

# DAILY PT POINTERS

27 September, 2024



## The Hindu-IR(GSII)-Page 1

### Central govt. advises Indian nationals to leave Lebanon, considers naval evacuation

**Kallol Bhattacharjee**  
NEW DELHI

India has “strongly advised” its nationals to leave Lebanon. An advisory issued by the Embassy of India in Beirut has advised Indian citizens not to travel to Lebanon, which has been targeted by Israeli bombing raids over the past three days.

Official sources have said the Union government is contemplating naval evacuation of Indian nationals from Lebanon in view of the deteriorating security situation there.

Lebanon hosts around 3,000 Indians at present, sources said.

“All Indian nationals in Lebanon are strongly advised to leave Lebanon. Those who remain for any reason are advised to exercise extreme caution, res-



**Reduced to rubble:** The destruction in Saksakiyeh, a town in Lebanon, after the Israeli air strikes on Wednesday night. AFP

remain in contact with Embassy of India in Beirut through our email ID: cons.beirut@mea.gov.in or the emergency phone number +96176860128,” the Embassy of India said in a public notification.

This is the first advisory by India since the pager at-

the armed Lebanese group, a week earlier. Subsequently, Israel carried out bombing raids in southern Lebanon and capital Beirut.

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**NO CEASEFIRE: ISRAEL**

- India has “strongly advised” its nationals to leave Lebanon. An advisory issued by the Embassy of India in Beirut has advised Indian citizens to not to travel to Lebanon which has been targeted by Israeli bombing raids over the past three days. Official sources have informed that the Government of India is contemplating evacuation of Indian nationals from Lebanon in view of the deteriorating security situation in the country.
- Lebanon is the mountainous nation in the Levant with a coastline on the eastern Mediterranean Sea.
- **Borders:**
  - Lebanon borders Israel in the south and Syria in the north.



## The Hindu-Governance(GSII)-Page 1

# Karnataka govt. withdraws general consent for CBI, says agency 'biased'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

Accusing the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) of being "biased and prejudiced" in its investigation into various cases, the Karnataka government on Thursday withdrew its earlier notification granting unrestricted permission to the agency to conduct



tions are misused, we felt that we should be cautious... The CBI and the Centre have not been using their instrumentalities in a judicious manner. As a consequence, we have decided to grant consent to the CBI on a case-by-case basis after examination."

Under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, the government had

- The Karnataka government on Thursday (September 26, 2024) termed "biased" the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probing various cases under the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and decided to withdraw its earlier notification granting unrestricted permission to the agency to conduct probe in the State.
- As per Section 6 of the DSPE Act, 1946, the CBI needs consent from the respective State governments for conducting the investigation in their jurisdiction. A general consent to CBI granted by State governments enables the central agency to carry out investigations without such hindrances.

## The Hindu-Governance(GSII)-Page 4

# New pact to be signed between Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh for modified river-linking project

**Mohammed Iqbal**  
JAIPUR

A new memorandum of agreement will be signed shortly between the Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh governments for implementing a modified project

**Project is expected to ensure optimum utilisation of water resources available in the Chambal basin**

rivers had been resolved.

accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government at the Centre of not taking care of the interests of the people in 13 districts of the State, which were set to benefit from it. The Congress alleged that the BJP had gone back on its promise,

- A new memorandum of agreement will be signed shortly between the Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh governments for implementing a modified project for linking of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) with Parvati, Kali Sindh, and Chambal rivers. The modified river linking project is expected to ensure optimum utilisation of water resources available in the Chambal basin.
- Various components of the modified river links, including the areas of benefit, will be firmed up at the stage of formulation of the detailed project report (DPR) in consultation with officials and stakeholders of both the States.
- The tripartite meeting helped evolve a consensus in favour of the Central government's national perspective plan for the interlinking of rivers.
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The Hindu –IR(GSII)-Page 12

## Storms brewing in East, South China seas

What has led to a flare-up in tensions in recent times? Why does China see its claims over the seas as defensive actions? Why do the regional countries consider it provocative? Why is the U.S. drawn into the conflict? What lies ahead?

### EXPLAINER

Sankalp Gurjar

#### The story so far:

In the last few years, maritime East Asia has become an arena for intensified power politics. The East China Sea borders China, Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea. China asserts that the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands, located in the East China Sea and under Japanese control, belong to Beijing. There have been multiple crises over these islands in the past. The South China Sea lies



### THE GIST

China asserts sovereignty over the East China Sea, particularly the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands, which are controlled by Japan, and pushes its claims in the South China Sea, leading to heightened tensions with several Southeast Asian nations.

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- China asserts sovereignty over the East China Sea, particularly the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands, which are controlled by Japan, and pushes its claims in the South China Sea, leading to heightened tensions with several Southeast Asian nations.
- The East and South China Seas are vital maritime trade routes, housing essential undersea cables and significant reserves of oil and natural gas, making them critical for regional and global economies.
- China is expanding its military presence by building artificial islands, military infrastructure, and aggressive maritime tactics, which include harassing vessels from neighbouring countries.
- In reaction to China's assertiveness, countries like Japan and the Philippines are increasing their defence capabilities while shifting policies to confront Chinese actions.

The Hindu –IR(GSII)-Page 14

# India elected to GlobE Steering Committee

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

India was elected to the 15-member GlobE Steering Committee during the plenary session held in Beijing on Thursday after a

- India was elected to the 15-member GlobE Steering Committee during the plenary session held in Beijing on Thursday after a multistage voting process.
- “As a member of the Steering Committee, India will play a crucial role in shaping the global agenda against corruption and asset recovery. India’s expertise in combating corruption will be valuable assets to the GlobE Network,” said a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) release.
- The GlobE Network is a vital platform for international cooperation, and India’s participation will strengthen its efforts to combat cross-border financial crimes and corruption.
- The Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GloBE Network) was an initiative of G-20.



Indian Express –Science and Tech(GSIII)-Page 2

## PM dedicates three new supercomputers to nation

**ANJALI MARAR**  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 26

THREE NEW supercomputers, installed at premier scientific institutions in Delhi, Pune and Kolkata, to boost research in the fields of astronomy, medicine and high-energy physics, were on Thursday dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"This is a momentous day for India's science and technology. All these HPCs will play an important role in providing state-of-the-art advanced facilities to the scientific community within the country itself. It will also help advance research in the fields ranging from physics, cosmology to earth sciences," he said.

In addition, the computing power available for weather and climate research has been significantly upgraded by the setting up of High-Power Computing (HPC) systems the two atmospheric sciences institutes, one in Pune and the other in Noida, which already have a supercomputer each.

The two HPC systems dedicated for climate sciences are worth ₹850 crore. Together, they have elevated the computing ca-

ers are all indigenously-built PARAM Rudra computers, developed under the National Supercomputing Mission, at a combined cost of about Rs 130 crores. One of them has been installed at Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) near Pune, which is one of the world's largest and most powerful radio telescopes in the meter-wave range. The other two have been set up in Delhi-based Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC), and the S N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences in Kolkata. Both these institutions engage in high-energy physics research.

Prime Minister Modi was originally set to visit Pune and launch these High Performance Computing (HPC) systems on Thursday. However, due to inclement weather and heavy rainfall, his visit was called off.

The most powerful of these is the one installed at IUAC which has 3 petaflop capacity. GMRT has got one petaflop supercomputer, while the one at S N Bose institute has a capacity of 838 terraflops.

Arka system at IITM has a 11.77 Peta Flop capacity and will, for the first time, help improve the country's horizontal resolution of its global weather prediction models to 6 km from the existing

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# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## PIB-IR(GSII)

Ministry of Commerce & Industry



### 6th Session of India-Egypt Joint Trade Committee (JTC) held successfully in New Delhi

Both sides express desire for early signing of MoU on cooperation between National Small Industries Corporation of India and MSME Development Agency of Egypt

Potential Sectors like international trade settlement and digital payments, transport, pharmaceuticals, MSMEs. and food security identified for cooperation

- The sixth Session of India-Egypt Joint Trade Committee (JTC) was held in New Delhi from 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024 under the co-chairpersonship of Economic Adviser, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India,
- Both sides identified several areas of focus for enhancing bilateral cooperation in trade and investment including that in the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCEZ), pharmaceuticals and health sector, gems & jewelry, engineering goods, petroleum and mining, MSME Sector, customs matters, services sector, IT services, electronics manufacturing, apparel manufacturing, renewable energy – green hydrogen, food security, international trade settlement and digital payments, transport and trade disputes etc. Both sides also discussed market access issues on agricultural products and agreed to resolve the issues as early as possible.



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## Air-Economy(GSIII)

### Centre Revises Minimum Wage Rates Based On Skills And Geographical Areas



- The central government has announced an increase in minimum wage rates by revising the Variable Dearness Allowance.
- The new wage rates will take effect from the 1st of next month. The minimum wage rates are categorized based on skill levels-unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled, and highly skilled, as well as by geographical areas A, B, and C. After the revision, minimum wage rates for workers in area 'A' in construction, sweeping, cleaning, and loading & unloading for unskilled work will be 783 rupees a day. For semi-skilled workers, the minimum wage will be 868 rupees a day, and for skilled, clerical, and watch & ward (without arms), the minimum wage will be 954 rupees a day.
- For highly skilled workers and watch & ward (with arms), the revised wage will be 1,035 rupees a day.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## Air-IR(GSII)

### India-Indonesia Celebrate 75th Anniversary Of Their Diplomatic Relations



- The 8th India-Indonesia Foreign Office Consultations were held in New Delhi today. Both sides undertook a comprehensive review of bilateral ties, including political exchanges, defense and security, the maritime domain, trade and investment, healthcare, and connectivity. They also exchanged perspectives on regional and global issues of mutual interest.
- The two sides discussed the ongoing commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of India-Indonesia diplomatic relations and the various activities organized to mark this milestone. Both sides expressed satisfaction with the progress made across different sectors of engagement and agreed to explore new avenues of cooperation. It was agreed to hold the next FOC at a mutually convenient date.