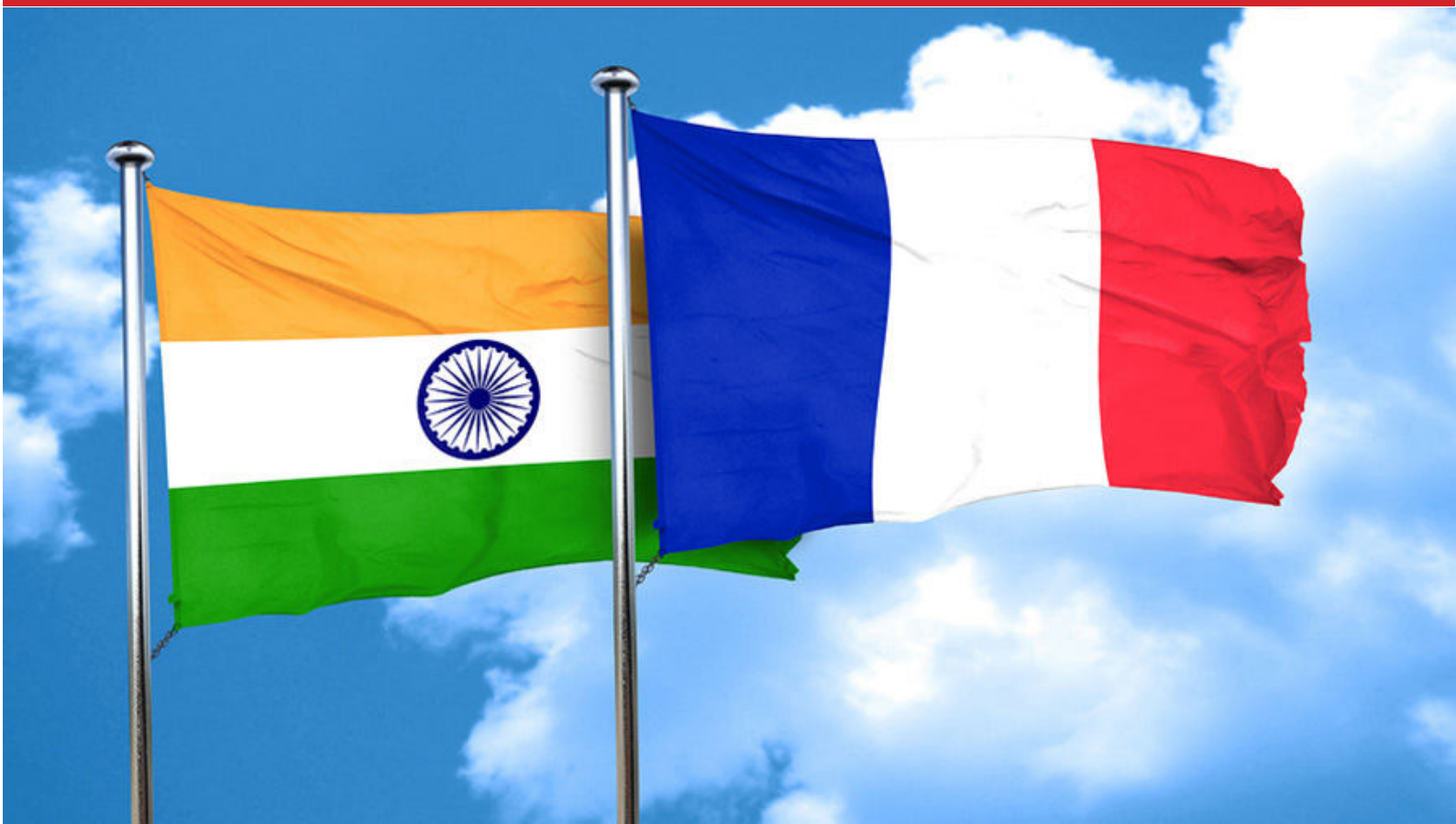




VEDHIK

DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

19 - OCT - 2022



FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Vedhik - Daily News Analysis (DNA)_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Vedhik - Daily News Analysis (DNA)_The Hindu " would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus.

It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

- GSP 01 A News - U.S. hands over 307 antique items, valued at nearly \$4 million, to India
- GSP 02 A News - Macron may visit India next year, nuclear power on agenda
- GSP 02 B News - 'We don't believe in hierarchical world
- GSP 02 E News - Court cannot issue direction to frame Universal Civil Code
- GSP 02 K Editorials -Whose pleasure
- GSP 02 K News -It is the government's job to appoint judges Law Minister Rijju
- GSP 03 A News - Govt. said to seek waiver in norm for IDBI Bank sale
- GSP 03 A News -NCLT said to extend RCap's IBC process to January 31
- GSP 03 L Editorials - The illusion of being faster than light how a star problem was solved
- GSP 03 L News -Giraffes brought to India by British may belong to endangered species
- GSP 03 M News - AK-203 assault rifles production likely to begin by end of year

U.S. hands over 307 antique items, valued at nearly \$4 million, to India

R. Sivaraman
CHENNAI

The U.S. authorities formally handed over 307 antiquities, estimated to be worth nearly \$4 million to Indian officials on Monday. These were recovered from international smuggler Subash Kapoor's art gallery, other art galleries as well as multiple trafficking networks.

As many as 235 of the antiquities were seized pursuant to an investigation against Subash Kapoor, who helped traffic items from India and other countries. Five others were seized from a person,



Home-bound: All the antique goods were returned during a ceremony in New York on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Nancy Wiener, in New York and one pursuant to an investigation against another person, Nayef Homsy. The remaining 66

antiquities were stolen from India by multiple smaller trafficking networks.

All the antiquities were

returned during a repatriation ceremony on Monday evening at the Indian Consulate in New York attended by India's Consul General Randir Jaiswal, and U.S. Homeland Security Investigations, Acting Deputy Special Agent-in-Charge, Tom Lau.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg said in a statement, "We are proud to return hundreds of stunning pieces back to the people of India. These were stolen by multiple complex trafficking rings - the leaders of which showed no regard for the cultural or historical significance of these objects."

Macron may visit India next year, nuclear power on agenda

Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI

French President Emmanuel Macron is expected to visit India in “early 2023” with India’s Science Minister Jitendra Singh committing on Tuesday to resolve “technical, financial and civil nuclear liability issues” surrounding the proposed nuclear power projects in Jaitapur, Maharashtra, that are to be built with French assistance.

Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, who’s Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships, confirmed Mr. Macron’s visit, according to a statement from the Ministry of Science and Technology on Tuesday. Ms. Zacharopoulou, who attended a meeting of the International Solar Alliance, of which she is co-president here, also met Mr. Singh.

This is likely to be Mr.

Last year, French company EDF had offered to construct six European Pressurised Reactors

Macron’s first official visit to India since his re-election this year.

Last year, the French company EDF submitted to the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) its binding techno-commercial offer to build six European Pressurised Reactors (EPRs) at Jaitapur. In May, this year, a team from the EDF visited India and held detailed talks with NPCIL officials.

The six proposed nuclear power reactors of 1,650 MW would become the largest, nuclear power generating site with a total capacity of 9,900 MW as part of an umbrella nuclear deal signed with France in September 2008.

‘We don’t believe in hierarchical world’

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh tells African nations that India can partner with them to fulfil their military requirements and contribute to training

Dinakar Peri
GANDHINAGAR

India does not believe in a hierarchical world order where a few countries are considered superior to others, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said, addressing the 2nd India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD) at the DefExpo 2022.

He invited African countries to explore Indian defence equipment and technologies, stating that India has emerged as a leading defence exporter in recent years. “We do not believe in making or becoming a client or satellite state, and so, when we partner any nation, it is on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual respect. Forging relations comes naturally to India, as we work towards mutual economic development,” he said.

Africa, South East Asia and Middle East have emerged as major focus areas as India looks to emerge as a major global



Sleek chopper: The Light Combat Helicopter on display during the DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar. VIJAY SONEJI

arms exporter.

Stating that peace, security and development are inter-related, he said security is essential for enabling development in the region. “We have created a robust public and private defence industry. A defence manufacturing ecosystem has been created in India which has the

advantage of abundant technical manpower. Our defence industry can work with you to fulfil your defence requirements,” Mr. Singh said.

The IADD adopted a ‘Gandhinagar declaration’ as an outcome document. It proposes to enhance cooperation in the field of training in all areas of mu-

tual interest by increasing training slots and deputation of training teams, empowerment and capability building of the defence forces of Africa, participation in exercises and humanitarian assistance during natural disasters, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

India offered fellowship for experts from African countries through Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis. Mr. Singh termed India and African countries as important stakeholders in ensuring a safe and secure maritime environment, especially in the Indian Ocean Region while reiterating India’s support to Africa to deal with challenges of conflict, terrorism and violent extremism.

Later in the day, Mr. Singh inaugurated Manthan 2022, an event organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence-Defence Innovation Organisation (IDEX-DIO) of the MoD.

‘Court cannot issue direction to frame Universal Civil Code’

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

Citizens belonging to different religions and denominations follow different property and matrimonial laws which is an “affront to the nation’s unity”, the government said in the Supreme Court.

Article 44 (Uniform Civil Code) divests religion from social relations and personal law, it maintained.

The preliminary submissions are part of recent affidavits filed by the Union Law Ministry to petitions, which was filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, seeking directions from the top court to the government to remove “anomalies” and frame uniform divorce law and uniform guidelines for adoption and guardianship of children.

The government said the power to make laws is exclusively that of the legislature. The court cannot give a “mandamus to Parliament to make certain laws”. “This is a matter of policy for the elected representatives of the people to decide and no direction in this regard can be issued

by the court. It is for the legislature to enact or not enact a piece of legislation,” the Ministry said. It added Mr. Upadhyay’s petition was not maintainable.

The Ministry said it had requested the Law Commission to examine “various issues relating to the Uniform Civil Code (UCC)” and make recommendations considering the sensitivity and in-depth study involved of various personal laws governing different communities. The 21st Law Commission had uploaded a consultation paper titled ‘Reform of Family Law subsequently in August 2018.

Elaborating on the common civil code, the government said the Directive Principles of State Policy “creates an obligation upon the state to endeavour to secure for citizens a uniform civil code throughout the country under Article 44 [of the Constitution]”.

The Ministry said the purpose of Article 44 was to strengthen the object of the ‘Secular Democratic Republic’ enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution.

Whose pleasure?

The Constitution has no provision for a Governor to sack Ministers

Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan's indirect threat that he can independently dismiss Ministers is neither in keeping with the dignity of his office nor in line with the Constitution. His claim that "statements of individual ministers that lower the dignity of the Governor's office can invite action including withdrawal of pleasure" has no basis in the constitutional system. Article 164 of the Constitution, which says the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and other Ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the Chief Minister's advice, adds that "the Ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor". There have been instances of Governors dismissing Chief Ministers, but those were related to constitutional situations in which the legislative majority of the incumbent ministry was in doubt. It is also now judicially determined that the question of majority can be answered only on the floor of the legislature through a confidence vote. Nothing in the Article means that the Governor may independently dismiss a Minister. The pleasure doctrine exists only in a constitutional sense, and is exercised by the Governor only on the advice of the Chief Minister. In other words, the term 'pleasure of the Governor' is used as a euphemism to refer to the Chief Minister's power to drop a Minister from the Council of Ministers.

The context for this particular confrontation appears to be the Governor's reluctance to grant assent to the Kerala University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022. Higher Education Minister R. Bindu's remark that the Governor should return the Bill for reconsideration instead of withholding his approval indefinitely was a possible trigger for his comment. While Governors may differ with the contents of a Bill and may exercise the available constitutional options, they should not use their powers to stall legislation unpalatable to them. In the realm of university laws, Governors, being Chancellors of most universities, the scope for friction is quite high. It should be remembered that the office of Chancellor is created by the statute that establishes a university, and the legislature is equally competent to curtail the Chancellor's powers or even abolish the system of having the Governor as Chancellor. Even the M.M. Punchhi Commission, which reviewed Centre-State relations, recommended that Governors should not be burdened with the role of Chancellors. It is time to implement this principle. Governors seem to have an exaggerated notion of their own roles under the Constitution. They are expected to defend the Constitution and may use their powers to caution elected regimes against violating the Constitution, but this does not mean that they can use the absence of a time-frame for decision-making and the discretionary space given to them to function as a parallel power centre.

It is the government's job to appoint judges: Law Minister Rijiju

He says SC expanded the meaning of 'consultation' to 'concurrence, adds that there is no mechanism to control the judiciary if it goes astray

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said that appointing judges is the executive's domain that should be carried out in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI), but the Supreme Court expanded the meaning of "consultation" to "concurrence".

Mr. Rijiju made the remarks on Monday while speaking at *Sabarmati Samvad* organised by *Panchjanya*, a weekly magazine published by the RSS. The Minister said half of the time judges were "preoccupied" with deciding appointments and as a result, their primary job of delivering justice "suffers".

"Till 1993, every judge in India was appointed by the Law Ministry in consultation with the Chief Justice of India. We had very eminent judges at that time," Mr. Rijiju said.

"The Constitution is



Nowhere in the world except India is there a practice that judges appoint their brothers as judges... People can see politics among leaders but they do not know the politics going on inside the judiciary

KIREN RIJIJU
Minister of Law and Justice

clear about it. It says that the President of India will appoint judges, which means the Law Ministry will appoint judges in consultation with the Chief Justice of India. The Supreme Court in 1993 defined consultation as concurrence. In no other field has consultation been defined as concurrence but in judicial appointments," he noted, adding that the Collegium system was expanded by the judiciary in 1998.

The Supreme Court Collegium is headed by the CJI and comprises four senior-most judges of the court.

"Nowhere in the world except India is there a practice that judges appoint their brothers as judges," he said.

He noted the process of consultation for the selection of judges is so intense that groupism develops in it. "People can see politics among leaders but they do not know the politics going on inside the judiciary."

Noting that the executive and the legislature are bound and regulated by the judiciary, he said, "But if the judiciary goes astray, there is no mechanism to control it."

Govt. said to seek waiver in norm for IDBI Bank sale

All listed firms must reach minimum 25% public holding within 3 years of listing; 'if SEBI classifies government, LIC as public shareholders, criteria will be automatically met, says source'

Reuters
NEW DELHI

The Centre is in talks with the markets regulator seeking to relax a key public shareholding norm for the potential buyer of IDBI Bank in a bid to attract a larger pool of suitors, according to two sources.

Earlier this month, India invited bids for a 60.72% stake in IDBI Bank – which is 45.48% owned by the government and 49.24% by Life Insurance Corp. (LIC).

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SE-



Special case: IDBI Bank is currently exempt from the shareholding norm and LIC and the Centre hold 95% in the lender. G. RAMAKRISHNA

BI), India's capital markets regulator, mandates a minimum 25% of public shareholding for all listed

firms, excluding state-owned companies, within three years of listing.

The Centre has asked

SEBI if it could classify the government and LIC's remaining stake of about 34% after the sale as public float, which will help the new buyer meet the minimum public shareholding norm without diluting its ownership, one of the sources, who did not want to be named, told Reuters.

If this were allowed, "the minimum public shareholding criteria will be automatically met," the second official said. IDBI Bank is currently exempt from the shareholding norm and the promoters – LIC and the government – hold 95% of the lender.

NCLT said to extend RCap's IBC process to January 31

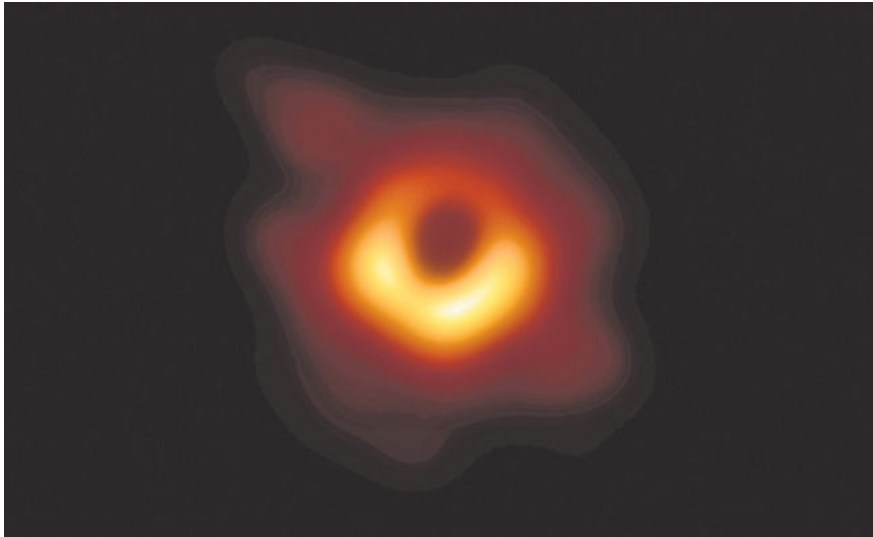
Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has, for the third time, extended the deadline for debt-ridden Reliance Capital's resolution process to January 31. The earlier deadline was November 1, 2022.

As per the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) rules, the administrator had to originally close the resolution of RCL within 180 days viz. by June 3, 2022.

Torrent, IndusInd Bank, Oaktree, Cosmea Financial, Authum Investment, and B Right Real Estate have submitted bids in the range of ₹4,000 crore to ₹4,500 crore for Reliance Capital's entire assets, sources said.



Space-time phenomena: The first ever photo of a black hole, taken using a global network of telescopes in 2019. REUTERS

The illusion of being faster than light: how a star problem was solved

How using the Global Astrometric Interferometer for Astrophysics (GAIA) spacecraft and Hubble Space Telescope instruments as well as other observatories on earth, scientists were able to observe exciting phenomena for the very first time

Shubashree Desikan

Mooley, K.P., Anderson, J. & Lu, W. Optical superluminal motion measurement in the neutron-star merger GW170817. *Nature* 610, 273-276 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-05145-7>

In 2017, astrophysicists observed an unusual feat among the stars. The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave (LIGO) observatories recorded a signal which indicated that two massive and dense stellar bodies had merged to form a third body, likely a black hole. In the process they gave off vibrations that quite literally shook the universe and its very fabric of space-time. For the very first time, scientists noted that this observation of the LIGO observatories coincided with the measurements made by other telescopes that measured visual and electromagnetic signals. Was this light given off by the merging bodies? Evidence seemed to suggest that it was. From this, scientists, piecing together evidence from complementary measurements, surmised that the event they had observed was of two neutron stars merging and forming a black hole and, in the process, giving off light. An unusual jet of matter was observed that gave an illusion of travelling faster than light. These were all exciting phenomena observed for the very first time by telescopes and observatories.

Crossing the speed of light
Now, using data that had been recorded

by the Global Astrometric Interferometer for Astrophysics (GAIA) spacecraft and Hubble Space Telescope instruments, scientists have confirmed that the above picture is correct. They have made it more precise and descriptive.

In a paper published in *Nature*, they describe measuring the "apparent speed" of the jet to be about seven times the speed of light.

They have also measured more accurately a factor called the Lorentz factor which scales with the actual speed of the particles in the jet. Unlike earlier estimates which placed this factor at about 4, the present paper estimates this factor to be over 40. This is because they measure the speed of the relativistic jet to be close to 0.9997c, where "c" is the speed of light.

This resolves the earlier fuzziness about what the source was and puts the source clearly as massive neutron stars merging to give a black hole and throwing off relativistic jets of particles in the process.

Merging neutron stars

Neutron stars are stellar corpses, left behind after a star has undergone a supernova explosion and reached the end of its lifetime. They are extremely dense, containing more mass than the sun in a sphere that is a few tens of kilometre wide.

The observation of particles moving at seven times the speed of light is an illusion. "This happens in cases where a source moves (towards us) with a velocity

that is very close to light's velocity. This phenomenon is known to astrophysicists earlier," says Resmi Lekshmi, a scientist with the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, who has worked in this area.

This has been seen in many active galactic nuclei – galaxy centres that harbour black holes – and binary star systems within our galaxy, where one of the stars is a black hole. "Mostly, black holes are responsible for producing such fast-moving material," she explains.

The present measurements and observations made with GAIA data are extremely challenging. They amount to measuring the position of an object in sky co-ordinates. "These authors measured a change in sky position one millionth the span of the full moon," says Dr. Lekshmi. Normally, if one were making these measurements from earth-based telescopes, it would require data from radio telescopes spaced apart by intercontinental distances. This technique is called Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) and was used in the earlier papers. "Here, the authors could beat VLBI in precision because they calibrated Hubble Space Telescope data with GAIA, which is a precision astrometry mission," she says.

However, the researchers used both their Hubble Space Telescope and GAIA optical position measurement along with the earlier VLBI position measurement to get a better estimate of the speed of the

source and angle (viewing angle) with which it is travelling with respect to us on earth. Dr. Lekshmi clarifies that this estimate requires plugging in equations of the special theory of relativity. "So, it is an estimate as opposed to a measurement," she says.

Impact of the study

The significance of the paper is that now, we have learnt that neutron star mergers can result in material moving with speeds as high as 0.9997c.

Earlier results using Very Long Baseline Interferometry had pegged this value at about 0.938c. And with the new results this lower limit has been improved. Even earlier, with VLBI, it was understood that it was a neutron-star merger that produced such ultra-relativistic material.

Before the VLBI results, there were several models that could replicate the observations. "The observations could be explained both by ultra-relativistic material and non-relativistic material, with some differences in assumptions," says Dr. Lekshmi. That study indicated that the observed gamma ray bursts were produced along with the ultra-relativistic material.

This paper, in turn, strengthens the hypothesis that such neutron star mergers are responsible for a class of gamma-ray bursts. Gamma-ray bursts are flashes of extreme gamma ray photons that release a huge amount of energy – nearly ten-raised-to-47 joules. They come from different galaxies in the universe and are observed here quite frequently.

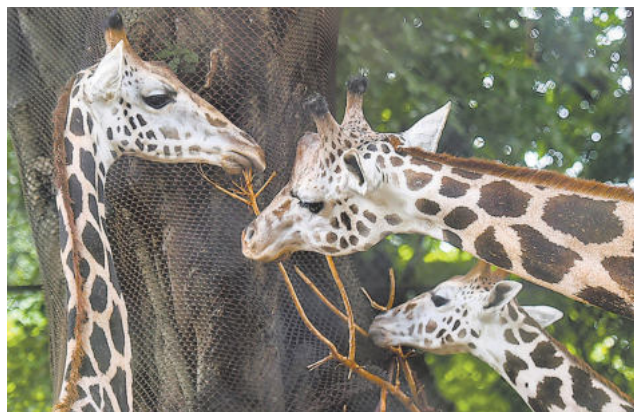
Giraffes brought to India by British may belong to endangered species

Rohan Premkumar
UDHAGAMANDALAM

About 150 years ago, British colonialists brought batches of what they thought were a single species of the northern giraffe to India, from their other colonial possessions in Africa. These now comprise a captive population of 29 northern giraffes across the country.

A recent genealogical study of the largest captive herd in India at the Alipore Zoological Garden in Kolkata has confirmed that the giraffes in this facility, at least, are most likely “critically endangered” Nubian giraffes (*Giraffa camelopardalis camelopardalis*) or the endangered Rothschild giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi*).

Speaking to *The Hindu*,



Tracking the roots: A genome sequencing study was conducted on 10 giraffes in Kolkata’s Alipore Zoological Garden. PTI

R. Sanil, Associate Professor, Molecular Biology Laboratory, Government Arts College, Udhagamandalam, where dung samples of the 10 giraffes from Kolkata were analysed, said that the Nubian giraffes are believed to be among three sub-species of the northern giraffe, according to a whole genome sequencing

study conducted in 2021. He pointed out that there were giraffes in captivity in Mysuru, Chennai, Patna, Guwahati, and Hyderabad, and it was imperative to identify their species too.

A genetic distance analysis of the giraffes in Alipore showed that they were most closely related to Nubian and Rothschild

giraffes. “As both the Nubian and Rothschild giraffes are listed as ‘critically endangered’ and ‘endangered’ by the IUCN [respectively], we think it’s imperative that the Central Zoo Authority conducts further studies of giraffes in captivity so that the species are not interbred with each other and the giraffes’ germplasm is preserved,” Mr. Sanil added.

Sulekha J. Backer, research scholar and one of the lead authors of the paper titled ‘Captive giraffes in Alipore Zoological Garden, Kolkata are Nubian!’, said “stud-books” maintained in zoos across India had little to no information on where the giraffes brought from Africa had been captured; so the only way to identify the species would be through a mitochondrial gene study.

AK-203 assault rifles production likely to begin by end of year

Dinakar Peri
GANDHINAGAR

The Indo-Russian joint venture at Korwa in Uttar Pradesh will start manufacturing AK-203 assault rifles by 2022 end, according to a senior Russian official.

“The Korwa Ordnance Factory is ready to start manufacturing Kalashnikov AK-203 assault rifles by the end of 2022. Our plans include 100% localisation of the production of assault rifles in India,” said Rosoboronexport Director-General Alexander Mikheev. “In the future, the joint venture may increase production and modernise production facilities to manufacture advanced rifles based on the Kalashnikov assault rifle platform.”

The production which was originally scheduled to begin early this year has been slightly delayed due to the war in Ukraine. Under an over ₹5,000 crore contract, over 6.1 lakh AK-203 assault rifles will be manufactured in India



Alexander Mikheev

with technology transfer from Russia.

Rosoboronexport will discuss with the Indian side the production and supply of AK-203 for the armed forces and other law enforcement agencies of the country, Kalashnikov said in a statement. A delegation from Rosoboronexport, a subsidiary of the Rostec State Corporation, is taking part in Defexpo-2022 as a co-founder of Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited (IRRPL), the Indo-Russian joint venture established to produce assault rifles in India.

Pakistan likely to be taken off FATF grey list this week

Suhasini Haidar
Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

Pakistan is expected to be taken off the Financial Action Task Force grey list at the global watchdog body's plenary session in Paris this week, although it will be asked to update members on its actions to counter terror financing and money laundering on a regular basis, in a decision that India will monitor closely.

The final decision on Pakistan, which has faced stringent financial sanctions and difficulties in availing international loans as a result of the FATF grey list, or "jurisdictions under increased monitoring" list since February 2018, will be announced at the end of

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar is in Paris to lead the Pakistani delegation

the two-day session on October 20 - 21.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar landed in Paris on Tuesday to lead the Pakistani delegation and to iron out any last-minute wrinkles. A reprieve from the grey list will come as a major relief for Pakistan that is in the midst of an economic crisis, and is believed to also reflect an improvement in ties between Islamabad and Washington, officials said.

In Islamabad, the *Dawn* newspaper reported that

officials believed that the government's "strenuous efforts" and "a smooth and successful visit" on-site by an FATF delegation to Islamabad and Lahore last month had ensured a favourable outcome at the plenary session.

However sources said that even after Pakistan is cleared to exit the grey list, it will be subject to continued scrutiny by the FATF, and will need to regularly report on its actions to continue the steps it has taken on Anti Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism.

The FATF is also expected to take up China's follow-up of its evaluations, as well as Western proposals to suspend Russia from the FATF participation due to the war in Ukraine.

Step up global efforts to defeat crime, says Modi

When threats are global, the response cannot be just local. Each nation is working on strategies against them. But what we do within our borders is no longer enough, PM says at Interpol meet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called for enhanced global cooperation to defeat the threats of terrorism, corruption, drug trafficking, poaching and organised crimes, stating that there can be no safe havens for the perpetrators of such offences.

“When threats are global, the response cannot be just local. It is high time that the world came together to defeat these threats,” Mr. Modi said at the inaugural address at the four-day 90th Interpol General Assembly meet.

At a time when nations and societies were becoming inward-looking, India called for more international cooperation. “Global



Common goals: Prime Minister Narendra Modi being presented a memento by Interpol president Ahmed Naser Al Raisi at a meet in New Delhi on Tuesday. R. V. MOORTHY

cooperation for local welfare – is our call,” he said.

Online threats

Mr. Modi said India had been combating transnational terrorism for several decades. “Long before the

world woke up to it, we knew the price of safety and security. Thousands of our people made the ultimate sacrifice in this fight. But, it is no longer enough that terrorism is fought only in the physical space. It

is now spreading its presence through online radicalisation and cyber threats,” he said.

“At the click of a button, an attack can be executed or systems can be brought to their knees. Each nation is working on strategies against them. But what we do within our borders is no longer enough,” said the Prime Minister.

He said there was a need to further develop international strategies for setting up early detection and warning systems, protecting transportation services, securing communication infrastructure and critical infrastructure, enhancing technical and technological assistance and intelligence exchange.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Step up global efforts to defeat crime, says Modi

Mr. Modi said corruption and financial crimes had harmed the welfare of citizens of many countries. “Such crimes against people in one place are crimes against everyone, crimes against humanity... Police and law enforcement agencies need to devise procedures and protocols to increase cooperation. Interpol can help by speeding up Red Notices for fugitive offenders,” he said.

Appreciating the role of police as frontline responders all over the world during the COVID-19 pandemic, he said the Interpol also remained functional round the clock.

Mr. Modi said India had been one of the top contributors in sending soldiers to the United Nations peacekeeping operations. “Thousands of Indians fought and died in the world wars. From climate targets to COVID vaccines, India has shown willingness to take the lead in any kind of crisis,” he said.

| General Studies Paper I | |
|--------------------------|--|
| A | History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times; |
| B | Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues; |
| C | Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country; |
| D | Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country; |
| E | History of the world will include events from 18 th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, |
| F | Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society |
| G | Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India; |
| H | Effects of globalization on Indian society; |
| I | Role of women and women's organization; |
| J | Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism |
| K | Salient features of world's physical geography; |
| L | Geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes; |
| M | Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc. |
| N | Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); |
| O | Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India); |
| P | Population and associated issues; |
| Q | Urbanization, their problems and their remedies |
| | |
| General Studies Paper II | |
| A | India and its neighbourhood- relations; |
| B | Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate; |
| C | Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests; |
| D | Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests. |
| E | Indian Constitution, historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure; |
| F | Comparison of the Indian Constitutional scheme with other countries; |
| G | Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein; Inclusive growth and issues arising from it; |
| H | Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these; |
| I | Structure, organization and functioning of the executive and the judiciary, Ministries and Departments; |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| J | Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions; |
| K | Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies; |
| L | Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies; |
| M | Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections; |
| N | Salient features of the Representation of People's Act; |
| O | Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; |
| P | Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures; |
| Q | Issues relating to poverty and hunger, |
| R | Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes; |
| S | Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources; |
| T | Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health |
| | |
| General Studies Paper III | |
| A | Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment; |
| B | Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth; |
| C | Inclusive growth and issues arising from it; |
| D | Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting; |
| E | Land reforms in India |
| F | Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems; |
| G | Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; |
| H | e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing. |
| I | Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; |
| J | Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management; |
| K | Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices |
| L | Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology; |
| M | Indigenization of technology and developing new technology; |
| N | Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life; |
| O | Issues relating to intellectual property rights |
| P | Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment |
| Q | Disaster and disaster management |
| R | Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; |
| S | Money-laundering and its prevention; |

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| T | Various forces and their mandate; |
| U | Security challenges and their management in border areas; |
| V | Linkages of organized crime with terrorism; |
| W | Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security; |
| X | Linkages between development and spread of extremism. |
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| General Studies Paper IV | |
| A | Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; |
| B | Dimensions of ethics; |
| C | Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; |
| D | Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values. |
| E | Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; |
| F | Moral and political attitudes; |
| G | Social influence and persuasion. |
| H | Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. |
| I | Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. |
| J | Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world. |
| K | Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; |
| L | Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; |
| M | Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as |
| N | sources of ethical guidance; |
| O | Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; |
| P | Corporate governance. |
| Q | Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; |
| R | Philosophical basis of governance and probity; |
| S | Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption. |
| T | Case Studies on above issues. |