

CURRENTLY - FROM NEWS TO NOTES

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Hindu & The Indian express

Headline	Source
Indian women script history, clinch maiden World Cup title	The Hindu, Page 1 – Sports / Women Empowerment
ISRO launches GSAT-7R, India's heaviest communication satellite	The Hindu, Page 1 – Science & Tech
Engage the Taliban, don't recognise them	The Hindu, Page 6 – International Relations / India-Afghanistan
Tri-services exercise Trishul begins today, to strengthen joint combat preparedness	The Hindu, Page 12 – Defence / Joint Operations

Headline	Source
ICMR seeks partners to develop antibody against Nipah virus	The Hindu, Page 12 – Science & Tech / Health
Experts join hands for Ramsar site tag for wetlands in Assam sanctuary	The Hindu, Page 12 – Environment / Biodiversity
Trump warns Nigeria of aid cut and military action over 'persecution' of Christians	The Hindu, Page 14 – Defence / Strategic Weapons
Russia's new nuclear submarine with 'doomsday' missile unveiled	The Hindu, Page 12 – International Affairs (Places in News) GS2
Canada and the Philippines sign key defence pact in bid to deter China	The Hindu, Page 14 – Indo-Pacific Security
Nearly 300 killed in Bangladesh political violence: rights group	The Hindu, Page 14

Indian women script history, clinch maiden World Cup title

In testimony to the progress made by the team over the years, Harmanpreet Kaur's unit defeats South Africa by 52 runs in the final; Shafali Verma makes a sensational comeback, with a half-century, two key wickets to seal India's coronation

Lavanya L.
NAVI MUMBAI

Indian women created history before a packed D.Y. Patil Stadium here on Sunday, winning the Women's ODI World Cup defeating South Africa by 52 runs.

If the team's astounding run to the final in 2017, slaying giant Australia *en route*, is often cited as the cornerstone of a revolution, the maiden championship win is the fulfilment of a gritty effort to match promise with performance.

In the eight years since, progress was agonisingly slow but steady. India's ambitions to dominate world cricket slowly made room for the women.

Parity in match fees, more fixtures, and the lu-



Milestone moment: Captain Harmanpreet Kaur and others celebrate after winning the ODI World Cup in Navi Mumbai on Sunday. EMMANUAL YOGINI

crative Women's Premier League helped India rub shoulders with Australia and England.

At the D.Y. Patil Stadium, with trailblazers like Diana Edulji, Mithali Raj, and Jhulan Goswami in attendance, India – with a

squad featuring veterans pinning for victory and youngsters eager to succeed – clinched its maiden world crown. A roller-coaster run for the home side in the tournament saw different members come in the clutch. If youngsters

Amanjot Kaur and Richa Ghosh bailed India out early on, seniors Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, and **Deepti Sharma** helped traverse the ravines of knockout cricket. Destiny's child **Shafali Verma** scripted a sensational comeback

story, with a half-century and two key wickets in the final to seal India's coronation.

Harmanpreet Kaur and team are often held to the standards set by that 2017 campaign. Its run now was far from perfect, with three losses to the other semifinalists in the league stage. But as the captain admitted before the summit clash, only the big picture mattered – what a win could do for a side that always buckled and fell short of the podium.

"We know how it feels to lose. We look forward to seeing how it feels to win," Harmanpreet said.

Her team and the billion Indian hearts they carry with them now know.

RELATED REPORTS ON
» **PAGE 15**

Indian women script history, clinch maiden World Cup title

The Hindu;Page No.: 1 Sports

Why in News:

The India women's cricket team won their first-ever Women's ODI World Cup (13th edition-4th in India) by defeating South Africa women's cricket team by 52 runs in the final.

Key Points

- **Women of the Match in the Final:** Shafali Verma (India)
- **Women of the Tournament:** Deepti Sharma (India)

ISRO launches GSAT-7R, India's heaviest communication satellite

Saurabh Trivedi
Vasudevan Mukunth
NEW DELHI/CHENNAI

The Indian Space Research Organisation on Sunday successfully launched the Indian Navy's advanced communication satellite GSAT-7R (CMS-03) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

The indigenously designed and developed satellite, weighing approximately 4,400 kg, is India's heaviest communication satellite to date and marks a major milestone in strengthening the Navy's space-based communications and maritime domain awareness.

The ISRO launched the rocket aboard its most powerful launch vehicle, the LVM3, on its M5 mission. The lift-off took place at



The ISRO launching LVM3-M5 carrying a communication satellite from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Sunday. ANI

about 5.26 p.m. from the second launch pad, and mission control soon confirmed that the satellite had been successfully inserted into a geosynchronous transfer orbit (GTO).

This is the heaviest In-

dian-built communications satellite launched from Indian soil so far. Because of the high mass of the GSAT-7R, the launch vehicle targeted a standard GTO; once there, the satellite will raise and circular-

ise its orbit using its on-board propulsion systems.

The Navy said that equipped with state-of-the-art indigenous components, the GSAT-7R would provide robust and secure telecommunication coverage across the Indian Ocean Region. Its advanced payload features transponders supporting voice, data, and video links over multiple communication bands, ensuring seamless connectivity between the Navy's ships, submarines, aircraft, and Maritime Operations Centres. The launch highlights India's growing self-reliance in space technology and the Navy's commitment to safeguarding national maritime interests, it said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

ISRO launches GSAT-7R, India's heaviest communication satellite

The Hindu; Page No.: 1

Category: Science & Technology

Why in News

- ISRO successfully launched GSAT-7R (CMS-03) — India's heaviest
- communication satellite (≈ \$4,400 kg) — from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- The satellite is specifically designed for the Indian Navy, marking a
- major advancement in defence communication capability.

Key Points of the Mission

- 1. Launch Vehicle & Mission: Launched aboard LVM3-M5, ISRO's most powerful operational rocket.**
- 2. Orbit Details: Successfully inserted into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO); will later shift to geostationary orbit using onboard propulsion.**

3. **Indigenous Design:** Fully designed and developed in India with advanced indigenous components and payloads.
4. **Payload & Capability:** Equipped with multi-band transponders supporting voice, data, and video links for secure, high-speed communication.
5. **Coverage:** Provides seamless connectivity between Navy's ships, submarines, aircraft, and Maritime Operations Centres across the IOR.
6. **Strategic Role:** Enhances India's network-centric warfare, space- based communication resilience, and maritime situational awareness.
7. **Successor Role:** Serves as an upgraded replacement for earlier naval communication satellites (like GSAT-7 “Rukmini”).
8. **Symbol of Self-Reliance:** Highlights India's growing indigenous space capabilities and self-reliance in defence-space assets.



Engage the Taliban, don't recognise them

As the saying goes, the enemy's enemy is a friend. When the Afghan Taliban were an insurgency, they were clients of the Pakistani military establishment. Now, they are the state in Afghanistan. Their return to power in Kabul also brought back old fissures between Pakistan and Afghanistan, two neighbours divided by a disputed 2,640-kilometre border, to the centre of inter-state relations. As tensions between the two rise, often spilling into cross-border clashes, India may be tempted to see the Taliban, its enemy's enemy, as a 'friend'.

It may not be a coincidence that Pakistan bombed Kabul earlier in October, just as Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi was visiting India. Mr. Muttaqi's visit, the highest-level contact between the Sunni extremist Taliban and India, was the clearest indication yet that both sides are keen to improve ties. India has since decided to upgrade its technical mission in Kabul to a full embassy and resume stalled infrastructure and welfare projects with Mr. Muttaqi giving his assurance that the Taliban regime "will not allow any group to use our territory against others".

The case for engagement is well known. When the Taliban, then backed by Pakistan, returned to Kabul in August 2021, India, which had backed anti-Taliban forces in the 1990s, faced the prospect of losing the influence it had built in Afghanistan over the previous two decades. The question before New Delhi was whether to remain engaged with the new rulers or distance itself from them.

India's objectives

Broadly speaking, India has **three objectives** when it comes to dealing with Afghanistan. **First**, it had invested some \$3 billion in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2021 – after the collapse of the first Taliban regime. It seeks to protect those investments, and build on the goodwill it earned during the period. **Second**, unlike in the 1990s, New Delhi does not want Afghan soil to be used by anti-India militants. **Third**, it does not want the Taliban to become an external arm of Pakistan's establishment, which would give Islamabad-Rawalpindi strategic depth in the region. As an Indian diplomat told this writer in 2021, soon after the Taliban's reconquest, "India would like to explore the autonomy of the Taliban from their masters". To meet these goals, India has opted for a policy of conditional and gradual engagement with Taliban 2.0.

Mr. Muttaqi's visit to New Delhi and the decision to upgrade the Indian mission in Kabul to an embassy suggest that India is expanding the scope of this conditional engagement. The dramatic deterioration in Pakistan-Taliban relations adds a new geopolitical dimension to India's approach. These developments have prompted calls for India to move faster in formally recognising the Taliban regime. There is,



Stanly Johny

While engaging the regime, both bilaterally and through regional and international mechanisms, New Delhi must urge the group to respect at least the fundamental freedoms of the Afghan people

indeed, a case for recognition. The Taliban appear more consolidated than they were in the 1990s, and unlike in the past, no regional power seems interested in backing anti-Taliban forces – at least for now. The National Resistance Front, the primary anti-Taliban group, remains weak, with its leadership in exile in Tajikistan. The Taliban's most serious military challenge comes from the Islamic State-Khorasan, a transnational terrorist outfit that threatens regional security. Russia has formally recognised the Taliban, and China has exchanged ambassadors with Kabul.

Long-term risks

While recognition of the Taliban could allow India to fast-track cooperation with the regime, further deepening Pakistan's anxieties, it would also carry significant long-term risks. The Taliban, who emerged from the anarchy of the Afghan civil war in the early 1990s, have not fundamentally changed. Nor have they ever claimed to have changed – either ideologically or programmatically.

To be sure, the Taliban are not the only totalitarian regime in the world, and states, even democracies, should do diplomacy with different political systems. But the Taliban's totalitarianism is distinct. It is perhaps the only regime that bars girls from attending school beyond the primary level. It has enforced strict segregation between men and women in public spaces, and largely banned women from workplaces. The regime, headed by its reclusive Kandahar-based supreme leader Hibaitullah Akhundzada, and run by the Kabul Taliban, has maintained high levels of repression at a time when the economy is in serious trouble. Afghanistan's economy has contracted by around one-third since the Taliban seized power. Nearly 22.9 million Afghans – almost half the population – require humanitarian assistance this year. The exclusion of women from the workforce and education will have economic and social consequences. While the Taliban claim to have improved security over the past four years, they have also overseen a near-collapse of the economy.

Amid high-decibel repression and mounting economic distress, it is far from certain that the Pashtun, men-only regime of the Taliban has truly consolidated power in Afghanistan, a country of deep ethnic diversity that has seen almost continuous conflict since the mid-1970s. In the early 2000s, after the Taliban were toppled and the Islamic Republic was taking shape, Afghanistan enjoyed a period of relative calm and stability. Many believed that the country had embarked on a path towards democratisation and socio-economic modernisation. But it was only a matter of time before the Taliban re-emerged from the mountains of Pakistan's tribal belt to challenge the republic. So today's relative calm should not misguide anyone that the Taliban had won absolute lasting control over Afghanistan. It

makes sense for India to adopt a wait-and-watch approach.

Deep networks

In their second stint, the Taliban have sought to project an image of having severed ties with transnational jihadist organisations. The Taliban learned a key lesson from 2001: it was not their repressive policies at home that led to their downfall but their open alliance with al-Qaeda. This time, they have adopted a more pragmatic posture. In public, their leaders insist that they will not allow transnational groups to use Afghan territory. Yet, this does not mean that the Taliban have genuinely severed ties with such groups. The Haqqani network, which has long maintained close ties with al-Qaeda, is now deeply integrated into the Taliban establishment.

According to a recent report by a United Nations Security Council monitoring group, the Taliban have allowed al-Qaeda to consolidate "through safe houses and training camps scattered across Afghanistan". It notes that the Taliban remain "the primary partner of all foreign terrorist groups operating in Afghanistan", including al-Qaeda, Pakistani Taliban, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Lashkar-e-Taiba and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan. The only exception is the Islamic State-Khorasan, which opposes Taliban rule. For now, these groups have been allowed to operate quietly without posing an immediate security threat to Afghanistan's neighbouring countries or the wider region. But if domestic pressures mount, and the Taliban's grip on power weakens, these networks could easily resurface, because they haven't given up their commitment to global jihadism. In that case, the enemy's enemy may well turn out to be India's enemy too.

If India recognises the Taliban regime and allows the so-called Islamic Emirate to take over its embassy in New Delhi, that would grant the Taliban legitimacy they have long sought. It would also strengthen the Taliban's regional standing and prompt more countries to do the same. But such a move would also shut one of the few remaining windows New Delhi can press the Taliban to reform. Rather than pursuing short-term realpolitik, India should adopt a long-term strategic approach. Faced with a hostile Pakistan across the border and a collapsing economy at home, the Taliban need India's assistance far more than India needs the Taliban. While engaging the regime, both bilaterally and through regional and international mechanisms, New Delhi must urge the group to respect at least the fundamental freedoms of the Afghan people. If India's interests lie in stability in Afghanistan, Afghanistan's stability will ultimately depend on economic recovery, political inclusion and regional integration – not on the Taliban's guns.

stanly.johny@thehindu.co.in

Engage the Taliban, Don't Recognise Them

Source: The Hindu; Page No.: 6

Author: Stanly Johny Theme: India-Afghanistan Relations

Summary

The article argues that India should engage with the Taliban regime in Afghanistan but refrain from formally recognising it. The Taliban's return has reshaped regional politics, particularly deepening rifts between Pakistan and Afghanistan, as both accuse each other of cross-border terrorism.

India's Three Objectives

1. Protect its investments in Afghanistan and preserve the goodwill earned during previous governments.
2. Prevent Afghan soil from being used by anti-India terrorist groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed.
3. Ensure the Taliban does not become an instrument of Pakistan's military establishment.

To meet these aims, New Delhi has adopted a policy of conditional and gradual engagement, including reopening its embassy in Kabul and diplomatic talks with Taliban officials.

Regional Context

1. The Taliban appears more united than in the 1990s, while no major regional power (India, China, Russia, or Iran) wants to support anti-Taliban resistance groups.

2. China and Russia are engaging with the Taliban regime, while Pakistan's ties with Kabul have soured due to border clashes and TTP attacks.

3. This situation presents India a limited but crucial diplomatic opening to engage the Taliban cautiously.

Risks of Recognition

Recognising the Taliban now could:

1. Imply acceptance of an ideologically rigid, non-inclusive regime.
2. Create long-term strategic dependence that undermines India's moral and democratic credibility.

The Taliban's social order suppresses women's rights and freedoms, and its economy remains fragile, heavily reliant on humanitarian aid.

Recommended Strategy for India

1. Maintain measured engagement — humanitarian, economic, and diplomatic — without granting formal legitimacy.
2. Use regional and multilateral channels to encourage moderation and ensure that Afghan soil is not used for terrorism
3. Exploit the Taliban's need for economic assistance as leverage to protect Indian interests.
4. Continue coordination with Iran, Russia, and Central Asian states to contain instability and promote regional balance.



Tri-services exercise Trishul begins today, to strengthen joint combat preparedness

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The tri-services exercise Trishul will commence on Monday, with the Indian Navy leading the large-scale joint drills alongside the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force across the creek and desert sectors of Rajasthan and Gujarat, extending into the northern Arabian Sea.

The 12-day exercise is being coordinated by the Western Naval Command.

According to the Navy, the principal formations participating in the exercise include the Army Southern Command, Western Naval Command, and South Western Air Command, supported by the Indian

20,000 troops, tanks, helicopters, fighter aircraft, frigates, and destroyers will take part in the exercise

Coast Guard, Border Security Force, and other Central agencies, underscoring robust inter-agency coordination and multi-domain integration.

Boost interoperability

More than 20,000 troops, supported by T-90S and Arjun tanks, attack helicopters, missile systems, Rafale and Sukhoi-30MKI fighters, as well as a fleet of frigates and destroyers, will take part in the exercise, said sources. The exercise aims

to validate joint operational procedures, enhance interoperability, and strengthen network integration among the services.

It will feature extensive maritime operations, including amphibious landings using *INS Jalashwa* and Landing Craft Utility vessels, alongside carrier operations and air-sea coordinated missions with the Air Force, the Navy added.

A key focus of Trishul, 2025, is on joint intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; electronic warfare; and cyberwarfare operations.

The drills will also emphasise the use of indigenous systems and refine strategies to meet emerging security challenges.

Tri-services exercise Trishul begins today, to strengthen joint combat preparedness

The Hindu: Page No.: 12 Defence News

Why in News:

The tri-services exercise 'Trishul' (2025) has commenced, led by the Indian Navy in coordination with the Indian Army and Indian Air Force, to strengthen joint combat preparedness and interoperability.

The 12-day large-scale exercise is being held across the creek and desert sectors of Rajasthan and Gujarat, extending into the northern Arabian Sea.



ICMR seeks partners to develop antibody against Nipah virus

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has invited Expression of Interest (EoI) from eligible organisations, companies, and manufacturers for the development and production of **monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) against Nipah viral disease**.

The **Nipah virus (NiV)** has emerged as a major **zoonotic threat in India**, with repeated outbreaks recorded **since 2001**. **Case fatality rates range between 40% and 75%**, depending on the level of clinical care available.

“The importance of having **monoclonal antibody stocks ready for deployment in India** cannot be overstated. Given the very high case fatality and absence of licensed vaccines, **mAbs represent the only currently feasible biomedical countermeasure**,” the ICMR said.

Antibodies serve as PEP

It added that monoclonal antibodies could also serve as **post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)** for high-risk contacts such as health-care workers exposed without adequate protection, family members in close contact, or laboratory personnel with accidental exposure. Administered early, they can prevent dis-

ease onset, as demonstrated in animal models.

The council further noted that in patients presenting early during infection, monoclonal antibodies may offer therapeutic benefit by reducing viral load and limiting disease progression.

The ICMR said this initiative aims to build India's indigenous medical countermeasures against Nipah virus, particularly monoclonal antibodies. “The intent is to take this forward through active collaboration with Indian industry partners for developing an indigenous monoclonal antibody platform. Producing the stock will ensure timely access during outbreak and boost national preparedness for viral threats,” it said.

The ICMR-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV), Pune, has already initiated research and development in this direction, with experimental work at an advanced stage.

As per the latest order, the ICMR and its institutes will provide expert guidance and technical support in R&D for developing monoclonal antibodies against Nipah viral disease at all phases. “This technical oversight by ICMR would accelerate the development of the product and its commercialisation,” it said.

ICMR seeks partners to develop antibody against Nipah virus

Source: The Hindu Page No.: 12 Science & Technology

Why in News

ICMR has invited partners to co-develop monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) against the Nipah virus (NiV) to build indigenous biomedical countermeasures and ensure ready stock for outbreak response in India

Role of Monoclonal Antibodies

- Only feasible treatment option as no licensed vaccine exists.
- Reduce viral load, limit disease progression, and prevent fatalities when given early.

Nipah Virus (NiV)

- Zoonotic virus from fruit bats (Pteropus).
- Transmitted from animals or humans via fluids.
- Detected in India since 2001; high fatality (40–75%).
- Causes fever, respiratory distress, and encephalitis.
- Poses major public health threat due to lack of cure or vaccine.

Experts join hands for Ramsar site tag for wetlands in Assam sanctuary

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Conservationists, wildlife officials, academics, and students have got together to push for the Ramsar site tag for two interconnected wetlands in central Assam's Nagaon district.

The Rowmari-Donduwa wetland complex is within the 70.13 sq. km Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary, which is a part of the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. This complex has been recording more birds than the only two Ramsar sites in the northeast - Assam's Deepor Beel and Manipur's Loktak Lake.

A Ramsar site is a wetland designated as one of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental



Joint initiative: Birds at the Rowmari-Donduwa Wetland Complex in central Assam's Nagaon district. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

treaty signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971.

"Laokhowa and the adjoining Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries function as connectivity corridors for wild animals migrating between the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and Orang National Park (Kaziranga-Orang landscape)," said So-

nali Ghosh, the Field Director of Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve.

She said that civil society organisations and students have been researching and monitoring the wetland complex. She said that their efforts have yielded vital data on avian species

and the floodplain-marsh ecosystem of the two wetlands, which cover an area of approximately 3 sq. km. An average of 120 species of resident and migratory birds, including globally threatened species such as the knob-billed duck, black-necked stork, and the ferruginous pochard, have been recorded in the wetland complex annually.

According to the 6th Kaziranga Waterbird Census conducted a few months ago, 20,653 birds of 75 species were recorded at the Rowmari Beel, and 26,480 birds of 88 species were counted at Donduwa Beel.

Assam Forest Department officials said a proposal has been submitted to make the Rowmari-Donduwa wetland complex to a Ramsar Site.

Experts join hands for Ramsar site tag for wetlands in Assam sanctuary

Source: The Hindu: Page No.: 12 Environment

Why in News

ICMR has invited partners to co-develop monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) against the Nipah virus (NiV) to build indigenous biomedical countermeasures and ensure ready stock for outbreak response in India.

Role of Monoclonal Antibodies

- Only feasible treatment option as no licensed vaccine exists.
- Reduce viral load, limit disease progression, and prevent fatalities when given early.

Nipah Virus (NiV)

- Zoonotic virus from fruit bats (Pteropus).
- Transmitted from animals or humans via fluids.
- Detected in India since 2001; high fatality (40–75%).
- Causes fever, respiratory distress, and encephalitis.
- Poses major public health threat due to lack of cure or vaccine.

Trump warns Nigeria of aid cut and military action over 'persecution' of Christians

Agence France-Presse

WEST PALM BEACH

U.S. President Donald Trump threatened on Saturday to send the military into Nigeria with "guns-a-blazing" if Africa's most populous country does not stem what he described as the killing of Christians by Islamists.

In an explosive post, the Republican leader said on social media he asked the Pentagon to map out a possible plan of attack, one day after warning that Christianity was "facing an existential threat in Nigeria."

Nigeria is embroiled in numerous conflicts that experts say have killed both



Donald Trump

Christians and Muslims without distinction.

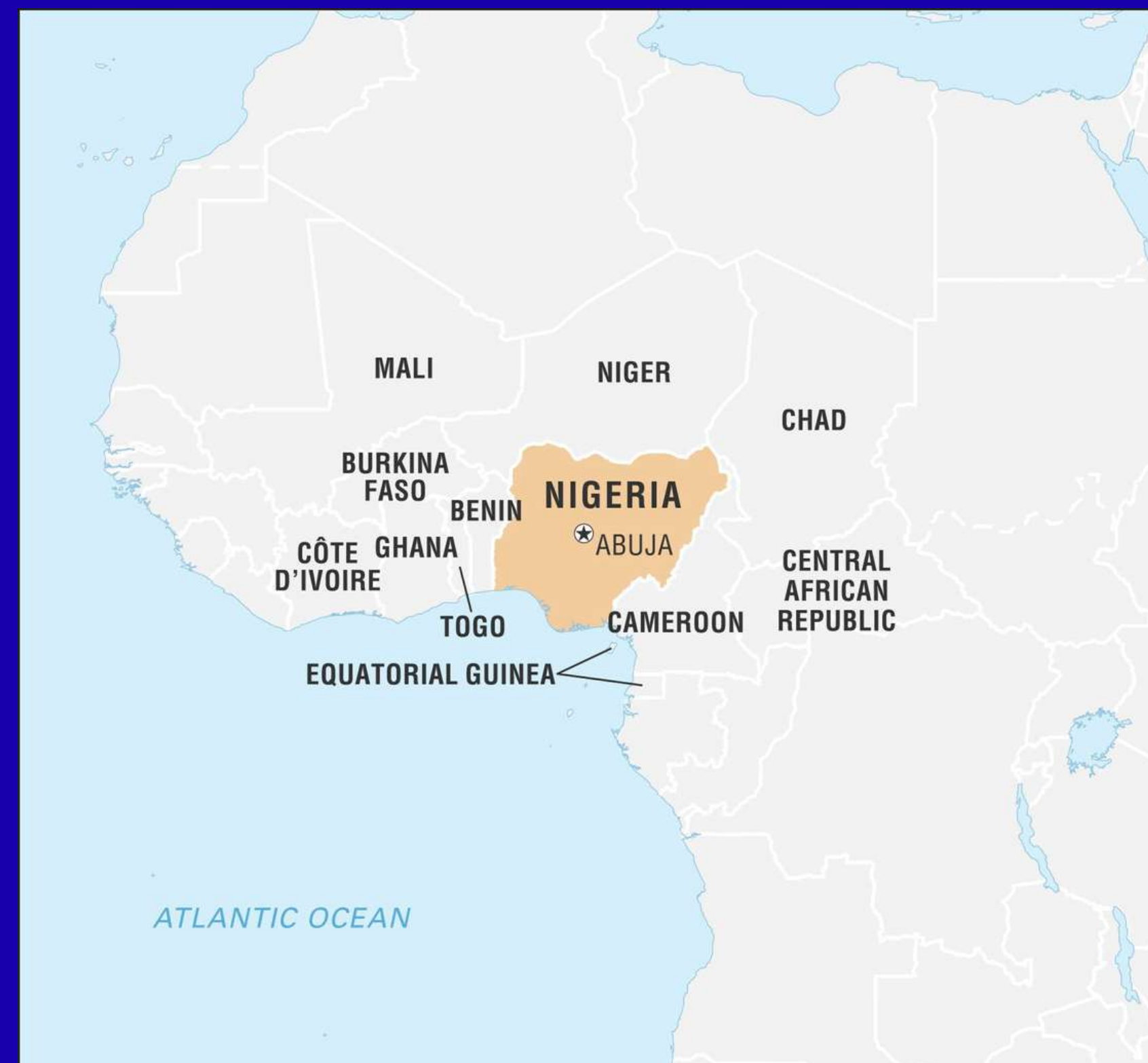
"If the Nigerian Government continues to allow the killing of Christians, the U.S.A. will immediately stop all aid and assistance to Nigeria, and may very well go into that now disgraced country, 'guns-a-

blazing,' to completely wipe out the Islamic Terrorists who are committing these horrible atrocities," Mr. Trump said.

"I am hereby instructing our Department of War to prepare for possible action. If we attack, it will be fast, vicious, and sweet, just like the terrorist thugs attack our CHERISHED Christians," he added.

Daniel Bwala, an adviser to Nigerian President Bola Tinubu, said on Sunday it would welcome U.S. help in fighting Islamist insurgents as long as its territorial integrity is respected, responding to threats of U.S. military action.

(With inputs from Reuters)



Trump warns Nigeria of aid cut and military action over 'persecution' of Christians

The Hindu; Page No.: 14 Category: Countries / Places in News

Why in News

The U.S. President Donald Trump warned that the U.S. may cut aid or take military action against Nigeria if the country fails to stop what he called the persecution and killings of Christians by Islamist groups.

Nigeria

1. Geopolitical Significance

- Most populous country in Africa (~220 million people).
- Largest economy in Africa (diversified—oil, agriculture, telecom, and services).
- Plays a leading role in the African Union (AU), ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States), and regional peacekeeping.

2. Energy Importance

- Top crude oil producer in Africa, member of OPEC.
- Supplies about 5-8% of India's total crude oil imports (especially light, sweet crude).
- India is one of Nigeria's largest trading partners; bilateral trade exceeds \$12 billion annually.

MOSCOW

Russia's new nuclear submarine with 'doomsday' missile unveiled



AP

Russia has launched its latest nuclear submarine to be armed with a 'Poseidon' nuclear drone, also known as 'doomsday missile' capable of "wiping out" coastal nations, according to media reports. The nuclear submarine 'Khabarovsk' was launched by Russian Defence Minister Andrei Belousovin Severodvinsk. PTI

MANILA

Canada and Philippines sign key defence pact in bid to deter China



REUTERS

Canada and the Philippines, both staunch critics of China's coercive actions in the disputed South China Sea, signed a key defence pact to boost combat drills and expand security alliances. Philippine Defence Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. signed the deal with his Canadian counterpart David McGuinty on Sunday. AP



Russia's 'Doomsday' Submarine Unveiled

- Russia launched nuclear submarine Khabarovsk armed with Poseidon nuclear drone — a "doomsday missile" capable of wiping out coastal nations.
- Marks major boost in Russia's underwater nuclear deterrence and strategic modernization.

Canada-Philippines Defence Pact

- Canada and the Philippines signed a defence pact to boost joint combat drills and expand security cooperation.
- Aimed at deterring China's assertiveness in the South China Sea and strengthening Indo-Pacific security ties.

Nearly 300 killed in
Bangladesh political
violence: rights group