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For

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THE HINDU National

➔ Modi files nomination from Varanasi in bid for hat trick

- PM Modi filed his nomination papers from Varanasi on Tuesday . He was accompanied by NDA chief ministers and other leaders.
- The four proposers of the Modi nominations were Pandit Ganeshwar Shastri Dravid , who decided the Muhurta for the consecration of Mandir , Baijnath Patel a RSS functionary , Lalchand Sonkar and Sanjay Kushwaha .
- “ My relationship with Kashi is inseparable and incompatibleall I can say that it is incompatible in words !” Mr Modi said on X

➔ Turnout shows it was right to revoke Article 370 : Shah

- The rise in voting percentage in Srinagar from 14 % in the past to 37% in the fourth phase of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections on Tuesday was the “ greatest testament to the righteousness of the decision “ to revoke Article 370 .
- Mr Shah also said that for the first time more than 40% of displaced Kashmiri Pandits cast their votes .
- In an interview with The Hindu Mr Shah also explained the party's decision not to field any candidate in the valley seats of Srinagar , Baramulla and Anantnag Rajauri . He said that wanted to build up organisation on the ground

➔ Sri Lanka's Tamils face arrest over war memorial

- Srilankan Tamils are facing arrests for commemorating anniversary of deaths in civil war . Several Srilankan Tamils were among the LTTE forces that fought civil war with Srilankan army .
- The police said that the arrest were made to manage “ public health “ .

➔ New Chabahar pact ' not exempt ' from Iran sanctions : US

- The US state department has said that the new 10 year agreement plan for Chabahar port carries the “ potential risk “ of sanctions .
- Recently India signed a deal with an Iranian company to operate Chabahar port for 10 years .
- The deal entails investment of 120 million dollar for equipment of port and 250 million dollar credit line for port functioning .
- According to sanctions , the companies dealing with Iran will be barred from trading or investin in US .
- The US's carve out clause however has two exception: humanitarian assistance to Iran. and assistance for Iranian people

➔ AAP to be made accused in excise policy case, ED says

- The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday said in Delhi High court that it will make the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) an accused in a money laundering case stemming from the Delhi Excise Policy case .
- “ The conspiracy was to see that the AAP makes wrongful gains in bribes . “ And in the process to ensure additional benefits to the persons who gave bribes .” The AAP counsel said in Delhi High court .
- The court was seeking bail for Mr Sisodia

➔ SC reserves judgement in Patanjali case of contempt

- The Supreme Court on Tuesday reserved its judgement in contempt proceedings against Yoga guru Ramdev and Acharya Balkrishna and Patanjali Ayurved Ltd .
- The Court directed Patanjali to file an affidavit in three weeks , detailing steps taken to recall the stock from its retailers and agencies

➔ Pine - Needle power projects to check forest fire inadequate

- Project by Uttarakhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (UREDA) , to use quantities of flammable pine needles for generating electricity have been “ unsuccessful . Authorities has said that appropriate technology does not exist to use them .
- Uttarakhand has 16.36 % of total forest area covered with chir pine forest .
- As per the estimates , over 15 lakh tonnes of pine leaves are annually generated . The pine needles are one of the propagators of forest fires .
- state authorities has tried to address pine needles and agriculture residues

➔ Purkayastha arrested under UAPA invalid , says SC

- The Supreme Court on Wednesday said that it felt “ no hesitation to declare the arrest and remand of NEWSCLICK founder Prabir Purkayastha as “ invalid in the eyes of law “ .
- A bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and Sandeep Mehta said neither Mr. Purkayastha nor his counsel was provided the grounds of hisbarrest in writing .
- “ The right to be informed about the ground of arrest flows from Article 22(1) of the constitution and any infringement of this fundamental right would vitiate the process of arrest and remand “
- Article 22(1) – An arrested person shall be informed about of the ground of arrest and allowed to consult a lawyer of his or her choice .
- **The key observation of the court were :**
 - The entire exercise was done in a clandestine manner and was a blatant attempt to circumvent due process of law .
 - It deprived him of the opportunity to avail him of the services of a legal practitioner of his choice .
 - As in the case of arrests , the ground of arrest should be communicated in writing to the detainee .
- The court however said nothing on the merit of the case .
- The additional solicitor general S.V. Raju had argued that Mr Purkayastha was “ orally “ informed about the ground of the arrest .

- Delhi Police had arrested Prabir Purkyastha and some other from NewsClick under UAPA
- Mr Purkyastha was charged with taking money from China and publishing anti-India content .
- Naville Roy Sinham, a US based businessman and having ties with the Chinese govt was said to be transferring money for this .
- Mr Purkyastha was arrested on October 3 2023

➔ **Purkyastha released from Tihar after getting bail ; he must not contact witness**

- After SC declared the arrest of Mr Purkyastha ‘invalid ‘ , a Delhi court granted him bail .
- The court set the condition that he shall not contact witnesses and approve associated with the case .
- The court also directed not to talk about the merits of the case or travel abroad without the court's permission.

➔ **Slovakia PM shot multiple times , suffer life threatening wounds**

- Slovakia’s Prime Minister Robert Fico was shot multiple times in an assassination attempt .
- The police have detailed the attackers .
- He is currently undergoing treatment , hospital authorities have not released any statement about his condition.
- Mr Fico has been elected as PM for the fourth term in September 2023 . He is said to be close to Russia . In his election campaign he had pledged that he would not provide a * single bullet “ to Kyiv .



➔ **Over 300 get Indian citizenship under CAA**

- The Indian government on Wednesday granted citizenship certificates to more than 300 people who applied under the citizenship (Amendment) Act .
- The certificates were distributed by senior authorities in Delhi .
- The government sources said that most of the applications were Pakistani Hindus .

➔ **Army set to receive next batch of shoulder fired Iгла - S air defence system**

- The Army is set to begin receiving another set of Russian Iгла - S very short range air defense systems (VSHORAD) by the end of next month .
- The Iгла - S system was contracted last year under the fourth tranche of Emergency Procurement (EP) , and are being assembled at Adani Defense Systems and Technological Limited (ADSTL) ;
- The contract for 48 Iгла S was given last year .
- The VSHORD is the soldier’s last line of defence against enemy combat aircraft , helicopters and UAVs in a multi-layered defence network

➔ **India records highest no of internet shutdown in 2023**

- According to a report released on Wednesday , India witnessed the highest number of Internet outages in the world in 2023 , a record it has held for the last six years .
- The Internet was snapped 116 times in the country last year . Manipur violence , Manhunt of Amritpal Singh were some of the major cases in which internet services was snapped .
- Myanmar recorded the second highest number of Internet shutdowns , followed by Iran (34) and Palestine (16) and Ukraine (8)

WORLD

➔ **Fierce battle rages across Gaza strip as US calls for truce , post war plan**

- Israeli troops fought Hamas militants in Multiple battles across the Gaza strip , forcing new waves of Palestinian mass displacement .
- About 4,50,000 civilians have been displaced to safe zones from Rafah.
- The United States has repeatedly urged a Gaza ceasefire and called on its ally Israel to devise “ a strategic endgame “ and post war plan , white House NSA Jale Sullivan said .
- This would help Israel avoid “ getting mired in a counterinsurgency campaign that never ends and ultimately saps Israel’s strength and vitality ,” Mr Sullivan said .
- A Qatari mediator said talks on hostage release deal has stalled with the Rafah attack being one of the reasons behind this ..

➔ **Biden to increase tariffs on Chinese EVs , Solar cells steel , aluminium in poll year**

- The Biden administration announced plans to slap new tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles , advanced batteries , solar cells, steel aluminium and medical equipment . Increasing the tariffs will make Chinese goods to be sold in the US market costlier and will reduce the Chinese market in the US .
- This comes amid a time when Joe Biden and Donald Trump are vying to show who is tougher with China .
- The Chinese foreign ministry in a statement said that the tariffs “ will seriously affect the atmosphere of bilateral cooperation .”
- China can respond by increasing tarriffs on US products

➔ **End Rafah military action , EU tells Israel**

- The European Union on Wednesday urged Israel to end military operations in Rafah “ immediately “ , warning that failure to do so will undermine ties with the bloc .
- “ Should Israel continue its military operation in Rafah , it would inevitably put a heavy strain on EU’s relationship with Israel “ EU’s foreign minister Joseph Borell said .
- The EU cited disruption in humanitarian aid leading to famine-like situation in Rafah.
- The EU is the main donor to Israel and biggest trading partner with Israel

➔ **Israel PM presses Bill to draft ultra orthodox bill into the army**

- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has put forward a new conscription , which has pressed for the resolution of the stalemate over the exemption from military service of ultra orthodox Jews .
- Ultra Orthodox news makes up 13 % of the Israeli population . They are exempted from permanent military services .
- Earlier Israeli Supreme Court had said May 16 to be the last date to be

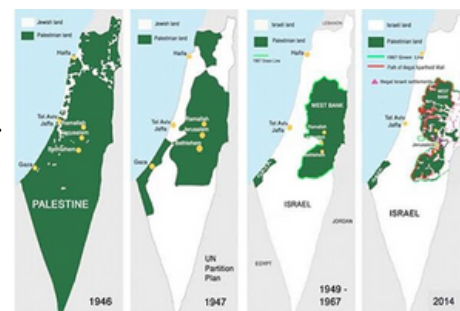
➔ **Kyiv forces pulls out of some areas ; Zelensky postpones foreign trips**

- Ukrainian forces have pulled from some part of Northeast Ukraine .
- Looking at the seriousness President Zelensky has called of his foreign visits .
- Russia has gained major victories in Kharkiv , capturing many major villages . It has captured two major areas , Lutyanti and Vivchansk .
- Moscow is also building on the victory of the major region of Donetsk



➔ **Palestinian statehood key to post war Gaza rebuilding plans of Arab nations**

- As Israel keeps up its campaign against Hamas , Arab leaders are mapping to support Gaza , placing one major condition on their involvement : passing a pathway to Palestinian statehood .
- Arab Qitnent of UAE, Saudi Arabia , Qatar , Jordan and Egypt all have put that financial and economical cost at Gaza will come only when a Palestinian state is fully formed .
- Israel till now is against a two state solution .
- Two state solution means , Israel and Palestine to be based on boundaries of 1967 .



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70th BPS PT (Prelims) TEST SERIES SCHEDULE

Test No.	Date	Time	Type
1	07 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
2	14 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	POLITY
3	21 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
4	28 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	GENERAL SCIENCE
5	05 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
6	12 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	GEOGRAPHY
7	19 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
8	26 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	ECONOMY
9	02 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
10	09 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	ANCIENT HISTORY
11	16 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
12	23 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	MEDIEVAL HISTORY
13	30 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
14	07 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	MODERN HISTORY
15	14 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
16	21 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	BIHAR SPECIAL
17	28 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
18	04 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	CURRENT AFFAIRS
19	11 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
20	18 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
21	25 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
22	01 September 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH

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