

DAILY PT POINTERS

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The Hindu-GS2(IR)Page1

India protests China's 'new counties' in Ladakh

Beijing has formed two new counties in Hotan Prefecture that incorporates territory of Ladakh; Ministry of External Affairs also expresses "concerns" over mega dam plans over the Brahmaputra in Tibet

Updated - January 03, 2025 11:40 pm IST



KALLOL BHATTACHARJEE



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- India has lodged a “solemn protest” with China over the formation of two counties in the Hotan Prefecture that incorporates territory of India’s Ladakh.
- India “never accepted” Beijing’s “illegal occupation of Indian territory in this area”.
- India has also conveyed its “concerns” about building a mega hydro power project in the upstream Yarlung Tsangpo, which is the Tibetan name of Brahmaputra, that flows through Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

The Hindu –GS2(Health)-Page 1

Union Health Ministry monitors HMPV outbreak in China, assures situation is not worrisome yet

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry said on Friday that it was closely monitoring the alleged outbreak of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in China. The Ministry said while China had reported a rise in respiratory illness, particularly HMPV, India had not registered any un-

try has seen cases rise in its northern provinces, *Reuters* had reported. Cases of HMPV had been reported in 2011-12 in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

The Ministry's National Centre for Disease Control is closely monitoring respiratory and seasonal influenza cases in the country and is in touch with international agencies,



in hospitals or as per Indian Council of Medical Research data," he added.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the public health agency of the U.S., HMPV can cause upper and lower respiratory disease in people of all ages, especially among young children, older adults, and people with weakened im-

- The Union Health Ministry said on Friday that it was closely monitoring the alleged outbreak of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in China. The Ministry said while China had reported a rise in respiratory illness, particularly HMPV, India had not registered any unusual spike in winter respiratory diseases.
- Five years after the COVID pandemic, China is experiencing a surge in HMPV cases, particularly in children under 14 years. Symptoms include cough, fever, and shortness of breath, with potential complications like bronchitis and pneumonia.
- Discovered in 2001, the HMPV belongs to the Pneumoviridae family along with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Broader use of molecular diagnostic testing has increased identification and awareness of HMPV as an important cause of upper and lower respiratory infection.

The Hindu –GS2(Governance)-Page 9

IT Ministry notifies draft rules on data protection law, seeks feedback by Feb. 18

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Friday released the draft Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Rules, 2025, which will enforce provisions of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. While the Act was passed more than a year ago, the rules that will result in its enforcement have thus far been under development, and are only now being floated for public consultation. The DPDP Act provides a legal framework for “data fiduciaries” – entities that collect personal data from “data principals” or users – in order to protect that data against misuse and penalise firms that violate data protection principles.

Data must be deleted if a user is not social media platform for an extended period of time, say rules

they’re collecting, why they’re collecting it, and “a fair account of the details necessary to enable the Data Principal to give specific and informed consent for the processing of her personal data”.

Consent managers

The draft also provides for the registration of so-called consent managers, which work with data fiduciaries for collecting consent under the specified format from users. Subject to certain ‘standards’, the government and its ‘instru-

protect personal data in its possession or under its control... by taking reasonable security safeguards to prevent personal data breach,” the rules say, by providing for technical and operational safeguards. Within 72 hours of a data breach, the Data Protection Board of India, which is yet to be set up, should be informed, the rules say.

In certain cases where a user is not using an e-commerce provider, social media platform, or online gaming service anymore for an extended period of time, the rules say, their data must be deleted, after providing 48 hours of advance notice and time to stop deletion.

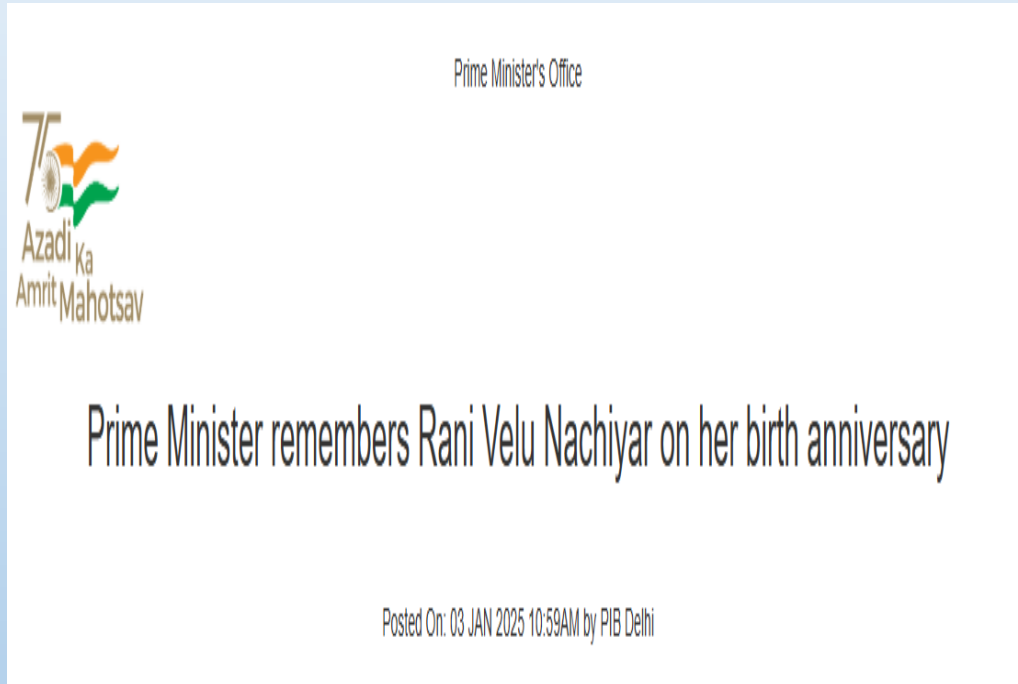
Children’s data

For minors, “appropriate

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- It is open for public feedback until February 18.
- The draft specifies the nature of the notice that data fiduciaries must provide users when collecting their data: what data they’re collecting, why they’re collecting it, and “a fair account of the details necessary to enable the Data Principal to give specific and informed consent for the processing of her personal data”.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB-History (GSI)

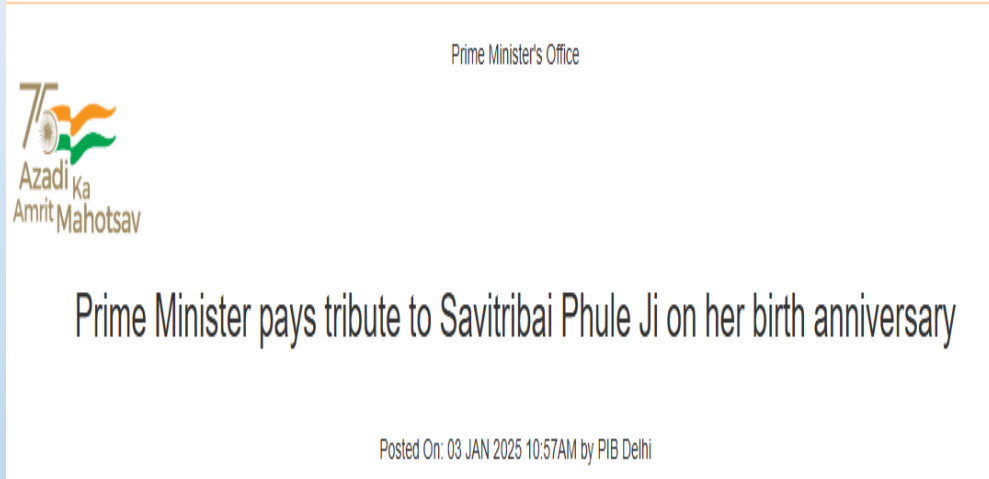


- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi remembered the courageous Rani Velu Nachiyar on her birth anniversary today. Shri Modi remarked that she waged a heroic fight against colonial rule, showing unparalleled valour and strategic brilliance.
- Born in 1730, Rani Velu Nachiyar was the first queen of India who fought against British rule. She is known as “Veeramangai” (brave woman) by the Tamils. After her husband was assassinated, she spent eight years under the protection of Hyder Ali and prepared her army and planned to confront the British with her allies.
- Rani Velu Nachiyar defeated the British in 1780 with the help of her army and allies and regained her empire. Her battle is considered an important chapter in India's freedom struggle.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-History (GSI)



- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi paid tributes to Savitribai Phule Ji on her birth anniversary today. Shri Modi lauded her as a beacon of women's empowerment and a pioneer in the field of education and social reform.
- She is a beacon of women's empowerment and a pioneer in the field of education and social reform. Her efforts continue to inspire us as we work to ensure a better quality of life for the people."

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-Economy (GSIII)

Ministry of Commerce & Industry



Govt amends Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 for Stakeholder Consultation; encourages inclusive decision-making

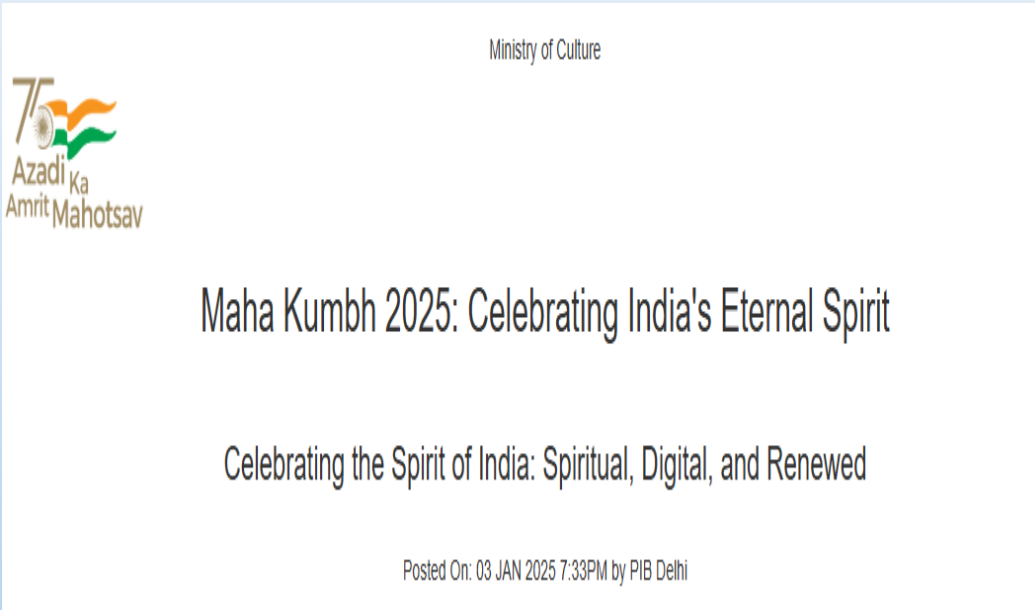
Posted On: 03 JAN 2025 4:20PM by PIB Delhi

- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on Thursday notified amendment in the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 to include Para 1.07A and 1.07B to bring legal backing in the FTP to make it necessary to do consultation with stakeholders to seek views, suggestions, comments or feedback from relevant stakeholders, including importers/exporters/industry experts concerning the formulation or amendment of the Foreign Trade Policy.
- It also provides the mechanism to inform reasons for not accepting views, suggestions, comments or feedback concerning the formulation or amendment of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023.
- The latest amendments in the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 reflect upon the Central Government's commitment towards strengthening the scope of Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in India by encouraging stakeholder and expert participation through consultation in the decision-making process.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-Culture(GSI)



- The **Maha Kumbh Mela**, a sacred congregation that unfolds **every twelve years**, is more than just a vast gathering—it is a profound spiritual journey rooted in ancient Hindu mythology. This sacred festival, the **world's largest collective act of faith**, symbolizes self-realization, purification, and the eternal quest for enlightenment. Millions of ascetics, saints, sadhus, and pilgrims from diverse backgrounds unite in devotion, embodying the essence of human spirituality.
- Celebrated **four times over 12 years**, the **Kumbh Mela** rotates between **four sacred sites** in India: **Haridwar** on the banks of the Ganges, **Ujjain** along the Shipra, **Nashik** by the Godavari, and **Prayagraj** at the confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and the mythical Sarasvati.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-IR(GSII)

5 Countries Assume Responsibilities As Elected Members Of UN Security Council



- Denmark, Greece, Pakistan, Panama and Somalia began their two-year term as non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council yesterday. The five countries replaced Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland. A flag installation ceremony was held at the United Nations headquarters in New York to mark the start of their responsibilities. The permanent representatives of the five new members made short speeches before they installed their respective national flags outside the Security Council Chamber.
- The UNSC currently comprises 15 members – five permanent and 10 elected members who have two-year terms. The United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, China and France are the permanent members of the UNSC all of whom have the power of the veto. Collectively, this group is called the P5