

DAILY PT POINTERS

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The Hindu-Environment(GSIII)-Page 1

Baku talks run into overtime amid row over climate finance

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Climate talks at Azerbaijan's Baku, scheduled to end on Friday, were extended by another day after the latest version of the draft agreement was



- Climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan, have been extended after developing countries rejected the latest draft agreement over insufficient climate finance commitments. Developed nations offered just \$250 billion annually by 2035, far below the \$700 billion needed by 2030 to support developing countries.
- The offer lacked guarantees of affordable terms, leading to criticism from several countries and civil society. While closed-door negotiations continue, the European Union and other donor countries have opposed the demand for a trillion dollars per year. The draft calls for scaling up financing to \$1.3 trillion annually by 2035, with developed countries contributing \$250 billion per year.

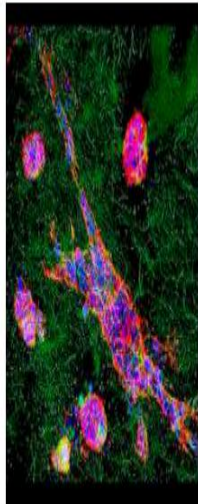
The Hindu-Science and Tech(GSIII)-Page 6

Study by Indian Institute of Science sheds light on migratory pattern of cancer cells

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A new study from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) shows how inherent variations in a cancer cell and its interactions with its surroundings mould its migration.

The findings, published in *Biophysical Journal*, re-



gated spindle shape. Both of these cells metastasise and invade tissues. By placing these cells on soft and stiff surfaces that mimic healthy and diseased tissues, the researchers observed how each type adapted its movement on different surfaces.

On soft surfaces, similar to healthy tissue, both cell

(OVCAR-3) were more migratory than the mesenchymal cells (SK-OV-3) on stiffer matrices," said Madumitha Suresh, first author of the study.

The researchers also observed a unique movement pattern in the OVCAR-3 cells, which they called slip. In most cells, the direction of movement

- A study from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) published in *Biophysical Journal* explores how cancer cells adapt their movement based on their environment. The research focuses on two types of ovarian cancer cells: OVCAR-3 (polygonal shape) and SK-OV-3 (elongated shape). The researchers found that cancer cells' migration patterns are influenced by the physical properties of the surface they move on, such as stiffness.
- On soft surfaces, mimicking healthy tissue, both cell types moved slowly and randomly. However, on stiffer surfaces, which resemble scarred tissue around tumors, the cells became more deformable and exhibited different movement patterns. Surprisingly, OVCAR-3 cells, which are typically more rigid, were more migratory than SK-OV-3 cells on stiffer surfaces. Additionally, OVCAR-3 cells exhibited a unique "slip" movement pattern on stiff surfaces, where their movement did not align with their cell shape

The Hindu-Governance(GSII)-Page 10

Socialism in India means a welfare state, not a dictatorial dogma: CJI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on Friday said the idea of 'socialism' in India primarily meant a welfare state that provides equality of opportunity for all, and not a dictatorial dogma rammed down on citizens.

Heading a Bench com-

 Socialism here means that there should be equal opportunities for all; it never prevented the private sector from thriving here

SANJIV KHANNA
Chief Justice of India



challenged the validity of sector from thriving here.

ed the "will of the people". Mr. Upadhyay contended that the changes made amounted to a "fraud on the Constitution". He pointed out that the 42nd Constitution Amendment Act was passed in the thick of the Emergency days when the "voice of the people was silenced".

But the Chief Justice

- Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on Friday said the idea of 'socialism' in India primarily meant a welfare state that provides equality of opportunity for all, and not a dictatorial dogma rammed down on citizens.
- Heading a Bench comprising Justice Sanjay Kumar, the Chief Justice of India reasoned that the concept of socialism in India did not negate the participation of private players or negate individualism.
- The Supreme Court was hearing a batch of petitions, one of them by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, challenging the inclusion of the words 'socialist, secular' in the Preamble of the Constitution in 1976 with retrospective application. The petitioners have challenged the validity of Section 2 of the Constitution 42nd Amendment Act of 1976, and particularly the change in the Preamble. One of the petitioners argued that the dogma of socialism cannot prevail over other ideas, and it was wrong to force upon the nation one particular economic theory.

The Hindu-Economy(GSIII)-Page 12

Agriculture, services sector offer skilling opportunities: study

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Service sector jobs and agriculture income enhancement present large opportunities for school-based skilling, according to “Jobs at Your Doorsteps,” a



- The World Bank's "Jobs at Your Doorsteps" skill gap study highlights significant opportunities for school-based skilling in the service sector and agriculture income enhancement across several Indian states. Released by Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Mansukh Mandaviya, the study identifies 14 high-demand sectors and trades for school-to-work transitions.
Key Findings:
- Agriculture: Opportunities in horticulture, dairy farming, livestock health, and aquaculture. Potential for income enhancement and entrepreneurship.
Manufacturing: Medium-level opportunities in MSMEs and large industries, requiring multi-skill exposure and proper certification.
Service Sectors: Large opportunities in retail, IT, and banking, with a focus on multi-skills and knowledge.

The Hindu-Cyber Security(GSIII)-Page 13

Govt. notifies telecom cybersecurity rules

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The Centre has notified the telecom cyber security rules, that aim to safeguard India's communication networks and services, through a host of measures including specified time-lines for telcos to report security incidents and make

er, and report security incidents within six hours to the Centre along with "relevant details of the affected system including the description of such incident."

In 24 hours of becoming aware of the security incident, telecom entities would be required to furnish information on a number of users affected, dura-

- The Centre has introduced telecom cybersecurity rules to protect India's communication networks. Key provisions include:
- Telecom companies must appoint a Chief Telecommunication Security Officer and report security incidents within six hours.
- Within 24 hours, they must provide details on affected users, service disruptions, and remedial actions.
- The government can request traffic data (excluding message content) from telecom entities for cybersecurity purposes.
- Manufacturers of equipment with an IMEI number must register the equipment with the government before its first sale in India.

The Hindu-Economy(GSIII)

‘Centre should include coking coal in list of critical minerals’

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The government must include coking coal in the list of critical minerals and provide special dispensation to enhance the domestic production of the key raw material for steel production, according to a Niti Aayog report.



materials which include ‘green energy’ minerals like lithium, cobalt, and rare earths.

India’s import dependence on coking coal is about 85%, which is much higher than that of the EU (approximately 62%).

“Since the declaration of coking coal as a critical mineral is amply justified

- A Niti Aayog report suggests that India should include coking coal in the list of critical minerals to boost domestic production and reduce import dependence, which stands at about 85%. The report, "Enhancing Domestic Coking Coal Availability to Reduce the import of Coking Coal", highlights the importance of coking coal for steel production, which constitutes approximately 42% of the cost of steel, a crucial commodity for infrastructure and job creation.
- The report emphasizes the need to utilize India's 16.5 billion tonnes of medium coking coal reserves, especially considering the country's net zero commitment by 2070. The European Union has already classified coking coal as a critical raw material. Integrated Steel Plants (ISPs) in India imported 58 million tonnes of coking coal at a cost of Rs 1.5 lakh crore in FY 2023-24, despite significant domestic reserves. The report calls for special dispensation to enhance domestic production for coking coal security in India's steel sector.

The Hindu-Health(GSII)

Rise in Mpox cases: WHO keeps highest alert level

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GENEVA

The World Health Organisation said on Friday it had decided to keep its alert for the Mpox epidemic at the highest level, as the number of cases and countries affected rises.

“The decision was based on the rising number and continuing geographic spread of cases, and the need to mount a cohesive response,” it said in a statement.

Mpox, previously known as monkeypox, is caused by virus, and causes fever, muscular aches and large boil-like skin lesions, which can be deadly.

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Indian Express-Environment(GSIII)-Page 17

Argentina considers Paris treaty pullout: What does that mean?

LIJIND CHAUHAN
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

ARGENTINA'S far-right President Javier Milei is reportedly considering withdrawing his country from the Paris Agreement, which aims to curb global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Milei's government asked Argentine negotiators to leave the COP29 climate summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, last week.

The reported review by Argentina of its participation in the landmark climate treaty comes as Donald Trump prepares to take office as President of the United States in January. Trump announced the US's withdrawal from the treaty soon after entering the Oval Office in his first term in 2017. Joe Biden took the US back in on his first day as President in January 2021.

What is the Paris Agreement, and why does it matter?

The Paris Agreement is an international

accord that was adopted by nearly every country in 2015 to address climate change and its adverse effects. Its primary goal is to substantially reduce GHG emissions to limit global warming in this century to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, while pursuing the means to keep warming to 1.5 degrees.

The treaty requires all Parties (countries that have joined the agreement) to state every five years what they are doing to tackle climate change — their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). Each NDC should reflect a higher ambition compared to the previous version, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

How does a country withdraw from the Paris Agreement?

Article 28 of the Paris Agreement lays down the procedure and timeline for a country's withdrawal from the treaty.

It says: "At any time after three years

from the date on which this Agreement has entered into force (this happened in 2016) for a Party, that Party may withdraw from this Agreement by giving written notification to the Depositary".

The Article also states, "[a]ny such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the Depositary of the notification of withdrawal, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal."

If a member state wants to withdraw from the treaty, it has to submit the notification of a withdrawal to the Office of Legal Affairs of the UN, based at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Once the withdrawal notification has been received, it becomes effective after one year (or later if the member state so says in the notification).

Until the withdrawal comes into force, the member state remains in the Paris

Agreement and has to fully participate in all activities under it.

Why is Argentina considering leaving the treaty?

Argentina's Foreign Minister Gerardo Werthein told *The New York Times* that it is reconsidering its participation in the deal that "has a lot of elements" that it does not agree with.

"We are re-evaluating our strategy on all matters related to climate change... And so far, we have not made any other decision beyond standing down until things are clearer," he said.

President Milei is a climate change denier who has called climate change a "socialist lie" in the past. Last year, President Milei had vowed to withdraw Argentina from the Paris Agreement, but had backed out of the promise later.

Werthein told *The NYT* that Argentina's government doesn't deny the existence of

climate change and the discussion around the causes behind the warming was a "philosophical issue".

"We have different views on the reasons," he said. "We consider it to be linked to natural cycles, and we agree on the need to take measures to mitigate it."

What impact will Argentina's withdrawal have on the treaty and the country?

There are fears that Argentina's exit could trigger a domino, and cause other countries to reconsider their own participation.

This could undermine the Paris Agreement and the world's climate goals — countries have to slash their emissions by 42% by 2030 and 57% by 2035 to ensure that the planet does not breach the 1.5 degree Celsius threshold.

While this is admittedly a very tall order, Argentina is South America's second-largest economy and the world's 24th-largest emitter of GHGs. It has significant fossil fuel re-

sources and exports, and the second-largest reserves of shale gas (a type of natural gas) and the fourth-largest reserves of shale oil worldwide, according to a report by *The Washington Post*.

However, a withdrawal, if it happens, could also isolate Argentina, Niklas Höhne, an expert in climate policy at the nonprofit think tank NewClimate Institute, told *DAW*.

"Argentina will become even less attractive as a trading partner for anyone who takes climate protection seriously, especially now that various countries, above all the EU, are introducing import duties for climate-damaging products," Höhne said.

Some observers believe that domestic opposition will ultimately prevent President Milei from pulling the plug.

To implement the withdrawal, he will need approval from Argentina's parliament. Argentina ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016, and all international treaties ratified by the country hold constitutional status.

- Argentina's far-right President Javier Milei is considering withdrawing from the Paris Agreement, which aims to limit global warming and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The speculation arose after Milei's government directed its negotiators to leave the COP29 climate summit. The Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015, sets a goal to limit global warming to well below 2°C, ideally 1.5°C. Countries must regularly update their climate plans to reflect increased ambition.
- To withdraw, a country must submit formal notice to the UN, with the exit taking effect one year later. Argentina's government has expressed concerns about aspects of the agreement, although it acknowledges climate change

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-Economy(GSIII)

RBI And Maldives Monetary Authority Sign MoU To Promote Use Of Local Currencies In Cross-Border Transactions



- Reserve Bank of India and the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a framework for promoting the use of local currencies Indian Rupee and Maldivian Rufiyaa in cross-border transactions. The MoU was signed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and MMA Governor Ahmed Munawar in Mumbai yesterday.
- The MoU encourages the use of Indian Rupee (INR) and Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR) in current account transactions, permissible capital account transactions, and any other economic or financial transactions agreed upon by both countries. This framework will allow exporters and importers to invoice and settle payments in their respective domestic currencies, facilitating the development of trading in the INR-MVR pair in the foreign exchange market.