

DAILY PT POINTERS

6th April, 2024



The Hindu-Economy(GSIII)-Page 1

RBI keeps repo rate on hold as food prices remain high

Lalatendu Mishra

MUMBAI

The spike in food prices has kept the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) worried even though overall inflation has moderated to a certain extent. On Friday, the central bank's Monetary Policy Committee decided to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.50%.

This is the seventh time that the rates have been kept on hold.

- Central bank's Monetary Policy Committee decided to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.50%. This is the seventh time that the rates have been kept on hold.
 - The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) remains focused on aligning inflation to the target on a durable basis.
 - The RBI also retained GDP growth forecast of 7% for 2024-25 financial year,
 - Trading of Sovereign Green Bonds permitted in International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)
 - RBI to launch a mobile app to facilitate retail participation in G-secs
 - RBI to allow cash deposits in banks through UPI
- Current Account Deficit in 2024-25 to remain at a level that is both viable and eminently manageable

Do you know ?

- Repo rate is the rate at which the central bank of a country (Reserve Bank of India in case of India) lends money to commercial banks in the event of any shortfall of funds. Repo rate is used by monetary authorities to control inflation.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu-GS2(Polity and Governance)Page 10



Section 144 imposed in Leh ahead of 'Pashmina March'

- Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) of 1973 authorises the Executive Magistrate of any state or territory to issue an order to prohibit the assembly of four or more people in an area. According to the law, every member of such 'unlawful assembly' can be booked for engaging in rioting.
- Section 144 is imposed in urgent cases of nuisance or apprehended danger of some event that has the potential to cause trouble or damage to human life or property. Section 144 of CrPC generally prohibits public gathering.
- Section 144 has been used in the past to impose restrictions as a means to prevent protests that can lead to unrest or riots.
- Section 144 also restricts carrying any sort of weapon
- Orders passed under Section 144 remain in force for two months, unless the state government considers it necessary to extend it.

The Hindu-IR (GSII)-Page 12

India abstains from HRC vote calling Gaza ceasefire

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI



India on Friday abstained on a resolution at the Human Rights Council that called upon Israel for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, and the states to implement an arms embargo, which was adopted by the 47-member Council. While India's abstention is believed to be in line with previous votes on any HRC resolutions that call for "accountability", it did vote in favour of three other resolutions that criticised Israel for human rights violations against Palestinians, Israel's occu-

While the Ministry of External Affairs did not issue any explanation for the vote, it is understood to follow previous abstentions on similar resolutions, and also in line with its vote at the UNGA in October 2023, since the HRC resolution (A/HRC/55/L.30) failed to

The U.S., Germany and four other countries voted against the resolution, titled "Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice" and India joined France and Japan among 13 countries that abstained. However, a significant majority, 28 members, including Bangladesh, China, Maldives, the UAE, Indonesia, Brazil and South Africa, voted in favour.

India voted in favour of three other resolutions that were also adopted with large majorities on

The Human Rights Council is the main intergovernmental body within the United Nations responsible for human rights. Established in 2006 by the General Assembly, it is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe.

The Human Rights Council replaced the former **United Nations Commission on Human Rights**.

The Council, composed of 47 Member States, provides a multilateral forum to address human rights violations and country situations. It responds to human rights emergencies and makes recommendations on how to better implement human rights on the ground.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



Indian Express-Geography(GSI)-Page 11

Pin code MH-1718: In Antarctica, a post office with Indian address

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
PANAJI, APRIL 5

IN 1984, shortly after India's first foray to Antarctica, its first post office on the icy continent was set up at Dakshi Gangotri – the nation's first scientific base there. Within the first year, as many as 10,000 letters and mail had been posted and 'cancelled' at the his-



Cancelled post from Maitri North Goa research base

toric post office.

And so began what officials describe as a "unique experiment" for India's postal fraternity. Dakshin Gangotri submerged in ice in 1988-89 and was subsequently decommissioned. On January 26, 1990, a post office branch was set up at India's Maitri research station on Antarctica.

Since then, for more than 35
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

- The first post office was established in 1984 at Dhakshin Gangotri, followed by another in 1990 at Maitri Station.
- The launch of the Bharati Branch Post Office after 40 years underscores the continued commitment of the postal fraternity to serve even the most remote corners of the globe

Do you know ?

Antarctica is a continent. It is Earth's fifth-largest continent and is covered almost completely in ice. Antarctica covers Earth's South Pole.

- India's two research bases on Antarctica — Maitri and Bharati — are located 3,000 km apart. Notably, both branches are part of the Goa postal division.