

# DAILY PT POINTERS

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### The Hindu-Geography(GSI)-Page 5

# Swell waves likely to strike coastal areas over weekend: INCOIS

#### The Hindu Bureau

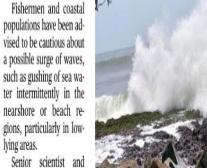
HYDERABAD/ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

a possible surge of waves. The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Sersuch as gushing of sea wavices (INCOIS) on Friday ter intermittently in the alerted the coastal States of nearshore or beach re-Goa, Maharashtra, West gions, particularly in low-Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nalying areas. Senior scientist and du, Kerala, Lakshadweep

on Saturday and Sunday

Group Director T. Balakand Andaman & Nicobar Islands, of the possibility of rishnan Nair said high-pehigh-energy swell waves riod swells had started apover the weekend proximately 10.000 km away from the Indian coast It also urged "total suspension of operational/reon April 26 in the southern

Atlantic Ocean. This had creational activities at caused "high-energy swell beach/nearshore regions"



MARK R

Hyderabad-based INCOIS has issued an alert to coastal States or the possibility of swell surges and rough sea conditions. FILE PHOTO

propagation" towards the the southern tip of India in Indian coastal regions the early hours of Saturwhich is expected to hit day. These long-period likely to last till 11.30 p.m. Sekhar Kuriakose said.

added

swells combined with high on Sunday. Low-lying areas tide conditions can cause could experience 0.5 coastal flooding in low-lymetre to 1.7-metre high ing areas, he said. swell waves.

Small vessels should not The Kerala State Disasbe plying nearshore and ter Management Authority boats may be anchored at a (KSDMA) issued directions fair distance from each for suspending recreationother to avoid damage, he al activities along the beaches. Coastal residents

have also been advised to Meanwhile. coastal communities in Kerala temporarily evacuate if the need arises. This is the first were advised to remain vigilant with State being put instance of a red alert being issued for the State in on red alert for high-enerconnection with the Kallagy swell waves. The phenomenon, known locally as phenomenon. 'Kallakadal' (rogue sea), is KSDMA member secretary

- SWELL waves A swell is the formation of long wavelength waves on the surface of the seas. These are composed of series of surface gravity waves.
- These are not generated by the local wind. Swell waves often have a long wavelengthbut thisvaries with the size of the water body
- There are three factors that influence the level of energy contained in swells. Wind velocity, wind area (fetch), and duration





#### The Hindu-IR(GSII)-Page 10

## India, Indonesia agree to enhance defence industry collaboration

#### The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

India and Indonesia on Friday agreed to enhance collaboration in areas of defence industry, maritime security and multilateral cooperation at the seventh India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting held in New Delhi. It was chaired by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Secretary-General of Indonesia's Ministry of Defence Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufanto.

During the meeting, both sides expressed satisfaction at the expanding scope of defence cooperation between the two countries. The progress made on various bilateral initiatives deliberated in meetings. working off. groups on defence cooperation and defence industries cooperation was also reviewed by the co-chairs. a Defence Ministry statement said.

During the visit, Air Marshal Taufanto visited the Defence Research &



Giridhar Aramane and Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufanto in New Delhi.

New Delhi as well as the TATA Advanced Systems and Larsen & Toubro defence facilities in Pune. "He also held deliberations with other Indian defence industry partners like Bharat Forge, Mahindra Defence and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited and discussed ways to enhance defence industrial capabilities by cooperation in research and joint production," the statement said.

Air Marshal Taufanto also called on CDS General Anil Chauhan. On his arrival in the national capital, the Indonesian military officer laid a wreath and paid homage to fallen heroes at

- India and Indonesia agreed to enhance collaboration in areas of defence industry, maritime security and multilateral cooperation at the seventh India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting held in New Delhi.
- India and Indonesia have a Comprehensive Strategic
  Partnership and have arrived at a shared vision of the
  Indo-Pacific. In current times, this partnership is
  characterised by closed cooperation in bilateral and
  multilateral arena, including frequent high-level
  interactions. Indonesia is an important partner in India's
  Act East Policy and the Indo-Pacific region.

## N | I |A|S

#### The Hindu-Governance(GSII)-Page 10

# India press freedom score fell over the last year: RSF

Index looks at freedom enjoyed by journalists globally; India is one of the countries where there's a perception of authorities participating in mass disinformation, says RSF director of campaigns

#### Sriram Lakshman LONDON

ndia's score in the World Press Freedom Index fell over the last year, from 36.62 to 31.28. according to Reporters Without Borders (RSF for Reporters sans Frontières), which puts together an annual index on the freedom enjoyed by journalists in 180 jurisdictions. India's rank improved from 161 in 2023 to 159 in 2024, but this was because other countries had slipped in their rankings. The government has in the past dismissed international rankings of freedoms in India as misinformed and propaganda driven.

Norway and Denmark topped the RSF table while Eritrea was at the bottom, with Syria just ahead of it.

"Press freedom around the world is being threatened by the very people who should be its guarantors - political authorities," the RSF said, noting that press freedoms fell by



Press freedom fell by an average 7.6 points globally, according to the index put out by Reporters sans Frontières. FILE PHOTO

spectacular rapproche-

ment between his party,

country report says.

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The press freedom the BIP, and the big famiquestionnaire covers five lies dominating the mecategories - political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context and security. Scores for India dropped (worsened) in all but the security indicator.

"India's media has fallen into an 'unofficial state of emergency' since Narendra Modi came to power in 2014 and engineered a

authorities participating in sort of mass disinforma tion and propaganda," Rebecca Vincent, director of campaigns at RSF, said at a briefing organised by the Foreign Press Association in London, to launch the index. U.S. slips in ranking Ms. Vincent said that among the countries going

text matters massively in

India. I think this is one of countries where

there's a perception of

to the polls this year, the U.S. was the most concerning in terms of press freedoms, including because of the global impact developments there had.

dia," the RSF country file "We saw the catastroph on India said. Reference is ic effects globally of the also made to "Godi media" first the Trump presidency as mixing populism and and his attitude towards pro-BJP propaganda. Inmedia, who were labelled dian journalists who are enemies of the state and very critical of the governtreated as such on on the campaign trail," she said. ment are subjected to harassment campaigns by The U.S. press freedom BIP-backed trolls, the India score fell from 71.22 to 66.59 and its rank deterio-"Ves the elections conrated from 45 to 55

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- The press freedom questionnaire covers five categories — political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context and security. Scores for India dropped (worsened) in all but the security indicator.

#### The Hindu-Geography(GSI)



Tourists take pictures with Mount Fuji in the backdrop in the town of Fujikawaguchiko, Japan on Friday. AFP

Japan town to block Mt. Fuji view from 'menacing' tourists

#### Agence France-Presse FUJIKAWAGUCHIKO

Work has begun in a small Japanese town to erect a barrier blocking views of the country's most famous sight, Mount Fuji, after local people complained of bad behaviour by photo-hungry tourists.



 Mount Fuji, highest mountain in Japan. It rises to 12,388 feet (3,776 metres) near the Pacific Ocean coast



## Indian Express-Economy (GSIII)-Page 12

# S Korea to slap fines on food suppliers for 'shrinkflation'

#### REUTERS SECUL, MAY 3

SOUTH KOREA'S antitrust regulator said on Friday food makers and suppliers will be required to notify shoppers if they reduce the size of their products or face fines of up to 10 million won (\$7,300).



have to display labels for three months if they downsize their products in a way that prompts the unit price to go up. "The change was simed at

A market in Seoul. Reuters file stand their

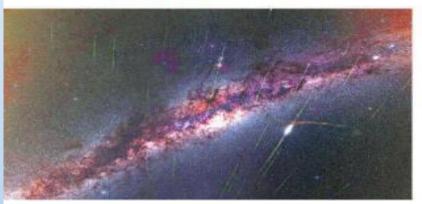
products in a way that prompts a statement. the unit price to go up. Surging food prices and liv-"The change was aimed at preventing a situation where companies reduce the size, standard, weight or quantity of their products without suffithe unit price to go up. Surging food prices and living costs were a major issue in the runup to last month's parliamentary elections in which President Yoon Suk Yeol's ruling their products without suffi-

shampoo and detergents will cient notice so that consumers

- Nİ NEXT DQG
- Shrink inflation is when a product downsizes its quantity while keeping the price the same.
- For example, reducing the scoops of ice cream in a container or reducing the number of chips in a packet would count as shrinkflation.
- In other words, shrinkflation occurs when goods shrink in size but consumers pay the same price.
- It occurs when manufacturers downsize products to offset higher production costs but keep retail prices same.

### Indian Express-S&T(GSIII)-Page 13

## WHAT IS'ETA AQUARIID' METEOR SHOWER, SET TO LIGHT UP THE NIGHT SKY THIS WEEKEND?



The Eta Aquariids meteor shower in 2022 near San Pedro de Atacama, Chile. Vikimedia Commons

THE ETA Aquariid meteor shower, which has been active since April 15, will peak on May 5 and 6.

Comprising burning space debris noving at speeds of around 66 km per accord (2.37 lakh kmph) into Earth's atnosphere, these showers are seen in May every year, and are best visible to counries such as Indonesia and Australia in the Southern Hemisphere. comet interacts with Earth's atmosphere.

The Eta Aquariid meteor shower is formed when Earth passes through the orbital plane of the famous Halley's Comet, which takes about 76 years to orbit the Sun once. While it was observed as early as 240 BCE, it was only in 1705 that astronomer Edmond Halley realised that the periodic appearances were re-appearances of the same comet. Last seen in 1986, Halley's comet is due to enter the

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#### What are comets?

Meteor showers come from comets, which are frozen leftovers from the formation of our solar system, some 4.6 billion years ago. Comets are composed of dust, rock and ice, and orbit around the Sun in highly elliptical orbits which can, in some cases, take hundreds of thousands of years to complete.



#### **Indian Express-**IR(GSII)-Page 15

## India-Nigeria trade officials meet as China's Africa investments falter

#### **RAVIDUTTA MISHRA** NEW DELHI, MAY 3

AMID AN ongoing property crisis in China that has put brakes on its investments in Africa, Indian officials held a joint Trade Committee (JTC) meeting with their Nigerian counterparts last month, the commerce and industry ministry said on Friday.

This comes after the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last year said that the ripple effects of China's slowing economy extended to sovereign lending to sub-Saharan Africa, which fell below \$1 billion last year-the lowest level in nearly two decades.

China's influence on Africa is such that a one percentage point decline in Beijing's growth rate of Nigeria, G. Balasubramanian could reduce average growth in the region by about 0.25 per- Department of Commerce, Priya centage points within a year, P. Nair held a Joint Trade IMF said, adding that for oil-exporters, such as Angola and Nigeria, the loss could be 0.5 Abuja," the ministry said. percentage points on average.

Notably, China has forged India also consisted of officials deep economic ties with coun- from the Reserve Bank of India tries in sub-Saharan Africa over (RBI), EXIM Bank of India, and the past 20 years, making it the the National Payments



Indian officials held a Joint Trade Committee meeting with their Nigerian counterpart.

Amardeep Singh Bhatia, accompanied by High Commissioner of India to the Federal Republic and Economic Adviser, Committee (JTC) meeting with their Nigerian counterparts in

The official delegation from CALIFORNIA S

of focus for enhancing both bilateral trade as well as mutually beneficial investments. These include resolving market access issues of both sides, and cooperation in key sectors such as Crude oil and Natural Gas. Pharmaceuticals, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Local Currency Settlement System among others, the ministry said.

Nigeria is the second-largest trading partner of India in the Africa region. Bilateral trade between India and Nigeria stood at

- Both sides agreed to the early conclusion of the Local **Currency Settlement System Agreement to further** strengthen bilateral economic ties
- Nigeria is the second-largest trading partner of India in the Africa region. Bilateral trade between India and Nigeria stood at \$11.8 billion in 2022-23. In the year 2023-24, the bilateral trade stands at \$7.89 billion showing a declining trend.
- With a total investment of \$27 billion, approximately 135 Indian companies are actively engaged in Nigeria's vibrant market. These investments traverse diverse sectors, encompassing infrastructure, manufacturing, consumer goods, and services.

