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UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

'Modi's gone now, opposition bloc will win': Lalu's salvo from Misa seat

PATNA: RJD president Lalu Prasad on Tuesday claimed there was no chance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi returning to office and that INDIA bloc would form the next govt at the Centre. "Modi gaye ab (Modi is gone now)," the former Bihar CM told media on Tuesday as he stepped out of his home to campaign for his eldest daughter Misa Bharti. Videos "We will soon know the results. He (Modi) claims to be an avatar rather than a biological being. He will no longer be in office. Our govt will be formed on June 4," the RJD chief asserted. Earlier, Lalu visited Emarat-e-Shariah and Khanqah Mujibia to seek support for his daughter who is contesting from Patliputra Lok Sabha seat for the third time in a direct fight with BJP's Ram Kripal Yadav. In the past two elections too, she lost to Yadav by small margins. Lalu visited the Muslim organisations setting



aside PM Modi's remark at an election rally that INDIA bloc's functionaries were doing "mujra" (dance) for minority votes. Accompanied by party leader Abdul Bari Siddiqui, Lalu visited several other Patna localities and held road shows. Those campaigning for Misa included former CM Rabri Devi, her younger son and leader of opposition in assembly Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, and daughter Rohini Acharya, who also fought the LS polls from Saran this time. On majority of the 40

Lok Sabha seats in Bihar, the INDIA bloc candidates are locked in a direct fight with NDA. **India, France to begin contract negotiations for 26 Rafale-Marine jets this week** Rafale-Marine fighters, a deal valued at over Rs 50,000 crore. The Indian Navy is eager to induct these super-sonic jets for its two aircraft carriers promptly, driven by the increasing Chinese threat in the Indian Ocean Region. India, France to begin contract negotiations for 26 Rafale-Marine jets this week.

'BJP known to magnify non-issues': Naveen dismisses

BJD chief Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday dismissed BJP's concerns over a viral video allegedly showing his key associate, V K Pandian, assisting him with his shaking hand during a rally. "BJP is known for magnifying non-issues. It will certainly not work," Naveen said. Many BJP functionaries shared the video in which Pandian, holding a microphone, was seen trying to place Naveen's shaking left hand, which he had placed on the podium, away from public view. "This is a deeply distressing video. I shudder to imagine the level of control a retired bureaucrat from Tamil Nadu is exercising over the future of Odisha," said Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, who campaigned in Odisha's Jagatsinghpur, Bhadrak and Mayurbhanj for BJP on Tuesday. Addressing a public meeting at Nilgiri under Balasore Lok Sabha seat.

After Phase 5, women surpass men in turnout in Phase 6 too

NEW DELHI: Women once again outshone men in terms of turnout in Phase 6, clocking nearly 65% voting as against 61% among their male counterpart. After Phase 5, which was the first round to see a higher polling percentage among women, Phase 6 is only the second of the six completed to witness better female participation. EC on Tuesday released not only the overall and gender-wise turnout data for all states and parliamentary seats where polling was held in Phase 6 but also the absolute electors data and the absolute count of votes cast in the phase. While the absolute figures for Phase 6 have been shared by EC just three days after polling, it had put out the corresponding data for all the first five phases only on May 25, a day after Supreme Court had declined to direct the poll body to place Form 17C voter details in the public domain. EC on Tuesday clarified that the data released by it was based



Named by minor in 'dying declaration', man gets life term

MEERUT: A special court in Bulandshahr has sentenced a 24-year-old man to life imprisonment for attempting to rape a 14-year-old girl and burning her alive when she resisted his advances. Special public prosecutor, Mahesh Raghav, said, "On March 24, 2019, Mohd Aamir was charged with sexual harassment and burning alive a minor. In her dying statement before the magistrate in hospital, she mentioned the name of the convicted man." Raghav added: "The girl was at home with two younger sisters when their tenant, Aamir, tried to rape her. When she resisted, the culprit poured kerosene oil on her. on EVM votes and did not include postal ballot votes. It however said daily account of postal ballots received was shared with all candidates. As per data for the six phases released by EC, 173 of the total 486 LS seats, where the votes lie sealed in

harassment and burning alive a minor. In her dying statement before the magistrate in hospital, she mentioned the name of the convicted man." Raghav added: "The girl was at home with two younger sisters when their tenant, Aamir, tried to rape her. When she resisted, the culprit poured kerosene oil on her. EVMS, saw female voters beat their male counterparts in terms of polling percentage. The gender-wise poll percentage for Outer Manipur could not be worked out as voting there was split between Phase 1 and 2.

Female flyers on IndiGo can now select seats next to other women if they want to

NEW DELHI: Female passengers on IndiGo will now be able to see which all seats have been pre-booked by females at the time of web check-in and accordingly select their seats if they wish to do so. This feature, the airline says, has been introduced after market research to make "travel experience more comfortable for our female passengers." "The feature offers visibility of seats booked by female passengers, only during web check-in. It is specifically tailored to PNRs with women travellers — solo as well as part of family bookings... (this is) currently in pilot mode aligning with our 'girl power' ethos," the airline said in a statement. At the time of seat selection, the feature shows seats that have been pre-booked.

Mosques demolished, texts censored: How China is repressing Muslims in Xinjiang

NEW DELHI: The Chinese government's crackdown on the Islamic faith, particularly among the Uyghur Muslim population in Xinjiang, has garnered significant international attention and condemnation due to human rights abuses and allegations of cultural genocide. In a recent investigation, UK's Sky News has shed light on China's increasing control over Islamic practices within the country. The report underscores the mounting restrictions and surveillance faced by Muslims, particularly in regions with significant Islamic populations. One poignant scene described in the report occurs in a cold, dusty part of central China, where a local Muslim leader stands alone in the courtyard of a small mosque. "Religion is dying," he laments, highlighting the severe constraints imposed by the Chinese government on religious activities. The report details how the Chinese authorities have intensified efforts to monitor and restrict Islamic practices, including demolishing mosques, banning religious attire, and censoring Islamic texts. This crackdown is part of a broader campaign to align religious practices with the state's ideology and to curb any potential dissent. **Demolition of mosques:** Many mosques have been demolished, particularly those that do not conform to the government's architectural standards or those deemed too conspicuous. **Banning religious attire:** Traditional Islamic attire, such as headscarves and long beards, has been banned in certain areas. This is part of an effort to assimilate Muslims into the broader Han Chinese culture. **Censoring Islamic texts:** The government has also censored Islamic texts.

After end of campaign, PM Modi to meditate in Kanyakumari

NEW DELHI: Continuing with his practice of visiting a prominent Hindu pilgrimage site on the culmination of the poll campaign, PM Narendra Modi will meditate in Kanyakumari for two days from May 30 to June 1 after logging out of the intense election-eering. Sources said the



PM will visit the Rock Memorial in Kanyakumari and meditate at the Dhyana Mandapam from the evening of May 30 to the evening of June 1 at the same place where Swami Vivekananda had meditated. It was here that Vivekananda was said to have had a vision and

received enlightenment which steered his belief in India's intrinsic strengths and that the country was destined to regain the glory it lost after coming under foreign occupation and because of internal weaknesses. The last phase of voting is scheduled on May 1.

Naveen should've fought from Tamil Nadu, will be ex-CM on 4th: Amit Shah

BHUBANESWAR: Union home minister Amit Shah Tuesday predicted that BJP will win more than 75 assembly and at least 17 of the 21 Lok Sabha seats in Odisha. "On June 4, Naveen babu will become ex-CM," he said, reiterating that after winning the polls, BJP will appoint a 'bhoomiputra' (son of the soil) who speaks Odia and respects the local culture as the chief minister. Keeping up his attack



on Naveen's close confidante V K Pandian without naming him in back-to-back rallies in Bhadrak, Jajpur and Jagatsinghpur seats, Shah said, "The Tamil babu has taken control and now dreams of becoming the CM of Odisha. Naveen babu has given mineral

resources, contracts and jobs to Tamils. He (Naveen) should have contested from Tamil Nadu, not from Odisha, as several people from the southern state have benefited from Odisha's mineral resources, contracts and employment opportunities." Shah said Naveen and his 'Tamil babu' stopped Odia people from celebrating 'Ram Mahotsav' in Ayodhya in January.

Home minister Shah: More cyber fraud cases getting detected in India due to...

NEW DELHI: Home minister Amit Shah has said that it is due to the enhanced vigilance by the government that the cyber fraud in India are being detected with approximately 27 lakh complaints related to cyber fraud have been registered in the country over the past year. "About 27 lakh complaints of cyber frauds were registered in the country in last one year," Shah told news agency PTI. He also emphasised that 99.5% of police stations across India are now connected to the central government's Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS). This network facilitates investigation, data



research, policy formulation, and citizen services." **Government provided systems to catch cyber frauds, says Shah** The home minister noted that previously there was no system to go after cyber frauds but now there's a toll free number on which the general public can register their complaints. "We have made provisions for accounts to freeze. People started registering complaints and within seconds, accounts get frozen (when there is a case of cyber fraud)," he said. Shah noted that the cyber fraud cases in India have not gone up but "frauds are getting detected now. We have also made available a toll free number. That's why it is getting highlighted." Due to successful resolution of such complaints, people have been calling on that number, he added. Shah on role of home ministry in curbing cyber frauds. The cyber fraud cases are mostly handled by the Indian Cyber Crime

Coordination Centre (I4C), which is a wing under the cyber and information security division of the Union Home Ministry. The I4C has been "continuously monitoring and blocking" cyber crime infrastructure like Skype accounts, advertisements on Google and Meta, SMS headers, SIM cards, bank accounts etc. Referring to the CCTNS, the home minister said the government has made efforts to bring all police stations under the network for the convenience of policing in the country. "It is almost complete. About 99.5% of police stations are now connected with the network. Just 0.5% are left. That is because of connectivity issues.

Silver outshines gold, but pace lags in India

MUMBAI: Silver has outperformed gold in domestic and international markets by a margin of around 10 percentage points over a year. However, returns from silver in the domestic market are lagging the international ones even as the rupee has weakened, while returns on gold are nearly identical. In domestic and international markets. Silver prices rose nearly 33 per cent in a year, while gold rates increased by 21 per cent in international markets. In India, silver returns stood at just over 29 per cent against gold's nearly 20 per cent. The difference in returns in silver emerged as Indian importers are using the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement route - a bilateral trade channel between India.

Woman undergoes operation & loses 35 kg to donate part of liver

MUMBAI: A 100kg woman from Panvel underwent a weight-loss surgery for an unusual reason: To donate a part of her liver to her sister's husband. Thirty-year-old Namrata Jadhav, who works as an accountant in a hospital in Panvel, lost around 35kg over nine months to donate a portion of her liver. "No one else on either side of our family was a match for my brother-in-law. I couldn't see him and my sister suffer," she told. "It was a humane thing to do," she added. The transplant, which was carried out at Nanavati Hospital, Juhu, took place on April 9. While Namrata was discharged after five days, her brother-in-law, Santosh Daki, was discharged after 10 days. "This is perhaps the first liver donation post-bariatric surgery in the

country," said liver transplant surgeon Dr Anurag Shriram. While doing a medical literature search, his team found only five other mentions of donation after weight-loss surgery-four in Chile and one in Jordan. "We are writing up Namrata's donation for a medical journal as well," he said. Hepatologist Dr Aabha Nagral (who wasn't associated with this transplant) said it's unusual to hear that a person underwent bariatric surgery in order to donate. "She thus helped two people, the patient and herself," she added. Daki was advised to undergo a liver transplant after he was diagnosed with cirrhosis a couple of years back. However, none from his immediate family or his in-laws were a match. And, although Namrata was a match.

40 children selected in the investiture ceremony organized at Durgavati International School

Meja: Investiture ceremony was organized on Tuesday at Durgavati International School and College Gosaura Kala. The function was started by the school manager Dr. Swatantra Mishra with the lighting of the lamp at the statue of Maa Saraswati and march past.

During this, 40 children were selected in the investiture ceremony in which School Captain Janmejay Shukla, Sport Captain Ayush Singh, Sport Vice Captain - Dheeraj Yadav, Yellow House Captain



Aryan Patel, Vice Captain - House Captain Om Paden, Shukla, Red House- Vice Captain - Vaibhav Annaya Kesari, Vice Cap- tain Aryan Shukla, Green House Captain- Anshika

Pade and Vice Captain Kanhaiya Lal etc. are mainly included. School manager Dr. Mishra said that after taking their respective oaths in front of Deepak regarding their moral duties. Vice-Principal of the school, Srijan Mishra distributed sashes to all the children and made them aware of their duties and oath. Zuberia Ibar, Satyam Singh Rajput, Ankur Singh and all the teachers had an important contribution in running the program smoothly.

Film actor Ramesh Kashyap kicks off 2nd phase of workshop

Prayagraj: Under the second series of "Let's Play Drama" campaign of Indian Folk and Modern Art Academy in collaboration with The Quinch, the second phase of 15-day summer drama workshop was started at Shri Mahaprabhu Public School, Narayan Ashram, Shivakuti. Through this theatre, the children participating in the



workshop will be introduced to all the facts of theatre, and will be prepared to perform a play under the direction of theater artist and film actor Ramesh Kashyap, the chief instructor of the workshop. On this occasion of Shri Ganesh workshop, retired Captain VS Pandey, Chief Instructor Ramesh Kashyap, Cultural Secretary of Indian Folk and Modern Art Academy Surya Prakash Pandey, members Atul Shukla, Ved Prakash Pandey, Shubham Kashyap, Rishabh Chaurasia were present as the chief guests. Workshop coordinator Kunwar Tej Bhanu Singh and all the employees of the school were present.

Candidates engaged in multiplication of victory and defeat

Prayagraj: Bharatiya Janata Party Allahabad Parliamentary Constituency candidate Neeraj Tripathi today held a meeting with workers at his residence Lohia Marg, Ashok Nagar and listened to their problems and through phone asked the officials to solve the



problems and expressed gratitude to the workers present for participating in the elections with full force and took feedback from the workers from the area about the election environment and voting and preparations for counting of votes. On this occasion of consultation, his wife and BJP Mahila Morcha State Minister Kavita Yadav Tripathi was present. District media in-charge Rajesh Kesarwani said that apart from this, BJP Phulpur Lok Sabha MP candidate and MLA Praveen Patel also expressed his gratitude towards the workers and engaged in election campaign.

FALL OUT OF GAMING TRAGEDY: No Objection

Certificates sought by authorities

Prayagraj: Secretary District Legal Services Authority asked the manager of the ongoing Dubai Carnival Fair in Rambagh to appear in the District Legal Services Authority room on 29th May with all the No Objection Certificates after fire in the gaming zone in Rajkot, Gujarat, in which 35 people had died untimely. Dubai Carnival Fair is being organized at Rambagh in Prayagraj. In this regard, a notice has been sent by the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Prayagraj, taking cognizance of the fact that the manager will take necessary steps to conduct the fair. Present in the room of Secretary District Legal Services Authority Prayagraj on 29.5.2024 at 10:00 am with all the forms regarding No Objection Certificate from Fire Department, Pollution Department, Police Department, Water Department, District Administration and all other necessary departments. This information was provided by Dinesh Kumar Gautam, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Prayagraj.

Monsoon rains will begin within five days in India Expected to reach the Kerala coast in the next 5 days

Kanpur: The Meteorological Department has predicted that monsoon is expected to reach the Kerala coast in the next 5 days. Usually monsoon reaches Kerala on July 1. This time it is expected to reach by May 30-31, whereas pre-monsoon rains have started in Kerala. Indian Meteorological Department says that monsoon rains are about to start in India. All the circumstances leading to this are favourable. This information was given by Dr. S.N. Sunil Pandey, meteorologist of Chandrashekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur on Tuesday. The pace of monsoon is expected to increase: The Meteorological Department says that the conditions are favourable for the advance of monsoon in some parts of Lakshadweep, Bay of Bengal and Northeast India. Monsoon may reach Delhi-Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan in the next 8-10 days after reaching Kerala. Usually it reaches only by June 8-10; this time also it seems to be the same. But the monsoon will take time to reach North India. Monsoon may enter Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar by June 15.

Awareness program held on World Menstruation Day

Prayagraj: Like every year, this year also Vishal Sankalp Sanstha organized a program on World Menstruation Day. Seminar and question discussion on 28 May 2024 from 04:00 pm to 06:00 pm. Venue, Vishal Sankalp Park, Boat Club Prayagraj. These girls are part of that society where girls are forced to cover even their



inner clothes and dry them. When these girls talk openly on this topic, it is definitely grassroots awareness. On this occasion, Dr. Anjali Kesari made the students aware and said that talking about the problems faced by women every month due to conservative thinking. While explaining the solution to these problems, she told the girl students to take special care of their eating habits during menstruation. Girls will have to become physically and mentally strong. We can do something only by coming out of conservative stereotypes. The importance of menstrual hygiene, education and health was discussed by the key speakers in the programme. Additionally, some interactive sessions and quizzes were also conducted. Many girls like Anshika, Priya, Roshni, Ranno, Anamika, Sanya etc. registered their presence.

DM gave instructions to subordinates to protect from heat wave and appealed to public

Prayagraj: Due to the current mercury being more than 44 degrees Celsius, the District Magistrate directed the concerned departments to protect themselves from the scorching heat, hot wind and heat wave. Instructions have been given on how to protect yourself from this scorching heat, hot wind and heat wave and how to stay safe. To avoid hot winds, cover the windows with reflectors like aluminum foil, cardboard etc., so that the outside heat can be prevented from coming inside. Black curtains should be placed on those windows and doors from which hot winds come in during the afternoon. Listen to the local weather forecast and be aware of upcoming temperature changes. Get first aid training to deal with emergencies. Never leave children and pets alone in a closed vehicle. As far as possible, stay indoors and avoid the heat of the sun. To avoid the heat of the sun, stay on the lower floor of the house as far as possible. Eat balanced, light and regular food and never use stale food and do not consume alcoholic beverages. Cover your body and head with cloth or cap outside the house. Use beverages at home like lassi, buttermilk, lemon water, wood apple sherbet, salt-sugar solution, buttermilk or mango pana etc. According to the forecast issued by the Meteorological Department, there is a possibility of high/high temperature from March to June. In such a situation, people should make necessary preparations to protect themselves from heatwave. The Health Department is running an awareness campaign among the general public regarding protection from heatwave. When the temperature of the environment reaches 3-4 degrees more than 37 degrees Celsius, it is called heatwave or heat wave. The heat wave will increase further hence various measures should be adopted to protect from the heat.



When does Luggard appear? Body fluids start drying up in the heat. Due to lack of water and salt in the body, there is a higher risk of heat stroke. People with alcohol addiction, heart disease, chronic disease, obesity, Parkinson's disease, old age, uncontrolled diabetes need to take special protection from heat wave.

Samajwadi Party. As soon as the news of death was received, there was a wave of mourning among SP officials and college teachers. Samajwadi Party's Jafraabad MLA Jagdish Narayan Rai and Kerakat MLA Toofani Saroj reached with their workers and bid farewell to the deceased Rameshwar Nishad by hoisting the party flag.

On b'anniv of Swatantryaveer Savarkar, seminar organized

At Maharashtra Public Service Board, Alopibagh

Prayagraj: In the seminar on 'Literary contribution of Swatantryaveer Savarkar', the speakers unanimously said that Veer Savarkar paved the way for revolution through the pen. He was sentenced to two lifetimes because of his revolutionary writings and nationalist ideology. The main speaker in the seminar, Prof. Satyapal Tiwari, Director of the Faculty of Humanities, Rajarshi Tandon Open University, said that hardly any litterateur in the world has faced the torture of jail because of his work. Veer Savarkar's work 'First War of Independence of 1857' is included in the book. The British were so enraged by this that they prosecuted Veer Savarkar on charges of treason and sentenced him to life imprisonment. Special speaker and state publicity head of the Sangh, Dr. Murar ji Tripathi said that Veer Savarkar was a social reformer as well as a historian, writer, poet and playwright. He made an important place for himself in world literature by writing 6,000 poems in praise of Mother Bharati on the walls of the Cellular Jail, not with pen, but with pebbles, nails

and coal. This collection of his poems was published under the title 'Jungli Phool'. He wrote about 40 books including My Transportation for Life, Hindu-Rashtra-Darshan, An Echo from Andaman, Hindutva,



Hindu Pad-Padshahi, Six Golden Pages of Indian History. Thinker Charumitra Pathak said that Veer Savarkar wrote about Gandhiji. -On repeated request, an apology petition was filed, which was rejected twice by the British Government. Gandhiji wanted that a multifaceted talented person like Veer Savarkar should be in Congress. Gandhiji also went to Ratnagiri to meet Savarkarji. There was also a conversation between the two. But

no consensus could be reached on points like radical nationalism and relativistic non-violence.

According to educationist Madhukar Gane, several decades of Veer Savarkar's life were spent in

and will remain so. Instead of paying homage to him, the plaque outside his cell in the Andaman Jail was broken, but when the good days of the country came, the same place was established as an inspirational cottage and there the head of the country bowed his head and paid homage to him with devotion. There have been very few litterateurs with versatile talent like him, who were nurturers of Indian culture and Hindutva among the masses, great historians and unique social thinkers. The young student gave an interesting presentation on the personality and work of Veer Savarkar. Vedprakash Pandey conducted the programme. The vote of thanks was given by Satish Puranic. Vivek Puranic played an important role in organizing the programme. In the seminar, Vibhuti Dwivedi, Sudhir Dwivedi, Vikas Tiwari, Shivprakash, Premnarayan Sharma, Sureshchandra Srivastava, Sunita Puranic, Ranjana Gune, Pratibha Atale, Asha Behere, Anant Agnihotri, Vijay Pandey, Vikas Tiwari, Pranesh Deshpande, Vijay Bhalchandra Kher and others were present.

Progress review held of various works being carried out in view of Mahakumbh

Prayagraj: A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner and in the presence of Fair Officer and other concerned departmental officers. Progress review of various works being carried out in view of Mahakumbh 2025 held under Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant. It was held in the Gandhi Auditorium located at the Commissioner's Office and in the presence of Fair Officer Vijay Kiran Anand and other concerned departmental officers. In the meeting, apart from resolving the problems related to land acquisition, the progress of all the projects as per the pert chart was also reviewed. During the review, Municipal Corporation, Prayagraj

Development Authority, Public Works Department, Bridge Corporation, Tourism Department, Medical College, Health Department and



other departmental projects were discussed point by point and necessary guidelines were given. While giving instructions to all the departments to ensure the required quality in the progressive works, they were

asked to identify the contractors who are negligent in quality and take strict action against them.

In this sequence, instructions were given to start it soon. In order to prevent air pollution in the district, the Divisional Commissioner directed all the concerned de-

partments not to leave their debris on the road under any circumstances and also encouraged all the departments to use the tiles being made by the Municipal Corporation from CND Waste as much as possible.

Senior SP leader passes away, wave of mourning in party

Jaunpur: Due to rising mercury in the district these days, people's life has become miserable due to the heat. Senior Samajwadi Party leader Rameshwar Nishad, resident of Rajepur village of Sirkoni area of the district, died on Tuesday morning due to heart failure. Rameshwar Nishad was the manager of an inter college and a senior leader of the

Samajwadi Party. As soon as the news of death was received, there was a wave of mourning among SP officials and college teachers. Samajwadi Party's Jafraabad MLA Jagdish Narayan Rai and Kerakat MLA Toofani Saroj reached with their workers and bid farewell to the deceased Rameshwar Nishad by hoisting the party flag.

Traders expressed displeasure due to closure of Mundera Mandi

SUBMITTED MEMO TO DISTRICT MAGISTRATE

Prayagraj: The city magistrate has issued an order on Monday evening to close the Mundera vegetable-fruit market from Tuesday to June 6 in view of the safety of EVMs. Besides, commission agents have also been directed to take out vegetables and fruits from the market by night. After the order of City Magistrate Vinod Kumar Singh was issued, there is panic among the vegetable and fruit traders of the market. Earlier, the administration had ordered closure of the market from 22 to 26 May and from 31 May to 6 June. In the first phase, the

market opened on Monday after five days of closure. In the hope that the market will remain open till May 30, the commission agents ordered vegetables and fruits from outside. Now the brokers are not able to understand where to keep the vegetables and fruits coming from outside. Apart from this, after the first phase of closure, vegetable and fruit carts came to Mundera Mandi in the morning. Reacting to the order to close Mundera Mandi, General Secretary of City West Traders Federation Dhananjay Singh said that this decision will cause

huge loss to the farmers. Market traders have ordered vegetables and fruits till May 30. In the next three days, vegetables and fruits coming from different parts of the country will rot. Prayagraj is struggling with the scorching heat, the temperature is around 45 degrees Celsius, the district administration is continuously issuing advisories regarding heat wave, apart from this, the administration is forcing the fruit and vegetable traders to do business in open spaces. In the 45 degree temperature, neither the administration has made arrangements for

drinking water, nor tin shed or foil has been installed, no arrangement has been made by the administration to protect from the sun. If a businessman falls ill due to heatstroke, no arrangement for first aid has been made for him. Agents are selling their goods on GT Road. Due to which the problem of heavy traffic jam persists. No arrangements have been made by the traffic police to ease the traffic.

The district administration has left the brokers and farmers to trust God. Due to which there is tremendous anger among the traders. On Tuesday, due to the scorch-

ing heat, two palladars Mohammad Kalim and Ram Avtar became unconscious, a farmer was admitted to the hospital in an unconscious state, glucose was given and then the family took him home. Due to sudden closure of the market, the farmers who had brought their goods inside the market could not take it out. President of the City West Traders Federation, Akhilesh Singh, has demanded that compensation should be given to the farmers for the green vegetables and fruits which have got spoiled. The traders have demanded through a memorandum that

except the strong room, as before, the rest of the market premises should be opened for business, so that the fruit and vegetable traders can get some relief from this scorching heat and the general public can also get smooth supply of fruits and vegetables. A large number of traders including Dhananjay Singh, President of Green Vegetable Fruit Traders Association Satish Kushwaha, Vijay Pal, Jaswant Kushwaha, Lalchand Kushwaha, Iqbal Bhai, and Manoj Yadav, Satyendra Mishra were present in presenting the memorandum to the District Magistrate.

'Our Luv Kush' photo goes viral

Prayagraj: A post of Rahul Gandhi ji Akhilesh Yadav ji's transformation message in the public meeting at the meeting place of Mohan Sarai in Kashi Varanasi is going viral very fast in which the photo of Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Akhilesh Yadav is posted and it is written 'Our Luv Kush'.



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Mayor distributed sherbet

Prayagraj: Due to the rising temperature of the city, Mayor Umesh Chandra Ganesh Kesarwani distributed sherbet in the city. Today, on the first Tuesday of Jyeshtha month, Mayor Umesh Chandra Ganesh Kesarwani dis-



tributed sherbet with his own hands at Dakshinmukhi Hanuman Mandir Bharti Bhawan. Giri Shankar Prabhakar, Praveen Malviya, Manoj Mishra, Sunita Chopra, Kuldeep Soni, Intezaar Ahmed, Ashutosh Malviya, Sudhir Chaurasia, Sachin Yadav, Priyanka Mishra, Manmohan Mishra, Manoj Kesarwani, Ujjain Mishra, Sunil Kesarwani etc. were involved in the distribution program.

National Lok Adalat on July 13

Prayagraj: National Lok Adalat will be organized in the District Court and all Tehsils on July 13 in National Lok Adalat for family disputes, motor accident cases, revenue related cases, bank loan related cases, electricity related cases, criminal cases, on the basis of mutual settlement agreement. All the suits will be settled through the seminar. Instructions have been given to all concerned departments for disposal of most of the suits in Lok Adalat. As per the instructions of Uttar Pradesh State Legal Services Authority, Lucknow, dated under the auspices of District Legal Services Authority, Prayagraj, National Lok Adalat will be organized in District Court, Prayagraj and all Tehsils from 10:00 am on 13.07.2024 in which family cases, motor accident cases, revenue related cases, bank loan related cases, electricity related cases, criminal cases. All the cases arising on the basis of mutual conciliation agreement will be settled. All the litigants are requested to get their cases verified by the advocate through proper channel before organizing the Lok Adalat so that their cases can be settled. In continuation of the above, a seminar was organized today on 28.5.2024 under the chairmanship of Nodal Officer Ravikant-II ADJ/FT C with the Chief Revenue Officer and District Leading Manager, Bank of Baroda. In which disposal of most of the cases in Lok Adalat was discussed. For this, all the departments related to revenue were directed. Emphasis was given on the notice issued by the Secretary District Legal Services Authority for disposal of pre-litigation suits related to the bank, emphasis was laid on disposal of official suits. This information was given by Dinesh Kumar Gautam, Secretary/Additional District Provided by Judge, District Legal Services Authority, Prayagraj.

Grand decoration of Shri Bade Hanumanji with flowers captivates one & all

Prayagraj: On the first day of Jyeshtha month, there was a huge crowd of devotees in Shri Bade Hanuman Ji temple. Grand decoration of Bade Hanuman Ji Maharaj took place in Shri Bade Hanuman Temple of Prayagraj. Mahant Balbir Giri Ji Maharaj of Baghambari Math and Bade Hanuman Temple performed Maha Aarti. Sunderkand



was recited there. On the occasion of Bade Mangal, special worship took place at Shri Bade Hanuman Temple. The temple was decorated with flowers. Along with this, special decoration of Bade Hanuman Ji Maharaj was also done. In the morning during Mangala period, Abhishek and Aarti of Shri Bade Hanuman ji was performed. In view of the heat, a store of sherbet was also set up. On the first Tuesday of Jyeshtha month, devotees came from far and wide to have darshan of Lord Shri Bade Hanuman Ji. The crowd remained there till late evening. Maha Aarti took place at 4:30 in the evening. After this, there was collective recitation of Sunderkand. At the same time, tents were also arranged to protect the devotees from the sun. Mahant Balbir Giri Ji Maharaj told that Bajrang Bali lying in the Bade Hanuman temple is considered as the city Kotwal of Prayagraj.

BJP engaged in brainstorming for counting of votes after voting

Prayagraj: Bharatiya Janata Party Prayagraj Mahanagar is preparing for counting of votes for the elections on both the Lok Sabha seats of Prayagraj held on May. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that in order to prepare for the counting of votes to be held on June 4 after the voting, the organization has started brainstorming for counting of votes by coordinating with the candidates of both the Lok Sabha and the convenor and in-charge of the Legislative Assembly. The organization is considering employing previously experienced workers for counting of votes and apart from this, other workers will also be employed in counting related work and for this they will be trained before counting.

UPPSC RECRUITMENTS 70 radiology positions and 50 plastic surgery positions remain vacant

Vinod Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary UPPSC, stated that it has been suggested to re-advertise all of the 70 empty radiology positions in order to fill them

Prayagraj: Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC) declared the results of Radiologists Recruitment-2024 of the medical, health and family welfare department (allopathy) on Monday. Surprisingly, no candidate was found suitable for the recruitment against 70 posts of radiologists lying vacant in government hospitals across Uttar Pradesh.

Joint secretary, UPPSC, Vinod Kumar Singh said it has been recommended to re-advertise all these 70 vacant posts of radiologists in a bid to fill them. Interviews for direct recruitment on 27 posts of general category, 20 of OBC, 15 of Scheduled Caste, one of Scheduled Tribe and seven posts reserved for candidates belonging to economically weaker sections were held on May 21. Due to no candidate being present in the interview, all these posts remained vacant.

Moreover, the selection of Chandan Mishra, who was declared successful in the result declared on July 19, for the post of pathologist under Medical Officer Grade-2 Recruitment-2023 in the medical and health services department (allopathy) has also been cancelled

UPPSC declares result of MEDICAL OFFICER GRADE-II (LEVEL-2)

Prayagraj: The Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission has declared the Interview results for the Medical Officer for Grade 2 (Level-2). Online advertisement for selection on total 02 posts of Gastro Surgeon (unreserved category) was released by Medical Health and Family Welfare Department, Uttar Pradesh (Allopathy), Advertisement No.:D-1/E-1/2024, V.No.:S-8/19 Medical Officer, Grade-2 (Level-2). The interview for the same was conducted by the Commission on May 18, 2024. After the interview, a total of 01 candidate was declared successful for the post in question by the Commission as per merit. The result is available on the website of the Commission <https://uppsc.up.nic.in>. Due to non-availability of candidates, 01 vacancy of unreserved category remained vacant. The candidate whose name has PROV mentioned in the said selection result has been selected provisionally and his selection will remain provisional till the required documents are submitted



due to non-submission of EWS certificate.

Selection of another candidate Pooja Dwivedi has been recommended in his place, officials said. Meanwhile, the UPPSC on Monday also declared the result for 50 posts of plastic surgeons who were to be recruited under the medical health and family welfare department (allopathy).

However, due to the non-availability of suitable

candidates, 46 of these posts remained vacant, officials said. Interviews were held on May 18 for direct recruitment on 21 posts of general category, 13 of OBC, 10 of Scheduled Caste, one of Scheduled Tribe, and five posts reserved for candidates from economically weaker sections (EWS).

Based on the interviews, four candidates from the general category, including Abhinav Khare, Pallavi

Nigam, Soni Suman, and Pankaj Singh were declared selected. Vinod Kumar Singh, joint secretary, UPPSC, said due to non-availability of suitable candidates, 17 posts of general category, all 13 posts of OBC category, 10 of SC, one of ST, and all five posts of EWS remained vacant. For these posts too, re-advertising for fresh recruitment exercise has been recommended by the commission.

VHP Minister caught two butchers along with 34 cows in a container

Lal Mani Tiwari injured in the attack by butchers

Prayagraj: Vishwa Hindu Parishad Cow Protection State Minister got information last night that butchers loaded cows in a container arriving from Kanpur to West Bengal for slaughter. On the above information, the provincial minister along with



the mobile squad of cow vigilantes laid siege, container number UP 21 BN 8713 was seen coming near Sahason Toll Plaza. Swift Dezire car number UP 70 CE 1909 was running with the containers. The butchers shouted at the container driver and told him to run over the vehicle and kill him and both the drivers tried to run over the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, State Minister for Cow Protection, Lal Mani Tiwari with the intention of killing him, due to which he was dragged to a long distance. There were a lot of injuries and three people jumped from the container and ran towards Lakharwa village, on which police control room Prayagraj was informed.

Within a short time, ACP Handia, ACP Soraon, Inspector-in-charge Sarai Inayat, police of Handia, Soraon, Nawabganj and Tharwai reached the spot. Police started searching for the butchers who jumped out of the car and started searching for the butchers who had run away after about 2 hours. After the search by the police of several police stations and workers of the cow protection mobile squad, two butchers, Mohammad Yamin of Rampur district and Kallu of Shahjahanpur district, who were hiding in a chari field, were caught and three people fled from the spot in Swift car number UP 70 CE 1909. The caught container was taken to Gohari Gaushala where one cow died, 10 live cows and 23 bulls which were kept in the container with their hands, feet and mouth tied, were taken down. Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Provincial Minister of Cow Protection, Lal Mani Tiwari gave a written application to Inspector-in-charge Tharvai asking him to take strict action against the butchers.

Devotion & worship marks Bada Mangtal celebration



Prayagraj: After worshipping on the first Tuesday of the month of Jeth, Indian tradition and Sanatan culture and Lord Hanuman Ji Maharaj of Kalyug was celebrated with full devotion by distributing curd sherbet and worshipping with full devotion in the evening. Today, the workers first worshipped Shri Hanuman Ji Maharaj at the Samaya Ma Temple located in Katghar, after reciting Hanuman Chalisa and performing Aarti, distributed Prasad taking the blessings of the formation of Modi

government again at the Centre. Thereafter, later in the evening, near the Civil Lines Temple. Describing the importance of Tuesday of the month of Jeth by distributing curd sherbet, senior BJP leader Pawan Srivastava said that today marks Bada Mangal of the month of Jeth, the first day of the union of Lord Shri Ram and Shri Hanuman Ji Maharaj, following this tradition. "All the auspicious days of Jeth have their own significance and Hindu society celebrates them with grandeur," he opined. Coun-

cilor Neeraj Gupta, Sushil Srivastava, Gaurish Ahuja, Vinod Sonkar, Shubhendu Srivastava, Kaustubh Srivastava, Sandeep Chauhan, Rajiv Tandon, Alok Srivastava, Shailendra Srivastava, Kushagra Srivastava and other workers were present in the program.

Similarly, Poonam Sant Mahila Evam Vikas Samiti distributed free sherbet in Rajrooppur, Prayagraj on the occasion of first big Tuesday of Jyeshtha month on 28th May. In view of this scorching heat, the organi-

zation has provided the facility of continuous distribution of sherbet and drinking water at various places for the general public and in Rajrooppur, like every day, the continuous distribution of sherbet continued even on this special day. President of the organization Poonam Sant said that this is a sacred work and more and more people should participate in this work and keep distributing sherbet and water to get relief from the heat. Rickshaw pullers, working class people and common people

are benefiting from this noble cause. This is truly an act of social consciousness which every citizen should take the responsibility of doing. In today's work, organization's coordinator Isabel Bandish also distributed sherbet and water to the passers-by. A large number of women, mainly the organization's secretary Abhishek Sant, Archana Maurya, Shrishti Kumari, Prince Kumar, Chahat Tiwari, Satikala, etc., participated in the program and provided support in this noble cause.

Editorial

Putin did a surprise reshuffle

Recently sworn in for a fifth term, Russian President Vladimir Putin did a surprise reshuffle of his defence establishment, demoting two of his closest aides—former defence minister Sergei Shoigu and ex-secretary of Security Council of Russia Nikolai Patrushev. This re-shuffle comes at a time when ‘mobilisation’ was expected to be Putin’s first move after re-election. The President has chosen deputy prime minister and long-time economic advisor Andrei Belousov to replace Shoigu, who in turn has replaced Patrushev. The latter’s new appointment remains unknown. The move is being seen as an effort to reduce the unsustainable and soaring costs of the war in Ukraine. It also challenges the narrative that the Russian economy is unaffected by the sanctions in the long-standing war. For 2024 alone, Putin has allocated \$117 billion for the special military operation against Ukraine. His war economy runs feverishly in an overheated mode. Most international estimates state that 7.5 per cent of Russia’s GDP is directed to the military-industrial complex although Kremlin’s official estimates claim it is 6.7 percent. It is a rare submission of a rising-cost problem from Putin, who had preferred to continue with his hunting-holidaying excursions pal Shoigu despite repeated allegations of systemic corruption and inefficiency against him for years. These allegations became the order of the day when mercenary group Wagner, led by Yevgeny Prigozhin, was brought to deliver victory in the infamous battle for Bakhmut in 2023. Putin’s slighting of Prigozhin’s outright allegations against Shoigu and Chief of General Staff Valery Gerasimov led to the incredible Wagner mutiny against the two generals, which ended up with Prigozhin’s death in uncanny circumstances. It, however, unleashed an investigation into rampant corruption inside Russia’s military leadership, of which Prigozhin had become the most notorious victim. Russia-watchers had an inkling of Shoigu’s exit after Prigozhin and his aides were made to bid adieu into the flannel skies, and many corrupt links started to get exposed in the Ministry of Defence. The inkling became stronger as Shoigu’s deputies, including Timur Ivanov, got arrested on corruption charges last month. Soon, two other deputy defence ministers allegedly backdated their resignations before 9 May, or the Soviet Victory Day. The Russian army was supposed to make an impressive win in Chasiv Yar on the eastern front but had to make do with American tanks captured at a small village called Berdychi when Ukrainians retreated, running out of ammunition to fire. All has certainly not been going as planned. The latest reshuffling in key defence and security offices has been Putin’s biggest shake-up in the past 15 years. There are two reasons for this. One is ensuring economic efficiency at a time when the stakes are very high for Russia and Putin. And two, Shoigu’s leadership has not been able to yield the anticipated results in the Ukraine war. His current appointment is a step-down with little direct authority. Getting an economist like Belousov in the key position of a defence minister also shows that Putin is preparing for the longer haul. It is a solemn reiteration that the Ukraine war has indeed been reduced to a grinding war of attrition, with both sides lacking the capabilities to end it anytime soon. Europe’s combined strategies to support Kyiv militarily won’t come to fruition until mid-2025. American aid and the conditionalities attached are likely to help Ukraine stay afloat, but not gain a decisive edge.

His reputation definitely changed, the reason for which is his clean image and saintly

In 2014, when Modi wave was running in the whole country, no one would have thought that a BJP leader would come in this way and by creating his own identity away from the allegations of corruption that are usually leveled on leaders, he would become famous among the people like Prime Minister Narendra Modi and became so famous that people started seeing him as the next Prime Minister. But when the five-time MP from Gorakhpur parliamentary seat, Mahant of Gorakhnath Bhaam Math and former MP, became the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, which has the highest number of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha seats in the country, in 2017 at the age of 45, his reputation definitely changed, the reason for which is his clean image and saintly nature. It is usually said that no other face can become big in front of a big face, but Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has earned his stature through his work, law and order and his impeccable image that when it comes to the public, no one else can be compared to him in the party in the state. Actually, Chief Minister Adityanath is not only famous for his impeccable image, he is also famous for taking action



against the wrongdoers and working in the interest of the common people.

He is the first Chief Minister of the country, who, apart from being famous as a saint after becoming the Chief Minister, has also become famous as Kulchner Baba. He has also received the title of the most popular Chief Minister of the country. Chief Minister Adityanath has not only benefited the people of Uttar Pradesh, but has done excellent work under many development schemes on behalf of the Uttar Pradesh government. And not only is his support base the strongest in Uttar Pradesh, but he is the main face of all the MLAs and ministers in his government, due to which he is able to take decisions in his government unopposed. He not only gave free hand to the police to deal with the criminals to

development and improvement.

But after becoming the Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath first got the Pracharagran renovated and the Prayagraj is worth seeing. Similarly, he has also developed many other places. Eastern Uttar Pradesh was once suffering in terms of development, now international level roads have been built there. Apart from this, his government has made efforts to provide water to every village. Now in Uttar Pradesh, whether it is the election of the Prime Minister, Assembly or Lok Sabha, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has a big and strong influence in the elections, on the basis of which BJP gets a good number of seats in every election. Actually, I am getting all this because many people are not aware of the stature of Chief Minister Adityanath and his clean political record or it can be said that they are taking Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath lightly.

Yesterday, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, after coming out of jail, held a press conference and said that as soon as Modi becomes the PM, he will finish Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Arvind Kejriwal said that PM Modi does not want to fight this election for the country or the party,

he wants to fight only for one person Amit Shah. He said that he will remove Yogi Adityanath from power next time. Sources say that after Arvind Kejriwal’s statement of removing Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the game of checkmate and checkmate started in the coin division, and it also revealed who all are in the race for the post of Prime Minister in BJP. According to the number of supporters and impeccable record, Yogi Adityanath is the youngest leader in India who has the capability to become the Prime Minister after Modi.

But due to past experience and the decision of the Central Government to ignore the decisions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in the formation of the cabinet, rumours spread that the Gujarat lobby does not like Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. But now the supporters of Uttar Pradesh are angry with the Chief Minister of Delhi saying this and due to this the Gujarat lobby has started doing something and Chief Minister Yogi has intensified his strategy by drawing his Laxman Rekha.

And there are such political experts that if Gujarat Chief Minister does not help, then BJP will be able to get only 30-40 seats in Uttar Pradesh.

Why Delhi-Tehran deal on Chabahar Port is good news for India’s Shia Muslims

After extensive negotiations, India and Iran have finally sealed a historic 10-year bilateral agreement for the operation of the strategically located Chabahar Port on the Gulf country’s eastern coast. While India initially engaged in short-term agreements with Iran starting in 2016, the newly inked deal marks a significant milestone. With its presence in Chabahar, India aims to circumvent reliance on Pakistan’s ports in Karachi and Gwadar, facilitating smoother access to landlocked Afghanistan and other Central Asian nations via Iran.

This deal has a lot of economic significance for India. Despite the nation’s preoccupation with the ongoing Lok Sabha election, the

Narendra Modi government’s decisive action, including the special permission reportedly obtained from the Election Commission of India (ECI) to dispatch a central minister to Iran, underscores the paramount importance of this deal for the nation’s strategic interests and economic future. In geopolitical dynamics, this deal is a major achievement for India and a testament to Modi’s personal diplomacy. It marks our first step into managing overseas ports and serves as a strategic move against the emerging

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Its timing, amid the chaos in West Asia disrupting important trade routes, makes it even more significant.

Furthermore, beyond these tangible benefits, India’s diplomatic success shines through the forging of successful ties with conflicted powers. Its diplomatic success is evident in its ability to foster friendly relations with Israel while extending support to Palestine. Simultaneously, New Delhi adeptly navigates deepening ties with the United States and successfully negotiates with Iran, showcasing its diplomatic prowess. Meanwhile, our long-standing partnerships with countries such as Saudi Arabia, Russia, and Japan continue to flourish. India’s leadership roles in the G20 forum and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) highlight that its diplomacy is actually working.

Advantage in 2024 Elections

These figures have been in the public domain for the last five years, still, it is amazing that in this country, we have some eminent journalists and political commentators misinterpreting the 2019 election as mostly decided on the basis of Pulwama and Balakot. Coming to the 2024 elections, Lokniti-CSDS released a pre-poll survey in April where the data pointed out that the satisfaction level towards the Modi government has seen a dip of around 8.1 per cent — a sign of serious concern for the BJP. Increasing unemployment (12.2 per cent), price rise (7.6 per cent) and falling income (4.1 per cent) are some of the crucial issues in the survey that matter to voters. The pre-poll survey also points out that there is an increase of around 5 per cent in support for Congress leader Rahul Gandhi — 26.5 per cent — as the next prime minister compared to the 2019 pre-poll survey. Interestingly, there is also a 2 per cent increase in support for Narendra Modi — 47.5 per cent — as the next prime minister. This is despite 10 years of anti-incumbency. Many journalists and political commentators are seen discussing that Ram Mandir in Ayodhya isn’t a poll issue. First of all, this isn’t an issue for a particular election — Ram Mandir is a sentiment for the Hindus. That said, it’s still an issue in this election. According

to the pre-poll survey, for 7.5 per cent of voters, Ram Mandir is an important issue when they vote, with an additional 2.3 per cent of voters separately pointing to Hindutva as an important issue when they vote. Clearly, the BJP’s Hindutva agenda remains a significant factor for 9.8 per cent of voters in this election, though a small fraction of them may be anti-Hindutva voters. Unemployment remains the most important issue for voters — 27.3 per cent — when they vote. However, it is wrong to conclude that all voters citing unemployment as an important issue are necessarily anti-BJP voters. If they vote for the Modi-led BJP, liberals and Leftists label them as being “blind” towards basic issues like unemployment and price rise. Interestingly, according to the pre-poll survey, 9.1 per cent of voters cited employment as the most liked work of the Modi government — the second most liked factor after Ram Mandir. This means that there is a section that believes that although unemployment is a burning issue, the Modi government has been working to address it. After unemployment, price rise has been cited by 23.4 per cent of voters as an important factor. However, it’s worth noting that despite price rise being an important issue during the 2009 elections, the

Congress-led UPA came to power with an increased number of seats. This is not to deny the disillusionment of voters towards the Modi government on price rise. However, welfare schemes, cited by 18.1 per cent of voters as the biggest change since Modi became prime minister, and infrastructure-related works are likely to aid the government, lessening the impact of this disillusionment and preventing it from converting into votes against the BJP-led NDA. Liberals and Leftists aren’t happy with Narendra Modi’s election speeches targeting Congress-led Opposition for Muslim appeasement. They argue that this is not a significant issue. While the Congress manifesto does not discuss wealth redistribution, the CSDS-Lokniti pre-poll survey suggests that concerns about policies targeting Muslim communities resonate with some voters. The survey found that 47.3 per cent of voters agreed that Muslims are unnecessarily pampered, compared to 32.2 per cent who disagreed, while 20.4 per cent chose not to respond. Modi’s speeches on Muslim appeasement, targeting the Opposition, particularly Congress, aim to address the concerns of these voters, close to 50 per cent of those surveyed, while also appealing to undecided voters.

Congress Focusing on Fewer Lok Sabha Seats, But Will It Work

Though some point out that Kharage and not Nitish was foisted as the chair of the alliance, given his track record, the Bihar chief minister’s opposition to the BJP was always suspect. The second move by the Congress has been to channelise the strength of the alliance partners to keep itself afloat. To this end, the Congress is contesting only 328 seats this time, significantly fewer than the 421 it contested in the 2019 polls. This number would have been 330, but one candidate’s nomination papers were rejected in Surat, and another withdrew in Indore. This means that the Congress

in INDIA has created an alliance base that is much wider than that of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA). This also means that the party has shrunk from the position of a dominant partner to a senior partner with some other members of the bloc like the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab not even entertaining an alliance. Those in charge of forging alliances for the Congress claim that this time the grouping is much more pragmatic than in 2019. Uttar Pradesh is a case in point. In 2019, the Congress went into the polls alone, with no major allies. Facing both

the BJP and the SP-BSP alliance, it contested 67 of the state’s 80 seats but could win only one: Sonia Gandhi in Raebareli. This time, in alliance with the Samajwadi Party, it is contesting just 17 seats, down by 50. People close to poll planning point out that it has been done to conserve the party resources for more realistic contests. Similarly, in West Bengal, from contesting 40 seats in 2019, the Congress is taking on just 14 seats this time, giving the remaining Ones to its alliance partner, the Left. The Congress has extended its alliances with Left parties in Andhra Pradesh, giving the Araku seat to the

CPI(M) and Guntur to the CPI. It has also partnered with local parties in other states, such as ceding the Dibrugarh seat in Assam to the Assam Jatiya Parishad and allocating three seats to regional parties in Rajasthan. To avoid repeating past mistakes, the Congress allocated one seat to the Samajwadi Party in Madhya Pradesh. Ironically, the SP candidate’s nomination papers were rejected, leading the Congress and SP to back a candidate running on the All India Forward Bloc symbol. Similar arrangements have been made in Tripura, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. How would this affect.

Reorganization of the state executive of the Indian Association of Press and Mediamen

Chandigarh: The state team meeting of the Indian Association of Press and Mediamen was held on Friday. This meeting was held in the office of a media house in Sector 29D. In this meeting chaired by state president Dr Vinod Sharma, the first discussion was about the executive and taking over of responsibilities. After the discussion, the state team was reconstituted unanimously. The state team comprised of President: Dr. Vinod Sharma, Senior Vice President: Shiv Kumar Verma, Vice President: Pradeep Sharma and Pradeep Shukla, General Secretary: Amit Kumar Verma, Joint Secretary: Prosan Burman, Finance Secretary: SP Chopra, Joint Finance Secretary: Ramesh Sachdeva, Legal Secretary: Karan Shukla, Executive Members: Rakesh Kumar, Shiv Maurya, Sunny Kumar and Rimpi were declared



by the Sarv Samiti. In this series, Advisor: Prem Vij and Patron: Shrikant Acharya and Sushil Kumar were appointed. After the formation of the team, State President Dr. Vinod Sharma congratulated everyone and said that today's meeting was very positive, I am confident that our team will continue to struggle for the interests of the media. Later he said that in future, small units of the association will be formed in other cities as well, so that the problems of the media personnel there can be solved. The entire team of the state also

decided to submit a memorandum of their demands to PIB and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting after the Lok Sabha elections. Patron Sushil Kumar, who was present in the meeting, said that the way the state team has been formed with new energy, it seems as if the problems of media persons will now slowly come to an end. He also stressed that along with the state team, the national team will also have to move forward with our problems, only then will our problems be solved.

UPI connection boosts RuPay credit cards

Delhi: UPI (Unified Payments Interface) integration has boosted RuPay credit cards, with 75% of 'Credit Cards (CC) on UPI' transactions happening at small businesses, according to a Thursday report. Kiwi found that 'Credit Cards on UPI' was most popular among young folks under 40. CC on UPI is the main payment method, with consumers spending over Rs 22,000 monthly. UPI CCs average 21 transactions each month, four times more than real credit cards. "RuPay Credit Cards' market share rose from 3% in FY23 to 10% in FY24. "UPI's success is



largely responsible," stated Kiwi Co-founder Mohit Bedi. Virtual credit cards are growing rapidly. He stated that about 20% of credit cards issued in the country are virtual. The survey found that UPI CC transactions average

Rs 1,125, compared to Rs 4,000 for standard credit cards. The survey also found that supermarket and Kirana stores used CC on UPI the most (33%), followed by clothes and electronics (15%) and food and dining (7%).

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine on Hero FinCorp for violating regulatory standards

Delhi: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fined Hero FinCorp Limited Rs 3,10,000 for violating the fair practices policy for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). An RBI assessment has uncovered that Hero



FinCorp failed to communicate the terms and conditions of loans

in written form to borrowers in a language that they understand. RBI conducted a statutory inspection of the company, specifically focusing on its financial situation as of March 31, 2023.

CAPSULES

Key portfolio firms' stock surge as investors ignore Adani Group toolkit

Delhi: The flagship Adani Enterprises (NS:ADEL) Ltd. (AEL) recovered losses of over \$30 billion from the short-seller firm Hindenburg's report. The Adani Enterprises stock has risen 12% in five trading sessions. Financial giant Cantor Fitzgerald has set a Rs 4,338 target price. In addition, investors have received 53% gains on the stock in the past six months. The stock soared from its February 2023 low. AEL shares were practically unchanged at Rs 3,381 on BSE. While Adani Green Energy (NS:ADNA) shares jumped 1.8%, Adani Total Gas (NS:ADAG) rose 2.5%, and Adani Energy Solutions rose 0.5%. Investors rejected The Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) and Financial Times (FT) investigation targeting the world's largest domestic corporate empire "all in the name of investigative journalism".

Paytm will grow payment services with UPI, card processing, and EMI

Delhi: Paytm said it is optimistic on UPI, card processing, and EMI payments to expand its payment services business. These business segments could help Paytm revive and sustain its payments leadership in India. UPI, which earlier generated 70% of Gross Merchandise Value (GMV), now accounts for almost 80-85%, highlighting its importance in the business strategy. Paytm also stressed merchant GMV recovery during an earnings call on Wednesday after reporting Q4 FY24 and FY24 results.

Gaming company Nazara earns Rs 17 crore in Q4, revenue falls 8%

Delhi: Gaming and sports media platform Nazara Technologies reported net profit from its sustained operations at Rs 17.1 crore in the January-March quarter of FY24, up 43.6% from Rs 11.9 crore the year before. Operating revenue down 8% to Rs 266.2 crore from Rs 289.3 crore in FY23. The company reported a 21.8% increase in net profit to Rs 74.8 crore from Rs 61.4 crore in FY23. FY24 revenue rose 4.3% to Rs 1,138.3 crore from Rs 1,091 crore.

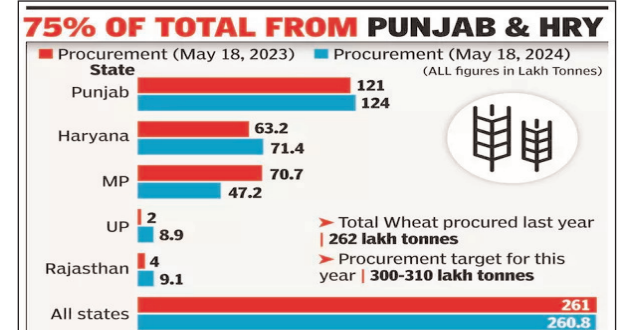


laying the groundwork for rapid scaling. Nitish Mittersain, Nazara Technologies' founder, CEO,

and joint MD, reported 4.3% revenue and 16.5% EBITDA increase. The company's running cash flow rose to Rs 131.4 crore, indicating great performance. He said, "We raised Rs 950 crore at Nazara and subsidiaries, our largest fundraise to date, resulting in a net cash balance of Rs 1,450 crores. Nazara works in gaming, esports, and advertising. Mittersain said he expects revenue and EBITDA growth to accelerate in FY25. The company has acquired 100% of Nextwave Multimedia Private Limited, producers of the popular "World Cricket Championship" mobile cricket games.

Fully procured wheat by centre exceeds last year's mark

Delhi: This Rabi selling season, the Food Ministry announced that the Central government had purchased 262.48 lakh metric tonnes of wheat in various states, beating previous year's 262.02 lakh. The Rabi marketing season 2024-25 MSP outflow was Rs. 59,715 crores, benefiting 22.31 lakh farmers. Five states dominated procurement. Punjab procured 124.26 lakh metric tons (LMT), followed by Haryana with 71.49 LMT and Madhya Pradesh with 47.78 LMT. Rajasthan and



Uttar Pradesh followed with 9.66 and 9.07 LMT. According to the Ministry, 728.42 LMT paddy equivalent to 489.15 LMT of rice has been acquired directly from 98.26 lakh farmers during the Kharif marketing scheme 2023-24, with a total MSP outflow of Rs. 1,60,472 crores. The Food Ministry said the Central Pool's wheat and rice stock had topped 600 LMT, allowing the country to meet its food grain needs under PMGKAY, other welfare initiatives, and market interventions.

Musk accuses WhatsApp of misusing user data every night



Delhi: Today, Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk accused Meta-owned WhatsApp of exporting user data every night. An X user said WhatsApp exports user data every night for "analysed and used for targeted advertising, making users the product, not the customer". Musk said "WhatsApp exports your user data every night". "Some people still think it is secure," stated the tech billionaire. Elon Musk's claim was not

addressed by Meta or WhatsApp. John Carmack, a computer programmer and video game developer, asked Elon Musk if communications are ever scanned or forwarded. "I assume usage patterns and routing metadata is collected, and if you invoke a bot in a conversation you are obviously opening it up, but I am still under the impression that the message contents are secure by default," John wrote on X. X has

also attacked Mark Zuckerberg's Meta Platform. The billionaire said Meta is greedy at grabbing credit for advertisers who execute campaigns on its platform earlier this month.

Well-known rivalry between Elon Musk and Mark Zuckerberg They were supposed to engage in a "cage fight" called the fight of the century. The tech leaders never clashed.

Google makes a minority investment of \$350 million in Flipkart

Delhi: According to reports, Google contributed roughly \$350 million to Flipkart's almost \$1 billion fundraising round, which was spearheaded by parent company Walmart. Flipkart declined to comment on the funding's details, but sources informed that the internet giant has contributed roughly \$350 million for a minority interest in the company. The investment round has concluded with Google joining, increasing Flipkart's worth to much beyond \$35 billion, according to sources. Walmart contributed approximately \$600 million to Flipkart during the investment round that concluded in December of last year. In 2021, Flipkart completed its largest funding round, raising \$3.6 billion at a valuation of \$37.6 billion from

Boost For Quick Commerce Foray

Google has been ramping up its India investments and may look at extending its partnership with Flipkart to other areas as well, according to market advisors

With Google on board, the \$1bn investment round has been closed, taking Flipkart's valuation to over \$35bn. The funding comes in handy for

Flipkart as it looks to enter the quick commerce space

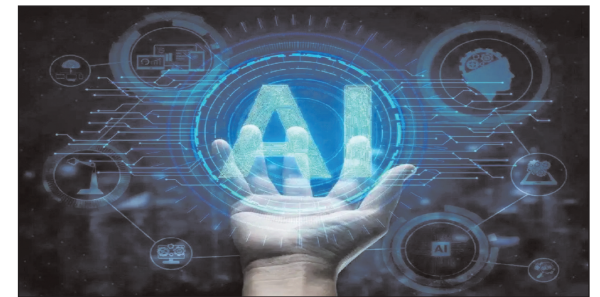
Flipkart has been in a partnership with Google Cloud since 2022

The co, which competes with players like Amazon and Meesho to cater to customers who are increasingly going digital, has been leveraging Google's cloud stack to widen tech capabilities and reach more users

investors in a deal co-led by Walmart. It is believed that the company's valuation was modified to \$33 billion following the 2022 separation of fintech PhonePe from the group. Flipkart stated that regulatory permissions are a prerequisite for the investment. "Google's proposed investment and its cloud collaboration will help Flipkart expand its business and advance the modernisation of its digital infrastructure to serve customers across the country,"

the company said in a statement. Google Cloud and Flipkart have been partnered since 2022. Flipkart has been using Google's cloud stack to expand its IT capabilities and reach more consumers. Flipkart competes with players like Amazon and Meesho, which is sponsored by SoftBank, to cater to clients who are increasingly turning digital. In a \$1.4 billion investment round in 2017, Flipkart received backing from Tencent, Microsoft, and other competitors of Google.

DD Kisan launches 50-language AI anchors Krish and Bhoomi



Delhi: Doordarshan Kisan will be the first government TV channel to introduce AI anchors, ushering in the 'Artificial Intelligence' age in agriculture. Krish and Bhoomi, the AI anchors, are advanced computer algorithms that behave and perform like humans. Once unthinkable, they can deliver news 24/7, 365 days a year without tiring or taking breaks. Farmers in all states will see AI anchors, from Kashmir to Tamil Nadu and Gujarat to Arunachal. These anchors will provide national and global agriculture research, farm market trends,

weather updates, and government scheme updates. The anchors' fluency in 50 domestic and international languages is remarkable. Only DD Kisan broadcasts nationwide. It serves farmers exclusively and was founded by the Indian government. DD Kisan Channel has met these standards for nine years. The DD Kisan channel promotes innovative farmers. To support the country's agricultural and rural populations, it promotes comprehensive education. The DD Kisan channel focuses on sustainable farming, animal husbandry, and plantation.

Did Ajit call Pune police commissioner after Porsche accident?

NEW DELHI:

Maharashtra deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar on Monday confirmed that he had called the Pune police commissioner after the Porsche accident. Speaking to reporters in Mumbai, the deputy CM said, "As a people's representative, we receive calls regarding such accidents. I police commissioner and told him that the accused boy was from a wealthy family and there was a chance police might be pressured. I told him not to succumb to any political pressure." Earlier, Anjali Damania, a social activist, had claimed that he had called the Pune police commissioner after the Porsche accident.

Blaming the parents of the teen accused in the crash, Pawar said the parents ignored his behaviour which resulted in the death of two young professionals. "The minor's conduct in the Pune accident is highly irre-



sponsible. It happened because the teenager's parents ignored his behaviour. The son is in an observation home and his father and grandfather have been arrested," he said. Asked about his party MLA Sunil Tingare, who had visited Pune's Yerawada police station hours after the accident in the Kalyani Nagar area, Pawar said, "Tingare himself has clarified his stand. He later met me in Pune and presented his version. I have asked police officials to take strict action against cops or doctors who

tried to dilute the probe." Meanwhile, two doctors from Sassoon general hospital, arrested for destruction of evidence against the minor were sent to police custody till May 30. Another arrested employee of the hospital was also sent to 3-day police custody. The arrested individuals include the head of the hospital's forensic department. The accident, which occurred in the early morning of May 19, resulted in the deaths of two IT professionals when their motorcycle was by a speeding Porsche.

India bloc to elect PM and establish government, claims Kharge

Delhi: Congress

leader Mallikarjun Kharge asserted that the prime minister would be chosen by alliance leaders following the formation of an INDI Alliance government at the Center on June 4.

Kharge claimed that the Congress is opposing the BJP's philosophy of splitting the nation along Hindu and Muslim lines and claimed that the Narendra Modi government is "misusing" constitutional institutions. At an election rally in Rohru, which is under the Shimla Lok Sabha seat, he declared, "People are fed up with the Modi govt as unemployment and inflation are rising." He charged



that when the Centre turned down the state government's request for help of Rs 9,900 crore during the previous year's calamity, Modi was ignoring Himachal Pradesh.

China allegedly encroached on India's territory, and Kharge said the PM is scared of them,

saying the Modi government did nothing. He also brought up the Agniveer initiative, saying that Congress governments gave military personnel pensions and permanent employment. He claimed that the previous pension program was eliminated by the BJP government.

Badal brother-in-law is fired by SAD for anti-party activities

Delhi: Adesh Partap Singh Kairon (65), the brother-in-law of party president Sukhbir Singh Badal and a former cabinet minister, was kicked out of the SAD for 'engaging in anti-party actions'. Virsa Singh Valtaha, the SAD candidate from the Khadoor Sahib Lok Sabha con-



stituency, lodged a complaint against Kairon, citing his lack of involve-

ment in party affairs. Parneet Kaur, Sukhbir's sister, is wed to Kairon, the grandson of Partap Singh Kairon, the former chief minister of Punjab. He held three cabinet positions under Parkash Singh Badal's administration.

BJP faces caste equations, irate farmers, and Agniveer program in Haryana

Delhi: Despite BJP government uncertainty, Haryana will vote for 10 Lok Sabha seats on May 25. In recent months, Kurukshetra MP and state BJP president Nayab Saini replaced Manohar Lal Khattar as chief minister and the BJP-JJP coalition ended. Post-Pulwama and Balakot air strikes fueled nationalist sentiment, which helped the BJP win all Haryana Lok Sabha seats in 2019. The Modi factor helped it win. The average margin of victory was almost



350,000 votes. This time, caste tensions, especially Jat mobilization, farmers' protest over agricultural regulations, and

the Agniveer program of armed forces recruitment are challenging the BJP. After the October 2019 state elections, the

BJP and JJP established an alliance, however they split before the Lok Sabha elections.

Saini, an OBC, replaced Punjabi Khattar as state chief minister. Three independent MLAs withdrew their support for the BJP, which needed their support to stay in office. The BJP soon gained three JJP MLAs. Only Congress leader Bhupender Hooda, a Jat, enjoys pan-state support in Haryana, especially among non-Jat castes.

Odisha rally Smriti Irani attacks ruling BJD

Delhi: In a long election campaign in Odisha, Union Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Smriti Irani lambasted the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD). She addressed mass meetings in Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, and Balasore Parliamentary constituencies. Smriti Irani alleged the BJD government in Odisha is remote-controlled by a Tamil officer and some Tamil contractors, a veiled attack on former official V.K. Pandian, a close adviser of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. The Tamil Nadu-born officer of this remote-controlled administration did not explain why he withheld the commis-



sion's report on Ratna Bhandar's lost keys. I warn the remote control that the BJP will reveal the probe report. "Whoever found guilty behind the Ratna Bhandar issue won't be spared by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Smriti Irani stated in Jagatsinghpur. The Union Minister claimed the

state administration failed to explain Ratna Bhandar's critical disappearance. Senior BJP leader stated PM Modi-led government will reveal Ratna Bhandar major thieves. The BJP leader further advised voters to choose a double-engine government for quick state development. She added the

Tamil Nadu officer of the remote-controlled administration in Odisha is snatching all the welfare initiatives the Central government has provided to the people here. Smriti Irani stated PM Modi is giving money for house construction but Tamil Nadu companies are winning contracts. She said at a Kendrapara electoral meeting:

"Why did the BJD government not build a medical college for the people? Amethi's 40-year-old medical college demand was realized when the BJP took control at the Centre and state. Therefore, Odishans should vote for the BJP to fulfill their demand."

Uttarakhand will notify parents of children aged 18 to 21 and enlist live-ins online

Delhi: By the end of the year, Uttarakhand is anticipated to have adopted the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), and plans are underway to develop an online registration system for married individuals and cohabiting couples. Notably, this is the first time the government has revealed that live-in registration will be available online. Prior to this year's Lok Sabha elections, the topic of couples needing to register and being subject to government monitoring under the UCC's live-in provisions had been a major talking point among young people. The essential regulations have been drafted by a nine-member team headed by former chief secretary Shatrughan Singh; the document is



expected to be finished by the end of June. By late 2024, according to officials, the Act's provisions will be put into effect. Singh stated to TOI, "Our goal is to simplify the online formality completion process for individuals." But because government employees require formal training, this procedure is complicated. In order to fulfill the deadline, we intend to create regulations and hold training sessions concurrently." He also mentioned that gov-

ernment officials, particularly those working at the sub-registrar office, will receive training both offline and online, even at the village level. Singh emphasized that by eliminating the need for repeated trips to the registrar's office, the online facility will help government employees as well as couples. Even with the extra time needed, he continued, the strategy would be "comprehensive and fool-proof."

PM's "Mujra" Attack on INDIA Bloc, Priyanka Gandhi's "Decorum" Response

Delhi:

Congress politician Priyanka Gandhi Vadra slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "mujra" remark at a Bihar rally, saying he must respect his office. Other INDIA leaders criticized the Prime Minister's accusation of vote bank politics against the Opposition. Mujra is a courteous dance. At a rally in Bihar, the Prime Minister repeated his claim that the INDIA alliance intended to deprive backward castes and favor Muslims, something the Congress and its allies deny. Bihar has refocused social justice efforts. I declare on its turf that I will stop the INDIA bloc from



taking SCs, STs, and OBCs' rights and giving them to Muslims. The Prime Minister said they may stay enslaved and perform mujra' for their vote bank. Another "mujra jab" at the Tejashwi Yadav-led RJD: "These RJD people who keep doing mujra' with their lantern (poll symbol) do not have the courage to speak a word in protest." The Prime

Minister added that the Opposition will amend the Constitution if they win, an allegation the Congress had made against the BJP. Ms Gandhi Vadra said that no Prime Minister would have used such words. "What does Modi say? Is it not his job to keep his post tidy? Respect the Prime Ministership. His reality is revealed. Show the nation

less realism. He forgot he represents the nation. Ms Gandhi Vadra criticized the Prime Minister for claiming the Congress is developing a wealth redistribution scheme to steal women's mangalsutras, saying, "Modi talks about buffaloes and mangalsutras. The stray animal problem began throughout their time."

Gurugram water crisis: Municipal authority to punish people 5,000 if...

Delhi: A 5000 fine will be enforced on Gurugram residents who wash automobiles or courtyards with potable water between 5am and 9am. The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) made the decision to reduce water waste due to water scarcity, said The Times of India. Repeated infractions would result in water connection removal and a 5000 punishment, according to officials. To restore water supply, the MCG charges 5,000 and 1000 for reconnection. After urban local bodies (ULB) ordered water conservation during peak supply hours, the decision was made. Installing motors and pumps directly on the supply line, which lowers water pressure, is a common infringement. Apart from fines, motors and pumps will be confiscated. Also, unlicensed washing centers will be blocked and their water connections cut.

CAPSULES

LS polls' 6th phase saw eager J&K voters set another record with over 61% voting

Delhi: Over 61% turnout was recorded in 58 seats in 8 states/UTs that went to polls in the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha polls. West Bengal (8 seats) had 79.47% turnout, UP (14 seats) 54.03 percent, and J&K's Anantnag-Rajouri seat, 54.30 percent, the highest in several decades. The EC noted that "in spite of hot weather in certain parts of the country, voters were undeterred in their enthusiasm as they were seen queuing up patiently to cast their votes across the country" and that many voters were still in line at some polling stations at the closing time.

TN govt. gives Covid-orphaned children Rs 430 crore

Delhi: Children who lost their parents to COVID-19 will receive Rs 430 crore from the Tamil Nadu government. A state government announcement said 382 Tamil Nadu children had lost both or one parent to Covid and related complications. The statement said it had allocated Rs 219 crore for girl protection. The state government would give 382 youngsters Rs 5 lakh apiece. Once they turned 18, they could withdraw Rs 19.10 crore with interest. The single parents of 13,682 children under 18 and nine Sri Lankan refugee youngsters received Rs 3 lakh each. The total was Rs 437.46 crore.

The statement stated government-announced free public bus travel for differently-abled and transgender people might save Rs 1000 per month. It gives 2.73 lakh girl students Rs 1000 under the 'Pudhumai Pen' scheme.

Delhi court summons AAP leaders Atishi in defamation case on 'MLAs poaching'

NEW DELHI: Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court on Tuesday summoned AAP leader Atishi to appear before it on June 29 in relation to a defamation case filed by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor.

The court's order mandates that Atishi must appear before it to address the allegations made in the defamation case, claiming that she had made false allegations of BJP trying to poach AAP MLAs. In a press conference on April 2, Atishi said, "I was told to either join the BJP to save and extend my political career or I would be arrested by the ED within a month." She had also claimed that she and three other senior AAP functionaries could be arrested soon, and



claimed that she was advised to join the BJP or risk being arrested by the ED in a month. Responding to the court summons Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said this is "complete dictatorship."

"I had said earlier that they will arrest Atishi next. They are planning to do so now. Complete dictatorship. In completely flimsy, frivolous and false cases, they are arresting ALL leaders of AAP one by one. Every single opposition leader will be

arrested if Modi ji comes back to power. AAP is not imp. Saving our dear country from dictatorship is imp." Kejriwal wrote on X.

In response to the case filed against her by BJP Spokesperson Kapoor, Delhi minister Atishi said, "I want to ask the BJP how they formed the government in Goa, Manipur, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh. How do the MLAs reach the BJP from different parties? The BJP has to answer this.

Bangladesh MP case: 4 kg of flesh found in septic tank of complex

KOLKATA: After nearly six days of search for murdered Bangladesh MP Anwarul Azim Anar's body parts, investigators on Tuesday found 4 kg of flesh in the septic tank of the New Town housing complex where he was killed on May 13. Suspecting the flesh to be that of the MP, cops have sent it for forensic test.

"If the flesh found on Tuesday turns out to be that of a human, it would be that of Azim, whose body was skinned and chopped, after he was smothered to death. For the flesh to land in the septic tank, it

had to be flushed down the commode," said a source. Investigators had returned to the complex after efforts to locate body parts in the Bagjola canal failed to yield any result.

According to sources, it was Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) detective branch chief Mohammad Harun-or-Rashid who had asked CID officers to check the septic tank after interrogating Bangladeshi butcher Jihad Howladar, arrested by CID, for over four hours. The main plotters had brought Jihad to Kolkata to ensure Azim's body

could be disposed of in such a way that it would be difficult to find any trace.

Rashid has also asked investigators to search a water body near the complex and a canal with a wooden bridge. Sources said Bangladesh Police is considering conducting DNA tests of blood found in the flat to match the results with that of the Bangladesh MP's kin. Trying to recover the knives and cleavers and establish from where they were procured, Dhaka Metropolitan Police on Tuesday visited a shopping mall in New Town.

Main accused in Patna student's murder held, hunt on for accomplices

PATNA: The prime accused in the murder of Patna's B N College student Harsh Raj was arrested on Tuesday. The accused has been identified as Chandan Kumar, a final year student of Patna College, police said. Chandan confessed to his crime during inter-

rogation, said City SP (East) Bharat Soni. "He had hatched the plan to kill Raj over an old enmity between two students' groups," he said. The 22-year-old final year student was beaten to death by 10 to 15 masked youths in the parking lot of Patna Law

College on Monday. Police have identified the other miscreants, which includes some Patna University students. Raids are being conducted in Patna and other districts to nab the rest. Their criminal history is also being checked, said the SP.

ED claims chats between Kejriwal and accused linked to hawala operators

NEW DELHI: The ED told a Delhi court on Tuesday that it has in its possession direct chats between chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and Vinod Chauhan, the man allegedly handling proceeds of crimes connected with hawala operators. Chauhan is an accused in the money laundering case linked to Delhi's excise policy that has been scrapped. Referring to the chats, the special counsel appearing for ED, Zoheb Hossain, claimed that Chauhan was close to Kejriwal. Chauhan had been arrested by ED from Goa in connection with the case on May 4 for allegedly transferring a cash bribe from South Group to the election cam-



paign of AAP during the Goa assembly elections in 2022. He was sent to jail by a Delhi court. Court to decide on taking note of supplementary chargesheet on June 4. The ED had told the court that Vinod Chauhan was involved in transferring proceeds of

crime worth Rs 25.5 crore. The agency had added that Rs 1.06 crore was seized after Chauhan's office was searched. ED also submitted before the court of special judge Kaveri Baweja that Kejriwal was the "kingpin" and "key conspirator" in the case.

"CM Kejriwal was part of the larger conspiracy to generate proceeds of crime. He ensured that there was no meaningful discussion," the ED counsel told the court. ED made the submissions on consideration of its supplementary chargesheet filed against Kejriwal and AAP in a money laundering case. The court reserved its order on whether to take cognisance of the supplementary chargesheet for June 4. The agency also told the court that part of Kejriwal's stay at a seven-star hotel in Goa was paid for using proceeds of the alleged crime and the payment was facilitated by Charanpreet Singh, another accused in the case.

Medvedev has issued a stark warning that any US attack

NEW DELHI: Former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has issued a stark warning that any US attack on Russian targets in Ukraine would inevitably trigger a global conflict. Medvedev, who currently serves as Deputy Chair of Russia's Security Council, made this statement following comments by Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski. Sikorski claimed that Washington would strike Russian targets if Moscow resorted to using nuclear weapons

in Ukraine. In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Medvedev criticized Sikorski, saying, "Apparently, [he] has decided to scare his masters." Medvedev suggested that Washington, unlike Warsaw, has been more cautious and has not made such threats publicly. He added, "Americans hitting our targets means starting a world war, and a Foreign Minister, even of a country like Poland, should understand that." Medvedev also referenced Polish President Andrzej

Duda's recent remarks about Poland's willingness to host US nuclear weapons if offered the opportunity under Nato's sharing mechanism. He warned that in the event of a nuclear confrontation, "Warsaw won't be left out, and will surely get its share of radioactive ash," questioning if this is the outcome the Polish leadership truly desires. Sikorski, in an interview with the Guardian, expressed skepticism about the likelihood of a Russian nuclear strike in Ukraine.

BJP leader Ravi Kishan calls Shashi Tharoor 'angrez aadmi'

NEW DELHI: BJP leader Ravi Kishan on Tuesday called Congress leader Shashi Tharoor "angrez aadmi" for suggesting that the BJP would struggle to exceed 300 seats in the Lok Sabha elections. Responding to Tharoor's allegations, BJP MP from Gorakhpur said, "Shashi Tharoor is 'angrez aadmi'. We go to Manali and Shimla on vacations; they come to India during elections. They neither know the country nor its villages. They don't know this sweat." Videos Kishan said that Tharoor only comes to India during elections and does not understand the country or its villages. He also emphasised the significance of the Bhojpuri language, attributing his popu-



larity to it. "I have always spoken Bhojpuri. My speeches have been in Bhojpuri. This is our mother tongue, our identity. Bhojpuri made me a superstar. We fought for Bhojpuri, and a bill was brought in for the inclusion of the language in the 8th schedule (of the Constitution). The youth will not leave their identity," Kishan said. Ravi Kishan is seeking a second term from Gorakhpur. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls,

Kishan defeated Samajwadi Party (SP) candidate Rambhual Nishad by a margin of 301,664 votes. Uttar Pradesh is voting in all seven phases of the Lok Sabha polls, with the final phase scheduled for June 1. The Congress is contesting the polls in alliance with the Samajwadi Party, having a seat-sharing arrangement in which Congress is contesting 17 seats and the Samajwadi Party 63 seats in the state.

(With agency inputs)

Indian peacekeeper Major Radhika to receive prestigious 2023 UN military gender advocate of the year award

NEW DELHI: Major Radhika Sen, an Indian woman peacekeeper, is set to receive a prestigious military gender advocate award from the United Nations. UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres has praised her as a "true leader and role model." Major Sen served with the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO). She will be honoured with the '2023 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award' on May 30, coinciding with the International Day of UN Peacekeepers. Sen's tenure in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) spanned from March 2023 to April 2024. She was the Commander of M O N U S C O 's

Engagement Platoon for the Indian Rapid Deployment Battalion (INDRDB), according to a UN press release. Upon learning of her award, Major Sen expressed her gratitude and reflected on her peacekeeping mission. "This award is special to me as it gives recognition to the hard work put in by all the peacekeepers working in the challenging environment of DRC and giving their best to bring a positive change in the society," she said. "Gender-sensitive peacekeeping is everybody's business - not just us, women. Peace begins with all of us in our beautiful diversity!" Born in Himachal Pradesh in 1993, Major Sen joined the Indian Army eight years ago. Before her military career, she graduated as a biotech engineer and was studying for

her Master's degree at IIT Bombay. She was deployed to MONUSCO in March 2023 as the Engagement Platoon Commander with the Indian Rapid Deployment Battalion. She completed her tenure in April 2024. Major Sen becomes the second Indian peacekeeper to receive this prestigious award. Major Suman Gawani was the first, honoured in 2019 for her service with the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). Congratulating Major Sen, Guterres said she exemplifies true leadership and serves as an inspiration. "Her service was a true credit to the United Nations as a whole," he noted. He further explained that during an escalating conflict in North Kivu, Major Sen's troops.

SIT arrests 2 for leaking Prajwal sex videos

BENGALURU/SHIVA MOGGA: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the Hassan sleaze videos allegedly involving Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna, Tuesday arrested two men - Naveen Gowda and Chetan - in their 30s and both from Sakaleshpur in Hassan. They were accused of leaking the sleaze videos. The arrests were made in the morning when the two had come to the high court, with an intention to file anticipatory bail petitions. Earlier, they had made a futile attempt to secure anticipatory bail from Hassan court. According to a senior police officer, Naveen Gowda had a few months back posted on his Facebook page 'Countdown begins for release of tapes

(videos),' indicating that they were to release the sleaze videos. "We strongly suspect that Naveen Gowda distributed the sleaze videos through social media and WhatsApp. Chetan is the one who distributed the pen drives containing these videos," he said. Both will be produced before a court in Hassan on Wednesday, seeking custody of SIT. Bhavani's anticipatory bail adjourned. A special court for elected representatives in city adjourned to Wednesday the anticipatory bail petition of Bhavani Revanna, to Wednesday. Saying police may arrest her in a kidnap case, wherein her husband Revanna is already arrested. The court said it can continue the hearing after SIT files its objection.

100 Robotic Surgeries in 3 Months: Aadhar Institute Achieves a Significant Milestone with the Made In India Surgical Robot, SSI Mantra

Hisar : Aadhar Health Institute in Hisar, Haryana, in collaboration with SS Innovations, has made a significant mark in surgical history, showcasing groundbreaking medical innovation and technological expertise. The institute's recent feat of 100 successful robotic-assisted surgeries in a span of just three months stands as a testament to its unwavering commitment to patient-centric care and the relentless pursuit of precision. This remarkable milestone was made possible through a strategic alliance with SS Innovations. At the heart of this achievement lies the SSI Mantra Surgical Robotic System—a MedTech marvel meticulously crafted by SS Innovations. This state-of-the-art system transcends the limitations of conventional surgery, weaving together precision, adaptability, and



accessibility. Its robotic arms, guided by the hands of skilled surgeons, navigate anatomical intricacies with precision. Since its inception in 2015, Aadhar Health Institute has been dedicated to bringing affordable medical care to the people of Hisar and neighbouring areas. It is also the first hospital in the region to introduce robotic-assisted surgeries, marking a significant leap in surgical innovation. Covering a diverse spectrum of procedures including general, gynaecological, urological, and oncological surgeries, each surgery shows

the efforts made by Aadhar Health Institute and SS Innovations together, which further ensures that patients get the best care possible with minimally invasive procedures. Founder, Chairman and CEO, of SS Innovations, Dr Sudhir Srivastava the brain behind the SSI Mantra System, known as the Robo Doctor, said, the vision behind SS Innovations, reflects on this milestone: "The advent of robotics marks a pivotal juncture in the grand narrative of medical science. Yet, India, despite its rich heritage, has fallen behind

Advantage BJP or Congress? What low voter turnout in Lok Sabha polls could mean

NEW DELHI: In the initial phases of Lok Sabha elections 2024, low voter turnout percentage emerged as a concern not just for the Election Commission but also for the political parties including Bharatiya Janata Party and INDI alliance. However, the seats being contested in the 2024 elections are not exactly the same as those in the 2019 elections, but the differences led to a debate over the implications of low voter turnout. In a move questioned by several opposition parties, the Election Commission updated the voter

turnout percentage for phase 1 of the Lok Sabha election after 11 days and for phase 2 after 2 days. With phase 1 polls completed on April 19 voter turnout data for phase 1 was released by a delay of 11 days on April 30, followed by phase 2 data on April 28, just two days after the phase 2 elections on April 26. Opposition parties questioned the delayed update of turnout data. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge wrote a letter to all parties, urging them to raise their voices against the Election Commission's

move. In his 'open letter' to INDIA bloc leaders and other opposition leaders, Kharge highlighted the delay in releasing the final voting percentages for the initial phases of the Lok Sabha elections, suggesting that such delays cast doubts on the credibility of the data provided by the poll panel. He questioned the rationale behind the Election Commission's delay in releasing the voter turnout data, which was made public 11 days after the first phase and four days after the second phase.

Naveen Patnaik's special secretary D S Kutey suspended, called to Delhi

BHUBANESWAR: Ahead of the last phase election in Odisha on June 1, the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Tuesday suspended D S Kutey, special secretary to chief minister Naveen Patnaik, for "unduly interfering in conduct of election." The ECI asked

another IPS officer, Ashish Singh, inspector general (CM security), who is on medical leave to present himself before a medical board by Thursday. An IPS officer of the 1997 batch, Kutey was considered among the most powerful bureau-

crats in the chief minister's office. The ECI has fixed his headquarter as New Delhi at the Office of Resident Commissioner, Odisha. The ECI asked the chief secretary of Odisha to issue charge sheet to Kutey by Thursday.

CAPSULES

Punjab & Haryana HC acquits Ram Rahim in murder of ex-manager

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab and Haryana high court acquitted on Tuesday Dera Sacha Sauda chief and rape convict Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh and four others in a 22-year-old case involving the murder of his then manager Ranjit Singh, citing "a tainted and sketchy investigation" and presentation of evidence "unworthy of credence". A special CBI court in Panchkula had sentenced Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh and his co-accused to life imprisonment in 2021 - his third conviction in as many cases. He has been in jail since Aug 2017, serving a separate 20-year term after being convicted of raping female disciples. On Jan 17, 2019, a CBI court sentenced him to life imprisonment for the Nov 2002 murder of Sira-based journalist Ram Chander Chhatrapati, just over four months after his then manager Ranjit Singh's killing. The verdict by Justices Sureshwar Thakur and Lalit Batra highlights multiple lapses in the probe into the former Dera manager's murder, including the revelation that the presumed murder weapon wasn't used in the crime. It also points out that the vehicle supposedly used in the murder was never seized. Justice Thakur said despite witnesses testifying that all four assailants were armed, CBI failed to confiscate any of these firearms. CBI also didn't present a site plan of the place where the alleged conspiracy to kill Ranjit was hatched on June 16, 2002, he said. The court observed that "the intellectual strength" of the investigating officer appeared to have "become stonified by the glare of media publicity".

Chinese 'allegedly invaded' India in 1962: Mani Aiyar sparks fresh row

NEW DELHI: Former Union minister and Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar on Tuesday triggered row when he said that the Chinese in 1962 "allegedly invaded India". "In October 1962, the Chinese allegedly invaded India," he said at a book release event. Recalling the time he took exam for Indian Foreign Service, he said, "On the day, Tawang fell, the Foreign Service exams began in London. When it was over...I was prominent in politics, and the newspapers used to make refer-



ence to me as being very left-wing, being a communist. After I passed the foreign service exam, and I had done very well. I found I was not finding any kind of admission letter. So, I wrote to the Ministry of

External Affairs, that I have not received the joining letter." "I got the reply through Telegram stating 'Regret to inform you, that you have been rejected from all services' and I immediately realised what this was

about", he added. He further said that he got rejected because he was the intelligence bureau thought that he was a communist. "The Intelligence Bureau had a very important source of information on Indian students studying in foreign universities...it was called Yellow Rats...they came to the conclusion that since I am a communist and since I raised money for the Chinese. I was not able to raise money for my dinner, how will I raise money for the Chinese? I was removed from the list and rushed back to India", he said.

Sigachi Industries Ltd. Reports Robust Earnings for Q4FY24, PAT Jumps 108% YoY

CHANDIGARH: Sigachi Industries Limited., a leading pharmaceutical company engaged in Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, quality excipients, vitamin mineral nutrient blends, and O&M services, in its board meeting held on 27 May 2024 announced its audited financial results for the quarter and year ended 31 March, 2024. The board also recommended a dividend of Re.0.] 10 per share, subject to approval of members. For the quarter ended 31 March 2024, the company

reported Revenue from operations at Rs. 1041 Mn, a growth of 43.78% YoY. The EBITDA jumped 33.60% YoY, from Rs. 122 Mn (Q4FY23) to Rs. 163 Mn (Q4FY24). EBITDA margin fell by 116 bps, from 16.81% to 15.65% (Q4FY24). PAT grew a staggering 108.22% YoY, from Rs. 73 Mn (Q4FY23), to Rs. 151 Mn (Q4FY24). For the year ended 31 March 2024, the company saw a 32.08% growth in its revenue from operations, growing from Rs. 3020 Mn (FY23) to Rs. 3989 Mn (FY24). EBITDA grew 30.49% YoY,

from Rs. 587 Mn (FY23), to Rs. 766 Mn (FY24). EBITDA margin stood at 19.20%. PAT recorded a robust growth of 31.19% YoY, from Rs. 436 Mn (FY23), to Rs. 572 Mn (FY24). Sigachi Industries Limited, publicly listed company on NSE & BSE, is a globally recognized pharmaceutical company known for its unwavering commitment of delivering Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, high-quality excipients, vitamin mineral nutrient blends, and O&M services. With over 33 years of indus-

try experience, Sigachi has emerged as a trusted partner for pharmaceutical and nutraceutical companies spread across 62 countries. The company's diverse product portfolio is manufactured in 5 multi-locational facilities present in Telangana, Gujarat and Karnataka which are certified with global standard certifications like WHO GMP, EXCiPACT GMP, ISO, KOSHER, HALAL & many others. Being headquartered in Hyderabad, Sigachi Industries Limited has subsidiaries in US and Middle East.

EaseMyTrip's FY24 EBITDA at INR 2282 million

Karnal/Sonapat: EaseMyTrip.com, one of the leading online travel tech platforms in India, sustained its momentum during this quarter. For Q4FY24, the Revenue from Operations was INR 1,640 million, up by 41% Y-o-Y. EBITDA was INR 577 million, up by 24% Y-o-Y and the Profit Before Tax was INR 551 million, a

Y-o-Y growth of 24%. Furthermore, the Gross Booking Revenue (GBR) was INR 20,900 million in Q4FY24. Hide quoted text in Q4 FY24, our non-air segment saw robust growth wherein the total hotel night bookings were 1.4 Lacs which grew by 39% and the other bookings were 2.7 Lacs by 53%. For FY24, the hotel night bookings and the other bookings were 5.2 Lacs by 49% and 10.4 Lacs by 67%, respectively. For FY24, the Revenue from Operations was INR 5,906, growth of 32% Y-o-Y. The EBITDA was INR 2,282 million, a 19% of Y-o-Y growth and the reported Profit Before Tax of INR 2,151 million, growth of 16% Y-o-Y. This strong performance underscores EaseMyTrip's continued momentum and further strengthens its

position as one of the few profitable new-age tech companies in the industry. Additionally, the company recorded a GBR of INR 85,126 million in FY24, further strengthening its market position. In addition to achieving strong financial performance this quarter and FY24, EaseMyTrip initiated significant collaborations to position itself as a growth-oriented company. Following a significant event in Indian history, the company acquired a 50% stake in Jeewani Hospitality and partnered with the Radisson Hotel Group to develop a 150-room Radisson Blu Hotel in Ayodhya City. This strategic move positions the hotel near the recently established Ram Mandir, enhancing its appeal and accessibility to 1.5 Lacs per day visitors.

Instant loan within a minute, against policy is now possible with TATA AIA Life Insurance

HISAR : Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA), one of India's leading insurance companies, has launched a disruptive service proposition for its consumers. Those policyholders looking for emergency funds can avail an instant loan of up to Rs. 1 lakh from their insurance policy without losing any coverage. The loan amount is credited to the consumer's account within 1 minute via the insurer's state-of-the-art MyDigiAccount portal.

Since the launch, this digital-first initiative has already processed over 500 requests and disbursed



around Rs. 5.5 crores, streamlining liquidity solutions for policyholders. The facility allows consumers to borrow against the surrender value of select life insurance policies, ensuring they can quickly access funds with minimal paperwork and competitive rates. Policyholders can borrow an amount of up to Rs.1 lakh without providing collateral or going through a credit check at an interest rate of

8.80% per annum, much lower than the prevailing rate for personal loans. The streamlined process allows consumers to receive their funds within a minute of application, bypassing the delays of traditional loan approvals. Speaking on this occasion, Sanjay Arora, Executive Vice President & Head of Operations of Tata AIA, said, "While the need for emergency funds can arise for anyone

and at any time, none of us would want to compromise on our loved ones' financial security. The Instant Loan Facility underscores our commitment to our consumers to enable them to be fika-free in any situation, including exigencies, without having to surrender their policy. We are proud to be the first in the industry to offer a digital end-to-end processing system for loan payouts.

This demonstrates our commitment to leveraging technology to deliver exceptional customer experiences and set new benchmarks in the insurance industry."

Sensex hits 76,000 for first time, gives up gains amid volatility

MUMBAI: In volatile trades on Monday, the Sensex and Nifty scaled new life highs early in the session. Even as the Sensex hit the 76,000-mark for the first time, strong selling in late trades pulled both indices to close in the red.

Market players said that ahead of the Lok Sabha poll results on June 4, investors are booking profit and taking some money off the table - hence the barrage of selling at every rise in the leading indices. In Monday's market, after the initial rally, volatility jumped and the Sensex lost over 800 points from the day's high due to all-round selling. Finally, it settled flat, just 20 points down at 75,391 while Nifty closed 25 points down at 22,932. As volatility spiked, the India VIX scaled a new multi-year peak at 26.2.