

Unexplained sudden death among young adults not due to COVID vaccination: ICMR

NEW DELHI, Nov 21 (PTI)

ADMITTED to the hospital for COVID-19 in the past, family history of sudden death and certain lifestyle behaviours increased the likelihood of unexplained death among young adults in India and not COVID vaccination, an ICMR study said on Tuesday.

The study "Factors associated with sudden deaths among adults aged 18-45 years in India – a multicentric matched case-control study" has been published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research.

"We found no evidence of a positive association of COVID-19 vac-

ination with unexplained sudden death among young adults. On the contrary, the present study documents that COVID-19 vaccination indeed reduced the risk of unexplained sudden death in this age group," the study said.

It highlighted that family history of sudden death, hospitalization for COVID-19 and lifestyle behaviours such as recent binge drinking and vigorous-intensity physical activity were risk factors for unexplained sudden death.

Addressing these factors among young adults could potentially modify their risk of unexplained sudden death.

None should compromise on terrorism: Jaishankar at BRICS

NEW DELHI, Nov 21 (PTI)

At a BRICS meeting convened to discuss the Israel-Hamas conflict, India on Tuesday said the immediate crisis was triggered by a terrorist attack and none should compromise where terrorism is concerned, even as it called for addressing concerns of Palestinians and stressed the two-state solution.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who addressed the virtual meeting on behalf of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, also pointed out that in

response to the crisis in Gaza, India has sent 70 tonnes of humanitarian assistance and will continue its relief assistance.

“The ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict in Gaza is causing immense human suffering, including to civilians, elderly, women and children. We welcome all efforts of the international community towards de-escalation. Right now there is an urgent need to ensure that humanitarian aid and relief, effectively and safely reach the population of Gaza,” Jaishankar

said at the meeting hosted by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and attended by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, among others.

“It is also imperative that all hostages are released. We believe that there is a universal obligation to observe international humanitarian law. We are all aware that the immediate crisis was triggered by the terrorist attack of October 7.”

BROKEN RECORD: World headed for nearly 3°C warming

NEW DELHI, Nov 21 (PTI)

THE world is headed for a temperature rise of around 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels by the end of the century even if countries fully implement their nationally-determined contributions (NDCs) or action plans to reduce emission of planet-warming gases, according to a new report released by the United Nations on Monday.

Countries need to cut emissions by 28 per cent to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius and by 42 per cent to meet the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal, United Nations Environment Programme's Emissions Gap Report 2023, titled "Broken Record", said.

The report released ahead of the 28th session of the annual UN climate talks or COP28 in

Dubai said global emissions rose by 1.2 per cent in 2021-2022.

"Fully implementing efforts implied by unconditional Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) would put the world on track for limiting temperature rise to 2.9 degrees Celsius. Conditional NDCs fully implemented would lead to temperatures not exceeding 2.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels," the report read.

Under the Paris Agreement, countries agreed to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The report said countries have made progress in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG)

UN report released ahead of the 28th session of the annual UN climate talks or COP28 in Dubai said global emissions rose by 1.2 per cent in 2021-2022.



emissions since the signing of the Paris Agreement as the 2016 edition of the report had a projected warming of up to 3.4 degrees Celsius in a business-as-usual scenario.

Despite the progress, the world is very far from limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius to avoid extreme, destructive and likely irreversible effects of climate

change, the UN said.

The world is already experiencing unprecedented heat, floods, wildfires, cyclones, and droughts at just 1.1 degrees of global warming.

Until the beginning of October, 86 days in this year were recorded with temperatures over 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. September was the hottest recorded month ever, with global average temperatures 1.8 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

"We know it is still possible to make the 1.5 degree limit a reality. It requires tearing out the poisoned root of the climate crisis: fossil fuels. And it demands a just, equitable renewables transition," said Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the UN.

The report calls for all nations

to deliver economy-wide, low-carbon development transformations, with a focus on energy transition.

The coal, oil and gas extracted over the lifetime of producing and the planned mines and fields would emit more than three-and-a-half times the carbon budget available to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and almost the entire budget available for 2 degrees Celsius, the report said.

Climate science defines carbon budget as the amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted for a given level of global warming (1.5 degrees Celsius in this case).

Developed countries have already consumed more than 80 per cent of the global carbon budget, leaving countries like India with very little carbon space for the future.

Will launch military spy satellite soon: N Korea

TOKYO, Nov 21 (AP)

NORTH Korea told Japan on Tuesday that it will launch a satellite in the coming days in violation of UN resolutions, its apparent third attempt to fire a military spy satellite that drew immediate rebukes from its neighbours.

North Korea is eager to operate spy satellites to deal with what it calls escalating US-led military threats. But its two previous attempts to place a spy satellite into orbit earlier this year ended in failure due to technical issues.

Japan's coast guard said North Korea notified Tokyo of its plan to launch a satellite sometime between Wednesday and November 30.



The USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier approaches Busan port in Busan, South Korea, on Tuesday. (AP/PTI)

The notice identified three maritime zones where debris from the rocket carrying the satellite may fall. Two are in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and China and the third in the Philippine Sea.

The areas are the same as the ones North Korea identified for its failed satellite launches in May and August, implying the third attempt would have a similar flight path.

North Korea has given Japan the launch information because Japan's coast guard coordinates and distributes maritime safety information in East Asia. The North's notification came a day after rival South Korea warned it to cancel its launch or face consequences.

Special forces of India, US kick off drill in Meghalaya

New Delhi: India and the US on Tuesday kicked off the 'Vajra Prahar' combat exercise between their elite special forces in Meghalaya to further build military interoperability between them.

The exercise, at the training node in the Umroi Cantonment from November 21 to December 11, will see the two sides jointly plan and

and execute a series of special operations, counter-terrorism and air-borne drills in simulated



COMBAT MOVE

conventional and unconventional scenarios in mountainous terrain. The US has deployed a contingent of personnel from the 1st Special Forces Group (SFG) for the exercise, while the Indian team is led by Para (Special Forces) commandos from the Eastern Army Command.

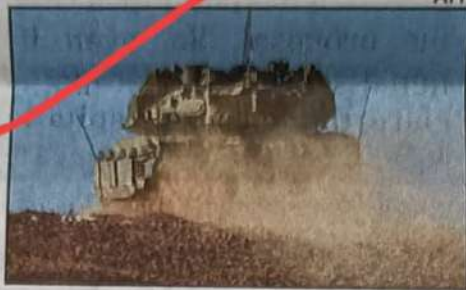
The three-week exercise includes "combat free-fall insertion of troops from stand-off distances", "air-borne and water-borne insertion of troops", "precision engagement of targets at long ranges" and "combat air controlling of fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft", among other drills. India conducts several military exercises with the US, ranging from 'Malabar' naval exercise to the bilateral 'Yudh Abhyas' and 'Vajra Prahar' between their armies. TNN

Israeli air strikes on Lebanon kill 2 journalists, 4 Palestinian militants

Beirut: An Israeli strike in southern Lebanon on Tuesday killed two journalists who were reporting for a Beirut-based TV station on military activity along the border with Israel, according to Lebanese officials and the broadcaster. A separate strike killed four militants with the Palestinian group Hamas, officials said.

The Pan-Arab TV channel Al-Mayadeen, which is politically allied with the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, identified the journalists killed in the town of Tair Harfa as correspondent Farah Omar and cameraman Rabih Maamari.

The air strike that hit the journalists also killed a Lebanese



An Israeli tank takes position near the border with the Gaza Strip

se civilian, Hussein Akil, according to Al-Mayadeen and Lebanon's state media.

The Israeli military said its soldiers took action against an alleged threat posed by a weapons launching area in southern Lebanon. It said the attack was under review. "We are aware of a claim regarding jo-

urnalists in the area who were killed as a result," the military said. "This is an area with active hostilities, where exchanges of fire occur. Presence in the area is dangerous."

The deaths bring the number of journalists who have been killed since the Israel-Hamas war began last month to at least 50, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Most were Palestinian journalists working in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli shelling in southern Lebanon on October 14 killed Reuters videojournalist Issam Abdullah and wounded other journalists from France's international news agency AFP, and Qatar's Al-Jazeera TV. AP