

Topics - MINDS MAPS included (Daily current affairs) 16th November 2024

- **Barak River**
- **Geography BAKU**
- **Trade Barrier linked to emission**
- **Methamphetamine**
- **MAINS**



By saurabh Pandey



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Manipur police recover three bodies from Barak river

Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI

Four days after three children and three women were allegedly abducted by armed militants in Jiribam district during an encounter with the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the police, the Manipur police are yet to trace the victims.

A government source told *The Hindu* that the police found three bodies, of a woman and two children, floating in the Barak river on Friday afternoon and are ascertaining their identity.

“We cannot definitively say that the bodies belong to the missing victims, we are waiting for the post-mortem report. The bodies were, however, found close to the location from where the abductions took place,” said the source.

A police source said that

the bodies were in a decomposed condition, indicating that they were killed few days ago.

The source added that the bodies have been sent to Silchar Medical College in neighbouring Assam for an autopsy.

“The bodies were found by a search party that had been deployed to trace the six missing individuals,” said the police source.

A photograph of the victims circulated on social media on November 12, where they can be seen huddled together in a forested area, indicating that they had been abducted.

The government source said that the photograph was first posted on Facebook and police are trying to trace the originating account and its linked phone number.

Those who were abducted include a 25-year-old woman and her two chil-



High alert: Police stand guard along the Imphal-Moirang road amid militant activity at Ningthoukhong town in Manipur's Bishnupur. AFP

dren, an eight-month-old and a two-year-old boy, a 31-year-old woman and her eight-year-old daughter, and a 60-year old woman. All six are from the same family.

Plaint filed

Laisharam Herojit is a policeman and the father of two of the missing children. He told *The Hindu*

that, in September, he had sent his family to his mother's home in Jiribam for their safety as he was posted in another volatile area. Mr. Herojit filed a police complaint on Friday with the help of senior policemen though he could not travel to Jiribam.

“I last spoke to my wife at around 3:30 p.m. on November 11. She was hiding

under the bed with the children when they [armed militants] entered the house. We spoke for 30 to 40 seconds and then the call was disconnected. I have not heard anything from them since,” Mr. Herojit said, adding that he had only received his family's photograph after it had gone viral on social media.

The women and children went missing as armed militants came looking for Meitei people before they attacked the CRPF camp and the police station next to it. The victims were living in the camp's vicinity. The area had been on edge since November 7 when armed miscreants captured, and burned a Hmar woman to death, apart from torching at least a dozen houses.

Manipur police said on Friday that “senior officers of IG (Inspector General) and DIG (Deputy Inspector

General) ranks of Manipur Police are presently stationed in Jiribam and Boro-bekra areas for supervision and coordination of efforts by forces regarding the 06 (six) missing persons.”

The official said that the central security agencies and the Assam Rifles were in touch with the Kuki-Zo-Hmar civil society groups.

Inspector Sagapam Ibombi Singh, the officer-in-charge at Jiribam police station, resigned from service on Friday, a day after he was shunted from the post. In a letter addressed to the Director General of Police, Manipur, he said that he joined the police in 2007 as an assistant sub-inspector and was promoted to the Inspector rank in 2016 but would now like to tender his resignation from service “voluntarily” due to “unavoidable circumstances” in the family and “other reasons”.



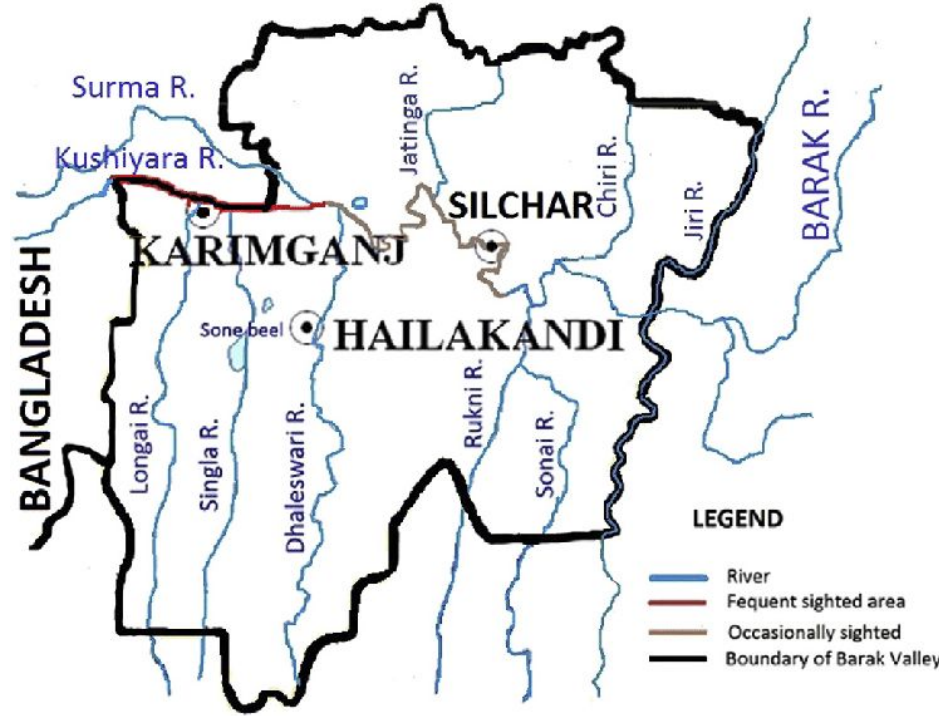
Topic-- Barak River

- The Barak River flows for a total length of 900 kilometers (560 miles).
- It traverses through the Indian states of Manipur, Mizoram, and Assam.
- The river enters Bangladesh, where it splits into the Surma and Kushiya rivers.
- The Surma and Kushiya rivers converge to form the Meghna river, which contributes to the Ganges Delta.
- Of its total length, 524 km (326 mi) is located in India, while 31 km (19 mi) is in Bangladesh.
- The navigable section of the river in India is 121 km (75 mi) long, between Lakhimpur and Bhanga.





- **This navigable section was declared National Waterway 6 (NW-6) in 2016.**
- **Summary: The Barak River, flowing 900 km through India and Bangladesh, is significant for navigation and contributes to the Ganges Delta.**



India says climate finance is not an 'investment goal'



Green image: Women posing for a picture by the logo of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Baku on Friday. REUTERS

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

At the ongoing COP29 negotiations in Azerbaijan's Baku, India stated that climate finance – the money that's necessary to incentivise and facilitate developing countries' adoption of renewable energy sources over fossil fuels – should not be seen as "investment goals" by developed countries.

"Climate finance cannot be changed into an investment goal when it is a unidirectional provision and mobilisation goal from the developed to the developing countries. The Paris Agreement is clear on who is to provide and mobilise the climate finance – it is the developed countries," said a statement by India's lead negotiator, Naresh Pal Gangwar, on late Thursday (November 14, 2024). The statement was formally made public by the Union Environment Ministry on Friday. Currently, \$5-6.8 trillion worth of climate finance until 2030 is being mooted at Baku.

Several technical issues are being deliberated upon at Baku. The key moment, however, that the hundreds of negotiators are working upon is the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance. This is an estimate of the money

that developing countries will collectively require from developed countries to adapt to climate change and shift to renewable sources without compromising on developmental needs. The existing estimate, agreed upon in 2009, was to mobilise and deliver \$100 billion annually from 2020-2025 but was fulfilled – not to universal agreement – only in 2022. However, in 2021, the countries collectively decided to increase it.

They decided to come up with a new number and make it operational by 2025. This is why the Baku COP is expected to deliver on a new number to make the COP a success.

Intervening on behalf of a collective called 'Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDCs), at the High-Level Ministerial on Climate Finance in Baku, India, highlighted that the impacts of climate change were increasingly becoming evident in the form of unfolding disasters.

India's intervention reiterated that the developed countries need to commit to providing and mobilising at least \$1.3 trillion every year till 2030.

INDIA VOICES DISSENT

» PAGE 5

WARS DISTRACTING TALKS

» PAGE 13



Topic --Geography BAKU



Geographical Location: Azerbaijan is located in the Caucasus region, at the intersection of Eastern Europe and West Asia.

Physical Features: The country is characterized by the Caspian Sea to the east, the Greater Caucasus mountain range to the north, and extensive flatlands in the center.

Land Area: Azerbaijan covers approximately 86,600 km², comparable in size to Portugal or the US state of Maine, and constitutes less than 1% of the former Soviet Union's land area.



Administrative Divisions: Key subdivisions include the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic and the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region, the latter being internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan despite territorial disputes with Armenia.

Borders: Azerbaijan shares borders with the Caspian Sea (east), Georgia and Russia (north), Iran (south), Armenia (southwest and west), and a small part of Nakhchivan borders Turkey (northwest).



Capital City: Baku, the capital, is an ancient city known for having the largest and best harbor on the Caspian Sea and is a historical center for the oil industry.

Territorial Dispute: The status of Nagorno-Karabakh is a point of contention with Armenia, despite its international recognition as Azerbaijani territory.

Summary: Azerbaijan, located in the Caucasus region, features diverse geography, significant administrative divisions, and a capital known for its oil industry, amidst ongoing territorial disputes.



- ravines of **Kobustan Mountain** near Baku.
- To the northeast, bordering Russia's Dagestan Autonomous Republic, is the **Greater Caucasus** range; to the west, bordering Armenia, is the **Lesser Caucasus** range.
- To the extreme southeast, the **Talysh Mountains** form part of the border with Iran



India voices dissent against trade barriers linked to emissions

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

India has voiced its disapproval of “protectionist” measures that link trade barriers and carbon emissions, at the ongoing climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan.

A week before the UN summit began, China had petitioned the Presidency of the 29th Conference of Parties (COP 29) to include a discussion on “climate change-related unilateral restrictive trade measures” as part of the formal conference agenda.

“A regime of unilateral trade measures on climate change,” India stated on Friday, “imposes the cost of the transition to low-carbon economies on developing and low-income countries... [S]uch measures are discriminatory... and detrimental to multilateral cooperation. They violate principles of equity.”

China’s petition was put forward on behalf of a grouping of countries called BASIC, which in-

cludes Brazil, South Africa, India, and China.

The petition is primarily directed against a European Union proposal called the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which imposes a tax on products imported into the EU that do not conform to its carbon emission norms. CBAM is currently operating in a “transitional phase” but will come into full effect from January 1, 2026.

Neither the BASIC proposal nor India’s statement explicitly mention the CBAM; instead, they use the phrase “arbitrary and unjustifiable unilateral measures”.

A person aware of India’s negotiating positions told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity, that this was because using the term ‘CBAM’ would be seen as directly targeting the EU, or a bloc of countries.

This is generally considered to be against the spirit of UN-backed negotiations on climate conventions.





● Topic -Trade Barrier linked to emission

- India disapproves of protectionist measures linking trade barriers to carbon emissions at climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- China has requested the inclusion of discussions on unilateral restrictive trade measures related to climate change in the COP 29 agenda.
- India argues that unilateral trade measures impose costs on developing countries and violate principles of equity, hindering multilateral cooperation.
- The BASIC group, which includes Brazil, South Africa, India, and China, supports China's petition against such measures.
- The petition primarily targets the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which taxes non-compliant imported products, set to fully take effect on January 1, 2026.





- Neither the BASIC proposal nor India's statement directly mentions CBAM, opting for the term "arbitrary and unjustifiable unilateral measures" to avoid targeting the EU explicitly.
- Using the term 'CBAM' is seen as contrary to the spirit of UN climate negotiations, according to an anonymous source familiar with India's negotiating stance.

Summary: India and China express concerns over protectionist trade measures linked to carbon emissions at COP 29, particularly targeting the EU's CBAM




About BASIC COUNTRIES

 Formation of BASIC: The BASIC countries, consisting of Brazil, South Africa, India, and China, formed a bloc on November 28, 2009, to address climate change collectively.

 Copenhagen Climate Summit: The bloc committed to act jointly at the Copenhagen climate summit, threatening a united walk-out if their minimum demands were not met by developed nations.

 BRICS Membership: All BASIC countries are part of the BRICS alliance, which expanded to include Russia and other developing nations in 2024.

 Copenhagen Accord: BASIC played a key role in brokering the Copenhagen Accord with the United States, although they later described it as a non-legally binding political agreement.

Emission Reduction Plans: The BASIC countries pledged to announce their greenhouse gas emission reduction plans by January 31, 2010, as part of their commitments made in Copenhagen.



Support for G77 Nations: The bloc discussed providing financial and technical aid to poorer nations within the G77, aiming to encourage wealthier nations to increase their climate funding.



Climate Aid Discussions: BASIC is working to define a common stance on emission reductions and climate aid, seeking broader support for the Copenhagen Accord.

Summary: The BASIC countries, formed in 2009, are a coalition of Brazil, South Africa, India, and China focused on climate change negotiations and support for developing nations.



700 kg meth seized off Gujarat coast, 8 arrested

The accused claimed to be Iranian nationals; the operation was carried out off Porbandar by the Narcotics Control Bureau, in coordination with the Navy and the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), in coordination with the Navy and the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), on Friday seized 700 kg of methamphetamine off the coast of Porbandar and arrested eight foreigners, who claimed to be Iranian nationals. The seizure and arrests were made as part of Operation Sagar Manthan launched earlier this year to target drug trafficking through maritime routes.

NCB Deputy Director-General (Operations) Gyaneshwar Singh said the contraband was found on a vessel in the territorial waters of India. The foreign nationals were not carrying any identification documents.

The fourth Sagar Manthan operation was launched following inputs about an unregistered ves-



The eight foreigners who were arrested from a vessel off the coast of Gujarat. NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU

sel, which did not have the automatic identification system installed on it, carrying drugs into the Indian territorial waters. The vessel was identified and intercepted by the Navy by mobilising its mission-deployed maritime patrol assets.

“Investigations to identify the backward and forward linkages of the drug syndicate are on for which help of foreign DLEAs

(Drug Law Enforcement Agencies) is being taken. This operation is also a great example of inter-agency cooperation and coordination,” said Mr. Singh. Under Operation Sagar Manthan, a series of such maritime exercises have been undertaken and about 3,400 kg of various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances have been seized. Eleven Iranian and 14 Pakistani na-

In Delhi, NCB seizes 82.52 kg of cocaine

NEW DELHI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) seized 82.52 kg of high-grade cocaine from Delhi's Janakpuri and Nangloi on Friday. Two persons were arrested in the case. The agency had intercepted a parcel with some quantity from a courier shop in Delhi, which was being sent to Australia.

tionals have also been arrested in three cases.

“These significant operational achievements in the Indian territorial waters are a testament to our resolve to eradicate the scourge of drugs from India to realise our vision of a Nasha Mukta Bharat by 2047 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah,” said Mr. Singh.



Methamphetamine



Key Points

Definition: Methamphetamine is a powerful, highly addictive stimulant that affects the central nervous system.

Forms: Available in various forms including powder, crystal, and pills.

Usage: Commonly used recreationally for its euphoric effects but can lead to severe health issues.

Legal Status: Classified as a Schedule II controlled substance in many countries due to its high potential for abuse

- **Methamphetamine (CAS-537-46-2) is a member of the phenethylamine family, which includes a range of substances that may be stimulants, entactogens or hallucinogens.**
- **Thus, methamphetamine is N, α -dimethylphenethylamine. According to IUPAC, the fully systematic name is N, α -dimethylbenzeneethanamine**







Q. With reference to the Vesuvius Volcano consider the following statements.

1) Is part of the Campanian volcanic arc.

2) Mount Vesuvius is a somma- stratovolcano, which means it's a volcanic caldera that's been partially filled by a new central cone.

3) The volcano's summit caldera is partially encircled by a steep rim.

How many of the given statements is/are incorrect.

A) 1 Only

B) 2 Only

C) 3 Only

D) None



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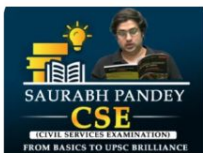
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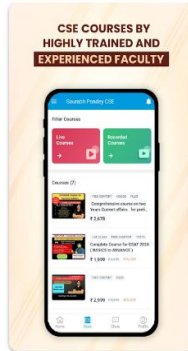
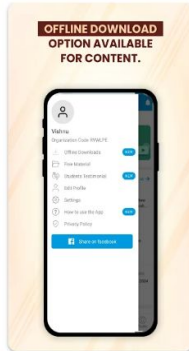
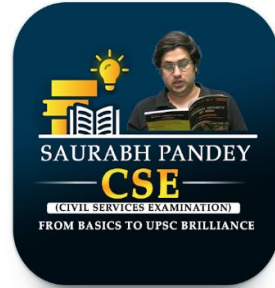
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