

# Final orbit-raising manoeuvre of Chandrayaan-3 completed

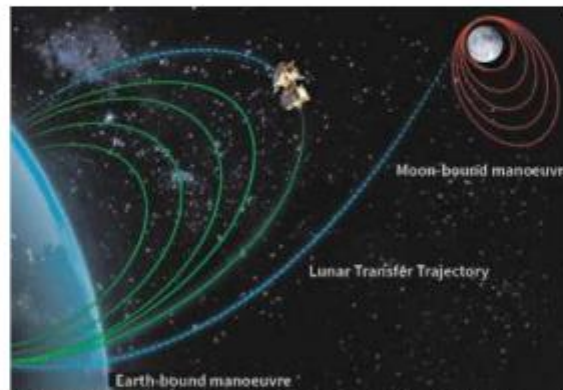
ISRO will perform TransLunar Injection on August 1 to slingshot Chandrayaan-3 towards moon; the four previous orbit-raising manoeuvres were performed between July 15 and July 20

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

**T**he Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Tuesday successfully completed the fifth and final orbit-raising manoeuvre (earth-bound perigee firing) of the Chandrayaan-3 mission. It was performed successfully from ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) in Bengaluru.

The spacecraft is expected to attain an orbit of 1,27,609 km x 236 km. This means that Chandrayaan-3 is now in an orbit which, when closest to earth is at 236 km and when farthest is at 1,27,609 km.

"The achieved orbit will



**Mission moon:** Chandrayaan-3 is now in an orbit, which, when farthest to earth is at 1,27,609 km. ISRO

be confirmed after the observations," ISRO said after the successful orbit-raising manoeuvre.

The four earlier orbit-raising manoeuvres were performed by ISTRAC bet-

ween July 15 and July 20.

Following the final orbit-raising manoeuvre, ISRO will perform the TransLunar Injection (TLI) on August 1 to slingshot Chandrayaan-3 towards the

moon. "The next firing, the TransLunar Injection (TLI), is planned for August 1, 2023, between midnight and 1 a.m. IST," ISRO said.

The Chandrayaan-3 consists of a lander module (LM), propulsion module (PM) and a rover which was launched by the LVM3-M4 on July 14.

After the TLI takes place, the PM and the LM separation will happen on August 17.

A series of deboost manoeuvres is also scheduled to take place before the power descent phase for the soft landing on the moon.

The lander is expected to touch down on the moon surface on August 23 at 5.47 p.m.

## Arrived at consensus on ties in Bali: China



This is the first time either side has suggested that the Bali meeting had included any substantial conversation. PTI

**Suhasini Haidar**  
**Ananth Krishnan**  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping reached a "consensus" to restore bilateral ties during their meeting in Bali last year, said China, the first time either side has suggested that the meeting between the two leaders at a dinner had included any substantial conversation.

The claim was made in a Chinese Foreign Ministry statement issued after a meeting between National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit

Doval and his counterpart Director of the Central Foreign Affairs Commission of the Communist Party of China Wang Yi in Johannesburg, where both advisers are attending the BRICS meeting of NSAs.

The Indian statement on the Doval-Wang meeting did not include any reference to the claim, and instead focused on the continuing Line of Actual Control (LAC) stand-off that Mr. Doval said had "eroded" the "public and political basis" of the ties.

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## Arrived at consensus on ties in Bali, says China

"NSA conveyed that the situation along the LAC in the Western Sector of the India-China boundary since 2020 had eroded strategic trust and the public and political basis of the relationship," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) press release said on Tuesday about the meeting that took place on Monday. "NSA emphasised the importance of continuing efforts to fully resolve the situation and restore peace and tranquillity in the border areas, so as to remove impediments to normalcy in bilateral relations," it said, adding that both agreed that the India-China bilateral relationship was significant "not only for the two countries but also for the region and world".

The meeting between Mr. Doval and Mr. Wang, came days after Wang Yi met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar for talks in Jakarta on July 14 on the side-lines of the East Asia Summit (EAS) and ASEAN Regional Forum's Foreign Minister's meeting. The meetings have increased speculation over whether Mr. Modi and Mr. Xi will meet at the BRICS summit in Cape Town in August or at the G-20 Summit in Delhi.

Mr. Modi and Mr. Xi have not spoken since the beginning of the LAC standoff in April 2020 that led to the killings of soldiers in Galwan. However, at a dinner for G-20 leaders in Bali last November, Mr. Modi was seen walking over to Mr. Xi and holding a conversation that lasted a few minutes. The MEA had brushed off the encounter at the time. However, in its statement, the Chinese MFA claimed that at the Bali meeting, the leaders had spoken in more detail.

"At the end of last year, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi reached an important consensus on stabilizing China-India relations in Bali," said the Chinese MFA statement.

"The two sides should adhere to the strategic judgment of the leaders of the two countries that 'they do not pose a threat to each other, and they are each other's development opportunities', " it added, urging an "early" return of bilateral relations to the "track of healthy and stable development." The MEA declined to comment on the Chinese contention.



# HC commends DGP for setting up special wings in 12 police stations

State Public Prosecutor says they would come up in Seven Wells, Royapuram, Basin Bridge, Taramani, Mambalam, Nandambakkam, Thousand Lights, Kilpauk, Abhiramapuram, Choolaimedu, Peravallur and Valasaravakkam stations

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

**T**he Madras High Court has appreciated Director General of Police (DGP) Shankar Jiwai and Greater Chennai Commissioner of Police Sandeep Rai Rathore for having decided to set up Specialised Investigation Wings (SIWs) in 12 police stations in the city to investigate serious offences such as murder, dacoity and robbery.

Justices M.S. Ramesh and N. Anand Venkatesh recorded their appreciation after State Public Prosecutor Hasan Mohamed Jinnah said the SIWs would be established in Seven



The judges also appreciated a committee chaired by an Additional Director-General of Police in the CB-CID for having come up with a draft digital evidence manual.

Wells, Royapuram, Basin Bridge, Taramani, Mambalam, Nandambakkam, Thousand Lights, Kilpauk, Abhiramapuram, Choolaimedu, Peravallur and Va-

lasaravakkam stations. The SPP stated that these 12 police stations in Chennai would be in addition to the 11 Taluk police stations across the State and the en-

**The Specialised Investigation Wings will probe serious offences such as murder, dacoity and robbery**

tire Coimbatore Police Commissionerate where the SIWs had already begun to function on court directions and had shown noticeable difference in investigating heinous crimes.

**Committee lauded**

The judges also commended a committee chaired by an Additional Director General of Police in the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department for

having come up with a draft digital evidence manual that could serve as a ready reckoner for the police personnel while handling electronic devices such as hard disks containing CCTV footages.

**Status report**

After taking note of a status report filed by the DGP with respect to the steps taken to expand the SIWs to other police stations, as well as the progress made on creating the digital evidence manual, the judges asked the SPP to ensure that a further status report regarding the progress made by all SIWs was filed in the High Court by September 22.

## 4th Environment, Climate Sustainability Working Group to meet for two days

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

The 4th Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) under India's G-20 presidency will meet in Chennai on July 26 and 27. The working group's deliberations will culminate in the G-20 Environment and Climate Ministers' meeting on July 28, wherein nearly 35 Environment Ministers are expected to participate.

The Outcome and Presidency documents from the ECSWG will be released during the Ministers' meeting, said Richa Sharma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate



Union government officials addressing presspersons in Chennai on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Change (MoEFCC).

### 'Three priorities'

Detailing the proceedings of the last three meetings and virtual sessions held during the course of this year, Ms. Sharma told

presspersons here on Tuesday that the focus was on three thematic priorities – arresting land degradation, accelerating ecosystem restoration and enriching biodiversity; promoting a sustainable

and climate resilient blue economy; resource efficiency and circular economy. A critical aspect of the ECSWG meeting would be the launch of Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy (RECE) Industry Coalition on Thursday, said Naresh Pal Gangwar, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC.

To a question on the restoration of degraded land in the country, Bavish Ranjan, Additional Director-General (Forests), MoEFCC, said: "We focus on two types of degraded land. Land lost to forest fires and mining. Through this we will achieve restoring ecological landscape and global biodiversity targets."



# Stalin writes to Jaishankar, calls for diplomatic efforts to resolve fishermen's issues

Expressing concern over the recurring arrest of Tamil Nadu fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy, the Chief Minister underscores the need for a constructive dialogue to find a lasting solution

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

**F**ollowing the arrest of nine fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin wrote to Minister for External Affairs S. Jaishankar on Tuesday, requesting him to make diplomatic efforts to resolve issues of the Tamil Nadu fishermen.

Expressing his concern over the recurring arrest of Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy, he recalled his request to the Prime Minister to take up the matter with utmost importance during the visit of the Sri Lankan President to India a few days ago. "I had hoped that this visit would provide an opportunity to engage in a constructive dialogue and find a lasting solution that respects the rights and livelihoods of both Indian and Sri Lankan fishermen," he said in the letter, a copy of which was released to the media.



 The fishing community in Tamil Nadu continues to face immense hardships owing to the recurrent arrest of fishermen and seizure of their boats

**M.K. STALIN**  
Chief Minister

Referring to the arrest of nine fishermen on Tuesday, Mr. Stalin said, "Despite the high-level interactions between the two nations, the situation on the ground remains unchanged."

## **'Severe repercussions'**

The fishing communities in Tamil Nadu continued to face immense hardships owing to the recurrent arrest of fishermen and seizure of their boats, the Chief Minister said, contending that these incidents strained bilateral relations and had severe socio-economic repercussions

for the affected families.

Mr. Stalin reiterated his request to the Union Minister to make all diplomatic efforts to ensure the release of the arrested fishermen, retrieve their seized boats and re-emphasise the significance of a lasting and mutually acceptable solution to the issue of fishing rights in the Palk Bay.

## **Ramanathapuram meet**

Mr. Stalin will take part in a State-wide conference to be organised by fishermen associations in Ramanathapuram on August 18. It will condemn the continu-

ous attack on, and arrest of, fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy.

According to an official release from Minister for Fisheries Anitha R. Radhakrishnan, the Chief Minister's participation in the conference followed representations from fishermen associations.

"The conference will be held in Ramanathapuram on August 18 to protect the fishermen's livelihood, condemn the recurring incidents of assault on, and arrest of, Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy and demand measures to prevent such incidents," Mr. Radhakrishnan said.

Mr. Radhakrishnan referred to the arrest of the nine fishermen on Tuesday and recalled the efforts being made by the Chief Minister against such incidents, including his writing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Jaishankar.

# Headcount of children under way across State to improve immunisation coverage

**Serena Josephine M.**  
CHENNAI

To ensure that no child has missed out on vaccine doses or is left out of routine immunisation, a headcount through a door-to-door survey has started across Tamil Nadu. Village Health Nurses (VHNs) are making household visits to identify drop-out/left-out children aged below five.

Childhood immunisation under the Universal Immunisation Programme, which was affected during the COVID-19 pandemic, has bounced back with focused measures, according to health officials.

## 'Three initiatives'

"We have three initiatives. First is the Intensified Mission Indradhanush, through which measures are being taken for identifying left-out children. We have trained our field staff

to do a house-to-house headcount of children who have been left out. We should not be satisfied with 99%-100% coverage, but should ensure that no child is left out," said T.S. Selvavinayagam, Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine.

A total of 11 vaccines for 12 diseases should be administered till the age of five, said M. Senthil Kumar, deputy director, Institute of Public Health, Poonamallee. "Drop-out means a child has missed one or two doses of a vaccine. Such children can be tracked easily through our existing system. There are left-out children, meaning those who did not come on our radar," he explained.

This is why the special drive is in progress under the Intensified Mission Indradhanush to strengthen immunisation coverage, he said. Dr. Selvavinayagam added that data from the

headcount would be entered into U-WIN, a platform for monitoring routine immunisation of children, to help in further follow-up. The second initiative for improving immunisation was the expansion to the entire State of the U-WIN portal, which was piloted in Erode and Dindigul.

"Third, we are focusing on two indicators for Measles-Rubella (MR) elimination. The first indicator is to ensure 95% coverage for MR vaccination. Secondly, we should have a non-measles, non-rubella discard rate of more than two per million population. We should be able to pick up suspected cases and rule out measles or rubella. Now, there might be silent blocks or areas from where nothing is getting reported. So, we will be focusing on silent blocks to bring them on our radar," he explained.

## Extending the reach

The Health Dept. is carrying out a headcount of children left out of immunisation. Here is the performance of some indicators with respect to immunisation

Key variable	Target	2022-2023 [in %]	2023-2024 [up to June] [in %]
Hepatitis B birth dose	>95%	100	99
Fully immunised*	100%	102	99

\*Fully immunised implies that a child has received all due vaccines within the age of one



## Measures being taken

- Headcount of dropout/left out children aged under five is being done
- Data from the headcount survey will be entered on U-WIN portal
- The U-WIN platform is being expanded to the rest of the State after being piloted in two districts
- There will be focus on Measles-Rubella by ensuring vaccination and surveillance of silent blocks

**Revived efforts:** Health officials say that childhood immunisation under the Universal Immunisation Programme, which was affected during the COVID-19 pandemic, has bounced back with focused measures.

Source : Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine



# Lok Sabha passes contentious Biological Diversity Bill amid din

Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav says amendments necessary to address issues in 20-year-old Act; green activists argue it will 'solely benefit' AYUSH firms; House panel had said proposed exemptions may pave way for abuse of law

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

**T**he Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021 amid sloganeering by Opposition members demanding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi make a statement on the Manipur violence. The Bill aims to amend the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

"In the 20 years since the Act was brought into force by the Vajpayee government, we have seen that there were problems and it was necessary to address them," Bhupendra Yadav, Minister for Environment and Forests and Climate Change, said. "To ensure that tribes and vulnerable communities

## Significant shift

The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021 seeks to exempt registered AYUSH medical practitioners from intimating biodiversity boards before accessing biological resources



**Traditional knowledge:** A tribal harvesting Arogyapacha leaves from a forest in Kerala. S. MAHNSHA

■ It also aims at easing compliance burden, boosting investment and simplifying patent application processes

■ Environmental organisations have raised concerns about potential for "bio piracy"; they say amendments favour industry and there is lack of clarity on benefit sharing with local communities

benefit from the proceeds of medicinal forest products, these amendments were necessary. By decriminalising certain activities, we are encouraging Ayurveda as well as ease of

doing business."

The amended Bill was drafted in response to complaints by traditional Indian medicine practitioners, the seed sector, industry and researchers that the Act im-

posed a heavy "compliance burden".

The Bill sought to exempt registered AYUSH medical practitioners and people accessing codified traditional knowledge, among others, from giving prior intimation to State biodiversity Boards to access biological resources for certain purposes.

Environmental organisations such as Legal Initiative for Forests and Environment (LIFE) have said that the amendments were made to "solely benefit" AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) firms and would pave the way for "bio piracy".

The Bill decriminalises a range of offences under the Act and substitutes them with monetary penalties.

An analysis by the Centre for Science and Environment and the *Down To Earth* magazine on how the Biodiversity Act was being practically implemented, showed serious shortcomings. There was no data – barring in a few States – on the money received from companies and traders for access and benefit-sharing from use of traditional knowledge and resources.

A Joint Parliamentary Committee was constituted in December 2021 to analyse the amendment Bill.

Congress spokesperson Jairam Ramesh, who was a member of the committee, in a letter addressed to other members and BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal, committee chairperson, said that these exemptions could open the law for abuse.

## President opens tribal arts gallery at Rashtrapati Bhavan as she finishes a year in office

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

On a day when India's first President from the tribal community, Droupadi Murmu, completed one year in office, the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Tuesday got a unique gallery dedicated to tribal arts, culture and heroes.

The gallery, which is around 2,200 square feet in area, has been developed by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, an autonomous institution under the Union Culture Ministry.

Ms. Murmu took over as the 15th President of the country last July and is the first from the tribal community. She hails from a small village, Uparbeda in Odisha, and had worked as a teacher.

### **Name of the gallery**

The new gallery '*Janjatiya Darpan*' (tribal mirror) was inaugurated by Ms. Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The gallery showcases different themes such as



**New beginning:** President Droupadi Murmu inaugurating the Tribal Arts gallery in New Delhi on Tuesday. ANI

unsung tribal freedom fighters, traditional natural resource management practices such as Halma, tribal art such as Dokra, musical instruments and various scripts such as Gunjala Gondi.

It also houses agricultural and household implements, bamboo baskets, textiles, paintings such as Warli, Gondi and mud art, scrolls, masks and jewellery, metal work, weapons, and contemporary photographs depicting tattoos.

"The aim of this gallery is to provide a glimpse of rich art, culture and the contributions of tribal

communities in building this nation," a Rashtrapati Bhavan statement said.

### **Build in 10 days**

Sources in the IGNCA said that the gallery was created within a short span of 10 days.

The President also inaugurated '*Navachara*', an artificial intelligence-enabled gallery developed by the Rashtrapati Bhavan, in collaboration with Intel India and '*Sutra-kala Darpan*', a textile collection which showcases a collection of textiles that document the illustrious legacy of the Rashtrapati Bhavan.



## TN's National football champions get recognition and ₹60 lakh incentive

Each of the 22-member squad set to receive around ₹2.5 lakh; Indumathi feels that since most players don't have jobs, this will be a huge relief

K. Keerthivasan  
CHENNAI

**T**he Tamil Nadu women's football team, which won the senior National championship at Amritsar recently, was honoured with a high cash incentive of ₹60 lakh on the final day of the Chief Minister's Trophy here on Tuesday.

Led by D. Devi and featuring National players like Indumathi Kathiresan, Sandhiya Ranganathan and Sowmiya Narayanasamy, the team lifted its second title, beating Haryana 2-1 in the summit clash last month.

The first triumph came in 2018.

Devi, the goalkeeper of the side, said: "I am happy that we were stingy in how many goals we conceded. We come from poor backgrounds and cannot afford

to buy even a pair of boots. From there to winning titles and getting these rewards is incredible."

"We have got recognition which we didn't get earlier. It feels like our world has turned upside down. Look at the girls in their suits and how happy they are," said Indumathi, a key player in the team and one of two employed by the government.

"Each player will get around ₹2.5 lakh. That's so important for these players who have dedicated the last decade to the sport. Most don't have jobs and this will be a huge relief to their families," she added.

When asked about the government's efforts to provide jobs to the players, an SDAT official said: "Once the players apply for jobs, their applications will be processed based on the existing government orders."



**Richly deserved:** Chief Minister Stalin presents a cheque for ₹60 lakh to the victorious football team as Sports Minister Udhayanidhi and HR&CE Minister Sekar Babu look on. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM