

DAILY PT POINTERS

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The Hindu-Governance(GSII)Page 1

Over 300 people become Indian citizens under CAA

Vijaita Singh
Samridhi Tewari
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Wednesday granted citizenship certificates to more than 300 people who applied under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), 2019, a senior government official said.

At least 14 people were handed their certificates by Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla in Delhi, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in a statement.

The country of origin of the applicants was not disclosed by the government, but a government source said that most applicants were Pakistani Hindus. The 14 people who received the certificates in Delhi came from Pakistan in 2013.

The source said that as applications were being scrutinised and finalised, certificates were being sent by post to beneficiaries in other parts of the country. Most Pakistani Hindus who entered India legally are living in Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, and Delhi.

The Hindu met the families who were granted citizenship in Delhi. They said it was the first time since coming to India on a tourist visa in 2013 that they had applied for citizenship.

Jhoola Ram, a resident of Majnu Ka Tila in north Delhi, said that a priest at a nearby temple had



Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla gives the first set of citizenship certificates under CAA in New Delhi on Wednesday. PT

dating his religion. One of the documents required to apply under the CAA is an eligibility certificate issued by a "locally reputed community institution".

Another applicant, Seetal Das, said that a local NGO working with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) had signed the eligibility certificate. "We will be able to get out of the *jhuggi* (slum) now. We have documents. I did not receive proper education, but now, my children will go to a better school. Citizenship means hope for us..." Mr. Das said. He added that citizenship had brought relief because he had been living with his family in Delhi on a tourist visa.

"Getting extension of tourist visa was another hassle because, who listens to poor people? It costs ₹2,000-4,000 per person," he said.

PAKISTANI REFUGEES HAIL RIGHTS

- The Citizenship Act, 1955 was amended to facilitate citizenship through registration and naturalisation under Section 6B of the CAA to undocumented migrants belonging to six non-Muslim communities — Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian — from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, who had entered India on or before December 31, 2014, and reduced the period to qualify for citizenship from the existing requirement of continuous stay of 11 years to continuous stay of five years.
- However, Pakistani Hindus were anyway eligible for citizenship under Section 5 and Section 6 (1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955. The CAA only helped fast track the application process.

The Hindu-Defense(GSIII)-Page 12

Army set to receive next batch of shoulder-fired Igla-S air defence systems

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Army is all set to begin receiving another set of Russian Igla-S very short range air defence systems (VSHORAD) by the end of May or early next month, filling a critical void in its air defence requirements which has been repeatedly delayed.

In another development, multiple sources confirmed that the payments issue between India and Russia that has held up critical payments for defence deals as well as payments has been resolved.

The Igla-S systems were contracted last year under the fourth tranche of



The Igla-S system.

Emergency Procurements (EP) and are being assembled by Adani Defence Systems And Technologies Limited (ADSTL) in India under technology transfer from Rosoboronexport, multiple official sources confirmed.

The Army is also set to receive the first of two Israeli Hermes-900 Medium Altitude Long Endurance

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) assembled by ADSTL in Hyderabad next month.

Last year, the Army contracted 48 Igla-S launchers, 100 missiles, 48 night sights, and one missile testing station under a ₹260 crore contract and deliveries are set to begin by end of this May, a source said.

The missile will be imported and some parts like sights, launcher, and battery will be assembled/manufactured here by Adani defence, another source in the know said.

A VSHORAD is the soldier's last line of defence against enemy combat aircraft, helicopters and UAVs in the multilayered air defence network

- The Igla-S is a hand-held defence system that can be operated by an individual or crew. It is designed to bring down low-flying aircraft and can also identify and neutralise air targets such as cruise missiles and drones.


Igla-S portable anti-aircraft missile system


Designed to engage all types of aircraft and helicopters, as well as small airborne targets such as cruise missiles, at any time of day in visible conditions on collision and pursuit courses against background and artificial thermal interference.



 **500 to 6,000 m**
Firing range

 **10 to 3,500 m**
target altitude

 **no more than 12 s.**
mobile-to-combat position transition time

 **no more than 5 s.**
ready to start time from activation

The Hindu- Economy(GSIII)-Page 15

NHAI says ₹3,000 cr. insurance surety bonds issued so far

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Insurance firms issued 700 insurance surety bonds valued about ₹3,000 crore after Centre made such instruments on par with bank guarantees for all government procurement.

Details were shared by officials at a workshop on implementation of insurance surety bonds in national highway contracts, organised by the National Highways Authority of India in New Delhi

Insurance firms act as 'surety' and provide guarantee that the contractor will fulfil obligations

Insurance surety bonds are financial instruments where insurance firms act as 'surety' and provide guarantee the contractor will fulfil obligations per agreed terms. Contractors are being urged to utilise the bonds as added security while submitting bids

- Insurance Surety Bonds is a financial instrument, where insurance companies act as 'Surety' and provides the financial guarantee that the contractor will fulfil its obligation as per the agreed terms.
- Wider adoption of such instruments will help to strengthen infrastructure development in the country.

The Hindu-Health(GSII)/S&T(GSIII)-Page 20

General, central obesity linked to higher risk of colorectal cancer

The risk of colorectal cancer seems to be higher in those who are generally obese and those who are tall and centrally obese, a study has found. Different genetic patterns may explain this. Data from the study could be used to develop new screening tools for these cancers in future.

Obesity risks
 Obesity rates are rising worldwide. In India, a 2017 study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) found that the percentage of obese women and men has risen to 19.9% and 14.5% respectively. Along with higher risk of heart disease and diabetes, obesity has been linked to a higher susceptibility to colorectal cancer (CRC), a group of cancers that originate in the colon or the rectum. The CRC incidence is relatively low in India, in the percentage of people who are obese the year after a 2017 diagnosis in severely obese (BMI > 40) - one of the lowest in the world. According to a 2017 study in the Indian Journal of Surgery of Obesity, 70% of its patients are generally young and present with the severity with advanced stages of the disease.



Genetic patterns
 These genetic variations could explain the increased CRC risk for 'generally obese' and 'tall and centrally obese' body types, they write in their paper.

Not all are equal
 While researchers have known that obese individuals have a higher risk of CRC, a 2016 research published in a 2016 report revealed that not all obese people are at equal risk. Instead, the data seems to be higher for those who are 'generally obese' and those who are 'tall and centrally obese'. The study revealed that different genetic patterns may explain how CRC is caused in different obesity categories. The study led by Dr. Anoop Singh, a senior research scientist at the ICMR, found that, in different populations, the prevalence of the same genetic variants or mutations are not identical, said Mr. Singh. He said that the study could also be used to develop new screening tools for CRC in the future, he added.

Types of obesity
 Obesity is generally defined with the body mass index (BMI), a number that comes from the height and the weight of the individual. A BMI of 30 or higher is considered being 'overweight' while 35 or higher indicates obesity. However, this does not always say anything about how fat is distributed in the body. Scientists are interested in that, because body fat distribution has been linked to obesity-related adverse effects. The distribution of fat in the body can be identified using measures like waist circumference. The circumference is the distance around the waist. It is used to measure the size of the abdomen. The study, however, did not indicate whether certain types of body fat distribution pose a link to a higher risk of obesity-related diseases.

Two groups at risk
 In the new study, scientists at the International Agency for Research on Cancer, France, Imperial College London, and the Centre for Health Research, Newcastle, Spain, considered how these measures related collectively to CRC risk. They began by analyzing the BMI, waist, height, waist circumference, hip circumference, and the waist-to-hip ratio of over 1.5 lakh people to provide them with four body obesity-based risk

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- Cancer is a disease in which cells in the body grow out of control.
- When cancer starts in the colon or rectum, it is called colorectal cancer. Sometimes it is called colon cancer, for short. The colon is the large intestine or large bowel. The rectum is the passageway that connects the colon to the anus.
- It predominantly affects older individuals, with the majority of cases occurring in people aged 50 and above.

Do you know ?

Obesity is generally defined with the body mass index (BMI), a number that accounts for the height and the weight of the individual

Indian Express: Miscellaneous -page 14

NAKBA
'Catastrophe' in Arabic, it refers to the displacement of Palestinians for the creation of Israel in 1948


ARJUN SENGUPTA
NEW DELHI, MAY 15

PALESTINIANS OBSERVE May 15, the day after the Israeli Declaration of Independence in 1948, as Nakba Day. But the Palestinian catastrophe neither began nor ended in 1948.

Migration to 'promised land'
The idea of "returning" to the "promised homeland" has always been a central feature of Jewish culture. According to the Hebrew Bible, God "gave" the land of Canaan (modern-day Israel-Palestine) to the descendants of Abraham, who established the first Israelite nation there.

By early 19th century, very few Jewish people remained in Ottoman-ruled Palestine. Most were dispersed across Europe where they lived as prosperous but vulnerable minorities. After anti-Semitic pogroms in Russia in 1881-82, the first wave of Jewish migrants arrived on Palestinian shores. They bought large tracts of Palestinian land from absentee landlords, and displaced its Arab tillers.

In the 20th century, this migration was facilitated by the British, who, in 1917, promised the "establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people". The Jewish population in Palestine went up from 76,000 in 1920 to over 500,000 by 1945 (over 31% of total population), according to British official figures. Only 42% of



Wikimedia Commons

Over 750,000 Palestinian Arabs were displaced due to the Nakba.

like Jaffa, agricultural tracts, and major sea-ports. The Arabs rejected the proposal. Fighting broke out. Zionist militias benefited from British War-time training, and modern weaponry and funding from the West. They forced the mass expulsion of Palestinians from their towns and villages — this is remembered as the Nakba.

According to UN estimates from 1949, roughly 711,000 Palestinian refugees were expelled from Israel during the Nakba, with another 40,000-odd living as "internal refugees" in Israel. Dozens of massacres also took place, such as in Deir Yassin, where at least 107 men, women, and children were killed. The Nakba has since become a central aspect of Palestinian identity.

But Palestinian dispossession did not end in 1948. In many ways, it continues till

On May 15, every year, Palestinians mark the **Nakba** ("catastrophe" in Arabic), referring to the displacement of thousands of Palestinians, and the near-total destruction of Palestinian society in service of the creation of Israel.

Nakba Day is observed on the day after Israel declared its independence on May 14, 1948. But the dispossession and displacement of Palestinian people neither began nor ended in 1948

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-Economy(GSIII)

Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (January-March 2024)

Unemployment Rate (UR) in urban areas decreased to 6.7% during January-March 2024 for persons of age 15 years and above

Female UR decreased to 8.5% in January-March 2024

Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in urban areas shows an increasing trend from 48.5% to 50.2% during January-March 2023 to January-March 2024 respectively for persons of age 15 years and above

Female Labour Force Participation Rate in urban areas rises to 25.6% during January-March 2024, reflecting Overall Increasing Trend in LFPR

Increasing Trend in Worker Population Ratio (WPR) for persons of age 15 years and above from 45.2% in January-March 2023 to 46.9% in January-March 2024

Female Worker Population Ratio in urban areas rises to 23.4% during January-March 2024, reflecting Overall Increasing Trend in WPR

Posted On: 15 MAY 2024 4:53PM by PIB Delhi

Key Findings

- Unemployment Rate (UR) in urban areas decreased from 6.8% to 6.7% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024 for persons of age 15 years and above.
- Female UR decreased from 9.2% in January – March 2023 to 8.5% in January – March 2024.
- Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in urban areas has shown an increasing trend from 48.5% to 50.2% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024

- Considering the importance of availability of labour force data at more frequent time intervals, National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) launched Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in April 2017.
- The objective of PLFS is primarily twofold:
 - to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. Worker Population Ratio, Labour Force Participation Rate, Unemployment Rate) in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the ‘Current Weekly Status’ (CWS).
 - To estimate employment and unemployment indicators in both ‘Usual Status’ (ps+ss) and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually.

Unemployment Rate (UR) in urban areas decreased from 6.8% to 6.7% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024 for persons of age 15 years and above.