

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ Sunday, 08 September, 2024 UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

## Congress, NC want to release terrorist sympathisers to destabilise J&K: Shah

**NEW DELHI:** Union home minister Amit Shah, in a big charge on Saturday, said the Congress and National Conference (NC) alliance wants to release the separatists and terrorist sympathisers to destabilise Jammu and Kashmir. The home minister also claimed that the three parties, Congress, NC and Mehbooba Mufti's PDP, "want to push J&K into the fire of terrorism".

Termining the upcoming J&K Assembly elections historic, Shah said these polls are "important elections as they are first under one flag, one Constitution". "For the first time since the country's independence, the voters of Jammu and Kashmir will cast their votes under the tricolour..." he said during BJP's 'Vijay Sankalp' booth workers meeting in Jammu.

Pitching for the BJP government, Shah said, "Kashmir bore the brunt of terrorism for decades, 10 years of Modi government brought terror incidents down by 70 per cent." "Congress-NC can never form government in J&K, be confident about it," he said.

The home minister also hit out at the alliance for promising statehood to J&K. "No power can talk



### Panama deports 130 Indians who took 'donkey route'

**VERACRUZ:** Panama on Friday deported 130 Indian irregular migrants who had entered the country via the inhospitable Darien jungle, under a deal on repatriations signed with the US in July. This was the first such expulsion outside of the Americas under the deal, and the fourth in

about autonomy (in Jammu and Kashmir). Rahul baba (Gandhi), National Conference are saying they will give J&K state status again. I want to ask Abdullah sahab and Rahul baba, how can you give it back, tell me? Why are you making fool of people of Jammu and Kashmir?" he said.

total. US pledged \$6 million for migrant repatriations from the Central American nation in the hopes of reducing irregular crossings at its own southern border. Panama's director of migration, Roger Mojica, told reporters the Indians deported on a charter flight.

"I have myself said that we will give back state status to J&K after elections at an appropriate time. I didn't say this in any public gathering but in Parliament," Shah said. On Article 370, Shah said, "Opposition says it would bring back autonomy for J&K, it will never be restored."

### Congress ups the ante, targets PM Modi over Sebi chief row

**NEW DELHI:** Congress on Friday levelled up its allegations against Sebi chief Madhabi Puri-Buch from 'conflict of interest' to that of 'corruption' and questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's inaction over the matter. Continuing with his "non-biological" rhetoric, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said, "The question really needs to be asked of the non-biological Prime Minister, not of anyone else. As far as the regulator of the capital markets is concerned, how much more evidence is needed to show the collapse of transparency and ethics?" Questioning PM Modi's inaction over the issue as he was a part of the committee that appointed Buch as the Sebi chief, Ramesh added, "According to NSE data, there are now 10 crore Indians with unique PANs who have invested in some form or the other in this market."

## Army intensifies training of Jammu civilians to fight terror

**NEW DELHI:** The Army, in collaboration with J&K Police, has stepped-up training of village defence guards (VDGs) to enhance security of local communities in the Jammu region, hit by a surge in terrorism over the last several months, ahead of the state assembly elections from Sept 18 to Oct 1.

Around 600 villagers are currently undergoing intensive training in firing 7.62mm self-loading automatic rifles, squad post drills and minor tactics. This comes after around 500 villagers were earlier trained in the Rajouri area and another 85-90 in the Doda and Kishtwar regions, Army sources said on Friday. The Army initiative, undertaken at the request of the J&K police, aims to equip the civilians with the skills necessary to protect their villages from terrorist threats, which will boost the region's overall security framework.

"This training is being conducted at the unit level, in proximity to



### HC directs BSES to pay Rs 10 lakh ex-gratia compensation to widow of sub inspector

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court in a recent order has directed power discom BSES to pay an ex-gratia compensation of Rs 10 Lakh to the widow of a Sub Inspector who died due to electrocution in 2017. The petitioner's husband Afzal Ali died due to electrocution on May 21, 2017. His widow Shagufta Ali had sought compensation of Rs 50 lakhs from the official respondents. Justice Purushendra Kumar Kaurav said the judgement, "In light of

their respective villages, ensuring that the VDGs can quickly apply their skills in real-world scenarios. It is meticu-

the benefits already extended to the petitioner, the Court, in its discretion, deems it appropriate to grant an ex-gratia lump sum compensation of Rs 10 Lakh, to be paid by BSES to the petitioner." "This payment shall be made to the petitioner within three months from the date of passing of this judgment. Any failure to comply with the aforesaid direction shall result in the petitioner being entitled to payment of simple interest.

ously structured, with each VDG unit receiving a minimum of three-day training," a source said.

### Rashtriya Poshan Maah reports 1.37 crore activities so far: Ministry

**NEW DELHI:** After the launch of the 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, so far 1.37 crore activities have been reported from 752 districts of 35 States and UTs, according to the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The ministry said on Saturday that Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh are among the top contributing states so far. The 7th 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah' was launched on 31st August 2024 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. It focuses on key themes such as anaemia, growth monitoring, complementary feeding, and Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi, along with technology for better governance. The campaign also emphasized environmental sustainability through the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative, in which plantation is encouraged across all the operational 13.95 lakh Anganwadi centres. In terms of key focus .

### Five killed in fresh violence in Manipur's Jiribam

**GUWAHATI:** At least five people were killed in a fresh bout of gun battle between warring groups belonging to two communities in Manipur's Jiribam district bordering Assam on Saturday morning. Police said that the dead belong to both communities.

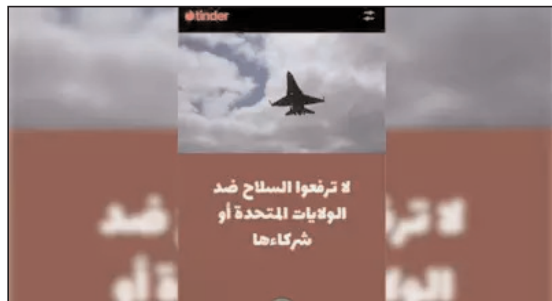
A security source said that several others have been injured in the gun fight and there could be rise in casualty figures. This fresh round of violence has come after drone and rocket attacks since Sunday despite the presence of heavy deployment of over 60,000 security forces belonging to central armed police force and state police over and above the presence of Assam Rifles and Army. In view of the situation and keeping in mind the safety of the students and teachers, the state govt has ordered closing of that all schools, including private and central schools, of the state on Saturday.

### MP quits BJD, joins BJP; second neta to do so in less than 2 months

**BHUBANESWAR:** Less than two months after BJD's Mamata Mohanta quit Rajya Sabha and the party and joined BJP, the Naveen Patnaik-led party suffered another blow with another RS MP Sujeet Kumar resigning from the Upper House and BJD on Friday. Later, he joined BJP, boosting the party's prospects of increasing its tally in RS. Sujeet, who joined BJP at an event in Delhi in the presence of Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan, said he was fed up with corruption within BJD and the leadership's reluctance to listen when he tried to bring it to their notice. Sujeet's resignation letter from RS, 18 months ahead of his six year-term which is supposed to end on Apr 2, 2026, did not provide any specific reason for his decision to step down. On whether he was promised re-nomination.

## 'Do not take arms against US': Ad on Lebanon Tinder deleted after criticism

**A warning message on the popular dating app Tinder in Lebanon featuring F-16 and A-10 jets cautioned users against taking up arms against the United States or its allies.** "Do not take up arms against the United States or its partners. America will protect its partners in the face of threats from the Iranian regime and its proxies," said the advertisement written in Arabic. The



ad also said that these aircraft were already deployed in the region and are ready for action. Tinder later removed the advertisement after it sparked controversy, with a representative stating that it "violated our policies" regarding messages containing violence or political content. The unconventional choice of platform for such a message has raised ques-

tions about the US military's information operations, which aim to influence the perceptions of international audiences and counter what it deems to be inaccurate narratives. Meanwhile, a freelance journalist in Lebanon discovered the advertisement on Tinder and reported that swiping right on the ad redirected him to a post on X by the Central Command.

## 'Humble' Indian billionaire stops for selfie with fan in Abu Dhabi mall

**NEW DELHI:** Chairman of Lulu Group MA Yusuf Ali is challenging the notion that wealth creates a barrier between individuals. Recently, a viral video showcased Ali's humility and kindness, earning him widespread praise on social media. The video captured a fan, Puthuruthy, eagerly approaching Ali for a selfie while he was walking. Instead of ignoring her or continuing on his way, Ali graciously stopped,



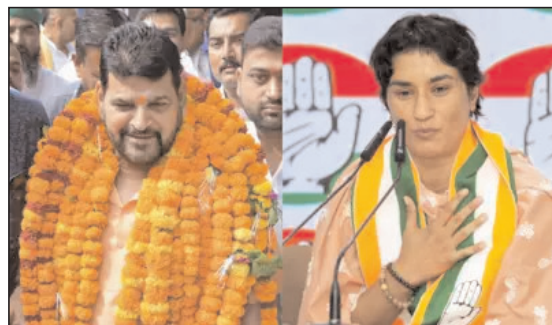
smiled, and invited her to take a photo. Sharing the encounter on Instagram, Puthuruthy wrote: "Wonderfully happy to have met a humble billionaire whose actions speak louder than his words. May Allah bless

him abundantly with good health and happiness.

Humanity is a blessing, and Yusuf Bhai is really our pride." The video quickly went viral, with people appreciating Ali's simplicity.

## 'God punished you': Brij Bhushan makes 'cheating' claim on Vinesh Paris Olympics heartbreak

**NEW DELHI:** A day after wrestler Vinesh Phogat joined Congress, former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president and BJP leader Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh questioned the legitimacy of Phogat's participation in the Paris Olympic games, saying that 'God punished' her for going to games by 'cheating'. Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh said to ANI, "Is it not true that Bajrang went to the Asian Games without trials? I want to ask those who are experts in wrestling. I want to ask Vinesh Phogat whether a player can give trials in 2 weight categories in a day?" He added, "Can the trials be stopped for 5 hours after the weigh-in? You did not



win the wrestling, you went there by cheating. God has punished you for the same." Singh strongly rejected claims of sexual misconduct and said that it was in fact Phogat and fellow wrestler Bajrang Punia who caused "embarrassment to daughters". Refuting allegations of misconduct, Singh said, "I am not guilty of disrespecting daughters. If anyone is guilty of disrespecting daughters, it is Bajrang and Vinesh. And the one who wrote the script, Bhupinder Hooda, is responsible for that," Singh further alleged that the wrestlers' protest against him was not for the dignity of women but a political plot. "I want to tell the people of Haryana that Bhupinder Hooda, Deepender Hooda, Bajrang, and Vinesh were not sitting (on protest) for the dignity of girls. Due to them, the daughters of Haryana are facing embarrassment. We

are not responsible for it, Bhupinder Hooda and Deependra Hooda and these protesters are responsible for it," the former WFI chief said. He accused the Congress party of orchestrating the protests against him to discredit the ruling BJP and manipulate public opinion. Attacking the Congress, Singh said, "From the beginning, I claimed that the protests were not a genuine movement by sportspersons but a Congress-led initiative. Bhupinder Hooda and his party were behind this entire conspiracy." He maintained that the wrestlers' grievances were a pretext to achieve political goals.

### Denied food, drunk truck driver crashes into eatery on Pune highway

**PUNE:** Indapur police have arrested 26-year-old truck driver Amitkumar Jokulal Patel from Rewa, Madhya Pradesh, for ramming his truck into an eatery after being denied service due to his intoxicated condition. The incident occurred around 8 p.m. on Friday at a restaurant along the Pune-Solapur highway, about 145 kilometers from Pune city. Patel, driving a truck loaded with steel from Hyderabad to Pune, had stopped at the eatery for a meal. According to Indapur police, the eatery's manager, Mayur Dudhbhate, filed a complaint later that night. Inspector Suryakant Kokane told "Dudhbhate was outside the eatery when Patel arrived and tried to enter after parking his truck. Dudhbhate noticed that Patel was heavily intoxicated.

### Gangster serving life term for murder 'initiated into Juna Akhara as a monk' in Uttarakhand

**ALMORA:** Underworld don Prakash Pandey, also known as 'PP' in the corridors of crime, while serving a life sentence and facing several pending court cases for extortion, robbery and murder, was initiated into 'monkhood' in Uttarakhand's Almora jail and will now be known as 'Prakasha Nand Giri'. Jail officials, however, denied any involvement in the matter. The initiation, which took about 25 minutes, was conducted by at least three senior seers purportedly from the Juna Akhara sect inside the prison complex on Thursday, raising questions about how a notorious criminal was allowed to undergo such a ceremony. In jail, Pandey was declared a "successor"



and was provided a Kanthi mala, Rudraksha mala and saffron clothes. Distancing themselves from the ceremony, Almora jail superintendent Jayant Pangti said on Friday, "A few religious people visited the prison and sought permission to meet Prakash Pandey. Three of them were allowed to go inside. It seems they spent some time with him and whatever they discussed about religion inside is their personal matter. There was no involvement of prison .



## District Ranking Tennis Championship organized

Prayagraj: Three-day District Ranking Tennis Championship is being organized by Tennis Academy Secretary Rishi Sharma or the competition is being organized.



IPS SP Railway Abhishek Yadav was the chief guest in the competition. Special guest was Dr. Arun Kant. In this competition, about 80 players participated. Secretary of Tennis Academy, Rishi Sharma told that boys and girls 10 years, 12 years, 14 years, 16 years and men's doubles will be played against 35 players. On this occasion, Dr. Kanchan Mishra, Ashwani Vidyanand, Naveen Porwal, Shashi Mishra, two Upma Narayans were present.

## Candidates demanding new primary teacher recruitment

Prayagraj: There is anger among the students due to the lack of new teacher recruitment after 6 years, due to which D.El.Ed students held a mahadharna on Teachers' Day and a 5-member team met Education Service Selection Commission Chairman Kriti Pandey and was asked



to send a petition soon. The students did not accept this assurance and asked to continue the continuous dharna and hundreds of people remained adamant on their demands on the second day at the Patthar Church protest site. D.El.Ed. Chairman Rajat Singh, who is leading the protest, said that if the demand is not met in a week, then a mahadharna will be called soon.

Shyam Dhar Yadav says that there has been no recruitment for six years. Lakhs of unemployed are waiting for new recruitment. Till the recruitment advertisement is not released, we will not leave the protest. Among those who participated in the sit-in were Shani Singh, Subhash Yadav, Mukesh Kumar, Durgesh Yadav, Amit, Tej Pratap, Rohit, Shani Singh etc.

## Water connection broken by PDA: Houses crying for water for days, says Kiran Jaiswal

Prayagraj: Kydganj Shankar Lal Bhargava Road next to Bhargav Kothi, yesterday morning, due to digging of the road by JCB to connect it with the drain, the water and sewer connections of the street were broken, which was not made till 7:00 pm today. From tonight till morning, people have to face problems. It is difficult to get water. Councillor Kiran Jaiswal said that Prayagraj Development Authority is harassing people in every way in the name of construction. While the Bharatiya Janata Party government is committed to providing facilities like



water and sewer to one and all. Due to breakage of water pipes while digging drains by PDA, people remain deprived of water for many days. The department does not have any kind of working plumber or mechanic who can immediately connect the water connection. Councillor called. Expressing strong objection to the Chief Engineer, she said that whatever street connection is broken, it should be made on the same day so that people are not deprived of drinking water. She told that people were very happy about the commencement of the work which had been stopped for months. There is a lot of anger among the people due to the sewer line being broken due to the style of work.

## India can export over \$13 billion by 2024C

Varanasi: Amazon today unveiled the Export Digest 2024 and announced that the company is moving towards helping thousands of Indian businesses achieve e-commerce exports of more than \$13 billion by the end of 2024. Amazon Global Selling, Amazon's flagship e-commerce export program, was launched in 2015. Over the last nine years, 1.50 lakh exporters have been a part of this program, who have cumulatively sold more than 40 crore 'Made in India' products to customers across the world. The total number of sellers under this program has grown by ~20 percent in the last one year. Amazon Global Selling is being rapidly adopted across the country and has sellers from more than 200 cities. It helps sellers build global brands by selling to millions of customers on over 18 Amazon global marketplaces across countries like the US, UK, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Mexico, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Australia, Singapore, etc. According to Shri Jayant Chaudhary, Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education: "Boosting MSME exports is crucial for the economic growth of our country and e-commerce is proving to be an important catalyst in this regard.

# Memo submitted to Minister Nandi addressed to CM for reservation in backward classes

Prayagraj: Under the auspices of Uttar Pradesh Kesarwani Vaishya Sabha, under the leadership of State President Teerthraj Gupta, Kesarwani community was given a program to educate the backward classes. For reservation, State General Secretary Pramil Kesarwani submitted a memorandum to Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, Cabinet Minister, Uttar Pradesh Government, in the name of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government at Circuit House Prayagraj. On this occasion,

Minister Nandi assured that this demand of yours will reach the Chief Minister. I will work to reach and will make every effort to include Kesarwani community in the backward class. On the said occasion, National Patron Treasurer Satish Chandra Kesarwani, through a memorandum, demanded from the Uttar Pradesh government that Kesarwani community should be included in the backward class as soon as possible. Be included. Because Kesarwani community gets backward class reservation



in Bihar and Jharkhand, hence in Uttar Pradesh also Kesarwani community should get backward class reservation. National Man-

aging Minister Vinod Kesarwani said that 90 people of Kesarwani community earn their living by selling tea, chaat and hawking.

General Secretary Pramil Kesarwani and State Treasurer Ramesh Chandra Kesarwani told that a memorandum in this regard has been submitted to Honorable Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath 2 years ago. The BP Mandal Commission constituted in 1979 has also said in Part No. 2 PENCH 171 of its report, Kesarwani The caste has been disciplined to be included in the Other Backward Classes. On the said occasion, prominently National Treasurer Satish Chandra Kesarwani, Vinod Kesarwani Advocate, Pravesh Kesarwani, Rajesh Kesarwani, Rajendra Kesarwani, Ramchandra Gupta, Kanhaiyalal Gupta, Suresh Chand Kesarwani, Laxman Kesarwani, Guddu Kesarwani, Anirudh Kesarwani, Dharmendra Kumar Kesarwani, Paras Kesarwani, Rajesh Kesarwani, Radhe Shyam Kesarwani, Ashok Kumar Kesarwani, Shambhu Lal Kesarwani, Anil Kumar Kesarwani, Ranjit Kesarwani, Dharmendra Kesarwani etc. were present in large numbers.

## Rotary Prayagraj Platinum felicitates teachers

Prayagraj: Teachers from various schools were honored with Nation Builder Award, at a ceremony organized at Srinivasa Ramanujan Public School, Civil Lines, on Saturday.

Rotary Prayagraj Platinum President Rotarian Shashank Jain said, every year on the occasion of Teachers' Day, selected teachers from various schools are honored with mementos, shawl and citation letters.

Program Chairman Rotarian Gaurav Agarwal welcomed and congratulated the Chief Guest, District 3120 (Session 25-26) Divisional President Rotarian Poonam Gulati by presenting bouquet and a memento. Poonam Gulati appreciated the effort of the club and congratulated everyone. After this, the children of Ramanujan Public School presented colourful cultural programmes, and all the children were awarded certificates by the club.

Charter President Ritesh Singh said that this year, the current President Shashank

Jain visited several other schools on the occasion of Teachers' Day and felicitated teachers, presented gifts and cut a cake. Former President Piyush Ranjan Agarwal, Secretary Sumit Agarwal, Major Donor



Rotarian Pramod Bansal, Joint Secretary Pramay Mittal, Rotarian Jaya Mittal and First Lady of the Club Preeti Jain were also present on the occasion.

Media Incharge Manish Garg said that teachers from about 20 schools were felicitated in today's programme. Rotarian Apurva, Director of Srinivasa Ramanujan Public School, said that each school sent one best

teacher from their school to this felicitation ceremony, prominent among them were Mala Seth of Allahabad Vidya Niketan, Anju Tiwari of BBS Vidya Mandir, Sangeeta Akila of Bethany Convent School,

Srinivasa Ramanujan Public School, Archana Sharma of Vishnu Bhagwan Public School, Sonali Sigler of YMCA School, Pratibha Mishra of Shri Mahaprabhu Public School and Kamini Mishra of Gurukul

Montessori School. These teachers were presented with shawls, mementos and certificates by the club members and office bearers.

On this occasion, former president Piyush Ranjan Agarwal, Ritesh Singh, Nitin Chopra, Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Pratik Pandey, Jai Kumar, Gaurav Agarwal, Pramay Mittal, Jaya Mittal, Ayush and Rotarian Apurv along with other members were also present.

## Students defeated teachers' team by 69 runs

Treasurer Shankar Chatterjee, Principal Sushmita Kanungo presented awards

Prayagraj: A friendly cricket match was organized today between students and teachers at Jagat Taran Golden Jubilee School in which the students' team and the teachers' team of the school stood firm to make their respective teams win. The competition started with the introduction of the players of 'The Teachers XI' and 'The Students XI' along with Principal Mrs. Sushmita Kanungo. A coin toss was conducted which was won by the teachers team and decided to field first. Teacher Kapil Dwivedi took maximum 5 wickets. The



middle order of the student team batting held the match well and the bowling teachers struggled to get them out. With excellent batting, the student team set the target of 110 runs for the teachers and won the match by

defeating them by 69 runs. Inter student Piyush Singh was declared 'Man of the Match'. When the student team was announced as the winner, the joy of the champion team knew no bounds and the teachers were also

seen happy with the happiness of their beloved students. Jagat Taran Golden Jubilee Treasurer Shankar Chatterjee and Principal Mrs. Sushmita Kanungo congratulated the winning team and praised the energy and activeness of the teacher team and gave the message that the victory of the teachers lies in the victory of the students. The winning team was given prizes and certificates. On this occasion, all the students of the school, teachers, principal, coordinators etc. all enjoyed and encouraged the team with applause.

## Swearing in ceremony of Lions Club Allahabad Adarsh concluded

Prayagraj: On the 36th foundation day of Lions Club Allahabad Adarsh, the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected office bearers was organized at Hotel Vilas Civil Line. On this occasion, the chief guest of the program was Lion Balveer Singh Bagga District Governor in the presence of Lion Dr. Arpan Dhar Dubey, Sub Divisional President and Lion Uday Chadani Sub Divisional President II administered the oath to the newly elected President Lion RM Balaji, Secretary Lion Shiv Murat Gole Gupta, Treasurer Lion SS

committee members. PID Lion Jagdish Gulati inaugurated the ceremony by lighting the lamp. District Governor Lion Balbir Singh



Bagga, the chief guest of the occasion, said that service work is the aim of the Lion Club Allahabad ideal and to fulfill the objective of the organization, we will

have to increase our service work towards the nation and the society and while giving momentum to the organization. We have to con-

nect more and more people to the organization and make them members. Before this, the program was inaugurated with Ganesh Vandana and wel-

come song by Priyanka Chauhan and Kavita Srivastava. Lion Rakesh Mohan Bala presided over the ceremony and he honored the guests by giving them Ang Vastram and memento. The ceremony was conducted by Lion Dr. Balkrishna Pandey. MJF and Lion Prashant Mishra graced the occasion. Sunita Mishra, Sharda Singh, Nidhi Yasharth, Kusum Pandey, Poonam Pandey, Beena Gupta, Rita Gupta, Priyanka Chauhan, Rajesh Kesarwani, Ajay Agrahari, etc. and hundreds of Lion Club members were present.

## Ganeshotsav kicks off at Maharashtra Lok Seva Mandal Alopibagh

Prayagraj: Ten-day Ganeshotsav started with offering prayers and religious rituals with the installation of Idol of Lord Ganesh by Maharashtra Lok Seva Mandal Alopibagh on Saturday. Modak was offered to Ganpati with worship in homes and pandals.

Lord Ganesh idol was installed in pandals before worship. Committee President Pranesh Deshpande, Vikas Kelker, Rajendra Gakhle offered worship to Gajanan. Akash Tandon and his mother Rita Tandon also installed the idol of Lord Ganesh at their residence on Saturday in Chowk Ganga Das Mohalla. After worship, Aarti will be organized in the evening. Under the coordination of Ashish Pandey, the King of Baiharna was enthroned and worship was done. Devotees prayed and wished for good luck. The seven-day Yamunapar huge cultural Ganesh Utsav was inaugurated with the chanting of Ganpati Bappa morya.



## Hariyali Teej celebrated

Prayagraj. The festival of Hariyali Teej is celebrated across the country. At the same time, the festival of Hariyali Teej was celebrated with great pomp in Kydganj today. Married women wished for the long life of their husbands. At the same time, girls and women kept a fast and worshipped as per the rituals. According to the scriptures, Mother Parvati had performed rigorous penance for a long



time to get Lord Shiva as her husband. Mahadev was pleased with his penance and then Bholenath accepted Mother Parvati on the Tiritiya Tithi of Shukla Paksha of the month of Sawan. Therefore, on this day, unmarried girls keep fast to get the desired groom and married women worship Lord Bholenath for good luck and long life of their husbands. Therefore the festival of Hariyali Teej is celebrated. During this time Pinky Jaiswal, Varsha Srivastava, Kiran Srivastava, Pallavi Jaiswal, Renu Gupta, Suman Srivastava and Rita Srivastava were present.

## Minister consoled families of deceased, provided financial assistance from CM's discretionary fund

Lucknow: Union Minister Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Minister Yogendra Upadhyay, Etmadpur MLA Dr. Dharampal and District Magistrate Bhanu Chandra Goswami on Saturday went to meet the families of those killed in the tragic road accident that took place on September 6 in Hathras district. They reached Gram Panchayat Samra and Aanwalkheda of Khandauli in Agra district. There they consoled the families of the deceased and assured all possible assistance in this difficult time. The ministers also attended the last rites of the deceased and consoled the families of the deceased. In this horrific road accident in Hathras district, 16 people of Gram Panchayat Samra, Khandauli of Agra district were killed, which included women and children. To

meet the injured, the ministers first reached SN Medical College, Agra, where they directed the hospital administration and CMO to provide high level medical facilities for the treatment of the injured. Along with this, checks of Rs 50,000 each were also provided to two seriously injured persons as financial assistance. After this, the ministers and other representatives reached Gram Panchayat Samra, where they met the families of the deceased. He presented checks of financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh each from the Chief Minister's Discretionary Fund to the families of all the 16 deceased. Out of the 16 deceased, the last rites of 2 were performed at Gram Panchayat Aanwalkheda. During this time, the ministers also went there and consoled the families of the deceased and presented cheques.



## Ram Dal Organizing Committee of Civil Lines formed

Prayagraj: Ram Dal Organizing Committee of Civil Lines was formed under the chairmanship of Civil Lines Trade Board President Sushil Kharbanda. Ashish Arora was unanimously elected president of the Ram Dal organizing committee. Civil Lines Trade Board General Secretary Shiv Shankar Singh elected Sardar Inderpreet Singh, son of late Sardar Joginder Singh, as the fair chief. In this



sequence, Ritesh Singh was appointed General Secretary of the Fair Organizing Committee, Dr. Subhash Yadav and Ajay Sharma were appointed Senior Vice Presidents and Rajkamal Jaiswal was appointed. District Mahila Vyapar Mandal President Avantika Tandon and Pallavi Arora were given the responsibility of organizing the fair committee. Whereas in the fair committee, Dinesh Singh, Qadir Bhai, Ashish Kesarwani, Sardar Ranveer Singh, Sheikh Dabur Vakil, Anil Suneja, Kadir Bhai, Ankit Kesarwani, Vishal Kanojia, Piyush Ranjan Aggarwal will play the main role in completing the Civil Line Ramdal. The responsibility of running Ramdal was given to Raghunath Dwivedi.

## Fuzail Hashmi stakes claim for Phulpur by-poll candidature

Prayagraj: Prominent Congressmen of the district and city have demanded to make the party's popular face Fuzail Hashmi the candidate in view of Congress's candidature under the alliance for Phulpur by-election. In this sequence, a meeting of the parties was held in Civil Lines under the chairmanship of Senior Advocate GK Dwivedi alias Raja Babu. It was said in the meeting that Hashmi is a trustworthy leader of impeccable social, political and secular talent with good image. Always interact with common people. He is famous for being honest, soft-spoken and helpful. It is known that Hashmi, who had contested elec-

tions on Congress ticket from former Nawabganj seat in 2007, has a lot of experience in the organization. Apart from being the former General Secretary of the State Congress Committee, he has worked on various posts. Former MLA Vijay Prakash, Former Mayor Chaudhary Jitendra Nath Singh, Kishore Varshney Rajeshwar Yadav, Harikesh Tripathi, Khushnaveda Farooqui, Sudhakar Tiwari, Rajesh Rakesh, Om Prakash Tripathi, Arshad Ali, Dr. Satya Pandey, Parvez Siddiqui, Ram Manorath Saroj, Shahjadul Haq, Kameshwar Sonkar, Sartaj Mohammad, Rajdev Patel, Mohammad Javed etc. were included.

## UMANG Society hosts first model United Nations Conference at AU

Prayagraj: The Civil Services Society of the University of Allahabad, established in 2022, successfully hosted its first Model United Nations (MUN) Conference on September 6, 2024. With over 100 registrations, 50 students were selected as delegates

"Global South vs. Global North on Sustainable Development" was set by the President of the General Assembly and judged by Dr. Chintala Venkatraman. The event saw active participation, with discussions and voting on both resolutions. The ceremony con-



cluded with the presence of dignitaries including Dr. Sanjoy Saksena, Dean, Faculty of Arts, and Dr. Ashish Saxena, HOD Department of Sociology and Dr. Mrityunjay Rao Parmar. Ten winners were honored with medals and certificates of merit, with top awards going to Mansi, Shambhavi Mishra, Shubhi Pandey, Astha Srivastava, and Kashish Tiwari. All participants received certificates of appreciation, marking the event as a resounding success.

## D'anniv of BJP leader late Dilip Jaiswal ji on Sept 9

Prayagraj: On the 14th death anniversary of former senior councilor and former leader of the House Municipal Corporation, respected Dilip Jaiswal, after paying tribute at 5 pm on Monday, September 9, 2024, our resolution is on Developed India 2047. The seminar has been organized at Shri Nirmal Panchayati Akhara, Nirmal Nagar, Pili Kothi, Shankar Lal Bhargava Road, Kydganj. The chief guest in this program is BJP Kashi Province President Dilip Patel, Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani Prayagraj, District Incharge Mahesh Srivastava along with BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra.

# Minister Nandi welcomed and congratulated Veep Minister left for Delhi along with the Vice President

Prayagraj: After inaugurating the first Sainik School of Purvanchal in Baba Gorakhnath's city Gorakhpur, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, who reached the religious city Chitrakoot, was welcomed and congratulated by Uttar Pradesh Government's Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta

Nandi at Chitrakoot Airport on behalf of the state government.

After welcome and felicitation, Minister Nandi along with the Vice President participated in the international seminar organized at Jagatguru Rambhadracharya Divyang State University. The Vice President paid floral trib-



utes in front of the statue of Bharat Ratna Rashtra Rishi Nana Ji Deshmukh at Arogya Dham. Minister Nandi informed the Vice President about the grandeur and divinity of Prayagraj and the ongoing preparations for Mahakumbh 2025. He also received guidance by giving information about the

progress of industrial development of Uttar Pradesh and the development journey of Uttar Pradesh, which is becoming the growth engine of the country under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. After attending the program, Minister Nandi left for Delhi along with the Vice President.

## Bagless Day Activity held for Classes IV & V at GHS

### Unpacking Fun: Enhancing and engaging social studies & science learning on Bagless Day

Prayagraj: In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP), Bagless Day activities aim to reduce the burden of carrying heavy school bags and provide a more engaging and practical learning experience through activities that encourage learning beyond traditional textbooks and classroom settings. Our Principal Rev. Dr. Vinita Eusebius who's ability to foresee and adapt to educational trends has been instrumental in keeping our school at the forefront of excellence. Her forward-thinking approach has led to the implementation of this program that enhances student engagement and academic achievement.

Our school conducted the Bagless Day activity and Social Studies & Science Exhibition for classes IV & V on 7th September, 2024. On this Bagless Day,

students and teachers engaged in a range of enriching Social Studies and Science activities that emphasized creativity, collabora-



tion, and hands-on learning. By participating, our students were able to gain a deeper understanding of Social Studies and Science concepts. These activities help in reducing the academic burden associated with traditional learning

methods and foster a more holistic educational experience.

The teachers thoughtfully planned and coordi-

nated the activities keeping in mind the active participation of each child. The teachers had divided the students into groups. Activities were conducted as per the schedule, with teachers facilitating and guiding students through-

out the process. Each group prepared their items within the given time. The models/charts were the result of collaborative efforts among students, with each member contributing their unique skills and ideas. The teamwork and enthusiasm were evident, making the process as enriching as the final product. Not only this, few of the outstanding working/non-working models and charts from both the sections (classes IV & V) were selected for display of the same at the Exhibition for showcasing exemplary student work and innovations. The selection of our Bagless Day project for the exhibition is a testament to the dedication and talent of our students and the support of our teachers. This recognition not only celebrates their hard work but also serves as an inspiration for future projects and initiatives.

## Demo session on Kalki Art of Self Defense held

Prayagraj: Girls' High School & College had the privilege of welcoming Grand Master Gaurav Singh Chauhan for an empowering demo session on the Kalki Art of Self Defense. The Kalki Art is a unique martial art form that merges traditional fighting techniques with modern self-defense strategies, presenting a comprehensive approach to personal protection. Girls' High School & College is the first institution in Prayagraj to introduce the art of self-defense to our girls for immediate response to dangerous situations. The school is immensely grateful to the Principal Rev. Dr. Mrs. V. Eusebius for organizing this training session on self-defense.

The excitement in the air was undeniable as our stu-

dents eagerly immersed themselves in learning the Kalki Art. Through hands-on demonstrations, they discovered simple yet highly effective techniques



to ensure their safety in any situation. Grand Master Chauhan made the session interactive and engaging, ensuring that every student, from beginners to those with prior experience, could grasp the key les-

sons. However, the most powerful takeaway wasn't just the self-defense techniques. The students were introduced to the deeper

principles of Kalki Art, which extend far beyond physical defence. Grand Master Chauhan eloquently explained how mastering self-awareness and self-discipline can significantly improve not just

one's ability to defend themselves but also their academic performance and overall approach to life.

The session was an eye-opener for many, as students listened intently, hanging on to every word of wisdom shared by the Grand Master. The energy in the room was infectious. As the event came to a close, the entire school expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Grand Master Chauhan for dedicating his time and knowledge to inspire the next generation.

Grand Master Chauhan left us with a profound message: "Self-defense isn't just about preparing for external threats; it's about cultivating the strength within to overcome any challenge, whether in the arena of combat or the trials of everyday life."

## Is street lights installation agency paying the price for its honesty?

Prayagraj: In what seems to be a case of punishing transparency, an agency responsible for installing street light poles in several areas of Prayagraj has found itself facing allegations of fraud over a minor weight discrepancy in the poles. Despite the agency's voluntary disclosure and proactive efforts to rectify a potential issue, it has been issued a show-cause notice, threatening action.

A few months ago, after conducting an internal survey and assessment, the agency Neev Energy informed the Prayagraj Municipal Corporation that perhaps due to the erroneous supply of a batch of poles contrary to the prescribed specifications, some poles might weigh less than the specified standards. The

agency offered to replace these poles at its own expense. However, in a twist of irony, this transparency has led to allegations of fraud against the agency, with the possibility of punitive action.

Neev Energy had installed these street lights in the Chhatnag and Allahpur (Zones 4 and 8) areas of Jhansi about a year ago. After the project's completion, a thorough third-party inspection was carried out by an agency appointed by the corporation. The work met all prescribed specifications, and payment was processed accordingly.

However, this year, the municipal corporation sent a letter to Neev, claiming that some of the poles allegedly had less weight and did not meet the specified standards. In response, the

company conducted an internal survey to investigate the matter. It found that owing to the delivery of a different batch of poles, certain poles could have a lower weight. Acting in good faith, Neev immediately informed the corporation of its findings and proposed to replace all affected poles at no extra cost. The company even committed to completing the replacement within two and a half months.

Despite ensuring transparency and displaying honesty, accusations of embezzlement of government funds and property have been levelled against the company, without any substantive evidence. It is in stark contrast to the findings of the third-party inspection, which, a year earlier, had certified that all the

poles met the required standards. It is noteworthy that over the past three years, Neev Energy said it was awarded work orders worth Rs 5.38 crore. Throughout this time, the company has maintained a strong reputation for quality and integrity. Even in the current case, the maximum price difference, based on the weight discrepancy of the poles, could be only Rs 4,000 per pole. The total possible deviation is Rs 2.76 lakh, a mere 0.5% of the overall contract value.

The paradox is that the agency had voluntarily disclosed the potential underweight poles issue and offered to remedy it at its own expense. But in a surprising and unjust twist, without any evidence of wrongdoing, it is now being punished for its honesty and transparency.

## Wave of happiness across Yamuna due to murmur of refinery

### Expressed gratitude to MP Ujjwal

Prayagraj: After being elected, MP Ujjwal Raman Singh, after taking oath, immediately met various Union Ministers and made several proposals to speed up the stalled development of Prayagraj. In the same sequence, he met Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri personally and gave a demand letter for setting up a refinery on about 2200 acres of land acquired in Lohgara and told him that the land had been acquired from the farmers long ago at a very low price.



The farmers had given their land at throwaway prices in the hope that the refinery would be set up. Employment will increase and the area will develop, but due to nothing happening in so many years, indifference and anger started growing among them, hence either refinery should be set up or farmers' land should be returned. MP representative Vinay Kushwaha said that the Union Petroleum Minister had told the MP that you asking for a big thing? We will find some solution by talking to the concerned company Hindustan Petroleum. The representative said that due to the buzz of the refinery, there is an atmosphere of curiosity among the regional people, who expressed their gratitude to MP Ujjwal Raman Singh. As soon as he became MP, he started working on the plan for the development of this rocky plateau area of Jamunapur. Among those who congratulated were former chief Ashok Singh Patel, former chief Gulab Kali Adivasi, Bhagirathi Bind, Dwarika Singh Patel, Kamad Singh, Shrikant Yadav, Raghavendra Shukla, Arjun Singh Patel, Ravinder Singh, Vijay Kushwaha, Pratap Singh, Brijesh Yadav, Balveer Singh Patel, Rajupal, Krishna Vishwakarma etc.

## Cries of sorrow and mourning echoed throughout night

Prayagraj: 1400 years ago, 72 members of the Risalat family, who were martyred three days in the field of Karbala, were brutally murdered by the Yazidi Lashkar with spears and swords. Even today, their mourning continues. It is continuing. In the same sequence, on behalf of Anjuman Meraje Aza Shabbedari Committee Rani Mandi, in the Shabbedari at Qazmi Lodge of Rani Mandi, the cries of sorrow and mourning echoed throughout the night. The Shabbedari started with the sermon of Raza Ismail Safvi. Maulana Dr. Rizwan Haider Rizvi mentioned the great battle of Karbala in a touching manner. Whereas Maulana Aamirur Rizvi Saheb Qibla deceived the eyes of the leaders with his sad speech. Nayaab Baliavi and Zahid Kanpuri



jointly took the responsibility of conducting the event. The Naukhwans of Anjuman Lashkare Mehndi Sultanpur, Anjuman Abbasia Banda, Anjuman Panjatani Turabkhani Sultanpur, Anjuman Muhibbane Hussain Samandpur Azamgarh, Anjuman Abbasia Dadpur recited Nauha throughout the night. Among the local Anjumans, Anjuman Shabbiriya Rani Mandi, Anju Man Abbasia Ranimandi, Anjuman Naqvia Daryabad, Anjuman Hussainiqa Qadeem Daryabad, while participating in Shabbedari, recited Purdard Nauha and the members mourned profusely. Members of Anjuman Muhibbane Hussain Azamgarh offered prayers with chains. Zuhair Sultanpuri along with his friends read Khususi Nauha. Ziyarat of Shabihe Tabut Zuljanah and Alam was also made. Committee patron Gauhar Qazmi, patron Mazahir Abbas Rizvi Delhi, Sadar Anwar Abbas, Shakeel Abbas, Arshad Naqvi, Hasan Naqvi, Raunaq Safipuri, Shafqat Abbas Pasha, Maqsood Rizvi, Hussain Razi, Mirza Murtuza Hussain Sikander, Shahid Abbas 'Pradhan', Zeeshan Khan, Tayyabain Abdi, Muntajir Rizvi, Sa. min abbas Faiz Mohammad, Imran Sabzwari, Asif Abbas 'Aman', Wasi Haider, Safi Naqvi, Sami Naqvi, Mohammad Rizvi, Haider Mirza, Ali Qasim, Tariq Abbas, Kalbe Abbas, Ehtesham Abbas, Ibne Abbas etc. continued to take care of the arrangements.

### NOTICE

It is informed that the correct name of my daughter is Khushi D/o Ghanshyam Singh as mentioned in the educational records. By mistake, my daughter's name has been mentioned as Saumya Singh in her Aadhar card number 5241 5643 8468, which is wrong. In future, my daughter's correct name should be known as Khushi D/o Ghanshyam Singh.



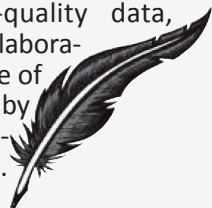
## Editorial

### AI is central to the future of climate finance, can attract investors

The report recommends a \$3 trillion annual increase in multilateral development banks' (MDBs) spending by 2030—including \$1.8 trillion toward climate action. However, MDBs offer concessional loans and add to the global debt, which hit a record \$307 trillion in 2023, a whopping 336 per cent of the GDP. Private sector engagement is crucial, yet its capacity to finance green projects is limited. Between 2016 and 2021, only \$120.8 billion was mobilised from the private sector, further highlighting the gap. In this context, artificial intelligence (AI) emerges as a transformative tool for climate finance, offering solutions for better decision-making, resource optimisation, and enhanced financial mechanisms to support sustainable initiatives. It can analyse vast datasets to assess climate risks accurately, aiding insurers and financial institutions in pricing risk and making resilient investments. Thus, AI can drive climate finance by exponentially improving risk assessment and management. AI algorithms can also help optimise investment portfolios by prioritising green investment opportunities over high-risk, carbon-intensive assets, balancing financial returns with environmental impact. Through its analysis of data trends, AI can uncover high-potential, underfunded areas for investment. Financial institutions worldwide need to be more efficient, and AI can help by streamlining operations and reducing costs. This will ultimately speed up the approval of climate finance proposals. One of the most critical areas of climate finance is risk pricing. AI can develop accurate pricing models for climate risks to reflect financial products' actual costs. Green bonds and sustainable finance require a greater push to increase funds flow. AI can raise investor confidence by automating compliance and reporting processes.

and ensuring that funds are used for their intended purposes. Considering the need to design and promote innovative financial instruments to direct retail investments into climate finance through capital markets.

AI can be most beneficial in promoting structures like infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs). Straddling the capital markets and institutional finance regulatory universe, InvITs are designed to unlock investors' investment appetite through the instrumentality of capital markets in the form of debt and equity. AI can optimise pricing for units of structures like InvIT, facilitating a smooth transition between debt and equity or public and private finance. It can also provide comprehensive real-time information on the performance (including financial) of projects held by these structures for robust forecasting and transparency. This can help tap into the vast global retail investor market. With a creative and attractive tax structure and robust risk matrix, InvIT-type structures can create circularity between public and private finance, as well as debt and equity, which is one way to bridge the green resource gap in the foreseeable future. Impact measurement and reporting are other areas in which AI can contribute significantly. It can enhance the measurement of climate finance initiatives' impact, attracting more investors through transparency and accountability. It can ensure funds are used effectively by monitoring and verifying the impact of investments. Similarly, compliance with fraud detection and climate finance regulations can also be improved with AI. Leveraging AI for climate action also poses several challenges. Reliable AI models depend on accurate, comprehensive, and high-quality data, necessitating stakeholder collaboration. It is also vital to be aware of the ethical and bias concerns by ensuring that the AI algorithms used are transparent.



### The video was taken off all streaming services, and everyone involved received legal notices

The backlash was enormous. The video was taken off all streaming services, and everyone involved received legal notices. This, of course, was counterproductive; everyone who wanted to watch the episode could easily access the pirated version. If the disproportionate reaction was magically erased from public memory, what would remain is this: the jokes were in extremely poor taste.

That's not necessarily on the comedians and writers; it's what's mandated by the

form. The roast essentially replicates a schoolyard bullying scene. There's the bully, the one being bullied, and, of course, those who are complicit — the voyeuristic and the bystanders. As audience members and consumers of entertainment, we take on this role wholeheartedly and without guilt.

Charlie Sheen's 2011 roast was Comedy Central's most watched, drawing in 6.5 million viewers. A 2015 roast of Justin Bieber was watched by 4.4 million people. Both were at their peak — Sheen in

terms of his infamy, and Bieber, who has always been equal parts adored and hated. The personal lives of celebrities are always public fodder and always will be. The rise of influencers testifies to the extent to which you can commercialise and commodify your life. The avalanche of hate is neutralised by the money that flows in. Roasts can be viewed from the same lens. However, comedic trends have always ranged from self-deprecating to self-hating everyone. And trends are

framed by what appeals to the public, which, in this case, is unkindness. Not to sound preachy or moralistic, but there is something concerning about the staggering popularity of roasts and the craze that surrounds them. There's no nuance, not much thought that goes into the jokes. It's a low-quality, easy-money endeavour. And perhaps that's why they continue to be made. Social contexts have changed. As a whole, society is more politically correct, more mindful of language.

## The defence services allocation includes the budget for the three services

Out of the total Rs 6.22 lakh crore, Rs 4.55 lakh crore has been allotted to the defence services, Rs 1.41 lakh crore for defence pensions (including defence civilians), and Rs 25,563 for MoD (Civil). The Defence Research and Development Organisation, and Defence Public Sector Undertakings. MoD (Civil) expenditure covers its secretariat expenses and those of organisations such as the Coast Guard, Border Roads Organisation (BRO), Defence Accounts Department (DAD), and the Defence Estate Organisation. Out of the defence services budget, Rs 1.7 lakh crore (27.66 per cent) is earmarked for capital expenditure, while Rs 2.8 crore is allocated for revenue expenditure, including Rs 1.63 crore for pay and allowances and Rs 92,088 for stores (covering repair, maintenance and operational cost of the equipment in inventory). The capital expenditure of Rs 1.7 lakh crore for military modernisation did register a 5.8 per cent hike over last year's budgetary estimates and 9.4 per cent over revised estimates. The latter increase was due to Russia's inability to supply contracted weapons and equipment. The real increase is barely adequate to account for inflation and the rising dollar rate. A heartening feature of the current budget is the 30 per cent increase in the allocation for the Border Roads Organisation. The gap between projections made by the Armed Forces and allocation has been 17-23 per cent. In a nutshell, the



defence budget is disappointing and barely adequate to maintain the current capability. Unfortunately, this has been the norm since 2010 and is a cause of grave concern. Even with a modest GDP growth of about 7 per cent, India is projected to be a \$21 trillion economy by 2047. The BJP-led government has itself defined the national goal of Viksit Bharat 2047, implying a status of a great power or at least the third pole in the international arena along with the US and China. Achieving this goal requires a transformed military to safeguard national interests and maintain absolute strategic autonomy. Time is running short. China, with an economy five times larger than ours, set a goal in 2015 to transform its military by 2035 and make it the best in the world by 2049. Nine years into this transformation, its declared defence budget in 2023, as per Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) was \$296 billion, three and a half times larger

than ours, which was assessed at \$83.6 billion. Pakistan's actual defence budget is approximately \$10 billion.

India has to be prepared for a 2.5 front war—against China, Pakistan and Pakistan's proxy war in Jammu and Kashmir. And we are setting out to do so with a defence budget of \$ 83.6 billion! The situation is bizarre. With a niggardly defence budget, the politicians, carried away by their own rhetoric, dream of capturing the territories usurped by Pakistan and China. The military hierarchy instead of firmly advising the government about the shortcomings in preparedness says that it is prepared to fight and win the 2.5 front war. Neo-nationalism has further compounded the problem. An emotional and glib public believes that India can defeat both China and Pakistan. If India followed the time-tested national security planning procedure of conducting an ethical strategic review, and a government-owned and monitored national defence policy to

transform the military, it would be clear that an allocation of 3 per cent of the GDP is essential. All these prerequisites lie within the political domain, and successive governments have wished the problem away. The military has compounded the issue by failing to implement in-house reforms to optimise, restructure, reorganise and modernise with the limited budget available.

High-technology wars of the 21st century cannot be fought with a military of the 20th Century. Two decades back, the eminent economist and former Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, said, "The government can allocate about three per cent of the GDP for defence needs provided the economy grows at an annual eight per cent." Today our economy is growing at approximately 7 per cent. Surely, the government can provide 2.5 per cent of the GDP if not 3 per cent. With all other requirements remaining constant, an increase of 0.5 per cent of GDP will double the capital defence budget.

India is forecasted to achieve a \$4 trillion economy by the end of this year, and \$8 trillion by 2035. And this is the decade in which our military must transform itself to reduce the capability differential vis a vis the People's Liberation Army. It is time for the government to think like a great power and begin the transformation of its Armed Forces. And for this, an allocation of 2.5-3 per cent of GDP is inescapable.

China, our principal adversary, has been at the gates since April 2020, and its collusive partner, Pakistan, has stepped up terrorism through the back door. However, in the defence budget 2024-2025, "butter has got the better of the guns". With a budgetary allocation of Rs 6,21,940 crore, there is an increase of Rs 28,402 crore over the allocation of Rs 5,93,538 in 2023-2024, but a marginal decrease of Rs 1,949 crore compared to the revised budget estimates of Rs 6,23,889 crore. This year's allocation, which is 1.9 per cent of India's GDP and 12.9 per cent of annual national expenditure, is the lowest since 1960 as percentage of GDP. It is pertinent to mention that, despite economic constraints, past governments allocated the universal norm of 3 per cent or more of the GDP for defence from 1963 to 2010. However, in the last decade, our defence budget has been hovering around 2 per cent of the GDP. Since 2014, the defence budget has been barely adequate to sustain the military capability with incremental modernisation to maintain the dissuasive deterrent against China and offensive deterrent against Pakistan. However, it is grossly inadequate for transforming the Armed Forces to pose a challenge to China and to give a clear edge in the offensive deterrent against.

Pakistan. Consequently, we have been unable to compel China to restore the status

### Who will the Jats of the West support in the assembly elections?

The Jats of Muzaffarnagar riots believe that the farmers' movement has benefited SP before the 2022 elections. SP's seats also increased due to the farmers' movement, but still SP did not give any significant share to the Jats. This time, by giving tickets to Jats in the Lok Sabha, SP considered its responsibility towards the Jats fulfilled.

The Muzaffarnagar candidate won, but behind this too, the Jats' love for SP candidate Harendra Malik was less and their resentment with Sanjeev Baliyan was more.

In the name of Jat leader in SP, there is an elderly Ghaziabad resident and another Jat leader from Haryana who do not have any special existence or influence among the Jats of West UP.

The Jats have not yet forgotten the SP government's conspiracy to break the Jat-Muslim unity through this. The Jat community also blames the SP for getting the

Jat reservation cancelled in the Supreme Court. The SP has been the biggest hurdle in the dream of making West UP a separate state.

All political parties in UP have their eyes set on the 2027 elections. Its semi-final is being considered to be the by-elections of 10 assembly seats. BJP is worried about losing 29 seats in the Lok Sabha elections in UP, while the All India Alliance wants to maintain its lead in the by-elections as well. The 2027 election is also a do or die election for Akhilesh. If at least 80 seats are not won from West UP, the path to Lucknow will not be easy. West UP is called Jat land and there are not many Yadav voters here. In such a situation, it will be a big challenge for SP to woo the Jats.

Right now the Jats are voting for RLD, BJP and SP, BSP after seeing the Jat candidate. But no special strategy of SP is visible to attract the Jats.

### Budget shows Modi govt's priority areas have changed after election

Rs 2000 crore for a new internship programme to be implemented by the department of consumer affairs. The government has also allocated Rs 1,000 crore for a new ITI upgradation scheme. The other areas of priority mentioned in the budget speech are productivity and resilience in agriculture, inclusive human resource development and social justice, manufacturing and services, urban development, energy security, infrastructure, innovation, research and development, and next-generation reforms. These have either not translated into any change in allocation (perhaps because the allocation in the interim budget was deemed adequate) or have led to relatively small changes. Under the priority area of energy security, the government has allocated Rs 6,250 crore for PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, which was launched earlier this year. For urban development, there is an additional allocation of Rs 4,000 crore for housing under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban). While the first area that Sitharaman had emphasised in her budget speech was agriculture, the only major change in allocation towards this sector is Rs 4,700 crore for the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Yojana, under which remunerative prices are supposed to be provided to farmers. Further, while the government has continued the emphasis on infrastructure expenditure, the only major change in allocation from the interim budget is an additional allocation of Rs 6,000 crore for road works. Overall, most of the allocations in the Union budget are same as those in the interim budget. The only major deviations are in additional allocations for special assistance to states, which will likely be used for states ruled by BJP allies at the Centre, an acknowledgement of the need to do

more for employment creation, and in an allocation for price stabilisation. Since the Union budget envisages additional expenditure of Rs 54,744 crore over the expenditure budgeted in the interim budget, most of the additional allocations to the purposes and schemes discussed above did not require a reduction in allocations in other areas. Since the 2024 Lok Sabha election results were contrary to the government's expectations, there was a chance that the government may opt for major changes in allocation. However, the overall thrust of the expenditure strategy remains the same. Even the allocation for capital expenditure is the same. Beyond the allocation, the approach to using instruments of fiscal policy for addressing development problems also remains largely the same. On employment, for instance, the focus is on subsidies and direct benefit transfers, which have been the government's preferred instruments for most policy problems. The design of these schemes needs to be tested though. For instance, the direct benefit transfer to the first-time workers comes with the condition that if the worker is fired in the first year, the employer will have to reimburse the subsidy to the government. Since the benefit goes to the employee while the consequence of firing is on the employer, on the margins, this places an additional burden on the employer rather than reducing the cost of hiring. On the receipts side, the only major change is in the non-tax revenue. On account of a much larger dividend from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) than was budgeted in the interim budget, the budgeted receipt on non-tax revenues is about Rs 1.46 lakh crore higher than in the interim budget. While there are some major changes in the direct tax regime — the most important being the changes in the rate.



## YES BANK Celebrates Manu Bhaker's Double Bronze Victory at the Paris Olympics 2024



**AMBALA/PANIPAT:** YES BANK extends its heartfelt congratulations to Manu Bhaker, the young shooting sensation from Haryana, for her outstanding achievement in winning two bronze medals in the 10m air pistol category at the Paris Olympics 2024. Manu's exceptional talent and dedication have not only made India proud but also inspired the entire Indian contingent in Paris and millions of aspiring athletes across the nation. As the official banking partner and principal sponsor for Team India, YES BANK launched yesteamindia.com, a platform where fans can send their best wishes directly to Olympians.

This initiative aims to support and motivate athletes to achieve their best by connecting them with their supporters. Furthering its commitment to the sports, YES BANK's "Milkar Jitayenge" campaign, in collaboration with the Indian Olympic Association, highlights the vital role of communities in nurturing Olympic talent. Manu Bhaker's success is a testament to the strong support from her family, coaches, and mentors, demonstrating the power of collective effort. In addition to supporting athletes, YES BANK has introduced the YES Glory savings account, which provides exclusive bene-

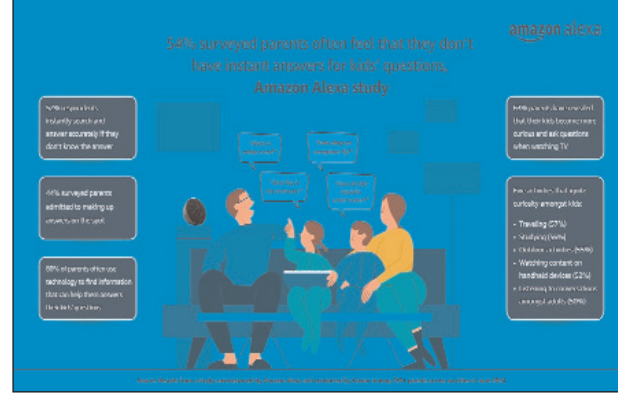
fits like a Taj voucher, orthopedic consultations, zero cross-currency mark-up, medical insurance, a YES Glory Gold Debit Card, and international lounge access. This initiative ensures athletes have financial support and benefits tailored to their unique needs. Moreover, YES BANK empowers communities in Haryana through tailored banking products designed to meet the financial aspirations of the affluent population.

Products like YES Grandeur, YES Elite Credit Cards, and YES First offer exclusive services that cater to their specific needs.

## 54% surveyed parents often feel that they don't have instant answers for kids' questions, Amazon Alexa study

**GURUGRAM/HISAR:**

Children are inherently curious and parents are always trying to find accurate answers that satiate their curiosity. This was apparent in a recent study commissioned by Amazon Alexa and conducted by Kantar among 750+ parents across six cities in June 2024. The survey reveals that about 54% of surveyed parents often feel that they don't have instant answers for kids' questions. It further indicates that 52% respondents instantly search and answer accurately if they don't know the answer. What's interesting to note is that 44% surveyed parents admitted to making up answers on the spot. Only 3% surveyed parents ignore the question or change the topic to stop the kid from asking questions "How to make a car?", "How big is the universe?", "How does an aeroplane fly?", and "How do fish breathe under water?", etc. are some of the curious questions asked by kids. About 60% of surveyed



parents indicated that they often find themselves stumped when kids ask seemingly easy questions such as, "What season comes between winter and summer?", "Why do parents have to work?", and "Why do we wash vegetables?", among others. Some parents even tend to deflect answers to their partner, with 37% of the survey pool admitting to asking their kids to go to the other parent with their questions. Deepender Rana, Executive Managing Director - South Asia, Insights Division, Kantar said "Kids these days are more curious than ever and parents always try their best to satiate their curiosity. While watch-

ing TV drives curiosity amongst kids and often leads to them asking more questions about the things they see and hear -majority of surveyed parents prefer screen-free learning for their kids. And this is where voice-first search, whether done by parents or by kids in their presence, proves to be a great screen-free solution to find answers and learn about the world." With numerous voice-first engaging experiences for kids on Alexa smart speakers like Echo Pop and Echo Dot, parents can engage their children with curiosity-driven content, with trust and safety at the forefront.

## CAPSULES

### The UP House passes a life sentence for illegal conversions

**Delhi:** The legislature passed a Bill revising the 2021 law to make unlawful conversion in UP non-bailable and increase the maximum sentence to life from the current 10-year term. The 2024 Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill allows "associated with the victim" to protest about illegal conversion. Only the victim can disclose forced conversion under current legislation. Another major change is that sessions courts or above must hear illegal conversion cases.

Parliamentary affairs minister Suresh Khanna introduced the Bill for CM Yogi Adityanath with two sub-clauses. The first imposes a Rs 10 lakh punishment and 14 years in prison for "foreign" or "illegal" agency involvement. If convicted of unlawful religious conversion "by luring/provoking a person, essentially a minor girl or women from the SC/ST community", the offender might serve 20 to life in prison. The offender may also be sentenced to reimburse the victim for living and medical expenses. Khanna claimed that change to a Bill to "bring justice to victims subjected to unlawful religious conversions" was "nothing controversial".

## Somesh Gupta gifted fans to the school in memory of his father

**Chandigarh:** Somesh Gupta, President of Srijan An Institute of Creativity, today gifted fans to the school in memory of his late father Dr. DS Gupta. He gifted these fans to Dr. Vinod Kumar Sharma, Principal of Maharishi Dayanand Public, MDAV Bhawan, Daria, Chandigarh, in memory of his father. Dr. Sharma expressed his gratitude to Somesh Gupta. It is worth mentioning that Dr. DS Gupta has served as Principal in the college and as HOD in the Hindi department in DAV College



Chandigarh. He has also been the Vice Chairman of Chandigarh Sahitya Academy. He has been associated with many

organizations as well as journalism and literature.

## Top court permits SC/ST quota subcategories

**Delhi:**

The Supreme Court ruled that state governments can create subclassifications within the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) for preferential reservations, a ruling that will affect reservation policies for marginalised communities.

Since subclassification was allowed by the Supreme Court, governments can identify and provide targeted assistance to the most disadvantaged



subgroups of the SC/ST categories based on empirical facts and rational criteria. The seven-judge Constitution bench overruled the highest court's 2004 EV Chinnaiah decision, which had found that subclassification within SC/STs was prohibited since it viewed these groups

as homogenous classes. Historical and empirical evidence shows SCs are socially varied. Thus, the state can further categorize SCs under Articles 15(4) and 16(4) if (a) there is a logical principle for differentiation and (b) the rational principle has a relationship with the subclassification aim, the ruling stated. The state must identify the creamy layer from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to exclude them from affirmative action.

## Mahakumbh will be grand, divine, green, clean and safe: CM Yogi

**Prayagraj:** Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath held a meeting with senior officials and public representatives on Saturday to discuss the preparations for Mahakumbh-25 in Prayagraj. During the meeting, CM Yogi provided essential guidelines to ensure the event is divine, grand, green, clean, and safe. In addition to this, the CM also reviewed ongoing development works with public representatives. He emphasized the importance of accelerating these projects and maintaining regular inspections. Following the meetings, CM Yogi paid tribute to martyr Chandrashekhar Azad by garlanding his statue on the

Circuit House premises. He then planted a Bael sapling as part of the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign initiated by PM Modi under the 'Ped Lagao Ped Bachao Abhiyan 2024'. CM Yogi later visited the Lete Hanuman Temple at the Sangam, where he offered prayers and sought blessings. Concluding his visit, he went to the residence of Cabinet Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, where he blessed the newly married son and daughter-in-law of the Minister and presented them with a gift from the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme. Complete all tasks on time with quality by October. During the meeting, Kumbh

Mela Officer Vijay Kiran Anand made a presentation to CM Yogi. After that, various departments presented their progress reports on the preparations. The CM gave instructions to ensure that Mahakumbh is grand, divine, clean, safe, and green. He directed that all personnel on duty at Mahakumbh should be provided with nameplates and unique codes and that their training should be completed on time. Emphasizing cleanliness, he stated that single-use plastic should be completely banned in the Kumbh area to maintain a green Mahakumbh. He also instructed that all work should be com-

## MOS Utility Ltd. Board Approves Foray into Solar Business

**Chandigarh:** MOS Utility Limited (NSE: MOS), a leading fintech company, offering different types of Fintech and Utility Payment Solutions services to businesses and individuals, has announced that its board has approved alteration of the object clause of the Memorandum of Association of the Company. Company has added certain new business activities in the main objects of the company stating, "To manufacture, assemble, purchase, import, export, and otherwise deal in India or abroad in all types of solar PV modules, cells, batteries, energy storage devices, conversion and generation devices, appliances, gadgets, equipment, and products, including power packs, power supplies, generators, solar panels,

chargers, and sub-assemblies, components, parts, and accessories thereof and to engage in all connected business related to solar." Recently, the company announced that its subsidiary, MOS Logconnect Private Limited has received the Master Franchise License from India Post. Through the India Post franchise module, we will be expanding our service offerings to encompass a comprehensive range of postal services across India.

This partnership also enables us to leverage India Post's extensive network and resources, ensuring seamless and efficient service delivery. Our team is committed to providing exceptional customer service, and we are confident that this venture will drive growth and success for our company. MOS

Utility Limited is one of the leading fintech companies, offering different types of Fintech and Utility Payment Solutions services to businesses and individuals. With a customer-centric approach, MOS Utility Limited is committed to delivering seamless and secure fintech solutions that enhance accessibility and drive financial inclusion. MOS has rich and varied experience with reputed Giant corporations in India, MOS is a conglomerate of various businesses web & App based banking /travel/utility services etc. MOS has set up a well-knit Agent network over more than 25 states which is a vast network that would result in a massive impact in reaching last-mile consumers. Today's Announcement will provide access to

Postal services in the remotest area, reducing the need for travel to a Post office Branch. It also offers a range of key services, including Speed Post (Domestic and International), Registered AD, Stamps, E-money Orders and Postal Life Insurance (PLI). Chirag Shah, Co-Founder & Executive Director of MOS Utility Limited and Director of MOS Logconnect Private Limited, expressed his enthusiasm about the partnership, stating, that this strategic alliance with India Post is a testament to our robust operational capabilities, commitment to excellence, and dedication to delivering exceptional services. By offering essential postal services, we anticipate a substantial increase in our customer base, further solidifying our position in the industry."

## Record bank earnings benefit poor, MSME loans

**Delhi:** Modi said record bank profits in FY24 would enhance credit to the poor, farmers, and MSMEs, celebrating the revival of financial institutions that were plagued by bad loans. Modi posted on X that the banking sector had a remarkable comeback in the last 10 years' with net profit topping Rs 3 lakh crore in FY24. Due to UPA's phone-banking policies, our banks had large NPAs and losses when we took power. The underprivileged were denied bank accounts "Modi remarked. "This improvement in the health of banks will help improve credit availability to our poor, farmers and MSMEs," he said. Modi's X comments on the banking sector's FY24 milestone earnings. Public sector banks made a record Rs 1.4 lakh crore in net profit in FY24, up 34% from Rs 1.05 lakh crore. Private banks grew 42% faster, raising their net profit to Rs 1.7 lakh crore from Rs 1.2 lakh crore a year earlier.



## 'No locus standi': SC junks RG Kar ex-head's plea on CBI probe

**NEW DELHI:** Supreme Court on Friday dismissed a petition by Sandip Ghosh, arrested ex-principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, seeking to intervene in proceedings before Calcutta HC which had ordered CBI probe into an alleged scam in biomedical waste disposal in the hospital and whether it had a nexus with the rape-murder of a doctor on Aug 9. "You (Ghosh) have no locus standi to intervene in the PIL. You were the principal when the alleged offence took place. The HC is not commenting on the merit of your involvement in corruption or the offence. Both are matters for investigation. As an



accused, you have no locus standi to intervene in a PIL in which the HC has transferred the investigation to CBI and is monitoring it," a bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra said. SG: Accused can't direct how probe has to be conducted For the ex-principal, senior advocate Meenakshi Arora said her client was preju-

dicted by the HC observation indicating a nexus between the offence on Aug 9 and the alleged medical scam. The CJI said, "That is itself a matter of investigation." Solicitor general Tushar Mehta and additional solicitor general S V Raju said the alleged nexus was the precise matter for investigation by CBI. Arora vociferously argued that the probe into financial

irregularity and rape-murder case should be done separately and criticised the HC for drawing a nexus between the two cases. Both Mehta and Raju said an accused could not decide or direct how the investigation was to be conducted by CBI and could never be permitted to put fetters on the probe. CJI Chandrachud agreed and said even courts could not direct a particular course of investigation. "Let us not stultify the investigation. We (SC) have also asked CBI to file status reports before us. As the highest court is looking into the matter, it will ensure that the investigation is fair. CBI will apprise us of what emerges during investi-

gation," the CJI said. Arora tried to narrate why students, who have been agitating against the rape-murder of their colleague, were inimical towards Ghosh. She said Ghosh joined as principal in 2021 and had stopped the Covid-period practice of promoting students without examination. On financial irregularities in the hospital as alleged by the PIL, Arora said the plea was filed by ex-deputy superintendent of RG Kar Hospital Akhtar Hussain as a counter to the show cause notices he was served for lapses leading to his transfer to Murshidabad. The bench said it was not giving Hussain a clean chit. Arora said similar peti-

## Andhra Pradesh's cyanide killers: Women behind series of gruesome murders in state

**VIJAYAWADA:** In a chilling case reminiscent of Kerala's notorious Koodathayi murders, three women from Tenali in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh have been arrested for a series of killings using cyanide, targeting vulnerable people over the past two years. Police have so far identified three victims but suspect there could be more. The accused, identified as Munagappa Rajani (40), Mudiyal Venkateswari alias Bujji (32), and Gontu Ramanamma (60), all residents of Tenali, have so far admitted to killing three with cyanide-laced drinks and food to rob them of gold and money. Police said they would get to know if there were other victims once their interrogation is over. The group systematically targeted individuals, including family mem-



bers and neighbours, and are believed to be involved in multiple murders since 2022 besides failed attempts to kill three others. Police said the accused purchased cyanide from a man named Krishna, who works at a gold shop in Tenali, for Rs 4,000 on two occasions. Krishna is on the run. According to Guntur SP S Satish Kumar, investigation began after the decomposed body of one Shaik Nagoor Bee was found in a field near Vadlamudi village about two months ago. Police initially registered a case of suspicious death due to causes unknown.

After analysing mobile data and questioning multiple witnesses, including an auto driver identified as Mahesh, police pieced together the chilling conspiracy. Investigation revealed that the accused lured the victim to the outskirts of Vadlamudi on June 5, under the pretences of a friendly outing. They spiked her drink with cyanide-laced alcohol, causing her death, and then stole her gold ornaments. The auto driver confirmed that he had picked up the accused women and the victim. He said he also saw them purchasing alcohol that turned fatal for Nagoor Bee.

## Dark night in Manipur: People turn off lights after multiple drone sightings

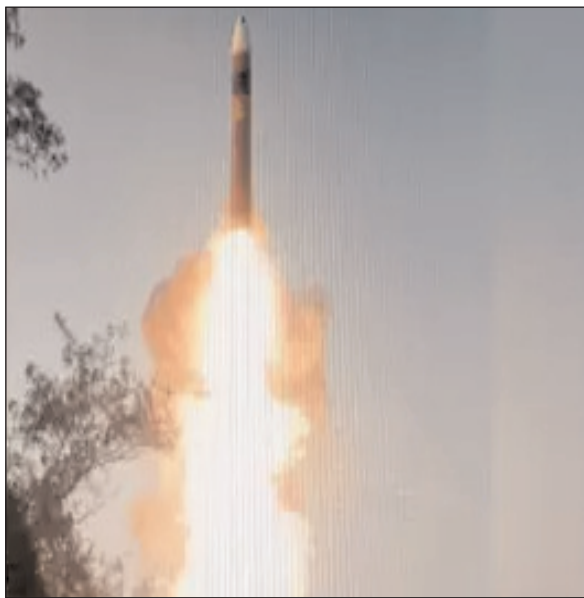
**NEW DELHI:** Residents in the outskirts of Manipur's Bishnupur and Imphal East districts switched off the lights on Friday night after multiple drone sightings were reported, according to news agency PTI citing officials. This comes after the recent incidents where militants used drones to drop bombs on people in two nearby locations in Imphal West district. An official said that security forces are maintaining high alert in the peripheral areas to keep a close watch on the movement of large



groups of people. In Bishnupur district, several illumination rounds were fired into the sky, further adding to the panic and confusion among the public. It remains unclear whether the rounds were fired by security forces or others. Earlier in the day, suspected militants

launched rocket attacks at the residence of Manipur's first chief minister Mairembam Koireng, killing one and injuring six others. Security forces in response destroyed three bunkers in the neighbouring Churachandpur district. "Militants deployed long-range rockets.

## Agni-4 IRBM missile tested off Odisha coast



**NEW DELHI:** Days after commissioning its second nuclear-powered submarine, India on Friday conducted a successful launch of the intermediate range ballistic missile Agni-4 from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur off the Odisha coast. The launch of the Agni-4 missile, which has a strike range of 4,000-km, "successfully validated all operational and technical parameters", a defence ministry official said. India on Aug 29 had inducted into the SFC its second 6,000-tonne

nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), INS Arighaat, which is armed with the over 3,000-km range K-4 missiles unlike her forerunner INS Arihant that only has the 750-km range K-15 missiles, as was earlier reported by. The third SSBN, in turn, will be commissioned as INS Aridhaman early next year. With a displacement of 7,000-tonne, she is bigger than the first two SSBNs and can carry more long range nuclear-tipped missiles.

## Air conditioning system malfunctions on Delhi-Varanasi flight; Indigo issues apology

**NEW DELHI:** IndiGo Airlines has apologised for the discomfort caused to passengers aboard its Delhi-Varanasi flight on Thursday after a malfunctioning air conditioning system resulted in extreme heat inside the cabin. The incident led to a chaotic situation, with several passengers reportedly fainting due to the high temperatures. Flight 6E 2235, which was en-route from Delhi to Varanasi, experienced significant cabin temperature fluctuations, causing severe discomfort among passengers. A video of the incident, widely shared on social media, showed passengers fanning themselves with in-flight magazines while others appeared to be struggling due to the heat. Some passengers reportedly lost consciousness.

## Parents go to thana with girl's rape complaint, beaten by woman cop

**CHENNAI:** A couple who complained that their 10-year-old daughter had been raped repeatedly by a neighbour were beaten by an Anna Nagar all-women police inspector and made to stay at the station till the early hours of Aug 31.



The survivor, a Class VI student of a govt school, stood witness to the ill-treatment of her parents in the presence of the accused, Sathish, a water can supplier in the neighbourhood. He is yet to be arrested though the FIR was registered on Aug 31. The girl's father is a construction worker and her mother a cook. Though the incident came to light on Aug 29 and the case registered on Aug 31, the child is yet to get the mandatory counselling by a District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) or anyone from the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). On Aug 29, the girl's mother returned from work in the evening and found her writhing with pain in the stomach. She took her to a private clinic where a doctor examined said she had been raped. The girl was referred to Kilpauk Medical College and Hospital (KMCH) where doctors said she had been sexually assaulted repeatedly. Informed by KMCH authorities, an Anna Nagar all-women police team visited the hospital. Contrary to rules, inspector Raji asked the mother to bring her Aadhaar card and other particulars to the station and held 'inquiry' with the child. The inspector is heard repeatedly asking the girl why she mentioned Sathish's name and the girl saying she did it by mistake. She also tells police her cousin had sexually assaulted her in 2022. The survivor told her mother later that she didn't mention Sathish's name to police because he had threatened to orphan her by doing away with her parents and her younger sister. After the 'inquiry' with the survivor, the inspector summoned her parents to the station where they were asked to stay till the early hours of the next day. "When we entered the inspector's room around 1am, police attacked me. A male constable hit my husband repeatedly on the back," the girl's mother told. She is now being assisted by the coordinator of a service organisation AIMS, Kanya. When contacted, inspector Raji told, "You should not ask about Pocco cases to the investigation officer. It is a sensational case." then contacted Anna Nagar deputy commissioner Snehapriya who denied any such attack on the complainant at Anna Nagar all-women police station. The girl is now at KMCH and the CWC is yet to forward the case to the DCPO to assign a child counsellor to help her. CWC chairperson Rajkumar Muthukrishnam told: "I was not aware of this case. As per procedure, we will forward it to the DCPO and assign a counsellor to speak to the girl."

## Two coaches of Indore-Jabalpur Express derail

**NEW DELHI:** Two coaches of the Indore-Jabalpur Superfast Express (22191) derailed at approximately 5:40 am on Saturday, as the train approached platform number 6 of the Jabalpur station in Madhya Pradesh. Railway officials confirmed that no passengers were injured during the incident. The derailed coaches

were located just behind the engine, about 50 meters from the platform. "The train's scheduled arrival time is 5.35 am. The derailment occurred at 5.38 am when the train was about to enter the Jabalpur station. The loco pilot immediately stopped the train and saved other coaches from getting dragged," Madhur

Verma, senior Divisional Commercial Manager (DCM) of WCR's Jabalpur Rail Division was quoted as saying by PTI. According to Harshit Shrivastava, chief public relations officer of the West Central Railway, "The train was running at the dead-stop speed of 5 kmph when the incident occurred."

## 'Desh ki shaan hain': Haryana BJP chief says no to politics on Vinesh, Bajrang Punia

**NEW DELHI:** Haryana BJP president Mohan Lal Badoli, in response to the decision of wrestlers Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia to join the Congress party, said on Saturday that athletes are the pride of the nation and that the BJP does not politicise them. "Khiladi humaare desh ki shaan hain aur khiladiyon pe hum rajneeti nahi karte (Players are the pride of our country, we don't do politics on them. They will work as members of Congress after joining)," the Haryana BJP president said while talking to news agency ANI. When asked about the candi-

date list for the remaining 23 assembly seats in Haryana, Badoli said, "We will announce the next list for the Haryana assembly elections soon. Within two days our national leadership will sit and the central election committee will decide on the matter. "The Congress party received a significant boost when Olympic wrestlers Bajrang Punia and Vinesh Phogat joined their ranks on Friday. Shortly after joining, Bajrang Punia was appointed as the working president of the All India Kisan Congress.

## India and Maldives aim to expedite defence projects

**NEW DELHI:** India and the Maldives on Friday discussed expediting implementation of various ongoing defence cooperation projects in the archipelago, in a development that comes soon after external affairs minister S Jaishankar visited Male last month amid the strain in bilateral ties. The 5th defence cooperation dialogue, with Indian defence secretary Giridhar Aramane and Maldives' chief of national defence force General Ibrahim Hilmy leading the delegation-level talks here, extensively reviewed matters related to bilateral defence cooperation. "The two sides also deliberated on some



other areas of common interest such as high-level military exchanges and capability development projects. The participation in the forthcoming bilateral military exercise was also discussed," an official said. "The entire range of talks were productive, and will advance shared interests of the two nations in the near

future and bring stability and prosperity in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)," he added. During his visit, Jaishankar had also assured the top leadership of the Maldives that the country remained an important partner of India in maintaining peace and stability in the IOR. Since the pro-China

Mohamed Muizzu govt came to office in Male last November, bilateral relations with India have become strained. Apart from signing a defence cooperation pact with China, the Muizzu govt forced India to withdraw its military personnel. Operating a Dornier-228 maritime aircraft and.



## As hundreds of Chinese items lose tax exclusions, the US-China trade battle escalates



**Delhi:** Recently, the US has banned, restricted, or imposed high taxes on hundreds of Chinese imports to stimulate domestic production and reduce dependence on Chinese commodities. The USTR has already added tariffs to half of 429 items. The USTR excluded further duties from the "Section 301" probe of China's technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation measures in previous announcements. The current 429 product-specific exclusions (352 reinstated and 77 COVID-related) expire

on May 31, 2024. The US trade agency declared a 14-day transition period for all current exclusions until June 14, 2024, and to "extend certain exclusions through May 31, 2025" in a new notice. "To allow for a transition period, the US Trade Representative is extending all currently expiring exclusions through June 14, 2024," it stated. Chinese motors and medical equipment are excluded until May 2025. The USTR ruled that "extending these exclusions will support efforts to shift sour-

ing out of China, or provide additional time where, despite efforts to source products from alternative sources, availability of the product outside of China remains limited". Last March, the USTR reinstated some "Section 301" tariff exceptions for Chinese goods. Former President Donald Trump began a trade war with China and imposed tariffs on nearly \$300 billion in Chinese goods, invoking Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Trump granted product tariff exclusions for select businesses

## 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.

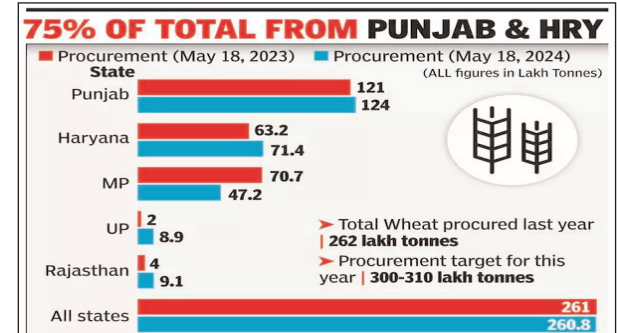


laying the groundwork for rapid scaling. Nitish Mittersain, Nazara Technologies' founder, CEO, and joint MD, reported 4.3% revenue and 16.5% EBITDA increase. The company's running cash flow

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

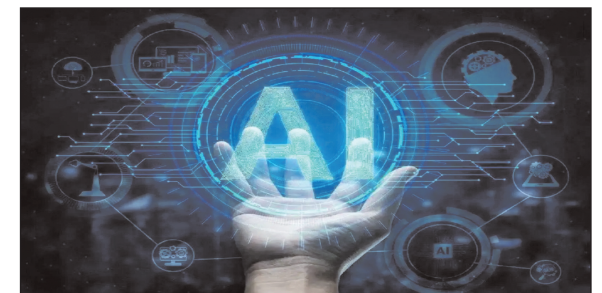
Flipkart has been in a partnership with Google Cloud since 2022

The co, which competes with players like Amazon and SoftBank-backed 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.



## Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath dispatches senior officials to oversee relief efforts

Lucknow

In response to the building collapse in Sarojini nagar on Saturday evening, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath promptly instructed the relevant departments and officials to rush to the scene and accelerate relief efforts. Following CM Yogi's directive, various departments, including the Relief Department, NDRF, SDRF, local police, and district administration, took control over the situation. Several individuals were injured in the incident and have been transported to Lokbandhu Hospital and KGMU by



ambulance for treatment. CM Yogi expressed his sorrow over the accident on social media, wishing for the speedy recovery of the injured and assuring that the government stands by them during this difficult time. On CM Yogi's orders, the Additional Chief

Secretary Home and ADG Law and Order arrived at the scene to oversee the relief operations. Relief Commissioner GS Naveen said that many individuals were trapped under the debris following the collapse of a building in Transport Nagar, Sarojininagar,

Lucknow. In response, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed officials to immediately proceed to the site and expedite the relief efforts. Consequently, several teams from NDRF and SDRF were dispatched, and the local district administration, police, and hospital authorities were alerted. He further stated: "Following CM Yogi's instructions, Divisional Commissioner Roshan Jacob, District Magistrate Suryapal Gangwar, and Police Commissioner Amarendra Singh Sengar arrived at the scene with their teams." ADM FR Rakesh Singh added

that many individuals have been rescued from the debris during the ongoing operation. They have all been transported to Lokbandhu Hospital and KGMU by ambulance, where they are receiving treatment. He explained that the three-story Harmilap building in Transport Nagar was used for pharmaceutical work. At the time of the accident, several employees were working there. ADM FR stated that relief operations are ongoing, with debris being cleared through the operation. Additionally, on CM Yogi's instructions, ACS Home Deepak Kumar

## Ekmi-Shobhan Bypass Construction Set to Begin Soon After Centre Approval

Delhi : Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Kumar Jha announced that the construction of AIIMS Darbhanga at Ekmi-Sobhan Bypass in Bihar had been approved by the central government. According to the lawmaker, the project is about to get underway soon after the Union Health Ministry informed the Bihar Health Department's Additional Chief Secretary Pratyaya Amrit of this decision in a letter dated July 25. The planned location at the Shobhan-Ekmi bypass was inspected by a Central Government technical team on March 18 and 19, 2024, and they found it to be suitable for building. A major milestone in the project's realization has been reached with the clearance of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, according to Sanjay Kumar



Jha's post on X. As an example of their meticulous approach to implementing AIIMS Darbhanga, the Bihar government has promised to give the Centre more than 150 acres of land for free, as well as to provide water and power and to construct a four-lane road to ensure easy connection. We are of the belief that the construction of AIIMS close to the

Shobhan by-pass on the fringes of the city will cause a surge in development there and the creation of jobs," Jha commented. Jha also brought attention to the fact that Darbhanga Medical College Hospital is now undergoing renovations. A 2,750-bed hospital with an estimated cost of Rs 27,42.04 crore is being planned by the state government.

## BJP will choose national president by December

Delhi: BJP National President JP Nadda's term has ended. Although his term was prolonged, he was given important government duties. Thus, the BJP seeks a new president. The BJP wants a new national president by December. The election for this job begins on August 1. Before the national president is elected, a membership drive and district and state strengthening will occur. New BJP national president elections will commence. First, a membership drive will



be initiated, followed by an active membership campaign and verification. The BJP constitution requires members to renew every nine years. This year's membership campaign requires the Prime Minister, party president, and other

leaders to renew. BJP sources say state and central council members will be elected after Mandal and district president elections. State presidents will be chosen after these elections. State president elections begin December 1.

## In FY24, Ola Electric's sales hit Rs 5,000 crore, losses rise 8%



Delhi: According to the company's July 27 Red Herring Prospectus (RHP), IPO-bound Ola Electric FY24 operating revenues rose 90% to Rs 5,009 crores due to e-scooter sales, which have solidified the company's market share of over 50%. Sales rose, but losses rose 8% to Rs 1,584 crores.

The firm's net loss was Rs 1,472 crore in FY23 due to rising expenses. Operating income was Rs 2,782 crore. Ola Electric's prospectus internal risk disclosure states that it may continue to incur operational losses as it invests in the company and expands. "For example, the expansion of our product portfolio and our strategy of expanding our sales

footprint across international automotive markets could result in an increase in our operating costs," the company said. As scooter sales increased, our total expenses rose to Rs 62,774.11 million in Fiscal 2024 from Rs 38,833.75 million in Fiscal 2023 due to rising material costs and other expenses "The firm's RHP stated. The company's total expenses as a proportion of income were 119.72% in Fiscal 2024, up from 139.55 percent in Fiscal 2023. The firm spent Rs 79 crores on R&D in FY24 and plans to invest 1,600 crores from the IPO. R&D consumes 7.69% of income. The firm's overall personnel cost—salaries, bonuses, and other costs—rose 3% to Rs 438 crores in FY24.

## Odisha's FY25 budget is Rs 2.65 lakh crore

Delhi: The Odisha government submitted a Rs 2.65 lakh crore 2024-25 budget focused on agriculture and irrigation in the state parliament. Chief Minister Mohan Majhi, who also holds the finance portfolio, presented the BJP government's maiden budget and proposed an outlay of Rs 33,919 crore for agriculture, 36% more than the previous year. He said program cost was estimated at Rs 1.55 lakh crore, administrative expense at Rs 97,725 crore, and Disaster Risk Management Funds at Rs 3,900 crore. The "Samrudha Krushak Yojana" for farmers received Rs 5,000 crore from the chief minister. He also proposed a Rs 1,935 crore state budget initiative for farmers called 'CM Kisan'. Majhi called the paper a "people's budget" and stated the government consulted stakeholders.



## Bihar and Rajasthan have new state chiefs appointed by the BJP



Delhi : New leaders for the states of Bihar and Rajasthan have been announced by the Bharatiya Janata Party. The party has also named new state in-charges and co-in-charges with this. The BJP has tasked Dilip Jaiswal with leading Bihar and Madan Rathore with leading Rajasthan. Rathore is a member of the Rajya Sabha. Assam will be overseen by Harish Dwivedi, Chandigarh by Atul Garg, Lakshadweep by Arvind Menon, and Radha Mohan Das Aggarwal by Radha Mohan Das. To the state of Rajasthan Arvind Menon will be responsible for Tamil Nadu, with Sudhakar Reddy serving as his co-in-command, while Vijaya Rahatkar will be in charge of Rajasthan. Rajdeep Roy has been named by the party as the representative for Tripura in the northeastern region.

## RBI data shows a double-digit rise in digital payments in India

Delhi : India's digital payments have increased 12.6% year over year; at the end of March 2024, the RBI's Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) was at 445.5, up from 418.77 in September 2023 and 395.57 in March 2023. The RBI stated that "over the period, there has been significant growth in both payment performance and payment infrastructure across the country, driving an increase in the RBI-DPI index across all parameters."



"Since January 1, 2021, the Reserve Bank has been releasing a composite RBI-DPI index, which uses March 2018 as its base month to reflect the level of digital payment adoption nationwide. The five basic factors that make up the RBI-DPI allow the penetration of digital payments in the nation to be measured over a range of time periods.

## The state of Telangana has unveiled its 2024-25 budget

Delhi: With total revenues of 2.21 lakh crore and capital expenditures of 33,487 crore, the Telangana government tabled a budget of 2.91 lakh crore. The expected total revenues were 2,90,814 crore Indian rupees, which includes more than 57,000 crore rupees in Open Market Loans. State government plans to invest

72,659 crores rupees in agriculture, according to Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Portfolio Head Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, who presented the budget to the Assembly. A further Rs. 21,292 crores would go toward education, while Rs. 22,301 crores would go toward irrigation, according to the government's plans.

Our recommended allocation for Panchayath Raj and Rural Development in this budget is 29,816 crores rupees. Debt in Telangana has surpassed 6.71 lakh crore rupees. Bhatti noted that the state government's debt has multiplied by ten in the past decade despite a corresponding lack of development.

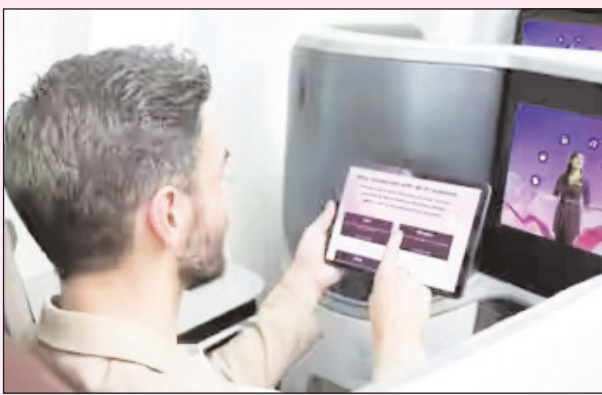
## Why Muslims oppose Vande Mataram

Delhi: After the Muslims refused to sing this song, Hindutva ideologues accused them

of being anti-national without giving them a chance to respond. Thus, Muslim objections to Vande Mataram must be examined. As a monotheist religion, Islam condemns the apotheosis of all deities except God, the supreme creator. Ascribing divinity to Prophet Mohammad is blasphemous, defeating Islam's goal of uniting humanity through worship of a common creator. Those who disagree with Islam should know that Vande Mataram contains verses that contradict Islam. In the hymn.

## Vistara is the first Indian airline to offer free 20-minute international Wi-Fi

Delhi: Vistara, a TATA-Singapore Airlines joint venture, stated that its international flights on Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner and Airbus A321neo aircraft now offer 20 minutes of free Wi-Fi. "The complimentary 20-minute Wi-Fi access will enable passengers across all cabins to stay connected and is also ideal for those who wish to purchase extended Wi-Fi plans using Indian credit/debit cards," Vistara said. Customers can receive one-time passwords via email to purchase extended wireless



services during the active session. "delighted to lead the way and become the first Indian airline to offer complimentary Wi-Fi on international flights across all cabins." "We are confident that customers will appreciate this

value addition that aims to make their Vistara journey more convenient, productive, and seamless," Rajawat said. Club Vistara members of any tier and cabin will have free chat during Vistara international flights under the inter-

net connectivity package. Chatting on Whatsapp, Facebook Messenger, etc. with unlimited bandwidth costs Rs 372.74 plus GST. To access the internet on these flights, the airline charges Rs 1577.54 + GST for embedded audio and video streaming from social media, online, etc. It stated unlimited data for all streaming protocols costs Rs 2707.04 plus GST. "Vistara's international flights on Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner and Airbus A321neo use Panasonic Avionics' sophisticated wireless