





## 'TMC in trouble, Congress to fight alone in Bengal'

**The Congress party and I did not talk. We shall fight alone in Bengal, I always asserted. We are a secular party and will defeat the BJP alone in Bengal**



**Delhi:** West Bengal Congress head Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury that the grand old party will contest the state's parliamentary elections "alone." He added the ruling Trinamool Congress is in a "dilemma" over the alliance. At a Murshidabad Congress party office press conference, Chowdhury said, "We have said this many times that Congress will fight alone in West Bengal." "TMC has a predicament. The party supremo (Mamata Banerjee) should say yes or no. No official

statement has been made that the coalition has been formed. Because of their predicament "state Congress chief reported. He added that TMC's problem prevents them from choosing a partnership, implying continued dialogue. The first issue is that some

party members feel the West Bengal minority will vote against them if they run alone without the INDIA alliance. One TMC faction wants the cooperation to continue. Another segment worries that if the alliance is prioritized in Bengal, Modi will utilize ED and CBI against

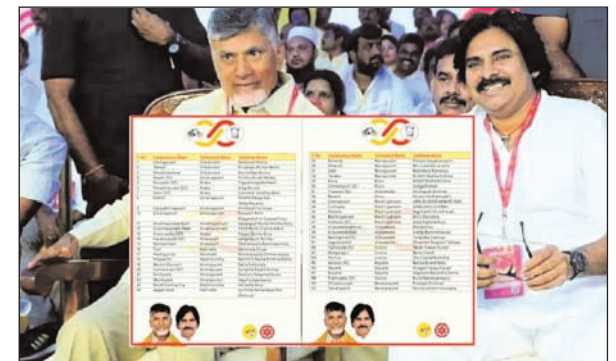
them. These two issues have prevented the TMC from making a conclusion. He stated he didn't know about any Delhi negotiations. Mamata Banerjee, West Bengal's Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo, said that the party would run alone in the Lok Sabha

elections, hurting the INDIA alliance. The Congress party and I did not talk. We shall fight alone in Bengal, I always asserted.

We are a secular party and will defeat the BJP alone in Bengal "TMC supremo: I don't care what happens in the country. AAP and Congress announced a seat-sharing arrangement for Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Chandigarh, and Goa earlier in the day after weeks of uncertainty and squabbling over seat allocation in the national capital ahead of the Lok Sabha elections. On Wednesday, the Congress and Samajwadi Party announced a Lok Sabha seat-sharing deal. Besides Rae Bareilly and Amethi, the Congress will run in Varanasi, Ghaziabad, and Kanpur.

## TDP-Jana Sena announces first Andhra Assembly candidate list.

**Delhi:** The TDP and Jana Sena nominated candidates for 99 of 175 assembly constituencies in the state assembly elections. Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan declared the candidates. As the TDP released its candidates for 94 seats in the first list, the Jana Sena announced its five candidates for 24 alliance seats. Of the 94 TDP candidates, 23 are first-timers, and IAS officers, physicians, and graduates who are accountable to the people have an opportunity while the YSRCP fields red-sandal smugglers, rowdies, and goondas, Chandrababu remarked. "The TDP and Jana Sena are running together in the elections to serve the state. He said the coalition is for the benefit



of the five crore people of the State, not the parties. He called it a historic occasion and said the state had endured a lot with bifurcation and more after Jagan became Chief Minister. "This is not a personal loss either for him or for Pawan Kalyan but for the five crore people of the state as the Andhra Pradesh brand was hit hard by this YSRCP Government", said Chandrababu. He claimed the state's predicament is so piti-

ful that a person can't freely voice unfairness. Naidu said this government has victimized not just Pawan Kalyan but also him and his party. "When Pawan Kalyan visited Ippatam, several hurdles were created for his road show in Visakhapatnam," he added. Chandrababu Naidu called on grassroots TDP and Jana Sena workers to work together to improve Andhra Pradesh and free it from Jagan.

## Uttarakhand UCC panel presents final report to CM Pushkar Singh Dhami

**Delhi:** Uttarakhand's five-member uniform civil code (UCC) panel presented its final draft report to chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami at the CM camp office. "The committee delivered a 749-page report and draft UCC in four volumes today. It will be debated in the state legislature. After review, it will be implemented." the state cabinet will discuss and pass the draft. The Uttarakhand assembly will then consider it during the February 5-8 special session.

Dhami noted that 2.3 lakh individuals provided draft suggestions: "We promised Uttarakhand voters during the state elections and they formed our government. We're upholding our pledge and hope other states will too." According to the five-member panel, led by retired SC judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, all religions should have a common marriageable age for girls and similar divorce grounds and procedures. Advocate Ashwini Upadhyay,

who filed a Supreme Court PIL on UCC, said, "The rules require marriage registrations, women receive maintenance payment, polyandry ends, and halala ends. Equal inheritance rights for men and women are provided. Registered live-in relationships are also required." The draft panel received various recommendations for a maintenance fund for families where single breadwinners die leaving minor children behind or bedridden owing to major health issues.

## UP cancels constable test due to 'paper leak'

**Delhi:** After complaints over what aspirants alleged was a compromised process with widespread cheating, the Uttar Pradesh government suspended the police constable recruitment process for which almost five million people sat exams earlier this month. "Orders have been given to cancel the UP Police Constable Recruitment Examination 2023 for Civil Police Reserve posts and re-examine within six months. Exams are sacred and cannot be compromised.

Yogi Adityanath said on social media that rebellious elements will face the worst punishment. The attendance at the state's largest recruitment drive for such jobs since 2019—crowded train stations and bus terminals—prompted analysts to label it a sign of the tight work market. Over 600,000 candidates came from Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya

Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, and Punjab. The CM made the decision after studying the Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force's inquiry into test cheating, officials added. Since February 17, 250 persons have been detained for cheating or aiding applicants cheat on the test. He also instructed UPSRTC to provide free facilities to applicants for the postponed exam. The state government also ordered the recruiting board to file a FIR for staff carelessness in securing the procedure.

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and its ally Rashtriya Lok Dal praised the judgment, while opposition leaders called it an indictment of Adityanath. "The cancellation of the exam may be breaking news, but it is shocking news for BJP as it has lost over 2.5 lakh votes in every constituency of UP," said Samajwadi Party head Akhilesh Yadav.

## Nadda, Sonia among 41 unopposed Rajya Sabha candidates

**Delhi:** Although the results were published on February 27, 41 of 59 candidates essentially clinched their victories since the nomination withdrawal deadline passed. Bharatiya Janata Party president JP Nadda, IT minister Ashwani Vaishnav, education minister Dharmendra Pradhan, and former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi were among 41 unchallenged Rajya Sabha candidates. The other 15 seats—10 for Uttar Pradesh, four for Karnataka, and one for Himachal Pradesh—are expected to be contested, especially in UP and Karnataka, where political opponents have run candidates. In Uttar Pradesh, where the BJP is expected to win seven of 10 seats in this biennial election, Sanjay Seth will challenge Samajwadi Party for the third seat.

## Congress whips MLAs for Rajya Sabha elections

**Delhi:** The Congress today whipped all Congress Legislature Party (CLP) members to vote for party candidate Abhishek Manu Singhvi in the February 27 Rajya Sabha poll to prevent cross-voting. Chief Whip Harshwardhan Chauhan ordered all CLP members to vote for Singhvi. On the election eve, all CLP

members are invited to a meeting. The BJP surprised by fielding Harsh Mahajan for Rajya Sabha at the last minute. The Congress has 40 MLAs and the BJP 25 in the 68-member Assembly, but the BJP has worried Congress. Former Congress politician Mahajan joined the BJP before the previous Assembly elections. His

old Congress connections and "resentment" among ruling party MLAs are his strategy. — TNS Congress Rajya Sabha candidate Abhishek Manu Singhvi from Himachal is the richest among the 59 candidates. The Association for Democratic Reforms reports Singhvi's assets at around Rs 1,872 crore.

## Sharad Pawar faction gets new party symbol



**Delhi:** Sharad Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party faction got a new emblem from the Election Commission. NCP faction Sharad Pawar was given the symbol "Man Blowing Turha". "As per the request received, "Man Blowing Turha" is allotted to the group/party in all Maharashtra parliamentary constituencies," the Election Commission said. The Election Commission gave the NCP's symbol 'Wall Clock' to Ajit Pawar, a major loss for Sharad Pawar. The uncle and nephew have been in a factional conflict since July 2023, when Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar revolted against Sharad Pawar and joined the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance, splitting the NCP.

## Rumors of Navjot Singh Sidhu rejoining BJP, Yuvraj Singh getting Gurdaspur ticket

**Delhi:** Navjot Singh Sidhu's comeback to the BJP and Yuvraj Singh's Gurdaspur parliamentary constituency nomination are causing a stir. Even though Sidhu has criticized the Centre's farmer policies, rumors persist. Sidhu, known for his oratory, has been at odds with the Congress's Punjab leadership and hosting his own rallies, defying party orders. BJP leaders in Majha believe Sidhu might rejoin his parent party and run for Lok Sabha from Punjab, despite his close relations to Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. He stated BJP



leaders and possible candidates are discussing his participation, but details are being kept quiet. He believed Sidhu could win if the party fielded him from Amritsar, a BJP stronghold. However, Congressman Raman Bakshi denied Sidhu joining BJP. "A leader who keeps hopping

from one party to another loses his charm and credibility," remarked. Congress may field Sidhu from a constituency other than Amritsar, sources added. BJP may field former cricketer Yuvraj Singh from Gurdaspur to replace Sunny Deol. "A recent indication of this is his meeting with

Union minister Nitin Gadkari," Sharma said. The BJP has run celebrity parachute candidates from Gurdaspur like Vinod Khanna and Deol. He met with Union minister Nitin Gadkari recently, "Said Sharma. The BJP has run celebrity parachute candidates from Gurdaspur like Vinod Khanna and Deol.



## Agra's Jama Masjid metro station renamed before opening



**Delhi:** Jama Masjid metro station in Agra was renamed Mankameshwar in honor of the nearby old Mankameshwar Temple. Agra's metro train operations are about to begin, after substantial preparations. The Uttar Pradesh government renamed Jama Masjid metro station Mankameshwar in honor of the neighboring old ankameshwar Temple, even though all metro station names were announced during the project launch. In an interview with India, UPMRC Deputy General Manager Panchanan Mishra said that the station's signage now shows the new name, as ordered by UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. He said the first Agra metro corridor has 13 stations, six of which are priority. Jama Masjid was the priority corridor's sixth and final station, following Tajmahal East Gate. Mankameshwar Station is its new name.

## China witnessed a sharp increase in labor protests

**Delhi:** Citing rights groups, VOA News stated that beginning August 2023, labor protests in China have rapidly increased. The founder and executive director of China Labor Watch, Li Qiang, stressed that the rise in labor demonstrations is being influenced not only by China's economic recession but also by factors like the "implosion" of the real estate sector and a decline in manufacturing. According to the China Dissent Monitor, a project of the international rights organization Freedom House, which is based in New York and analyzes protests in China, labor protests more than tripled in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. Analysts claim that China's persistent economic problems and subpar working conditions are the causes of the unrest. According to Monitor, labor issues over pay and workplace safety are frequently the cause of worker protests.





## Wheat arrives, and traders/millers wonder how prices will move this year

"Govt. has offered the agitating farmers the guaranteed purchase of three oilseeds, maize, and cotton at the MSP from those wanting to switch from wheat and paddy. The agricultural minister has explained the idea"



**Delhi:** The food ministry hopes the minimum support price (MSP) standoff will be resolved before wheat procurement, which has been advanced by a month, without affecting purchases. Most states start wheat procurement on March 1, but the government has allowed them to start

earlier this season. Start following our WhatsApp channel here. Most states expect to start procurement March 1-15. Among the big states, Uttar Pradesh will start purchase on March 1, Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra said. He claimed the protests would not

impact operations. Many Delhi farmers are from Punjab and Haryana, which contribute the most wheat to the central pool. Western Uttar Pradesh, where the protests are growing, produces a lot of wheat.

The national government has offered the

agitating farmers the guaranteed purchase of three oilseeds, maize, and cotton at the MSP from those wanting to switch from wheat and paddy. The agricultural minister has explained the idea. Chopra believes proper communication can overcome the issues. He

reported outstanding wheat crop conditions without early warning. "If the weather stays this way for the next 10-15 days, we can expect a bumper harvest," Chopra said. The government wants to produce 114 million tonnes of wheat in 2024 and will decide how much to buy in the next days. "UP, Bihar, and Rajasthan are focused areas for wheat procurement this season, and we are trying to open more procurement centers there where arrivals and production are higher," Chopra added. Wheat procurement rose to a record 43.3 million tonnes in 2021-22 during the rabi marketing seasons of 2019-20 (April-March).

## Along with education, values are also necessary to build a bright India: R.C.

**Karnal:** A special program was organized at Indus Public School, Sector 8. The main objective of which was to introduce parents and children to values along with education. The top JEE-Mains students of Genesis Classes were also honored at the event. Both education and culture play an important role in the development of children. Education is not just through books but is a medium to understand and learn all aspects of life. Education provides students with the ability to think, understand, and solve problems. Sanskar, on the other hand, is a means of informing a per-

son's character and conduct. Sanskar is the tacit education that makes a person understand the difference between right and wrong. It supports thoughtfulness, lived emotions, and understanding social values. It has often been seen that the times that are going on today The union of education and values makes a person wise, alert, and guided. This not only makes a person a good citizen but also a dedicated and empathetic human being. Director General of Police Dr.R.C. was the chief guest in this program. Mishra, Haryana Police participated and Colonel Arun Dutta arrived as the guest of

honour. SP Chauhan, Chairman Indus Public School and Anthem International School, Jitendra Singh Ahlawat, Managing Director, Genesis Classis, Alka Chhabra, Principal Indus Public School, Rajbir Dabur, Director Brahmanand Academy, Mukesh Bansal, Chairman Max International School, Jitendra Gambhir Principal Max International School, Atma Ram Bhardwaj, Principal Max Gurukul, Anu Gupta, SDVM Hooda Panipat, Amit Chopra, Principal Anthem School, Ashish Nehra, Director Amatir Kanya Gurukul, Kurukshehra, Kushn Kumar, President Pehchan.

## The sealing action continues to annoy traders



**Delhi:** The Connaught Place businessmen met NDMC vice-chairman Satish Upadhyay over the drive to shut businesses for property tax nonpayment. The traders requested a uniform tax assessment method (UAM) for tax calculation and filed a representation. Upadhyay agreed to talk to chairman Amit Yadav. The New Delhi Traders Association (NDTA) claimed they supported recovering proper dues but not the recovery campaign, which violated the NDMC Act. "NDMC assesses, and after 30 days if payment is not made, the council can issue notice for recovery, seal bank account, attach premises, or rent. NDTA's Atul Bhargava argued the act doesn't seal stores.

NDTA noted that landlords and tenants had suffered for years due to unclear assessment, resulting in crores of rupees in unpaid dues. Huge liabilities prevented tenants from running shops, resulting in closures. "I assured traders to address the issue in collaboration with key stakeholders, including senior council officials, the lieutenant governor and the ministry of home affairs," Upadhyay stated, committing to a single tax system. "MCD has embraced the UAM, which is convenient and the right choice for all. Two years ago, the council proposed amending the NDMC legislation to implement UAM to the home ministry. "Later some observa-

## Blood donation camp held at Basanti Mata Mandir, Dangar Khera

**Abohar:** Nojawan Ekta Sabha, Dangar Khera was organised blood donation camp at Basanti Mata Mandir, Dangar Khera. In this drive, more than 85 people visited the blood donation camp.

The camp was joined with all enthusiastic approach who motivated community to donate blood. Vinod Kiroriwal spoke to donors. He highlighted the importance of blood donation. "Blood is essential to help patients survive surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. This lifesaving process starts with one person making a generous donation. Donating one pint of blood can save three lives, he said. He also asked students not to believe in some myths about

donating blood causing harm to the donor. Blood donation is a selfless act that not only helps others in need but also provides several health benefits for the donors themselves.

Regular blood donation helps maintain healthy blood viscosity and reduces the risk of heart attacks and strokes. It helps in controlling the levels of iron in the blood, which can be beneficial for the cardiovascular system. Donating blood helps in maintaining good blood flow and prevents the accumulation of excessive iron in the body. This can reduce the risk of various health conditions related to iron overload, such as hemochromatosis. When you donate blood, your body

works to replenish the lost blood by producing new blood cells.

This process stimulates the production of new red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets, which can help improve overall blood cell function. Rajinder Kiroriwal, Surinder Sangwal, Jagdev Kiroriwal and Vinod Kiroriwal, praised all donors and volunteers who made the camp a success by selfless act of blood donation, promotion, and motivation.

Raju, DK, Dhiraj, Sandeep, Mainpal, Sanjay, Kuldeep, Surinder, Ashwani, Rampal, Rakesh, Rajesh and Vicky, Ravinder, Prabhu Dyal, Vinod Kumar, Prem, Andeep, Parveen, Sita Ram, Mainpal and Arvind Jalandhara are special participated.

## Ex-model held for stalking motivational speaker for 6 months

**Delhi:** Police arrested Deepesh Thakur, 26, for stalking a motivational speaker on her multi-city tours over a period of six months. A fashion model and son of a prominent hotelier in Maharashtra, Thakur had been relentlessly following the speaker to her events, aspiring to marrying her. According to police, Deepesh meticulously tracked the speaker's movements, attending all her programmes across the country.

His obsession escalated to the extent that he would book rooms in five-star hotels in advance ahead of her scheduled appearances, even flying from Mumbai to attend the events in different cities.



## AIIMS gives tout complaints WhatsApp no.

**Delhi:** AIIMS Delhi has a WhatsApp contact for reporting touts exploiting patients. Starting February 29, 9355023969 will be dedicated. The administration ordered on Wednesday that the hotline would only be for reporting such incidents, including soliciting bribes, and that the security department would monitor it 24/7. The number will be publicly displayed in English and Hindi around the institution. We send a rapid response team to verify complaints immediately. If a complaint is valid, outsourced security professionals will be relieved and regular guards suspended pending investigation. Supervisors in each region will likewise be held accountable.

## Delhi Development Authority auction for Phase-III on March 5

**Delhi:** On March 5, the DDA will auction Phase III of its Diwali Special Housing Scheme. The program offers 257 penthouse, high-income, and middle-income units in Dwarka's various areas. Sector 19B has two penthouses, 123 HIG units, and 132 MIG in Sector 14. DDA stated their tentative reserve prices. 5 crore, 2.1 crore, 1.44 crore While e-auction registration and online earnest money deposits close on February 28, the auction will be held on March 5. The deposits for MIG flats are 10 lakh, HIG flats 15 lakh, and penthouses 25 lakh. Participants must register on the e-auction portal for Rs 2,500 per flat. It added that this sum is non-refundable and non-adjustable. DDA began e-booking 2,093 premium flats and penthouses in Dwarka Sector 19B, Sector 14 and Loknayak Puram on November 23. It has 170 super HIG, 946 HIG, 14 penthouses in Dwarka 19B, 316 MIG in Sector 14 and 647 MIG in Loknayak Puram.

## Government allows donor egg & sperm in surrogacy

**NEW DELHI:** There is new hope for couples dreaming to become parents via surrogacy. The Centre has amended Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules, 2022 to allow use of a donor gamete – ova or egg cells and sperm – if one of the partners is certified to have a medical condition that prevents use of his or her own gametes. In usual circumstances, a couple undergoing surrogacy must have both gametes from the intending couple. story But Surrogacy Amendment Rules, 2024, that have been notified by the government, state that the district medical board must certify that either spouse is suffering from such a condition. It further says that "surrogacy using donor gamete is allowed subject to the condition that the child to be born through surrogacy must have at least one gamete from the intending couple". It adds, "Single women (widow or divorcee) undergoing surrogacy must use self-eggs and donor sperm to avail surrogacy procedures."

## Three Naxalites were killed in a clash with security forces

**NEW DELHI:** Three Naxalites were killed in a clash with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Sunday. The encounter occurred in a forest area in Koyalibeda during an anti-Naxal operation led by the District Reserve Guard and the Border Security Force. The bodies of three Naxalites and two weapons have been recovered so far, with the operation still ongoing, confirmed superintendent of police Indira Kalyan Elesela. This comes a day after a Maoist was killed in an encounter

with the District Reserve Guards (DRG) in Chhattisgarh's Sukma on Saturday. The exchange of fire took place in the Burkalanka jungle area. The body of the Naxal was found during a search operation conducted by the DRG. The state has been hit by violence recently. Earlier this week, two men were killed in a Sukma village allegedly by Naxals who suspected them of being police informers. The deceased were identified as Sodi Hunga and Madvi Nanda, residents of Dullid village.

## Prime Fresh Limited (PFL) Wins Bid for APEDA approved Packhouse for a 5 year Lease

**Chandigarh:** Prime Fresh Limited (BSE: 540404) is pleased to update & inform that it has been selected as a winner during the process of TENDER BIDDING & SELECTION (On a lease/rental for 5 years) for the APEDA Approved Fully Integrated Agro Packhouse in Gujarat-Ahmedabad. This is a Multipurpose, Multi Products & Omni sales channel facility having peak potential to generate a sale of 25 TPD of Fruits, vegetables & other Agro Products. The said facility is situated

very strategically closure to Ahmedabad Airport & Wholesale fruits market at Naroda (Ahmedabad). This facility also connects to major Agri belts, Port and Domestic City Business opportunities. The facility is spread across close to 60000 sq. fts of land area along with massive construction & modern packhouse infrastructure approved by APEDA. The Development is a major landmark achievement for PRIME FRESH LIMITED as it helps strengthens the Exports Capabilities of PFL and

also it can help improve revenues from other verticals such as Domestic F&V Supply chain, Ripening, Storages and other packing & repacking services. The Facility is equipped with all the modern facilities, cold storages, ripening chambers and other infrastructure such as sorting, Grading & packing facilities. The cumulative capacity has a potential for 40 TPD of inwards and outwards of Agro produce once it starts stabilizing & operating at full capacity over the coming few years.

This achievement supports company's assets light growth model saving almost 15 crores (Rs.15,00,00,000) of future capex and providing a huge impetus to PFL's ambitious growth plans over the coming 3 years. Prime Fresh Limited, listed on BSE SME platform is a fully integrated Agri value chain company, established in 2007. Prime Fresh operates Pan India across 17 states and 85 districts for its Fruits and Vegetables Supply chain Business. PFL has multiple collections centre.



## Editorial

### Subianto govt can help India-Indonesia ties in 4 ways

The recent presidential and parliamentary elections in Indonesia were conducted in a relatively secure and peaceful manner, but there are concerns about widespread vote buying and systemic vote rigging during the vote recapitulation process. Many have also spoken about democratic backsliding with the return of dynastic politics in Indonesia. While official results could take several weeks to arrive, historically accurate quick counts show Prabowo Subianto, current defence minister and former Indonesian army lieutenant general, has won the election by a significant margin. His opponents, former Jakarta governor Anies Baswedan and former Central Java governor Ganjar Pranowo, though, have not conceded defeat. Baswedan had contested the election promising "change" as an alternative to the status quo, while Pranowo spoke about the vision to make Indonesia an "advanced nation". But Subianto and his vice-presidential candidate Gibran Rakabuming Raka, the eldest son of current President Joko 'Jokowi' Widodo, managed to convince the general public by offering several promises, which included the continuation of Jokowi's plan to focus on resource-based industrialisation and free lunch programmes for all students. Prabowo's unofficial election victory has been widely welcomed by many leaders across the world. Among those who have directly conveyed the congratulatory message is Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In a post on X, Modi expressed hope to advance the goals of strategic partnership between India and Indonesia. Leaders of countries with close relations with Indonesia, such as Australia, Malaysia, and Singapore, have also congratulated Prabowo. But all these congratulatory messages, especially from Western countries, seem to have eclipsed an important reality: Prabowo's record of human rights violations in Indonesia and East Timor, which isn't seen as a significant issue anymore in the international community. With Prabowo presenting himself as someone who will continue Jokowi's legacy, the world community is ready to welcome him as the new leader to represent Indonesia on the regional and global stage. But what would Prabowo's priorities be in Indonesia's foreign policy? How will his vision affect Indonesia's outlook in the Asia-Pacific region, and how will his government view Indonesia-India relations? Prabowo first spoke about his foreign policy vision at an event conducted by the Indonesian think-tank, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Jakarta (not to be confused with the America-based CSIS). He summarised his vision as "good neighbour" policy, which calls for maintaining Indonesia's traditional non-alignment doctrine and building a strong web of friendship with the neighbours, both immediate and distant. Talking about the importance of Indonesia's non-alignment doctrine, Prabowo argued that it is becoming increasingly necessary for Jakarta not to take part in any kind of alliance that would otherwise endanger the country's national interests. Noting the need to accelerate Indonesia's economic growth, Prabowo argued that Indonesia will build its relationship with partner countries based on common interests, especially ones that benefit the country economically. Such statements show that Prabowo is closely following Jokowi's strategy, which prioritises strong bilateralism and economic diplomacy as hallmarks of contemporary Indonesian foreign policy. Like Jokowi, Prabowo is quite pragmatic and perhaps even more cautious.

# Treating farmers like criminals

The farmers are agitating for the minimum support price (MSP) and other demands. Farmers from Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh are heading to Delhi for protests. However, the way the government is trying to stop the farmers, it cannot be blamed, because this promise has been made by no one else but the government itself. The government is trying to stop the farmers from entering Delhi. It has deployed a large number of police and paramilitary forces on the borders of the capital. The demands of the farmers reaching the borders of Delhi are the same as what the government had promised to the farmers in 2020 to end the agitation against the three agricultural laws and the demand for MSP. However, the question now is how the Modi government at the Centre has finally fallen into its own trap. Because if she had not made the three agricultural laws anti-farmer, then the farmers would not have marched to Delhi in such large numbers during the Corona epidemic. Not only this, the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who used to demand the implementation of the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission before becoming the Prime Minister, are now seen to be turning away from the same demands after com-



ing to power at the Center. And now when the farmers are demanding their rights by reminding the same thing to the Modi government at the center, then the farmers are seen as traitors for not knowing what to do for the government. The question is, will the government now give the right to earn big profits only to the capitalists? Does the government want farmers to continue to hand over their crops to middlemen and capitalists? And they continue to fill their coffers by looting the people of the country by making huge profits on the same crops? On the one hand, the farmer cannot earn as much profit from his own fields as he and his family can earn by working hard day and night, and on the other hand, the capitalists earn so much money by charging more than the maximum retail price (MRP) on the same crops by packing them. They are not able to spend that money even after living a luxurious

life. Is this the government's policy? In fact, the country's biggest election is on the head and the Modi government at the center is treating the agitating farmers who are standing against it as criminals instead of giving them their rights, which will not have any effect in the interest of the government. Recently, Union Agriculture Minister Arjun Munda had said that the government has accepted most of the demands of the farmers. The government is ready to discuss the demand related to MSP guarantee. But he also said that the law guaranteeing MSP cannot be brought in haste without consultation. My question is that three rounds of talks have been held recently and before that more than a dozen rounds of talks have been held between the farmers and the government. After this, in the year 2021, the Supreme Court had asked to resolve the issue of farmers' demands as soon as possible by forming a com-

mittee. The Modi government has formed a committee to look into the matter. What is it that the government is spending so much time on? There is a straightforward formula of MSP, on which the government does not need to think too much. The Modi government at the Centre has to directly fix the prices of all the crops of the farmers, which the government has promised to buy at MSP, according to the report of the Swaminathan Commission and make a bill on it in Parliament and make it legal. As for the other demands, what is the harm in fulfilling them? If the government feels that any demand of the farmers is unjustified or wrong, then the government should openly talk about it in front of the country. But why is he trying to make farmers villains by messing up everything? The farmers are demanding that the government should fulfill its promises. And what is the Modi government's fault in implementing the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission? She is giving Bharat Ratna to Swaminathan for his contribution to agriculture. The Swaminathan Commission was set up in November 2004 as the National Commission on Farmers. Swaminathan is associated with the agricultural world. He was not only aware of the problems, but he was

also the father of the Green Revolution. His committee had submitted its report to the Manmohan Singh government at the Centre in 2006, making a number of recommendations to improve the condition of farmers. The then Congress government did not implement the report and at that time the BJP was constantly cornering the Manmohan government of the Congress on this matter and had called the Congress government anti-farmer because of this. But now when the NDA government is not only at the Centre, but also in many states. But the BJP is not only hesitant to implement the report, but is now calling the demand illegitimate. But in the wake of the Lok Sabha elections, the Modi government at the center seems to be falling into its own trap, which is why it wants to deal with it on the strength of power.

The farmers are demanding 50 per cent MSP for their crops. The Swaminathan report also supports this. Because farming is proving to be a loss deal for most of the farmers of the country. Due to this, thousands of farmers committed suicide every day. Swaminathan Commission to set up Farmers Commissions at the State level to prevent suicides by farmers and to provide better health facilities to them.

## How non-violent Jainism thrived in the warlike Deccan

A Kannada-speaking king died in 975 CE, after starving himself for three days at his guru's monastery. His name was Marasimha II, and his kingdom was based near present-day Bengaluru. Marasimha, according to his court poet, had spent his life in war: he had participated in campaigns in Madhya Pradesh, slaughtered rival families, and even piled up the skulls of his enemies. Yet, in the last year of his life, he had erected Jain temples, and his ritual suicide was in a Jain monastery.

Marasimha's kingdom disappeared within a few decades of his death, but Deccan Jainism retained its following for almost 500 more years. This is one part of its story. By the

time of Marasimha's death, Deccan Jainism was already a grand old religion, counting among its adherents the plateau's most powerful rulers, ascetics and litterateurs. Historian RN Nandi writes in Religious Institutions and Cults in the Deccan that Jain monks began to appear in inscriptions from the 4th-5th centuries CE. Also around this time, other practices from North India, including permanent stone temples to gods and the use of Sanskrit in political settings, appeared in the Deccan. All these offered potent symbolic and political tools to newly emerging kingdoms, such as the Kadambas in present-day Banavasi and the Early Western Chalukyas in present-

day Badami. Deccan Jainism was woven into medieval South Indian kingship from the outset. In Bahubali and Badami Chalukyas, Jainism scholar Hampa Nagarajaiah notes that one of the earliest free-standing examples of Deccan architecture is Jain: it's a temple on the Meguti hill at Aihole, built in the 7th century by Ravikirti, a Jain courtier of the Chalukya king Pulakeshin II (610-642 CE). The temple's dedicatory inscription was composed by Ravikirti in Sanskrit. It shows that he was familiar with the political aesthetic of the Sanskrit cosmopolis—the sprawling medieval geocultural world that connected Sanskrit-speaking courts from Vietnam.

## Maha assembly clears 10% Maratha quota bill Maharashtra Legislature passes bill

Maha assembly clears 10% Maratha quota bill Maharashtra Legislature passes bill reserving 10% seats in education and government jobs for Maratha community, citing exceptional backwardness. The Maharashtra Legislature unanimously passed a bill reserving 10% of the seats in educational institutions and the same proportion of government jobs for people from the Maratha community in the third such attempt by the state government to carve out a quota for the once-dominant agrarian community, after similar laws enacted in 2014 and 2019 were struck down by the courts. In the bill passed by both houses of the state legislature, the Maharashtra government cited the findings of a report submitted by the Maharashtra State Commission for Backward Classes (MSCBC) as the basis for the reservation. The report stated that the Marathas account for 28% of Maharashtra's population, and are in an "exceptional circumstances and extraordinary condition" of backwardness, making it a fit case for reservation over the 50% ceiling mandated by the Supreme Court. The 10% quota is over and above the existing 62% reservation in the state, which includes 10% for

those belonging to economically weaker sections (EWS) and remaining 52% caste based quota. Chief minister Eknath Shinde, who tabled the bill in both houses, said that the Supreme Court, in its verdict in May 2021, empowered the government to list the backward classes for reservation. "The reservation has been given on firm grounds without disturbing the existing quota. The reservation will withstand legal scrutiny and be sustained entirely as we have addressed the flaws pointed out by the Supreme Court while quashing the previous quota given in 2018," he said. The bill, Maharashtra State Reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Act 2024, stated that the community does not require reservation in politics as it is adequately represented in the political field of the state. If the reservation is not provided on urgent basis, the community would denigrate even further leading to complete social imbalance, social exclusion and inequation and social injustice, it stated. MSCBC was constituted under retired judge Sunil Shukre in December to study the backwardness of the community. The move by the Shinde govern-

ment comes against the backdrop of an agitation by the community for the quota, led by Manoj Jarange-Patil over the last five months. Jarange-Patil has been demanding the inclusion of Marathas in Other Backward Classes by issuing them Kunbi (a peasant sub-caste of the Maratha community falls under the OBC category) certificates. CM Shinde said that the draft notification issued on January 26 will be finalized after thorough scrutiny of the suggestions and objections the government has received. Jarange-Patil has expressed his doubt over tenability of the reservation given by the government. "We want our inclusion in the OBC category by issuing Kunbi certificates to close relatives based on Kunbi antecedents. What would our children and youth do if the reservation was quashed by the court in future. I trusted chief minister Eknath Shinde believing on his words for last six months, but this was not expected from him," he said. CM Shinde said that the law will bring the community into the mainstream. "It is a historic day for all of us. I have taken an oath that I will give reservation which will sustain in the court."

## Why not Kamal Nath?

There is very little time left in the electoral battle taking place in the country, obviously the electro bonds have been stopped. However, it is different that some experts believe that it will not be as beneficial now as it would have been two years ago. Because the time left for the election will be less in front of all the parties, because the preparation of the rest of the parties except the BJP is not as strong and visible on the ground. On the one hand, it has been preparing the election strategy for the last one-and-a-half years with the target of Plus and every day it is every tactic to strengthen its strategy, on the other hand,

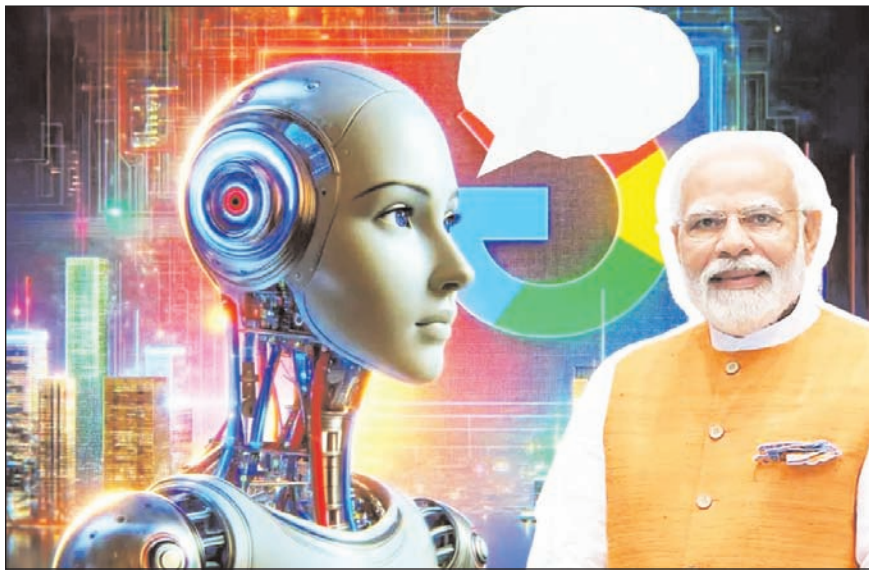
the opposition parties, who announced to fight this election by opening a front against Bajpa by forming the India Alliance, seem to be disintegrating apart from half-baked preparations in the elections. A new hole is created for each one. At the same time, the BJP is also engaged in the mission to unite the strong leaders of the Congress and other parties. Although some political experts are saying that the BJP wants to put pressure on the opposition by forming a 400-plus man, in fact, this election is not less difficult for them, because this election is going to be more difficult for the BJP than 2014 and 2019, due to

the all-round opposition against it. In such a situation, the BJP is also thinking that if it could not touch the figure of 400 plus, then it should touch the figure of 370, so that its full majority can once again form the government under the leadership of Narendra Modi for the third consecutive time. However, my political sense says that the target of winning 370 Lok Sabha seats is also not a small target. For such a big goal, every booth in every seat of every state will have to understand the value of every vote and try to do it in its favor. The BJP's central leadership team, which includes Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

Home Minister Amit Shah, will try its best to encash every small and big work from the Ram temple and at the same time will try its best to suppress the voices raised against the Modi government at the Centre. Because they know that if there is a slight lapse somewhere this time, then the juggernaut can turn, and then the conditions - the conditions will be something else. However, most people are assuming that this time also the BJP is returning to the central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and that too with a good number of seats.



## AI responds to PM Modi questions: Google 'illegal'



Delhi: Google quickly addressed concerns over its AI platform Gemini's reactions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. As India's Ministry of Information Technology prepared to issue a notice over Google's Gemini AI's "problematic and illegal" responses, the firm acted. Google's spokesman said, "We fixed this promptly. Gemini, a creativity and productivity tool, may not always be dependable when reacting to cues concerning current

The business has temporarily disabled Gemini AI's ability to generate individual photographs to improve accuracy amid increased attention over AI-generated

events, politics, or changing news." The representative continued, "We're always improving." Google's generative AI platform Gemini said "objectionable" things about PM Modi, sparking the issue. Social media users criticized the responses, worried about the platform's

powers and impact on public conversation. Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State for Electronics and IT, cited IT Act Intermediary Rules and criminal prohibitions in response to the outrage. Google has addressed AI-generated content accuracy issues after the uproar. The business has temporarily disabled Gemini AI's ability to generate individual photographs to improve accuracy amid increased attention over AI-generated historical images.

## Government uses ONDC to enroll fishermen in es-market

They claimed fishing businesses will benefit from digital technical solutions in trust



Delhi: The Department of Fisheries will sign an MoU with Open Network for Digital Commerce to create an e-market platform for fishermen. This crucial step will create a digital platform for fisherfolk, fish farmers producers organization, entrepreneurs, SHGs, fishermen cooperatives, and other stakeholders in the fish-

eries sector to reach more customers. ONDC officials noted that by connecting producers and consumers directly, they may reduce intermediaries and increase fisher profits and cut consumer prices. "This initiative will also provide a scale of economy to marginal fishermen engaged in scattered

business through a common digital platform for their products," officials stated.

They claimed fishing businesses will benefit from digital technical solutions in trust, transaction costs, market reach, transparency, competitiveness, innovation, and employment.

## Shark Tank India 3: 'Orbo' AI Signs Rs 1 Cr Vineeta Singh Deal

Delhi: In the latest episode of 'Shark Tank India' season 3, 'Orbo', which aims to transform the cosmetics sector, signed a Rupees one crore deal with Vineeta Singh. In a world where technology is everywhere, beauty brands, products, and services are easily

available. Beauty AI uses AI and AR to provide consumers real-time virtual try-ons at home.

Orbo's creative solutions transform customer engagement and experience. Team Orbo—Manoj Shinde, Danish Jamil, and Abhit Sinha—came to Shark

Tank India 3 to transform the purchasing experience for companies and consumers. They sought sharks for Rs 1 crore for 0.75 percent equity. Orbo, founded in 2019, solves cosmetics business problems including personalization and integration.

## Trinity Cleantech, Log9 combine to establish India EV charging network

Delhi: Log9 and Trinity Cleantech created a nationwide interoperable charging network. Log9, an EV charging pioneer, and Trinity Cleantech, a comprehensive solutions supplier, created an interoperable charging network. Trinity's "Thunder+" brand will install 2,000 public charging stations across India before the conclusion of the next fiscal year.

The company stated its manufacturing, software, and infrastructure management capabilities will assure reliable and efficient service for every charge. They will promote Type 6 fast chargers, the



next-generation charging speed and convenience standard. Trinity's Thunder Platform will interface with Log9's "Instacharge" platform to improve operations and user experience. The

BCA LEV DC standard (IS 17017-25 & IS 17017-2-6) ensures interoperability so users can charge anywhere. Log9 and Trinity will collaborate on connection, protocol, and payment gateway

innovations as the EV landscape changes, ensuring compatibility for years to come. They will promote Type 6 fast chargers, the next-generation charging speed and convenience standard.

Trinity's Thunder Platform will interface with Log9's "Instacharge" platform to improve operations and user experience. The BCA LEV DC standard (IS 17017-25 & IS 17017-2-6) ensures interoperability so users can charge anywhere. Log9 and Trinity will collaborate on connection, protocol, and payment gateway innovations as the EV landscape changes.

## Again penalized for board norms: IOC, GAIL, ONGC

Delhi: State-owned oil and gas majors IndianOil, ONGC, and GAIL (India) have been fined for the third quarter for not having enough directors on their boards. According to stock exchange records, Indian Oil, ONGC, Oil India, GAIL, HPCL, and Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals were fined INR 32.5 lakh. In separate filings, the companies detailed the BSE and NSE fines for not having enough independent directors or the mandated women director in the quarter ended Dec 31, 2023, but they stressed that the government appointed directors and they had no role. The corporations were fined for the same reason in the prior two quarters. Six PSUs filed separate reports stating they were fined INR 5,42,800 each for the third



quarter. ONGC and its subsidiaries HPCL and MRPL, GAIL and OIL were fined for not having enough independent directors, and IOC for not having a woman. Listing standards require equal numbers of independent and executive or functional directors. One female director is necessary on the board.

## Byju investors file NCLT against CEO Raveendran, calling him 'unfit' to lead

Delhi: Four Byju's edtech investors filed an NCLT mismanagement complaint to remove CEO and founder Byju Raveendran from the board. Byju's investors are holding an emergency meeting to vote on CEO Raveendran and his family's removal from the board. However, the Raveendran family calls this shareholder EGM "illegal". A day after the Karnataka High Court sided with Raveendran, four edtech company shareholders filed a mismanagement and oppression petition against him at the National Company Law Tribunal on Friday to force him out. The shareholders' lawsuit also seeks a forensic audit, a new



board, and the rights issue's voidance. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) plea filed on Thursday evening by investors seeking the ouster of Raveendran and family from Byju's board at an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders for alleged "mismanagement and failures" at India's once-hottest tech startup also sought a forensic audit of the company. The court records also state that the investors suing CEO Raveendran want the \$200 million

rights issuance declaration unlawful and the business to not violate the investors' rights. The petition was signed by Prosus, GA, Sofina, and Peak XV, as well as Tiger and Owl Ventures. The Karnataka High Court ruled earlier this week that the investors' EGM resolution to vote out Byju's founders from the board of directors is invalid until the bench rules. Byju Raveendran and his wife Gokulnath opted out of the Friday.

## Jio, Adani, Shell Mobility discussing highway charging



Delhi: Two sources claimed Adani Total Energy, Jio BP, Shell Mobility, and the Aditya Birla Group are in talks with the government to install charging stations on national roads under a new electric mobility project. By the end of March, selected firms will be allocated spots along national highways to establish charging infrastructure at regular intervals, anonymous sources stated. Ease of Doing Business, a central government technology piloting agency,

leads National Highways for EVs (NHEV). It has piloted 500 miles, including the Delhi-Agra (225 km) and Delhi-Jaipur (272) highways. Ease of Doing Business national project director Abhijeet Sinha said: "This new model expects every charging station to break even in 36-40 months. NHEV would add 20 e-buses and 200 EVs to each roadway." Sinha stated that NHEV would welcome fleet operators to use these vehicles.

## Measures Taken by RBI Regarding Paytm's Request 'For Continued UPI Operation



Delhi: The National Payments Corporation of India has been requested to review a request by Paytm, formerly known as One 97 Communications, to become a third party application provider (TPAP). This was announced by the Reserve Bank of India on Friday. If accepted, Paytm would be able to carry on accepting payments through the well-liked unified payments interface in India. Paytm Payments Bank, a Paytm affiliate, was requested by the central bank on January 31 to cease operations by March 15; this caused a hiccup for the well-known payment app, which utilized the banking unit back end. The Paytm app will require backing from a number of recently discovered banks. The central bank has asked the payment authority to handle the migration in order to guarantee a smooth transition.



## Over 100k graduates at 100th DU ceremony



**Delhi:** Delhi University (DU) awarded degrees to 138,020 undergraduate, postgraduate, and 659 PhD students at its 100th convocation in 2023. The chief guest, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, gave nine pupils gold medals. The University of Delhi was founded in 1922 with Hindu College, St Stephen's College, Zakir Husain Delhi College, and Ramjas College.

The 101-year-old institution has 91 linked colleges. Multicolored convocation dresses were also worn this year. PhD

students wore red stoles, PG students turquoise, and UG students yellow. All stoles had a golden border, the university logo, and the shatabdi or 100th-year logo on both sides. Singh said "officers wore purple stoles and principals and department heads wore maroon stoles." Last year, the university recommended Indian attire over Western.

Vice President Dhankhar told students that learning is lifelong and does not finish with a degree. "You create your own and our

shared future. India would give you equal possibilities to succeed depending on your talent and hard work.

Merit, not patronage, determines possibilities in modern society, he remarked. The aforesaid DU official claimed that while degrees were digital, students received medals and physical awards on the site. "This time, 207 medals and awards were given, 173 gold and 34 award certificates. The official said 167 pupils received these.

## Suraj School , Sector -56 , Gurugram celebrated Annual Function



**Delhi:** Suraj School , Sector -56 , Gurugram celebrated its Annual Function for the academic year 2023-2024. It was a resounding success, showcasing the diverse talents and achievements of the students. The event, held in the school premises, brought together students, parents, and faculty for an evening of celebration and entertainment. The program commenced with the traditional lamp lighting to evoke the blessings of the Almighty. The Chief Guest Air Marshal Baharat Kumar PVSM, AVSM( Retd), all special invitees and The Directors - Dr. Harish P Yadav, Mr. Anand Yadav and Mr. Sandeep Yadav were given a warm welcome. The School Report was presented by The Principal Ms. Kanika Ghai, highlighting the school's



accomplishments over the past year.

This was followed by a series of captivating performances, including dance, music, and drama, showcasing the artistic flair and creativity of its students. Throughout the evening, various awards were presented to students who excelled academically, as well as those who demonstrated



outstanding contributions in extracurricular activities and community service. These accolades aimed to recognize and encourage the hard work and dedication of our students. The highlight of the evening was the theme-based cultural extravaganza ' RAVI RISING' diligently rehearsed and performed by the students under the guidance of their talented faculty. These performances not only entertained the audience but also conveyed important messages, promoting values and social awareness. All guests were treated to a delightful array of refreshments followed by a lavish dinner, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and festivity. About 3500+ Parents present, expressed their appreciation for the school's commitment

to providing a holistic education that nurtures both academic and personal development. The success of the Annual School Function would not have been possible without the collective efforts of the organizing committee, teachers, and students who dedicated their time and energy to ensure a seamless event. Their commitment to excellence truly shone through.

The evening drew to a close by reflecting on the evening's success with a commitment to look forward to continuing its journey of academic and personal growth in the upcoming academic year. The Annual School Function served as a testament to the vibrant spirit and unwavering dedication of the community of Suraj School , Sector -56 .

## In the current fiscal year, almost 7,000 crore for education remains unspent

**Delhi:** Education spending fell short of the Union government's objective by Rs 7,539 crore in 2023-24, with Samagra Shiksha and midday meal spending below last year's budget. In 2022, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth, and Sports, chaired by BJP Rajya Sabha MP Vinay P Sahasrabudhe, asked the government to



identify the causes of the shortfall in running these schemes. This was revealed

after Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman delivered the interim budget

Thursday, which allocated Rs 1.25 lakh crore for education, 14.47 percent higher than in the current financial year. The sector-wise central government expenditure figures show that in 2023-24, the government spent Rs 1.08 lakh crore on education instead of Rs 1.16 lakh crore. The fine print discloses that Samagra Shiksha, PM Poshan, and PM SHRI money went unspent, causing this deficit.

## 5 US Colleges and Universities Offer Fully Funded Ph.D. Programs

**Delhi:** Starting a Ph.D. program is a huge intellectual experience, and many students need funding. Many top US colleges offer fully supported Ph.D. programs in many fields. The US academic scene offers sophisticated research and scholarship due to institutions' technical prowess. These US colleges provide completely financed programs with waived tuition and fees and annual stipends. Some provide health insurance and other perks. This article lists five institutions known for



their cutting-edge research and academic brilliance that provide fully funded Ph.D. courses. As financing alternatives change, prospective applicants should check with their institutions and departments of interest or visit the universi-

ty's website. Anthropology Ph.D. students at the University of Chicago can receive financial support for eight years if they maintain satisfactory academic standing. Students receive full-tuition scholarships, health

insurance, and living stipends during this time. The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health offers a Ph.D. degree in biological sciences in public health to train students in disease prevention and treatment.

## NCERT's 'Viksit Bharat' module promotes Modi government start-up, skilling



**Delhi:** The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), the country's leading curriculum and textbook advisory body, again lists government plans, initiatives, and campaigns in its new supplementary module for school students on "Viksit Bharat" - "developed India". It covers "Swachhata Hi Seva"

(Cleanliness is Service), "Swadeshi Apano" from the "vocal for local" campaign, "Arthik unnati me divyangjano ka yogdaan-viksit bhara ki raah" (Disabled people in economic development), "Start-up-Amrit Kaal" and "Kadam Viksit Bharat Ki" (steps Every module chapter begins with a photo of Delhi's new "Bharat Mandapam" and the

headline "Achievements of Contemporary India, Developed India". Indian hockey players and Prime Minister Narendra Modi are photographed at the end. Each module is in Hindi and each chapter praises government programs like "Start Up India," "Jan Dhan Yojana," "Make in India," and "Skill India".

## Delhi Sports School will host state and lateral entry camps

**Delhi:** In 2025-26, Delhi Sports School, a flagship school under the Delhi government's Schools of Specialised Excellence program, will welcome Class XI pupils. The school is using lateral entrances to attract outstanding athletes and foster inclusion. Students without the entrance exam can acquire admission by winning national sports medals. Senior school administrator Sanjeet Sangwan emphasized the sports-focused curriculum and in-house training and development facilities in all courses. Due to space constraints, archery, athletics, and lawn tennis must be outside. With SOPs finalized, the lateral entrance mechanism is being conceived. Students with exceptional talent and



national successes will complete many exams, including medical screening, to assure fair selection. Online registrations for the upcoming academic year run from Feb. 15 to March 10. Games trials and merit-based sports science examinations determine admission. Rigorous medical examination, including age verification, will prevent age fraud and treat serious

health conditions. 172 Olympic participants in 10 disciplines use all facilities for free. It plans to enroll 200 students in 2024-25."The current academic year, Delhi Sports School pupils earned 19 national and 88 Delhi state medals in eight sports. Sangwan said badminton and tennis had more medals. Delhi Sports School students won 19 national and 88 Delhi

state championship medals in eight sports this year. Sangwan said badminton and tennis had more medals. The institution may expand camps in other states to attract talent. Expansion depends on registration. Class VI admissions are only open since pupils from the previous year have moved up, reducing seats "Sangwan.

## Offline CUET-UG for subjects above 1.5 lakh applicants

**Delhi:** CUET-UG will change this year. Subjects with more than 1.5 lakh applications will be paper-based; those with fewer will be computer-based. Common University Entrance Test-Undergraduate (CUET-UG 2024) would likely be administered in single shifts, avoiding 'normalisation' in multi-session assessments. The CUET advisory board, which includes central institutions, UGC, and NTA officials, will likely confirm the third edition's dates and details this week. The undergraduate admissions common entrance test will be hybrid and confined to six subjects, including the general test, beginning 10. CUET-UG provider NTA expects online applications to begin by February. NTA announced its admission test dates in September 2023, including CUET-UG 2024, which will be held May 15-31. "Some papers with high registration counts.



## The trailer for Shaitaan features Madhavan at Ajay Devgn and Jyotika's house



**Delhi:** Welcome to the fright fest that is the Shaitaan trailer. Ajay Devgn, Jyotika, and their daughter are living their finest life when a Madhavan-played stranger arrives. Ajay and Jyotika accept Madhavan into their humble lives. His initial objectives seem innocent. Madhavan tells Ajay Devgn he merely wants to charge his phone. Jyotika is the only family member who initially doubts him.

Ajay, like his wife, asks his visitor to depart after a time. Madhavan is a peculiar

man on a mission. Madhavan is more than an uninvited guest at Ajay-Jyotika. His black magic power and worst tool, Ajay and Jyotika's daughter, are terrifying. With the darkest smile, he makes Ajay and Jyotika's daughter channel her wickedness. He forces the daughter to slap her father and abuse her mother. Mystery unfolds March 8.

Besides Ajay Devgn, Madhavan, and Jyotika, Janki Bodiwala and Anngad Raaj star. Ajay Devgn tweeted the clip, "Shaitaan brings hell home."

Watch the Shaitaan trailer now. Cinemas will be taken over on 8 March 2024." Ajay Devgn shared the poster and said, "Good v/s evil ki asli jung" before the trailer's release. The Shaitaan trailer drops tomorrow.

Cinemas will be taken over on 8 March 2024." On March 8, Vikas Bahl's film will hit theaters. The film was produced by Ajay Devgn, Jyoti Deshpande, Kumar Mangat Pathak, Abhishek Pathak, Sanjeev Joshi, Aditya Chowksey, and Amit Dalmia.

## Guru Randhawa wants to learn from Sreerama

**Delhi:**

Guru Randhawa praised Sreerama Chandra's dancing performance on his blockbuster song 'Nach Meri Rani' in 'Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa'. Randhawa praised Sreerama's talent and expressed his desire to learn from him to achieve stage brilliance if they combine. 'Kuch Khattoo Ho Jaay' stars Guru Randhawa and Saiee Manjrekar appeared on the latest episode of 'Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa'. Sreerama and his choreographer Sonali Kar performed Guru Randhawa and Nikhita Gandhi's 'Nach Meri Rani' with energy. Guru stated of the performance: "I had never



liked my music that much. Sreerama, I feel like I have a lot to learn since if we perform together, you shouldn't receive more marks than me (laughs).

"Your act was great, engaging, and dynamic. He said, "I loved seeing you. You were full-on,"

judge Malaika Arora said. Hot, entertaining, with cool moves, it was a blend of everything. Sonali, you dance well. Sreerama, great solo. Loved it.

You completed several difficult steps. It was too good." Sony airs 'Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa'.

## With Her New Comedy Show, Huma Qureshi Wants To Make People Happy

**Delhi:** Huma Qureshi will play a comedy champion in 'Madness Machayenge-India Ko Hasayenge' and share her thoughts. Huma will mix wit, support, and participation with her smart remarks and humorous anecdotes in various segments.



"Comedy serves as a universal stress buster and our goal is simple: to

spread joy and laughter one joke at a time," 'Gangs of Wasseypur' actress stated. "In today's fast-paced world, we believe everyone deserves a break filled with laughter, and 'Madness Machayenge' delivers just that," she said.

## 'All India Rank review: Varun Grover's directorial debut is delicate but familiar

**Delhi:** All India Rank, Varun Grover's directorial debut, takes place in the 1990s, a time of liberalization and pop culture. How does HC Verma, a writer of clear and concise Physics textbooks, relate to Mansoor Khan, the director of the ungainly 80s romance Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak? Answer: both men attended IIT. The dubious message that IIT-educated students flourish in every field, whether book-writing or Bollywood, makes it funny. This speech is



heard by Vivek (Bodhisattva Sharma) in a class of hopefuls. We don't know if he believes it. The film begins with him being taken from Lucknow to Kota to study for his IIT entrance tests. A meek, gawky 17-year-old with

a walkman and thermos. He says, "I have no dream," an innocent teenager's confession inconceivable in aspirational middle India then and now. We check in with his parents, pinching every dime for his study time.

His father, a low-ranking government employee, lists the benefits of a top-tier engineering degree: work, respect, and ease of living. A fourth benefit he doesn't mention is social status. From the start, Vivek seems earnest yet lost, like most youngsters his age. He likes smart, focused Sarika (Samta Sudiksha) and two of his hostelmates, mouthy repeaters played by Ayush Pandey and Neeraj Singh). A scene shows the

## While "Yodha" is an action thriller, "Zindagi Tere Naam" starring Sidharth-Rashii is all about love

"Zindag Popular singer Vishal Mishra sings the song, and Kaushal Kishore and Mishra wrote the lyrics"

**Delhi:** A new song from the upcoming movie "Yodha," which stars Sidharth Malhotra and Rashii Khanna, is worth listening to. "Zindag Popular singer Vishal Mishra sings the song, and Kaushal Kishore and Mishra wrote the lyrics. In the song, Sidharth's character expresses his desire to dedicate his entire life to Rashii after falling in love



with her. The single was released on Instagram by Sidharth, who will play the lead role.

"It's all love with #Zindagi Tere Naam, from #Yodha in the theater on March 15," he wrote as the caption. Sagar Ambre and Pushkar Ojha are the writers and

directors of the action thriller "Yodha." Dharma Productions, led by Karan Johar, is in charge of producing the movie.

In addition to Sidharth and Rashii, Disha Patani also features in the movie. The film "Yodha" is slated for release on March 15.

## The wedding of Sonarika Bhadoria features Shiv-Parvati mehendi



**Delhi:** The wedding festivities for Sonarika Bhadoria and her partner Vikas Parashar have begun. The actress has uploaded clips from her mehendi night. Famous for playing Goddess Parvati in the show, Bhadoria posted a photo of her

hennaed hands with Lord Shiva and Parvati designs. The actress wore a red lehenga, dupatta, and green velvet choli. She had a green neckpiece, earrings, a side 'maang teeka' and red bangles. This style was completed with glossy makeup.

Her mehendi photo-shoot depicts her beloved in olive green kurta-pyjamas. There will be five wedding functions at Rajasthan: Mata ki chowki, mair ceremony, mehendi, haldi, and saangeet.

## Crakk Review: Vidyut Jammwal and Arjun Rampal Madness

"Crakk, stars Vidyut Jammwal and has awful acting, weird editing, a loud background score, and overdone sound design"

**Delhi:** Extreme sports action film with stunts Delhi: Crakk lacks imagination. The superficial genre exercise bores me. Aditya Datt's third Commando film, Crakk, stars Vidyut Jammwal and has awful acting, weird editing, a loud background score, and overdone sound design. The sole star technician is Mark Hamilton, photographic director. The action choreographer's rhythm allows silences and blank gaps, so his camera must keep up. That movie is Crakk. The film's irregular narrative barely leaves a Mumbai shantytown and Polish locales where the protagonist meets the bad guy, who overreaches and leaves little permanent impression. Extreme sports action flick



Crakk has stunts. The superficial genre exercise bores me. Aditya Datt's third Commando film, Crakk, stars Vidyut Jammwal and has awful acting, weird editing, a loud background score, and overdone sound design. The sole star technician is Mark Hamilton, photographic director. The action choreographer's rhythm allows silences and blank gaps, so his camera must keep up. That movie is Crakk. The film's irregular narrative barely leaves a Mumbai shantytown and Polish locales where the protagonist meets the bad guy, who overreaches and leaves little permanent impression.

Daredevil slum child Siddharth "Siddhu" Dixit (Jammwal) wants to compete in Maidaan, "the most-watched event in the world" according to harsh showrunner Dev. A young man flees police and performs tricks on a local train before traveling abroad without a visa in credits. He challenges 31 international candidates in a final challenge to emotionally and physically defeat Dev after three races. Siddhu wants more than the title. He wonders how his older brother Nihaal (Ankit Mohan) died in Maidaan some years ago. When the truth emerges, the bulldozer finds significance beyond victory.

Yami Gautam: 'A Thursday' transformed my career



**Delhi:** Yami Gautam thanked her vigilante thriller film 'A Thursday' for changing her career on its second anniversary. In 'A Thursday', Yami plays the school teacher Naina Jaiswal, who kidnaps 13 students, causing tension. Yami acknowledged her importance as the film reached its two-year anniversary. Behzad Khambata's 'A Thursday', produced by RSVP Movies, stars Atul Kulkarni, Neha Dhupia, Dimple Kapadia, and Karanvir Sharma in key parts. Yami last appeared in 'OMG 2' with Akshay Kumar and Pankaj Tripathi.



## Vi Postpaid Customers can now Pre-Book International Roaming Packs and Get a Complimentary Delayed and Lost Baggage Cover Worth Rs. 19,800/Bag

**GURUGRAM / HISAR :** In the post Covid era, Indians have emerged as big globetrotters. This surge in travel, though positive, is accompanied with growing concerns for lost and mishandled baggage. Infact, a report by SITA the world's leading specialist in airport transport communication and IT, found that over 26 million pieces of luggage were delayed, lost, or damaged in 2022.

Today, effective baggage management has become a crucial focus area to enhance the overall travel experience. As many are looking to devise solutions to prioritise safety of travellers baggage, Vi, a leading telecom operator, has become the first in its industry to partner



with Blue Ribbon Bags, a US based lost baggage concierge service company, to offer a worry-free travel experience for Vi Postpaid international travellers. Vi Postpaid users can pre-book an International Roaming (IR) Pack for travel planned before April 7, 2024 and avail of complimentary cover towards delayed or lost baggage. This service offers a compensation of Rs. 19,800 per bag in case the luggage is delayed or not found beyond 96 hours following a

submission of the complaint. This exclusive offer is valid for a limited period on select unlimited international roaming plans namely 10 days @3999, 14 days @4999, and 30-days @5999 starting February 26, 2024, until March 21, 2024. This partnership represents a significant step towards fulfilling the needs of modern travellers, offering them peace of mind and assurance during their international journeys. As Vi continues to prioritize customer-centric innovation, baggage protection services is yet another addition to our add on services and reinforces Vi's commitment to delivering unmatched value and convenience to its customers.

## PERNOD RICARD INDIA'S FIRST LUXURY INDIAN SINGLE MALT LONGITUDE 77 GOES GLOBAL WITH LAUNCH IN DUBAI

**GURUGRAM :** Following a remarkable India launch in December 2023, Longitude 77, the luxury Indian single malt from the House of Pernod Ricard India launched in Dubai yesterday. Taking the best of Indian craftsmanship to the world, the brand officially announced the expansion of its footprint in a splendid evening showcasing the brand philosophy of an India Reimagined through the lens of a fashion showcase featuring globally renowned Indian designers. Tailored exclusively for connoisseurs of authentic contemporary Indian luxury, the evening embodied Longitude 77's vision to represent India's rich culture, historical craftsmanship, unique terroir and its enchanting spirit. It was symbolic of the line that runs through the heart and soul of



India, the line that gives the brand its name. Jean Touboul, CEO, Pernod Ricard India expressed, "The conception of Longitude 77 is backed by Pernod Ricard India's 30 years of know-how and experience in crafting quality liquids. Steadfast in our dedication to propel India's presence in the luxury sector, we are taking Pernod Ricard India's first Indian single malt, Longitude77, to the global platform with a grand launch in Dubai. This is a milestone moment in the company's journey in

India so far. It is a celebration of the nation's enchanting spirit and rich craftsmanship on a global stage." Kartik Mohindra, Chief Marketing Officer, Pernod India, said, "The launch of our Indian single malt, Longitude 77 in Dubai is a proud moment for Pernod Ricard India. It is a testament to the growing popularity of Indian single malts across borders, and we are excited to be at the forefront of this shift. It is a moment of celebration for the Indian single malt industry at large.



## Ashwin has not always got enough credit for what he is: AB de Villiers

**NEW DELHI:** Former South Africa skipper and batting great AB de Villiers on Wednesday praised Ravichandran Ashwin, labeling him a legend of the game and emphasized that the senior Indian spinner hasn't always received the full credit he deserves for his contributions to the game.

Ashwin reached a significant milestone, claiming his 500th Test wicket during the third match against England, earning a place in the exclusive company of cricketers.

De Villiers heaped praise on the 37-year-old and said, "What a fantastic achievement! Congratulations Ash, you are one of the toughest bowlers I have ever played against - an incredible asset for the Indian cricket team with both bat and ball." He's been a stalwart, but not always getting enough credit for what he is and the role he plays in the Indian team. What a legend!" De Villiers advised England's batters to stay positive and use their feet a lot more against Ashwin in the remaining two Tests of the five-match series. India lead the series 2-1 after their massive 434-run win in the third Test in Rajkot. "The one thing that stands out is he's (Ashwin) a tall guy, so he's got natural variation and bounce. He's got subtle changes with his wrist - undercut more and get over the top a little bit more.



## Individuals acknowledged at the India Intellectual Conclave 2024

**Delhi:** The Wadhawan Award India Council hosted the India Intellectual Conclave 2024 at the Constitution Club of India in the nation's capital, Delhi, whereby workers from various industries across the nation received the Inspiring Business Award in recognition. To mark the announcement of the President's Bravery Award 2024, DYSP Haryana Police Pradeep Khatri was also the recipient of a felicitation ceremony. This time around, Huda Alil was joined by a number of notable guests, including Drs. Tanjay Vashishtha, (Professor) Nishakant Ojha, Parin Somani, PK Rajput, Mehran Lahooti, Seon D Chang, Manju Gupta,



Anita Chauhan, Deepika Joshi, was an honor for all of the attendees. and Maryam Alizadeh. This

## The Ayurvedic Sandhya Medicity put up a magnificent Amrit Samaroh

**Delhi:** Ayurveda and Ramotsav Sandhya Medicity held the Amrit Samaroh at Varshney Bhawan in Shalimar Bagh, Delhi. Dr. Rajni Gupta, a co-founder of Sandhya Medicity, and Dr. Vikas Gupta, the founder, oversaw the organization of this Ayurvedic Amrit Samaroh. The lamp was lit to begin this camp. Acharya of Ayurveda Dr. Rajni Gupta provided information on the treatment and prevention of infertility, as well as the Panchakarma method's ability to treat all ail-



ments. World-renowned Ayurvedic physician Dr. Vikas Gupta provided information about using Ayurvedic medicine to treat cervical pain during this event. Satya

Narayan Gupta, the chairman of Sandhya Medicity, was also present on this occasion. BJP leader Rekha Gupta, Dr. Hemant Kumar, Delhi Police Officer Ajay Gupta,

Corporation Councilor Tilak Raj Kataria, and Vaidya Manohar Lal were among the many notable visitors who attended and were also honored on this occasion. Diplomas and degrees were also given to the students under the Sandhya Raman Aadhaar Foundation who are studying Ayurveda on this particular occasion. A unique health check-up camp was held during this time, and information regarding the significance of Ayurveda was distributed.

## The glory of Mahadev, the God of Gods, is immeasurable: Saurabh Chaudhary

**Kaithal:** State Co-Convenor of BJP Haryana Business Cell, Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal said that the glory of Mahadev, the God of Gods, is immeasurable and Baba Bhole Nath always protects his devotees. Saurabh Chaudhary was



addressing the devotees present today while participating as the chief guest in the grand Sankirtan and third Maha Aarti program organized by Shri Mahakal Seva Samiti Kaithal at the ancient Shiv Temple Hostel Road. On the arrival of BJP leader Saurabh Chaudhary in the program, the officials and members of Shri Mahakal Seva Samiti Kaithal welcomed him and honored him by giving him a siropa and memento. Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal worshipped Mahadev and performed Jalabhishek on Shivaling and took

blessings of Mahadev and wished for a happy life of all humanity. BJP state co-coordinator Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal said that by chanting the name of Baba Bhole, all the troubles and sorrows of a person get destroyed and the blessings of Mahadev always remain. Every human being should actively participate in religious and social activities and should contribute selflessly in social welfare works, because service to man is service to Narayan and the fruit of selfless service is always sweet. It happens.

## Yogi govt set to develop sports facilities in 171 govt. colleges of UP

**Approves Rs 1.71 crore including 1 lakh each for 171 govt colleges under Major Dhyanchand Mission Sports infrastructure to be developed to motivate & groom sporting talents of the state**

**Lucknow**  
In its ongoing pursuit to promote sports at

the grassroots level in Uttar Pradesh and motivate and nurture sporting talents of the state, the Yogi government has approved a fund of Rs 1.71 crore under the Major Dhyanchand Mission for developing sports infrastructure in as many as 171 government colleges of the state. Notably, this fund must be utilised by the colleges by March 31, 2024. Each of the 171 college will get Rs 1 lakh to develop sports facilities so that the talented sportspersons do not have to go elsewhere for training or practice for various tournaments and championships. State Minister of Higher Education, Yogendra Upadhyay mentioned that there is a plan in line with CM Yogi's

vision to train sportspersons in government colleges across the state. "Our priority is to provide sports facilities for those already enrolled in these colleges. In the sequence, against the provisioned budget of Rs 1.72 crore, an amount of Rs 1.71 crore is being released at the government level for creating sports facilities in a total of 171 government colleges with each college to receive Rs 1 lakh." The minister emphasised that the facilities will help the sportspersons to prepare for different championships and pursue a career in their favourite sports. Quality will not be compromised. The amount released by the government will be spent on preparing

the necessary infrastructure, including courts, turfs, etc, related to various sports. The minister added that the Director (Finance) of Higher Education, Uttar Pradesh, Prayagraj, will ensure compliance with the conditions set by the Finance Department while making the funds available to the Public Works Department through RTGS. The approved amount will not be kept in a bank account, and its expenditure will be carried out in accordance with appropriate financial procedures and as per government orders issued from time to time. All government colleges have been directed to ensure quality of work.

## Indian men, women lose in pre-quarter-finals of World TT

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian men's and women's teams on Wednesday faced defeats in the pre-quarter-finals of the World Table Tennis Championships in Busan, South Korea. The women's team, led by Manika Batra, lost 1-3 to Chinese Taipei, while the men's team was defeated 0-3 by South Korea for the second time in the competition.

Despite these losses, the Indian teams are likely to secure berths at the Paris Olympics based on their world rankings. The final confirmation will be announced on March 5 after considering the points earned from the World Championships. The event offered Olympic quotas to the quarter-finalists but the men and women from India are likely to make the cut through their world rankings. "In all likelihood, the men and women have qualified for the Olympics but we will have to wait till March for an official announcement.