

**Decoding The Hindu Article**

# ‘Labour participation dips to 40% from 46% in six years’

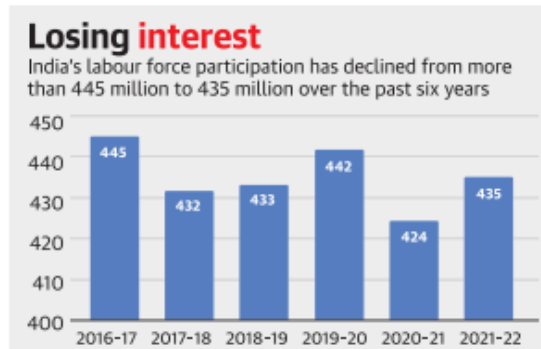
Labour force participation for women drops to 9.2% from 15%, CMIE data show

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
CHENNAI

Only 40% of Indians of legal working age were employed or were looking for jobs in 2021-22. In comparison, the labour force participation rate was above 46% in 2016-17, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy.

In absolute terms, India’s labour force has shrunk from about 445 million to 435 million in the six years. Currently, about 1,085 million Indians are aged 15 or above and can be legally employed.

Labour force participation among women, which was already in low double di-



gits, has declined further. In 2016-17, about 15% women were employed or looking for jobs. This metric dipped to 9.2% in 2021-22.

Among men, the participation rate declined to 67%,

from more than 74%. The dip in the participation rate was higher in the urban areas.

The rate slid to 37.5% from 44.7% in urban areas – a more than seven percentage-point drop. The rate in rural

areas fell to 41.4% from 46.9%. Of the 24 States with data, 23 saw participation rates decline in March 2022 compared with March 2016.

The rate dropped in all the States, except in Rajasthan. The slide was more pronounced in two southern States, which had a high participation rate to start with.

Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu had participation rates of 54% and 56%, respectively, in March 2016, and witnessed the sharpest declines. Between 2016 and 2022, participation rates fell 20 percentage points and 17 percentage points for Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

## Decoding The Hindu Article

### Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Steep	(Adjective): (of a price or demand) not reasonable; excessive.	अनुचित

### Static News

The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy is an independent non-government entity that serves both as an economic think-tank as well as a business information company. CMIE research group has built databases on the Indian economy and private companies.

Founded: 13 April 1976

Headquarters location: Mumbai

Chhattisgarh, an Indian state located in the east-central region, has the country's lowest unemployment rate. It is estimated to have a population of 32.19 million, according to government data, of which tribals such as Gond, Kanwar, and Uraon constitute 30.6%

### Grammar

News, innings, politics, summons, physics, economics, ethics, mathematics, mumps, measles, rickets, shingles, billiards, athletics are certain nouns that are plural in form but singular in meaning. They take singular verb.

Example: No news is good news.

## Decoding The Hindu Article

# 'Govt. must cut duty on fuel if oil price stays above \$100'

**CII** president urges 'efficient welfarism', flags inflation

**VIKAS DHOOT**  
NEW DELHI

The government should consider offering relief to Indian consumers by paring excise duties on petroleum products, if global crude oil prices remain above \$100 a barrel, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) president T.V. Narendran said on Monday.

Mooting a mix of 'some efficient welfarism with appropriate policy action to control inflation', Mr. Narendran indicated it was essential to sustain consumption.

"While most sectors have recovered to pre-pandemic activity levels, the recovery in consumption had been a bit fragile and demand is



T.V. Narendran

starting to strengthen now," he said in an interview.

"If oil prices stay above \$100, then if there is something that can be done on excise duties, etc. to reduce the pressure on the common man... that's something to be considered along with

checking if there is some room between the refiners' margin and the retail margins," he suggested. The CII is also mooted a simplification of the Goods and Services Tax regime with fewer rates and resolution of anomalies in norms relating to taxes deducted at source and tax collected at source to spur the economy amid the heightened uncertainty caused by the war in Europe and surging input costs.

"To be fair to the RBI, it has been very prudent so far and too much inflation is also not good for economic activity," he said, adding that the government must persist with its infrastructure spending focus.

**Vocabulary**

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Denude	(Verb): strip (something) of its covering, possessions, or assets.	उघाड़ना
Abets	(Verb): encourage or assist (someone) to do something wrong, in particular to commit a crime.	शह मिलती है
Preclude	(verb): prevent from happening; make impossible.	रोकना

**Static News**

The Confederation of Indian Industry is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group headquartered in New Delhi, India, founded in 1895. CII engages business, political, academic, and other leaders of society to shape global, regional, and industry agendas. It is a membership-based organisation.

President: T. V. Narendran

Members: Direct 9,000+; Indirect 3,00,000

Director General: Chandrajit Banerjee

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

**Grammar**

A descriptive adjective is a word which describes nouns and pronouns. Most of the adjectives belong in this type. These adjectives provide information and attribute to the nouns/pronouns they modify or describe. Descriptive adjectives are also called qualitative adjectives.

The descriptive adjectives can be simply defined as the type of adjectives that are used to express the size, color, or shape of a person, a thing, an animal, or a place. They are used to provide more information to a noun by describing or modifying it.

## Decoding The Hindu Article

# India's Russian oil imports in 2 months exceed twice 2021 total

40 mn barrels bought since Feb. 24 versus 16 mn in 2021

**REUTERS**  
NEW DELHI

India has bought more than twice as much crude oil from Russia in the two months since its invasion of Ukraine as it did in the whole of 2021, according to Reuters calculations, as Indian refiners snapped up discounted oil that others have **shunned**.

Refiners in India have placed orders for at least 40 million barrels of Russian oil since the invasion on February 24, Reuters calculations based on information from crude tenders and traders show. The purchases are for loading in the June quarter.

That compares with total imports of Russian oil into



India of 16 million barrels in the whole of last year, according to Reuters calculations. India ships in more than 85% of its crude oil needs of 5 million barrels per day. Its refiners are buying cheaper Russian oil to partly offset the impact of higher official selling prices of producers like Saudi Ara-

bia, company sources said.

According to Reuters calculations, purchases of Russian barrels by private refiners outstrip imports by state refiners IOC, HPCL and BPCL. Reliance has bought at least 15 million barrel of Russian oil so far for the June quarter, trade sources said last week.

**Nayara Energy**, part owned by Russia's Rosneft, has purchased 8-9 million barrels of Russian crude for loading in April-May, trade sources said. Analysts said India's Russian oil imports may taper off as a full-scale implementation of the European and U.S. sanctions from mid-May and late June might hit logistics.



## Decoding The Hindu Article

### Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Flutter	(Noun): a small bet.	स्पंदन
Shunned	(Adjective): persistently avoided, ignored, or rejected.	त्याग

### Static News

Nayara Energy Limited is a privately-held downstream oil company based in Mumbai, India, that encompasses refining, marketing, production and a network of over 6,000+ retail fuel outlets in India. It operates India's second-largest oil refinery in Vadinar, Gujarat. Wikipedia

Owners: Rosneft (49.13%) Trafigura Group and United Capital Partners (49.13%)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Revenue: 87,371 crores INR (US\$11.93 billion, 2020)

Founded: 1989

### Grammar

Predicative adjectives go after the verb, in the second position. They often function as the object of the verb. Since the verb and the object are the predicate of the sentence, we use the term "predicative."

They are describing the subject of the sentence. These adjectives are essential information in the sentence - in fact, the goal of sentences is usually to share this information.



Blue Represents the  
Vocabulary



Yellow Represents  
the Static News



Red Represents the  
Grammar

# Improved GSLV to be ready by this year

Modifications have been made to its cryogenic upper stage as per panel's recommendations

**TIKI RAJWI**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) with improvements added to its cryogenic upper stage (CUS) is expected to be ready in the second half of this year.

A high-level panel which examined last year's failed GSLV-F10/EOS-03 mission had recommended measures for making the CUS more **robust**. Indian Space Research Organisation's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) is tasked with making the required modifications to the cryogenic engine-powered upper stage of the GSLV Mk II rocket.

A senior official of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre



**Fixed up:** The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle failed to inject into the orbit on August 12, 2021. • FILE PHOTO

(VSSC), ISRO's lead unit on launch vehicles, says the next GSLV flight will be held once the modifications are incorporated.

The GSLV-F10 mission on August 12, 2021 was designed to place the earth observa-

tion satellite EOS-03 in a geosynchronous transfer orbit, but the upper stage of the rocket malfunctioned, forcing the space agency to abort the mission. A national-level Failure Analysis Committee (FAC) later concluded that a

leak in a Vent and Relief Valve (VRV) had led to a lower build-up of pressure in the Liquid Hydrogen (LH2) propellant tank, leading to a failed mission.

### To avoid leaks

Modifications planned include a mechanism to ensure sufficient pressure in the tank before the engine burns and strengthening of the VRV to avoid leaks.

On Thursday, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology **Jitendra Singh** informed the Rajya Sabha in a written reply that computer simulations as well as multiple ground tests, "closely simulating the conditions in the GSLV-F10 flight, had validated the ana-

lysis of the FAC." He points out that the satellite for the next GSLV mission is expected to be ready for launch in the fourth quarter of 2022 and the mission failure is not likely to delay "related projects".

The FAC, whose report was published in March, points to a leak in the VRV as the underlying reason for the failure. Pressure build-up in the liquid hydrogen (LH2) propellant tank was low when the upper stage engine was to ignite. This caused the fuel booster turbo pump inside the LH2 tank, which feeds the main turbo pump of the engine to malfunction, affecting the flow of propellant into the engine thrust chamber.

## Decoding The Hindu Article

### Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Robust	(Adjective): strong and healthy; vigorous.	मजबूत

### Static News

Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle is an expendable launch system operated by the Indian Space Research Organisation. GSLV was used in fourteen launches from 2001 to 2021, with more launches planned. Even though GSLV Mark III shares the name, it is an entirely different launch vehicle.

The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) is a major space research centre of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), focusing on rocket and space vehicles for India's satellite programme. It is located in Thiruvananthapuram, in the Indian state of Kerala. The centre had its beginnings as the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) in 1962. It was renamed in honour of Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, often regarded as the father of the Indian space program. H.G.S. Murthy was appointed as the first Director of Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station

### Grammar

Conjunctive adverbs are parts of speech that are used to connect one clause to another. They are also used to show sequence, contrast, cause and effect, and other relationships. It provides transitions between ideas and shows relationships. Conjunctive adverbs are also called connectors.

Examples:

It rained last night. Nonetheless, the final match has not been canceled



Blue Represents the Vocabulary



Yellow Represents the Static News



Red Represents the Grammar



**Decoding The Hindu Article**

# HDFC Bank Q4 net rises 23% to ₹10,055 cr.

Profit buoyed by loan growth, lower provisioning; board to meet April 23 to consider dividend

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
NEW DELHI

India's largest private sector lender HDFC Bank on Saturday reported a 23% jump in standalone net profit to ₹10,055.20 crore for the March quarter, led by growth in loan demand across categories and lower provisioning as the lender trimmed bad loans.

The bank's net profit during the corresponding period of the previous fiscal stood at ₹8,186.51 crore.

"After providing ₹2,989.5 crore for taxation, the bank earned a net profit of ₹10,055.20 crore, an increase of 22.8% over the quarter ended March 31, 2021," it said in a filing.

Total income on a standalone basis rose by more than 8% to ₹41,085.78 crore in the January-March period, from



**Adding heft:** HDFC Bank said it added 734 branches and 21,486 employees during the year. • REUTERS

₹38,017.50 crore in the same quarter of 2020-21.

"Advances were up 20.8%, with the growth coming across products and segments," the bank said in a release. "We continued to add new liability relationships at a robust pace of 2.4 million

(24 lakh) during the quarter."

Retail loans grew by 15.2%, commercial and rural banking loans by 30.4% and corporate and other wholesale loans by 17.4%, it said. Overseas advances constituted 3.1% of the total advances.

Its net revenues (net inter-

est income plus other income) increased by 7.3% to ₹26,509.80 crore for the quarter.

The net interest income (interest earned minus interest expended) grew by 10.2% from the year-earlier period to ₹18,872.70 crore.

The bank said its non-interest income was almost 29% of its net revenues at ₹7,637.10 crore.

HDFC Bank added 563 branches and 7,167 employees during the quarter, and 734 branches and 21,486 employees during the year.

"This, and other investments made during the year, will position the bank to capitalise on the growth opportunity," it added.

On the asset quality front, the bank said the gross non-performing assets (NPAs) were at 1.17% of the gross ad-

vances as on March 31, 2022, compared with 1.26% earlier.

**Net NPAs shrink**

Net NPAs (or bad loans) stood at 0.32% of the net advances, as against 0.40%.

Provisions and contingencies for the quarter ended March were at ₹3,312.40 crore (consisting of specific loan loss provisions of ₹1,778.20 crore and general and other provisions of ₹1,534.20 crore). Total provisions were at ₹4,693.70 crore in the year-earlier quarter.

For the full year ended March 31, total income (standalone) rose to ₹1,57,263 crore from ₹1,46,063.10 crore in the previous fiscal. Net profit rose by 18.8% to ₹36,961.30 crore in 2021-22.

On a consolidated basis, net profit in the last quarter rose 23.8% to ₹10,443 crore.

HDFC Bank Q4 net rises 23% to ₹10,055 cr. Profit buoyed by loan growth, lower provisioning; board to meet April 23 to consider dividend

## Decoding The Hindu Article

### Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Clinched	(Verb): grapple at close quarters, especially (of boxers) so as to be too closely engaged for full-arm blows.	जीता

### Static News

As of April 2019, HDFC enjoys a market capitalization of Rs. 6,25,666.08 crores. It was incorporated in 1994 as a subsidiary of the Housing Development Finance Corporation, with its registered office in Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.

Key people Atanu Chakraborty (Chairman), Sashidhar Jagdishan (CEO)

As of December 31, 2021, the Bank's distribution network was at 5,779 branches across 2,956 cities.

### Grammar

Adverbs of frequency are used to express time or how often something occurs. Adverbs of frequency can be split into two main groups. The first, adverbs of indefinite frequency, are terms that have an unclear meaning as to how long or how often something occurs: usually, always, normally. These adverbs will usually be placed after the main verb or between the auxiliary verb and infinitive.

Examples:

☐ The adverb is usually placed before the main verb.

☐ I can normally make the shot.

☐ I will always love

## Decoding The Hindu Article

# India bests New Zealand



**Breezing through:** Ankita is all smiles after her victory over New Zealand's Hourigan. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

### BILLIE JEAN CUP

SPORTS BUREAU

Rutuja Bhosale and Ankita Raina won their singles matches as India beat New Zealand 2-1 in the round robin league of the Asia-Oceania Billie Jean King Cup women's tennis tournament in Antalya, Turkey.

Rutuja handled a tricky tie-break in the second set to beat Valentina Ivanov in straight sets, while Ankita was more assertive in her 7-5, 6-3 victory over Paige Hourigan in the second singles.

It was the second victory for India after the one against Indonesia. India had earlier lost to Japan and China.

The top two teams qualify for the World Group play-off while the bottom two teams from the six-team competition would get relegated to group-2.

**The results (league): India bt New Zealand 2-1** (Rutuja Bhosale bt Valentina Ivanov 6-1, 7-6(3); Ankita Raina bt Paige Hourigan 7-5, 6-3; Sowjanya Bavisetti & Riya Bhatia lost to Paige Hourigan & Erin Routliffe 2-6, 0-6).

## Decoding The Hindu Article

### Vocabulary

Word	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning
Enigma	(Noun): a person or thing that is mysterious or difficult to understand.	पहेली

### Static News

Rutuja Sampatrao Bhosale is an Indian tennis player. She made her debut for the India Fed Cup team in 2012. In that year, she also achieved her highest junior ranking of world No. 55.

Born: 27 March 1996 (age 26 years), Shirampur.

Ankita Ravinderkrishan Raina is an Indian professional tennis player. She is the current Indian no. 1 in women's singles. Raina has won one title on the WTA Tour and one at WTA 125 tournaments, along with 11 singles and 20 doubles titles on the ITF Circuit.

Born: 11 January 1993 (age 29 years), Ahmedabad

### Grammar

The complex houses married and single soldiers and their families.

Which Parts of speech does 'houses' in the above mentioned sentence belongs to?