



Adani Green denies bribery, U.S. FCPA violation charges; stocks see a sharp recovery

ECONOMICS & DEVELOPMENT

CONTEXT: Adani Enterprises in its first counter to the U.S. Court indictment and the civil charges pressed by the American market regulator Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) that became public on November 21 denied reports of Adani Green Energy chairman Gautam Adani and other employees been charged for bribery or any violations of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

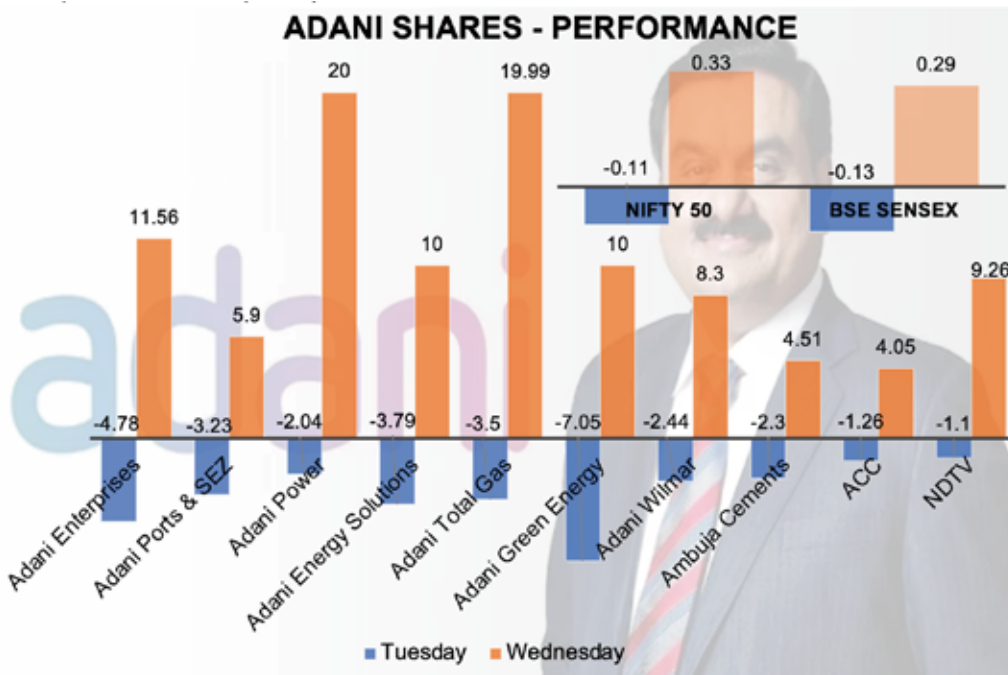


FIGURE: Column chart representation of performance of the Adani listed stocks in Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE). (Inset) Column chart representation of performance of the NIFTY 50 and BSE Sensex.

The U.S. Department of Justice recently served an indictment involving Adani Group executives, including Chairman Gautam Adani and his fellow Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) directors Sagar R. Adani, Vineet S. Jain, and Ranjit Gupta on charges related to conspiracy to violate the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) in an alleged bribery scheme aimed at securing solar power contracts. However, AGEL clarified in a stock exchange filing that its directors were not charged with FCPA violations. Instead, the charges relate to alleged securities fraud conspiracy, wire fraud conspiracy, and securities fraud. Despite the indictment, the company stated that it would not have financial implications, and Adani Group stocks recovered in trading.

On the Securities & Exchange Commission's (SEC) civil complaint in the U.S. District Court Eastern District of New York against Mr. Gautam Adani and Mr. Sagar

Adani, AGEL is accused of violating certain sections of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Act of 1934, and of aiding and abetting AGEL's violation of these U.S. laws. The charges and allegations include: (1) bribery of Indian government officials, (2) securities and wire fraud, (3) conspiracy to violate the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and obstruct justice, (4) false statements made in AGEL's annual reports, and (5) false statements made to the U.S. government in relation to its investigation into the group.

First upticks

The group's stocks, which had taken a hammering since last Thursday and were beaten down across the board on Tuesday, recovered sharply following this filing. AGEL saw the first uptick since the indictment came to light, rising 10 % after hitting a fresh 52-week low in the previous trading session. Adani Total Gas, whose partner TotalEnergies has decided to freeze fresh investments into the group, and Adani Power, both surged 20 % on the National Stock Exchange. Adani Total Gas, whose partner TotalEnergies has decided to freeze fresh investments into the group, and Adani Power, both surged 20 % on the National Stock Exchange.

In a separate detailed submission under India's stock market listing regulations, AGEL intimated that the indictment of those directors is not expected to have financial implications as the indictment does not specify any quantum of any fine

or penalty.

What the indictment says

Rating agencies such as Moody's, which downgraded the outlook on several group firms to negative on Tuesday, had listed out the charges against AGEL and the group promoter in their rating action rationale. These rating actions follow the indictment of AGEL chairman Gautam Adani and several senior management team members by the U.S. Attorney's Office in a criminal case and the filing of charges by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in a civil case.

At treaty negotiations in Busan, India proposes compensation to meet costs of controlling plastics

ECOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

CONTEXT: India's first substantive move during the talks at the Global Plastics Treaty negotiations being held in the South Korean city of Busan called for financial compensation for developing countries to comply with 'control measures' on plastic. India has emphasized the importance of technology transfer from developed to developing countries, while respecting "national circumstances," a principle similar to those in climate change negotiations. However, key terms like "control measures" and "costs," as well as the definition of "plastic," remain undefined, complicating treaty negotiations. These discussions are part of the 5th Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC) under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), involving around 170 countries, with talks set to conclude on December 1. The treaty aims to reduce plastic production and plastic polymers, which are crucial to modern economies. Despite India's large petrochemical refining industry and a ban on certain single-use plastics, it has struggled to manage plastic waste effectively. Several other countries have articulated proposals regarding finance mechanisms. However, India is among the few that have gone solo in making submissions.

'A just transition'

In its verbal interventions at the INC Chair, India has emphasized that speed should not overshadow the principles of consensus, inclusivity, and transparency. While other countries have discussed various proposals in different contact groups, India has mainly focused on formal proposals related to finance mechanisms. India has suggested creating a new multilateral fund, distinct from other financial transfers, with contributions that are "additional and distinct." This fund would be managed by a subsidiary body and would support the transfer of technology from developed to developing countries, aiming to ensure a just transition to sustainable plastic production and consumption based on national circumstances.

Worried countries

While national representatives at these talks are in principle committed to an agreement, many are worried that a treaty on plastic pollution will restrict the production and supply of plastic and polymers, disrupting their economies. On the other end of the spectrum are Pacific Island nations such as Tuvalu, Palau, and Fiji, who are demanding ambitious action on restraining both plastic waste and production. They point out that the marine pollution from dumping plastic waste as well as their limited capacity to respond has resulted in existential threats to their countries.

Around two lakh child marriages were prevented in a year, says WCD Ministry

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

CONTEXT: Union Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi noted halving of child marriages in India from 47.4 % to 23.3 % in 2019-21 since the introduction of the Prevention of Child Marriage Act in 2006.

The Minister announced that around two lakh child marriages were prevented in the past year, though one in five girls in India is still married before the legal age of 18. During the launch of the Bal Vivah Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (Child Marriage-Free India Campaign), she highlighted those South Asian countries, including India, have seen the most significant global decline in child marriage rates, according to recent United Nations reports. However, she emphasized that despite this progress, there is still no room for complacency.

Focus on 7 States

The 'Bal Vivah Mukta Bharat' campaign will target seven states with high child marriage rates—West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Tripura, Assam, and Andhra Pradesh—and nearly 300 high-burden districts. The goal is to reduce

child marriage rates to below 5% by 2029. A key initiative of the campaign is the launch of the 'Child Marriage Free Bharat' portal for raising awareness, reporting cases, and monitoring progress. The campaign draws on lessons from the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' program and recent Supreme Court judgments, aiming to unite stakeholders and promote grassroots awareness and attitudinal change. The Union Minister stressed that alongside legislation, awareness-raising is crucial to completely eradicate child marriages and called for active citizen participation.

Tax cuts may have saved ₹3 lakh crore for India's corporates

ECONOMICS & DEVELOPMENT

CONTEXT: India's concessional tax regime introduced in 2019, which has led to significant tax savings for large corporates.

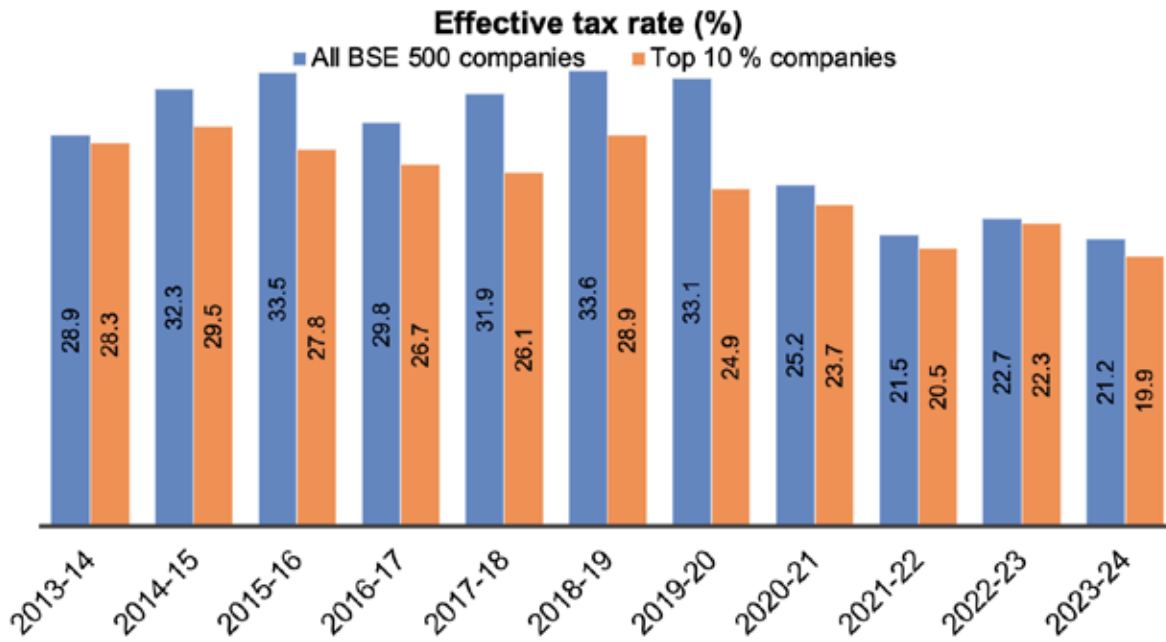


FIGURE: Column chart representation of the effective tax rates (%) of the BSE 500 companies and Top 10% companies.

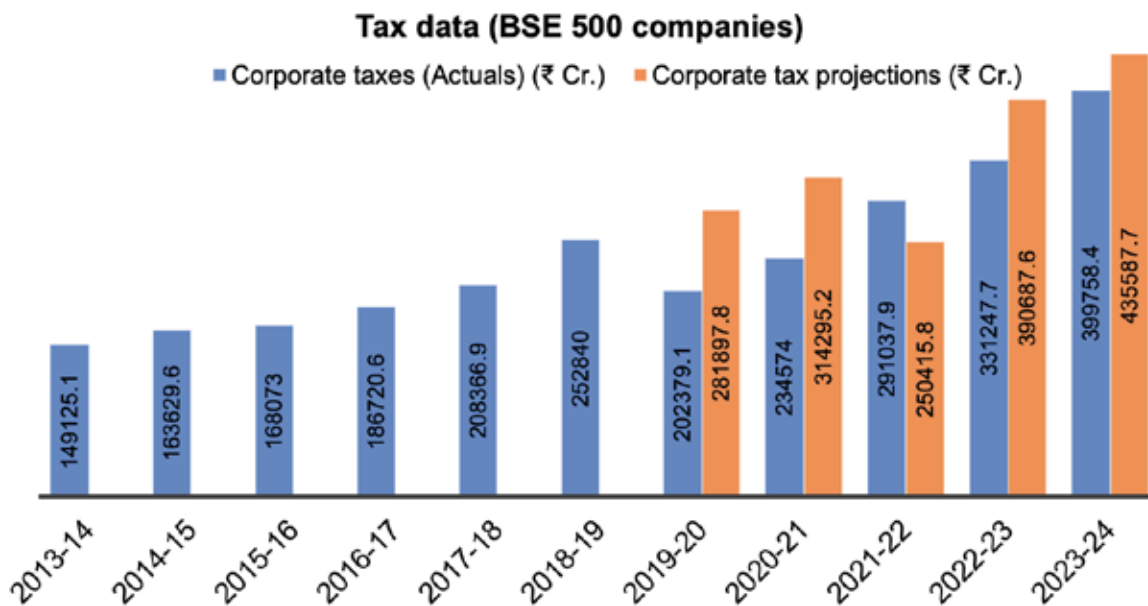


FIGURE: Column chart representation of the corporate tax (actuals) and corporate tax (projections).

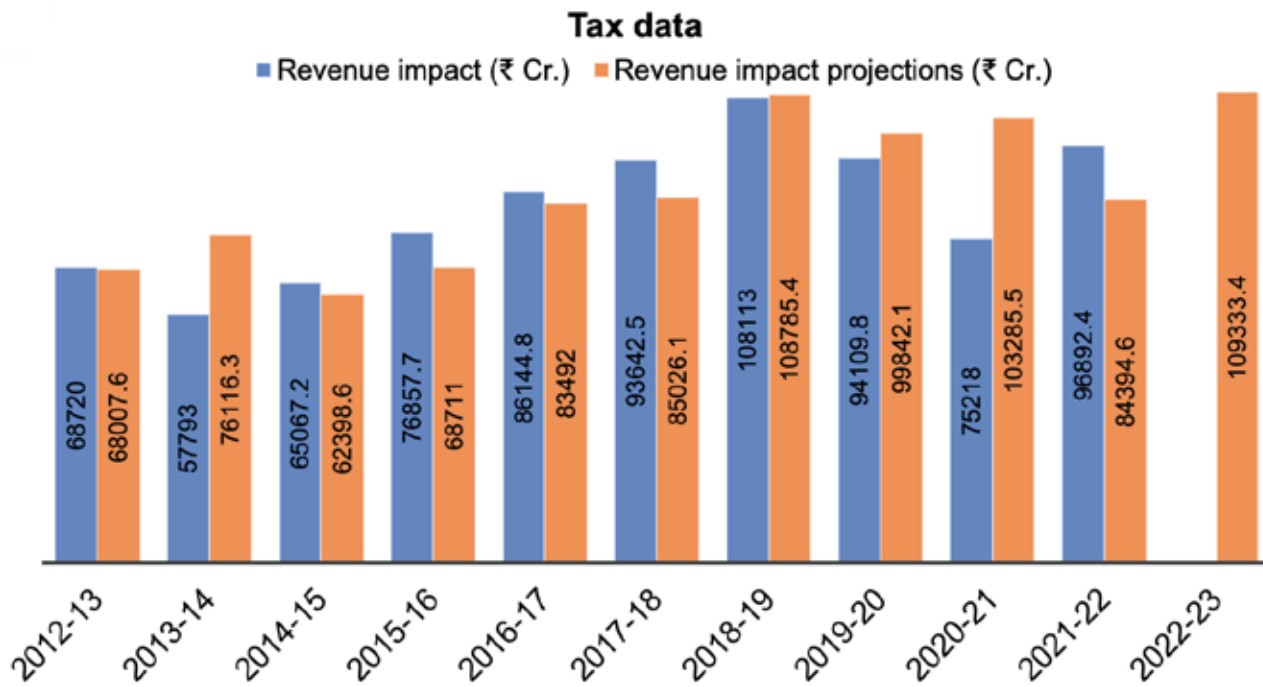


FIGURE: Column chart representation of the corporate tax (actuals) and corporate tax (projections).

Since the regime's introduction, these companies may have saved over ₹ 3 lakh crore in taxes, in addition to over ₹ 8 lakh crore in revenue foregone through various deductions since 2012-13. The new tax system reduced the corporate tax rate to 22 % for companies that forgo certain deductions. Experts suggest that while these tax cuts may simplify the tax system, there is no consensus on the optimal corporate tax rates, and such reductions primarily benefit the business community without clear evidence of stimulating broader economic growth or competitiveness. The effective tax rate for large companies has declined from 30 % to 21.2 % by FY24. Despite tax cuts, company profits grew at a faster pace than taxes paid, and experts argue that tax incentives have not proven effective in increasing private investment or creating jobs. Additionally, tax concessions through deductions, such as donations or research expenditure, have led to significant revenue losses, totalling ₹ 8.22 lakh crore over the last decade.

Ban this carcinogenic 'heart-burn' drug

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

CONTEXT: Glaxo SmithKline (GSK) announced a record settlement of \$2.2 billion in the United States in order to settle multiple lawsuits regarding one of its best-selling drugs to treat "acid reflux"— Zantac ®, containing the active ingredient Ranitidine, after it was revealed that the drug contained high amounts of a cancer-causing carcinogen called N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA).

High levels of NDMA, a carcinogen was discovered in various brands of Ranitidine, a medication used to treat acid reflux. Valisure, an American pharmacy, found NDMA levels exceeding 3 million nanograms in some samples, far higher than the U.S. acceptable limit of 96 nanograms. This issue arises from the instability of the Ranitidine molecule, meaning it affects all manufacturers, not just GSK. The U.S. FDA and European Medicines Agency stopped the sale of Ranitidine in 2020 due to these concerns, and GSK withdrew its products from the Indian market. However, India's Ministry of Health has not taken action to prevent other companies from selling Ranitidine in India.

A widely used pharma drug

While the Indian government acknowledged the issue in 2021 after media reports, there has been no subsequent action. The passage raises two key questions: why did the Indian regulatory bodies fail to detect the impurities in Ranitidine, and why has the government not acted like Western counterparts to halt its sale, especially given the availability of safer alternatives such as famotidine and omeprazole. The passage suggests that understanding the roles of government institutions responsible for drug regulation is crucial to addressing these issues.

The chain of standards setting

The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) set standards for generic drugs, including acceptable impurity limits and testing protocols. The IPC's role is to establish these standards, which are then enforced by state drug controllers and

inspectors. The passage raises concerns about why the IPC failed to detect the harmful NDMA impurity in Ranitidine and what steps it has taken since 2020 to address this issue. It also questions why the Ministry of Health has not acted to prohibit Ranitidine's sale under Section 26A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, despite global concerns and legal settlements related to the drug. The author suggests that the Ministry of Health, lacking technical expertise, should now take action to prohibit Ranitidine's sale in India.

The right to work deleted

POLITY & GOVERNANCE



The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) guarantees rural households the legal right to 100 days of work per year. Each household is issued a unique job card listing its registered adults, and new members can be added upon proving adulthood. According to Schedule II, Paragraph 23 of the Act, if a person is found to have registered using false information, the Gram Panchayat can direct the Programme Officer to remove their name from the job card. The Act also ensures due process by requiring that any deleted worker be given a chance to be heard in the presence of two independent persons if they are alive.

Guidelines for deletion

The implementation guidelines for MGNREGA, outlined in Master Circulars released by the Ministry of Rural Development, specify clear protocols for deleting job cards. Deletions are allowed in cases of permanent migration, duplicate job cards, or those issued with forged documents. If a Gram Panchayat is reclassified as a Municipal Corporation, all job cards in that area are deleted. The circular emphasizes due process, requiring independent verification by the Programme Officer before deletions, with all deletions documented, reported to the Gram Sabha/Ward Sabha, and updated in the MGNREGA Management Information System (MIS). The MIS includes dropdown options for 12 reasons for deletions, such as "Duplicate Applicant," "Fake Applicant," and "Not willing to work."

In 2022-23, the number of MGNREGA worker deletions surged to 5.53 crore, a 247% increase from 2021-22, with a total of 10.43 crore deletions over the past four years. This rise coincided with the implementation of Aadhaar-based payment systems (ABPS) in MGNREGA, which required workers' Aadhaar numbers to be linked to their job cards. Senior officials pushed for higher compliance rates by increasing the percentage of Aadhaar-seeded job cards. In a response to the Lok Sabha on February 6, 2024, the Minister of State for Rural Development stated that job card updates and deletions are regular actions to ensure accuracy and transparency. However, research by Chakradhar Buddha and Laavanya Tamang suggests that field officials, under pressure to boost ABPS compliance, deleted job cards without proper verification, effectively reducing the number of workers to inflate the compliance percentage.

Methodology followed

A study investigating the reasons for MGNREGA worker deletions sampled one block from each of 21 states over the last four financial years, covering 1,914 villages. The sample revealed that 2.98 lakh workers were deleted, with nearly 1.65 lakh deletions in 2022-23 alone, and around 30,000 deletions in the past six months. Significant deletions occurred in specific blocks, such as 53,000 workers in Madanpur block (Bihar) and 32,000 in Mayureshwar-I block (West Bengal). There was notable variation within blocks, as seen in Madanpur, where 4,877 workers were deleted in one village and only three in another. In West Bengal, deletions surged dramatically from 550 in 2021-22 to 31,861 in 2022-23, with half categorized as "Duplicate Applicant" and over 10,000 as "Non-existent in Panchayat." This spike followed a halt in MGNREGA funding from the Union Government in December 2021.

The study found that a significant number of MGNREGA workers, nearly 1.90 lakh in the sample, were deleted for being "not willing to work," which denies their legal right to work. This was the most common deletion reason in the MIS, accounting for 63% of deletions in 2021-22 and rising to 83% in the current year. Interestingly, about 20,000 of those deleted under this reason had actually worked or demanded work in the same financial year. Additionally, deletions often occurred

without the involvement of Gram Sabhas, as required by the Act, and many workers were unaware of the deletions. In some cases, 1,500 workers were deleted under the reason "Village becomes urban," which is problematic, as the Act mandates that all workers in such a village should be deleted, not just a subset, suggesting misuse of the deletion criteria.

Sticking points

The trend of worker deletions observed in the sample is likely reflective of national patterns, though actual proportions may vary. Two troubling findings include that 71% of workers in the sample are officially marked as "not willing to work," despite high rural unemployment, and that the surge in deletions seems linked to the mandatory implementation of ABPS, contrary to government claims. The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has not conducted any verification or analysis of the deletion reasons, reinforcing concerns about arbitrary deletions and violations of the right to work. To address these issues, the passage advocates for adherence to verification processes, independent audits, regular reviews, and the involvement of Gram Sabhas. It also calls for better grievance redress systems, training for impartial inquiries, and inclusion of worker representatives in decision-making to ensure transparency, accountability, and fairness in implementing MGNREGA.

Design of indigenous high-speed train project yet to be finalised, Minister tells Lok Sabha

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

CONTEXT: Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw did not declare the deadline for completion of the indigenous high-speed train project, being undertaken by the Integral Coach Factory in collaboration with the BEML.

The design and manufacturing of indigenously manufactured high-speed trains for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Project are complex, involving aerodynamic car bodies, electrics for high-speed application, and weight optimization. The trains will feature chair cars with aerodynamic exteriors, sealed gangways, automatic doors, and optimized temperature and lighting. BEML has been awarded a ₹866.87 crore contract to produce the trains, with delivery expected by the end of 2026. These trains will be part of a project with technical and financial assistance from Japan. The Railway Ministry is still deciding whether to use Shinkansen bullet train technology, which reaches speeds of 320 kmph.

Vaishnaw favours stricter laws for social media, OTT

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

CONTEXT: Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw emphasised the need to strengthen existing laws governing social media and OTT platforms, and build a societal consensus on the issue.

The Minister in the Lok Sabha highlighted the challenges posed by social media and OTT platforms, noting that traditional press institutions, once governed by editorial checks, have seen a decline in accountability. While social media provides a platform for press freedom, it also facilitates uncontrolled expression, including vulgar content. Acknowledging the cultural differences between India and the countries where these platforms originated, the Minister emphasized the need for stricter laws to address these issues. He urged the Parliamentary Standing Committee to prioritize this matter and seek societal consensus on implementing stronger regulations.

The
More
You Learn,
The
More
You Earn



www.vedhikiasacademy.org



ICC chief prosecutor seeks arrest warrant against head of Myanmar military regime

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CONTEXT: The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor asked judges to issue an arrest warrant for the head of Myanmar's military regime for crimes committed against the country's Rohingya Muslim minority.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who took power in Myanmar through a coup in 2021, is accused of crimes against humanity for his role in the deportation and persecution of the Rohingya. This includes mass killings, rapes, and the destruction of homes, forcing nearly a million Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh. The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor, Karim Khan, announced plans to seek more warrants for Myanmar's leaders, affirming that the Rohingya have not been forgotten and deserve legal protection. The violence stemmed from a 2017 counterinsurgency campaign led by Hlaing's military forces against the Rohingya. Myanmar's government denies the Rohingya citizenship and recognition as an ethnic minority, subjecting them to widespread discrimination. Human rights groups have supported the move to seek legal accountability.

Islamabad lockdown lifted as PTI protesters are dispersed by police

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

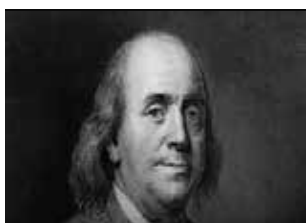


CONTEXT: Authorities reopened roads linking Pakistan's capital with the rest of the country, ending a four-day lockdown, on Wednesday after using tear gas and firing into the air to disperse supporters of imprisoned former Prime Minister Imran Khan who marched to Islamabad to demand his release from prison.

Supporters of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, led by his wife Bushra Bibi, staged a protest demanding his release from prison. The protest escalated when thousands of demonstrators broke through barriers and entered a high-security zone, leading to clashes with security forces. At least seven people were

killed. Following the violence, Bibi and other leaders of Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party fled to Mansehra in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The police later arrested nearly 1,000 protesters. Khan, who has been in prison for over a year, faces more than 150 criminal cases his party deems politically motivated.

Since February, the PTI has continued to hold rallies despite a government crackdown, with Tuesday's protest being the largest in the capital since the vote. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi claimed security forces successfully repelled the protesters, while PTI leaders announced the rally was cancelled temporarily. PTI leader Ali Amin Gandapur emphasized the movement would only end with Imran Khan's release. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned the protests as "extremism" and vowed to take strong action. The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan urged both parties to engage in dialogue to resolve the crisis peacefully and prevent further unrest.



"If you invest more in your education, then you are likely to get more interest in it."

—Benjamin Franklin

After arrest of monk, petition seeks ban on ISKCON in Bangladesh

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CONTEXT: Student leaders of Bangladesh have called for a ban on the outfit “immediately”, a day after the arrest of ISKCON monk Chinmoy Krishna Das in Chittagong.

The arrest of ISKCON monk Chinmoy Krishna Das in Chittagong has sparked strong reactions triggering protests in Bangladesh. Student leaders supporting the interim government of Mohammad Yunus expressed opposition to ISKCON, accusing it of being an agent of the Awami League. This came on the same day that a petition to ban the Hindu outfit was admitted by a Bangladeshi High Court. In India, newly elected MP Priyanka Gandhi urged the Indian government to intervene and ensure the safety of minorities in Bangladesh. Protests were held in Chittagong, and demands were made for the arrest of those responsible for the murder of an assistant public prosecutor during clashes linked to Mr. Das' arrest. The authorities have arrested six individuals, believed to be members of the Chhatra League, a banned student group affiliated with the Awami League.

Authorities in Bangladesh have arrested six individuals based on CCTV footage of violence from Tuesday, with the police identifying them as members of the Chhatra League, the student wing of the Awami League, which was banned in October. In response to allegations, ISKCON issued statements condemning what it called a witch-hunt and discrimination. The organization urged the Bangladesh government to ensure peaceful coexistence of religious communities and expressed concern over the arrest of Chinmoy Krishna Das and the violence against Sanatanis in various regions of Bangladesh.

4 Mechanised Infantry battalions get President's Colours from Army chief

INTERNAL SECURITY



CONTEXT: Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi presented President's Colours to 4 battalions of the Army's Mechanised Infantry during a ceremony at the Mechanised Infantry Centre and School, Ahilyanagar in Maharashtra.

The President's Colours were awarded to the 26th and 27th Battalions of Mechanised Infantry Regiment and 20th and 22nd Battalions of Brigade of The Guards for their exemplary service and numerous achievements, including their contributions to both combat and peacetime operations. The Mechanised Infantry since its inception in 1979 has distinguished itself as a modern and professional force within the Army,

demonstrating exceptional courage, discipline, and operational proficiency in key operations such as Operation Vijay and in UN peacekeeping missions.

The President's Colours is one of the highest honours awarded to a military unit in the Army. Military Colours, while now largely symbolic, continue to serve as a morale booster among troops. During the ceremony, the Army chief also felicitated four Veteran Achievers for their contribution towards the well-being of the ex-servicemen fraternity and society.

WE AIM TO INSPIRE YOU

Schooling in India in times of poor air quality

ECOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

CONTEXT: In November 2024, schools in Delhi switched from physical to online classes as part of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to combat air pollution when the Air Quality Index (AQI) was classified as "poor."

Poor air quality affects all age groups, not just children, and the AQI thresholds used (e.g., 50 for "good" air quality) are often not met in Delhi. While online classes may seem like a solution, they put children at a disadvantage, especially in terms of learning loss and missing out on school meals. Many children, particularly from underprivileged backgrounds, may actually experience better air quality at school due to air purifiers. Additionally, online learning is not a substitute for in-person education, especially for younger children, and excessive screen time can be harmful. The focus, the passage argues, should be on keeping schools open to ensure continuous learning, as schools offer more than just academic education but also vital life experiences.

The oversold idea of face masks

The issue of face masks in schools during poor air quality conditions. While schools issued advisories for children to wear masks, these advisories became informal mandates for parents and children, despite lacking full scientific backing. During the COVID-19 pandemic, masks were not recommended for children under five and were only advised (not mandated) for those aged six to 11. The need for face masks in schools is questionable if air purifiers are in place. The passage argues that mask-wearing guidance for children should be more nuanced and personalized, and schools should only issue such advisories with input from medical experts.

Adopt a science-based approach

Several key points regarding how schools should handle poor air quality and ensure continuity in education:

- No Online Classes:** Schools should not switch to online classes, regardless of the AQI level. The focus should be on keeping schools functional, with mitigants like halting outdoor activities and using air purifiers and face masks as appropriate.
- Mask-Wearing Guidelines:** Mask-wearing should not be mandated uniformly; it should be based on individual health needs. Children with pre-existing health conditions may benefit from masks, but N95 masks should not be required for children under 12 unless medically advised.
- Air Purifiers:** In schools with functional air purifiers, masks are unnecessary. Ensuring proper ventilation and the use of purifiers before classes can ensure good air quality.
- Physical Classes Over Online:** Online schooling should be avoided as it is not a substitute for physical school. Hybrid classes should not be used to avoid in-person teaching, and schools should prioritize in-person classes whenever possible.
- Health Care:** Children with pre-existing health conditions should receive regular check-ups and preventive health measures like vaccines.

Policy must be people-centric

The actions recommended under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to address air pollution disproportionately affect the poor and vulnerable, leading to wage, learning, and nutrition losses, especially for children. It stresses the importance of a people-centric, pro-poor approach to policy. The closure of schools, particularly during poor air quality periods, has significant negative impacts, as schools are not the source of pollution and closing them leads to more harm than benefit. The passage calls for delinking school functioning from GRAP measures, learning from the mistakes of prolonged school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic, and emphasizing the responsibility of society to protect children. It concludes with a quote from Nelson Mandela, highlighting the moral responsibility towards children.



START YOUR JOURNEY WITH THE
BEST

INDIA'S TOP MOST CIVIL SERVANTS FOR COACHING

Indian Army receives logistics drones for use in eastern sector

INTERNAL SECURITY

CONTEXT: The Army has received Sabal-20 logistics drones procured from EndureAir Systems for deployment in the eastern sector. The Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K), announced a major advancement in stealth technology by launching the Metamaterial Surface Cloaking System — Anālakshya.

Payload capacity

The Sabal-20 based on variable pitch technology is an electric unmanned helicopter developed by EndureAir, a company incubated at IIT-K in 2018. The Sabal-20 can carry payloads up to 20 kg and is designed for demanding missions, such as long-range deliveries, high-altitude operations, and precision logistics. The advanced Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) technology enables seamless operations in confined and rugged terrains, while its low RPM design minimises noise with a low aural signature, enhancing stealth in sensitive missions. The tender for the Sabal-20 was issued around the end of 2023, and deliveries have recently begun.

The Anālakshya MSCS is a system developed by Professor Anantha Ramakrishna (Physics), Professor Kumar Vaibhav Srivastava (Electrical Engineering), and Professor J. Ramkumar (Mechanical Engineering) from IIT, along with students Gagandeep Singh, Kajal Chowdhary, Abhinav Bhardwaj, and Ph.D. scholars. The system provides near-perfect wave absorption across a wide spectrum, enhancing its ability to counter Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imaging and offering protection against missiles using radar guidance.

Welcome agreement: India on Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CONTEXT: India on Wednesday welcomed the ceasefire agreement reached between Israel and the Hezbollah of Lebanon. India's External Affairs Ministry welcomed the ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon, emphasizing India's consistent call for de-escalation of tensions. The Ministry expressed hope that the ceasefire would lead to peace and stability in the broader region, highlighting India's support for restraint, dialogue, and diplomacy, a day after the ceasefire agreement was announced. The conflict between the Hezbollah and Israel posed a threat to expatriate Indians in Lebanon and in Israel. New Delhi had been calling for de-escalation of tensions and cessation of hostilities. On November 2, the official spokesperson of the Ministry had conveyed condolences on the loss of lives of foreigners in the Hezbollah attack in northern Israel.

India raised its concern over increasing Israeli attacks on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which has many Indian personnel. On October 28, during Spanish President Pedro Sanchez's visit, India and Spain jointly condemned these attacks. Israel's Ambassador to India, Reuven Azar, reiterated Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's statement that Lebanon had committed, under a U.S.-sponsored agreement, to deploy its army in the south and remove Hezbollah forces, with Israel reserving the right to defend itself against violations. Reports of ceasefire violations from Lebanon have already emerged.





VEDHIK
IAS ACADEMY
The New Learning Mantra

MASTER THE NEW LEARNING MANTRA

www.vedhikiasacademy.org



VEDHIK

IAS ACADEMY

The New Learning Mantra

START YOUR JOURNEY WITH THE BEST

**INDIA'S
TOP MOST
CIVIL SERVANTS
FOR COACHING**

www.vedhikiasacademy.org

Head Office:
Vedhik IAS Academy
Mercy Estate,
MG Road, Ravipuram,
Ernakulam-682 015,

Corporate office:
Vedhik IAS Academy
Samkalp Bhawan, Plot No.15,
Sector 4, Rama Krishna Puram,
New Delhi, Delhi-110022

Regional office
Vedhik IAS Academy
202, Raheja Chambers, 12,
Museum Road. Bangalore -
560001. Karnataka, India.

GCC Office:
Bobscoedu,
Bobsco Trading & Contracting Co. W.L.L
Office 22, Dream Tower 1,
Road: 2701, Adliya, Kingdom of Bahrain
www.bobscoedu.com