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## BJP allies oppose Kanwar Yatra advisory in UP; JD(U) says police order against PM Modi's policy

NEW DELHI:

The UP police order directing eateries on Kanwar Yatra route to display names of owners and workers has divided the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA), with several key allies of the BJP opposing the move and calling it "discriminatory". This even as Haridwar police has taken a cue from their Muzaffarnagar counterparts and have issued similar order for eateries on Kanwar route in the district.

Nitish Kumar's JD(U), which is an ally of BJP in Bihar and whose support is crucial for the survival of the NDA government at the Centre, said this directive is against Prime Minister's philosophy of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" for Indian society and also the NDA.

"A Kanwar Yatra bigger than UP takes place in Bihar. No such order is in effect there. These prohibitions imposed by police in UP are in violation of Prime Minister Modi's spirit of 'Sabka



### Lt Gen Ashok Jindal conferred Param Vishisht Seva medal

**RAIPUR:** Lt Gen Ashok Jindal (Retd), executive director of AllIMS Raipur, was conferred the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) by President Droupadi Murmu on Friday at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The prestigious award recognizes his distinguished service and exceptional achievements in the Armed Forces.

Lt Gen Jindal, who served the Indian

Army for nearly four decades, is one of the country's most decorated military doctors. As the Commandant of Army Hospital (Research & Referral) in Delhi from November 2021, he successfully restarted liver, heart, and pediatric heart valve transplant programs. Under his leadership, the hospital also developed significant infrastructure.

Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'. It will be

good if the order is reviewed or taken

back," JD(U) leader KC Tyagi said.

Another Bihar ally of BJP, the Lok Janshakti Party, also opposed the move of UP police. "I will absolutely ... never support or encourage" any divide in the name of caste or religion," Union minister and LJP chief Chirag Paswan said opposing the Muzaffarnagar police advisory.

Paswan said he believes two classes of people – rich and poor – exist in the society and persons of different castes and religions fall in both categories. "We need to bridge the gap between these two classes of people. It is every government's responsibility to work for the poor, which includes all sections of society such as Dalits, backwards, upper castes and Muslims as well. All are there. We need to work for them," the LJP chief added. And its not just allies in Bihar who are opposing the Kanwar advisory, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, which is a key partner of the BJP.

## Microsoft: London Stock Exchange back up and running technical glitches

NEW DELHI:

London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) announced that its data and systems were finally back up and running after facing a technical snag amid Microsoft's global outage that affected multiple industries, including airlines, broadcasters, banking, and health-care.

"We're currently working through the backlog of data," said LSEG to its clients in a memo seen by news agency Reuters.

The company's Regulatory News Service, which publishes company updates, and the prices and news for various assets on its Workspace platform, had also been affected but resumed functioning. A spokesperson for LSEG stated that the issue was due to a third-party global technical problem, but securities trading on the London Stock Exchange remained unaffected. Meanwhile, some banks and financial services firms reported that employees and cus-



### Why Microsoft outage didn't affect Indian Railways

**CHENNAI:** Microsoft global outage on Friday did not affect the services of Indian railways, said a senior railway official. Ticket issuing for suburban and express trains journeys were not affected at the railway booking counters. All these services functioned normally thanks to a CRIS passenger

tomers experienced difficulties accessing their systems following the outage. Barclays customers faced issues managing their accounts on the Smart Investor digital investing platform, while Allianz employees had trouble logging on to their com-

reservation system developed in 1999 during the Y2K problem. This is still used. This system was periodically updated by incorporating the required modifications to the software. Due to this, the services in the railways were not affected, the official explained.

The global cyber outage on Friday seemed to originate from an update to a product offered by CrowdStrike, a global cybersecurity firm, which affected customers using Microsoft's Windows Operating System.

### Yogi govt enhances online transport services

**LUCKNOW:** In a bid to enhance online transport services, the Yogi government has introduced a new initiative for vehicle owners. Those who need to update or correct their mobile number in their vehicle registration can now do so by visiting the department's website at <http://www.parivahan.gov.in>.

This new service allows vehicle owners to update their details from the comfort of their homes, ensuring they stay informed about challans or any other actions.

AK Singh, Additional Transport Commissioner (IT/Enforcement), UP, said that during inspections by the enforcement team, it was found that many vehicle registrations either had incorrect or outdated mobile numbers. To update their mobile numbers, vehicle owners need to visit.

## Pune court grants Puja Khedkar's father interim protection from arrest

**NEW DELHI:** Pune court on Friday granted interim protection from arrest to Dilip Khedkar, father of controversial probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar.

Pune's session court has granted relief to Dilip Khedkar till July 25 in a case where he is accused of threatening a person with a gun over a land dispute.

Earlier in the day, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) initiated criminal action against IAS officer Puja Khedkar for fraudulently availing attempts beyond the permissible limit by faking her identity by way of changing her name, her father's and mother's name, her photo/signature, email ID, mobile number and address.

The UPSC has filed an FIR and also issued her show-cause notice for cancellation of her candidature for Civil Services Examination 2022 and debarment for future exams and selections.

Puja Khedkar, 34, came under intense media scrutiny following allegations of demanding a separate office and official car, along with the unauthorised use of a beacon on her private Audi car.

Following UPSC's complaint, the Delhi Police has registered a case against Khedkar for cheating, fraudulence, and forgery.

Relief to Puja's father comes a day after Pune police detained Manorama Khedkar, mother of controversial IAS officer Puja Khedkar.

Police had been searching for Manorama and her husband Dilip after an FIR was filed against them and five others following the emergence of a video showing Manorama allegedly threatening individuals with a gun over a land dispute. After Manorama's detention Pankaj Deshmukh, SP, Pune Rural Police said: "We have detained her from Mahad. She is on her way here. We will question her and take further legal action. She was found in a hotel.

## Trump accepts nomination in wild 90-minute speech pledging healing

**WASHINGTON:** The speech began with uplifting sentiments and words around the theme of unity and healing. Then his natural instincts took over and gripes, grievances, and threats flowed. Recounting his narrow escape from an assassin's bullet in excruciating detail, former US President Donald Trump on Thursday initially pledged to launch "a



new era of safety, prosperity and freedom for citizens of every race, religion, color and creed" in a 90-minute nomination acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention finale in Milwaukee. But he reflexively kept revisiting divisive issues, exaggerated threats, and old grievances, including falsehoods about a stolen election in 2020 that he lost by nearly 7 mil-

lion votes, suggesting that his promise to heal the country is incumbent on being recognized as the victor in 2024 regardless of the outcome. "The discord and division in our society must be healed. We must heal it quickly. As Americans, we are bound together by a single fate and a shared destiny. We rise together. Or we fall apart".

## Biden hangs in grimly as more party reps urge him to bow out

**WASHINGTON:** Secluded at his home in Delaware recovering from Covid and increasingly isolated in his own party, US President Joe Biden is grimly hanging in for the November 2024 election even as Democratic operatives who profess love and admiration for him are trying to prise the party nomination from him.

Biden is "absolutely" staying in the presidential race, the Democratic campaign chair Jen O'Malley Dillon insisted on MSNBC on Friday, calling him the "best person to take on Donald Trump." The assessment is shared by very few people, and surveys and opeds are starting to point otherwise, causing more and more law-



makers and party operatives to urge the beleaguered President to bow out. On Friday, four more lawmakers, including Congressman and constitutional scholar Jamie Raskin from Maryland and Sean Casten from Illinois (both heavily Democratic states from where they will get re-elected comfortably) urged Biden to stand down, their appeal prefaced by copious praise for his service. Contrasting Biden ("a fundamentally kind, empathetic and decent human being") with Trump ("a twice-impeached convicted felon and adjudicated rapist who has promised to be a 'dictator on day one.'") Casten nevertheless urged Biden to "manage an exit with all the dignity and decency that has guided his half-century of public service." "Politics, like life, isn't fair. And as long as this election is instead litigated over which candidate is more likely to be held accountable for pub-

## After India captiancy snub, can Hardik retain MI's top post next season?

NEW DELHI:

Hardik Pandya departed from the Caribbean, reveling in the triumph of leading India to their first ICC tournament victory in over a decade. Yet, within a span of just three weeks, his world has been turned on its head. The unforgiving nature of elite sport has become apparent to Pandya, as he faced a surprising decision regarding the captaincy of the Indian T20 team for the forthcoming Sri



Lanka tour, all while grappling with personal challenges. Players trust Suryakumar Yadav more than Hardik Pandya: Report article>Show 111857928 Hardik Pandya was entitled to T20I captaincy, koi aisa galat kaam

nahi kia: Mohammad Kaif

The decision to overlook Pandya in favor of Suryakumar Yadav for the leadership role was a resounding and direct vote of 'no confidence' in his captaincy skills.

According to PTI, this unexpected turn of events, one of the most striking twists in Indian cricket history, has left the dynamic all-rounder confronting yet another significant question about his future in the team.

### One mustn't try to become superman, says RSS chief Mohan

**NEW DELHI/GUMLA:** Asserting that people should never be content with their accomplishments and work relentlessly for the welfare of mankind since there is no end to the pursuit of development and human ambition, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on suggested.

That one should strive to serve humanity. "In the course of self-development, a man may want to become 'superman', then 'devta' and 'bhagwan' and aspire for 'vishwaroop', but nobody is certain what lies ahead, Bhagwat said, while addressing a village-level workers meeting, organised by a non-profit organisation Vikas Bharti in Gumla, Jharkhand. There is no end to the development of the inner and outer.

### 'Never compare myself with Kohli or Dhoni because...': Neeraj

**NEW DELHI:** Neeraj Chopra's popularity in the country has skyrocketed since he won India's first Olympic gold medal in athletics at the Tokyo Olympics. But the fame doesn't seem to get into his head and continues to display his modest nature. When asked about his fame in comparison to renowned cricketers like Virat Kohli and MS Dhoni, Neeraj humbly declined to draw any parallels. Neeraj acknowledged that cricket remains the most beloved sport in India. However, he aspires for javelin to reach similar levels of popularity and success within the country. Neeraj clarified that he doesn't wish for javelin's growth to come at the cost of other sports.

"If you respect your sport and feel satisfied

with it, then nothing else should matter," Neeraj Chopra told Sportstar.

"At the Doha Diamond League, I was asked how popular I was in India. I never tried to compare myself with the likes of Virat Kohli or MS Dhoni because I'm very well aware of the reality of what I am in India," he said.

"Yes, obviously, after the Olympics, people recognize me a lot more, but I know there is a stark difference in my popularity compared to that of a cricketer. Cricket is played in every single alley in the country. It's not like people practise javelin throw in the same way," the javelin ace added.

"I don't want any shortcuts to make my sport popular. I want my sport to become popular with my hard work and effort."

## Shop of love, no Hindu Muslim

Prayagraj: After big order of Yogi Government on Kanwar Yatra, Congressmen in Prayagraj protested against writing name and identity at every shop on the route by pasting posters at various places. It is written in the post that shop of love is NO Hindu and Muslim: In that post, photo of Leader of Opposition and MP Shri



Rahul Gandhi is attached. Actually, this decision has been taken by the Uttar Pradesh Government for the Kanwar Yatri. Congress leaders Irshad Ullah and Abdul Kalam Azad said that this decision of the Uttar Pradesh Government is democratic. This is unconstitutional, it is against the culture of Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb of the country. It should be about love, brotherhood and unity in the country and not about separating Hindus and Muslims. The Uttar Pradesh government is talking about separating Hindus and Muslims. This is wrong. This ordinance should be withdrawn. Muslim brothers, Kavadis. They shower flowers during the journey and welcome them with water and sherbet langar.

## Keshav Maurya to attend plant trees, save trees campaign today

Prayagraj: District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani informed that the Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Hon. Keshav Prasad Maurya is reaching the Police Line Helipad of Prayagraj today, 20th July, at 9 am. After that, he will meet the workers at Circuit House at 10:00 am. After that, at Chandrashekhar Azad Park at Circuit House at 10:30 am, plant trees, save trees, public campaign 2024. Will plant trees under this and then leave for Kaushambi at 1:30 pm.

## Massive tree plantation prog today

Prayagraj: BJP media in-charge Rajesh Kesarwani informed that on 20/07/24 at 1:00 pm, a massive tree plantation program is being organized by the Municipal Corporation in Jhusi Kanihar, the extended area of the Municipal Corporation, in which two lakh saplings will be planted. Inauguration of this program Main The guest will be His Excellency Governor Sikkim, Honorable Shri Laxman Acharya. And it will be presided over by Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani.

## Vijay Sansthan holds free hockey camp for girls

Prayagraj: A free hockey camp has been organized for girls by Vijay Group of Hockey Academy in Jhusi Trivenipuram, Prayagraj. Hockey instructor Vijay Singh said that till date no girl has ever played hockey in Jhusi area. Hockey is not a game, Vijay Sansthan has launched this campaign Feed the daughter hockey, take the daugh-



ter forward, make the daughter the identity of India, till now 15 20 girls have participated in the hockey camp. The girl who is getting hockey training said that this is for us. This is a very golden opportunity in which we can make our future in the national game of hockey and this opportunity has been given to us for the first time by Vijay Sansthan. In the hockey camp training, along with the basic training of hockey, we are also given physical training so that we can improve physically and mentally. They also become stronger. Innocent girls between 9 to 10 years of age are also receiving training in this camp.

## Vi introduces postpaid roaming packs for foreign travellers

Varanasi: A growing number of Indians are travelling abroad, with many exploring new destinations in Central and West Asia. Vi has launched new postpaid international roaming packs for three new destinations - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Jordan. Vi users can now stay connected across 120 countries with roaming packs starting at just Rs 649. Vi has added Kazakhstan (home to the first human spaceflight cosmodrome), Uzbekistan (known for the historic city of Samarkand) and Jordan (known for attractions such as the Dead Sea and Petra) to its list of roaming packs, keeping in mind the growing popularity of these destinations among Indian travellers. Vi postpaid users can now choose from 24 hour packs, 10 day packs, 14 day packs and 30 day packs to suit their needs while travelling abroad. Vi also offers Always On feature that protects users from high international roaming charges even after the pack expires.

Vi is committed to providing the best international roaming experience to its customers to suit every traveler's needs. Recently, Vi has launched postpaid roaming packs for Azerbaijan and select African countries. To provide consumers with an affordable and convenient experience, Vi roaming packs come with ample outgoing call minutes, ample data quota and SMS facility, making it cost-effective and easy to stay connected while exploring new places while travelling. Consumers can also download the Vi app and choose the perfect roaming plan for their next trip. So the world is waiting for you - make Vi your companion and set out to explore the world!

# Cong conducts politics for votes, but BJP do politics for nation and society: MP Amarpal Maurya

Prayagraj: BJP is a party of workers. On the strength of the organization, BJP government has been formed for the third time under the leadership of Narendra Modi. For this I express my heartfelt gratitude to all the workers. Now the liars and fraudsters have to tell the truth among the public as this is a fight between anti-nationals and patriots. While addressing the meeting of Kashi Area Working Committee, the keynote speaker of the inaugural session, Kashi Area President Dilip Singh Patel said these things at Hotel Triveni Sangam on Friday. While addressing the officials and workers of Kashi Area Working Committee in Andava Prayagraj, he further said that it is the resolve of all of us to defeat the opponents by fulfilling the resolve of Modi ji to make a developed nation in 2047. Now we need to think, not worry. It is the resolve of all of us to defeat the opponents and give victory to BJP with an overwhelming majority in 2027. Kashi region president further said that the principle of BJP workers has been that first the country, then the party and finally self-interest. This is also the ideology of the organization. Shri Singh said that when Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government was formed at the Centre, the dream of national hero Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee came true.

Section 370 was removed from Kashmir. The dream of building Ram temple for hundreds of years was also fulfilled under the BJP government. The BJP government is committed to respecting the faith of the majority and protecting the culture. BJP does politics of national idea. Following the basic mantra of the organization 'Service is Service', BJP got a massive victory in all the elections of 2014, 2017, 2019 and 2022. In the 2024 elections, BJP did not get relative success on the seats of Kashi region, but it was with the support of the workers that the government was formed at the Center for the

BJP government developed their pilgrimage sites and worked on awarding Bharat Ratna. Kashi Region General Secretary Sushil Tripathi read out the political proposal, which was supported by Area General Secretary Santosh Patel and approved by Area General Secretary Ashok Chaurasia.

Addressing the Regional Working Committee, State Minister Meena Choubey said that the Central Government led by

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has done many works for women empowerment in the last ten years. Provided education, security, respect and self-reliance to half the population. Addressing the Regional Working Committee, State Minister Shankar Giri said that we have won all the elections held in the Center and Uttar Pradesh between 2014 to 2024. He said that in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the entire Indi alliance could not win as many seats as the Bharatiya Janata Party won alone. In 2014, BJP government was formed at the Center under the leadership of PM Modi. At that time, there was Akhilesh Yadav's

regarding amendment of the Constitution and abolition of reservation. He said to go among the Dalits and tell them that their real well-wisher is BJP.

Whereas the chief guest of the concluding session, State General Secretary BJP and Rajya Sabha MP Amarpal Maurya said that earlier only Kashmir was discussed. Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government was formed at the Centre, many historic steps have been taken. Now the discussion of Kashmir has stopped. Finger is now being discussed all over the world. There is talk of capturing fingers one to eight. This became possible due

to the power of BJP workers. There was a time when one had to beg before the world for ammunition. Now India is at number one in the world of missiles. Congress does politics for votes. BJP does politics for the nation and society. These are the BJP workers who create history by uniting in the name of India. Take BJP beyond three hundred. Our aim is to strengthen the ideology of BJP. Called to join the power of determination and strengthen BJP and India. He said that by-elections will be held in the state. In this, BJP has two seats of Kashi region, Phulpur and Majhwa. Both these seats belong to BJP. Workers should pledge that BJP wins on every seat.

Take a pledge for BJP's victory not only in the by-elections but in the civic, panchayat and assembly elections to be held till 2027. The worker lives for the nation and culture. There has been a change in Indian politics only because of the workers. The world's perspective towards India has changed. This pride has been achieved from the workers. We need to move in the same direction in which we were moving. If there is a change in this, the national interest will be affected. Congress remained in power for 60 years by playing politics of lies. She is doing the same even today. We have to keep exposing this lie. Rahul Gandhi wants to destroy Indian culture by attacking it. The workers will have to do the work of stopping this. Before this, Regional President Dilip Singh Patel, State Gen-

eral Secretary and Rajya Sabha MP Amarpal Maurya lit the lamp, laid flowers on the portraits of Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee and Pt. Deendayal, started the program with singing of Vande Mataram and concluded the Area Working Committee with the national anthem. The welcome was conducted by Kashi Region Vice President Amarnath Yadav.

In the meeting of the Regional Working Committee, Area Vice President Awadhesh Chandra Gupta, Kamlesh Kumar, Nirmala Paswan, State Minister Anamika Chaudhary, State Treasurer Manish Kapoor, State Mahila Morcha Minister Kavita Yadav Tripathi, Gangapar District President Kavita Patel, Metropolitan District President Rajendra Mishra, Yamunapar District President Vinod were present in the meeting of the Regional Working Committee. Prajapati, MP Praveen Patel, District Incharge Gangapar Uttar Maurya, Mayor Prayagraj Ganesh Kesarwani, Varanasi District President and MLC Hansraj Vishwakarma, MLA Guru Prasad Maurya, MLA Rajmani Kol Varanasi, Metropolitan President Vidyasagar Rai, Ashish Singh Baghel, Rajesh Rajbhar, Rakesh Sharma, Sudama. Patel, regional media in-charge Navratan Rathi, co-media in-charge Santosh Solapurkar, Nagendra Raghuvanshi, Anil Srivastava, Shriprakash Shukla, Ranika Jaiswal, Dr. Ashok Rai, Jitendra Lalwani, JP Singh, Ashish Kesarwani, Brijesh Tripathi, Rajesh Kesarwani, Dilip Kumar Chaturvedi etc.



## Majlis & procession held in remembrance of Imam Hussain

Prayagraj: The majlis of the majesty of Imam Hussain and other martyrs was held at the Azakhana of Imambara Zulfekar Haider located at the Colonelganj slaughter house. Maulana Syed Razi Haider Rizvi Saheb Qibla mentioned the scene after the martyrdom. Zainul Mirza and Farzan Mirza performed the Sojakhawani and Zaki Ahsan performed the Faraaz of Peshkhawani. Anjuman Abbasiya Ranimandi Nauhakwan Dr. Abrar, Faiz Jafri etc. took out a procession reciting Purdard Nauha which patrolled the same place and ended at the same Imambara from where the procession was taken out. After this, Majlis Nazr-e-Shohadae Karbala and Asirane Karbala were organized in which thousands of people participated. It was a pleasure to participate. Sherbet and cold water were also served. People kissed the alms and the coffin and garlanded it. Zulfekar Haider, Manzar Karrar, Syed Mohammad Askari, Zain Haider etc. were present. The annual majlis was held in Barntala Minhajpur

Azakhana Javed Afsar Abdi under the chairmanship of Shafqat Abbas Pasha. Shahenshah Sonvi presented Marsiya and Dr. Qamar Abdi presented the painful scene of Karbala through Peshkhawani.



Maulana Syed Johar Abbas Saheb Qibla inaugurated the Majlis. The Naukhawans of Anjuman Guncha-e-Qasimya Bakshi Bazaar recited Purdard Nauha. After the Majlis, the coffin of Janabe Sakina and Ghazi Abbas was taken out whose Ziyarat was kissed by a large number of devotees. Yusha Abdi thanked the devotees. Meanwhile, Daryabad, Karaili Teej majlis were organized in lo-

calities like Bakshi Bazaar, Ranimandi, Chak Zero Road, Ghantaghar etc. Teej Nazar and Fateha were also organized in homes.

Amari procession was taken out, presenting the scene after the martyrdom of Hussain. On behalf of Anjuman Asgaria Moayya Saadat Handiya Saadat, a procession of Amari was taken out, depicting the atrocities and atrocities committed by Yazidi Lashkar after the martyrdom of seventy-two martyrs of Karbala. Wasim Moayvi In the program organized under the leadership of Maulana Reyasat Hussain, Zaman Moayvi addressed the gathering while

Maulana Mazahir Hussain addressed the Majlis. Hussain Akbar Raunaq Jaunpuri, Maulana Zeeshan Haider Najafi, Maulana Zameer Haider, Imam-e-Juma Karari Kaushambi, Maulana Ashraf Ali Gharvi mentioned the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (a.s.). Puri, Ali Nayab Allahabadi, Taha Naqvi and Musa Naqvi added charm to the procession by reciting Purdard Nauha. Anjuman Abbasiya Dandupur, Anjuman Parcham-e-Abbas Rannau Jaunpur, Anjuman Paigame-Hussaini Banaras, Anjuman Akbaria Osmanpur Jalalpur Ambedkar Nagar and Anjuman Asgaria Moiya Sadat took out a procession presenting Nauha and Matam. In the procession, Shabih-e-Taboot, Alam Zuljanah were taken out. Amari was taken out on three camels to refresh the memories of Janabe Zainab, Janabe Umm Kulsloom, Janabe Roqayya and other pilgrims, on which the faithful people expressed their faith by offering flower garlands all along the way. It was told that this was the thirtieth round of the Amari procession.

Players of Prayagraj selected in KVS National Taekwondo Competition

## Players of Prayagraj selected in KVS National Taekwondo Competition

Prayagraj: Shiksha Tiwari on gold medal in 59-63 kg weight category in Taekwondo competition held in Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Nagar. Due to this excellent performance, she was given the rank of 53rd. K.V.S. National selection has been received for the National Taekwondo Competition 2024-25. Virat Shukla will also participate in the K.K. from 13 to 15 July 2024. V. Received gold medal in 59-63 kg weight category in Taekwondo competition held in Old Cantt Prayagraj. Due to his brilliant performance, he was also awarded the 53rd K. V.S. Got national selection for National Taekwondo Competition 2024-25. Recently K.D. Players of Prayagraj have brought glory to the city by performing excellently in the 40th Junior Taekwondo Championship held at Singh Babu Stadium, Lucknow. Shivam Shukla won the bronze medal in the Junior Under-62 weight category. Similarly, Aditya Kushwaha won the bronze medal in the Junior 72 kg weight category. Along with this, in the 40th Sub-Junior Taekwondo Championship, Saurya Pratap Vishwakarma showcased his hard work and talent by winning the bronze medal in the Sub-Junior Under-23 weight category. On this occasion, Sangh President Shivbhan ji, Vice President Nishant Mehrotra, Joint Secretary Sunny Singh, Satyadev Yadav, Shreya Singh, Sunil Kumar, Navneet, Vimal, Sushmana, Kamal Yadav, Suchitra Kumari, Aditya Kumar, Haseeb Ahmed, Mulayam Singh Shreyash Choubey, Kaushalendra Singh congratulated all the winners and wished them a bright future. Public Relations Officer Atul Sonkar gave the above information.



## Employment Day to be organized on July 22 at Govt Industrial Training Institute

Lucknow: Raj Kumar Yadav, Principal has told that Employment Day will be organized on 22 July 2024 at Government Industrial Training Institute, Aliganj, Lucknow. Eight companies will participate in this program. MA. Khan, Training Counseling and Placement Officer said that to participate in these eight companies, the educational qualification of the candidates should be high school, intermediate, ITI, diploma or graduation. Candidates age should be minimum 18 years and maximum 40 years. The companies will provide salary ranging from Rs 10,714 to Rs 22,000 per month along with other facilities. Both male and female candidates can participate in the fair. Selection will be made on a total of 857 posts. Interested candidates

can appear in the placement hall of Government Industrial Training Institute, Aliganj, Lucknow with their biodata and all educational certificates on 22 July 2024 at 10 am.

Following is the information about jobs available in various companies on this occasion: 1. Tata Motors Limited, Lucknow: 300 vacancies with monthly salary of Rs 13,060 to 13,915 for male and female candidates aged 18 to 32 years for ITI all trades. 2. Jai Bharat Maruti Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat: 130 vacancies with salary Rs 19,000 CTC for 10th/12th/ITI any trade for male and female candidates aged 18 to 32 years. 3. Shri Ram Life Insurance, Lucknow: 65 vacancies for 12th and graduate candidates with a monthly salary of Rs 18,000 for male and female candidates aged 18 to 35 years. 4. Bajaj Allianz Life

Insurance, Lucknow: 32 vacancies for 12th and graduate candidates with monthly salary of Rs 10,714 for male and female candidates aged 18 to 30 years. 5. Bhavani Auto Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat: 85 vacancies for 12th and ITI/Diploma holder male candidates aged between 18 to 35 years with CTC salary Rs 20,000 to 22,000.6. Minda Kosei Aluminum Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat: 70 Vacancies for 12th & ITI All Trade Male Candidates between 18 to 30 years with CTC Salary Rs 18,000.7. V G Auto Component Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad, Gujarat: 65 Vacancies with CTC salary Rs 20,000 for 12th and ITI all trade male candidates.8. St. Govind Pvt Ltd, Bhiwadi, Rajasthan: 110 Vacancies for 10th/12th/ITI Any Trade Male Candidates between 18 to 35 years with CTC Salary Rs 13,500.

### Yogiji's itinerary during Prayagraj visit

Prayagraj: Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Shri Yogi Adityanath ji will come to Prayagraj tomorrow on July 20, 2024 at 01:05 pm. Thereafter, the Honorable Chief Minister will hold a review meeting of the preparations for the Maha Kumbh Mela with the honorable public representatives and officials at the Circuit House. Thereafter, Honorable Chief Minister and Honorable Minister Shri Nand Gopal Gupta will visit Nandi ji's residence in Bahadurganj. Honorable Chief Minister will leave from Prayagraj for Gorakhpur at 2:55 pm.

### Arrival of CM Yogi, Guv Sikkim and many ministers today

#### Political figures to gather for Minister Nandi's son's reception

Prayagraj: A grand blessing ceremony has been organized in Prayagraj on Saturday after the marriage of the son of Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, Industrial Development Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government and MLA of Prayagraj City Southern Assembly Constituency. In which Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Sikkim Governor Lakshman Acharya ji along with many cabinet ministers, ministers of state, MLAs and MPs from Uttar Pradesh government and other states as well as industry personalities will arrive. Abhishek and



Krishnaika, son of Minister Nandi and former mayor of Prayagraj, Mrs. Abhilasha Gupta Nandi, will attend the blessing ceremony and will bless the new couple. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will reach Prayagraj in the afternoon and visit Minister Nandi's house in Bahadurganj. They will attend the blessing ceremony. The Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government, Keshav Prasad Maurya, will go to Minister Nandi's house at around 11 am in the day and wish and bless the bride and groom for their marriage. Women Welfare Minister Smt. Pratibha Shukla, Minister of State with Independent Charge Dayashankar Mishra Dayalu, Minister of State Dinesh Pratap Singh, Science and Technology Minister Anil Kumar, Minister of State for Food and Logistics, Civil Supplies Satish Chandra Sharma, Jal Shakti Minister Swatantra Dev Singh, Minister of State with Independent Charge JPS Rathore, Minister of State for Minority Welfare Danish Azad Ansari, Minister of State Kapil Dev Aggarwal, Chairman Legislative Council Kunwar Manvendra. Along with Singh ji, many other ministers will also participate.

### Mahila Seva Sadan Inter College holds health awareness camp

Prayagraj: Under the health awareness campaign, a health awareness camp was organized at Mahila Seva Sadan Inter College Prayagraj under the leadership of social worker Purvika Aggarwal and school principal Anjana Singh Sengar. In this camp, girl students of all



classes of the school were given free testing. On this occasion, the girl students were provided information about various diseases and their prevention. Besides, awareness was also created about cleanliness and hygiene. The team of this campaign was highly praised by the parents of the girl students. This event was organized under the aegis of Srijan Jan Seva Samiti with the help of Dr. Meha Aggarwal, Director of Srijan Hospital. The team of specialist doctors of Srijan Hospital, Dr. Nirmala Pandey (Gyno), Dr. HL Shukla (Dentist), Dr. Kalpana (Dietitian), Dr. KP Singh (Eye), Manu (Pathologist) etc. were present in the program.

### Farmer training prog organized

Naini, Prayagraj: While inaugurating the farmer training program in village Bajahi Battaria, Sikandra, Sahson, Prayagraj by Extension Directorate SHUATS Prayagraj, Director Extension Praveen Charan explained the importance and use of seed treatment of vegetables and food grain crops, said that by treating the crop can be



protected from seed and soil borne diseases. More chemicals are used indiscriminately and indiscriminately due to which the soil fertility level is decreasing day by day. Dr. Arun Kumar Chaurasia said that farmers can form their own groups and produce seeds themselves. Shailendra Kumar Singh gave technical information about soil testing. Deputy Agriculture Divisional Officer Shonit Mishra gave detailed information to the farmers on ShriAnn Scheme and production technology. He also informed the farmers about the schemes running in the Agriculture Department.

# Railways successfully manages massive pilgrim influx during Rath Yatra

Prayagraj: Indian Railways humbly announces the successful management and transportation of over 15 lakh passengers to and from Puri during the auspicious Rath Yatra period. With extensive preparations and innovative measures, Indian Railways ensured a smooth and comfortable journey for the devotees attending the festival.

#### Key Highlights of Rath Yatra Arrangements:

**Massive Passenger Movement:** Indian Railways efficiently carried 15 lakh passengers, ensuring they reached their destinations safely and comfortably during the Rath Yatra period.

**Pilgrim Sheds and Mela Shed:** To accommodate 15,000 pilgrims/devotees at a time, temporary and permanent Mela sheds were erected at Puri Railway Station, providing resting, toilet, and bathing facilities.

**Connectivity Across Odisha:** Special trains were operated connecting 25 districts of Odisha to and from Puri, facilitating easy access for devotees.

**AI-based Dynamic Scheduling:** Special trains were operated using an AI-based dynamic scheduling system, allowing Indian Railways to provide additional trains to high-demand destinations promptly.

**Special Trains:** Over 315 special trains were operated for the convenience of pilgrims, ensuring efficient transportation during the festival. Neighboring State

Connectivity: Special trains connected neighboring states, including Visakhapatnam and Palasa in Andhra Pradesh, Jagadalpur and Raipur in Chhattisgarh, and Howrah/Sealdah and Malda Town in West Bengal, to Puri for the Rath Yatra.

#### Measures Implemented During the Car Festival:

**Crowd Management:** The Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel were deployed to manage crowds at Puri Railway Station.

**Control Room:** A round-the-clock control room was established to address passenger issues and ensure smooth train operations.

**Announcements:** Effective announcements were made at Puri and other stations over the East Coast Railway (ECOR).

**Train Information System/Enquiry Counters:** PA systems were installed at Puri Railway Station, with strategically located enquiry counters and large video walls displaying train arrival and departure information.

**Smooth Ticket Disbursal:** Additional ticket booking counters, ATVM counters, and mobile ticket counters were provided. The UTS on Mobile App and ECOR Yatra App were launched for information related to Rath Yatra facilities.

**Safety and Security:** Extensive safety measures, including CCTV surveillance, deployment of RPF, GRP, and sniffer dogs, were implemented. Fire service

personnel and fire extinguishers were strategically placed for emergencies.

**Medical Facilities:** Medical assistance booths, staffed with doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff, along with ambulance services, were operational round the clock at Puri Railway Station.

#### Power and Water Supply: Uninterrupted power



supply and frequent water supply were ensured during the festival, with water tankers ready for emergencies.

**Cleanliness:** Special attention was given to cleanliness and hygiene at public utility areas during the Rath Yatra period.

**Catering and Hospitality:** In addition to the food plaza at Puri Railway Station, arrangements were made for selling tea, snacks, water bottles, and Janata meals. Additional food stalls were functioning at major en-route stations.

**Toilets and Bathrooms:** Adequate toilet and bathroom facilities were provided at both the permanent and temporary Mela sheds.

**Passenger Help Desks:** Help desks were set up to guide passengers, providing information about train schedules, passenger conveniences, and Rath Yatra rituals and timings.

#### Illumination: Adequate

various parts of the country. "I was astonished to witness the Car Festival. The crowd management, facilities provided at Puri Station, and the maintenance of cleanliness and hygiene were keenly taken care of by the Railway administration", informed a lady passenger from Gujarat, Shri Sailendra Ratnakar Kule. "The facilities provided by Railways are praiseworthy. Starting from charging points to many other arrangements under one roof, everything was well-managed. Additional booking counters, fans, cleanliness, toilets, security arrangements, information systems, display walls, drinking water, and medical facilities were all available. The Railway administration has made a great effort for passengers' convenience", said a passenger from Cuttack. The positive feedback from the devotees/pilgrims underscore the dedication and meticulous planning by Indian Railways to ensure a comfortable and safe experience for all devotees attending the Rath Yatra. Indian Railways remains committed to providing seamless and comfortable travel experiences for all passengers, ensuring the success of significant events like the Rath Yatra. The extensive measures implemented highlight the dedication and efficiency of Indian Railways in managing large-scale pilgrim movements.

arrangements were made for ensuring uninterrupted power supply at Puri Railway Station for the continuous functioning of lights, fans, and other passenger amenities.

Indian Railways is delighted to share the overwhelmingly positive feedback received from passengers who traveled to Puri during the auspicious Rath Yatra festival. The extensive arrangements and facilities provided by Indian Railways have been highly appreciated by devotees from

from Balangir.

"We have come from Rajasthan to witness Rath Yatra. We were concerned about shelter before reaching Puri, but the shelter provided by Railways eased our worries. The arrangement was beautifully done, including security facilities", informed a lady passenger from Rajasthan, taking shelter at Mela Shed.

"The facilities provided by Railways are praiseworthy. Starting from charging points to many other arrangements under one roof, everything was well-managed. Additional booking counters, fans, cleanliness, toilets, security arrangements, information systems, display walls, drinking water, and medical facilities were all available. The Railway administration has made a great effort for passengers' convenience", said a passenger from Cuttack.

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## Commr inspected work being done by Jal Nigam

Improve quality, deploy needed workforce, and compulsorily finish all tasks before Oct 31



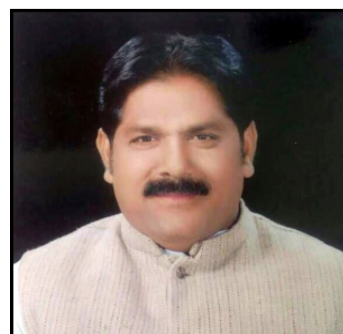
Prayagraj: The inspection was done by Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant in the presence of all the concerned officers. First of all, he inspected the work of laying sewer lines in areas like Mundera, Vishnupuri, Transport Nagar etc. under Sewerage District-E of Jal Nigam. During the inspection, the work of laying GSB was found to be sub-standard and manpower was not de-

ployed in the required quantity due to which the progress of the work was found to be slow. The works related to blockage and diversion of Nehru Park Drain and Yadavpur Drain were also inspected during which the alignment of the walls of blockage drains in both the drains was found to be not correct. The progress of the works was also found to be slow and the quality was

also lacking. The feedback given by the third party agency was also not complied with in a timely manner. Expressing great displeasure over this, the Divisional Commissioner reprimanded the concerned officers and gave necessary instructions to immediately improve the quality, deploy the required labor and complete all the work done compulsorily by 31st October.

## Govt's order on Kanwar Yatra impractical: Varshney

Prayagraj: Former spokesperson of UP Congress Committee Kishore Varshney has termed the order given by the UP and Uttarakhand governments to write the names of shopkeepers outside the shops on the Kanwar Yatra route as impractical. He said that the order is unconstitutional and is aimed at polarization of the upcoming by-elections in Uttar Pradesh. The government's order shows how much it hates backward classes, Dalits and minorities. It was also said that the mandatory rule of the first day was abolished on the second day due to protest against the order by the allies of the power-hungry BJP which is destroying brotherhood. He further said that Hindus and Muslims have been respecting each other's religious sentiments which is the beauty of India.



## CDO flagged off Prabhat-Pheri to convey message of groundwater conservation

Prayagraj: In order to organize Ground Water Week from 16th to 22nd July 2024, on Friday, Chief Development Officer Gaurav Kumar, under the aegis of Ground Water Department and Minor Irrigation Department, made efforts for water conservation - Water is the hope of life. Topic Point Prabhat Pheri was flagged off from Chandrashekhar Azad Park (Company Bagh), which passed through Hindu Hostel, Manmohan Park, Lakshmi Square and ended at Vikas Bhawan, in which besides Ground Water Department, Minor Irrigation Department, various departments also participated. Employees and voluntary organizations participated. Selfies were taken by the participants at the selfie point established by the Ground Water Department to encourage groundwater conservation. For groundwater conservation, oath was administered by Ravi Shankar Patel, Hydrologist and Kumar Gaurav, Assistant Engineer. With the aim of increasing awareness among the public about ground water conservation, information related to water conservation and harvesting was given and pamphlets etc. were distributed at public places.



## Raining everywhere, but no indication of rain in Prayagraj, rues ex-MP

Heat and humidity have made life tough for the people

Prayagraj: Former MP Kunwar Revati Raman Singh wrote to the Chief Minister, claiming that lakhs of trees were chopped in Prayagraj for road widening, resulting in a significant increase in the city's temperature during the previous several years. "Currently, Prayagraj witnessed record breaking heat in the month of June. Moreover, there is a precipitation problem in the city; it is pouring everywhere, but there is no indication of rain in Prayagraj; the heat and humidity have made life tough for the people. As a result, tree planting should not be restricted to paper or images. Responsibility for plants to stay visible on the ground needs to be established," he added. Meanwhile, SP State Secretary Vinay Kushwaha

stated that former MP Kunwar Revati Raman Singh complained to Divisional Commissioner Prayagraj over the phone that the greenery of many

such as mango, mahua, and tamarind, should be planted on both sides of wider highways to absorb large amounts of carbon while also providing oxy-



roads, including Mahatma Gandhi's, was being destroyed and stones were being installed, causing significant environmental damage; thus, the stones should be replaced. Trees,

gen. He also suggested that responsibility be assigned for the trees remaining on the ground. There should be no paper planting since the environmental balance is deteriorating day by day.

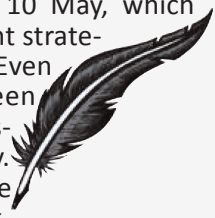
## Editorial

### Economy runs feverishly

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

That said, Russia, too, has been astonishingly lacklustre in exploiting the window of opportunity that had remained open for the last six months as Ukraine was outgunned and outnumbered with a lack of troops and ammunition. Despite the high intensity, war-economy mode with the reported 7.5 per cent of GDP directed to war effort, the Shoigu-Gerasimov duo could have done better than landing villages along with Avdiivka on the eastern front. Russia could have certainly conquered more than half a dozen or more in the buffer zone in the 'bolt out of the blue' Kharkiv raid launched on 10 May, which concluded without significant strategic gains four days later. Even though Moscow has been clearly able to ramp up pressure on an outgunned Kyiv, holding on in regions like Robotyne and Vovchansk, ideally,

7.5 per cent of GDP directed to war effort, the Shoigu-Gerasimov duo could have done better than landing villages along with Avdiivka on the eastern front. Russia could have certainly conquered more than half a dozen or more in the buffer zone in the 'bolt out of the blue' Kharkiv raid launched on 10 May, which concluded without significant strategic gains four days later. Even though Moscow has been clearly able to ramp up pressure on an outgunned Kyiv, holding on in regions like Robotyne and Vovchansk, ideally,



# Uttar Pradesh has done excellent work under many development schemes

He is the first Chief Minister of the country, who, apart from being famous as a saint after becoming the Chief Minister, has also become famous as Kulchner Baba. He has also received the title of the most popular Chief Minister of the country. Chief Minister Adityanath has not only benefited the people of Uttar Pradesh, but has done excellent work under many development schemes on behalf of the Uttar Pradesh government. And not only is his support base the strongest in Uttar Pradesh, but he is the main face of all the MLAs and ministers in his government, due to which he is able to take decisions in his government unopposed. He not only gave free hand to the police to deal with the criminals to end the lawlessness in Uttar Pradesh, but also by ordering bullock carts to break the chains of those who grab property illegally, he created the image of a good Chief Minister in the minds of those people who eat simple food. Even today he finds immense joy in serving cows and used to sing Hindu Hriday Samrat. He is known as the image of Ram R Ram Rajya.

Apart from this, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has done major reforms in the pilgrimage places of



Uttar Pradesh and has also given the names of places changed in the modern times to their historical names.

The old name of Allahabad Sangam was Prayagraj. It has got its own identity. The biggest Kumbh Mela of the country has been held in Prayagraj for centuries, but no one till the time of the state paid attention to its development and improvement.

But after becoming the Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath first got the Pracharagran renovated and the Prayagraj is worth seeing. Similarly, he has also developed many other places. Eastern Uttar Pradesh was once suffering in terms of development, now international level roads have been built there. Apart from this, his government has made efforts to provide water to every village. Now in Uttar Pradesh,

whether it is the election of the Prime Minister, Assembly or Lok Sabha, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has a big and strong influence in the elections, on the basis of which BJP gets a good number of seats in every election. Actually, I am getting all this because many people are not aware of the stature of Chief Minister Aditya and his clean political record or it can be said that they are taking Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath lightly. Yesterday, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, after coming out of jail, held a press conference and said that as soon as Modi becomes the PM, he will finish Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Arvind Kejriwal said that PM Modi does not want to fight this election for the country or the party, he wants to fight only for one person Amit Shah. He said that he will remove

Yogi Adityanath from power next time. Sources say that after Arvind Kejriwal's statement of removing Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the game of checkmate and checkmate started in the coin division, and it also revealed who all are in the race for the post of Prime Minister in BJP. According to the number of supporters and impeccable record, Yogi Adityanath is the youngest leader in India who has the capability to become the Prime Minister after Modi.

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

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

In 2014, when Modi wave was running in the whole country, no one would have

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

## Pitfalls of intertwining religion with foreign affairs

In 2015, it found itself in a pickle with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), whose then-foreign minister Anwar Gargash warned that Pakistan would "pay a heavy price" for taking an ambiguous stand in its support for the Gulf countries. Additionally, Pakistan's inclusion of religion in its foreign diplomacy has put its relations with France in jeopardy, particularly due to its stance on blasphemy. This highlights not only the pitfalls of intertwining religion with foreign affairs but also its impracticality. Despite projecting its Islamic identity and aspirations to lead the Muslim world, Pakistan has found itself forging strong ties with China, a nation known for destroying mosques and carrying out

human rights violations against Uyghur Muslims. For both Indians and the world, there's a straightforward lesson to glean from Delhi's approach: Managing internal affairs based on pluralistic values to serve citizen interests and extending these principles to foreign policies is the way forward. While religious and caste identities hold significance, they should not supersede national identity. Indian Muslims, for instance, enjoy better opportunities than Pakistani Muslims primarily because of their Indian nationality. So it's crucial to prioritise national interests above all else. India already maintains cordial relations with the Middle East, which serves the interests of

all Indian Muslims. Increasing the hajj quota and strengthening bilateral ties with Iran could be particularly beneficial for Shia Muslims. Iran holds significant influence over Shia Muslims, including those in India. In Lucknow, Shia clerics closely follow the rules and regulations of Shiism in Iran; an NGO aiming to foster Shia-Sunni relations even sought approval from prominent clerics in Iran before organising a joint prayer for Eid, highlighting the extent of Iranian influence. Many Shia leaders also travel to Iran and Iraq for pilgrimages and conferences. While improving relations with Iran may offer advantages for Indian Shia Muslims, it's important to guard against undue

## A sign of serious concern

They argue that this is not a significant issue. While the Congress manifesto does not discuss wealth redistribution, the CSDS-Lokniti pre-poll survey suggests that concerns about policies targeting Muslim communities resonate with some voters. The survey found that 47.3 per cent of voters agreed that Muslims are unnecessarily pampered, compared to 32.2 per cent who disagreed, while 20.4 per cent chose not to respond. Modi's speeches on Muslim appeasement, targeting the Opposition, particularly Congress, aim to address the concerns of these voters, close to 50 per cent of those surveyed, while also appealing to undecided voters.

In the most crucial state of Uttar Pradesh, BJP-led NDA is ahead of the Opposition, which is divided between the Samajwadi Party-Congress alliance and the BSP. Mayawati's party may be weak but still is a force having the potential to split anti-BJP votes. Not only this, SP's experiment to forge a social alliance with smaller caste-based parties — with some success in 2022 state Assembly polls — got setbacks with the desertion of four of the five OBC-based parties — Om Prakash Rajbhar-led Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party, Jayant Singh-led Rashtriya Lok Dal, Apna Dal (Kamerawadi) and Jan Janwadi Party. Two of

them — SBSP and RLD — have joined the NDA. Last time, the NDA won 64 out of 80 seats, this time it is expecting gains here. In Bihar, where the NDA almost swept by winning 39 of 40 seats, the Janata Dal (United) indeed remains a weak link for the NDA due to the decline in popularity of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar but voters too are aware that this election is not about Nitish, it's about Modi. There may be a loss of some seats here and there in states like Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana and West Bengal but BJP and NDA may also see some gains in Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Northeast, Telangana and probably in Tamil Nadu too. If this happens, BJP's tally may get reduced but is unlikely to fall below the 272 mark with NDA likely to cross the 300 mark. This time, Chandrababu Naidu's Telugu Desam Party is likely to add a considerable number of seats to the NDA's tally. Speaking arithmetically, the BJP IN 2019 won 224 seats with more than 50 per cent votes. Swing does happen but for that, the Opposition needs to be strong on the ground. Talking about the Congress, which is mostly contesting against the BJP in the Hindi belt barring Uttar Pradesh, it lacks a strong active organisation. Only creating a mahaul (envi-

ronment) during the election season through social media is unlikely to help in getting votes. Opposition is already lacking behind the BJP-led NDA, which has been active on the ground much before the beginning of the election season. Kejriwal's recent statement that BJP may get 220 seats — this number still is likely to make BJP the single largest party — gives a perception that even the Opposition isn't very sure of their claims about the saffron party losing the elections. This gives an impression that the BJP is likely to win and it is this perception that is likely to play a role in adding the floating voters to the BJP's side. These figures have been in the public domain for the last five years, still, it is amazing that in this country, we have some eminent journalists and political commentators misinterpreting the 2019 election as mostly decided on the basis of Pulwama and Balakot. Coming to the 2024 elections, Lokniti-CSDS released a pre-poll survey in April where the data pointed out that the satisfaction level towards the Modi government has seen a dip of around 8.1 per cent — a sign of serious concern for the BJP. Increasing unemployment (12.2 per cent), price rise (7.6 per cent) and falling income (4.1 per cent) are some of the crucial issues in the survey that matter to voters.

## If there is an undercurrent, it would bring bonus points

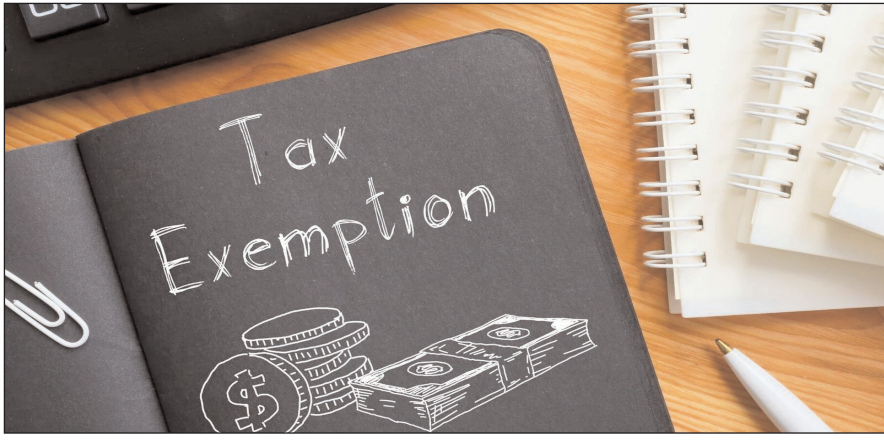
The BJP aims to match the Congress's performance in 1984 when it won over 400 seats. However, it's important to remember that those 400 seats came as a harvest of the sympathy wave in the favour of the party following the assassination of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. What differentiates the BJP in 2024 from the Congress in 1984 is that it has delivered on its ideological agenda. This has solidified the commitment of its cadre, leading to an expanded poll machinery. This could work both ways. If there is an undercurrent, it would bring bonus points and if there is voter indifference, the per-

formance should not fall below, as they say in commerce, the reserve price. Though some point out that Kharge and not Nitish was foisted as the chair of the alliance, given his track record, the Bihar chief minister's opposition to the BJP was always suspect. The second move by the Congress has been to channelise the strength of the alliance partners to keep itself afloat. To this end, the Congress is contesting only 328 seats this time, significantly fewer than the 421 it contested in the 2019 polls. This number would have been 330, but one candidate's nomination papers

were rejected in Surat, and another withdrew in Indore. This means that the Congress in INDIA has created an alliance base that is much wider than that of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA). This also means that the party has shrunk from the position of a dominant partner to a senior partner with some other members of the bloc like the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab not even entertaining an alliance. Those in charge of forging alliances for the Congress claim that this time the grouping is much more pragmatic than in 2019. Uttar Pradesh is a case in

point. In 2019, the Congress went into the polls alone, with no major allies. Facing both the BJP and the SP-BSP alliance, it contested 67 of the state's 80 seats but could win only one: Sonia Gandhi in Raebareli. This time, in alliance with the Samajwadi Party, it is contesting just 17 seats, down by 50. People close to poll planning point out that it has been done to conserve the party resources for more realistic contests. Similarly, in West Bengal, from contesting 40 seats in 2019, the Congress is taking on just 14 seats this time, giving the remaining Ones to its alliance partner, the Left.

## 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 sourcing 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.

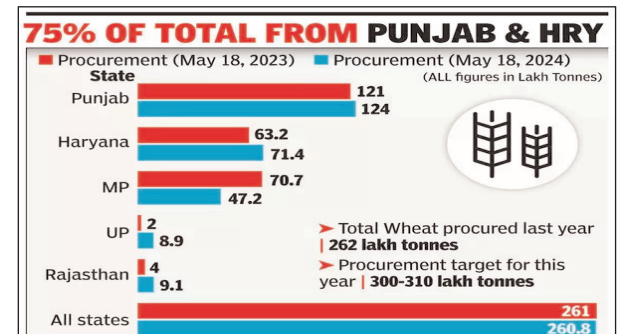


laying the groundwork for rapid scaling. Nitish Mittersain, Nazara Technologies' founder, CEO, and joint MD, reported 4.3% revenue and 16.5% EBITDA increase. The company's running cash flow

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

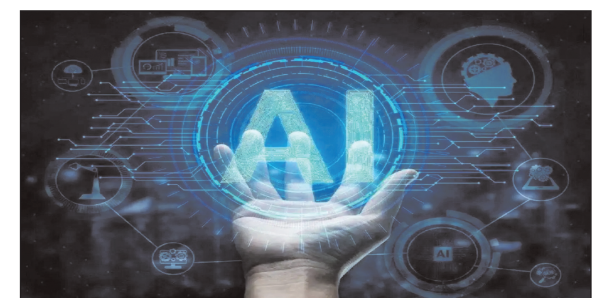
Flipkart has been in a partnership with Google Cloud since 2022

The co, which competes with players like Amazon and 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.

## Dr. Vinod Kumar conferred D. Litt

**Chandigarh:** Hessen International University of Germany has conferred the honorary degree of D.Litt on Dr. Vinod Kumar. This degree was conferred on him during the 8th edition of India Intellectual Conclave-2024 held at Holiday Inn International Aero City, New Delhi. He received this degree from the hands of Brahmachari (Dr.) Girish Chandra Verma, Chancellor of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi Vedic University, Madhya Pradesh, who was present as the chief guest. Senior Technical Director (Retd.), National Informatics Centre, Pramod Rajput, Delhi Police, Presidential Medal in Policing recipient SI Kiran Sethi, Group Director of TNP GNIOT NAAC A+ Group of Institutions, Greater Noida, Dr. Gaurav Gupta, Founder President of Global Trade and Technology Council of India Lions Club Delhi, President of New Delhi



Bar Association, Advocate Jagdeep Vats, Dr. P.K., Former Senior Vice President of Cadila Pharmaceutical Limited Rajput, Environment and Consumer Protection Foundation Executive Chairman Dr. Rakesh Chandra Agarwal, Army Veteran Major Mohammad Ali Shah, Dr. (Colonel) Gunjan Malhotra Sareen, Army Veteran, Motivational Speaker Lieutenant Colonel Himanshi Singh, Academic Scholar, Iran Dr. Mehran Lahooti, International Academician, Georgia, Dr. Deepika Joshi, Abhishek Pandey, Kamal Wadhawan and Manish Gupta were also present. The program started with

the lighting of the lamp. The hon'ble guests were welcomed. After the speech of the guests, the citation was read and oath was given. Thereafter, the honorary degree was awarded. Dr. Vinod Kumar said that the Honorary Degree Committee used specific criteria when considering candidates. The University generally gives preference to honoring individuals who have made outstanding contributions in their field. Whose exceptional achievements have promoted cultural and social work and have achieved international standards of excellence.

**We believe in people's poll, not exit polls: TMC**

Rejecting the exit poll predictions regarding the 42 LS seats in West Bengal, Trinamool Congress Saturday said it believed in people's mandate. Most of the polls predicted BJP would get more seats than TMC in the state. "Most of the exit polls predicted a victory for BJP in the 2021 assembly elections. We all know what the actual results were - TMC won a two-thirds majority. TMC will win more than 30 LS seats in the state," TMC's Santanu Sen claimed.

## Hyderabad no more capital of Andhra Pradesh from today

**HYDERABAD:** Hyderabad will cease to be the official joint capital of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh from Sunday. Section 5(1) of AP Reorganisation Act, 2014, said: "On and from the appointed day, i.e June 2, Hyderabad in the existing state of Andhra Pradesh shall be the common capital of the

state of Telangana and the state of Andhra for such period not exceeding 10 years." Section 5(2) said after expiry of the period, Hyderabad would be the capital of Telangana only and there would be a new capital for Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has no permanent capital yet with the fight over

Amaravati and Visakhapatnam still raging in courts. Incumbent Andhra chief minister Jagan Mohan Reddy has said that if he retains power, Visakhapatnam will be the administrative capital while Amravati will be the seat of legislature and Kurnool will be the judicial capital.

## Lorenzi Apparels Ltd. Board Approves the Allotment of Equity Shares against Conversion of Warrants

**CHANDIGARH:** Lorenzi Apparels Ltd. (BSE: 540952, NSE: LAL), a prominent player in the realm of manufacturing, designing, and marketing readymade garments, has announced that its board has approved the conversion of 2,47,230 warrants into 2,47,23,00 equity shares of face value of Rs. 1/- each, out of the 10,38,37,10 warrants allotted on October 5, 2023 on preferential basis, upon receipt of an amount aggregating to Rs. 3,74,99,846.4 (being 75% of the issue price per warrant) from Kiwi Dealcom Private Limited. Earlier, the company announced its earnings for the year ended 31 March 2024. The revenue from Operations stood at Rs. 54.76 Crores, and the EBITDA came in at Rs. 10 Crores, growth of 29% YoY. PAT more than dou-



bled, growing from Rs. 2.52 Crores (FY23), to Rs. 5.30 Crores (FY24). Lorenzi Apparels Ltd. is a prominent player in the realm of manufacturing, designing, and marketing readymade garments, catering to the diverse fashion needs of both men and women. With a comprehensive array of formal, semi-formal, and casual wear, it prides itself on delivering quality

attire that resonates with contemporary trends and timeless styles. Operating through retail outlets and e-commerce platforms, the company ensures accessibility and convenience for its clientele. At the heart of its operations lies a meticulous garment manufacturing process encompassing cutting, stitching, sewing, finishing, inspec-

tion, and packing. While maintaining stringent quality standards, Lorenzi Apparels Ltd. also engages in strategic partnerships with third-party contractors for garment production on a job work basis. These collaborations involve the dissemination of detailed technical specifications, including designs, patterns, quality standards, and fabric preferences. By leveraging the expertise of external manufacturers and providing precise guidelines, the company ensures the realization of its vision for exceptional apparel, while fostering a network of trusted collaborators.

Lorenzi Apparels Ltd. is not only committed to delivering superior quality garments but also places a strong emphasis on sustainability and ethical manufacturing practices.

## Srestha Finvest Ltd. Reports Excellent Earnings for Q4FY24, Revenue

**CHANDIGARH:** Srestha Finvest Ltd., a leader in financial solutions, has announced its earnings for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2024. For the quarter ended 31 March 2024, the company reported Revenue from operations at Rs. 391.85 Lakhs, a growth of 462.36% YoY. PAT was reported at Rs. 506 Lakhs

(Q4FY24), and Net PAT (total comprehensive income) came in at Rs. 1767.74 Lakhs (Q4FY24). For the year ended 31 March 2024, the company saw a stellar 269% growth in its revenue from operations, growing from Rs. 274.56 Lakhs (FY23) to Rs. 1013.01 Lakhs (FY24). PAT came in at Rs. 173.86 Lakhs (FY24), while the

Net PAT (total comprehensive income) stood at Rs. 2404 Lakhs (FY24) Srestha Finvest Ltd is a leader in the field of financial solutions, offering comprehensive solutions to both individuals and businesses. In an Indian financial landscape predominantly reliant on traditional financing avenues, Srestha Finvest rec-

ognizes the gaps that stem from a lack of specialized players in the sector. The company, observing the absence of structured financial solutions, limited skill sets, and regulatory constraints that restrict tailored offerings from financial institutions, discerns an opportunity to innovate and deliver customized solutions..

## 4 killed, 2 critical as 'drunk' driver runs over farmers

**BAREILLY:** Four farmers were killed and two critically injured when a speeding pickup van, allegedly driven by a drunk driver, lost control and ploughed through the group as they sat under a tree seeking respite from the scorching heat in Paigha Bhikampur village in Bisauli area of Budaun district on Saturday afternoon. The deceased — Ram Prakash, 47, Gyan

Chandra, 37, Dhanpal, 50, and Bhrm Pal, 39 — were sitting under a peepal tree with Ram Veer and Netra Pal, who survived the incident with severe injuries.

After the incident, the driver abandoned the vehicle and hid in a maize field. Locals rushed to the scene, caught the driver, and handed him over to the police after a brief altercation.

## As soon as Hooda government is formed, there will be permanent recruitment on 2 lakh vacant posts: Sultan Jadoula

**Kaithal:** Senior Congress leader and former Parliamentary Secretary Sultan Singh Jadoula said that the court's decision regarding CET has made it clear that the BJP government is deliberately being negligent in the recruitment rules and procedures, the brunt of which is being borne by the youth of the state. He said that the government's anti-youth and anti-unemployment policies have been exposed and due to the wrong policies of the government, the future of lakhs of youth of Haryana is hanging in the balance. While interacting with journalists at his establishment in New Grain Market Dhand, Congress leader Sultan Jadoula said that for the last 4 years, the BJP government has been continuously misleading the youth in the name of CET. First, every



recruitment was canceled and suspended citing CET, then under a conspiracy, such rules were made which could not stand in the court. The brunt of which is now being borne by lakhs of youth. Former MLA Jadoula said that in the name of CET, the BJP government has left no stone unturned in exploiting and harassing the youth at every step. It is clear from the court's decision that BJP wants to end government recruitments completely on a policy basis. BJP wants to completely end merit and

reservation by making recruitments through Kaushal Nigam. So that educated youth can be exploited by making them work at low salaries. He said that today due to the wrong policies of the BJP government of the state, the youth is mentally disturbed and Haryana is number one in unemployment in the country. Due to lack of employment, the youth is forced to migrate to foreign countries, but the government is not paying any heed to it. BJP will have to be ready to bear the brunt of ignoring the youth in the upcoming assembly elections. Former MLA Sultan Singh Jadoula said that the youth preparing for jobs need not be disappointed, because the BJP government in Haryana is a guest for a few days.

## SBC Exports Ltd. Unveils Expansion Strategy, Looks to Increase Export Volumes

**CHANDIGARH:** SBC Exports Limited, a pioneering force in the realm of global trade, today announces an electrifying leap forward in its trajectory with a comprehensive blueprint for expansion for Next 5 years. Focused on amplifying its market presence and fostering innovative growth avenues, the Company reveals plans to venture into the realms of Retail, Franchising, and Exports, marking a sig-

nificant milestone in its journey toward Global Prominence. Leveraging its robust infrastructure, unwavering commitment to quality, and a deep understanding of consumer needs, the company is poised to redefine the landscape of commerce with its multifaceted expansion strategy. The Company's Next 5 Year strategic plan focuses on expanding through a Franchise Model, Boosting Online Sales, establishing Retail

Stores, increasing Exports, and Securing New Government Projects. Franchise Model: Recognizing the power of collaboration and local expertise, SBC Exports Limited is set to introduce a dynamic franchise model, inviting passionate entrepreneurs to join its global network. Empowering individuals to own and operate their own SBC Exports outlets, this initiative promises to unlock new

avenues of growth while fostering entrepreneurship and creating employment opportunities within communities. Company aims to Launch 50 franchise stores in high-potential markets. Retail Stores: In a strategic move to enhance accessibility and engage directly with consumers, SBC Exports Limited will be establishing a network of flagship retail stores in key markets worldwide. These meticulously

**Chandigarh:** The UNM Foundation (named after UN Mehta, the Founder of Torrent Group) and the UN Mehta Institute of Cardiology and Research Centre (UNMICRC), Ahmedabad have signed a MoU to provide financial assistance for heart transplants to needy patients.

This first of its kind collaboration in the country aims to alleviate the financial burden on underprivileged families facing the devastating challenge of advanced heart failure. As per MoU, Foundation shall provide full financial assistance to UNMI-

CRC for conducting heart transplants to needy patients for free. Patients suffering from advanced heart failure, unresponsive to guideline-directed medical therapy and those who lack the financial means to afford the necessary treatment will be eligible for this financial assistance. The Foundation will cover the cost of the entire procedure — pre-operative evaluation, transport of donor heart (including by air ambulance where necessary), heart transplant surgery, post-operative hospitalization for nearly 3 weeks, post-operative use of medical devices and med-

ication for 1 year following the Transplant.

This initiative will be in effect from 1st June 2024 for an initial period of five years. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Chirag Doshi, Director of UNMICRC, stated that "This unique initiative by the UNM Foundation is a beacon of hope for countless families lacking a heart transplant but lacking the financial means for it. By providing comprehensive financial support, we are not only saving lives but also ensuring that the highest quality of medical care is accessible to those who need it the most."

## Adani Group investment in energy transition to exceed \$100 billion over decade

**Delhi:** "In the future, green electron availability will drive economic growth. Gautam Adani, chairman of the Adani Group, gave the keynote talk at CRISIL Ratings Annual Infrastructure Summit 2024. He believes the green electron industry has no limit. The Adani Group will invest more than \$100 billion in the energy transition arena over the next decade and grow its integrated renewable energy value chain, which already manufactures every significant component for green energy generation. Adani Group's green hydrogen integrated manufacturing ecosystem goal is on track.

The integrated manufacturing branch of ANIL has commissioned India's first 2 GW monocrystalline ingot and wafer plant for 182 mm and 210 mm wafer thickness-



es. The Group's 4 GW solar module manufacturing capacity will handle the production.

In the beginning, polysilica-to-module capacity will reach 10 GW. Adani Group wants to grow wind turbine generator capacity to 5 GW by 2027 from 1.5 GW. In its low-cost integrated green hydrogen project, ANIL is establishing hydrogen electrolyzer production facilities. End-to-end supply chain control will reduce the Group's import dependence and improve module pro-

duction and price control. At the Crisil Summit, Adani said, "We are confident that we will produce the world's least expensive green electron that will become the feedstock for several sectors that must meet the sustainability mandate." "To achieve this, we are building the world's largest single-site renewable energy park in Khavda, Kutch, Gujarat. He stated that this location will generate 30 GW of power, bringing our renewable energy capability to 50 GW by 2030.

## Patanjali demanded a deposit of Rs. 50 lakh for violating an HC decision

**Delhi:** After Mangalam Organics Ltd. filed a complaint alleging trademark infringement, the High Court issued an interim order in August 2023 prohibiting Patanjali Ayurved Ltd. from selling its products that include camphor. On July 8, a single bench of Justice R I Chagla observed that Patanjali acknowledged violating the previous ruling awarding an injunction against the sale of the contested camphor products in an affidavit filed in June. In August 2023, the High Court issued an interim order restraining Patanjali Ayurved Ltd from selling its camphor prod-



ucts in response to charges made by Mangalam Organics Ltd. On July 8, a single bench of Justice R I Chagla observed that Patanjali acknowledged violating the previous ruling awarding an injunction against the sale of the contested camphor products in an affidavit filed in June. Suing Patanjali Ayurved, Mangalam

Organics claimed that their camphor products were being copied. Suing Patanjali Ayurved, Mangalam Organics claimed that their camphor products were being copied. Later, it filed an application, alleging that Patanjali's ongoing sale of the camphor products constituted a violation of the interim injunction.

## TCS employed 5,452 in Q1, reversing headcount decline

**Delhi:** Tata Consultancy Services (NS:TCS) employed 5,452 people in the first quarter of FY25, reversing three-quarters of the workforce reduction. The company's headcount fell for the first time in 19 years in FY24. The company has 6,06,998 workers. In Q1 FY25,

attrition dropped to 12.1%, the business claimed. After reporting a 9% year-on-year growth in net profit to Rs 12,040 crore in Q1 FY25, Chief Human Resources Officer Milind Lakkad said he was "delighted to announce the successful completion of our annual

process". "Our sustained focus on staff engagement and development led to industry-leading retention and good business performance, with the net headcount addition being very satisfying," Lakkad said. In Q1, TCS earned Rs 62,613 crore, up 5.4% from the previous year.

## The newly elected office bearers of BPMS took oath in a dignified program

**New Delhi:** The oath taking ceremony of Bhiwani Parivar Maitri Sangh was organized at the Constitution Club in New Delhi. The program was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp in the presence of Rajya Sabha member ND Gupta. During the dignified program, the newly elected office bearers of Bhiwani Parivar Maitri Sangh for the year 2024-27 were also administered the oath of office and secrecy. The oath taking ceremony was held under the supervision of Chief Election Commissioner JS Gupta, Election Commissioner KL Garg and Abhay Jain. JS Gupta administered the oath of office and secrecy to all the office bearers. Rajesh Chetan took

oath as the President of the organization, Dinesh Gupta-General Secretary, Pawan Moda-Treasurer, Hansraj Ralhan-Vice President, Vinay Singhal-Vice President, Manish Goyal-Organization Minister, Meenakshi Garg-Secretary, Sanjay Gupta-Joint Secretary, Deepak Gupta-Joint Secretary, Pramod Kumar Sharma-Publicity Minister, Sanjay Jain (Karol Bagh) and Sanjay Jain (Prashant Vihar) took oath as executive members. It is noteworthy that all these office bearers have been elected unanimously. Along with this, the conveners of various service committees were nominated as executive members. These included

Sanjay Aggarwal, Govind Ram Bansal, Sachin Mehta, Sunil Sharma, Sanjay Goyal, Mahendra Chawla, Amardeep Singhal, Sunil Bansal, Umesh Mittal, Mahadev Jindal, Pooja Bansal and Kanta Bajaj. On this occasion, Rajya Sabha MP ND Gupta praised the work of BPMS wholeheartedly and announced to provide all possible help from his MP fund. Internationally renowned doctor Dr. Ramesh Gupta from America was a special attraction of the program. After practicing in America for 40 years, he will now make India his workplace. He announced a contribution of Rs. 5 lakh to BPMS to fulfill its mission and gladly agreed to join the Board

of Trustees of the organization. The re-elected president of the organization and internationally renowned poet Rajesh Chetan said that the aim of the organization is to provide a friendly environment to the families who have come from the district and settled in metro cities, to promote the art and culture of the country and the state, and to inspire the youth for the unity and integrity of the country. He said that BPMS has left no stone unturned in fulfilling all its social responsibilities. He said that in the last one year, free cataract surgery was done for more than a thousand eye from this, under 'Mission Pink', every level of help was provided.

## Tata Motors, M&M discount as demand drops

**Delhi:** Is the auto market slump pushing pricing cuts? Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra have dropped the price of several of its important SUVs to boost demand, while Maruti, Hyundai, and Honda all offer discounts. Two premium flagship SUVs from Tata Motors have been discounted by Rs 1.4 lakh. The Harrier costs Rs 14.9 lakh and the Safari Rs 15.5 lakh. Even the Nexon EV is discounted Rs 1.3 lakh. Tata Passenger Electric Mobility chief business officer Vivek Srivatsa called them "never



seen before benefits" to improve vehicle accessibility. He noted that the Punch electric deal includes a Rs 30,000 benefit. Mahindra & Mahindra released a discounted XUV700 special edition. The XUV700's fully-loaded AX7 range starts at Rs 19.5 lakh, down over Rs 2 lakh. "The price cut will enable more peo-

ple to experience the range," the business claimed. Save almost Rs 2 lakhs on this feature-packed SUV with petrol and diesel engines. Four-month limited offer! Find exclusive offers and discounts on Tata Motors' Harrier, Safari, and Punch.ev models until July 31, 2024.

## New rule in India will ensure digital titans pay news publishers fairly

**Delhi:** India may pass a regulation to ensure equitable deals between tech corporations and news publishers. According to Mint, Australia and other nations have required Google and Meta to compensate for exploiting news content on their platforms, which inspired this approach. Sources told the report that this legislation will be in addition to the Digital Competition Bill, which has held public discussions. In 2022, Jayant Sinha's parliamentary standing committee on finance proposed regulations to help news publishers negotiate fair and transparent deals with powerful digital companies. It was left out of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs'

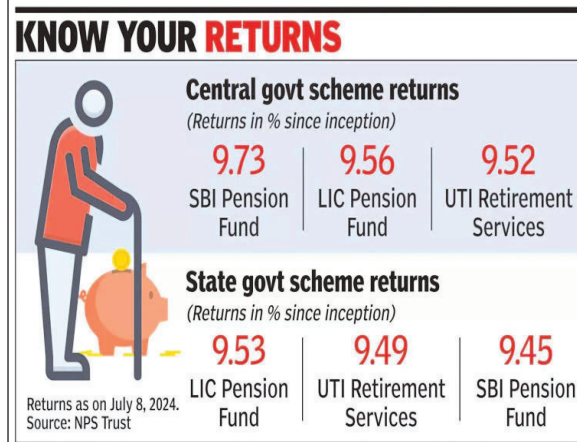


Digital Competition Bill. The newspaper cited sources saying this Bill will set criteria for large technology companies to foster fair competition in digital markets. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is considering a proposal to level the playing field between news aggregators and publishers, a source said. A separate statute is being considered. "The article said the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is

reviewing Australia's news media bargaining code and impending rules in other countries. This has boosted digital news publisher revenue dramatically. "India, among other nations, is proposing a regulatory framework to secure fair contracts between news organizations and internet giants Digital advertising generated Rs 40,865 crore and grew 36.6% in 2023, according to the research.

## Budget 2024: Government may guarantee NPS to calm anxieties

**Delhi:** This is despite the 2004 recruit program offering substantial profits for 25-30-year investors. The Centre has ruled out a return to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), but it kept the door open to provide consolation when Congress reversed a Manmohan Singh government decision. OPS is a defined benefit program that pays half the final wage as a lifetime pension, subject to pay commission recommendations. However, NPS is a defined contribution program where government employees contribute 10% of their basic income and the Centre contributes 14%. The Somanathan committee has examined global experience and the Andhra Pradesh government's modification, as well as extensive calculations



to assess the impact of an assured return. The Centre can guarantee 40-45%, but politically, it doesn't solve the concerns of 25-30-year employees. Thus, a 50% guarantee is gaining government support. In case of a deficiency, the government will compensate. Since the Centre has no retirement fund, several committee members believe an annual estimation will be needed, unlike the

government pension scheme, which is unfunded. As with corporations that offer retirement benefits, the Centre may create a fund this time. Officials say individuals who stay working for 25-30 years are seeing adequate earnings to match OPS pension payments, and complaints of low payouts are only from people who have left the system after 20 years or fewer.

## Apple alerts 98 countries, including India, about spyware

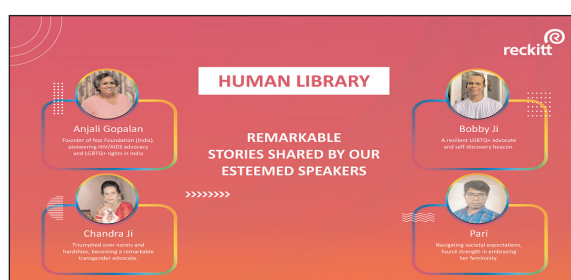


**Delhi:** The IT giant Apple has alerted consumers to a potential new mercenary malware attack similar to "Pegasus" in at least 98 countries, including India. "You are being targeted by a mercenary spyware attack that is trying to remotely compromise the iPhone associated with your Apple ID," according to the Apple alert. The iPhone manufacturer went on to say in the warning that this attack is "likely targeting you specifically because of who you are or what you do".

"Apple has great confidence in this warning, even though it's never feasible to identify such attacks with 100% certainty. Kindly consider it carefully," the business said. Similar alerts were sent to Indian users by the US-based technology corporation in October of last year. The internet giant may have used "mercenary spyware" like Pegasus from the NSO Group to target specific consumers in 92 countries, including those in India, by sending threat notifications in April of this year.

## Reckitt culminated Pride Month 2024 with a Human Library and Queer Flea Market, empowering the LGBTQIA+ community

**GURUGRAM :** Reckitt, world's leading consumer health and hygiene company, announced the culmination of Pride Month 2024 by hosting a Human Library and Queer Flea Market at its headquarters in Gurugram. A testament of the company being one of the strongest allies for the LGBTQIA+ community, the celebrations were attended by senior leadership and employees from across Reckitt. The Human Library organized in partnership with Naz Foundation, a non-profit organization that works for the rights and well-being of marginalized communities in India, provided employees an opportunity to learn from life stories of the community members. It witnessed esteemed speakers including Ms. Anjali Gopalan, Founder, Naz Foundation India and LGBTQIA+ advocate, Chandra Ji, a proud advocate of LGBTQIA+ rights and Bobby Ji, a



resilient LGBTQIA+ advocate and self-discovery beacon, found strength in embracing her femininity. The Human Library was followed by a Queer Flea Market where entrepreneurs from the LGBTQIA+ community such as Rajinder, Hira, Mona and, Avinash set up stalls for the employees to engage and buy their products. Ravi Bhatnagar, Director, External Affairs and Partnerships, SOA, Reckitt said, "We, at Reckitt, are proud to be one of the strongest allies for the LGBTQIA+ community members in India and are committed to fostering a culture of equality that supports every individual. We have been paving the path for a world

where inclusivity and equality takes the center stage. With our initiatives such as Durex The Birds & Bees Talk (TBTT), we have been consistently working towards building an inclusive and understanding society and, address the challenges of growing up among young adults and kids." Commenting on the Pride Month celebration, Abhishikta Das, Regional HR Director, South Asia, Reckitt said, "At Reckitt, we are committed to creating a safe and inclusive workplace for everyone. We are continuously making efforts to empower LGBTQIA+ individuals and conducting sensitization activities and targeted interventions in our organization.

## Blue Planet Environmental Solutions Launches first-of-its-kind EcoXR Club under Blue Nudge initiative

**Sonapat:** Blue Planet Environmental Solutions, one of Asia's top ten climate tech companies, renowned for its leadership in circularity and sustainability solutions is elevating its innovative sustainability efforts with the launch of EcoXR Club, a new program under Blue Nudge, an education to action platform. The Blue Nudge initiative empowers students to advocate for environmental responsibility and sustainable practices, emphasizing community engagement and fostering behavioral change. The EcoXR Clubs, part of this initiative, aim to offer students first-of-its-kind immersive learning experience through innovative integration of AR, VR, AI, and Unreal technology, enhancing engagement and deepening understanding for lasting impact. The program focuses on six critical themes aligned with planetary boundaries: climate change, biodiversity, waste management, conscious con-



sumption and production, water conservation, and energy conservation. Speaking about this new program, Harsh Mehrotra, CEO and Co-Founder, Blue Nudge, said, "We are a forward-thinking organization committed to addressing environmental challenges through strategic community engagement and educational initiatives. Our goal is to engage 10 million students across over 20,000 schools, colleges, and universities globally by 2030. By combining education with actionable sustainability practices, we are partnering with various leading entities like the National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA) and planning to establish environ-

mental studios in both government and private schools. Through our EcoXR Clubs, we aim to deliver a transformative impact on future generations, aligning our efforts with our business objectives and the broader sustainability goals." In July, Blue Nudge commenced the unique EcoXR Clubs at JS University in Shikohabad, Uttar Pradesh, TDI International School and Maa Saraswati in Kundli, Haryana, targeting over 750 students from classes 6th - 8th. With a target to establish over 100 clubs this year in Delhi NCR, Haryana, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh, EcoXR Clubs aim to revolutionize environmental education.



## Appeal made to NMC to commence teaching in 13 new medical colleges

**Lucknow**

An appeal has been made to the National Medical Commission (NMC) to commence MBBS courses in 13 new medical colleges in the state for the academic session 2024-25. This appeal has been made under Section 28(5) of the NMC Act, 2019. In September 2023, applications were submitted to the NMC seeking Letters of Permission (LOP) for the admission of 100 MBBS students for the ...[17:51, 19/7/2024] +91 89600 23998: Yogi govt enhances online transport services, vehicle owners can now update mobile numbers online on 'parivahan portal' Additional Transport Commissioner (IT) provides step-by-step guide for updating mobile number on Parivahan Portal The data mentioned in the vehicle registration certificate should match 85 percent with the Aadhar card Lucknow, July 19 In a bid to enhance online transport services, the Yogi government has introduced a new initiative for vehicle owners. Those who need to update or correct their mobile number in their vehicle registration can now do so by visiting the department's website at <http://www.parivahan.gov.in>. This new service allows vehicle owners to update their details from the comfort of their homes, ensuring they stay informed about challans or any other actions. A.K. Singh, the Additional Transport Commissioner (IT/Enforcement) of Uttar Pradesh, said that during inspections by the enforcement team, it was found that many vehicle registrations either have incorrect or outdated mobile numbers.

## HDFC Bank Parivartan impacts 10.19 crore lives, 9000+ villages through CSR initiatives as of March 31, 2024

**HISAR / AMBALA:** HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank, reported an expenditure of Rs 945.31 crore on corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives for the Financial Year 2023-24 in the Integrated Annual Report for the year. This represents an increase of almost Rs 125 crore over the previous fiscal year. Under the umbrella of its CSR brand, Parivartan, HDFC Bank's initiatives have thus far impacted 10.19 crore lives, reaching over 9,000 villages and more than 10 lakh households, including coverage in 85 out of 112 districts identified in the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) of the



Government of India. Focused on creating sustainable livelihoods for marginalised communities, especially women, Parivartan operates across 28 states and 8 Union Territories. Key Areas of Focus: Rural Development, Promotion of Education, Skill Development and Livelihood Enhancement, Healthcare and Hygiene, Financial Literacy, Environment, Mr. Kaizad Bharucha, Deputy Managing Director of HDFC Bank, said, "Our CSR initiatives under Parivartan reflect our commitment to holistic development.

Our goal is to drive economic and social development by empowering communities across the country. By addressing the critical areas of rural development, education, skill enhancement, healthcare, financial literacy, and the environment, we aim to create sustainable and inclusive growth in the communities in which we operate." Mr. Bharucha also manages Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) functions in addition to his other responsibilities. Rural Development:

The Bank initiatives include natural resource management, school infrastructure development, agricultural support, soil and water conservation, and healthcare projects to improve the quality of life in rural India through its Holistic Rural Development Programme and Focused Development Programmes. The Bank has covered over 9000 villages as of March 31, 2024. Promotion of Education: The Bank has reached over 2 crore students till date for initiatives that focus on improving the quality of education through teacher training, scholarships, career guidance, and infrastructural support.

## Tata AIA features in top 10 Global Ranking with 2584 MDRT qualified advisors. Its Consumers to benefit from best-in-class life insurance advise

**HISAR :** Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA), one of India's leading life insurance companies, is pleased to announce that the company has secured # 6 position in the Global Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) rankings for 2024\*. The Company achieved the largest number of MDRT-qualified Life Insurance Advisors in India with 2584 registered MDRTs. With 1238 qualified Women MDRT Advisors, the Company ranked # 1 in India and # 7 globally\*\* among companies with



Female MDRT Members. MDRT, the premier association of Financial Professionals®, is a global, independent association of the world's leading life insurance and financial services professionals from over 700 companies in 80 nations and territories. MDRT members demonstrate exceptional professional knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding client service.

MDRT membership is recognized internationally as the standard of excellence in the life insurance and financial services business. The company witnessed a 30.64 % increase in MDRT-qualified Advisors registered in comparison to the previous year. For the same period, female MDRT qualifiers saw a 32.26% increase. Amit Dave, Chief Distribution Officer - Proprietary Business, Tata AIA said, "It gives us great pride to have achieved the largest number of MDRT members .

## Yogi govt transforms Bundelkhand into key investment hub

**Lucknow,** The fourth edition of the Ground Breaking Ceremony (GBC 4.0) saw Prime Minister Narendra Modi launch investment projects totaling approximately Rs 69,000 crore for Bundelkhand. Remarkably, within just five months of

the launch, commercial production has commenced for projects valued at around Rs 8,000 crore, creating job opportunities for thousands in the region. This initial wave of projects constitutes 11 percent of the total investment allocated for Bundelkhand in GBC 4.0, with the remaining projects expected to start soon. Once considered a backward region, Bundelkhand is now emerging as a prominent investment destination thanks to the efforts of the Yogi government. According to the data of Invest UP, the agency responsible for monitoring and promoting investments in the state, commercial pro-

duction has begun for 3,984 projects worth a total of Rs 1,14,345 crore. Among these, Bundelkhand has 156 projects worth Rs 7,894 crore. This amount represents 11 percent of the project funds allocated for Bundelkhand in GBC 4.0. During GBC 4.0, 693 projects in Bundelkhand were launched with a total investment of Rs 68,933 crore, which is 7 percent of the total projects worth Rs 10 lakh crore launched during the event. The start of these projects is expected to create large-scale job opportunities in Bundelkhand, reducing the need for residents to seek employment in other regions or states.

## Tata AIA features in top 10 Global Ranking with 2584 MDRT qualified advisors. Its Consumers to benefit from best-in-class life insurance advise.

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members in India for the second consecutive year and rank # 6 MDRT Company in the world. This validates our continuous commitment to our consumers, by ensuring they receive best-in-class advice to secure their future and fulfill their aspirations towards their loved ones. Our MDRT certified agents and Direct sales employees enable our consumers to be Har Waqt Ke Liye Taiyaar and live a fikar-free life". Life Insurance solutions are long term products and hence receiving the right advice from a long-term perspective is very important for consumers. A higher number of MDRT advisors clearly puts a life insurer at advantage since the right advice.

## Salempur will be developed as an industrial hub

**Lucknow/Hathras**

In a bid to advance industrial development schemes across Uttar Pradesh, various plans are being fast-tracked by state industrial authorities. Aligned with CM Yogi's vision, a detailed action plan has been set to develop Salempur in Hathras into a major industrial area. Notably, the Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) has now begun the transformation process, which will be executed through the appointment of a contractor agency and work allocation. The development will be conducted in two phases using Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) methods, with a total investment of Rs 325.54 crore. The contractor agency is tasked with completing all construction and development work within 18 months. Following Chief Minister Yogi's vision, UPSIDA will develop 483 acres of land in Salempur as an industrial area. This area may be expanded further if needed. According to the master plan, the first phase will involve developing 799,899 square meters and the second phase will cover 328,572 square meters as industrial plotted areas. Additionally, 40,118 square meters will be designated for warehouse areas, 26,579 square meters for commercial areas, and 122,467 square meters for amenities. The development will also include the construction of roads totalling 10.57 kilometres .

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