Sandhya Raga at Shridharani, Delhi that opened on 19th November peels out like a silent elegy to an Indian master, pedagogue and scholarly narrator who brought out the best of Indian tribal traditions through his paintings and drawings he began in the 1970s when he discovered the dark skinned Bhils of Udaipur. The excessive dependence on European Masters left me with a distaste and I decided that my work has to be rooted to Indian tradition in search of an Indian idiom, said Ramachandran in 2016 during an exhibition of drawings done in USA in which with the snow falling outside his window he drew Indian Bhils with pots and said his works were metaphors of potted poems. More than a year after his death this suite of last paintings, drawings and a few sculptures unveil the multi-layered vision of India's Purusha Prakriti principles. His largest painting in the show is Pilgrimage to Obeshwar, a muralesque canvas that is resonant with the colours of the lotus pond and the Bhil maidens in bright coloured lehengas woven into the spectacle of nature. He did not look at them as ordinary villagers on his canvas; they were personified as streaming tree nymphs, who embraced trees and brought them into bloom. The lotus pond at Obeshwar was their swimming pool, they swam in it and within that scenic stance they mixed into the flora and became apsaras in his imagination. So they became mythical beings. Within his lotus pond studies in different climes, he painted them with objectivity and empathy, and within the vitality of his lines and control over fluid contours we sense both intellect and emotion, wherein the Lotus Pond became a womb and the universe was a testimony to human experience in the balance and harmony of an ecosystem. His Eklinji series are all studies of the Obeshwar lotus pond. The title and the works reveal his love for the vernacular; they also reflect a vibrancy of the cultural fabric of a community that lives in the forests. Ramachandran's vision of humanity was perhaps a romantic realism born of a rural idyll in which natural elements were inextricably linked. His friend and critic and curator the distinguished Ella Data has said: In this complex technological culture of modern times, Ramachandran offers an alternative and more profound vision of humanity where man is closely identified with organic rhythms of life. Within the leaves of the lotus ponds we see a fusion of both miniature as well as modernist modes of seeing, we gaze at his ever strong command over contours, colours and floating leaf forms as he creates an exciting visual drama, with a sense of teeming, burgeoning life. Of course when you see the balance of compositional clarity and the primacy of forms you recall his love for temple murals of Kerala on which he had authored a historic book which influenced his expression for more than five decades. In his drawings with ink on paper we see the self-portrait as an inactive artist and understand the artist's quirky sense of irony imbues his drawings with a sense of piquancy and a feeling of new discoveries in his last days.

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The artist petting a dog is a beautiful reminder of kindness towards canines. The beauty of this exhibition is it brings together the importance of everyday reality, of the impact of bringing women as subject into the centre of focus, as well as reinforcing the beauty of Indian attire. If modern Indian art had a voice of affirmation for Indian idioms it belonged to this master A Ramachandran known for setting up the Fine Arts Dept at Jamia Millia Islamia University and called Nair Sir. Reclamation of the pond of Obeshwar and the Bhils was a way of bringing back art and native beauty into the modernist mould. Within the canon of possibilities it was his aura of integrity and his understanding of the depth of grace in rural practices that brought alive Indian tribal ethos and essence into the asset class of a Modern Master. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Times of India - India Voices Blogs (November 27, 2025) Vietnam's economic ascent in 2025: Fastest in Southeast Asia S D Pradhan has served as chairman of India's Joint Intelligence Committee. He has also been the country's deputy national security adviser. He was chairman of the Task Force on Intelligence Mechanism (2008-2010), which was constituted to review the functioning of the intelligence agencies. He has taught at the departments of defence studies and history at the Punjabi University, Patiala. He was also a visiting professor at the University of Illinois, US, in the department of arms control and disarmament studies. The ministry of defence had utilized his services for the preparation of official accounts of the 1971 war and the counterinsurgency operations in the northeast. In the JIC National Security Council secretariat, he was closely involved with the preparation of the reports of the Kargil Review Committee and the Group of Ministers on national security as also with the implementation of their recommendations. His publications include two books and several articles. Vietnam's robust economic growth in recent years has emerged as one of Asia's most compelling success stories. Vietnam's GDP surged by 8. 23% in Q3 2025, prompting several financial institutions to revise their full-year projections upward. The country surpassed its official 8% growth target, supported by positive contributions across all major sectors agriculture, industry, construction, and services. Manufacturing and processing remained the key growth engine, expanding 10% in Q3 **and** nearly 9. 9% over the first nine months. Encouraged by these developments, Vietnam's PM Pham Minh Chinh has set an ambitious target of 10% GDP growth for 2026. In a short period, its economy has expanded to an estimated size of US\$510 billion, despite external challenges. Vietnam's remarkable economic momentum in 2025 can be attributed to eight major drivers, each reinforcing the country's transformation into a competitive regional and global financial hub. First is Hanoi's accelerated efforts to enhance its infrastructure to position itself as a global manufacturing hub. Infrastructure spending for 2025 increased by nearly 40% focused on mega-projects such as high-speed rail, port expansions, power infrastructure, and nationwide connectivity improvements. The government inaugurated 250 new projects with a total investment of US\$53. 4 billion. Plans include transforming Da Nang into a financial hub. Its energy plan is focused on capacity expansion. The national powe

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Employer one of the most well known ones is the PPF Public Provident Fund. Other options include the NPS National Pension Scheme, and NCS National Savings Certificate. These are great if your investment contribution is very low, and they function as good retirement savings. 3. Gold Bonds Gold is a much loved investment option in India. But you no longer need to rush to buy jewelry and coins or find a storage locker. Rather, you can invest in gold bonds. Gold bonds are much more secure since there is no expense in buying actual metal or any kind of metalworker charges. Moreover, gold bonds unlike real gold are free of GST charges, too. Gold bonds have very attractive interest rates, and they are all guaranteed by the Government of India to ensure the safety of your investment. 4. High Yield Accounts An HYSA High Yield Savings Account is a great mode of passive income. If you re putting aside cash in a savings account, you should do your research to find an account that offers you minimal charges and maximum returns. Many banks have varying interest rates on savings accounts, so you should find one that works great for you. 5. Fixed Deposits While FDs are not a recommended form of investment for a very young investor, they can be quite beneficial right before you take out other kinds of debts. Their interest rates are higher than savings accounts, and they re a more secure form of saving money compared to an HYSA. They are extremely straightforward to use, and many have good interest rates, as well If you re worried about liquidity, then some banks offer FDs with premature withdrawal options, as well. Ultimately, you have to make the decision on what to invest in. Just remember that you have to consider your debts, your retirement plan, and emergency funds before jumping into any investment. More importantly, make sure your investments are highly diverse so that you re not facing losses because one industry is getting affected. As an NRI, who relocated to Mumbai post Covid, I can firmly say that India is a tough terrain for a foreigner to establish a business venture. However, among all the tribulations that one may face, the largest democracy of the world offers a palette full of both positive and negative dynamics for one to be able to be successful in **business**. Let explore. 1. Booming economy post Covid When the recent pandemic brought the whole world to its knees, a nation called India was already preparing itself to be a one stop destination for multinational businesses. Ever since Covid got spread from China, India got the chance to come out as a savior for many of the international companies based in China. In addition, India opened its doors to welcome business immigrants, thus boosting its economy through foreign investment, job creation and modern infrastructure. While the West is still picking up post Covid and Ukraine Russia wars, India economy is flourishing.

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Imagine scrolling through social media reels, only to land on a video where an influencer passionately explains the proper way to draw back curtains. A wave of revelation crashes over you: you've been doing it wrong your entire life! Instead of feeling a pang of existential crisis, you find yourself chuckling at the absurdity of it all, including life. Who knew curtain etiquette could be such a game-changer? Next, you imagine your future self, a curtain-drawing connoisseur, wowing guests with your impeccable technique. Life may be full of surprises, but at least now, your curtains will always be on point! In today's world, social media has become the ultimate backseat driver of our lives, constantly telling us how to drive and which way to turn. Influencers, with their legions of followers and mesmerizing content, have become modern-day oracles. They predict and dictate our fashion and styling choices, food preferences, career paths, sitting and standing postures and even our bedtime routines. It's as if we've handed them the remote control to our lives, and they're flipping through channels at will. Need to decide what to eat? Don't worry, there's an influencer for that. They all tell you not just what to eat, but how to eat it, how much to eat, and even where to sit while you eat. Gone are the days of spontaneous dining options. Now, you might find yourself pondering before breakfast whether avocado toast is still in vogue or questioning if that trendy matcha latte is worth the hype. The constant deluge of meticulously curated content has turned us all into clones, following the latest trends like lemmings off a cliff. Our unique quirks and preferences are getting drowned out by the deafening roar of the popular opinion bandwagon. Social media algorithms, like some sneaky little puppeteers, prioritize engagement over everything, giving the loudest (and sometimes least qualified) voices the biggest megaphones. This, perhaps, explains the popularity of the song, Ankh laid bad do bade. All this has led us to a world where we're taking diet tips from a fashion influencer, financial advice from a meme lord, and life coaching from almost everyone and no one. One fine morning, you plan to go on a juice cleanse because a 22-year-old with perfect skin said it's the secret to eternal youth, and you are investing in crypto currency because a Tiptop star promised **you** d be a millionaire by next Tuesday. The relentless chase for social media validation has turned us into approval-seeking zombies, constantly refreshing our feeds for likes and comments. Instead of looking inward for self-affirmation, we end up relying on the digital thumbs-up from people we barely know. Spending it fair to say that NEET, the national-level medical entrance exam, has become a mess. Allegations of paper leaks, mismanagement of centers, unfair marking schemes, and mathematically improbable result patterns abound. This is not only stressful to the millions who took the exam, but to those planning to take it in the coming years. Hard-earned cash on gadgets to up our digital content game has become the latest obsession and it's not just influencers who are hooked. Every third person is now on a quest to find the perfect ring light or the latest Smartphone with a mind-blowing camera, all in the name of creating that picture-perfect post. Life can be tough. It throws challenges at us, but even in the darkest of times, there is always hope. Joy is reserved for rare, monumental occasions.

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It goes out into the world to fulfill them. It is constantly in a state of agitation and is in no mood to enjoy anything. You may have a delicious meal before you, but if the mind is worried about a bad day at work or anxious about the following day, you cannot even taste the food. The same applies to any enjoyment. You focus on earning money to acquire a fancy home, luxurious car, or exotic vacation. Are you in the right frame of mind to enjoy it? The Bagdad Gait says that people cook but eat sin. You work hard and put in long hours to earn wealth. In the end, you only get stress and mental agitation. Who enjoys the world? The person who eats the remnants of sacrifice. You gain prosperity and happiness when you work in a spirit of service and sacrifice for a higher cause. Your mind is calm, and you can enjoy even the simplest things the chirping of a bird, a gorgeous sunset, a simple meal or the gentle breeze. The mind has the habit of focusing on one little thing you do not have. Thus, by your own volition, you miss the millions of things you have been blessed with for free and in abundance. Even when you get what you seek, you are not happy. Your mind shifts to something else you lack. Thus, you are always unhappy, agitated, and miserable. When your happiness is pegged on a future achievement, you do not enjoy what you have. When you get what you want, your mind immediately shifts to something else. This goes on endlessly. Swami Rama Tithi said, if you are not happy as you are, where you are, you will never be happy. It is a myth to believe that you need to possess a thing to enjoy it. Learn the art of enjoying a ride in the neighbor new car. Celebrate a colleague promotion. You are then free of the stress to earn the money to afford all this. You no longer suffer from the disease of more. A calm mind thinks of higher, more fulfilling avenues. As you get anchored in the higher, you become free from lower desires. You evolve spiritually. Today, let enjoy the magic and joy in our everyday lives. Finding joy in the little things can be a game-changer. A smile from a stranger, a beautiful sunrise, the laughter of children, and scores of other little things bring joy to life. However, we are often too busy chasing after external objects to enjoy the many things that nature provides. The essential prerequisite to finding joy is a calm mind. The mind is often preoccupied with worry and anxiety about the future. You miss the beauty and grandeur that the present moment offers. Social media invasiveness is like that overly nosy neighbor who always peeks over the fence, dictating not just our daily choices but also our dreams and self-worth. It as if we vet handed over the keys to our self-esteem to a bunch of strangers and their emesis. So, while were busy posting yet another perfectly filtered sunset or that artisan coffee, let not forget to also give a nod to our true selves the ones who know that real happiness does come from virtual hearts, but from embracing our quirks and thinking for ourselves, even if that means being the one person in the room who does know the trendiest dance craze, the perfect angle for a click or the latest bistro in town! You see a soldier it an entire family that gone forever their lives are no longer the same. Parents, siblings, partners, children it not the supreme sacrifice of 527 soldiers but that of 527 families Hard hitting indeed. But it a fact and there are 1000s of such families. Imagine how these famili

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With hundreds of thousands of small and medium enterprises. Every third Indian youngster is more than willing to stay in India, build a start up from scratch, and become a solid entrepreneur. 2. A very tardy process of company registration Company registration in India is one heck of a headache. Apart from submitting a dozen documents, new company registration is usually applied through a Chartered Accountant CA. It takes weeks to get a revert from the authority. After the company is declared registered, the next milestone is to open a bank account. All these officialdoms may make you go crazy because, throughout the whole journey, you all encounter people who all promise you a date and time and would just never meet those deadlines. The way out sit back and boost your patience level 3. Inexpensive labor and facilities India is known worldwide for its cheap and accessible labor force. You can quickly build your team from tea maker to CEO at a very low pay package from the country 1.38 billion population. However, though team members might be degree holders, there is a high chance that you land into a workforce that demonstrates low ethical standards and unprofessional attitudes. This is mainly because of the poor Indian educational system, which focuses on a theoretical and read and cram system. Apart from cheap labor, the best part of a foreigner starting a business in India is the high quality facilities at extremely low costs, like internet and co working spaces. You can also simply work for free from coffee shops, like Starbucks and CCD, using their free internet facility. Likewise, if you wish to buy or rent any electronic gadget, like laptops, you can get stupendous deals you might have never seen outside India. The reason behind these low cost facilities is the highly competitive Indian market where thousands of service providers are involved in a cut throat competition, fighting to offer better services and prices to consumers. 4. No professionalism and ethics The most significant setbacks a foreigner can face in India are unethical approaches and unprofessionalism. According to my personal experience, every second person expects extra favor, extra compensation, or bribe to do the very job they vet been appointed to perform. While India is known universally as a country of startups and entrepreneurs, no one can obliterate the fact that it is also known as a **destination** where corruption and jugged Tr. makeshift are at their peak. Besides, punctuality is almost unheard of in India. Have you heard of Indian Time It is synonymous with being late at least, this is how it is perceived outside India. Recently, an Indian friend forwarded me a funny What Sapp message, which goes like, Do you know why Indians are never on time Because they believe in a second birth. 5. Scalability and growth India has the second largest population on planet earth. While 25 of it is affected by multidimensional poverty, the rest are climbing the societal status through.

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We live in a stock market where our only share is Time. Every second, every minute, every hour, every day is unrepeatable and unrecoverable. Memories are our only way to take what we have lost, and that will never return. Time may be free, but it is our most precious commodity. On this vital stock curve, uptrends and downtrends will repeat themselves all the way. Unlike in the markets, Time is consumed and can never be manufactured again. Time is a single currency. In this bank, nobody is rich. We will all reach existential bankruptcy despite our resources. In Chinese culture it is said that an ounce of Time is an ounce of gold, but you can never buy an ounce of Time with an ounce of gold. This currency may be consumed, but our decisions will regulate our value curve upward or downward trend. The variables are multiple and will affect the own and foreign elements. However, the only relevant values are how and with whom we consume our only source of wealth. George Harrison expressed it perfectly Time is a very misleading thing. All there is ever is the now. We can gain experience from the past, but we can relive it, and we can hope for the future, but we do not know if there is one. How and with whom they act as intertwined and inseparable elements. Learning about them will influence us in making decisions that drive the trend of this vital curve. The important thing is to reach the only and absolute conclusion about Time it is the only way to understand the essentials of our life. When my soft spoken friend started her business, she realised she would have to work on everything from her tone of voice, body language and even her attire to ensure that she was taken seriously. She quickly gained notoriety for being intimidating. There is much research today that proves the many biases that are at play against women entrepreneurs including an age old expectation for women to be quieter and communal to be likeable. Lot has changed over the years. There has been a significant rise of women business leaders across the globe. Some of the world most popular digital and tech brands from Youtube to Bumble and Oracle to Lockheed Martin and New fold Digital today have women CEOs. There still remains a profound gender divide **in the world. According to World bank, globally, women hold around 17 percent of corporate board seats. Research shows women are better in most leadership skills than men but still only 5.3 percent of Board Chairs are women. Furthermore, women entrepreneurs are discriminated against when seeking loans and investments. There is a need for concerted effort to have more women on the corporate boards of banks and venture capital firms, and to mobilise funding for women entrepreneurs. According to a Boston Consulting Group study 2, companies founded or co founded by women generate 10% more cumulative revenue over a five year.**

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A more enhanced lifestyle each day. They have excellent purchasing power even after the pandemic. This is explainable Indians know how to save their money for future use this practice is ingrained in their culture and passed on from generation to generation. Imagine the scale at which a businessperson can operate. Imagine the large audience they can attract, without forgetting that India has the highest percentage of youth 356 million of 10 24 year olds globally. From online marketing to offline marketing, your business can attract a mass with incredible purchasing power. You can spread your offices, products, or services to various parts of the country. Beware of thugs and swindlers Lastly, we can safely say that India has seen not only small scammers, thugs and swindlers but also those who vet become world famous and are discussed as case studies in numerous premier universities across the world. Many of those defrauders have also inspired the making of illustrious movies and web series. So, beware of anyone who approaches you. Take calculated risks. The apathetic attitude of secondary level students towards the formal school education up to class 12 is conspicuous for quite many years. This is primarily owing to the losing relevance of student performance in class 12 board examinations which is the terminal examination that entitles students for pursuing higher education. India has central examination boards as well as state examination boards for conducting the centralized examination for class 12 for the schools affiliated with them. The rigor of examination, evaluation system, and range of marks awarded vary as per the practices followed in the respective examination board, nevertheless these boards have unquestioned credibility. This creates difficulty in inter se comparison of students passing the terminal secondary examination from different boards with varying syllabus and austerity of assessment processes. Eventually, the higher education institutions HEIs resort to a common admission test route for preparing an order of merit among the admission aspirants. As a result, there are a series of national level admission tests like Joint Entrance Examination JEE, JEE Advanced, National Eligibility cum Entrance Test NEET, Common Law Admission Test CLAT, etc. that are relied upon by the HEIs for grant of admission to the courses offered in them. Recent pronouncement for unified central admission test for admission to courses in central Universities is another admission test in a series of the existing admission tests. Such **conduction** of the single national level admission test is as decreed by the National Education policy 2020 NEP. Undoubtedly, the soaring cut off marks in admission to undergraduate programmers based on class 12 marks in Delhi University and other premier institutions come into the spotlight every year and trigger a debate on whether the near cent percent marks obtained are in coherence with the learning level of the respective students in particular subjects. Also in certain courses, the discussions remain abuzz about the inadequate overall competency of students passing the secondary education system, despite their performance being excellent in select subjects.

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Period But, women entrepreneurs represent only about one in three growth oriented entrepreneurs active in the world today according to the latest report from the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor GEM. For women to succeed, society as a whole needs to be aware of deep root prejudices that create stereotypes for appropriate conduct and choices for boys and girls. There is a need to establish credibility for female authority in our culture one that breaks the assumptions we hold against women emerging as business leaders amongst other things. Focus on mindsets and biases and counteract them. This has to start at childhood. As a parent, guardians or an influencer around a young girl, we must continually be aware of mindsets that get created through our said and unsaid words. According to a study by Ashoka University scholars, Women may believe they are more likely to get higher grades if they study humanities rather than STEM science, technology, engineering, and math, while men believe they are more likely to gain parental approval for their college major choices if they study STEM. Despite enrolling in STEM subjects, students choices within the subjects still remain highly gendered, with women being particularly underrepresented in math intensive fields. It is important to be aware of these mindsets amongst girls as a starting point to address it. Another theory postulates that women choose to forgo STEM careers in favour of attaining better work family balance. But more and more data suggests that actually women are victims of a bias in this area. A study by the US National Academy of Sciences found that both male and female managers are twice as likely to hire a man for a job that required mathematical thinking or coding. The Lean In 3 organisation named after Shery Sandberg popular best seller describes seven unconscious biases that lead to misleading gender stereotypes. It not only important to be aware of it, we have to proactively look for these biases and point them out to address change. Organisations can take steps to counteract it at the workplace. For example, removing the name of women from resumes or while doing code review has been found to reduce performance bias against women. Women are also more likely to be interrupted at meetings and interestingly, women tend to interrupt other women but not men. It important to know that people of all genders fall into bias **traps**, not just men. Emphasis on backing female led start up and bigger businesses the contributions that female entrepreneurs are making to the global economy are far too significant to be discounted. This is driving a gradual change in how the world is looking at women led entrepreneurship both in the entrepreneurial as well as high growth business segments. The call of the hour is to find ways, to not just back, but promote, the tens of millions of women owned businesses that are making a positive impact on the world economy. Develop policy frameworks to aid female owned businesses although.

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A real discordance is witnessed between the marks secured in class 12 board examinations and the rank obtained in the admission test. The admission tests appositely aim to rank the admission seekers in order of merit based on their performance in examinations designed to filter based on key subjects relevant to the target programmers in HEIs. The sole decision making for admission in higher education based on student performance in admission tests necessitates mere passing threshold level of class 12 examination to meet the eligibility requirement. This wraps up to the inconsequentiality of the rest of the subjects which are taught in secondary education but not covered in the admission tests. Going by the curriculum laid down for different classes of the secondary education system, one can conclude that there is no dearth of learning opportunities for the holistic development of students. The curriculum widely covers numerous subjects that are essential to inculcate competence and skills required for balanced grooming of a youngster whether he she continues in higher education or quits education and enters into real life. For example, the students of major streams of PCM Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and PCB Physics, Chemistry, Biology are also expected to choose and study a few other subjects compulsorily from a long list of subjects like Computer Science, English, Economics, Fine Arts, Physical Education, etc. However, because of the least impact of other than major subjects in deciding their prospects, the students do not study many subjects of regular classes seriously. In the last many years, this trend of focusing on major subjects has trickled down to lower classes like classes 8, 9, and 10 too. There is the availability of ample external assistance in the form of coaching and tutorials in major subjects starting from matriculation standards. The dependence on coaching has created the perception that these are indispensable for securing good ranks in admission tests. The deep penetration of the philosophy of no success without coaching has burdened the students mentally and physically. The additional spending by the parents for seeking coaching for their wards has loaded them financially, but the circumstances around do not permit them to leave this option untried. Currently, there are two parallel education systems, one for teaching major subjects that are covered in admission tests and the other for teaching the complete curriculum of respective classes as per affiliating boards. Usually, the children from **conscious** families are opting for both and their learning opportunities from the formal education system of schools colleges get neglected in the process. There are instances of the situation worsening to such an extent that the schools are reduced to facilitation centers for board examinations of class 10 and class 12. Ultimately the students lack in developing holistic understanding and knowledge which adversely affects their comprehensive skills, versatility, and employability. It is imminent to strategize a suitable mechanism for ensuring that the students exploit the learning opportunities in foundational, primary, middle, and secondary levels of the education system completely the correction.

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The devastating pandemic has impacted women entrepreneurs quite severely, the fact is that despite these setbacks women led businesses have shown tremendous resilience in adapting to the new normal. Nonetheless, it is important for policymakers to support their efforts by ensuring they have frameworks in place to ensure women are not burdened with family care. There is also a need to develop policy support for industries and smaller businesses most impacted by the virus induced lockdowns. Enable greater financial access to women investors traditionally women business owners have been denied equitable access to equity funding. This is slowly beginning to change as women led business angels networks are coming up that are increasingly focused on investments in female owned firms. Furthermore, initiatives like impact investing and female focused investing are also making a breakthrough in closing the gender gap in the investment markets for women. Leave no one behind is the core, transformative promise of the multi stakeholder driven United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. Endemic discrimination including gender discrimination is a significant driver of people being left behind. I celebrate and salute the spirit of outstanding women, who are making and owning active choices every day and in the pursuit of excellence are shattering biases in some way or the other. The ATM industry has evolved tremendously over the last few decades. Considered to be the first FinTech marvel, ATMs have been an integral part of the banking infrastructure since its inception in 1967. While ATMs were introduced for customers to access cash at any time, today ATMs do much more than simple cash withdrawals. Introduced in India in 1980s, ATMs now allow cash deposits withdrawals using Magnetic or Chip cards and even card less withdrawals using OTP, UPI QR Code, etc. As exciting as it may seem, many factors have collectively metamorphosed the huge, wall fixed machine to sleek smart versions that we see today. Introduction of Interoperability on ATMs Thanks to interoperability, it is possible for a debit card holder of X bank to perform transactions on Y bank ATM. This brought convenience to the customer as they could simply walk into any ATM, irrespective of the bank, and access cash therefore resulting in increased cash withdrawals on ATMs. Today, there are approximately 2,49,396 ATMs CRMs in India and this penetration would have stagnated had it not been for interoperability. **Banks** have also enabled ATM integration with apps. This has allowed customers to complete cash withdrawals deposits by using an OTP or UPI QR codes paving way for Phygital economy. Increase in interchange rates The Reserve Bank of India, in 2021, revised the ATM interchange fee from INR 15 to INR 17. A welcome move, it is expected encourage payment players and acquiring banks to deploy more ATMs in under penetrated areas. This move will increase the pace of penetration of ATMs in rural and semi urban areas of the country which has been slow for the last two years hence.

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Open the proverbial floodgates, easing the way for forests to be diverted from a mine to a mall and any purpose in between. The Bill harps about India net zero targets but laying emphasis on creation of carbon sinks by enhancing tree and forest cover is counter intuitive. Natural forests are far more effective a study published in Nature indicates that the carbon sequestration potential of natural forests is 40 times greater as compared to plantations. Neither are plantations effective at harbouring biodiversity, nor at performing ecosystem functions. India ancient civilization and culture is closely linked to nature. Millions of marginalized and indigenous people continue to depend on forests for their sustenance and livelihood and will be rendered even more vulnerable if the proposed amendments come to pass. The Forest Conservation Amendment Bill does just endanger forests and wildlife it strikes at the very heart of India, threatening to obliterate its rich cultural and natural heritage. and provide testimonials. Also, stay in touch with customers and anticipate their needs so they all come back to you next time they need your services. Putting together a team of people who will treat your clients with respect, patience, and understanding will go a long way toward gaining repeat customers and valuable referrals. Build effective sales and marketing channels implementing these strategies will optimize you in field and online brand presence, attract suitable clients leading to more closed deals, increase word of mouth recommendations and even attract potential hires. This can help you grab the attention of your audience or target market. Enhance Flexibility and Customization One of the biggest challenges that construction companies face is how competitive the market is. It means you need to adapt quickly and offer clients something unique or different from what your competitors offer. You can do this by customizing your business model to meet specific needs for each client and adding new value whenever possible, like through data insights. In addition, you should also have a flexible business model that allows your team to be as productive as possible while taking on new projects or scaling the company. Above and beyond fighting wars to defend India territorial integrity and sovereignty and contributing to peace missions worldwide, the Indian Army has been involved in containing violence perpetrated by our adversary through terrorist organisations and other inimical elements. The Indian Army has also been helping to restore **peace**, prosperity and development in India, especially in J&K and Ladakh. The Indian Army has confronted numerous challenges since independence, with one of the first being a yearlong Pakistan sponsored and engineered tribal invasion in the erstwhile State of J&K in 1947 48. Pakistan meddling in the erstwhile state of J&K started soon after independence when it launched armed raiders to seize the state by force. But the timely action by the Indian Army pushed back these raiders on the other side of the present Line of Control Lock. This did deter Pakistan, and she continued its efforts to annex J&K by hook or crook. The political leadership in Pakistan has advocated hard line and aggressive policies against India over the Kashmir issue. This led to the India Pakistan Wars in 1965, 1971 and 1999. Pakistan has been sending armed infiltrators into J&K regularly to create a local uprising against the Indian state as a pr

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The Indian Railways, one of the world's largest employers, recruits staff through a dedicated agency: the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB). The selection process is highly structured, competitive, and transparent, designed to fill various Group 'C' and Group 'D' (now reclassified) non-gazetted posts like Assistant Loco Pilots (ALPs), Technicians, Junior Engineers (JEs), Train Clerks, and Station Masters.

1. Notification and Application: The process begins with the RRB releasing centralized or region-specific notifications detailing vacancies, eligibility criteria (age, educational qualification, nationality), and the application timeline. Applications are submitted exclusively online via the official regional RRB websites. A single, transparent fee structure is applied, with concessions for reserved categories.

2. Computer-Based Tests (CBTs): The primary screening is through CBTs, typically conducted in multiple tiers:

CBT 1: This is a preliminary screening test for most posts. It assesses general awareness, mathematics, general intelligence, and reasoning. It is qualifying in nature; the marks may or may not be considered for final merit, depending on the post.

CBT 2: Candidates who clear CBT 1 appear for this more advanced, post-specific examination. It includes questions from relevant technical subjects, general science, and more complex aptitude sections. The CBTs are conducted with stringent security measures, including biometric verification and video surveillance. The pattern is objective-type, with negative marking for incorrect answers to ensure precision.

3. Skill/Aptitude Tests (Post-Specific): For certain posts, additional assessments follow the CBTs:

Computer Based Aptitude Test (CBAT): Mandatory for ALP and some traffic posts, it evaluates cognitive and perceptual abilities. There is no negative marking, but it has a qualifying benchmark.

Typing Skill Test (TST)/Computer Proficiency Test (CPT): Required for clerical and office staff positions to assess data entry speed and accuracy.

4. Document Verification (DV) and Medical Examination: Candidates who qualify in all written/online tests are shortlisted for Document Verification (DV). Original certificates for age, qualification, caste, and experience are scrutinized to confirm eligibility. This is a critical step for final appointment. Subsequently, a comprehensive Medical Examination is conducted, especially rigorous for safety categories like ALP, JE, and Guards. Standards are strict, assessing physical fitness, vision, hearing, and overall health to ensure candidates can handle the demanding nature of railway operations.

5. Final Merit List and Appointment: The final selection is based on merit, computed from the performance in CBT 2 (and sometimes CBT 1), along with the performance in skill tests where applicable. Separate merit lists are prepared for each community/category as per government reservation rules. Appointments are offered based on this merit, medical fitness, and the candidate's preference of posts/railways, subject to vacancy.

Key Features & Challenges:

Centralized Process: For common posts, exams are centralized to ensure uniformity, though RRBs handle regional logistics.

Transparency and Fairness: Extensive use of technology minimizes manual intervention and reduces malpractices.

Scale and Competition: The process attracts millions of applicants, making it intensely competitive. The logistics of conducting exams for such vast numbers are immense. Efficiency

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It aims at ensuring energy security, reducing coal dependence, and supporting industrial growth. Vietnam has already become a global manufacturing hub, especially for electronics, garments, footwear, furniture, etc. and is a favourite alternative to China. Second is its focus on enhancing exports and integrating them into global trade. It is diversifying its export products, moving gradually up the value chain. In the first ten months of 2025, exports rose 16. 2% to US\$391 billion, contributing to a total trade turnover of US\$762. 44 billion and a trade surplus of US\$19. 56 billion. Total trade is expected to reach US\$900 billion in 2025. The country leverages its competitive labour costs, upgraded infrastructure, and strategic geographic location. Vietnam's extensive network of trade agreements, both bilateral and regional, is boosting its external trade. Important among them are the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA); bilateral FTAs with Chile, Cuba, Japan, South Korea, the UK, and Israel; the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTTP); the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP); and about 17 FTAs have been signed or are under negotiation. In addition, the US Vietnam trade deal has further boosted export-orientated industries such as electronics, textiles, and machinery. Crucially, it has shielded Vietnamese industries from tariff risks (notably the earlier 46% threat), reinforced foreign investment flows, and deepened Vietnam's role in global supply chains. Its matured statecraft strategy of maintaining close ties with different nations is boosting its trade. Hanoi has established Comprehensive Strategic partnerships with 14 countries, which include China, Russia, India, the Republic of Korea, the US, Japan, Australia, France, Malaysia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, and the UK. In addition, it has strategic partnerships with several countries. Third is the strong foreign direct investment inflows, particularly from multinational corporations, resulting in boosting manufacturing and exports. In the first ten months of 2025, FDI inflows increased 15. 6% year-on-year to US\$31. 52 billion. Investment is concentrated in manufacturing, high-tech production, and export industries. Improved transport and energy systems are further strengthening investor confidence. Vietnam's adoption of the 15% global minimum tax on multinational enterprises marks a strategic shift to align with international standards and attract higher-quality foreign investment. This enhances Vietnam's reputation as a transparent and fair investment destination. Fourth is its long-term strategy of human capital investment. The government continues to emphasise training, knowledge transfer, and innovation. High-technology cooperation features prominently in Vietnam's strategic partnerships, supporting the development of a technologically skilled workforce and higher-value manufacturing. Fifth is its introduction of pragmatic measures to boost domestic consumption. These include lowering of VAT and reducing fees, domestic stimulus packages, and expanded public investment. The government is mobilising approximately 4% of GDP (US\$19. 3 billion) through government bond issuance to finance growth-enhancing public projects. The aim is to stimulate domestic demand, create jobs, and catalyse private-sector investment. Sixth is Hanoi's stress on improving the ease of doing business. Vietnam has undertaken significant regulator

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As the business environment gets competitive and there are many entities in the same line of business succession planning is seen to be a failure activity since human nature keeps looking at opportunities and pay scales outside the corporate entity. The potential and probability of jumping ship increases. However, the greatest threat to succession planning comes from apex corporate positions to be filled. The Board Of Directors and Managing Directors are often seized by the idea of bringing fresh blood and fresh thinking in the corporate or a business line of the corporate (heading the corporate or a business of the corporate). Heating up competition, will always flatten the upward graph of the corporate business growth. The challenges of responding to shareholders who feel there is stagnancy in their value of shareholdings, often forces a look outside the corporate entity. This kills the idea of succession planning. If we look at the business landscape today, it is clear that corporates with supposedly effective succession planning programmers are also bringing talent from outside the corporate. In-house talent then starts stagnating. This is not to say that external talent will always succeed. There are many issues of corporate culture and culture fit that come in when senior positions get filled from outside and not from within. Today at very senior level positions filling, it almost seems as if it is mandatory to look outside the company and not within. This is virtually writing the death warrant of the 'succession planning' process. It is over here that one must a comparison between Business and Politics. After all both fields of activity will need senior positions to be filled. In politics one does not hear of 'succession planning'. It is left to the wisdom of those responsible to fill in a position that is vacant with someone who meets the evolving requirements. The political positioning of the proposed successors is known and the electors of that position have to take a view on who is best suited as replacement. One of the biggest criticisms of 'succession planning' is that it does not allow fresh thinking in a corporate. The thinking gets stale and fresh ideas do not incubate. The corporate gets set into a pattern of action and supposedly a management thinking shake up is necessary. When this shake up is felt necessary and talent from outside needs to be brought in 'succession **planning**' fails across corporate businesses and functions. It almost seems as if all efforts to grow competence from within are actually allowing competitors to grab good, trained executives. The fact remains that corporates will need competent executives. Corporates will always need to train and upgrade skills of executives knowing fully well that a large percentage of executives will move out. This reality needs to be faced. There is no escape. However, it is no longer possible to believe that you can home grow talent. Some will move out and some will be brought in. How the corporate uses the talent coming in and how well it assimilates them, will decide corporate business success. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity artificial ethics Piali Banerjee teaches English in the International Baccalaureate programme at a private high school in Mumbai. She has authored three books for children, all of which take an innovative and personal look at history. She has also had a stint in journalism at The Time

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At present she is having a great time trying to instill a love for learning and literature among teenagers. Although she is a teacher by profession, she firmly believes that she is a student at heart. I am in shock. The other day I was talking to one of my students, just before her exam. I had asked her to write out a couple of practice literature essays for me to review. But she clearly had other ideas. Instead of spending (I think she meant 'wasting' but stopped herself from saying so, just in time) time writing answers, I think I will give the questions that are likely to come in the exam, to AI, download the answers and then learn them up, she said. I asked her how she knew which questions were likely to come, hoping (against hope) that she would say she had looked at past papers. But the answer was as predictable as an AI written essay: I have given the last 5 years' papers to AI, and it has set a paper for me. It is likely to be 80 percent right in its prediction. Just as I was wondering what my role, as a tutor, was in the entire process, she popped up with her next technology-driven thought. If I give you two answers to the same question, will you help me to decide which one is better? She said. Out of sheer curiosity (or is that a euphemism for resignation?), I shrugged. The answers included lines from a poem lines which did not belong to the poem my student was supposed to use, at all. They were lines from nowhere. When I told her that she couldn't possibly use the essay, she grumbled, but my teachers use AI too! I guess that is exactly where the cookie crumbles in this business. If I know a poem well, I can read an AI essay and tell whether the essay is correct or not. But if a student has not spent (wasted?) time reading the textbook at all in the first place, they are in no position to know the difference between sense and nonsense. When I explained this to her, she agreed to read the poem which, incidentally, was just 17 lines long. The process of accessing the poem started with: Is this the correct poem? This was two days before the exam. **Clearly**, AI dependence makes students sit back, relax and enjoy the ride. They believe that one night of downloading and rote learning will do the trick. Once the correct poem was located, I asked her where all her notes were, since I remembered teaching her the poem in great depth (not to mention, with great passion). Oh, I didn't write down notes, she replied, rather breezily. I recorded you while you were speaking. So, I have it all on my phone. The shock treatment just got worse. Not only had she recorded me without my knowledge, she had also, evidently, not given the recording a hearing. I told her to read the poem while listening to her recording. Not now, she said. I will definitely do it later at night. I think she meant she would use it as a soporific at night. And then came another gem: Meanwhile, is there any answer that you have written, that I can learn up? I can still get Artificial Intelligence. But I draw the line at Artificial Ethics. When I spluttered with indignation at her request, she seemed taken aback. 'Why, what's wrong? She asked, genuinely bemused. When I told her that it was unethical for her to use my work, she relaxed a bit. Ah, okay, she said. But I can learn up AI answers, right? Everyone in school is doing that I asked her if she would refrain from doing it if I told her not to. She tried to grunt out an unintelligible answer that would not sound too rude.

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And the creation of Bangladesh, Pakistan embarked on a new policy to promote terrorism within India and bleed India through a thousand cuts in Kashmir. Cross border terrorism was initiated in 1989 with Pakistan pushing in armed and well trained groups of terrorists into India, maintaining at the same time that terrorism was the freedom struggle of the people of J&K and Pakistan had no hand in it beyond providing moral support. But this lie of Pakistan was tumbled very soon, and Pakistan was exposed later on. Terrorism is a weapon of the weak, suggesting that terrorist organisations or lone wolf terrorists resort to Extreme Violent Activities and acts of terrorism because they lack the resources, capabilities, or conventional means to achieve their goals through traditional methods. It implies that terrorism is often used by those who are marginalised, oppressed, or disadvantaged in some way. Proponents of this view argue that terrorists, who may not have access to traditional military or political power, use terrorism as a tactic to level the playing field against more powerful adversaries. They may see terrorism as a means to gain attention, make a statement, or achieve their objectives through fear and intimidation. However, it important to note that this perspective is not universally accepted. Others argue that terrorism is not limited to the weak and can be employed by various groups or individuals for different reasons, including ideological, religious, political, or even strategic motivations. Both state and non-state actors can perpetrate terrorism, significantly impacting innocent civilians and causing loss of life, destruction, and psychological trauma. It also important to emphasize that while terrorism may be seen as a tactic used by weaker actors, it is widely condemned as a violation of human rights, international law, and fundamental ethical principles. The use of violence against innocent civilians, regardless of the motives or circumstances, is generally considered unacceptable and is condemned by the international community. Countering terrorism requires a comprehensive approach that addresses the root causes, including political, economic, social, and ideological factors while upholding the rule of law and protecting human rights. Since the onset of cross border terrorism by our adversary against India, the Indian Army has launched various operations to eliminate terrorism from the erstwhile state of J&K. Various operations carried out by the Indian Army in J&K and Ladakh could be summarised as under: It important to note that the operations **conducted** by the Indian Army in J&K and Ladakh are subject to the policies and strategies of the Indian Government. The situation on the ground can vary depending on various factors, including the security environment, diplomatic relations, and regional dynamics. Operation Sadbhavana is a unique humane initiative undertaken by the Indian Army in J&K and Ladakh to address the aspirations of people affected by scrooge of terrorism, sponsored and abetted by Pakistan. It was launched by the Indian Army in 1998. Operation Sadbhavana focuses on improving the core social indices of Education, Women & Youth Empowerment, and Health care with a simultaneous thrust on capacity building by implementing community infrastructure development projects. The underlying theme is to blunt Pakistan sponsored anti India propaganda and facilitate the all-round development of the state based on a partici

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Interests the projects are selected after considering regional ambitions in conjunction with local civil administration and ensuring that there is no duplicity with projects of civil administration. The Indian Army is one of the best in the world, undoubtedly battle hardened. Though the world realised the effects of terrorism recently, the Indian Army has been battling it since 1947. The Indian Army exclusive devices employed are unique and unparalleled. The Government policy of talks and terrorism cannot go together, which gives enough room to the Indian Army for manoeuvrability. Whenever provoked, the Indian Army has always given a befitting reply and never lagged in promoting peace and development in J&K and Ladakh. The Indian government has over the years implemented a number of programmes that have improved the financial circumstances of Indian citizens while simultaneously boosting the nation economy and addressing issues like social inequality, pandemics, and climate change. Let examine how effective government programmes could be in addressing issues like social inequality, pandemics, and climate change. Addressing social inequality The government has made achieving inclusive growth one of its top priorities. The government is putting different programmes and plans into action to improve employment prospects, enhance social infrastructure, and provide all segments of the population with basic necessities like water, electricity, roads, sanitation, and housing. The government is implementing a number of programmes, including the Den Deal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Scheme and the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Urban Livelihoods Mission in both rural and urban areas of the country which aim to create directly and indirectly additional employment opportunities to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend. Also, the Union Budget 2023 put a strong emphasis on a comprehensive strategy for quickening social and economic reforms. Also, the government has taken an inclusive and reaching the last mile strategy! It pushed for social reform programmes in the areas of health and women empowerment as: One of the most challenging global phenomena is climate change. And with a rising population, vehicles, industries and human activities around the world, it is going to worsen more. WION reported that if the right actions were taken, climate change would claim nearly 80 million lives in 80 years. India has been instrumental in controlling and managing climate change, affecting the entire world. Being the second most populous country, **India** is at the tipping point of global warming induced natural disasters. Governments and NGOs are attempting to prevent the expansion of climate change. India has been a leader in controlling and limiting the bad effects of climate change through its continuous climate agreements and initiatives. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, many initiatives have been taken. For example International solar Alliance ISA This is a solar power development project in collaboration with France. An alliance of sunshine countries was established in 2015 with the aim of maximising the use of solar energy. The alliance was formed with the vision of reducing the dependence on non renewable sources of energy like fossil fuels. One sun, one world, one grid project along with the United Ki

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Energy supply. Swatch Bharat mission This holistic programmer emphasizes cleaning India and its cities and villages by providing toilets for every household. COP26 Glasgow summit One of the biggest and crucial move by the government which is dedicated to take India non fossil fuel energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030; bring down the carbon intensity of India by more than 45 by 2030 and India achieving the target of net zero carbon emissions by 2070. These are all examples that India is doing a great job in the direction of the development of the country and the entire world. Effectively combating pandemics To help fight pandemics, the Indian government has put in place a number of programmers and initiatives, including: National Health Mission NHM The NHM is a flagship program of the Indian government that aims to improve the availability and quality of healthcare services in the country. The program includes measures for disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and control of epidemics. Integrated Disease Surveillance Program IDSP The IDSP is a surveillance program aimed at early detection and prevention of communicable diseases. The program involves a network of health professionals, laboratory personnel, and other stakeholders at the district, state, and national level. National Centre for Disease Control NCDC The NCDC is a national level institution that provides technical support and assistance to states in the area of disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and response. Rapid Response Teams RRTs are specialized teams that are deployed during disease outbreaks to provide emergency response and support to the affected areas. National Institute of Virology NIV The NIV is a premier research institution in India that specializes in the diagnosis, surveillance, and research of viral diseases. The institute has played a key role in the development of vaccines and diagnostics for pandemics such as Covid 19. Ayushman Bharat Ayushman Bharat is a national health insurance scheme that provides financial protection to vulnerable sections of the population. The scheme covers the costs of hospitalization and treatment for a range of diseases, including pandemics. Overall, these programs and initiatives have played a crucial role in mitigating the impact of pandemics in India. However, the Covid 19 pandemic has highlighted the need for stronger healthcare systems and more robust pandemic preparedness measures in the country. To conclude Government schemes can have a significant impact in addressing challenges like climate change, pandemics, and social inequality, but the success of these schemes ultimately depends on their design and implementation, as well as the political will to enact them. Energy supply. Swatch Bharat mission This holistic programmer emphasizes cleaning India and its cities and villages by providing toilets for every household. COP26 Glasgow summit One of the biggest and crucial move by the government which is dedicated to take India non fossil fuel energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030; bring down the carbon intensity of India by more than 45 by 2030 and India achieving the target of net zero carbon emissions by 2070. These are all examples that India is doing a great job in the direction of the development of the country and the entire world. Effectively combating pandemics To help fight pandemics, the Indian government has put in place a number of programmers and initiatives, including: National Health Mission NHM The

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As Indians and fans of cricket, we were ecstatic when Hardik Pandya bowled the final ball of the last over, clinching an extraordinary victory from the brink of defeat. After 13 years, India won an ICC tournament and after 17 years, the T20 World Cup. While these numbers highlight the importance of victory, the true essence of this victory dawned on me as I observed the Indian players emotions post-match. This was the typical celebration of players rushing towards each other in excitement. Hardik Pandya could contain his tears. Rohit Sharma collapsed to the ground, pounding his hand in disbelief, while Virat Kohli, although extremely happy, was less expressive than usual. Rahul Dravid joy was evident, perhaps the most animated he had been since his angry avatar in a TV ad. Their reactions reflected the immense hardships they had endured. It revealed the pent-up emotions from last year World Cup Final loss and their personal struggles. The relief of not letting another World Cup slip through their fingers was visible. The players were overwhelmed and did shy away from displaying their raw emotions. The sight of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli embracing, or Hardik Pandya being lifted by his IPL teammate Rohit Sharma, epitomized true brotherhood. Dravid, despite his illustrious career, finally got his hands on a World Cup trophy. Jasprit Bumrah had battled injuries, Rishabh Pant was making a comeback from a life-threatening accident and Pandya had faced unfair criticism during his first season as captain of the Mumbai Indians in the IPL. Kohli had a disappointing tournament until the finals and Sharma was carrying the immense pain of losing last year World Cup finals to Australia, despite India being the clear favourites. Nothing teaches the importance of resilience like sports. There is something almost mystical about the experience of getting knocked down and standing up again to deliver a punch. Tennis great Roger Federer, in his recent commencement speech at Dartmouth, mentioned that throughout his career, he won only 54% of the points he played. Losing every second point on average teaches one not to dwell on every shot. He stressed the importance of refocusing after losing a point: When you re playing a point, it has to be the most important thing in the world, Federer said. But when it behind you, it behind you. This mindset is crucial because it frees you to fully commit **to** the next point, and the next one, with intensity, clarity and focus. Novak Djokovic, another tennis great, echoed a similar sentiment in an earlier interview. He mentioned that athletes should allow themselves to feel their emotions but quickly move past the negative ones. This ability to move on separates champions from rest, a principle applicable beyond sports. He also mentioned that he is not gifted with this mindset. He trains his mental side to this effect just as he trains physically. Even in life outside of sports, the ability to let go of failure and the negative emotions associated with it is extremely important. However, this is easier said than done. In high-stakes situations, we are often prone to the fear of failure. One small mistake can trigger a compelling voice in our head, telling us how foolish we are and that the situation is unsalvageable. This prevents us from focusing on the task at hand. It feels as if our mind is hijacked, rendering us unable to perform to the best of our abilities. This creates a negative feedback loop, causing us to cata

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In bouncing back and focusing on the next task. Sometimes, success comes only after years of failed attempts. Michael Jordan, arguably the greatest basketball player of all time, won his first championship in his 7th season as a professional. The legendary Sachin Tendulkar took 22 years to win the cricket World Cup, despite being the world best player for many of those years. Imagine their struggles and self-doubt when results eluded them despite their extraordinary skills and best efforts. However, they did let negative emotions overwhelm them. They kept working on their game and giving their best. While there is no guarantee of success, persevering and continually striving to improve is the best bet one can make. Sir Alex Ferguson, former manager of Manchester United, famously said in 1999 after his team beat Bayern Munich in the Champions League final that they won because they never give in. His team managed to secure victory in a match they had almost lost. This self-belief, the refusal to buckle under pressure, and giving their best led to a memorable victory. Similarly, with 30 runs needed off 30 balls by South Africa, India could have easily succumbed to the pressure. But they never gave in and stuck to their plan. Staying cool and calm in such situations requires nerves of steel, a quality displayed by all the players from Surya Kumar Yadav acrobatic catch on the boundary to Bumrah exceptional final spell and Axar Patel crucial knock to Pandya impeccable last over. As Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli retire from T20 international cricket, they leave a significant void. Their legacy goes beyond their cricketing skills they have set a benchmark for the next generation in terms of skill, leadership and emotional maturity. These qualities will indeed be crucial for the Men in Blue to continue achieving greatness in the future. What are the better angels in us that Lincoln evoked, in the hope of avoiding a blood-drenched conflict? And if there are the better angels of compassion, love, and fellowship must there not also be their opposite, the demons of hate, and rage, and violence, the two sides often engaged in an unresolved civil war within us? In his 1886 novella, RL Stevenson personified the angels and demons in us in the characters of the good and gentle Dr Jekyll and the homicidal Mr Hyde, two diametrically opposed psyches inhabiting the same **physical** body. The German-Swiss philosopher-novelist, Hermann Hesse, rendered his interpretation of this human duality in his 1927 parable, Steppenwolf. The protagonist, the middle-aged Harry Haller, is suffering from a deep-seated emotional and spiritual crisis. He deems himself an outsider, isolated from the conventionalities of everyday life, and is engaged in a relentless daily, internal battle between an innate animalistic wolf-being and the yearning to elevate himself to the ranks of the Immortals, such as Goethe and Mozart, representative of the pinnacle of human attainment. There is a lurking Steppenwolf in all of us, caught as we are in a confrontation that we might try to avoid acknowledging, between the ideals of truth, honesty, kindness, and generosity and their adversaries falsehood, deceit, avarice and malice. Only too often, and too clearly, do we distinguish right and wrong, what we ought to do, and what we are tempted to do; we hear simultaneously the voice of our better angel and the seductive whisper of fallen Lucifer. The choice we make, in matters trivial or tragic, small

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Imagine scrolling through social media reels, only to land on a video where an influencer passionately explains the proper way to draw back curtains. A wave of revelation crashes over you: you've been doing it wrong your entire life! Instead of feeling a pang of existential crisis, you find yourself chuckling at the absurdity of it all, including life. Who knew curtain etiquette could be such a game-changer? Next, you imagine your future self, a curtain-drawing connoisseur, wowing guests with your impeccable technique. Life may be full of surprises, but at least now, your curtains will always be on point! In today's world, social media has become the ultimate backseat driver of our lives, constantly telling us how to drive and which way to turn. Influencers, with their legions of followers and mesmerizing content, have become modern-day oracles. They predict and dictate our fashion and styling choices, food preferences, career paths, sitting and standing postures and even our bedtime routines. It's as if we've handed them the remote control to our lives, and they're flipping through channels at will. Need to decide what to eat? Don't worry, there's an influencer for that. They all tell you not just what to eat, but how to eat it, how much to eat, and even where to sit while you eat. Gone are the days of spontaneous dining options. Now, you might find yourself pondering before breakfast whether avocado toast is still in vogue or questioning if that trendy matcha latte is worth the hype. The constant deluge of meticulously curated content has turned us all into clones, following the latest trends like lemmings off a cliff. Our unique quirks and preferences are getting drowned out by the deafening roar of the popular opinion bandwagon. Social media algorithms, like some sneaky little puppeteers, prioritize engagement over everything, giving the loudest (and sometimes least qualified) voices the biggest megaphones. This, perhaps, explains the popularity of the song, Ankh laid bad do bade. All this has led us to a world where we're taking diet tips from a fashion influencer, financial advice from a meme lord, and life coaching from almost everyone and no one. One fine morning, you plan to go on a juice cleanse because a 22-year-old with perfect skin said it's the secret to eternal youth, and you are investing in crypto currency because a Tiptop star promised **you** would be a millionaire by next Tuesday. The relentless chase for social media validation has turned us into approval-seeking zombies, constantly refreshing our feeds for likes and comments. Instead of looking inward for self-affirmation, we end up relying on the digital thumbs-up from people we barely know. Spending it fair to say that NEET, the national-level medical entrance exam, has become a mess. Allegations of paper leaks, mismanagement of centers, unfair marking schemes, and mathematically improbable result patterns abound. This is not only stressful to the millions who took the exam, but to those planning to take it in the coming years. Hard-earned cash on gadgets to up our digital content game has become the latest obsession and it's not just influencers who are hooked. Every third person is now on a quest to find the perfect ring light or the latest smartphone with a mind-blowing camera, all in the name of creating that picture-perfect post. Life can be tough. It throws challenges at us, but even in the darkest of times, there is always hope. Joy is reserved for rare, monumental occasions.

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Imagine scrolling through social media reels, only to land on a video where an influencer passionately explains the proper way to draw back curtains. A wave of revelation crashes over you: you've been doing it wrong your entire life! Instead of feeling a pang of existential crisis, you find yourself chuckling at the absurdity of it all, including life. Who knew curtain etiquette could be such a game-changer? Next, you imagine your future self, a curtain-drawing connoisseur, wowing guests with your impeccable technique. Life may be full of surprises, but at least now, your curtains will always be on point! In today's world, social media has become the ultimate backseat driver of our lives, constantly telling us how to drive and which way to turn. Influencers, with their legions of followers and mesmerizing content, have become modern-day oracles. They predict and dictate our fashion and styling choices, food preferences, career paths, sitting and standing postures and even our bedtime routines. It's as if we've handed them the remote control to our lives, and they're flipping through channels at will. Need to decide what to eat? Don't worry, there's an influencer for that. They all tell you not just what to eat, but how to eat it, how much to eat, and even where to sit while you eat. Gone are the days of spontaneous dining options. Now, you might find yourself pondering before breakfast whether avocado toast is still in vogue or questioning if that trendy matcha latte is worth the hype. The constant deluge of meticulously curated content has turned us all into clones, following the latest trends like lemmings off a cliff. Our unique quirks and preferences are getting drowned out by the deafening roar of the popular opinion bandwagon. Social media algorithms, like some sneaky little puppeteers, prioritize engagement over everything, giving the loudest (and sometimes least qualified) voices the biggest megaphones. This, perhaps, explains the popularity of the song, Ankh laid bad do bade. All this has led us to a world where we're taking diet tips from a fashion influencer, financial advice from a meme lord, and life coaching from almost everyone and no one. One fine morning, you plan to go on a juice cleanse because a 22-year-old with perfect skin said it's the secret to eternal youth, and you are investing in crypto currency because a Tiptop star promised **you** d be a millionaire by next Tuesday. The relentless chase for social media validation has turned us into approval-seeking zombies, constantly refreshing our feeds for likes and comments. Instead of looking inward for self-affirmation, we end up relying on the digital thumbs-up from people we barely know. Spending it fair to say that NEET, the national-level medical entrance exam, has become a mess. Allegations of paper leaks, mismanagement of centers, unfair marking schemes, and mathematically improbable result patterns abound. This is not only stressful to the millions who took the exam, but to those planning to take it in the coming years. Hard-earned cash on gadgets to up our digital content game has become the latest obsession and it's not just influencers who are hooked. Every third person is now on a quest to find the perfect ring light or the latest Smartphone with a mind-blowing camera, all in the name of creating that picture-perfect post. Life can be tough. It throws challenges at us, but even in the darkest of times, there is always hope. Joy is reserved for rare, monumental occasions.

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A cricket captain under whom India wins a world cup is bound to be celebrated in the country. But what unusual is the leadership quality for which Rohit Sharma is being saluted niceness. Popular wisdom is that nice guys finish last. Because the common belief is that getting to the top takes a large dollop of jerk-ness. Can one really beat the competition without being a bit of a brute and a bully? Without some crookedness? Actually, it all depends on how the rules of the game are laid out. On how these are framed, but also on how these are implemented. In football, for example, it used to be said that, to be successful one must be a bit nasty. Then, new rules and tech made the refereeing more just, and the play more honourable. And tough-tacklers stopped being heroes. Or consider British colonialism, which was just business by unequal means. Only once a rules-based global order levelled the playing field, could Indians start building their own commercial empires. Today, sports to business to science, in almost every sphere there are many success stories of the Rohit bhaiya leadership style of agreeableness, positivity and even-temperedness. Politics alone maintains a big difference. There are two key elements to this. One, any attempt to regulate the agro in the electoral field runs against the lakshman rekha defending free expression. Two, its incentives diverge a lot. People want business to deliver good products and services, and sportspersons to deliver wins. Only in politics are its ugliest moments often its most popular. It effectively as rules-free as voters will tolerate. So, it looks like a no-holds-barred fight in most countries, most of the time. Everyplace else, nice guys and gals can now finish first. You might have heard that nice guys finish last. But that not always true Let talk about Rohit Sharma, the cricket captain who just led India to win a world cup. People are praising him not just for winning, but for being nice Can you be successful without being mean or cheating? The answer is yes, but it depends on the rules of the game and how they're followed. Think about sports. In football, they used to say you had to play rough to win. But when they made the rules clearer and used technology to help referees, players started playing more fairly and still winning Today, in **most** areas like sports, business, and science, there are many examples of nice leaders who are successful. They're friendly, positive, and calm just like Rohit bhaiya Politics is different though. It harder to make rules about being nice in politics because we want people to be free to say what they think. Also, sometimes in politics, the not-so-nice moments get the most attention. But remember, in most parts of life, nice people can finish first Just like Rohit Sharma showed us in cricket, being kind and fair can lead to great success. Once people ate people, cavemen being cannibals, and one can almost picture the large pickle jars of sundried, salted human toes. After the discovery of fire came spit-roasting and charred meat leading to the invention of toothpicks towards steamed, smoked, batter-dipped and deep-fried, till it all culminated in Master Chef with its fancy plating ritual. Today every dish ever consumed first walks the red carpet on Instar, in photo shoots with professional lighting and camera angles. If it can be posted, it can be eaten. Women woke up early to soak, grind, chop and pound. Old films show them singing happy songs while doin

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Because they finally found the right detergent. Men ate, women cooked no excuse would do, not even labor pains. For the longest time patriarchs had no clue where water was kept. They were always calling out to the matriarch when thirsty, so that potable water became the best hidden secret in most households. Men, stumbling through kitchens if left alone, pined for their wives. The day men learnt to make tea, marriages began to break up. Cooking was delegated to daughters-in-law who began to hire cooks; maharaja and khansama entered the kitchen. But groceries still had to be bought and pots washed. Street food changed dining table dynamics long before the food delivery guys. Thalīs went up against breakfast buffets, gluttony was no longer a sin. Once mankind had tasted fast food, domestic fare had to up its game, trying to get the taste of chaat or Chinese just like that sold outside. Post-Covid that battle has been lost. Ordering in is now a finger reflex. With the same warm look that sepia moms had when they asked, aaj kya khaoge, beta? an app can seduce with mouthwatering options. The pampering has been taken out of home-cooking. Maa ke haath ka khana is now the childhood trauma we tell therapists about. Everyone trustingly swallows what served, with even 'homemade' outsourced. Whether it farm-to-table or a gourmet meal, no one going to mess up their own scullery. The tiny open two-shelf kitchen in flats is set to be history. Cooking from scratch means popping leftover pizza into the microwave. O, the joy of entering a café and telling someone in detail exactly how complicated we like our coffee while a twitchy queue taps feet behind us. India just got some new rules about crime and punishment. These new rules are called BNS, BNSS, and BSB. They're replacing the old rules that have been around for a really long time. The tricky part is that the old rules and new rules will both be used for a while. This is because there are still many old cases that need to be finished using the old rules. It like having two different board games with different rules, and you have to remember which rules to use for each game Here are some important things about the new rules: The new rules are supposed to help protect people rights and freedoms. This means **making** sure that the police and courts are fair to everyone. The main goal of these new rules is to make the justice system in India better and fairer for everyone. But it might take some time for everyone to get used to the new way of doing things. The history of colonial law in British India is a complex narrative that spans over two centuries, beginning with the establishment of the British East India Company and culminating in the independence of India in 1947. Early colonial legal framework The British East India Company initially established its presence in India as a trading entity. However, as it gained territorial control, the need for a structured legal system became apparent. The early legal framework was a blend of British common law and existing Indian legal traditions. The Regulating Act of 1773 marked the beginning of formal legal administration, establishing the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William in Calcutta. Codification and legal reforms One of the most significant aspects of colonial law was the codification of laws. Thomas Babington Macaulay played a pivotal role in this process, advocating for a uniform legal code. The Indian Penal Code (IPC) of 1860, the Code of Civil

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Legal practices across British India. These codes were influenced by utilitarian principles, aiming to create a rational and efficient legal system. Impact on Indian society The introduction of British legal principles had profound effects on Indian society. The codification of laws often clashed with traditional practices and customs. For instance, the IPC criminalized practices like sati (the self-immolation of widows), which were deeply rooted in certain communities. While these reforms were seen as progressive by some, they were also perceived as an imposition of foreign values. Bernard Cohn work emphasizes the role of law in the construction of the colonial state. He argues that the British legal system in India was not merely a tool of governance but also a means of cultural domination. Cohn highlights how the British attempted to integrate Indian legal traditions with their own, often leading to a hybrid legal system that reflected both British and Indian elements. However, this integration was fraught with challenges, as the British struggled to balance their legal principles with the complexities of Indian society. Ranajit Guha, critiques the colonial legal system as an instrument of dominance without hegemony. He argues that British rule in India relied more on coercion than on consent, contrasting with the hegemonic rule in Western Europe. Guha analysis focuses on how colonial law served to expropriate Indian history and culture, reducing it to a mere appendage of British history. He emphasizes the need to recognize the agency of subaltern groups in resisting colonial legal impositions. Nandini Bhattacharya Panda explores the codification of Hindu law under British rule, particularly in Bengal. She argues that the British appropriated and transformed the Dharmasastras, ancient Hindu legal texts, to serve their administrative needs. This process involved significant reinterpretation and modification of traditional laws, often leading to a legal system that was more reflective of British colonial interests than of indigenous practices. Radhika Singha focuses on the criminal justice system in colonial India. She describes how the British used law as a tool of despotism, imposing strict control over Indian society through legal means. Singha highlights the cultural dimensions of law-making, showing how colonial authorities had to navigate and realign existing social norms and hierarchies to establish their legal order. Her analysis reveals the tensions between colonial legal ideals and the realities of administering justice in a diverse and complex society. Elizabeth Kolsky examines the racial dynamics of colonial justice, **focusing** on the violence perpetrated by Europeans against Indians. She argues that the colonial legal system was inherently biased, often protecting Europeans from prosecution for crimes against Indians. Kolsky work highlights the everyday violence of colonial rule and the ways in which the legal system reinforced racial hierarchies and injustices. Her analysis underscores the limitations of colonial law in providing justice for all subjects of the British Empire. Sandra den Otter argues that colonial law was a tool of both control and civilization. She highlights the tensions between the universalist ideology of imperial law and the pragmatic need to accommodate local customs. According to her, the colonial legal system was marked by contradictions, as it sought to impose British legal norms while simultaneous

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The Terminator, have an internal display reading out data in English, when it was an autonomous machine 'thinking' in zeroes and ones? Well, it Power & prejudice define what we mean by mental disability Simon Jarrett, a nursing assistant in the 1980s in a south England hospital for the mentally ill, recoiled when he read the file of his Some people try to cheat insurance companies, and honestly, a few of the stories are so weird they sound like cartoons! There was a farmer in England who said his phone got swallowed by a Few frauds are as funny as those related to insurance Remember the farmer in England who claimed insurance for his phone that had disappeared into the insides of a cow while he was helping it Have you ever noticed that so many new gadgets look almost the same? Black, shiny, flats like someone copy-pasted your smartphone onto every machine in the house. Microwave? Looks like a phone. Water purifier? Also That SC has many times overturned its own rulings should be celebrated, not lamented. The 2-judge bench's critique misses the point. From strengthening fundamental rights to decriminalising gay sex, guaranteeing right to privacy to stopping Handouts may win elections, but they don't build nations. We need a national code that prescribes how much can be spent on such largesse and compels parties to show where the money will come from Surakshit Goswami & Sonal Srivastava Recent reports suggest that industrialist Lakshmi Mittal may be considering leaving London for Switzerland or Dubai. The economic policies of Britain's Labour govt are reportedly spooking Ultra High Net worth the Supreme Court (SC) shouldn't feel upset that some of its own decisions are being checked again by other SC judges. Actually, no leader or decision-maker even newspaper editors with their tiny bit of Reviews are fundamental to running everything better, from courts to govts to science to tech The Supreme Court must not fret that many of its decisions are being reviewed by other SC benches. Indeed, no CWG is returning to India, but what do collapsing basketball poles say about our sporting aspirations? In his heyday, former NBA ace Shaquille O'Neal weighed over 140kg, yet when he slam-dunked, which he did very India is getting ready to host the Commonwealth Games again, which is super exciting. But something very sad has happened that makes us stop and **think** about how seriously we take sports. Two teenage basketball we now have proof that our babudom is renowned for its devotion to work I love work, wrote Jerome K Jerome in his Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow. Come to my study and I'll Pundits have pronounced the four new labor codes, notified by Centre last week, 'revolutionary'. Several trade unions have instinctively marked them anti-labor and vowed to carry out nationwide protests in response. Both are over-reacting. Surely, the past several days have turned a secretive 28-point peace plan for Ukraine into a fast-moving diplomatic game. What began as a US-branded peace framework now looks more like a multi-actor struggle over who gets By Jaya Row the Gita is not just a scripture of bygone ages; it is a scientific manual that helps manage the most sophisticated equipment known to humankind the inner personality. It enables you Another study shows stardom can shorten lifespans, but the culprits are still bad choices and stress In the words of a famous American artist, we were all going to be world-famous for 15 minutes.

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Fifty-seven AI-generated visuals should be identifiable as such. Fiction is fun, fake news is poison the so-called \$1tn club has been going walkabout together the past week. In one image, Elon Musk, Satya Nadella, Mark Zuckerberg, Pollution-solution? We haven't the foggiest What's that Zohrabai Ambalewali golden-oldie? AQI-aan mila ke, Stubble jala ke, Chaley nahin jana? Looks like Mumbai and Dilli are playing catch-up, catch-up. FOMO Mumbai is determined to match Dilli's air quality Why many competing small subnational identities are good for a country Even as he fights back xenophobic attacks from MAGA folk, Kash Patel is getting some heat from desis too. Firefighting politically, he said his Product design is dying, India should revive it Why did T800, the Terminator, have an internal display reading out data in English, when it was an autonomous machine 'thinking' in zeroes and ones? Well, it Power & prejudice define what we mean by mental disability Simon Jarrett, a nursing assistant in the 1980s in a south England hospital for the mentally ill, recoiled when he read the file of his Some people try to cheat insurance companies, and honestly, a few of the stories are so weird they sound like cartoons! There was a farmer in England who said his phone got swallowed by a Few frauds are as funny as those related to insurance Remember the farmer in England who claimed insurance for his phone that had disappeared into the insides of a cow while he was helping it Have you ever noticed that so many new gadgets look almost the same? Black, shiny, flats like someone copy-pasted your smartphone onto every machine in the house. Microwave? Looks like a phone. Water purifier? Also That SC has many times overturned its own rulings should be celebrated, not lamented. The 2-judge bench's critique misses the point. From strengthening fundamental rights to decriminalising gay sex, guaranteeing right to privacy to stopping Handouts may win elections, but they don't build nations. We need a national code that prescribes how much can be spent on such largesse and compels parties to show where the money will come from Surakshit Goswami & Sonal Srivastava Recent reports suggest that industrialist Lakshmi Mittal may be considering leaving London for Switzerland or Dubai. The economic policies of Britain's Labour govt are reportedly spooking Ultra High Net Worth The Supreme Court (SC) shouldn't feel upset that some of its own decisions are being checked again by other SC judges. Actually, no leader or decision-maker even newspaper editors with their tiny bit of Reviews are fundamental to running everything better, from courts to govts to science to tech The Supreme Court must not fret that many of its decisions are being reviewed by other SC benches. Indeed, no CWG is returning to India, but what do collapsing basketball poles say about our sporting aspirations? In his heyday, former NBA ace Shaquille O'Neal weighed over 140kg, yet when he slam-dunked, which he did very India is getting ready to host the Commonwealth Games again, which is super exciting. But something very sad has happened that makes us stop and think about how seriously we take sports. Two teenage basketball We now have proof that our babudom is renowned for its devotion to work I love work, wrote Jerome K Jerome in his Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow. Come to my study and I'll Pundits have pronounced the four new labor codes, notified by Centre last week, 'revolutionary'. Several trade u

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Best of Luck Wbpsc Clerkship Student Actual Typing Test Dated 26.05.2022 I pray god to everyone success in your own test if u here pass than I confirm you also pass in your own Typing test. Contributing towards financial inclusion the increased deployment of ATMs will also mean that the Direct Benefit Transfers DBT can be accessed by rural citizens in their vicinity, rather than walking kilometers to find an ATM. Covid 19 the Covid 19 pandemic restricted physical movement of people, thus giving an impetus to mobile ATMs or ATM on wheels. In addition to cash withdrawals, these ATMs enabled cash deposit as well, relieving customers of the long queues at bank branches. In the last two years, these Cash Recycler Machines CRMs are gaining momentum because of their added benefits. Influx of technology digitisation being the first step, even today, for financial inclusion, ATMs adapted to newer technologies and introduced new ways of accessing cash by the means of Code and even biometrics. Such solutions, due to interoperability, are being integrated with banking applications for heightened security and convenience. For instance, one can now withdraw cash by simply scanning a UPI QR code on the ATM screen, through the mobile banking app on phone. Such solutions remove the hassle of carrying a card. Additionally, the new age ATMs or CRMs are technologically equipped to count notes, check them for counterfeit, and further dispense for cash withdrawals. These machines are also limiting the trips of cash management agencies to ATMs while ensuring that the downtime is minimal so that customers have continued access to cash for longer durations. Growing popularity of digital lobbies or e lobbies age customers look for instant services and swift completion of mundane tasks. This is where digital or e lobbies come in to the picture. With banks going digital and neo banking gaining popularity, digital lobbies are set to become a norm. ATMs have proved their versatility and ability to adapt to changes over the years and hence, they have transformed into multi functional kiosks that do much more than cash dispensing and deposits. A digital lobby allows bank branches to attain economies of scale. For instance, a cash withdrawal procedure at a traditional bank branch may take anywhere between INR 45 to INR 60 whereas the deployment of an will bring down this cost significantly. Such a solution heightens the customer satisfaction **and the same time improves the ROI for banks. Hence, banks are focussed towards reducing the size of physical branches and increasing deployment of ATMs CRMs. In fact, according to a report by Ken Research, CRMs in India are expected to grow to. Digital lobbies will also allow host of services such as utility bill payments, cheque deposits, to name a few. Further, owing to the increased fintech penetration, ATMs are on their way towards hyper personalisation. They will continue to complement digital banking services and may seamlessly bridge the parity between urban and rural area with regards to banking services.**

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Has the IAS failed the nation I wish the answer were a resounding no. Much to my regret though, that not the case. The public perception of the IAS today is of an elitist, self serving, status quo perpetuating set of bureaucrats who are out of touch with reality, who wallow in their privileges and social status and have lost the courage of conviction to stand up for what right. It was always like this. In the mid 1970s when I was a fresh entrant into the service, if the government was being attacked by the opposition on a scam or a scandal, all that the CM had to do was to stand up in the Assembly and announce that he would appoint an IAS officer to inquire into the matter. That was enough to shut out the debate. Today if a CM said that, she is likely to be booed. India double abstention on both the Russia moved and Russia critiquing UN resolutions ensured some daylight between New Delhi and Beijing, which voted for the pro Russia resolution, but it did answer the question whether costs of continued neutrality on Moscow aggression will outweigh benefits purely by national interest calculations. Foreign minister S Jaishankar defended India stance in Parliament. However, while national interest definitely means keeping an eye on Russian supply of arms to India, that dependence, as this newspaper has already argued, works both ways. As the largest buyer of Russian arms, New Delhi too has leverage over Moscow. Therefore, if India did take a principled stance on Russia, it is unlikely the latter will retaliate by making arms supply difficult. After all, despite EU nations sanctioning Russia and actively aiding the Ukrainian resistance, they continue to buy Russian energy and Moscow is happy to supply it. And Russia needs arms exports even more given the cost of sanctions on its economy. This is a bargaining power India can use diplomatically. India primary concern ought to be geopolitical implications of the conflict. Two points need consideration. Given that the Russian military operation has gone according to plan, suppose Moscow ups the offensive ante in awful ways to crush Ukrainian resistance. Will it reflect well on India then to have taken such a cautious position Will India still sit out another UN resolution Second, however the Ukraine invasion ends, if Putin is increasingly shunned by most of the **democratic** world, with which India has much business to conduct, and China continues to be in his corner, what might be the implications for India down the line as geopolitical stances harden all around New Delhi must keep an eye on Russia actions in Ukraine as well as America and China future responses and be ready to change its mind in national interest. As part of a growing, just and constitutional pushback against the marital rape exception, a single judge bench of the Karnataka high court has refused to quash the rape charges framed against a husband. Further, it has laid.

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Out in clear and biting terms how the statutory immunity for rape committed by a man on his wife, is categorically out of place in India. Exception 2 to Section 375 of IPC, like most of the penal code, is a colonial intervention rather than some immutable native tradition as some votaries profess. Specifically it emerged out of the ponderous English doctrine of coverture, relating to husband ownership of wife. Leaving aside that in the UK itself marital rape has long been criminalised, India Constitution treats woman equal to man and considers marriage as an association of equals, as pointed out by the HC. The court has left it to the legislature to delve upon the issue. Ideally, its ringing words should indeed impel Parliament to do so with urgency: A man is a man; an act is an act; rape is a rape, be it performed by a man the husband on the woman wife. But the HC own actions suggest that courts need not wait for others precedents or even Parliament, to do the right thing. Uphold equality as enshrined in Article 14, hear the voices of silence, and thereupon strike down the marital rape exception as unconstitutional. Over to Delhi HC, which is hearing the consequential plea on criminalising marital rape. correspondent with the Financial Times in Moscow, tells a dramatic, high stakes story of what Vladimir Putin takeover of Russia truly means. When the Soviet Union fell, communism collapsed but the deep security state simply bided its time. Post Boris Yeltsin, the deep state siloviki men of force networks not only filled their own pockets and expropriated Russia resources, but always also aimed to destabilise Western institutions. In response to Russia invasion of Ukraine, Tesla CEO Elon Musk recently called on the US to increase its domestic oil and gas production to cut off imports from Russia. While new oil and gas wells in the US might not negatively impact Tesla, Musk call has undoubtedly given an impetus to oil and gas interests. After all, who could be the best ambassador of fossil fuels in present times than a self professed climate champion like Musk If we are to succeed in any new endeavour, we require the guidance of an expert in the field who has achieved mastery of the subject. Such mastery requires many years of diligence, hard work, sacrifice and painstaking determination. Whether **in the arena of medicine, sports, engineering, or any other field, an expert can help guide us and show us the way forward. Spirituality is no different. To excel in the spiritual arena, we need to find an expert who has already unraveled the mysteries of life, has completed the spiritual journey and can guide us step by step through the vastness of inner regions. Such an expert is known as a spiritual master. Principles of spirituality work like scientific laws that govern our planet. Laws that work in our universe are reflections of those that govern the higher realms of.**

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Creation principles at work both in the physical and spiritual realms can help us understand how a spiritual master serves as a catalyst to ignite our spark within. Think of how scientists and engineers connect sources of power and energy to people homes. Engineers devise systems in which electrical energy from the power plant is channelised to a home. They make new connections and fix broken ones. Also, making connections to receive electronic or digital signals in this physical realm is analogous to making connections between the soul and God. For both, we need a sender and a receiver. The divine sender is the Lord. The receiver of God broadcast is our soul. The master is a specialist who makes the connection so that our soul can be receptive to the messages from God. We need such a specialist because God messages come only as spirit and do not involve any matter. Since the receiver in the physical body is the brain and the senses made of matter, it is limited to only receiving communications from the material world. The master is a catalyst that tunes our attention to these higher vibrations. The latent spark of the Divine is within each human being. It awaits a catalyst to ignite it so that its brilliant flame can be actualised. To receive spiritual communication from the Divine, we need to be in tune with another system of reception, known as the soul. Right now there is a static interfering with the connection between the soul and God. On our own, we do not know how to eliminate interference to open lines of communication. A spiritual master helps us understand the purpose of our lives and reminds us of the soul long journey and separation from God. He teaches us meditation techniques by which we learn to withdraw our attention from the outer physical world and focus it on the third eye, the gateway to inner spiritual worlds. We embark on this journey and awaken to our true nature as souls through meditation. With continued guidance from a master, we then gradually advance towards the soul ultimate destination God Abode. If we are to fulfill the supreme purpose of our lives, it is imperative that we seek guidance from a spiritual master. Caste based politics has remained at the center stage of the Indian political landscape for nearly four decades now. The **concoction** of caste and politics seemed inseparable, and the politicization of caste has generally occurred throughout the recorded modern history of India, where British policies made the caste system much more inflexible than ever before. The implementation of the Mandal Commission report that granted a reservation of 27% to Other Backward Castes in central government jobs and educational institutions and increased the total caste based reservations to 49.5%, which, in turn, transformed the face of electoral politics in India. Subsequently, several political parties began seeking power by apparently pitting reserved categories against so called forward castes under the pretext of representing.

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The interests of those who belonged to so called backward castes over the past thirty years, many of these parties have flourished and registered multiple victories in Uttar Pradesh by supposedly resorting to caste politics and manipulating people to vote based on their caste identities. Elections in Uttar Pradesh have always taken center stage of caste politics, but not anymore. Voting on caste lines has been negated by the people of Uttar Pradesh which is evident from the thumping majority given to a development focused political party. In contrast, other political parties that focused on certain caste groups apparent through their slogans and manifestos faced disappointment. The UP election results generate hopes that India is probably liberated from the curse of caste politics. What works and what does the penetration of smartphones and the availability of affordable internet has raised voters maturity and awareness levels across different segments of society. Gone are the days when people were too naïve to fall for vote bank politics by caste based parties that sought power through divisive ideologies, manifestos, and policies. Likewise, people also seem apprehensive of parties that promise unrealistic amounts of freebies to secure their votes. Today, voters are intelligent enough to see through such hoaxes and reorient their focus on realistically deliverable benefits that they can draw from the government. The results of UP elections can be explained by the Yogi Adityanath led government focus on development in the region which appealed to the masses of Uttar Pradesh. Specifically, the following developmental initiatives taken by the Yogi government indicate that voters appreciate and expect their leaders to make and keep realistic developmental promises: Ration distribution: Under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, the UP government ran the most extensive campaign of free ration distribution. To mitigate the economic impact of Covid 19 on the poor, eligible ration card holders in UP were provided ten kilograms of food grains in addition to refined oil under two schemes. The initiative is estimated to have directly benefitted as many as 15 crore families in the state. Construction of houses and toilets: Under the PM Awas Yojana, monetary assistance for the construction of homes was provided to nearly 10 lakh people. Individuals in rural areas received INR 1.25 lakh, while those in urban pockets received INR 2.5 lakh. Additionally, under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, funds were transferred into people accounts to construct toilets. **Law** and order: Women safety has always been a significant concern in UP, and the Yogi government has adopted a zero tolerance policy against crime. Anti Romeo squads were set up. Recruitment of 1.5 lakh police personnel took place, and 20% of them were entrusted with ensuring women safety. The government used an iron fist in dealing with criminals. NCRB data reveals that cases of rape and abduction of women reduced significantly from 2016 to 2020. Distribution of gas cylinders: Under the Ujjwala Yojana, free gas connections have been provided. In the first phase, nearly eight crore beneficiaries received gas cylinders.

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Once called a city of green hedges, the city is unfortunately turning into a grey concrete jungle. At times, it is a wonder if it is the same Doon Valley that we knew a couple of decades ago. I have a special fondness for this pristine city because I spent my childhood here. The memories of my carefree school days spent in the lap of nature still remain fresh to this day. The city had it all the charm of a hill town filled with dignified and educated people. It was a balm for the eyes to see a city so green, clean, and refreshing, with so much to feel good about. However, Dehradun is at a crossroads at the moment. The town has not been ruined completely, but it is heading towards a disaster. It is shocking to see the beautiful valley lose its charm as it follows the footsteps of metropolitan cities and gets filled with pollution and vehicles crazily knocking into each other. The increasing trend of high-rise buildings and other unplanned constructions is resulting in dilapidation because a city like Dehradun is not geographically ready to take any extra load. The city is throwing new challenges for planners, engineers, architects, and most importantly, environmentalists. The unplanned growth, irrelevant construction, disobedience of laws, and lenient environmental regulatory policies are taking Doon Valley to a future where even obtaining basic needs would become an everyday battle. The bleak future of the city, once known for its rejuvenating climate and scenic beauty, might be here sooner than anticipated. The capital city of Uttarakhand, God own land, ranked 26 out of 29 state capitals assessed for cleanliness. This dismal ranking makes our heads hang in shame and the piles of garbage in the city speak for themselves. The British envisioned the place as City of Orchards and had the vision of developing it as a city with canals and trees but that dream is being eaten up by a concrete jungle. The valley, known for sweet litchis, mangoes and other fruits, has been taken over by insensitive builders who spoiled the valley with multi-storey apartments and shopping malls. In the name of development, several acres of orchards have been used for commercial purposes and litchi and mango trees laden with fruits are now a rare sight. Due to the abundance of fruits in the city, many colonies in Dehradun **had** names like Aamwala, Nimbuwala, Anarwala, etc. However, the scenario has completely changed now as trees are hacked mercilessly. How can authorities allow this? The very fabric of the city is under threat! The land of trees and rivers is choking. The city which used to wake up to birds chirping now wakes up to vehicles honking. Rice fields have been turned into highways and pockets of Dehradun known for its quality Basmati rice have transformed into potential zones for property dealers. Residents believe that unplanned and thoughtless development plans have claimed a lot of land. There is a general consensus that the situation worsened after Dehradun became the state capital and the government, driven by people with power, introduced economic policies that skyrocketed real estate prices. Being a nature lover, greenery is in my DNA. While establishing schools across the country, I made it a point to ensure that they were nestled in greenery, in addition to considering the structural aesthetics. Schools that were built on barren land in places like Mathura and Bhubaneswar have seen their surroundings transformed into mini forests. Being the real

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Is struggling for a green belt. Despite getting the green light from the forest department, I never hacked an old mango tree on my property but decided to restore it using some local treatment instead. Now the tree is healthy, bearing fruits to the utmost pleasure of morning walkers. As per records, around 579 sq km of forest area in Dehradun has been encroached since 2013. In the last 18 years, more than 10,000 trees were cut down on the Dehradun-Haridwar road. Even the road to the airport, which passes through Thano, has seen a lot of tree-cutting. While it is the forest department which claims deforestation will lead to better services and development, some greedy residents and private landowners are also to be blamed. They chop off trees and sell land to private builders and as the trees bleed, the authorities watch helplessly like mute spectators. While development is essential for economic growth and improving human well-being, it must not come at the cost of destroying nature. Sustainable development practices, proper planning and technological innovations are crucial to achieve a balance between environmental conservation and development. This will ensure that the benefits of development are not only reaped by the present generation but by future generations as well. Our history bears witness to the fact that our thoughtful and foresighted leaders of the past envisioned nature and development in perfect harmony. Take, for instance, the wisdom and vision of Sher Shah Suri. He built the Grand Trunk Road, one of the oldest and longest roads, spanning approximately 3,655 kilometers, without any harm to nature. Rows of timber trees were planted along the road at intervals of 5 to 6 feet. The state is also where the genesis of the Chipko Movement took place, with activists like Gaura Devi, Chandi Prasad Bhatt, and Sunderlal Bahuguna launching the fight against large-scale cutting of trees. There are examples across the world where infrastructure development happens without harming a single tree. Recently, one of my friends based in Atlanta, US, shared that there is a tunnel amid a forest, connecting two towns and the trees are located above the tunnel. Similarly, the underground corridor between Terminal A and B at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport looked like a stylised version of Georgia Forest. Even in our own country, hill stations like Ooty continue to maintain their pristine beauty along with the town economic **development**. Messing with nature takes its toll. There have been incidents where nature has shown its wrath by claiming thousands of lives, but nobody pays heed to such warnings, perhaps waiting for a bigger disaster to happen. The streams, particularly seasonal rivers like Bindal and Rispana, which once flowed through the heart of the city, have turned into drains full of garbage. With the rainy season around the corner, the rain god may take revenge in his own way, especially in areas where housing societies have encroached on drains and rivers. There is an urgent need for the revival and restoration of the rivulets that form the city drainage system, or else Dehradun will soon lose its lifeline. The city geographical location and altered landscape due to urbanisation make it prone to natural disasters like earthquakes, landslides, and floods. According to Hindu scriptures, plant worship is the oldest form of religion because of the sheer magnificence and antiquity of huge trees. Trees were called Vanaspat

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Under the PM Awas Yojana, monetary assistance for the construction of homes was provided to nearly in rural areas received those in urban pockets received INR 2.5 lakh. Additionally, under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, funds were transferred into people accounts to construct toilets. safety has always been a significant concern in UP, and the Yogi government has adopted a zero tolerance policy against crime. Anti Romeo squads were set up. Recruitment police personnel took place, and 20% of them were entrusted with ensuring women safety. The government used an iron fist in dealing with criminals. NCRB data reveals that cases of rape and abduction of women reduced significantly from of gas cylinders: Under the Ujjwala Yojana, free gas connections have been provided. In the first phase, nearly eight crore beneficiaries received gas cylinders, while twenty lakh free LPG connections were distributed in the second phase. The underlying motivation was to reduce the hassle that people experienced in procuring cylinders. The goal was also to protect women from the health hazards of using wood as cooking fuel and the associated risks in collecting wood from forests. Direct benefit transfer: The Yogi government disbursed as much as INR 2.75 lakh crore through Direct Benefit Transfer under 137 welfare schemes of 27 departments. For instance, the government credited around INR 1,980 crores in the bank accounts of parents of 1.8 crore students to purchase school uniforms, bags, socks, shoes, and sweaters. Likewise, the loans of 86 lakh marginal farmers worth INR 36,000 crores were waived off. More than INR 1.45 lakh crore was paid as the minimum support price to farmers. Under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, INR 27,251 crores have been credited to the accounts of over 2.54 crore farmers. It is hoped that the election results in the recent UP elections will usher in an era of politics that is relatively free from caste based categorization. In other words, it could result in India doing away with divisive vote bank politics as voters have matured sufficiently to see through such caste based divisions. It is also hoped that the results of UP elections will serve as a wake up call to political parties that make unrealistic promises in their manifestos as voters have developed better cognitive faculties to differentiate the impractical from the practical. More specifically, offering someone Rs 6000 per month may be impractical and unrealistic. Contrarily, Rs 6000 a year may be more viewed as more realistic. The voters are probably interested in benefits that they can realistically get from the government rather than freebies. We can only hope that going forward, progressive and positive government schemes that help the underprivileged will drive voters to the polling booths. India has the second largest education system in the world; a system that received a rude shock from the pandemic, and that is yet to recover from it as wave upon wave of Covid 19 has threatened resumption of traditional formal learning. Through measures like the National Education Policy, 2020, India.

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Situation and if these small issues are not handled upfront, they can result in swelling, crusting, bleeding or even fungal infections. The situation can get worse for people who are obese, or those who indulge in a lot of outdoor activities during summers. People with sensitive skin, and those with physiological conditions such as diabetes or thyroid problems, and the elderly who are most sensitive to heat, are also more susceptible to rashes and chafing during summer. However, it is not very difficult to manage and prevent chafing. Small things, if done right, can go a long way in making this season more bearable and comfortable. Here are some tips to have a rash free summer. Wear loose clothes made of breathable fabric The hot, humid weather can lead to an enhanced tendency to sweat heavily, and so choosing tight or ill fitting clothing should also be avoided. Further, synthetic or opaque heavy fabric can irritate the body and cause friction in some areas, causing chafing and rashes. Choose comfortable and breathable clothes made out of sweat wicking materials like cotton, and linen. Hydrate well Summers generally requires one to be well hydrated so as to avoid heat strokes and dehydration. With the heavy sweating and the extra efforts that the body needs to regulate temperature, water and fresh fruit juices are vital. Dehydration can also cause acne, itchy breakouts, and deposition of toxins on the skin pores that are thrown out in the sweat. Anti rash creams Use of anti chafing products like skin gels and anti chafing creams on the chafe prone areas like inner thighs, groin, armpits, underarm, underbra, toes, etc. can reduce the risk of chafing. While petroleum jelly based products have been used conventionally to prevent chafing that wear out very fast, the new age skincare products with silicone based barrier protection technology, have proven to be excellent in preventing chafing and providing long lasting protection to skin. The silicone based gels form water repellent film that keeps sweat away and helps reducing friction. 4. Have a healthy diet It is especially important to follow a healthy diet of fruits, vegetables and plenty of water, during summers. Processed foods, fried and spicy food, red meats and certain types of nuts, when consumed, are known to generate more heat in the body and thus should be avoided. Excess consumption of beverages like tea, coffee and **alcohol** also cause dehydration, and can aggravate rashes. Maintaining a clean and healthy diet will not only keep the body healthy from the inside but also from the outside. 5. See a doctor Skin chafing may occur despite your best efforts for causes beyond your control. Inspect your skin for signs of infection, such as redness, blisters, lesions, abrasions, and wounds, on a frequent basis. Chafing and rashes when left unchecked and untreated, can develop into bacterial or fungal infections and then may require extended medical attention. Consult a dermatologist right away if you detect any changes in the color of.

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Used for smile design, and to fabricate posts and cores, removable partial prostheses, and obturators. IOS can be integrated in implant dentistry for guided surgery and in orthodontics for fabricating aligners and custom made devices. Present scenario There is a place for both techniques conventional and IOS in modern practice. However, scanners certainly bring advantages to the operatory including speed, convenience, digital data capture, and, perhaps most importantly, patient acceptance. In addition to this, IOS can enjoy a marketing advantage, considering the competition and an aware patient expectation for best treatment. Also, many patients associate the use of technology with precision and better outcomes, so scanning technology may give practices a leg up on the competition. The bottom line This is a new era of digital orthodontics, and the technological revolution has made orthodontic daily routines less reliant on paper, radiation, and dental casts. The use of digital intraoral scanners (IOSs) has led to a variety of clinical in office applications. The last few decades have seen a dramatic increase in research comparing scanners and the issue of conventional versus digital approaches. Overall, digital IOS is an easier and faster digital impression method with greater efficiency and accuracy but less waste and, typically, lower cost. Pune city has always been the most favored destination for first time home buyers. Buyers and realtors across the country have always been drawn to this metropolitan city due to the weather, green surroundings, Return on investment, and Livability quotient. Although the global COVID 19 pandemic did delay launches and related revenue opportunities, Pune proved to be a resilient market that bounced back with a rapid recovery. The Mahan Metro Rail will have a positive and favorable impact on the Pune real estate market which is going to be the most significant mode of transport for Punks, witnessing marginal growth. Pune Metro is going to be a big boon for the social and infrastructural upliftment, which will eventually help the city grow exponentially as they serve areas which are not connected by the existing suburban rail system, besides providing interchange facilities for connecting neighboring areas. With the growth of these areas, factors like mobility and accessibility will tend to majorly influence the everyday life of people living around the metro line. If we look closely at all the metro routes, Line 1 of the metro, covers a distance of approximately 16 Kmps and corridors **from** Pinprick Chinch wad to Seagate. Line 2 will be approximately 14 KM covering Vanes from Koshered to Ramadi, which is a completely an elevated route. The longest amongst these 3 routes is Line 3. It which covers 23 Kmps distance and areas from Hinjewadi phase 3 to Shiva Nagar. Work on the Pune metro project is ongoing in full swing, and it will be on par along with the development of the city. This development around the city will turns the face of the city and will also provide a boost to the construction sector around the metro routes due.

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Terms of materials need to also be revisited and what deforestation means for the hills should also be assessed. When we are talking of rapid urbanization, we need to understand the characteristics of seismic zones and what is required in each type of zone for construction. The building bylaw cannot be the same across all zones the construction techniques employed in the plains of Uttarakhand, or, the entire eastern zone which has seen many more earthquakes will be different from each other. A couple of decades ago, the coastal regulation guidelines were devised to prevent construction close to our water sources. This helped us deduce that certain zones were not buildable and that others required specific methods of construction. We need to follow a similar, thoughtful approach for hill construction. The land carrying capacity is another concept that I feel is not addressed by any bye-laws. There are varied soil types, and the same bye-laws should not apply to all. We need a method to establish what the land can sustain. I have mostly talked about it in terms of water, but today I want to delve into the carrying capacity of this land in the hills on which you are building; what load can it carry? What is its character and can it support habitation? If so, what is the permissible amount by geological standards?? What does science say about it? How will migration be controlled? What about the building physics and the context in which the buildings of the past have survived? What are the genuinely sustainable materials that can be used? I believe we will require a completely different knowledge bank to approach this issue in a sensitive manner. Today we have unskilled masons who are predominantly migrant labor building in these areas. We have lost the traditional skills passed across generations of masons who have been trained to build sustainably. I also feel that the environmental criteria pertaining to construction in the hills is not logical. Stipulating that you cannot cut rock or procure timber from the hills does not help the locals. At the same time, the entire Himalayan range does not have to undergo deforestation to accommodate urbanization, but some sustainable method of managing renewable forest resources needs to be created. To reawaken pride in the traditional design, local awareness has to be created. The desire to have multi-story city-type dwellings will undermine **the** Himalayas and inevitably lead to more Joshi Math-like scenarios. Significant initiatives, studies, and technological interventions have created essential tools to monitor and deal with natural hazards. Efforts are also being directed towards predicting such disasters through monitoring, seismic zonation, assessment of earthquake hazards, landslide zonation, etc. However, I feel that this knowledge should be pre-emptively used. Establishing a road map for urbanization is crucial to reducing its impact in the Himalayas. Mumbai is the most populous city in India and one of the largest cities in the world. There are a variety of factors that contribute to why Mumbai has so many slums. These include a large influx of migrants into the city, limited housing availability, high rental costs, and poverty levels. In addition, population growth and lack of access to basic services and public resources also play a role in the prevalence of slums in Mumbai. In 1956, 8% of the population of Mumbai lived in slums. Over the years, the population of the city has rapidly grown

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To the reduced prices of premium FSI in metro influenced area there has been an increased in land value along the metro corridors. Increased FSI will also be available to builders for projects along the Metro route. In India smart city mission, Pune has been granted Rest 650 billion over the next 7 8 years for the construction of a Metro rail link, a new airport terminal and a ring road. This will further lead to the development of new flyovers and roads, international exhibition and convention Centre, Mumbai Pune hyper loop one, Samara economic corridor along with other regional infrastructural developments. Nodal Analysis of Pune The study rules out the access to the real estate potential of the Pinprick Chinch wad node in the Pune region. Factors influencing this analysis are distance from the airport, nearest city railway station, Pune Rainbow BRTS network, access to the metro rail station, smart city mission, Pune outer ring road and air connectivity to the Pinprick Chinch wad area. The real estate activity and the surrounding development in this area, along with appreciation in rentals and sale rates has been redefined due to the return on investment for a prospective investor. This metro development will surely change the skyline of Pune city as the focus will be on the developments along with the metro stations and its route. We can anticipate high rises and premium properties getting developed in these pockets. Also, this infrastructural development will change the way the city functions as it will considerably reduce travel time from office to home. Pune metro has given impetus to the new commercial corridor of Pune. Especially areas of Pinprick Chinch wad are going to be next big business destination with major players like Kohinoor, Runway, Gera, Kolbe Patel and many others are coming up with big commercial and residential projects around the metro line. At the same time, it will be a big blessing for the employees working in companies like Force Motors, Tata Group companies and a consortium of the Siemens Group and others. Therefore, Pinprick Chinch wad can be looked forward as the new business destination for commercial investment and as well as residential investments. The Financial Services sector is in the middle of a defining transformation that is largely being driven by its customers. Contactless payments have boomed in the pandemic as society moves to safer, more efficient models of payment. Fitch is enabling traditional institutions to catch up with new banks to innovate in the way they offer new services to meet consumer needs. From mobile banking apps to catboats that enhance the customer experience, to machine learning to secure against fraud. As we move closer and closer towards a digitally driven, cashless society how will Fitch utilise and protect customer data Data brings you closer to customers Although the pandemic has hastened the move to cashless payments, in part due to its safer contactless nature, we were already headed in that direction. A PwC India report documented how.

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Digital payments in India have soared over the past few years 48 billion digital transactions were recorded in 2020 despite the COVID 19 pandemic. Expressions such as data is the new oil have become a common refrain, but the real advantage lies in what you do with the data you collect. This is how you truly understand your customers. Cashless customers have created rapidly changing consumer needs. They demand more personalisation and at the same time expect products to deliver on simplicity and ease of use. The explosion of online banking apps and contactless payments not only deliver on these expectations, but are more efficient models of payment. Looking ahead, Financial Services leaders must draw on key insights to deliver outstanding customer experiences that not only meet current needs, but offer incentives for the future. Cashing in on data and analytics while digital payments create the opportunity for Financial Services institutions to better understand their customers, the risk of customer data being exploited by fraudsters becomes a major concern. And it easy to see how these concerns arise, especially for those used to cash payments which leave no digital footprint. With the democratisation of data, consumers are much more aware of their digital footprints and are often left wondering: when making a purchase, who is using my data and what are they using it for Not to mention the rise in data breaches and cybercrime during the COVID 19 pandemic. But the good news is that in addition to adhering to local data protection laws, Financial Services institutions can use data and analytics to identify emerging threats, and provide insights to predict and alert potential fraud. Leveraging the power of data in this evolving environment will help financial institutions predict consumer behavior and be alert to potential risks. Where do we go from here To embrace this digital reality, traditional financial institutions are rethinking their existing technical setup and investing in modern data and analytics tools to help understand customer needs and accelerate digital transformation. Businesses need an analytics platform that helps customers not only see their data but that also helps with data governance, data prep, data access, data management, and choice of where data is stored particularly important for highly regulated industries like the Financial Services sector. Data lies at the heart of the Financial Services sector digital transformation, it holds immense potential for the sector and **companies** are scrambling to reshape their business models in order to take full advantage of that potential. But old systems and a lack of relevant skills can create huge obstacles. It a fast changing world for the Financial Services sector and to thrive within it businesses must now offer frictionless, seamless, integrated services to their customers. Those that make the most of their data will thrive, those that don , face an uncertain future. There are many implications of a cashless society and utilising data and analytics tools is the way forward to best prepare your business for this new era.

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Million people. Slum redevelopment is a crucial step in enhancing living standards for developing nations, while still preserving the autonomy of slum communities. As Mumbai is home to some of the largest slums in Asia, studying its processes related to slum redevelopment can provide valuable insights to other developing countries and help ensure that economic growth benefits everyone, including the most disadvantaged. Moreover, examining Mumbai strategies can help refine existing theories on slum redevelopment. The government also believes that slum redevelopment is important for cities like Mumbai because it can lead to improved quality of life for the residents and greater access to healthcare, transportation, and education. In addition, it also provides an opportunity to free up land for infrastructure development and to create more organised and efficient cities. Slum redevelopment opens up land in Mumbai by demolishing existing slums and replacing them with new housing units. This helps to free up open spaces that can then be used to build infrastructure such as roads, schools, hospitals, and other public facilities. Additionally, this process can also increase the availability of green spaces, allowing for greater access to parks and other recreational areas. Localities with slum redevelopment have also shown a positive impact on the quality of human life and a reduction in the crime rate. Studies have shown that slum redevelopment projects have improved access to services, education, and healthcare in cities experiencing high levels of poverty. These projects have also been linked to decreased levels of crime, as well as improved health, education, and employment outcomes. However, a lot needs to be done in this regard. To introduce transparency and ensure a smooth functioning of the slum redevelopment process, the government must communicate plans to redevelop slums clearly and openly with residents. This will help to build trust and allow people to feel like they have a say in the redevelopment process. The government must also be open to feedback and suggestions from residents as well as other stakeholders. It is important to ensure that all parties involved in the process are held accountable for their compliance with existing regulations and to provide adequate compensation or alternate housing for any displaced residents. IMD on Tuesday forecast the southwest monsoon for 2023 will be normal. Rainfall is estimated at 96% of the long period average (LPA), two percentage points higher than the private weather forecast firm Skymet estimate. Southwest **monsoon** forecasts are traditionally an important lead economic indicator as they influence farm output. This, in turn, influences the economy mainly through two channels, food inflation and rural consumption. The 2023 IMD forecast marks the fifth straight year when the southwest monsoon has been normal or above normal. It was above normal in 2019 and 2020, the first time in six decades of successive years of rainfall between 105-110% of LPA. But traditional perspectives on monsoon economic impact now need to be altered to climate realities. Increasingly it the spatial distribution and extreme weather events that affect farm output and not the season average rainfall. Last year, a heat wave in March in northwestern India led to more than 50% decline in wheat procurement for PDS and catalysed cereal inflation subsequently. Signs this year too are not encouraging. Following unusually

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There is an enemy beneath our feet an enemy more deadly for his complete impartiality. He recognizes no national boundaries, no political parties. Everyone in the world is threatened by him. The enemy is the earth itself. When an earthquake strikes, the world trembles. The power of a quake is greater than anything man himself can produce. But today scientists are directing a great deal of their effort into finding some way of combating earthquakes, and it is possible that at some time in near future mankind will have discovered a means of protecting itself from earthquakes. An earthquake strikes without warning. When it does, its power is immense. If it strikes a modern city, the damage it causes is as great as if it had struck a primitive village. Gas mains burst, explosions are caused and fires are started. Underground railways are wrecked. Building collapse, bridges fall, dams burst, and gaping crevices appear in busy streets. If the quake strikes at sea, huge tidal waves sweep inland. If it strikes in mountains regions, avalanches roar down into the valley. Consider the terrifying statistics from the past 1755 Lisbon, capital of Portugal the city destroyed completely and 450 killed. There is an enemy beneath our feet an enemy more deadly for his complete impartiality. He recognizes no national boundaries, no political parties. Everyone in the world is threatened by him. The enemy is the earth itself. When an earthquake strikes, the world trembles. The power of a quake is greater than anything man himself can produce. But today scientists are directing a great deal of their effort into finding some way of combating earthquakes, and it is possible that at some time in near future mankind will have discovered a means of protecting itself from earthquakes. An earthquake strikes without warning. When it does, its power is immense. If it strikes a modern city, the damage it causes is as great as if it had struck a primitive village. Gas mains burst, explosions are caused and fires are started. Underground railways are wrecked. Building collapse, bridges fall, dams burst, and gaping crevices appear in busy streets. If the quake strikes at sea, huge tidal waves sweep inland. If it strikes in mountains regions, avalanches roar down into the valley. Consider the terrifying statistics from the past 1755 Lisbon, capital of Portugal the city destroyed completely and 450 killed. There **is an enemy beneath our feet an enemy more deadly for his complete impartiality. He recognizes no national boundaries, no political parties. Everyone in the world is threatened by him. The enemy is the earth itself. When an earthquake strikes, the world trembles. The power of a quake is greater than anything man himself can produce. But today scientists are directing a great deal of their effort into finding some way of combating earthquakes, and it is possible that at some time in near future mankind will have discovered a means of protecting itself from earthquakes. An earthquake strikes without warning.**

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Handle such issues is urgently needed for the sustainable development of Dehradun. Both citizens and authorities need to brainstorm to protect our beautiful town and restore it to the glory of the past Switzerland of the East, as it was called by the British. The clearing of my known self and then go back. That I must have the courage to let them come and go. That I will never let mankind put anything over me, but that I will always try to recognise and submit to the gods in me and the gods in other men and women. There is my creed. To be human is to track our way through this haunted forest in that unique expedition that we call our life. As Indians and fans of cricket, we were ecstatic when Hardik Pandya bowled the final ball of the last over, clinching an extraordinary victory from the brink of defeat. After 13 years, India won an ICC tournament and after 17 years, the T20 World Cup. While these numbers highlight the importance of victory, the true essence of this victory dawned on me as I observed the Indian players emotions post-match. This was the typical celebration of players rushing towards each other in excitement. Hardik Pandya could contain his tears. Rohit Sharma collapsed to the ground, pounding his hand in disbelief, while Virat Kohli, although extremely happy, was less expressive than usual. Rahul Dravid joy was evident, perhaps the most animated he had been since his angry avatar in a TV ad. Their reactions reflected the immense hardships they had endured. It revealed the pent-up emotions from last year World Cup Final loss and their personal struggles. The relief of not letting another World Cup slip through their fingers was visible. The players were overwhelmed and did shy away from displaying their raw emotions. The sight of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli embracing, or Hardik Pandya being lifted by his IPL teammate Rohit Sharma, epitomized true brotherhood. Dravid, despite his illustrious career, finally got his hands on a World Cup trophy. Jasprit Bumrah had battled injuries, Rishabh Pant was making a comeback from a life-threatening accident and Pandya had faced unfair criticism during his first season as captain of the Mumbai Indians in the IPL. Kohli had a disappointing tournament until the finals and Sharma was carrying the immense pain of losing last year World Cup **finals** to Australia, despite India being the clear favourites. Nothing teaches the importance of resilience like sports. There is something almost mystical about the experience of getting knocked down and standing up again to deliver a punch. Tennis great Roger Federer, in his recent commencement speech at Dartmouth, mentioned that throughout his career, he won only 54% of the points he played. Losing every second point on average teaches one not to dwell on every shot. He stressed the importance of refocusing after losing a point: When you re playing a point, it has to be the most important thing in the world, Federer said. But when it behind you, it behind you. This mindset is crucial because it frees you to fully commit to the next point, and the next one, with intensity, clarity and focus. Novak Djokovic, another tennis great, echoed a similar sentiment in an earlier interview. He mentioned that athletes should allow themselves to feel their emotions but quickly move past the negative ones. This ability to move on separates champions from rest, a principle applicable beyond sports. He also mentioned that he is not gifted with this mindset. He tra

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However, this is easier said than done. In high-stakes situations, we are often prone to the fear of failure. One small mistake can trigger a compelling voice in our head, telling us how foolish we are and that the situation is unsalvageable. This prevents us from focusing on the task at hand. It feels as if our mind is hijacked, rendering us unable to perform to the best of our abilities. This creates a negative feedback loop, causing us to catastrophize the situation. From the likes of Rohit Sharma and Roger Federer, we must learn that they are not special because they don't get frustrated by failures; they are special because they acknowledge that feeling a setback is human. However, the key lies in bouncing back and focusing on the next task. Sometimes, success comes only after years of failed attempts. Michael Jordan, arguably the greatest basketball player of all time, won his first championship in his 7th season as a professional. The legendary Sachin Tendulkar took 22 years to win the cricket World Cup, despite being the world best player for many of those years. Imagine their struggles and self-doubt when results eluded them despite their extraordinary skills and best efforts. However, they did not let negative emotions overwhelm them. They kept working on their game and giving their best. While there is no guarantee of success, persevering and continually striving to improve is the best bet one can make. Sir Alex Ferguson, former manager of Manchester United, famously said in 1999 after his team beat Bayern Munich in the Champions League final that they won because they never give in. His team managed to secure victory in a match they had almost lost. This self-belief, the refusal to buckle under pressure, and giving their best led to a memorable victory. Similarly, with 30 runs needed off 30 balls by South Africa, India could have easily succumbed to the pressure. But they never gave in and stuck to their plan. Staying cool and calm in such situations requires nerves of steel, a quality displayed by all the players from Surya Kumar Yadav's acrobatic catch on the boundary to Bumrah's exceptional final spell and Axar Patel's crucial knock to Pandya's impeccable last over. As Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli retire from T20 international cricket, they leave a significant void. Their legacy goes beyond their cricketering skills; they have set a **benchmark** for the next generation in terms of skill, leadership, and emotional maturity. These qualities will indeed be crucial for the Men in Blue to continue achieving greatness in the future. India becoming T20 world champions was a fabulous moment for India, for cricket. For me, what makes the win special is that in an era of bullies, the nice guys have won. Rohit Sharma and Rahul Dravid both have been gentlemen through and through. Rohit never dropped his dignity in the face of all the controversies thrown at him. And he led in a way that is natural to him: being a leader, a team player, a buddy in the locker room. Dravid epitomizes gentlemanly behavior. He is now the Dronacharya of winning without belligerence, finding victory without vehemence. Today, in every field, we aspire to be hyper-competitive, hyper-aggressive, intolerant bullies. It is not only accepted, but proactively encouraged. In sports, the brash football culture, its high collision sports quotient on the field, argumentative players, angry team managers, and high-octane fans from the stands is much more attractive than, say, the gentlemanly kabaddi.

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Reverse snobbery is the most common kind of snobbery. I often meet people who have an air about them of how simple they are. I say air, because it almost like they feel they have a halo because of their self proclaimed status of being supposedly none demanding, non material and uncomplicated. I find it so amusing. Firstly, because they have mentally branded every rich, influential, recognised, celebrated individual as abnormal, not real, pretentious, fake, spoilt, different, immoral and perhaps even villainous in nature. It commonplace to meet multitudes that have an almost negative attitude to the rich and famous and say we are hi flying in a we are of simple values, simple means and earthy nature and hence insinuating they themselves belong to a superior reality because they have less. The meaning of reverse or inverse snobbery is An attitude of exaggerated contempt for wealth, achievement and to denigrate or shun those of superior ability, education, social status or refined taste, etc. while being sympathetic and bear esteem for the ordinary and common person. I would like to analyses how limiting and self harming that mindset can be. Not liking people who have better education, abundant lifestyle, or more money is plain and simple jealousy. This can be healthy as it can lead to aspiration and the desire to manifest the same lifestyle for them. However, to make it known and believe that things related to a high position are not aspirational and vice like, and that only things related to a lower social position are virtues is illogical and restricting. To assume there is no simplicity to a rich person or to disbelieve they can ooze goodness and kindness and be of good stock is to be blinkered for self serving purpose. Which class in society is free from drugs, corruption, alcohol, affairs, crime or negative emotions So then how does any strata of society define themselves as better and superior Our choices define our journey and to perpetuate a mindset is also a choice. Choice is the most powerful tool you have because we exist in a world of infinite possibilities limited only by our thinking. Every thought process shuts many doors and opens many doors as well. Which direction would you like your life to flow in what is the operating belief system you are a victim of There is no superiority in thinking **small** or belittling those with accomplishments because what you look down on will never be your reality. So think again, be brutally honest to yourself, break the programming, look at any inferiority complex in the eye, and go manifest the life you really want. 1. I am a 42 year old woman in love with a man who is 10 years younger than me. We are happy together, but recently the snide comments about our age difference have started to get to my partner. We end up fighting over trivial things. I do know how to handle the situation. Please help.

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What began as a US-branded peace framework now looks more like a multi-actor struggle over who gets By Jaya Row The Gita is not just a scripture of bygone ages; it is a scientific manual that helps manage the most sophisticated equipment known to humankind the inner personality. It enables you Another study shows stardom can shorten lifespans, but the culprits are still bad choices and stress In the words of a famous American artist, we were all going to be world-famous for 15 minutes. Fifty-seven AI-generated visuals should be identifiable as such. Fiction is fun, fake news is poison The so-called \$1tn club has been going walkabout together the past week. In one image, Elon Musk, Satya Nadella, Mark Zuckerberg, Pollution-solution? We haven't the foggiest What's that Zohrabai Ambalewali golden-oldie? AQI-aan mila ke,/Stubble jala ke,/Chaley nahin jana? Looks like Mumbai and Dilli are playing catch-up, catch-up. FOMO Mumbai is determined to match Dilli's air quality Why many competing small subnational identities are good for a country Even as he fights back xenophobic attacks from MAGA folk, Kash Patel is getting some heat from desis too. Firefighting politically, he said his Times of India - India Voices Blogs (November 30, 2025) From memory to mastery: A competency-based learning approach rooted in Indian Knowledge Systems Rashmi S Chari has been actively involved in the field of education for last 34 years. She is currently Director, Academics & Training, Bhartiya Shiksha Board (BSB). She was till recently Member, Educational Research & Innovations Committee (ERIC) of Ministry of HRD, Government of India advising the apex educational institution NCERT on ways to bring qualitative improvement in teacher education through infusion of innovative practices and action research. She has consistently supported the initiatives of the Apex educational bodies as an Advisor to the Apex educational institutions of India in NCERT and CBSE on Teacher Education, Early Childhood Care and Education and National Policy of Education (2015). She has also extensively researched Human Values in Education and has developed a curriculum for teacher-education for MHRD. LESS MORE When the National Education Policy 2020 was released, it proudly acknowledged the ancient Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) by integrating them into modern school and university curricula. We all were elated that, for the first time, the Indian education system would align with our indigenous culture and heritage making learning far more meaningful for learners than an education system **inherited** from three hundred years of colonial rule. Cognizant of the growing demand for a skilled workforce, it also replaced the memory-based learning with a Competency-Based Learning (CBL) approach. Yet we could clearly foresee how challenging IKS integration was going to be, especially as the learning approach aimed at skill development through an experiential learning. Despite the inspiring vision of NEP and NCF, teachers had little exposure to Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) and were largely untrained to transact the curriculum through competency-based pedagogy infused with IKS content. The big challenge for teachers was that, with the release of the new policy and curriculum framework, school administrators under pressure for quick compliance pushed them to implement changes without providing the time, tools, or training required to redesign lessons. Parents, an important stakeholder.

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This is still anchored in marks-driven expectations, were also unsure about the new content and pedagogies. When I began guiding textbook development for the Bhartiya Shiksha Board, I discovered that although it was more than 70 years since Macaulay and the colonial rulers had left India, no national repository of IKS resources with its grade-wise integration had been created in India. As a result, there were no grade wise IKS syllabus or classroom-ready activities for implementation. Turning to the Gurukuls for inspiration, I realised that although they were deeply committed to IKS, many of them were still following the memory-based learning approach focused on memorising long ancient Sanskrit texts rather than using experiential pedagogy involving hands-on activities, real-world contexts, reasoning, and verification. Therefore, they too needed to evolve their teaching methods to equip the students with the skills needed to adapt to the demands of the 21st-century community and workplace. India is the cradle of civilisation where knowledge first evolved. Astronomy, Ayurveda, Astrology, Ganit, Rasayan Shastra, the Ashtadhyayi, Yoga, Vastu Shastra, Sthapatya Veda, Arthashastra, Dhanurveda, Natya Shastra, Krishi Shastra, Jal Shastra, Vriksha Ayurveda, Niti Shastra, and the Geeta Upanishadic literature all developed through cycles of inquiry, analysis, collaboration, environmental understanding, cultural literacy, and emotional social intelligence. These competencies emerged naturally as ancient Rishis and Rishikas sought to understand the mysteries of the universe, life, health, society, and nature through discovery or innovation. India's knowledge systems are fundamentally rooted in observation, experimentation, and repeated practice for mastery exactly what competency-based learning demands. IKS provides local context and cultural relevance, transforming abstract textbook concepts into meaningful, real-world experiences. It enables children to build lived understanding knowledge they can apply confidently in their everyday life. The Competency-Based Shift (NEP 2020 & NCF 2023) also moved education away from merely completing the syllabus to building the ability to apply learning in real life by asking the 'Big Question Can the child do something with what they learn?' The IKS is therefore fully aligned with competency-based learning approach, which demands real-world application of knowledge through practice, exploration, and problem-solving. The transformation extends to assessment as well shifting from recall-based tests to performance-based evaluation, where learning is demonstrated and outcomes are expressed as 'Competent' or 'Not Competent.' What IKS really brings to experiential learning IKS practices are inherently hands-on and rooted in everyday life. For example: Together, these learning experiences ensure that knowledge is not **memorised** but actively constructed. Designing classroom experiences using IKS To integrate IKS with competency-based pedagogy, teachers can design projects using this ward The process helps them recognise the holistic and interconnected nature of knowledge by linking ideas across science, geography, mathematics, and the arts. Assessment in IKS + competency-based classrooms Assessment in IKS and Competency-based classrooms replaces one-time tests and becomes ongoing, observable, and aligned to demonstrated skills. Since learning in such a classroom involves teachers to discuss and demonstrate the process,

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To drive wedges between Moscow and Beijing. The basic posture was to pursue containment against Russia, while leaving the door open for China in the east. The ultimate Sino Soviet split in the 1960s, ironically, had little to do with US statecraft. The spiraling ideological confrontation between Soviet and Chinese communists meant that when Richard Nixon arrived in the White House, the US was ideally poised to exploit the collapse of Eurasian unity. It changed the course of the Cold War and allowed the US to recover its waning strength after the debacle in Vietnam. In a very different context, the Ukraine crisis has impelled US policymakers to pull out the old Cold War playbook. American officials have reached out at least thrice to their Chinese counterparts during this crisis. A new US ambassador landed in Beijing in early March. The White House then initiated the March 18 phone call between Biden and Xi Jinping in an attempt to draw the Chinese towards a cooperative stance on Ukraine. Although the terse White House readout obscured what had transpired, Beijing released an unusually detailed transcript, perhaps to preempt any distortion in the ongoing global information war around Ukraine. We learn that Biden reassured Xi, the US does not seek a new Cold War with China; it does not aim to change China system; the revitalization of its alliances is not targeted at China; the US does not support aiwan independence, and it has no intention to seek a conflict with China. The US is ready to have candid dialogue and closer cooperation with China, stay committed to the one China policy, and effectively manage competition and disagreements to ensure the steady growth of the relationship. If the world system were still unipolar or truly bipolar, we would not expect to see such reassurance from the dominant power on China core interests. But the world is now multipolar and China bargaining position has improved. For his part, Xi Jinping said there have been and will continue to be differences between China and the US. What matters is to keep such differences under control. A steadily growing relationship is in the interest of both sides. While the US outreach to China appears remarkable, given that until recently Washington was being prepped up for a Cold War in the Pacific, it is actually how the West has traditionally framed Eurasian geopolitics: squeeze Russia, **while** keeping the door open for China. The Biden Xi conversation then turned to Ukraine. This is where the US sought a shift in China posture or at the very least hoped to curtail Sino Russian relations. Since the outbreak of the conflict on February 24, Beijing has followed a posture of neutrality but in favour of Moscow. Xi, however, threw cold water on the White House plan: All sides need to jointly support Russia and Ukraine in having dialogue and negotiation that will produce results and lead to peace. The US and NATO should also have dialogue with Russia to.

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Address the crux of the Ukraine crisis and ease the security concerns of both Russia and Ukraine. Xi also critiqued US sanctions. It is wrenchingly apparent that the US does not possess the military and economic preponderance or the global ideological sway to effectively pursue a dual containment strategy. The China front is, therefore, seen as more manageable among Russophobic US elites. China, for its part, has not fallen under any spell in this triangular geopolitics as it still values a strategic partnership with Russia. As western companies recede from the scene, China is already deepening energy and economic ties with Moscow. Yet, Beijing will also seek to benefit from the near collapse of US Russia relations by attempting to shape a less antagonistic posture from Washington. China wants to preserve its partnership with Russia while stabilising its complex relationship with the US, which includes massive economic engagement. Will the US offer economic carrots to limit China security ties with Russia There are plenty of dynamic moves possible. What is apparent is that China holds the cards and it has displayed little interest in playing a short term transactional game by weakening its Russia link to grasp at an unpredictable and unstable G 2 with the US. A Chinese media outlet was more explicit: If China really pressures Russia. It will only undermine the China Russia relationship and sabotage mutual trust, which will be a huge strategic loss to both sides. This is what the US is eager and happy to see. Finally, and not unrelated to the great power dynamics is Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi outreach to Delhi. China, which looked at its India front largely through its escalating competition with the US, now finds it advantageous to stabilise its relationship with India as US China extreme competition as Biden described it a year ago comes down a notch. It took us less than a decade from preserving restaurant menus in our living room drawers to touching a few buttons on the phone to get the most elaborate meal delivered at home. That the magic of the internet revolution. Recently, with the 10 minute grocery delivery space heating up, an Indian consumer can receive anything from a packet of milk to diced chicken faster than it takes to respond to an email. This means that customers don need to plan anything much in advance **and that the time between desire, action and gratification has shrunk to almost zero. But with faster delivery speeds comes more pressure on the people working at these companies and many are asking if we have gone too far. To say that Zomato founder Deepinder Goyal announcement that the company will now deliver food in just 10 minutes in select cities met with criticism would be an understatement. While most users were concerned about the pressure on delivery executives and their safety, others raised deeper questions about the need for such a solution in the first place. Goyal was quick to issue a clarification.**

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About the safety measures taken to make it live, while insisting that it all be limited to quick service foods such as tea, memos, pooh and biryani. But Zomato is the only company currently trying to make it in the instant delivery space. It recently even loaned millions to Blanket Grofers that promises grocery delivery in 10 minutes across dozens of cities. Dunzo, Swiggy Instamart and Zepto all promise delivery speeds of anywhere from 10 20 minutes for most items. It yet to be seen how Zomato move pans out. There are many obstacles ahead crowded roads, social media pushback and, last but not least, public shareholders and their ability to punish reward the company stock. While companies battle it out, it worth looking a little deeper at the business model of a 10 minute delivery to bust some myths floating around. Faster delivery does mean faster driving. Many believe the 10 minute delivery promise to be little more than a marketing gimmick. This is because a lot of us imagine delivery partners following a similar route full of jams and traffic to get from store to home. But this is hardly the case anymore. Most instant delivery fleets are stationed right outside dark stores fulfillment hubs. Instead of travelling from one side of the city to just pick up an order, the delivery person merely collects the package from their location, and is on her way to deliver it to the door. Technology shrinks the world. Additionally, even the travelling distance to the customer has reduced massively due to last mile hubs that have opened around areas with high order density such as large townships. Such hubs cut the distance from shop floor to doorstep to less than 1 2 km. It worth mentioning here that one of the pioneers of fast food delivery was Domino, which has for years promised a 30 minute or free guarantee. The company has had a mixed experience legally due to reports of accidents in the US but in India, it trying to reduce delivery time even further to just 20 minutes for select locations. The way Domino optimises its delivery flow provides clues as to how this can work for other players. For instance, Domino has deep predictive abilities through which it is able to confidently predict order completion for certain customers. Thus, it starts preparing pizzas before the **buyer** has even finished payment. Similarly, a lot of instant delivery startups reportedly start packing items even before the order is placed. They also use analytics and prediction models to manage inventory and costs. Long way home even with all this, the road to 10 minute delivery is hardly smooth. One, driver safety is still not guaranteed. Even though companies such as Zomato claim that they don incentivise or penalise drivers for their driving time, the truth remains that most delivery partners tend to rush to maximise their income. And a 10 minute delivery with small ticket orders could make the situation worse.

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Except, if the companies guarantee minimum incomes sizeable enough to reduce incentives for delivery personnel to drive rashly. Secondly, it a money guzzling model. Unless there enough traction for a player to start charging a premium on each delivery, instant delivery will continue to burn investors money. Third, there the uncertainty around regulatory outlook on these models as well as the relevant labor welfare provisions considering that most delivery partners are out of the net of social security. Despite this, the 10 minute delivery model seems like it here to stay at least for a bit. Smaller competitors could jump into the fray too. While investor cash burns, companies will be looking to polish the model till it scalable and viable. Till we get there, consumers may end up creating demand for solving a pain point that arguably did exist until last year. Over the last two years, the e commerce industry has experienced remarkable growth. It has now become an essential component of the retail ecosystem, with companies from all industries expanding their online presence. Although India retail industry has already begun to digitally shift in recent years, pandemic related updrafts have increased e commerce acceptance among both merchants and consumers. People were certainly motivated to use e commerce by the pandemic, but it has already become a part of their daily lives after two years. Customers may now shop any day, at any time, and expect specialised support from the ecommerce customer support staff because the advent of AI driven chatbots and automated customer service technologies have enabled assistance 24 hours a day, 365 days in a year. Whether it the pandemic or the internet pricing consolidation, technology is without a doubt the fundamental aspect for how the Indian tier 2 cities market is taking shape on the ecommerce aspect. People are adopting a stay at home, buy at home lifestyle. Commerce is one of the best and most commercial ways of utilising technology to witness its impact on a bigger scale. Technology in e commerce has several benefits in establishing a robust business ecosystem. It will be the only way for e commerce companies to thrive, grow stronger, and stay competitively ahead. The use of technology in e commerce Chatbot and other AI technologies are used to replicate human to human interaction and provide customers with immediate & round the clock solutions. Customers will have a **more** tailored experience if chatbots have access to the necessary information about products and services. With a wider range of payment methods and particularly attractive offers from e wallets, consumers in tier 2 and 3 cities are more likely to make the final decision to buy online. For example, online transactions in India grew by 80 in 2020 over the previous years. This is owing to the widespread adoption of digital transactions in tier II and III cities. According to a survey conducted by the fintech firm Razor pay, UPI transactions outnumbered cards, net banking, and wallets by percent in with.

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Greater digital transformation and use of the latest technology by businesses across all industries, consumer and e-commerce purchasing patterns that exploded during the pandemic are expected to be retained. If in-store retailers are to compete with their online competitors, they must adapt to shifting consumer expectations for digital experiences and quality modifications, as well as integrate technology into their businesses. E-commerce experience in tier cities in India The rise of India e-commerce industry is being fueled by a new generation of young aspirant consumers from Tier 2 cities. Commerce companies have recognised the enormous development potential of e-commerce in India Tier 2 cities, and they are focusing heavily on infrastructure to provide consumers with a great customer experience. As e-commerce has grown in popularity, companies are also starting to invest in technology solutions that will help them improve the post-purchase experience. Companies are investing in digital solutions and technologies that enable them to streamline the supply chain, improve delivery times, and better understand consumer expectations. We will see automation across multiple levels of operations over the next year, with the goal of providing a seamless shopping experience and faster or quicker deliveries. In these cities, online grocery shopping is gaining traction, with companies focusing on extending their presence. Companies have gone all in on AI integration in their backend technology, using automated technologies to process enormous amounts of data in a matter of minutes and give companies insightful data. In India, AI has already altered the landscape of the e-commerce business. The usage of AI algorithms and big data analytics can also aid in the analysis of consumer behaviour based on information such as product preferences, browsing history, and so on. The consumer experience is then improved by tailoring marketing efforts based on their habits and needs, relying on predictive analytics. The availability of affordable smartphones and affordable internet connectivity like 4G in tier 2 cities enabled e-commerce businesses to enter this enormous market. Along with that, the increase in usage of last-mile delivery applications for convenience as well as cost-effectiveness is driving the growth in tier 2 e-commerce platforms. Given the diversity of languages and cultures among remote populations, online businesses can use digital technology to provide tailored experiences to their customers, resulting in higher organic traffic and customer loyalty. In tier 2 cities, multilingual e-commerce applications are significant drivers. Despite the variety of purchase behaviour, non-metro regions are bound to have higher levels of satisfaction and brand loyalty. Customers, sellers, online platforms, and other retail players can all benefit from technological advancements. Furthermore, the widespread use of social media platforms in tier 2 cities has had a significant impact on the shift from offline to online shopping. In-app shopping experiences on social platforms like Pinterest, Facebook, Instagram, and even TickTack help streamline e-commerce sales and marketing within single platforms. In addition, some e-commerce businesses are using User Generated Content (UGC) to.

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Metaverse value hinges on the importance given to representational experiences as opposed to actual experiences. Representational experiences are not new. One could argue that they have been around since humans began to use language. In language, we primarily represent the world around us. Then came visual representations through art, next arrived photographs, and finally the movies. We are already dependent on representational experiences. With the metaverse, a much larger spectrum of human experiences will be made accessible through screen-based representations. The question for education then is, can the entire spectrum of educational experiences be shared via representations through the metaverse or is there a continued need and place for real-world human interactions in order for education to take its full course? To raise the question more productively, does education require real-world human contact? The use of metaverse in education is still in the early stages of development and more research is needed to fully understand its potential and limitations. Like all technologies, if we curate its usage then it surely has the potential to change the way we teach and learn, providing new opportunities for engagement, collaboration, and access to educational resources. Perhaps the metaverse will really outdo itself if it is able to exhaustively recreate the holistic spectrum of educational experiences through its power of representation. Castes that evolved from ancient India tribes are the basis for the Hindu society that binds most of India population. Castes and Hindu society are inseparable. Hence the castes reared their heads in Hindu reformist sects and egalitarian Islam and Christianity, too, in India. Hindu society can be separated from Hinduism but not from its castes. Hindu social system enabled the constituent castes to live in relative harmony despite sharp differences in their ethnicities and ethos, even as each caste retained its culture, followed its customs and rules, worshipped its deities and spirits, and practised its traditional trade without competition from other castes. This society has withstood political and social upheavals for centuries. The situation now remains the same. Even as some castes fight for social equality, they fiercely guard their backward status for the sake of reservations. Hindus are happy in their caste environs of shared ethos and the larger Hindu Society with its syncretised ethos and belief system we call Hinduism. Certain intuitive understandings have sustained this social system well. Each caste was entitled to **its** place in the social hierarchy, governed by internal rules, customs, and traditions, and practised its faith. However, Hindu society managed the inter-caste relations based on customs and traditions that evolved over time and as codified in the Shashtra. Society stepped in only when there was an infraction of the dos and don'ts prescribed for that caste by the societal rules. Each caste was expected to stick to its traditional trade profession. A carpenter could be an ironsmith or a Brahmin, a barber. Their castes would disown them if they did. Similarly, a non-Brahmin could study mantras and scriptures lest he became a priest, robbing a Brahmin of his job. It was a way of reserving different positions for different castes. Caste was and still is paramount because Hindu society treats and delivers justice to individuals according to their caste. Unlike the inevitable class

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Metaverse value hinges on the importance given to representational experiences as opposed to actual experiences. Representational experiences are not new. One could argue that they have been around since humans began to use language. In language, we primarily represent the world around us. Then came visual representations through art, next arrived photographs, and finally the movies. We are already dependent on representational experiences. With the metaverse, a much larger spectrum of human experiences will be made accessible through screen-based representations. The question for education then is, can the entire spectrum of educational experiences be shared via representations through the metaverse or is there a continued need and place for real-world human interactions in order for education to take its full course? To raise the question more productively, does education require real-world human contact? The use of metaverse in education is still in the early stages of development and more research is needed to fully understand its potential and limitations. Like all technologies, if we curate its usage then it surely has the potential to change the way we teach and learn, providing new opportunities for engagement, collaboration, and access to educational resources. Perhaps the metaverse will really outdo itself if it is able to exhaustively recreate the holistic spectrum of educational experiences through its power of representation. Castes that evolved from ancient India tribes are the basis for the Hindu society that binds most of India population. Castes and Hindu society are inseparable. Hence the castes reared their heads in Hindu reformist sects and egalitarian Islam and Christianity, too, in India. Hindu society can be separated from Hinduism but not from its castes. Hindu social system enabled the constituent castes to live in relative harmony despite sharp differences in their ethnicities and ethos, even as each caste retained its culture, followed its customs and rules, worshipped its deities and spirits, and practised its traditional trade without competition from other castes. This society has withstood political and social upheavals for centuries. The situation now remains the same. Even as some castes fight for social equality, they fiercely guard their backward status for the sake of reservations. Hindus are happy in their caste environs of shared ethos and the larger Hindu Society with its syncretised ethos and belief system we call Hinduism. Certain intuitive understandings have sustained this social system well. Each caste was entitled to **its** place in the social hierarchy, governed by internal rules, customs, and traditions, and practised its faith. However, Hindu society managed the inter-caste relations based on customs and traditions that evolved over time and as codified in the Shashtra. Society stepped in only when there was an infraction of the dos and don'ts prescribed for that caste by the societal rules. Each caste was expected to stick to its traditional trade profession. A carpenter could be an ironsmith or a Brahmin, a barber. Their castes would disown them if they did. Similarly, a non-Brahmin could study mantras and scriptures lest he became a priest, robbing a Brahmin of his job. It was a way of reserving different positions for different castes. Caste was and still is paramount because Hindu society treats and delivers justice to individuals according to their caste. Unlike the inevitable class

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Indian emperor enforced such a unification order, but instead, vowed to tolerate and support all faiths and differences- the core principle of Hindu society. Only two mutually opposed ways are available for minimising social strife in a multi-ethnic, multicultural society like India. Either ruthlessly obliterate the identities of all communities and impose a common faith and social order or allow them to retain their differences but regulate the relations among them with societal rules as ancient India did but at the cost of its caste system. Castes evolved from ancient tribes, which India primitive people formed due to their evolutionary urge to achieve safety in numbers. Each tribe developed its identity to unite its members to fight for common interests and to get the better of their rivals to secure resources for survival. Since instilling a sense of separateness was essential, India tribes- like their counterparts elsewhere- prohibited sharing meals with other tribes, practised endogamy and even untouchability. Like the tribes they evolved from, castes have continued these practices irrespective of class. The caste system contours would have formed in India as hunter-gatherer tribes established multi-ethnic agricultural settlements that eventually became organised societies. The pioneers of these settlements retained higher positions. In contrast, the hunter-gatherer groups which joined the societies subsequently were pushed lower for lack of appropriate skills, as happens to migrants from backward nations in developed societies. The increasing encroachment of tribal habitats for cultivation made more displaced tribal join the organised societies until they shut the door on them. Like illegal immigrants in developed countries, these late entrants remained unrecognised as panamas living on the fringes. Thus, economic iniquity was innate to Indian societies but became institutionalised because the ethnic, trade, and professional groups steadfastly remained separate. So, the group identities were not subsumed in society, unlike in many parts of the world where the groups mixed to create a relatively homogenised population. But not in India, perhaps because of high genetic diversity and consequent wider and sharper variation of ethnicity, making each group hold tight to its identity in a sea of others. Also, Indian societies formed before ethnic homogenisation could happen, making ethnic separation inseparable from the formation of organised societies. Considerable ethnic mixing happened when different ethnic groups in the same occupation mixed and formed trade and professional groups to guard their common interests but avoided mixing with other ethnic, trade, or professional **groups**. Because of this, migration across castes by marriage or by changing jobs or trade was almost impossible. Since the traditional occupation of a caste was unchangeable, their economic condition too was unchangeable since their occupation determined their financial condition and, thereby, their class in society. So, the pre-existing economic disparity among ethnic groups due to differences in the earning capacities of their trades became institutionalised. The stratification of society along ethnic caste lines took place. These groups eventually became castes, and caste effectively became class. There were exceptions to stratification. In the early days of Brahminism, the priesthood was open to all. Many tribal priests mainstreamed their faiths by anskritisin

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But not made, these evolved societal rules. Of course, being priests and scribes, Brahmins became very influential. Elsewhere in the world, proselytising religions backed by powerful emperors like the Roman Emperor Constantine or Islamic conquerors enforced a single state religion on their subjects, creating large religious tribes and obliterating their earlier identities. Witch-hunts and inquisitions eliminated all variant spiritual practices. And this is what it takes to wipe out a society diversity of cultures, customs, and ethos before it can be forged into a single religious tribe. In sum, the tribal differences generally were subsumed in these religious tribes, avoiding anything like Hinduism caste system from developing. More homogeneous ethnicity, common languages, geographic proximity of communities, and political unity prevented caste-like divisions in most societies. None of this applied to India, and its diversity remained intact but at the cost of a persistent caste problem. Only when inter-caste marriages become commonplace, with the castes abandoning the age-old practice of endogamy, will a caste-free society emerge. Recent weeks have seen hundreds of Manresa workers protesting deduction of wages in Delhi due to glitches in the National Mobile Monitoring Software app, used for recording attendance of workers. If you have used a government website or digital service in the recent past, chances are that you had a frustrating experience and encountered technical difficulties in attempting to avail the service. Alongside widely acclaimed digital public infrastructure like UPI, there exist thousands of digital government platforms and applications popularly called Rotech that make a citizen interactions with the state a harrowing experience in India. These digital platforms span all aspects of a citizen life birth, infant nutrition, health, educational scholarships, marriage, taxes, housing subsidies, pensions, and more. A mix of sub-optimal technology and design choices, lack of strategic technical capacity, and minimal stakeholder buy-in have stifled significant improvement in service delivery, inclusion or gains in efficiency. Quality and usability of administrative data from these platforms has been a long-standing issue in India, with public authorities sometimes being unaware of the data they possess and how it can be improved or used. Ambitious projects like GatiShakti and e-Sham will require high quality data from the government internal and citizen-facing digital platforms spread across various administrative levels and departments. While digital public infrastructure is an explicit priority of India G20 agenda, substantial effort is needed to make good on its promises in India. Three high **level** actions that can improve public sector technology are credible assessments of digital preparedness, adoption of open standards, protocols and architectures, and designing Rotech to be responsive to stakeholders. Assessing the current culture and capability of technology and data use within the public sector is the first step. Any roadmap for digital government has to take into consideration the reality of legacy technology, low capacity, and lack of data for decision support. A discussion paper on administrative data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programmed Implementation outlines various issues with administrative data, such as population coverage, timeliness and inconsistency between sources. Recent efforts to address t

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Even to someone who has been living under a rock and woke up to India victory in the T20 World Cup, irritated by the sound of crackers bursting in the middle of the night these cricket matches can have some trophy-worthy life lessons to offer. Poring over reams of content and commentaries, these matches revealed some profound truths. Past failures purify Failing in a game can actually work in your favor. India cricket team had been reeling under a decade-long bad spell of missing cricket trophies by exiting matches either in the semi-finals or finals. Criticism that failure brings can help in two ways it can reveal your imperfections and offer opportunities for purification. Now loopholes can be plugged and performance improved. Criticism also teaches us detachment and the best way to deal with critics neither getting affected by them nor wasting time holding on to grudges. Instead, direct your energy towards improving the game. Perseverance pays No matter what happens and whatever kind of adversary you are up against, it is essential to do your dharma, in this case, as a cricketer, play a wonderful game of cricket, wholeheartedly. Krishn talks about this attitude in the Bhagwad Gita verse when he asks a disheartened and depressed Arjun to pick up his bow and fight and do his karm as a warrior, for that is the path to glory: He who does not follow the wheel of creation thus set going in this world, ice, does not perform his duties, leads a sinful and sensual life, he lives in vain. Sage Vanish too glorifies pursuant, human effort, in Yogi Vanish, when, upon sensing that his student, Prince Ram, was becoming complacent and lethargic, he states that whatever one wishes to have, one works to achieve it accordingly; it is certainly attained if effort is not abandoned halfway through. Once you are in the self-improvement zone, it is essential to discard the ladder of criticism and hurt that motivated you to get here. Now, just persevere. The Japanese have a word for this ganbarimasu which means not stopping until the objective has been reached. It stands for perseverance along with patience. In their book, The Kigali Journey, Hector Garcia and Francesco Miracles quote a Japanese proverb if you want to heat a rock, sit on it for a hundred years for patience with perseverance leads us to fulfilling our goals. **Pressure-proof** yourself With the South African team on the verge of victory, the final cricket match being played under the watchful eyes of millions of cricket fans, the tsunami of pressure must have been sky-high. But Suryakumar Yadav used all his energy, presence of mind, focus, and agility to take a historic catch that sealed India victory. We can withstand all kinds of pressure and perform well if we focus all our energy only on the present detaching ourselves from all past happenings, as well as stonewalling all shards of future anxiety. This way, we move into our zone, where each of our actions is automatically tailored to meet the need of the moment. India victory helped us net three Ps that can help us glide through life ups and downs effortlessly. The Supreme Court of India, in the case of Cox & Kings Ltd. v. SAP India Put Ltd & An, has held that non signatories to an arbitration agreement can be considered parties to arbitration under the Group of Companies doctrine. This landmark ruling has significant implications for the application of arbitration agreements, especially in complex corporate structures. What is the group of c

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Connect cycle. Studying a natural or local phenomenon for example, a havan kund, a temple tank, a traditional craft such as rangoli, a local medicinal plant or the monsoon pattern the students observe, measure, model, and record data using simple tools, field notes, and peer discussions. The process helps them recognise the holistic and interconnected nature of knowledge by linking ideas across science, geography, mathematics, and the arts. Assessment in IKS competency-based classrooms Assessment in IKS and Competency-based classrooms replaces one-time tests and becomes ongoing, observable, and aligned to demonstrated skills. Since learning in such a classroom involves teachers to discuss and demonstrate the process, the assessment too requires evaluation of student's competencies through performance tasks assessed using competency-based rubrics, student journals, and evidence portfolios. The traditional methods of memory-based assessment does not work in this system. IKS integration in the classroom strengthens students' identity, confidence, and cultural rootedness, while encouraging sustainability, innovation, collaboration, and problem-solving key 21st-century workplace skills. IKS is not an extra. It is a powerful pedagogical approach that bridges rural urban gaps and makes learning inclusive. It creates authentic, affordable, and deeply meaningful learning experiences in the classroom by teaching globally relevant concepts through locally rooted experiences helping students think globally, act locally, and truly embody the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam One Earth, One Family. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Universities are spaces for academics, not activism Writer is a commentator on socio-political issues. On expected lines, the National Democratic Alliance's emphatic victory in Bihar was followed by baseless allegations of manipulation of electoral rolls. Every time that these allegations are made, an entire cabal considers it as validation for one of their own economist Sabyasachi Das, then a professor at Ashoka University who released a working paper claiming democratic backsliding in India. Das argued that the Bharatiya Janata Party had engaged in voter registration and turnout manipulation in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. In this article, I discuss how Das's widely circulated findings lacked rigour, were fraught with errors, and deliberately perpetuated misinformation about elections and democracy in India. Academics are trusted because their research is expected to be grounded in empirical evidence and rigorous analysis. When they start making claims based on shoddy analysis, it is something else. Often, the thin line between public activism and academic enquiry gets blurred. In academia, publishing in a peer-reviewed academic journal is the acceptable benchmark for diligence. Das's paper was a work-in-progress and was published online on SSRN, a popular platform for uploading working papers and soliciting academic feedback. It had not passed this basic test of rigor. Das's paper caught public attention after it went viral on X (formerly Twitter). Prof. MR Sharan at the University of Maryland was the first person to tweet the article, claiming that it provided scientific evidence for vote(r) manipulation by the Bharatiya Janata Party. Intriguingly, a tenure-track Professor at a prominent research university in the US considered a working paper as reliable and

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Das and Sharan had carefully planned that the latter would tweet the paper and kickstart a controversy in the guise of academic enquiry. When questions were raised about the analysis and conclusions, Das and others claimed that he merely wanted feedback on his working paper. Usually, academics genuinely interested in feedback share their drafts with colleagues or present their findings at academic conferences. The provocative tweet alleging that a political party was indulging in voter suppression without any caveats belies their claim that academic enquiry was the objective. Moreover, the paper was cited by innumerable scholars and non-scholars as 'clinching' evidence for voter manipulation in India. Never once did Das, Sharan and their compatriots exercise caution. Their actions were in the realm of political activism. The deeply suspicious release and publicity of the work-in-progress' paper aside, the paper itself has glaring loopholes and shoddy analysis. Among multiple errors, a few stand out. Das's argument rests on an allegedly empirical claim that the BJP was disproportionately more likely to win marginal seats. Das tested two competing hypotheses for this: precise control/campaign effort and voter manipulation. He claimed that the disproportionate victory in marginal seats was concentrated in BJP-ruled states, which supported the latter hypothesis. Analysts discovered that Das had incorrectly considered two Union Territories (Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Dadra & Nagar-Haveli) as non-BJP ruled states, when in fact, all UTs are governed by the Union government, in this case, the BJP. As soon as this was corrected, one of his main empirical findings no discontinuous jump in likelihood of winning marginal seats in non-BJP ruled states did not hold! Merely two constituencies could change the result because Das used a small sample. In the paper, Das considered seats with a victory margin of up to 16% as marginal seats. Now, according to this criterion, many seats that parties won by a margin of more than 2 lakh votes ended up being considered 'marginal seats' or 'close contests.' Anyone with even a basic understanding of Indian politics would not call this a close contest. In fact, Das himself mentions that the results become similar for both BJP- and non-BJP-ruled states when the bandwidth for close contests is reduced to a more realistic 8%. Finally, the evidence provided for ruling out concentrated campaign efforts is extremely weak. Das has wrongly argued that parties lack foresight about their performance in constituencies. Anyone **with** even rudimentary knowledge of Indian elections knows that political parties have extensive feedback mechanisms and access to detailed information about their electoral prospects. He rules out extensive campaigning as an explanation based on the response to a single question from a single post-poll survey. In fact, this particular analysis is based on limited data from just 28 constituencies! Even an undergraduate intern from a half decent university would not rely on such a small sample size and would know that it must be at least 30 to fulfil basic assumptions of statistics. The entire saga raises serious questions about the recruitment process at Ashoka University. A professor who does not understand basic principles was recruited for teaching Econometrics! The fact that it remains a working paper to date, despite multiple reiterations, further confirms the mediocrity of the paper and the diff

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This intention is discerned through factors such as involvement in negotiation, performance, and termination of the contract. Originating in France, this concept was first accepted in Indian jurisprudence in the case of Chloro Controls v. Severn Trent Water Purification Inc. The Indian Supreme Court held that a non signatory group company could be bound by an arbitration agreement if a mutual intention of all parties could be discerned. Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud, the Hon ble Chief Justice of India, described it as a modern theory which challenges the conventional notions of arbitration law. A consent based doctrine Despite its acceptance, there have been various anomalies in the application of the doctrine by Indian courts. Recognizing these issues, the Supreme Court, in a five judge Constitution Bench, highlighted that group companies are a modern reality of economic life and business organization. The Constitution Bench drew support from Article 7 of the Law and Article 2 of the New York Convention to hold that the definition of parties under Section read with Section 7 of the Indian Arbitration Act, 1996, can include both signatories and non signatories. The Group of Companies doctrine is consent based, meaning that consent must be determined by considering commercial realities. Factors to consider when determining whether a non signatory is a party include: on the Steve Jobs of the world, rather than the very cultured public persona of those who founded thriving corporations like Tata, Bajaj and Birla. In politics, young Republicans are more enamored by the rhetorically charged personality of Donald Trump, than of the warm, well mannered George W Bush. Whether in sports, politics, or industry, the world today is telling us that it easier to win if you are an insensitive, transactional, egotistical bully. The gentle but unyielding courage of Gandhiji, the idea of investing and valuing relationships, or of competing with oneself for the greater good of society rather than searching for someone to defeat, are all unfashionable. And this is what scares me about the general rhetoric I hear among Indian voters after this unique Everyone a winner election result. For the voter, it not so much that everyone won, and so everyone happy with the results. The takeaway is a far more blinkered, self centered view: he other side has lost, and so I m happy I fear that as a society, we re headed down this acerbic, forever **aggressive** rabbit hole. And without urgent introspection, we will find ourselves in the dysfunction ally polarised mess that America is in today. So no matter which side of the political spectrum you identify yourself with, together we should try to make empathy great again. As readers, we must recognise for instance the trauma of a migrant in desperate search for a safe home, and also the fear of those who are forced to offer their neighborhood to foreigners. This applies equally to liberals as it does to conservatives. The world most hallowed educational institutions spend a lot of emphasis on developing convictions always a wonderful skill but much less on living and thriving with different ideas. So we are taught to win arguments, but we arena taught to have empathy for someone else truth. It always admirable to fight for the Ruth, but holding on to dogmas, either liberal or conservative ones, and etherizing makes a meeting of either side much more improbable. It aggravates polarisation. Think back, in any setting o

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Technologies like drone assistance. They are still getting blindsided by certain disasters that ultimately result in bad crops or negative outputs. It is high time we start leveraging the technology in hand and eradicating hunger and malnourishment from the face of the earth while also improving the economic yields of the farm sector. One of the cornerstones of the GST regime has been to allow free flow of tax credit throughout the entire supply chain. However, this sadly has not been achieved till date. The innumerable returns that have to be filled, the matching of some auto populated returns with that of the supplier and recipient, the dependency of the recipient on the supplier correctly filling its return as well as paying the output tax liability have left the recipients in a state of anxiety. Over the past two years, the number of investigations at the recipients end, where the recipient is forced to reverse ineligible credit has led to an erosion of trust between the business and the tax department and unnecessary litigation. In an attempt to resolve these issues, a series of amendments to the GST laws have been introduced. The aim of these amendments is to ensure compliance at the suppliers end so that the recipient has more certainty of the credit availed by it. We discuss the effect of some of these amendments in this article. Mismatch between GSTR 1 and GSTR 3B There can be instances when the declaration in the return of outward supply GSTR 1 and monthly returns for payment of tax GSTR 3B do not match. The recent amendment now gives power to the authorities to demand the difference in tax between these two returns as self assessed tax. This is to thus, ensure that there is sanctity in the values declared by the supplier, thereby preventing harassment at the end of the recipient. Further, to allay any apprehension amidst business that this could lead to excessive power in the hands of the authorities, the Board has issued instructions that an opportunity must be provided to the taxpayers to explain the mismatch before initiating any recoveries. Another amendment has been brought into the section that entitles a recipient to credit. A condition has been inserted restricting the credit available to the recipient only to the extent such invoices or debit notes have been indicated by the supplier in its GSTR 1 **and** communicated to the recipient. This will ensure that while the quantum of credit now available to the recipient may reduce, the eligibility to such credit would not be called into question time and again by the authorities. Further, to tackle the issue of non payment of tax by the suppliers, there is a proposal to block filing of GSTR 1 in case a registered person fails to file GSTR 3B of the preceding month. This is to ensure that suppliers are not only passing on input tax credit to the recipients but are also paying the taxes. This amendment will.

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As part of Smart Cities Mission and many states incorporating data maturity assessments as part of their state data policies. Periodic, impartial assessments are needed to identify gaps and develop a culture of continuous improvement. A key development in this area is the recommendation to create Data and Strategy Units in ministries to bridge the internal gap in skills. Second, rigorous adherence to open protocols, standards and architecture in government is essential, with significant implications for downstream capabilities that the government may hope to build in years to come. Technology procurement in the public sector has been ad-hoc, suffering from issues of vendor lock-in, usability and scalability. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology India Enterprise Architecture idea framework provides a comprehensive guide with standards and principles for procuring technology in government. UPI and Cowing have attempted to comply with it, but an open and first approach is neglected in most opportunities. While issues with the income tax portal and Public Distribution System may occasionally make the news due to their high visibility, the proliferation of e-governance initiatives means that poorly designed or executed technology projects by states and urban local bodies are commonplace. They have multiple repercussions a frustrating experience for government employees or citizens who have to use it on a daily basis and the state incurring exorbitant costs for these digital projects without seeing substantial gains. Aligning technology procurement in government to recommended domestic standards will go a long way in delivering results and preparing the public sector for an increasingly digital future. Finally, stakeholder voice is key to understanding the role technology needs to play in service delivery. Shortcomings such as portals and apps not being available in local languages, and lack of grievance redressed mechanisms are common in many digital platforms. Consistent and meaningful engagement with industry, academia and civil society at a scheme level is one way to absorb perspectives of various parties involved in each context and build technology that has a positive impact. While Adhere based payments and app-based attendance for Manresa may have risen from the need for more accountability, the cost of such measures should not be people livelihoods. Technology also allows for quick adaptations to suit citizen preferences and needs, which can be obtained through feedback from the beneficiary. Use of the based Rapid Assessment System to solicit feedback directly from persons about their experience of getting vaccinated **during** the Covid-19 pandemic was significant and worthy of emulation across government. Focusing on these three key aspects relentlessly across all levels of government is crucial to realise the ambition of a digital government that is inclusive, efficient and responsive. The birth anniversary of is observed on April 14 and is also known as Ambedkar Ajanta. Ambedkar was born on 14th April 1891, in Mow currently Dry Ambedkar Nagar, India, into a Dalit Maher family. Babasaheb received his highest from the London School of Economic, London. He was a legal luminary and was skilful in the drafting of the Indian Constitution. He was the chairman of the drafting committee of Indian Constitution. Ambedkar was a man of knowledge, talent, and intellect. Most of the time, we could see major involvement of Dr. B. R.

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Also come as in aid to such recipients who used to avail credit in the absence of any information about payment of tax by their suppliers and later on were made liable to pay tax along with interest. In case recipients wish to avail the entire credit, there is now a proposed amendment which will allow the recipient to avail self assessed credit with a caveat that in case suppliers do not pay tax on supplies in respect of which credit is availed, the self assessed credit shall be recoverable along with interest from such recipients. These amendments primarily aim at ensuring transparency and free flow of information between suppliers and recipient in order to curb erroneous ailment of credit due to bona fide errors. While the intent behind these amendments appears noble, the excessive powers given to the department is a matter of concern and the possibility of unnecessary litigations cannot be entirely ruled out. Thus, it is imperative on the part of the industry to exercise abundant caution while filing returns and while availing credit. Technologies like drone assistance. They are still getting blindsided by certain disasters that ultimately result in bad crops or negative outputs. It is high time we start leveraging the technology in hand and eradicating hunger and malnourishment from the face of the earth while also improving the economic yields of the farm sector. One of the cornerstones of the GST regime has been to allow free flow of tax credit throughout the entire supply chain. However, this sadly has not been achieved till date. The innumerable returns that have to be filled, the matching of some auto populated returns with that of the supplier and recipient, the dependency of the recipient on the supplier correctly filling its return as well as paying the output tax liability have left the recipients in a state of anxiety. Over the past two years, the number of investigations at the recipients end, where the recipient is forced to reverse ineligible credit has led to an erosion of trust between the business and the tax department and unnecessary litigation. In an attempt to resolve these issues, a series of amendments to the GST laws have been introduced. The aim of these amendments is to ensure compliance at the suppliers end so that the recipient has more certainty of the credit availed by it. We discuss the effect of some of these amendments in this article. Mismatch between GSTR 1 and GSTR 3B There can be instances when the declaration in the return of outward supply GSTR 1 and monthly returns for payment of tax GSTR 3B do not match. The recent amendment now gives power to the authorities to demand the difference in tax between these two returns as self assessed tax. This is to thus, ensure that there is sanctity in the values declared by the supplier, thereby preventing harassment at the end of the recipient. Further, to allay any apprehension amidst business that this could lead.

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Advertise in addition to content marketing and social selling. To improve consumer trust and boost sales, this technique relies on effective customer experiences. As well as the use of pay later payment services, EMI and technology to determine the credit score has enabled the tier 2 cities to get comfortable with online shopping. E commerce and digitization have been game changers for multiple companies of various sizes to reach all populations. It is not only easy and reachable but also assists with various features, making e commerce accessible across the country. Agricultural transformation is a crucial aspect for every developing nation. Primarily because almost every country aspires to reach high income status and agricultural development is an important aspect contributing towards the same. Particularly in countries like India, where at least 60 of the population depends on agriculture as their primary source of income, sustainable development in this sector plays a pivotal role. At present, the agriculture sector contributes 18 of India GDP according to Statist, a German database company. And one of the biggest reasons why it has been able to continue contributing significantly to India economic growth is because of its ever evolving technological adoption. The biggest benefactor in almost every industry today, including agriculture, is technology. The fruitful amalgamation of agriculture values and technological innovations is paving the path for a greener, productive, and sustainable future. One such technological invention is drone technology. Officially known as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles UAV and Unmanned Aircraft Systems, drones are particularly helpful in boosting crop production, crop assessment, risk management, setting up forewarning systems with respect to forecasting disasters, and conserving forests, fisheries, and wildlife. It is pertinent to note that in January this year, the Indian government told the Supreme Court that no state had reported starvation deaths. However, independent organizations have highlighted that a considerable section of India population cannot afford three square meals. They also accentuated that the highest undernourished population resides in India. The question is how as a nation we can ensure the end of hunger and malnutrition while also guaranteeing economic growth the answer is simple and straightforward, acknowledging and promoting the growth of Aristech initiatives. Against this backdrop, here are a few ways drone technology is assisting the growth of agricultural outputs by evaluating yield predictions, crop monitoring assessment, reducing crop related risks, forecasting disasters and optimizing costs: Drones used for Yield Estimation: **With** help of Multispectral and hyper spectral payloads drones helps in higher accuracy towards yield analysis. Conducting effective and efficient yield analysis can give farmers and other stakeholders much needed insights to determine the crop and farmers income loss. Government and private institutions who deal directly with farmers can benefit the farmers largely by accurate yield predictions and ultimately help in increasing the income of the farmer. By leveraging modernistic drones, one can get real time information about crop signatures and crop health. Satellite Vest Drone: Satellite monitoring do not fully meet the required details in cloudy weather conditions. Data obtained.

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From UAV have a much better resolution, information content and efficiency. The effective approach to solve the task of yield estimation and crop loss assessment depends on the integrated use of both remote sensing methods space imaging and UAV based technologies. In hilly areas, the mountainous terrain creates shadows on the images depending on the time of day when the photo was taken Pic. 6. Many fields under terrace farming have a width less than the size of a single pixel on a satellite image. In such cases UAV images and the use of neural network model in the reference pattern ensured the accuracy of the required parameters. Drone assistance in Crop Health and Stress Analysis: In 2018, a pest attack killed the hopes of more than 41 lakh farmers in Maharashtra. This disaster could have been avoided with the help of high tech drone assistance. By leveraging drones that come with multispectral camera sensors, farm parties can identify stress and crop related diseases well in advance. Data retrieved from advanced sensors represented as Orthomosaics help farmers understand and find novel alternatives to increase crop yields and reduce crop damage simultaneously. Similarly, geo tagging aerial images provide valuable information that reduces cost and boosts yield by a significant percentage. For this purpose, site specific reports can be generated to assess the possible damage ahead of time. Crop health and early detection of crop infestations are crucial for both governments and farmers. While the former can ascertain adequate compensation plans for farmers, the latter can plan out their future well in advance. Drones help improve resource efficiency: Aerial imagery combined with machine learning tools can help farmers get accurate estimates of specific farmland areas. Most farmers have limited resources, which with correct drone assistance; can be deployed in different parts of farmlands in required quantities. In particular, drones with Thermal sensors and Remote sensing tools can easily and swiftly identify which areas require additional water or fertilizers. The topography of fields from RGB Imagery assists farmers in positioning and segregating the crops to maximize drainage, follow natural land runoff, and avoid water logging. Drones saving farmers from toxic chemicals: UAV or drones equipped with pesticide spraying equipment work far more effectively than manual spraying. It also ensures that manual labor is directed towards necessary areas of farming instead of spraying pesticides which is also toxic for people who come in **close** contact with chemicals. Drones spraying pesticides are also relatively more time and cost efficient. What does the future hold few leading Aristech platforms are using cutting edge aerial surveying drones integrated with high tech sensors, including RGB, Multispectral, and Thermal, to procure accurate data? This information can be used to assist farmers and, ultimately, the nation. It is unfortunate that in 2020, 7 of the total suicides reported in the country were related to people in the farming sector report. This is primarily because even today, many farmers and other farm stakeholders are unaware of the benefits of futuristic farm.

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Birbhum, Bengal, that saw a TMC deputy pradhan and eight people including women and children being burnt to death in a suspected revenge attack, not only highlight the vicious political culture of the state but also the intense economic competition behind this. Reportedly, the victims and alleged perpetrators of the killings all have connections to the governing party with one Anarul Hossain a TMC community block unit president being taken into custody as the main conspirator. Therefore, prima facie this appears to be a case of intra party rivalry and the Calcutta high court has done well to hand over the investigation to CBI to ensure an impartial probe. That said, such political feuds and killings in Bengal are not uncommon and have a long history. With the erstwhile Left Front government three decade long dispensation in the state dealing a body blow to industrialisation and jobs, the only avenue of economic sustenance for many from low income groups became party politics. This in turn spawned a culture of syndicate raj, cut money and corruption where local party members had to be paid for running many businesses, whether construction, transportation or even running a roadside eatery. The very fact that Bengal politics in large part killed normal economic opportunities gave a free run to these mafias. TMC inherited this legacy and despite its appreciable performance in welfare delivery continues to be a party that operates through local strongmen. In the Birbhum case, it is alleged that killings took place because of disagreement between local TMC functionaries over sharing the spoils of illegal sand mining. Unsurprisingly, the state government denies this but reports suggest that around 80 illegal sand mines are scattered along Birbhum Mayurakshi, Ajay and Brahmani rivers. Illegal sand mining is of course not a problem in Bengal alone. But the unholy alliance between party politics and illegal enterprises flourishes more in Bengal than many other major states. And seems as comfortable with this arrangement as was. The unique regional grouping linking five countries of South Asia India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka and two countries of Southeast Asia Thailand and Myanmar holds its long awaited fifth summit in Colombo on March 30. On it rides a hefty burden of expectations to advance regional cooperation. Meticulous preparations behind the scenes have created an atmosphere of hope for its success. it was a low profile, unassuming sub regional **grouping** that had much to be modest about. But as hopes of Saarc cooperation faded, India took a bold initiative that helped the smaller grouping to develop ambition. The leaders of were invited to a historic retreat for deep reflection; they also interacted with the Brics leaders. This was in Goa in October 2016. Two years later felt adequately confident to project itself as a dynamic regional grouping, ready to work for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable Bay of Bengal Region. It should. It represents 1.7 billion people and a combined of trillion, which can accelerate economic development through greater integration.

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Confirmation bias is the tendency to search for information that confirms one preconceptions. This bias is visible in the Indian debates on technology following the West stringent export controls restricting the Russian state access to cutting edge technology. Some tech companies have gone far beyond the remit of these controls, suspending their operations or restricting access to Russian citizens. For those who seek tech self sufficiency, this war appears to bolster their case for everything from data localisation to domestic social media platforms and home made drones. The financial year, which will draw to a close this week, represents an inflection point for the Indian equity market. So far in 2021 22, foreign portfolio investors FPIs have been net sellers of equity. The net outflow was a huge \$18.5 billion. Also, during the same period, major stock indices such as BSE Sensex have risen more than 10. Equity prices shrugging off such a huge FPI outflow represents a watershed. It symbolises the rise of domestic investors, powered by households allocating a growing proportion of savings in financial assets. This has long term implications for resource allocation. Households are India main source of savings. Traditionally, they have allocated a greater share towards physical assets and a smaller percentage to financial avenues such as bank deposits. Two trends are evident over the last decade. Relative allocations to physical assets declined and were re routed to financial savings. The year 2020 21 was a milestone, net financial savings exceeded that of physical assets. Of the Rs 43.9 lakh crore household savings, 52.4 represented net financial savings. The lockdown of FY21 may have influenced the sharp decline in the relative importance of physical assets, but the trend was evident earlier. Household savings flow into equities through multiple channels: EPF, NPS, mutual funds, insurance policies and direct investments. All proxy indicators of equity related savings point in the same direction. Systematic Investment Plans SIPs of mutual funds suck in larger amounts. In 2021 22, Rs 1.12 lakh crore was raised, as compared to Rs 43,921 crore five years ago. NSDL data showed 25.3 million active demat accounts of residents at the end of February, up 68 over a five year period. Research outfit Jefferies estimated that 4.8 of the household balance sheet is in equities. So, even as bank deposits remain the most popular avenue, relative shares among financial instruments are seeing a long **term** change. Going forward, the relative increase in financial savings and the linked drop in allocation to physical assets will be dominant influences. In this context, disintermediation of banks has its benefits. For instance, the large number of start up IPOs offered young entrepreneurs opportunities that may not have come so quickly in an earlier era. However, as household savings shift from bank deposits to equities, regulators need to ask if the retail investor is fully aware of a different risk return equation. This transition needs to be accompanied by a focussed financial literacy project spearheaded by regulators. The horrific killings.

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Devastating effects of climate change. Bringing all of the climate conscious fighters together on one platform to encourage speedy cooperation and innovation is the goal. In the next three months, startups will attract a large number of searchers to a single platform. Startups are also working on beta calculators that will allow users to assess their annual carbon footprint by completing a few simple questions about their daily lives. With the startups, the government must pay much greater attention to climate change and implement laws and programs to assist India in meeting its net zero objective by 2070. We need to financially and technically equip regulators to take the required actions and work proactively to reduce emissions, conserve and extend our forest cover, safeguard biological diversity, and manage waste more efficiently. Indian entrepreneurs must provide regulatory certainty to the industry for it to invest in decarbonisation technologies, as well as encourage India states and cities to develop their net zero growth paths. By 2070, India would be a vastly wealthier country, with a significantly higher per capita income, allowing for the financial flexibility necessary for the change. The need for a net zero carbon economy not only aligns with growing environmental consciousness, but also bodes well for a low carbon, resilient, and regenerative economy. Measures taken by these cleantech startups have the potential to address the current challenges of unemployment and unsustainable growth, while at the same time coping with the vulnerabilities caused due to climate change. India has set lofty cleantech objectives with the support of many government programs aimed at achieving a net zero carbon economy in the next decades. To reach such goals, India must solve issues such as land acquisition difficulties, utility debt collection, tariff cap relief, improved access to finance, and investor trust. We also need an enabling policy framework and regulations to encourage startups and businesses in the cleantech industry. According to a study published in The Lancet Global Health and conducted across six states of India, an estimated 15.6 million abortions happened in India in 2015. It translates to an abortion rate of 47 per 1000 women aged 15-49. Moreover, out of 48 million pregnancies in India, around 24 million pregnancies were unintended. Our focus in this piece will be regarding a relatively straightforward but overlooked solution, knowledge related to the reproductive system. How much do women in India understand their **own** bodies and ovulation in particular? The NFHS 4 data collected in 2015-16 tried to codify this by asking women when they were most fertile during their menstrual cycle. The options were during her period, after her period, middle of the cycle, before the period begins, at any time, other and don't know. Only 17.05% of women across India answered middle of the cycle. In other words, less than one in five women in India is aware of her fertile time during the menstrual cycle. There is little difference in urban versus rural regions with around 19% of the women.

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India has pledged to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2070, making it the world third largest emitter of greenhouse gases and contributing to a global temperature limit of. By 2030, renewable energy in India will account for half of the country total power producing capacity. The government has to lay out a clear path to net zero emissions and put in place monitoring tools to ensure that emissions continue to fall. A balance between the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions generated and the government policies and attempts to minimize emissions is referred to as net zero. It helps to balance emission and mitigation actions by lowering carbon footprint to zero or negative. Many businesses in India contribute to emissions and going net zero requires them to substantially alter their strategies to assess and reduce carbon footprints over time. Moving to a net zero economy is a critical step toward meeting the Paris Agreement 1.5 global warming target, with countries committing to net zero goals by 2050. India is the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world GHGs. According to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, human caused climate change may already have resulted in irreversible temperature change. According to the research, if the world does not achieve net zero emissions by 2050, global temperatures would rise by 1.5C. India should cease depending only on developed countries to achieve its goals since they have just made promises in terms of technology transfer and climate financing while providing nothing. The startup industry, particularly Indian startups, will have to step up and contribute significantly. They should place a greater emphasis on clean transportation, both private and public. Improving energy efficiency and expanding on what has previously been done well must be considered. India startup ecosystem to make them net zero carbon emission is still in its early stages. Rapidly growing interest and investment in this space is not only beneficial for the nation energy transition but also offers the potential of global impact. The Covid 19 pandemic and long lockdown have put 400 million Indians at risk of falling deeper into poverty, intensifying the need for affordable energy. These factors are driving demand for reliable, clean grid power, electric vehicles, more efficient buildings, and distributed energy solutions to serve remote areas. Many startups are helping to boost the development of new distributed solar in India. They are supporting both residential **and** commercial solar, as well as solar water pumps, floating solar and solar powered refrigeration, which is a significant step forward for India cleantech ecosystem. Startups are also in partnership with many companies for their initiative to finance two wheeler electric vehicle purchases. The number of self described cleantech startups in India is quite low. But there are large numbers of startups trying to solve our energy efficiency problems and accelerate the transition to renewable energy. Approximately 20 percent of the startups in incubators in India are focused on some aspect of sustainability. Many startups are focused on clean the electricity.

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Community for feedback or present at conferences. The problem is that despite these glaring errors, the paper was cited by innumerable senior scholars and influencers as clinching evidence for voter manipulation. Das's research came under extensive criticism, which led Ashoka University to issue a statement distancing itself from the research. Further, the university established an internal committee to determine whether the paper had violated any policy regarding academic freedom. This led to an uproar among the faculty, who considered it a violation of academic freedom. In fact, a senior economist allegedly 'resigned' in solidarity with Das. In reality, the said economist had decided to resign from Ashoka University long before the entire controversy even began and had already discussed this with the Chancellor. The debate is thus, what should be an appropriate institutional response in such cases. It is essential to remember that the institutional affiliation of a scholar becomes a crucial factor in such scenarios. Das's institutional affiliation was mentioned on the working paper. For many scholars and non-scholars alike, institutional affiliation is a common heuristic for assessing quality and trust. A failure to respond risks creating wider distrust in both the scholarship and the re produced at the university. Moreover, if a university intends to maintain its academic objectivity, it must disassociate itself from attempts to masquerade public activism as academic research. Thus, academic institutions need to have a clearly defined policy that balances academic freedom and institutional responsibility of upholding scholarly standards. This can ensure that academia continues to enrich the public discourse and policy debates without furthering a political agenda. Usually, research provides a nuanced argument, and serious academic researchers refrain from making provocative claims based on shaky evidence. They are responsible, not sensational! In multiple cases, academic freedom is being used as guise to circulate mediocrity. No academic can be allowed to misuse the respect and influence of academia for further personal political objectives. The controversies surrounding Sabyasachi Das's paper and various interventions on 'Vote Chori' by academics highlight the pressing need to distinguish between scholarship and political activism. When scholars bypass these norms, they risk not only their own credibility but also that of their institutions. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity Times of India - India Voices Blogs (December 1, 2025) Boycott calls fail: J&K outshines all states in Vande Mataram, redefining the Valley's political **sociology** Mudasir Dar is a social and peace activist based in South Kashmir. He is a Rashtrapati Award recipient in world scouting and has contributed too many local and national publications on a diverse range of topics, including national security, politics, governance, peace, and conflict. LESS MORE there are moments in history when the public silently rewrites the script of a region's political psychology. The 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram became one such moment in Jammu & Kashmir, unexpected, unprecedented, and impossible to ignore. What began as a cultural commemoration unfolded into a referendum on the Valley's evolving consciousness, revealing the widening gap between political-clerical rhetoric and the aspirations of an increasingly conf

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This is not administrative efficiency. This is psychological transformation. This is political sociology rewriting itself. The first attempt to frame the event negatively came from Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. His statement, laden with political undertones, was unmistakably designed to delegitimise the celebrations. This decision has not been made by the cabinet, nor has the education minister signed off on it, he declared, adding that there should be no outside dictation in deciding what schools do. Omar's statement was not just a denial; it was a political boycott call and a strong threat couched in administrative language. The message was unmistakable: this celebration is not authorised, therefore school students, Youth, Elders should step back. In the unique lexicon of Kashmiri politics, this was not a clarification; it was a threat. For decades, such remarks from a sitting Chief Minister would have instantly induced hesitation among institutions and confusion among families, because they always signalled political disapproval often enough to sabotage participation. In any other decade, such a statement from a sitting Chief Minister would have been enough to trigger fear, confusion, or mass non-participation. But the Kashmir of 2025 responded very differently and the public simply did not listen. After Omar's statement, the Mutahida Majlis-e-Ulema (MMU) issued a strongly worded statement calling the directive un-Islamic, alleging that Vande Mataram contained expressions contradicting Tawheed, and accusing the administration of imposing an RSS-driven Hindustan ideology. The argument was not new; for decades, the debate around certain stanzas, invoking metaphors of the land as a mother had been weaponised to suggest theological incompatibility. But jurisprudentially, this argument has never been uncontested. Islamic scholarship across continents recognises the distinction between ibadat (acts of worship directed to God alone) and majazi or metaphorical expressions of affection for one's homeland. The Prophet's own longing for Makah when he migrated to Madinah underscores that love for one's land is not merely permissible, it is natural. This kind of clerical decree, in the past would have ignited outrage or at least a visible psychological resistance across the Valley. It would have reshaped public mood overnight. In any earlier decade, such dual resistance Political from the Chief Minister and religious from the MMU would have frozen the Valley. Schools would have hesitated, parents would have withdrawn children, and public participation would have collapsed under moral panic. But this time, Kashmir responded differently. Instead of retreating, the people especially the **youth rallied behind Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's administration, which ensured that participation was voluntary, decentralised, and free of political noise. The strongest rebuttal to Omar Abdullah's threat came at the Valedictory Ceremony at M. A. Stadium, where: more than 20,000 students gathered to celebrate Vande Mataram a historic, stunning, and calm rejection of Omar Abdullah's boycott line and the MMU's religious veto. The astounding scale of participation by students, youth and common man across the entire Union Territory gave a brutal reply to Abdullah's boycott call that was carefully camouflaged in his statement that it was not approved by his cabinet. According to the national dashboard highest in India, surpassing all large states, Uttar Pradesh, Ma**

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Continued success of India renewable energy revolution is driving this. It helps to increase the demand for new solutions to help stabilize the grid and to extend the power of renewables to the huge number of people who don't have access to electricity in any meaningful way. India has seen one of the fastest growth rates in renewables of all the major economies. It provides solutions for installing and maintaining solar panels for homes and businesses, to increase the reach and usefulness of solar energy to as many people as possible. These startups aim to revolutionize the energy sector with an innovative zero emission and low cost aluminium air fuel cell. They use graphene to make these cells commercially viable as well as economical and sustainable for the domestic and international markets. These cells have the potential to revolutionize clean energy, electric mobility, and transport sectors in India and across the globe. They also developed a disinfectant chamber that can be used to disinfect materials such as ecommerce packages, grocery items, wallets, electronic gadgets, etc. within 10 minutes. Some of them also develop an indoor air purifier that can decontaminate airborne aerosol particles and minimize or eliminate the risk of airborne spread of the coronavirus within indoor spaces. An IoT internet of things enabled garden has also been launched that purifies indoor spaces, while at the same time removing viruses, bacteria, dust particles, and harmful chemical pollutants like carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, benzene, etc in an enclosed space. Some startups are providing power to thousands of rural Indians using a biomass gasifier that creates fuel from rice husks, a waste product of the rice hullers that separate the husks as chaff from the rice. These startups offer a flexible service, using a mobile enabled smart metering system. They offer software and services solutions that help consumers, retailers, and OEMs manage large scale buyback and trade in programs. To reduce CO2 emissions, several startups are assisting in the transition to renewable energy sources. Startups are also developing a B2B solution for companies that want assistance with carbon audits of their operations and procedures, allowing them to quantify their total carbon footprint. They also help businesses become carbon neutral by providing verified carbon offsets. They intend to quickly onboard hundreds of green initiatives from various NGOs and companies operating in the sustainability field in the future. They intend to connect **such** efforts with a large network of contributors, CSR funding, and governments that can assist speed up the process. Many firms are developing an app that estimates a person's carbon footprint while they are on the road. It will function similarly to a Google Fit for calculating one's carbon footprint. They are also forming an active network of student activists, sustainability business entrepreneurs, a climate change research scientist, and investors interested in funding these firms and researchers. Climate change is the most serious challenge humanity has ever faced, yet just a small number of individuals are actively striving to mitigate the.

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The Indian government is planning to have at least one registered startup in each of the 785 districts of the country within a year. Only 20 25 districts reportedly have remained without any registered startup now. supreme Chandrababu Naidu met Modi in Delhi yesterday, seeking enhanced assistance for Andhra Pradesh. Last week, Nitish Kumar JDU passed a resolution demanding special category status for Bihar. With the two NDA allies vital to Modi's continuation, special status assistance is being spoken of as the only way forward for Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. But is it? Fact is the states lack the institutional capacity to even spend the money they have. In Bihar case, there is the additional problem of misgovernance. With 10 bridges collapsing in the last two weeks, lack of funds certainly can be blamed for the state's bottom ranking in India development charts. Bhole Baba is absconding, after over a hundred people died in a stampede at his Hathras congregation. One response to this tragedy is to ask if this baba is real or fake. But this is a false binary. All gurus or babas work on our emotions, not logic. Only, some abuse their power and collapse, some get institutionalised over generations as gods and prophets. And they do not flourish in India alone. In America, they are called the Charismatic who tell you how the Holy Spirit works miracles in human lives. Blind will see. Lame will walk. Poor will be prosperous. They are so powerful that they now fund politicians, who ensure their voice shapes legislation, and they receive tax benefits and protection from law. They have convinced Americans that Jesus wants them to carry guns, hate homosexuals, and deny women reproductive rights. Hemant Soren is back as Jharkhand CM. His swift taking back of the post from Champai Soren, who held the fort for 5 months, is as good an announcement as any of the Sep Oct assembly elections in Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Haryana. Opposition BJP has been quick to accuse Hemant of shortchanging Champai a well regarded JMM veteran and Soren family loyalist. Campaign narratives are forming, with twists and much rattle in the tale. Plenty fight Each of the three states in the first round of assembly elections after the LS poll is a unique battlefield. On test will be INDIA unity and perseverance against BJP, which has everything to prove, its **third** term a coalition govt. One sampled the acrimony in Parliament. On test will be the saffron party in Haryana especially, its LS tally halved to 5 MPs. On test will be the mettle of two Senas and two NCPs in Maharashtra. Maha muddle Shiv Sena haul of 56 MLAs in 2019 assembly polls is now a fractured war chest between UBT and Shinde. If, in 2019, NCP had 54 MLAs, in 2024 Sharad Pawar is toying with estranged nephew Ajit Pawar, who must find his feet after an LS knockout his wife losing to Supriya Sule was almost a referendum on who voters believe owns NCP. Add to that the jarring Jarange beat which makes frenemies of deputy CM and CM Ajit Pawar politics compels him to fight Shinde make Marathas OBC plank. The Sena BJP split after 2019 assembly election triggered a constitutional storm that cracked open political skies. In the LS election, MVA won 30 seats Congress 13, UBT 9, Sharad Pawar 8 of the state 48. Congress, as state single largest party, helms MVA and is seemingly on a strong wicket. But Shinde has proved to be no walkover, and BJP is 105 MLAs strong. Haryana hustle The only straight battle between BJP and Congr

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Local or hyper local? LS polls were fought on local issues as much strategy as compulsion for the state constituents in INDIA. It to be seen how party campaigns will differentiate from their LS campaign. BJP defending in two states, and in Jharkhand, it is battle ready to take on JMM Congress. It elections again. As of March 31, 2024, more than 100 districts were said to be without a single startup recognised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. Most of these 20 25 districts waiting for their first registered startups are said to be in the far flung areas of north eastern states, including, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, and Sikkim, or in the areas in states such as Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana affected by left wing extremism. The department has been working with academic institutions, state and district administrations, startup accelerators and seed funds to boost awareness about having startups across the country. Launch of startups is expected to fillip to the economic activity in these States. So far, under the government startup India scheme, more than 100,000 startups have been recognised by the Which is why weekend cricket win last is so extra special? The gentlemen won. The Supreme Court has observed that these three circumstances aim to determine the mutual intention of the parties to be bound by an arbitration agreement. Consequently, the Supreme Court has also observed that Section read with Section of the Act, does not expressly require the party to be a signatory to an arbitration agreement. The judgment by the Supreme Court maintains a fine balance between party consent and commercial reality in today time. On one hand, it holds that a signature is irrelevant; on the other hand, it emphasizes that a court or arbitral tribunal needs to analyze the presence of consent. A company may not be a signatory to an agreement, but the consent can be impliedly given to make a party to an agreement. For the application of this doctrine, there should first be the existence of a group of companies, followed by conduct indicating the intention to make a non signatory a party to the agreement. This judgment curtails frivolous applications seeking to add parties without a discernible basis. It makes it incumbent on the party to identify, plead, and establish the factors laid down by the Supreme Court before a non **party** is joined to the concerned arbitration proceedings, ensuring accountability in the addition of non signatory parties. US courts have used non consensual doctrines to extend arbitration agreements to non signatory parties. Principles such as piercing the corporate veil and the doctrine of arbitral estoppels have been exercised to bind non signatories to an arbitration agreement.

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In the urban areas and 16% in the rural areas are aware of the ovulatory cycle. We next look at the ovulatory cycle knowledge OCK levels in India to understand reproductive knowledge across states, shown in Figure 1. We observe the situation in most states is abysmally poor. Only Punjab and Chandigarh have OCK levels greater than 60% in India. The next state, Kerala, stands at 36% OCK levels. Overall, only six states and UTs have OCK levels greater than 30%. In contrast, 15 states and UTs have OCK levels lower than 15%. When we look at ovulatory cycle knowledge by age, we note an increase in knowledge by age. This is illustrated in Figure 2 which shows the OCK for different age groups. The worrying trend in this graph is the very low level of knowledge in adolescent girls and young women with only 7% and 15% of women aged 15-19 and 20-24 respectively with ovulatory cycle knowledge. These numbers indicate that just access to higher education may not translate into awareness around fertility knowledge. To further our understanding of the role of formal education in imparting OCK, consider Figure 3 which shows the percentage of women with ovulatory cycle knowledge across education levels. We see that while 14% of women with no education have ovulatory cycle knowledge this increases to 24% for women with higher than secondary school education, thus, showing a small effect of education levels on the ovulatory cycle knowledge. Unfortunately, the graph also represents that sex education imparted in middle school does not seem to have the desired effect. Past research has shown that topics linked to sexual and reproductive health are either not taught in the schools or are briefly touched upon without including the practical aspects. These two reasons may be the driving factor behind the lower numbers of the OCK in the women with the higher education levels. Therefore, policymakers need to advocate for sexual and reproductive health curricula in the schools and communities. Figures 4 show the percentage of women with ovulatory cycle knowledge across different wealth levels. The graph highlights the correlation of the wealth and knowledge gaps with the lowest levels of ovulatory knowledge in poorest households. Together, the figures above show us that sexual and reproductive health is still taboo in India across various socio demographics. Thus, the policymakers need to focus on improving fertility **knowledge** across the state and conduct interventions that can start the discussions around sexual and reproductive health. As highlighted before, India faces the twin problems of unintended pregnancies and abortion. An important policy instrument to alleviate the problems has been to improve access to contraceptives across the state. Yet the ground reality is that approximately 63 percent of women in India do not use contraceptives and only around 32% of women report using modern contraceptive methods with the remaining reporting the use of traditional methods. For women choosing modern contraceptive methods, 73% percent undergo female sterilization. This 73% stands in stark.

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Same time the kinds of moments lead by him also rationalize his scientific perspective. Various issue brought by Dr. Ambedkar are having scientific perspective in his views, thoughts and moments. Babasaheb during the various activities, he did satyagrah for open up water resources, it showed his reflection on usages of natural resources to everyone. He himself advocated importance of rivers for better availability of water to common people. During Ambedkar time, Harijans had to face difficulties even in the use of natural resources, they were far away from the education system, it was Baba Saheb dream to bring them all to the front line, whose glimpse is clearly visible even in the constitution. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar led the Mahad Satyagraha, also known as Chavdar Tale Satyagraha, on March 20, 1927, in Mahad currently in Raigad district, Maharashtra, India, to secure the right for untouchables to use water from a public tank. B.R. Ambedkar abandoned traditional precepts and practices in favor of adopting a scientific approach. He believed that blind faith and superstition were obstacles to progress and advocated for the use of reason and evidence in all areas of life. He was a strong supporter of education and believed that access to education is necessary for the development of a scientific temperament among the people. To summarize Dr. B.R. Ambedkar scientific outlook emphasized the importance of reason, evidence, and critical inquiry in all aspects of life. He believed that scientific knowledge is essential for the progress of society and advocated for the use of empirical evidences in the understanding social realities. He was also a strong believer for social justice and equality and recognized the importance of education in developing a scientific disposition. Despite achieving independence over 75 years ago, India remains trapped by the grip of class and caste discrimination. Amidst the rapid advancements in technology, the demand for resilient and reliable software systems has become paramount. Yet, even with the most sophisticated technologies, systems are still prone to failure. This is where Chaos Engineering manifests its quintessence. A term introduced by Netflix, chaos engineering is about finding weaknesses in a system through controlled experiments. It is a systematic approach to test resilience and identify and fix failure modes before they can cause any real damage to the system. Contrary to what the name might suggest, chaos engineering events are planned, and service disruptions are thoughtfully scheduled to **assess** whether systems can cope with disruptions, how the user experience may get impacted, and if the response protocols and alerts are working efficiently. Who can benefit from Chaos Engineering? While the primary adopters of chaos engineering were eCommerce and IT giants, it has now become imperative for businesses of all shapes and sizes. Now, from healthcare, finance, and manufacturing to aviation and beyond, chaos engineering has a foothold across industries. Any organization that relies on software to provide digital convenience can benefit from incorporating chaos engineering into their development and testing processes. The merits of implementing Chaos Engineering The findings of Gremlin State of Chaos Engineering 2021 report, which surveyed software and site reliability engineers, indicate that organizations that regularly conduct chaos engineering experiments experience remarkable uptime with availability

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The tangible benefits of incorporating chaos engineering practices into an organization infrastructure, providing insights into how to improve system resiliency, and mitigate the impact of potential failures that could set back a company millions. By simulating real-world incidents, chaos engineering allows organizations to answer critical questions, such as how their services respond when faced with accessibility issues or how their applications handle sudden spikes in traffic. Moreover, it can help identify potential cascading failures that could occur if a single service fails and how the system deals with network issues, such as network latency or packet loss. System resilience testing: The ideal approach To ensure a system can quickly recover from any issues while maintaining an acceptable level of service, it is crucial to test its resiliency. The first step in implementing a successful chaos engineering approach is to gain a thorough understanding of the system infrastructure, applications, and dependent components. It is also essential to create Service Level Indicators SLIs that define the critical performance metrics that need to be monitored during the chaos experiment. Teams here should ideally conduct failure mode analysis, validate data resiliency, configure and test health probes, perform fault injection tests, and validate network availability. The next step is to practice the chaos experiment in a pre-production environment. This is essential to minimize the risk of disruption to the production environment and ensure that the experiment can be conducted safely. It is important to keep the blast radius as small as possible during the initial experiment to limit the impact of potential risks. Embedding observability and visibility By running chaos experiments, teams can quickly identify issues without wasting precious time on root cause analysis. However, evaluating the performance of a system during these experiments requires a robust visualization strategy. This allows teams to identify steady states and changes in real-time, facilitating rapid response to any issues that arise. Thankfully, there are many monitoring and alerting systems available to support these efforts. Prometheus, for example, is a widely used time-series database that provides real-time insights and aggregates data from multiple sources. To ensure that this data is accessible and understandable across development teams, it must be presented in intuitive visualizations such as dashboards and interactive summaries. Tools like Grafana support multiple data sources and can help teams create customized dashboards that make it easy to comprehend complex metrics. Chaos engineering is an intuitive approach to **building** resilient systems that has the potential to revolutionize the way we design, test, and deploy software. As technology continues to evolve and systems become increasingly complex, chaos engineering is increasingly becoming an important tool for ensuring reliability and stability of systems in the face of unexpected events. Though IMF cut its GDP growth outlook of India from 6.1 percent to percent for 2023-24 and expects 6.3 percent growth in FY25, but the revival of domestic economy is steady with RBI and Government looking for 6.5 percent growth during. The views of global think tanks on the state of Indian economy in FY24 are in close range. estimates India growth at 6.4 percent, World Bank puts it at 6.3 percent, S P projects 6 percent, OECD

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And growing dependencies. The continuous sharp rise in policy rates in US and many parts of the globe to fight razing inflation when seen together with the geopolitical risks and supply side disruptions shows signs of imminent slowdown. World trade too has suffered severely in pandemic years and now due to war. Therefore, looking to its impact, world trade organisation WTO has revised its earlier forecasted growth rate of global goods trade for 2023 from 3.4 to 1. Drop in trade volume will have impact on domestic growth and exchange rate stability, among others. According to IMF, global growth will bottom out at 2.8 percent in 2023 before rising modestly to 3.0 percent in 2024. Global inflation will decrease, although more slowly than initially anticipated, from 8.7 percent in 2022 to 7.0 percent this year and 4.9 percent in 2024. It is noteworthy that US inflation too came down to 5 percent in March, 100 basis points down from 6 percent posted in February 2023 and from a high of 9.1 percent in June 2022. Its target to contain inflation at 6 percent will call for prolonged fight. There is no doubt that professional CA firms, Institutes overseeing CA Firms as Regulatory or Supervisory Bodies are trying their best to do a good job at the activity of Audit of Corporates. The issue is whether in the complex business world of today, that is good enough. The fact remains that there are many complexities emerging today for a Corporate audit and business review, especially when the company has an existence across countries thru Joint Ventures or subsidiary companies. There are issues on country risk, currency risk, business risk, risks of political upheaval, technology base risk, etc. In India itself we have seen that changes of States and Central Governments call into question many contracts that may have signed by the previous Government and suddenly contracts are frozen, there is a relook on the terms and conditions, activity relating to those contracts comes to a halt and suddenly work that was progressing fine comes to a stop with consequences that are detrimental to Business Valuation. Sadly, the media is not adequately covering the consequences of these relooks and problems of delays and addon costs that may come in, costs borne by tax payers. The stories of corporate failures, frauds etc do not build in these peculiar events where new Governments **just** question all that the old governments have done. In some ways this affects business valuation and how justified this detrimental impact is seems unclear. You can have Corporate Board of Directors, Independent Directors, Audit Committees etc all that is required by law but still have some event occurring which impacts the business or technology facilitates a fraudulent activity. The witter company case is very fresh in our minds. The Purchaser Elon Musk of Tesla and Space X fame always contended that the Twitter User Base was not as strong and loyal as was made out. Finally, Twitter got merged into X Corp some days back and lost its separate existence. The Buyer Elon Musk always felt that in the technology space there were gaps that were unanswered. A day or two back, he again expressed the view that he would like to sell off witter. Such a big name in the technology space having questions on a simple thing like a loyal regular user base is quite shocking. The question that is coming up is that Corporates have multiple Regulators to manage and handle. They are Auditors, Ratings Agencies, Reg

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Business Valuations are suddenly crumbling when there is talk of a Business Takeover and the deal does not go thru because the Purchaser finds certain shortcomings in the Business model of the company he was planning to acquire. If this event of backing out of the acquisition had not happened and the Acquirer had serious questions on the Business of the intended Acquiree, would not that Corporate have continued with a high valuation. Is the Corporate World ready for a new Omni Regulator or Omni process procedure who which would be able to frame a set of Principles and Questions needing to be answered flowing from that mechanism. All of Us have to understand and appreciate that Business Structures are becoming complex and with complexity comes Risks. The issue is managing Risk and minimizing its impact in case it is a listed entity taking care of the minority shareholders first and then others and where it is not listed the other stakeholders like employees, creditors, financial institutions, etc. The real question is are we having a supervisory mechanism valid for today requirements. The last thing that we must have is the complete lack of confidence in Audit or Ratings Agencies or Regulators. The recent banking failures in USA and Europe have drawn attention to the fact that there is a need for a redesign of the supervisory functions. They need to move out of their silos and exchange data and information on a regular basis at least for the BIG BOYS. I do my area of work and keep my documentation in place for potential problems is not the way Forward. The way Forward is to look at serving the needs of Corporate stakeholders. It is not to protect the ones who are supposed to be doing their managerial assignments or supervisory Jobs. The military, as all those who have ever served in it well known, is all-embracing and a way of life that is impossible to shed. Therefore, it is not uncommon for veterans to remain deeply immersed in its goings on, even decades after having hung up their boots. This keeps those in service constantly on their toes, as they tend to be bombarded by criticism from veterans, unhappy with what they see as declining standards, along with the usual laments of the military not being what it used to be. For the most part these criticisms **can be brushed aside as the inability of old soldiers to come to terms with the changes in institutional and societal mores that have occurred over time, and the manner in which they have impacted the military functioning. While it is true that without change there can be no progress, it is also just as true, as the American novelist, Helen Glasgow, so succinctly put it, that all change is not growth, just as all movement is not forward. So, while one should and must embrace change, it would also be wise to keep one ear to the ground and take heed those discordant voices from the wilderness, as their collective experience counts for something. For example, there are those who have accused the military of continuing to suffer from a colonial hangover, as to a novice eye its ceremonials, customs and traditions appear to be archaic and feudal at first glance. Though nothing could be further from the truth, it has put the military leadership on the defensive and they have rushed to take corrective action. As distinguished soldier and author, General Sir John Hackett wrote, many of the military forms may look so unnecessary or even absurd, the worship of regimental totems, the eccentricity**

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Contrast to the men undergoes male sterilization. It is clear that the onus of family planning is almost entirely on women. The lower usage of modern contraceptives goes hand in hand with poor knowledge of fertility among women. While modern contraceptive usage amongst women who do not have ovulatory cycle knowledge is 30%, it increases to 42% for women who do have ovulatory cycle knowledge. Clearly increasing access to contraceptives is only a part of the solution. The government should re focus on building awareness around reproductive health to bring about lasting change. The concrete actionable points the government can start acting on are a bringing reproductive health knowledge and family planning into the school curriculum, b training teachers on how to teach it in the class to ensure a robust implementation in the schools, c conducting community level workshops across the state to raise awareness about reproductive health and contraceptives, d ensuring access to contraceptives for all e meeting the unmet needs for family planning. Extreme adventure has gained prominence over a period of time. Offering an intense burst of thrill in the mundane, fast paced lives, these are truly experiences of a lifetime. India boasts of geographical diversity and offers a plethora of options for adventure lovers, across diverse ecosystems. Bungee jumping has gained tremendous popularity in India, with Rishikesh having operated over 1 lakh jumps since its inception in 2010. This is a landmark for adventure tourism in India The first and foremost important thing before indulging in adventure sports is to prepare yourself to be in the right frame of mind. Doing it solely for the sake of instagram bragging rights is not the right way to go. You should be enthusiastic about the sports you want to try and passionate enough to pull them off. They are a test of one mental stamina and it can only ever be fuelled by authentic willpower. Know Your Destination Before embarking on your adventure, prepare yourself with keen research about the destination, their safety standards and their credibility. This is not something one should purchase recklessly for freebies or a discount. Ensure your own safety and that is priceless. Know Your Sports Get informed Knowing about the do and don s as well as the associated rules and safety protocols will help you be better prepared so that you can enjoy optimally and worry less. Follow the **instructions** given by the experts in order to miss vital information. Information about the place can be a lifesaving factor while attempting extreme sports activity. Hence, talking to the locals of the area would be a great idea to gather additional information about the place as well as gauge the risks associated with the chosen activities. Physical Fitness Always prioritize your health first and make sure that you are fit, especially physically. Every sport will have medical conditions listed, which are not advisable for undertaking the activity. Take this seriously and inform management if you are. If you are suffering from.

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Major and minor ailments like asthma, heart disease, phobia, etc. It is strongly advised to refrain from any strenuous adventure sports. Mental Fitness Mental health is most important. The ability to be able to stay calm under, to keep panic a bay when standing on the edge, or underwater is not a skill one is born with, but is a fitness one inculcates. Indulging in such mind bending activities often aids that growth. Pack Wisely Ensure that you have the right necessities to enjoy the activity. Having a pair of comfortable clothes like caps, sports shoes, and stretchable pants while doing adventure sports is an efficiently smart choice that you should keep in mind. Protective gears the saying prevention is better than cure holds a lot of relevance in the case of adventure sports. Before going for any sport, always prefer protective gear and athletic wear over fashion and ensure the company is equipped with first aid and training for staff in case of mishaps. Teamwork Nothing binds people together more than a shared adventure. This is why corporate companies are veering towards extreme experiences for team building excursions. While solo travel is on the rise, group trips will always be the in the present Rather than capturing experiences, prefer enjoying them in real time and soak at the moment. Set time aside to take pictures but remember to come back into the moment. Such experiences are precious and make sure to not lose them refrain from taking photos and videos in awkward locations as it may prove to be a fatal distraction. Summing up Adventure sports are a once in a lifetime opportunity that provides an opportunity to savor adrenaline filled experiences. It is important that you enjoy optimally. However, it is equally essential that you stay safe. Without sufficient safety measures, things might take an unpleasant route as adventure sports are usually associated with risks. Thus, it is prudent to take all the necessary precautions to ensure your safety when you indulge in adventure sports. Are you looking for a way to improve your life We all know that meditation is good for you, but it can be hard to stick with it if you are not in love with the practice. Meditation has reduced stress and anxiety, improved mood, boosted creativity, and even increased memory. But many people struggle to find time or motivation to meditate **because** they don't enjoy the process of sitting still and focusing on their breath. When you pause and bring attention to all your five senses while eating food, your digestive juices will secrete well, the process of digestion transforms. If you are looking to reduce you are overeating, you may want to try out eating meditation. This type of meditation can help you become more aware of when you are full and eat slower to enjoy your food. When you are more mindful of what and how much you're eating, you are less likely to overindulge eating meditation makes you.

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Crore participation in the week-long event. The UT organised 31,232 events. More than 11,308 school events took place, and nearly 16 lakh school-level participants joined a number unmatched by any state or UT in the country. Even the college sector reflected the same trend: 520 college-level events with 4.92 lakh participants, placing J&K at the national top slot. The district-wise rankings tell an even deeper story of transformation. Out of the top 10 districts of the country, 9 districts are from 5 districts from J&K, Kishtwar, Poonch, Baramulla, Jammu, and Pulwama ranked among the most active districts in India which celebrated Vande Mataram commemorative event with devotion to motherland. Kishtwar alone recorded an astonishing 34.86 lakh participants, a figure that would be impressive even for a metro state, let alone for a hill district tucked away in the mountains of the Chenab Valley. For a Union Territory with a population of barely 1.4 crore, these numbers are not routine, they are revolutionary. They indicate not administrative efficiency but a sociological reorientation: a society once described in terms of fear, resentment, and boycott now emerging as the most enthusiastic participant in a national cultural activity. The Valley's overwhelming involvement becomes even more remarkable when placed against the backdrop of Omar Abdullah's political resistance and the MMU's theological objections. Historically, such twin opposition from the political family that shaped Kashmir's post-1990 narratives, and from the religious establishment that controlled emotional vocabulary, would have been enough to create confrontation, fear, or disengagement. Yet this time, their statements barely registered. They fell into the silence of irrelevance. The youth of Kashmir answered without anger, without rebellion, and without theatrics. They answered with participation. What does this signify? It signifies a deep rupture from the political sociology that governed Kashmir for decades. The Valley is no longer emotionally governed by vetoes neither political nor religious. The emerging generation, shaped by education, exposure, and a realistic understanding of Kashmir's past, is interpreting cultural events through clarity and reason, not inherited anxiety. They recognise that national symbols do not threaten faith, that participation is not conversion, and that identity does not collapse through celebration. The old binaries Islam versus India, culture versus religion, participation versus loyalty is dissolving under the weight of a new sociological consciousness. This is where the deeper story begins, the story of a region that, after the abrogation of **Article 370**, has undergone a slow but steady civic reintegration with the rest of India. Not the reintegration of legal clauses or administrative systems, but of psychological ease, cultural participation, and national belonging. Cultural events that were once seen through the prism of conflict, identity politics, or separatist pressure have gradually become ordinary civic activities open to participation without fear or stigma. Schools, the most sensitive institutions in Kashmir's social fabric, were once hesitant in organising national events, fearing backlash or politicisation. Their overwhelming participation today, thousands of events, lakhs of students signal something that no government circular can enforce: a change in the emotional climate of the region. What was earlier resisted as ide

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Central to this transformation is the quiet governance model of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. Without noise, without triumphalism, and without imposing emotion, the administration created a climate of stability where schools could function normally, where district officers felt empowered, and where civic participation became safe, ordinary, and stigma-free. The people's participation in Vande Mataram was not a manufactured display; it was the outcome of trust people posed on Manoj Sinha. For Kashmir, this moment is far larger than a cultural event. It represents a psychological re-entry into the national mainstream on its own terms, through its own people, without political coercion. It signals that the emotional distance between Kashmir and the rest of India, long exploited by power centres and pressure groups, is narrowing rapidly. For the country, J&K's leadership in this nationwide celebration dismantles decades of stereotyping. It shows that Kashmiris do not merely accept national symbols they can lead the nation in upholding them. The twenty thousand people at MA Stadium and in other parts of Jammu and Kashmir did not simply sing Vande Mataram. They buried an old political grammar. They dismissed threats disguised as administrative objections. They refused to inherit the fears and insecurities curated over generations. And in doing so, they announced the arrival of a new Kashmir, confident, analytical, and unafraid. A Kashmir that does not wait for permission. A Kashmir that does not yield to fear. A Kashmir that now leads. 'Centrism isn't nostalgia, it is survival' Rethinking stray dogs: From crisis to opportunity How Sengottaiyan's migration from changes Tamil Nadu poll play If Indian politics is a theatre, Tamil Nadu is a multiplex. Where cigarette flicks and dark glasses are the perennial symbols of style and substance, sycophancy does a tandava over psephology. And with the players ensconced in the ministerial thrones in Delhi, it is no longer just a southern delight. Arun Ram, Resident Editor, The Times of India, Tamil Nadu, who alternates between the balcony and the front row, says it incites as much as it excites. During the intervals, he chews on a bit of science and such saner things. Not once in his half-a-century of political life could K A Sengottaiyan have thought his one decision would make all the major parties in Tamil Nadu sit up and take notice. The AIADMK veteran's migration to TVK may not significantly change the overall result of the 2026 assembly **election**, but what it means to DMK, AIADMK and BJP besides TVK itself in the match of 2026 may be an interesting topic for students of politics. For AIADMK, Sengottaiyan's exit after a feeble rebellion means more than the loss of a senior leader with nominal yet considerable local influence around Gobichettipalayam. It may not cause a major erosion of its votes in the western region, but Sengottaiyan's presence in a rival camp (now that an AIADMK-TVK pact looks more improbable than earlier) can do substantial harm to the AIADMK-led alliance. For one, Sengottaiyan hails from the dominant community of goundars, to which AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami belongs. His exit has caused some confusion and disgruntlement among sections of AIADMK cadres who have chosen to stay back in the party. This situation can be exploited by not just TVK, but DMK and others too. Beneath the near serenity on Sengottaiyan's face is a history of taking the centre stage du