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

Congress seeks Sebi chief's ouster, CBI probe into Adanis

NEW DELHI:

Congress on Monday demanded the resignation of Sebi chairperson Madhabi Buch and urged the Supreme Court to transfer the Adani probe to CBI or a special investigation team "given the likelihood of Sebi's compromise".

Reiterating its demand that a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) be convened without delay to investigate the full extent of the scam, Congress leaders threatened to launch a nationwide stir with INDIA bloc parties if its JPC demand was not met. The party also rejected BJP's allegation that Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi were trying to create "economic anarchy in the country and destabilise the



"Clearly, no institution is sacrosanct in Amrit Kaal"

"Clearly, no institution is sacrosanct in Amrit Kaal. Did the Sebi chairperson recuse herself from the Adani investigations?" he asked.

market". Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh told that it was "not even worth responding to such pathetically puerile posturing". Commenting on Sunday, Congress said the regulatory body had sought to

Speaking to reporters, party general secretary K C Venugopal said, "The PM's silence on the matter amounts to destruction of credibility.

project an "image of hyperactivity" by citing the large number of summons issued, letters and emails sent out and documents examined. Ramesh described these as tactics to divert attention from the core issues involved. Pointing out

"This delay conveniently allowed the prime minister to navigate an entire general election without addressing his role in facilitating his close friend's illicit activities". "Sebi chairperson and her husband had separated their finances has been shattered by the revelation.

Ramesh alleged that "this delay conveniently allowed the prime minister to navigate an entire general election without addressing his role in facilitating his close friend's illicit activities". "Sebi chairperson and her husband had separated their finances has been shattered by the revelation.

that the SC had directed Sebi in March last year to "expeditiously conclude the investigation", the party said, "The fact is that Sebi's seeming inability to close two of its 24 investigations delayed publication of its findings for over a year."

India, Russia eye Rs 10k crore N-fuel deal, local production

NEW DELHI: India and Russia are working on a deal worth Rs 10,500 crore for the supply of nuclear fuel and core components to Kudankulam nuclear power plant's two new units coming up with Moscow's help, people in the know said.

The deal envisages Russian nuclear fuel company TVEL JSC supplying to the dept of atomic energy the initial loads and subsequent five reloads for units 3 and 4 of the Kudankulam N-power project along with control rods and fuel assembly inspection tool set from 2025 to 2033.

The people cited above said New Delhi is also looking at the possibility of forming a joint venture with Rosatom, the state-run parent of TVEL, for manufacturing the nuclear fuel for the plant in India - which will be a boost for India's nuclear capability.

The Kudankulam nuclear power project is located 650 km south of Chennai, in the



Hindenburg report: Markets shrug off Sebi row as Congress, BJP slug it out

NEW DELHI: Amid a political slugfest over the latest Hindenburg report, Dalal Street discounted the short-seller's charges against Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch and her husband Dhaval Buch and their alleged links with the Adani

Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. It is based on the Russian pressurised heavy water reactor technology, and will be the largest nuclear power project in the country with a capacity of 6,000 MW once all six units are completed. Currently, two units with a cumulative capacity of 2 GW are operational.

probe, closing 57 points lower in volatile trade.

Unlike Jan 2023, when the report on Adani group severely eroded the conglomerate's market cap, on Monday, the group's shares lost between 0.7% (Adani Power).

India currently has nuclear power capacity of 7 GW (gigawatts) and plans to nearly double it to 13 GW by 2029 as part of clean energy transition plans. India and Russia last year signed an agreement on the construction of the last two units of the Kundankulam project. TVEL provides nuclear

RSS-BJP netas in 5-hour huddle over next party president

NEW DELHI: Senior BJP netas have held detailed consultations on the party's future course and who should succeed J P Nadda whose extended tenure as president has also ended.

Although details of the five-hour meeting held at the residence of defence minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday were not available, sources said there was a thorough discussion on who should be the next working president or the full-time president in view of the looming assembly polls.

Besides Singh, home minister Amit Shah and BJP general secretary (organisation) B L Santhosh attended the deliberations. RSS was represented by its number two, general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale, and joint general secretary.

Conceptualise and optimise deep learning algorithms with this Advanced Certification Programme



In the present times, deep learning has become the foundation of AI applications by deploying the potential of vast data sets and changing the way modern industries function. Deep learning uses neural networks to understand data. Its application in the finance sector helps traders make data-focused decisions about their investments. Deep learning and artificial intelligence's impact extends to varied industries such as healthcare, finance, retail, automotive etc. International Data Corporation has anticipated AI spending. It expects worldwide spending on AI solutions to grow to over \$500 billion by 2027. These developments point to how industries increasingly rely on data's potential to access insights that give them an edge while ushering in operational efficiency and innovation. They are always looking for professionals who can navigate the new world of work with aplomb and leverage these new technologies to create solutions to the world's challenges. The PG Level Advanced Certification Course in Deep Learning, offered by the Center of Continuing Education at IISc in collaboration with TalentSprint, fills this gap. It is a 10-month weekend programme that empowers AI.

Sheikh Hasina's 'prolonged' stay in India won't hurt our ties with Delhi: Bangladesh

Dhaka/New Delhi: Bangladesh's ties with India under the stewardship of the new interim govt in Dhaka won't be affected even if deposed PM Sheikh Hasina remains New Delhi's guest for an extended period of time, foreign affairs adviser Md Touhid Hossain said Monday. His remarks can give the beleaguered Awami League chief some breathing space and be seen as reassuring for India.



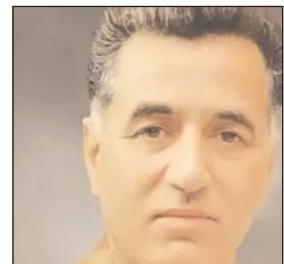
Hasina was initially understood to have sought refuge in India "only for the moment". "Bilateral relations are a much larger issue. Friendship is based on mutual interest," Hossain said. "We will... always strive to

maintain our good relations (with India)," Hossain said after a meeting with foreign diplomats in Dhaka to brief them about the situation and efforts to restore law and order. "This (Bangladesh objecting to Hasina staying longer in India) is a hypothetical question. There is no reason for that. Why should relations with a particular country be affected if someone stays there?" Hossain said.

His statement is seen as reassuring for India as the UK and other Western countries dither on offering Hasina asylum. BNP, a major political force in Bangladesh, has already cautioned India against hosting her indefinitely. How the interim government may finally want to deal with Hasina remains open to speculation as Bangladesh also hasn't ruled out efforts to seek her deportation.

Pakistan army arrests former ISI chief over graft and misuse of office

ISLAMABAD: A former chief of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Retd), has been taken into military custody and field court martial proceedings initiated against him over allegations of corruption and misuse of authority, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the Pakistan army's media wing, said on Monday. This is the first time in the country's history



that a court martial has been initiated against a former ISI chief. Hameed, who served as ISI chief from June 2019 to Oct 2021, was widely believed to be close to jailed former prime minister Imran

Khan's govt. The arrest, according to ISPR, was ordered by the Supreme Court in a petition filed by the owner of a private housing society in Islamabad accusing the former spymaster of torturing him and his family members and robbing them of their properties and valuables. Hameed has also been accused of multiple violations of the Pakistan Army Act after retirement.

In role reversal, Bharti acquire 24.5% of iconic BT in \$4 billion deal

Vatika Times NEW DELHI: Bharti Global, the international investment arm of Bharti Enterprises, on Monday announced the acquisition of a 24.5% stake in iconic BT Group plc from Altice UK, which will make it the largest shareholder in the company that once owned 21% in Bharti Airtel. Bharti has already acquired 9.9% in the UK's top fixed and mobile communications provider through a market deal. Based on BT's current market value, the entire transaction - which is subject to regulatory approvals, including security clearance - is estimated around \$4 billion. The deal adds to the



list of marquee British companies and brands acquired by Indian entities, including Jaguar Land Rover, Corus and Tetley by Tata, apart from BSA by Mahindra Group and Hamleys by Reliance Brands. "BT to my mind has a much brighter future ahead and they need to be following their strategy, if I may say, even more boldly... We are not in this for making a buck or looking at stock mar-

kets up or down. We are long-term telecom investors," Bharti Enterprises chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal said during a call, adding that the investment offered synergies. Flanked by his son Shravin, Bharti Global MD, he pitched it as a strategic deal which was in line with strengthening India-UK ties and offered opportunities on AI, 5G RD and core engineering. Once the transaction is completed, Bharti

will own more stake than Deutsche Telekom's 12%. The deal follows Mexican magnate Carlos Slim's 3.2% acquisition in BT two months ago. Despite slower growth opportunities, it marks Bharti's big foray into a developed country market with the group having so far focused on Africa, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Seychelles in addition to the home market. "Growth in Europe and the UK is bound to be much... So, the revenue is pretty small, 1-2% a year... But the revenue is pretty large, \$25 billion of current revenues, and \$10 billion in EBITDA... can we create more efficiency, can the free cash flows increase over a period of time...

Dig trench to reach Gyanvapi sanctum sanctorum: Plaintiff

In a hearing related to the Kashi Vishwanath-Gyanvapi dispute, advocate Vijay Shankar Rastogi urged for excavation to explore beneath the mosque's central dome, claiming a Shivaling and artesian well from the Aadi Vishweshwar temple lie there. A fast-track court has scheduled the next hearing for August 21, seeking a response from the mosque management committee. Dig trench to reach Gyanvapi sanctum sanctorum: Plaintiff VARANASI: The plaintiff in the original Kashi Vishwanath-Gyanvapi dispute suit has demanded digging of a trench for an additional survey of the mosque to reach what he referred to as "the sanctum sanctorum of Aadi Vishweshwar temple where a tall Shivaling and artesian well are buried under its central dome". The litigant, advocate Vijay Shankar Rastogi, in case No.610/1991 Swayambhu Lord Vishweshwar.

Donations from deceased make South heart transplant topper

NEW DELHI: Southern states lead in heart transplants, according to data shared by National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation (Notto). In 2023, 221 heart transplants were carried out across India. Of these, Notto data show that a maximum of 70 were carried out in Tamil Nadu, followed by Karnataka (35), Maharashtra (33), Gujarat (29) and Telangana (15). Delhi-NCR witnessed only 14 transplants, according to the govt report. Officials attribute the higher number of heart transplants in South India to an increase in harvesting from the deceased. India recorded a total of 1,099 deceased donations in 2023, with the highest number (252) reported in Telangana. followed by Tamil Nadu and Karnataka with 178 each, Maharashtra with 148, and Gujarat with

146, an official stated. A heart transplant is a surgery to remove a damaged or diseased heart and replace it with a healthy donor heart. While the liver and kidney can be donated by living donors, the heart must be donated by someone who is brain-dead and is on life support, also referred to as a 'deceased donor'. Data shows that while the number of deceased donations in the South and the West show a substantial uptick, other regions are lagging behind. Laggard states must find out what makes these states more successful in their endeavours and adopt those practices. An interstate meet on the subject would help. According to Dr Y K Misra, head of cardiac sciences and chief cardiovascular surgeon at Manipal Hospitals.

Special on 13 August Martyrdom Day

* British had martyred Abdul Majeed and others, passionate about freedom
* Women also martyred, horrifying scene witnessed bloodshed on clock tower

Prayagraj: That day of August 1943 when Abdul Majeed Raine, who was born in a merchant family of Chowk and gave edge to the freedom struggle, had his supporters including women with the passion to liberate Hindustan. As soon as the procession moved from Ghantaghar towards Jansenganj intersection, the British started firing bullets. Abdul Marjiti was in front carrying the tricolor and leading the entire procession. The British dismembered his body. Within a few minutes, there were bodies of freedom-loving martyrs everywhere near the clock tower and the entire clock tower turned red with blood.

Before the Martyrdom Day of Martyr Abdul Majeed Rain, with tearful eyes, the martyr's nephew Qadir Bhai along with his martyr uncle paid tribute to all the immortal martyrs who sacrificed their lives for Mother India and said that on the call of Mahatma Gandhi, the British should leave India. In Prayagraj, the youth coming from Ghantaghar intersection towards Jansenganj, waving the national flag and tricolor and raising slogans like Quit India, Inquilab Zindabad, were moving towards Anand Bhawan from Ghantaghar intersection via Jansenganj under the leadership of Shaheed Abdul Majeed Rain. That's why the cruel rulers of the British government beheaded Martyr Abdul Majeed Rain, Martyr Murari Mohan Bhattacharya and Bhagwati Prasad and put the brave sons of Mother India to sleep forever. In memory of this incident of 13 August 1943, Mohd. Qadir (Qadir Bhai), nephew of Shaheed Abdul Raine, said that earlier people lived in and around Ghantaghar in the name of the city. Village traders used to come here and do business. His family was one of the business families here. At the time of independence, all the activity used to happen from here. The focal point of independence was the square. On which the British rulers used to keep an eye. He said that like every year, this year too his martyrdom will be remembered by paying homage to him on his martyrdom day.

Khushi became Captain and Anshika Vice Captain Principal honoured new office bearers by wearing them with badges

Prayagraj: Badge investiture ceremony was celebrated on Monday at Shri Narayan Ashram Girls Intermediate College, Shivkuti. Principal Vibha Mishra encouraged all the selected girl students. He said that the main objective of this program is to promote the development of leadership qualities in the students. In the function, class 11 student Khushi Maurya was selected as the school captain and class 9 student Anshika Kaithwas was selected as the vice captain. In the



programme, the Principal honored the new office bearers by wearing them badges. Captains of the four houses of the school, Hridaya Dubey, Tanvi Pandey, Vaishnavi Kesarwani, Amrita Singh and Vice Captains Anushka Patel, Vartika Yadav, Vaibhavi Nishad, Radhika Shukla were also honored with this decoration. The Principal instilled a sense of responsibility among the selected students and made them realize leadership qualities. The newly appointed officials of the school assumed the responsibility and took an oath to work together for the development of the school.

Amitabh & Manoj Pahwa partner with GSK for awareness & prevention campaign

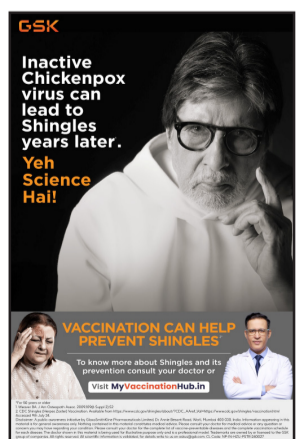
Varanasi: GSK today launched a new campaign on Shingles awareness, featuring veteran actors Amitabh Bachchan and Manoj Pahwa, explaining the scientific link between chickenpox and Shingles. The campaign films use everyday conversations between two friends to talk about shingles and the increased susceptibility of shingles in people with diabetes.

Vigyeta Agrawal, Patient Empowerment Head, GSK said, "The 2023 API-Ipsos survey showed that even those who had shingles did not know the cause of this painful disease. It is essential that all people above the age of 50 years know about shingles and its prevention. We

wanted to explain the science behind the cause of shingles and the link between chickenpox and shingles in a simple manner. Amitabh Bachchan has an unparalleled ability to connect with people across all demographics. We are confident that having him as the face of the campaign, will help us reach and encourage more people, especially ageing adults, to talk to their doctor about shingles and its prevention."

Commenting on the campaign, Manoj Pahwa said, "I am in an age group that is susceptible to shingles, and through GSK's shingles awareness campaigns I have understood more about this painful disease and its associ-

ated risk factors. I have faced multiple health problems and know how difficult it is to lead an active and fulfilling life when affected



by infectious diseases. I am proud to be a part of this initiative to educate people about the cause of shingles and the importance of pre-

vention. I encourage adults over 50 years, to talk to their doctors about shingles and its prevention."

Harikrishnan Pillai, co-founder and CEO, Blitzkraig, an arm of TheSmallBigIdea Network, said, "The campaign comprises of two campaign films. One film shows two ageing friends reminiscing about school days and establishes the link between chickenpox and shingles, while the other depicts a caring bond between two friends and focuses on increased vulnerability of people with diabetes to shingles. The 'Yeh Science Hai' campaign urges adults above the age of 50 to talk to their doctor about shingles and its prevention. The messages that come

through are clear and memorable."

R. Balki, the Director, commenting on the creative insight for the film said "Shingles is a disease that is misunderstood by many people. The challenge was to talk about the link between shingles and chickenpox in an easy-to-understand and engaging manner. I was instantly aligned with how TheSmallBigIdea crafted a simple and strong message. In this case, clarity, not creativity, was the need of the hour."

Shingles is caused by the re-activation of the virus that lies dormant in the nerves if a person has had chickenpox. People with a history of chickenpox who also have diabetes face a 40% higher risk of develop-

ing shingles. High blood sugar levels can weaken the immune system, and when that happens it can increase the risk of reactivation of the chickenpox virus and emergence of shingles.

The campaign films will be released across multiple platforms, including YouTube (mobile and connected TV), Google Display, Meta, select OTT platforms, Paytm, Google Pay, and various TV channels spanning multiple genres such as general entertainment channels (GEC), movies, and news in both Hindi and regional languages. Additionally, a partnership has been established with the popular television quiz show Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC) for this campaign.

Shringverpur Mahotsav Organizing Committee holds Divya Ganga Maha Aarti

Shringverpur Prayagraj: On the fourth Monday of the holy festival of Shravan month, Jai Shri Ram Seva Samiti, Shringverpur Mahotsav, amid the chanting of Vedic mantras, at Ramghat, Shringverpur Dham, on the banks of Maa Ganga. On Devadhivev Mahadev Lord Shiv Bholenath along with the divine Ganga Maha Aarti of Mother Ganga was performed, most revered Shri Panch 10 names Juna Akhara Mahant Kailash Giri Naga Baba, Mahant Kankal Kail's Manas Baba, President Sanjay Tiwari told that, Shringverpur Dham is the

penance land of Shringi Rishi and This is the workplace of Lord Shri Ram. It was conducted by Arun Dwivedi, director of Shringverpur Mahotsav. Hundreds of pilgrims, including local pilgrims, were applied Tilak with Kumkum and made them pledge for the cleanliness and purity of Ganga. In the program of the fourth Monday of Sawan month in Shringverpur Dham, Aarti was completed with the main support of Dr. B.K. Kashyap Kulvadhur Rita Nishad, the original descendant of Shri Ram Sakha Nishadraj Guhya



Shringverpur and the sages in Ayodhya who was awarded the title of

Nishadraj II. Pradeep Kesarwani Patron International Hindu Parishad

Shyam Upadhyay Advocate District President Shiv Vishal Tiwari District Vice

President Ganga Par Manoj Yadav Head Pandit Narsingh Narayan Dwivedi Santosh Pehalwan Vijay Yadav Block President Sudhanshu Mishra Block General Secretary Kuldeep Tiwari, Vipul Tiwari, Komal Pandey, Shiveep Tiwari Golu Vishwakarma Block Vice President Cow protectors Akash Tiwari, Pappu Tripathi, Atal Mishra, Satya Tripathi, Shivraj Himanshu Mishra, Kamlesh Nishadraghavendra Yadav District Panchayat, Nirmal Baba, Shivdi Tiwari, Sonu Yadav, Suraj, Mahindra Jaiswal, Jai Viskarma, Mohit Yadav, Aman etc.

Grandeur of Daastan-E-Laila Majnu spectacles the audience

Prayagraj: On the 7th eve of the 'Celebrating Nautanki Mahotsava' SWARG Repertory presented the story 'Daastan-E-Laila Majnu'. Nautanki made its presence felt with rich cultural diversity and confluence of traditions making it undoubtedly the best theatrical form of Indian Theatre. Artists attired in Arabic Costumes with their excellent acting skills drew thunderous claps from the audience. The audiences were overwhelmed with the ambience and presentation of the play. Play took the audience to the era of old Hindi films which has itself inherited its very structure from Nautanki i.e. a story with songs in-between.

The enduring popularity of the legends Laila-Majnu has influenced Middle Eastern literature where the name Laila refers to the concept of the Beloved and Majnu is referred to as one who is completely possessed, as might be ex-

pected of a person who is literally madly in love. The tale tells of Laila and Majnu obsessed immensely in love. The families learnt of this and began to feud, pre-



venting Laila and Majnu from seeing each other. Laila's cousin Tabrez, would not let her shame the family name by marrying Majnu. Tabrez and Majnu quarreled and in ensuing feud Tabrez lost his life. Word reached the City Kazi and Majnu was arrested. He was sentenced to be stoned to death by 'City Kazi'. Laila could not bear it and agreed

to marry another man if Majnu would be kept safe from harm in exile. Her terms were accepted and Laila got married to Shehzada Bakht, but her heart still longed for

tain injuries - died and after awhile Majnu also gave his life.

The Melodies, Rhyme & Rhythm of Nautanki and Parsi style dialogues stunned the audience - which felt the power of our Indian Theatre Nautanki. This gala presentation was directed by Eminent Ace Theatre Director Atul Yadavanshi. On the stage Sutradhar- Shradha Despande, Ananya Mohiley, Preksha Deshpande, Sachin Kesarvani as Majnu, Shivani Kashyap as Laila, Aijaz Khan as Shahzada Bakht, Priya Mishra as Laila's Mother and Aryan Mohiley as Tabrez impressed one and all with their splendid acting and singing skills. Off stage Musicians included Dilip Kumar Gulshan, Roshan Pandey, Mohd Sajid and Nagina. Costumes were designed by Shiipi Yaduvanshi. Make up was by Mohd. Hameed and Light design was Sujoy Ghoshal.

Har Ghar Tricolor campaign: BJP launched cleanliness drive and laid wreaths PROGRAMS ORGANIZED IN VARIOUS DIVISIONS

Prayagraj: Under the Har Ghar Tricolor campaign, BJP workers saluted the great men by organizing cleanliness and wreath laying programs near the statues and monuments of great men. BJP Scheduled Tribe Morcha organized a cleanliness program in and around the statue of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. Morcha workers cleaned the statue of Baba Saheb located at Sadar Bazar Cantt of Pritam Nagar Mandal and then paid homage to him by garlanding him. Under Bhardwaj

Mandal, a cleanliness campaign was conducted near the statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay located at Balsan intersection. During this, former minister Dr. Narendra Kumar Singh Gaur said that it is our duty to salute great men. Cleanliness campaign was conducted near the statues of Martyr Lal Padma Dhar at District Collectorate in University Division, Lal Bahadur Shastri at Medical Square in Kidganj Mandal, Amar Shaheed Thakur Roshan Singh at Swaroop Rani Campus and Martyr



Chandrashekhar Azad at ADC. Cleanliness wreath

laying campaign was conducted in Chowk Mandal

under the leadership of Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra. In Muthiganj, Meera pur, Venimadhav, Rajruppur Mandal also, Mandal workers and officials conducted cleanliness and wreath laying campaign. On this occasion, BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra said that India is in front of the world today as a strong republic. The great men who sacrificed their

lives for freedom will be remembered for ages. Under this program which will run from 12th to 14th August, the campaign will also be run in other divisions of the metropolis. In the cleanliness and wreath laying campaign, Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, Rajesh Kesarwani, Vivek Mishra Rajesh Gond, Sumit Vaishya, Anil Bhatt, Raghavendra Mishra, Avnish Tiwari, Ashish Dwivedi, Anjani Singh, Aman, Ganesh Verma, Prashant Shukla, Rakesh Bharti, etc. were present.

Seminar based on Nano Urea Plus and Nano DAP held Beneficial for the crop, soil and environment

Prayagraj: Farmer seminar based on Nano Urea Plus and Nano DAP was organized by IFFCO Phulpur and IFFCO Cordet in Gonnana village, under Tharvai police station, Prayagraj. In the farmer seminar, IFFCO Phulpur PRO Swayam Prakash said that Nano Urea Plus and Nano DAP are based on new technology. Farmers should adopt it because it is beneficial for the crop, soil and environment; it is helpful in fulfilling the Prime Minister's aim to

double the income of farmers. CORDET Principal Dr. Harishchandra told the farmers in detail about the use of Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP and also gave sprinkling training to the farmers through drones. Veterinarian Dr. Ved Prakash gave information to the farmers about the care and health of livestock. The program was conducted by Mukesh Tiwari, during which a large number of regional farmers were present.



Mahadev Army, made up of individuals from all religions, sets example

- ✓ People belonging to all communities gave message of mutual harmony
- ✓ Mahadev Army formed with aim of curbing western culture
- ✓ Religious rock band organized in premises of Someshwar Mahadev Temple
- ✓ Devotees danced to songs and verses of Lord Shiva

Prayagraj: The holy month of Saavan is celebrated in the country. There is an echo of Har Har Mahadev everywhere. On one side, where Kawariyas are reaching Shivalaya, on the other side common devotees are also engaged in worshipping Lord Shiva. In such a situation, people of all religions of Sangam city Prayagraj have set a unique example. People belonging to Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian religions have formed a Mahadev Army. The objective of Mahadev Army is to maintain mutual harmony in the society. Keeping this objective in mind, a religious rock band was organized by Mahadev Army in the premises of Someshwar Mahadev Temple.

The only purpose of organizing religious broad-band is that the youth

should be inclined towards spirituality and understand the importance of the month



of Sawan. Arif Khan and Saurabh Yadav of Mahadev Army say that this year in the month of Sawan, a fa-

mous rock band of religious Shiv songs has been called, so that the youth who are

moving towards western culture can be stopped and connected with religious spirituality. The program

started at 6 pm. In which the rock band from Banaras sang many songs of Lord

Shiva. The devotees got excited by the tune of the songs and the sound of the rock band. Chanting of Har

Har Mahadev started in the entire temple premises.

The local people expressed their gratitude to all the members of Mahadev Army because with such an event the entire area was in devotion. Even the thunder of clouds and light rain drops did not become a hindrance and the devotees enjoyed listening to the songs of Mahadev by the rock band after visiting the temple. A large number of people were present in the event held under the open sky. People of Mahadev Army say that similar religious events will continue to be held in future also because people of all religions joining together is their strength. After the program, people who have created their own separate and clean identity in the society were also honoured.

Attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh worrying: Kishore

Prayagraj: Former UP Congress Committee spokesperson Kishore Varshney has expressed concern over attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh. In a meeting of Congressmen held at the party's camp office in Himmattganj in afternoon, he condemned the attacks and expressed confidence that the interim government there will take strong steps to build confidence in the minority communities. He said that the attack on minority Hindus, their properties and places of worship is a matter of concern. Congressmen sent a memorandum addressed to the President via the District Magistrate for the intervention of the Central Government in this regard. UPCC members Fuzail Hashmi, Harikesh Tripathi, Ajay Srivastava, Parvez Siddiqui, Omprakash Tripathi, Sartaj Mohammed, Indresh Singh, Arun Chaurasia, Ajay Mishra, Mohd. Javed, Keshav Pasi, Anil Srivastava, Kameshwar Sonkar etc were present.

ABVP efforts yielding results, last date for application of CRATE extended

Prayagraj: Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad submitted memorandum to increase research seats in Commerce Department and extend the last date of CRATE application. They have handed over a memorandum to entrance exam director, Professor JK Pati on Monday. The memorandum reads as follows: "You must be aware that the application for CRATE 2024-25 in Allahabad University started from 19 July 2024, for which the last date of application was fixed as 12 August 2024. Also,



many teachers have been appointed in the Commerce Department of Allahabad University, yet the research seats have not been increased for this. Sir, I would like to inform you that the results of postgraduate final semester of all the universities have not been declared yet, due to which many students are unable to apply for CRATE and due to various other reasons also many students are not able to fill the application forms. As per para 2.02 of the crate brochure, seats in the crate can be increased or decreased. You may be aware that the new appointment of all the teachers in the Department of Commerce has been completed recently on 26th July 2024, due to which now the seats for research in the Commerce Department have also increased. Therefore, Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad Allahabad University Unit is requesting you. It demands that the application date of CRATE 2024-25 should be extended from 12th August to 20th August, so that the students can get relief and also the seats for research in the Commerce Department should be increased."

Vishnu Bhagwan in semi-finals with thrilling win CBSE Pre Subroto Cup U15 National Football Championship 2024

Prayagraj: Vishnu Bhagwan Public School entered the semi-finals by defeating Gyan Mata Vidya Vihar School, Nanded, Maharashtra by 2-1 in a thrilling quarterfinal match played on the third day of Pre Subroto Cup U15 National Football Championship at Indore. According to the Head Coach of Vishnu Bhagwan Public School, Indranil Ghosh, in the first half of the game,



Gyan Mata Vidya Vihar School put its team ahead by scoring a goal in the 15th minute. In reply, Vishnu Bhagwan scored its first goal in the 28th minute of the game through forward player Abhay Pratap. Singh hit Aditya's pass. Till half time both the teams were tied at 1-1 goals. Whereas after the half time, on the 71st minute of the game, Abhay Pratap Singh scored the second goal for the team. The winning Vishnu Bhagwan team is as follows: Nishant Mishra (Goalkeeper), Aditya Upadhyay, Prakhar Tripathi, Kumar Ansh, Aditya Singh, Raunak, Rudransh (Captain), Abhay, Saksham, Shivans, Shaurya, Veer, Utkarsh, Akshat, Karthik, Ayaan. Trainer-Mitesh Gupta and Team Coach - Indranil Ghosh.

Baba Mukteshwar Nath Mahadev gave Live Darshan in snow Shivaling Huge bhandara on Aug 13

Prayagraj: Under the auspices of the Shri Ram Mandir Sabha, under the leadership of Basant Lal Azad, President of the Sabha and coordinator of the program, a grand decoration of the ice Shivaling of Baba Mukteshwar Nath Mahadev Ji located in the courtyard of Shri Ram Mandir was done. Before this, the President of the Sabha, Basant Lal Azad ji worshipped Baba Mukteshwar Nath Mahadev Ji according to the complete rituals, after which Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani and former councilor Vijay Vaishya, Pramod Bansal, Satish Chandra Kesarwani, Dinesh Singh, BJP spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani Sushil Jain offered Amarnath prayers to Baba Mukteshwar Nath Mahadev Ji. Sanjeev Darshan program of Swaroopi Barf Shivaling was inaugurated by doing Maha Aarti, after which an attractive tableau of Lord Bholenath Mahakal and Mahakali was presented by eminent artists. Conducted by Ajit Singh, on this occasion Preeti Rawat, Mamta Mishra, Kalavati, Amit Bahore, Gagan Gupta, Durga Prasad Gupta, Dau Dayal Kesarwani, Krishna, Bhagwan Kesarwani, Shatrughan Jaiswal, Ajay Agrahari, Abhilash Kesarwani, etc., there were hundreds of devotees.



BHS principal refutes graft charges as baseless, vows legal action against rumour mongers

Prayagraj: "Upright and honest Boys' High School & College principal is being hounded by people close to Morris Edgar Dan, because he has refused to succumb to their unrealistic demands and has continued to tread the path of truth during his tenure spanning over three decades. Under his supervision, the institution is scaling new heights, which is corroborated by the academic excellence attained by students over the years. Aides of Morris Edgar Dan are perturbed by the rising popularity of BHS principal and are resorting mudslinging and unethical ways to satisfy their vested interests. However, their chances of succeeding in their nefarious aim are almost negligible. The entire teaching staff and others associated with BHS are standing rock behind him and determined to thwart any attempt by churning rumour mills to disturb the

tranquil atmosphere of institution," opined a senior BHS teacher on the condition of anonymity, while replying to the queries of mediapersons on the alleged press communiqué being circulated by some people labelling graft charges on principal DA Luke.

When scribes confronted Principal DA Luke over alleged graft charges, he was quick to refute all allegations as baseless, sans any iota of truth and smacks of larger conspiracy by Morris Edgar Dan aides to appoint a puppet in his place, who can serve the interest of corrupt by helping them in gaining control school coffers.

Retorting angrily to the queries of mediapersons, he said, "It has come to my notice that Morris Edgar Dan has sent a press release in regard to a notice from EOW. He has no locus to interfere in the working

of the Allahabad High School Society as per the order of Hon. High Court in Writ-C No 12640 of 2024 John Augustine Vs State of UP and 3 others and 34333 of 2015 - The Allahabad High School Society Vs State of UP & Others. The court has refused him as the Chairman of the Allahabad High School Society. It is worth mentioning here that Morris Edgar Dan has a long criminal history and two cases have been lodged against him presently and in this context he is on the run."

"Earlier a First Information Report was also registered on him on my complaint in Civil Lines police station regarding Rs 3.8 crore scam in which he has misused the said amount of Boys High School. For the same crime he was also in Jail for more than a year. Earlier senior police officials were given probe in this regard and all the allegations

were found baseless.

I would also like to inform you that according to the order passed by Hon High Court No. 30896 of 2022, has directed the District Magistrate to appoint the City Magistrate to act as joint signatory of Boys high School and Girls High School. Every financial transaction of the said schools is being directly monitored by the District Magistrate, Prayagraj," he remarked prior to signing off.

Another senior teacher, who was patiently listening the conversation with mediapersons, quickly added that earlier too, an enquiry was conducted over the alleged charges on the orders of UP Government, but BHS principal came out clean, he was acquitted of all charges levelled by opponents, which was akin to slap on the face of rumour mongers, and this time too, their accusations will fail to see light of the day.

Rotary Alld Midtown organized fund raising exhibition "Presentation" for empowerment of girls

Prayagraj: Rotary Allahabad Midtown organized a fund raising exhibition "Presentation" for the empowerment of girls and free cataract operation during the



Kumbh Mela from 10 am to 8.30 pm at Hotel Milan Palace. In the exhibition, there were stalls of sarees, kurtas, lehengas, food items, imitation jewellery, silver items, gift items, household items etc. from Calcutta, Delhi, Lucknow, Banaras and Allahabad. A lucky draw was also conducted every hour in the exhibition. The media partners of the club for this exhibition are DJ and 92.7 Big FM. On this occasion, club president Radha Saxena, Manu Saxena, Ravi Talwar, Pankaj Jain, Madhu Agarwal, Swati Kharbanda, Neeraj Chugh etc. were present.

Abhilasha Nandi kicks off campaign to hoist tricolour flag atop every house

Prayagraj: On the call of the country's famous Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former mayor of Prayagraj, Abhilasha Gupta Nandi, on Monday from the office in Muthiganj, on the instructions of Industrial Development Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government and MLA of City South, Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, the divisions, sectors of the City South Assembly Constituency distributed the tricolour flag to the booth workers. She called upon the godlike workers of BJP to hoist the tricolour in



every house. Former Mayor Abhilasha Gupta Nandi said that on August 15, 1947, the country saw a new dawn. Along with independence from foreign rule, the country also gained the freedom to create its own destiny. Many decades after independence, today under the leadership of the country's illustrious Prime Minister, the most respected Shri Narendra Modi, our national flag, the tricolour symbol of sacrifice, loyalty and peace, is singing its glory not only in the country but in the entire world. Then come, on the call of the country's illustrious Prime Minister, the most respected Shri Narendra Modi, let us all join the proud Tricolour campaign at every house and hoist the national flag, the symbol of the country's pride and glory, in our homes by 15th August. Hoist it on offices, business establishments, factories and upload selfies with the Tricolour at every house on Tiranga.com.

Councilor Kiran Jaiswal angry about pit dug in Shankar Lal Bhargava Rd, Kydganj

Prayagraj: Drain has been running in between Shankar Lal Bhargava Road and Triveni Road for 6 months. A memorandum will be submitted after meeting the Vice President along with BJP councilors, BJP workers and regional citizens on Tuesday regarding the deaths and accidents due to digging and abandonment. If the work does not start, a symbolic fast will be held indefinitely from August 20. At eight places from Lal Bhargava Road Kaushal School to Police Booth intersection, the drain has been left dug for four months by digging five feet pits. There is no provision for where the water from the drain will be disposed and there is soil beneath the slab that has been put in the drain. The drain is full, how will it be cleaned? Provision was not made while making the drain. BJP's

Chief Whip and councilor in the Municipal Corporation, Kiran Jaiswal said that to save the cable outside Kanhaiya Lal School, the road was dug up and the work was



stopped. The work is done by the contractor for one day and the work is stopped for 5 days. Any accident can happen due to these potholes.

The road leading to Payal Talkies from Triveni Road Samiya Mata

Mandir, which is only five meters long, was dug out for two months and left filled with water. All these places are filled with drain water. The old elephant drain on the way has been clogged with debris. Mosquitoes and infection are breeding due to filth. Kotha Parcha Dot's place near the bridge. In the process of removing a person who had fallen in

a pit, a person felt dizzy. He was taken to the hospital and was told that he had a heart attack. He died. He was put on track by the Municipal Corporation for three months. Interlocking has been removed due to which

there is mud on the tracks. Due to this working style of the executive body PDA, the public is facing huge problems and there is tremendous anger. This is spoiling the clean image of the Bharatiya Janata Party government from 15th August. Tiranga Yatra is to be taken out, after that it is Janmashtami, tableau is taken out and the most important thing is that there is a fair of Dadhikando in Triveni Road, Shankar Lal Bhargava Road in which Krishna Baldaui ji's group comes out, lakhs of people participate in it. The councilor said that immediately. On August 13, at 10:30 am, BJP councilors, workers and regional people will meet the Vice President of PDA and submit a memorandum demanding the start of this work.

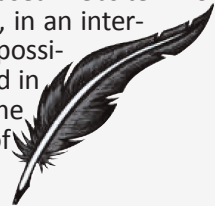
Editorial

Why we don't care enough for minorities in Bangladesh

Still, that doesn't guarantee him safety. As per a 2021 human rights report, Bangladesh saw more than 3,600 attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh since 2013. Hasina had been in power since 2009. Minorities in Bangladesh had been ardent Hasina supporters not because the killing of Hindus, the destruction and looting of their property, including temples, and the wanton discrimination regularly meted out to them had stopped completely. Every now and then, on one pretext or the other, there would be violence where only one particular community would be targeted. The last "great killing" took place in 2021 when a copy of the Quran was found at a Durga Puja pandal. It later turned out to be the handiwork of a Muslim man, but the damage was done. As a result, if The Daily Star, the largest-circulating daily English-language newspaper in Bangladesh, is to be believed, "117 Hindu temples or puja pandals and 301 shops/homes were also damaged". The Hindu-Muslim violence in Bangladesh is starkly different from that in Bharat. One tends to loosely use the term riot to describe it. But then they are not riots. There can never be a riot in a Muslim-majority state. Remember that line from Taslima Nasrin's Lajja, where Suronjon is caught in an argument with his father, Sudhamoy Datta: When the father defends his stay in violence-prone Bangladesh, saying there "are riots in all countries. Aren't there riots in India?", the son responds: "Riots are good, Baba. But here we don't have riots. Here Muslims are killing Hindus!" Still Hindus supported Hasina. Because she ensured there was a semblance of order, a sense of normalcy in their lives. They had seen much worse, so much violence that Hasina's 'controlled chaos' was something they grasped with both hands.

But as the saying goes, 'good' things don't last long. And they ended this Tuesday, August 6, when Sheikh Hasina was given the 45-minute ultimatum to pack her bags and leave the country. The chaos soon descended on the streets of Bangladesh and even the statue of Bangbandhu — the man who got the country's freedom in 1971 — was not left alone. For Hindus in Bangladesh, the era of a jhatka-type of execution was back in action. One can grasp the seriousness of the situation from the fact that the head of Bharat's Ministry of External Affairs, which is instinctively prone to take a less alarmist position, informed Parliament that "properties of individuals associated with the (Hasina) regime were torched across the country. What was particularly worrying was that minorities, their businesses and temples also came under attack at multiple locations". Within 24 hours, there were reports of Hindus being attacked, their houses and temples ransacked, and their valuables looted in as many as 27 districts of Bangladesh. Even an ISKCON temple wasn't spared. Orchestrated by Jamaat-led Islamist outfits, one saw the resumption of ethnic cleansing that Sheikh Hasina had put a lid on 15 years ago. One can gauge the scale and nature of violence from a harrowing video in circulation these days when Islamist fundamentalists are seen inspecting the genitals of a lynched man, and expressing happiness that he is a Hindu! The othering of Hindus was always normal in Bangladesh. But now, the genie of jihad, which Hasina had kept inside the bottle for 15 years, is out in the open. Unfortunately, at a time when the minorities of Bangladesh deserved care, empathy and support, there is a tendency, especially among Hindu 'liberals', to look the other way, if not completely discount their sufferings.

One editor of a New Delhi-based website who carries an American passport, in an interview recently, dismissed the possibility of Hindus being attacked in Bangladesh. Ironically, the same gentleman is never tired of raising,



MEA's proclivity for dry understatements, one can be reasonably certain that the situation is alarming

Bangladesh is in the throes of Islamist pogrom against minority Hindus, and our liberals are busy obfuscating reality. Members of the army clear an entrance of the Ganabhaban, the Bangladeshi prime minister's residence, a day after the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in Dhaka on August 6, 2024. Reuters. What started as a students'-led 'liberation movement' in Bangladesh leading to Sheikh Hasina's ouster is in danger of losing its legitimacy before the eyes of the world as it appears to have been co-opted, appro-

priated and hijacked by Islamist fundamentalists who have utilised the ensuing chaos, turbulence, lawlessness and the lack of any governing authority to launch a genocidal campaign against the minority Hindu population. Ever since the Bangladesh prime minister was forced to flee, resulting in a power vacuum in the eighth-most populous country in the world, images, videos and accounts are streaming in of atrocities against the Hindu minority in Bangladesh, whose numbers have dangerously depleted over decades almost

How Bangladesh crisis will truly test Indian diplomacy?

India's relationship with its neighbours have always been that of an affluent elder sibling whom the others love to hate. Among them Pakistan is probably the most straightforward as it is mostly hostile with little shade of grey. However, it is most complex in the case of Bangladesh whose birth India had midwifed but the kid sister refuses to acknowledge. That Bangladesh is encircled on three sides by India with a highly nebulous and porous border adds an additional layer. Its religious composition and obvious affinity to the Islamic world is a further dimension. Shared water resources demand a high level of cooperation.

Thus, in short, unlike other countries India cannot afford to look the other way from its internal developments. We are joined at the hips by an umbilical cord as it were. Thus successive governments have been carefully watching local developments in Bangladesh since its creation. However, a few questions arise after the August 5 denouement. Should India have been so heavily invested in Sheikh Hasina even when it was apparent that she was losing international support and ground was slipping from beneath her feet at home? Going with Sheikh Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh National Party (BNP) was not an option given her strong anti-India position and leanings towards radical Islamic elements. But could India not have cultivated other moderate politicians or silently promote potential successors to Sheikh Hasina within Awami League? It is



probably easier to find an answer to the first question. The very weaknesses and challenges that Sheikh Hasina faced made her dependent on India. She knew that no other country would stand by her the way India has over the years irrespective of which regime it was in Delhi. For India, there could not be a better bet than Hasina against its detractors notwithstanding her occasional flirtation with China for pure commercial expediency. More importantly, if India had to tackle cross border infiltration of 'Jihadi' assets only Hasina would help because she was afflicted by the same malaise. On this score India reciprocated by handing over to Sheikh Hasina many who were on the look out notice in Bangladesh including the killer of her father. With so much at stake India — especially the Modi government — which has been committed more than any government before it to tackling the menace of infiltration — could not afford to antagonise Sheikh Hasina by cultivating alternate leadership in her home. What it could have done, per-

haps, is work harder to convince Hasina to take a less rigid line to bring in the moderate elements from the opposition into her fold rather than go for a steamroller approach. Here, perhaps, there was an uncanny meeting of minds between the Modi-Shah and Hasina and over-confidence in a hardline strategy. Everyone would remember the not so veiled threats from the United States establishment to hand over the administration to an interim government for overseeing the elections or face consequences. She ignored the warnings and pressed on with the elections that her opposition boycotted to return with a walkover victory. One would assume she had the tacit support of India in her decision. Could India have prevailed on her to follow the US suggestion and would that have taken the heat off her will remain a matter of conjecture. It is also common knowledge that the United States was not entirely averse to the idea of a regime change in India though it could not have openly called for one. The counter-factual

question that is bound to arise, therefore, is whether the current events have escalated so dramatically had Narendra Modi returned with a larger majority even if not his dream number of "400 paar"?

Here it is not difficult to resist the temptation of a flashback of August 15, 1975 when Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was brutally assassinated on a day when Indira Gandhi was unfurling the Indian Tricolour at the ramparts of the Red Fort on the occasion of Indian Independence Day. Less than two months ago she had declared an Emergency in the country fearing a popular uprising and put opposition leaders behind bars and muzzled the media. There was no love lost between her and the United States — who were unhappy with her dismembering its vassal state Pakistan in 1971 creating Bangladesh and installing Sheikh Mujib as the prime minister. At that time Indira was firmly ensconced with the Soviet Union, which had used its veto power in the United Nations Security Council during the India Pakistan War in

1971. Is it possible that Indira was apprehending a similar destabilisation of the country and political overthrow? Finally she did have to relinquish power albeit through elections — which some believe she may have been nudged to call by a friend or foe. Though she returned to power after a hiatus it was not the same Mrs Gandhi one knew post 1971 and prior to 1975. It is ironic that some of her own have been seen to be supping with players of the same club in recent times. Bangladesh like many nations of its ilk is unfortunately fated to go through turbulent times but the implications of its descent to anarchy would have serious implications for India. Fortunately, political parties across the aisle realise the risks and unequivocally pledged their support to the government, who on its part have taken the opposition into confidence. But once the current crisis blows over some may not be beyond fishing Hilsa in the turbulent waters of the Padma river. Their visceral hatred for Narendra Modi has always been in public and they have found it difficult, or even necessary, to conceal their voyeuristic glee fantasising the prospects of a similar uprising in India and with a similar endgame. This is going to be a challenge that the Narendra Modi government would have to navigate with diplomatic deftness. India has always been a playground of big powers. Now the world is no longer bipolar but it is not multipolar or a Quad as yet. At best it is tri-polar. Seen to be leaning towards.

Tarun Tahiliani was too busy dressing Bollywood

Team India's outfits for the Paris Olympics 2024 opening ceremony on 26 July were unveiled last week. And, the fashion gods are weeping. I am disappointed with Tarun Tahiliani, couturier to the stars. There's not a single detail I can appreciate in the designs. We're headed to the Olympics, not a school Independence Day programme. And I'm not the only one who thinks this way. On social media, people are calling out the outfits for their tackiness. India's sports women will wear saris, while the male athletes have a kurta bundi set—both displaying the Tricolour. But there's a way to wear patriotism with style, and this is not it. And, as if the designs were not enough to digest, I have a hard time believing that they were crafted by Tahiliani. Tarun Tahiliani is the fashion magician who dressed up Indian stars and even Kim Kardashian, for Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's wedding festivities. Is this the best

he could do for the Indian athletes? It seems like the designer poured all his time and effort into dressing celebrities and then hastily threw together the athletes' outfits as an afterthought. Honestly, this is worse than the bare minimum effort some men put into relationships. The men's kurta set is made from light-weight moss cotton, while the women's sari is viscose crepe paired with a high-neck blouse. "They are going to be wearing it for three hours. At 40 degrees Celsius, how to make them look good? So, we focused on cottons," Tahiliani told The Hindu. His lack of effort is evident in his statement—weather forecasts put the temperature in Paris at a high of 25 degrees Celsius and a low of 15 degrees Celsius on the day of the ceremony. Regardless, I'm all in for creating attire that's breezy, lightweight, and weather-appropriate. But it doesn't mean making our athletes look like they've escaped from a circus.

The night of July 30 may have changed the West Asian region forever

The night of July 30 may have changed the West Asian region forever. On this fateful night, three strikes across three capitals in the region led to two key assassinations. Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh, who was in Tehran for the inauguration of Iran's newly elected president Masoud Pezeshkian, was assassinated in a targeted strike at his residence in a closely guarded area of Tehran. In Beirut, a precision airstrike took out senior Hezbollah military commander Fuad Shukur, who Israel had blamed for the missile attack in the occupied Golan Heights on July 27, which led to the death of 12 Israeli citizens. Elsewhere, in Baghdad, a missile attack by US forces targeted a base south of the city used by Iran-backed Iraqi Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF), killing four members of the group. A day later, on 1 August, Israel claimed it had also eliminated Hamas military chief Mohammed Deif in an airstrike carried out in Khan Younis city in Gaza on July 13. Earlier, on July 20, Israeli fighter aircraft had targeted

the port city of Hodeidah in Yemen, which is controlled by the Houthis, setting a major oil storage dump on fire and killing six people. With Israel being blamed for all the strikes, the Gaza war, which has been oscillating between hopes of a ceasefire and continuing death and destruction, may have just crossed a critical threshold. It may no longer be possible to keep the conflict isolated to Gaza. This is especially relevant in view of Iran's announcement, after a brief military spat with Israel in April this year, that "the era of strategic patience is over" and that any Israeli assaults will be met with a "direct" response. Following the assassinations, the response was led by none other than Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who was firm and clear about seeking revenge. The leader of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, also vowed severe retaliation against Israel. A strike by Iran and its allies thus seems inevitable; it is only a question of 'when' and 'how'. As the region awaits the inevitable, it may be relevant to

examine the military capabilities of each side to better understand how such strikes could unfold.

Military capabilities
Iran is the main protagonist in the anticipated strike. For years, it has relied on its proxies in the region to wage war on its behalf, but this time, it is likely to undertake a direct strike. As Iran and Israel are separated by almost 1,800 km, a ground war or "boots on the ground" is unlikely. Therefore, military power projection will be through stand-off weapon systems like drones and missiles. Regarding airpower, Iran has a poorly equipped and ageing fleet. Its air force comprises an array of aircraft, ranging from US-made F-14s to Chinese F-4s, F-5s, and F-7s, along with Russian Sukhoi and MiG-29s. Most estimates suggest a total of 330–350 aircraft. Although Iran has been asking Russia to supply Sukhoi-35 fighter jets, this is unlikely to materialise soon. It is Iran's missile technology, however, that is potent and lethal. Iran's array of missiles is the largest and most diverse in the region.

MTNL's operations to its larger sibling BSNL instead of merging the two state-run enterprises

Delhi: After failing to find a solution, the government is considering handing over MTNL's operations to its larger sibling BSNL instead of merging the two state-run enterprises, which have received numerous bailouts, including two years ago. Highly placed sources said the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) will review the new plan before Cabinet approval. The proposal to transfer Delhi and Mumbai-based MTNL to BSNL will help the latter revive and deliver pan-India services. Not integrating the firms eliminates the requirement to delist MTNL



from the bourses. In a merger, MTNL would be delisted and required to buy back shares. One insider stated this may be avoided by simply turning over operations. However, MTNL's dismal performance has not hurt its shares. MTNL's share price on the BSE

rose 139% in a year, closing at Rs 46.3 from Rs 19.4 on July 12, 2014, despite huge losses and subscriber reduction. Over the past decade, the telecom industry has grown rapidly, yet MTNL has lost market share and business (like BSNL). MTNL's wireline business

(including internet) dropped to 6% in April from 12.5% in April 2014. However, its mobile business share has dropped to about 0.2% from 0.4% a decade ago. Since MTNL will only own land and buildings, handing over daily operations to BSNL may affect its share

price. The source said the DoT wants to speed up the integration of the two companies, which have been languishing with no sign of a turnaround. MTNL lost Rs 3,303 crore in the year ended March 31, 2024, up from Rs 2,911 crore. Revenue from activities fell 15% to Rs 728 crore in 2023-24 from Rs 862 crore in FY23. At the end of FY24, MTNL owed Rs 25,795 crore, up from Rs 23,500 crore. The company's debt excludes short-term borrowings and non-convertible debentures of Rs 3,569 crore, which the government pays interest and principal.

Haryana Sikh body prohibits wedding fires, DJs

Delhi: A Haryana Sikh social reform forum has banned firearms, DJs, and lehengas for weddings to reduce extravagant spending. The campaign begins in five Sikh-majority Haryana districts and subsequently spreads across the state. Jagdev Singh Jhinda's social group, Samaj Sudhar Lahar, would launch this campaign in Karnal, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Panipat, and Jind districts. Youth and women committees in several districts have banned weapons during wedding celebrations. "Many people oppose such spending and seek to raise awareness. We want to outlaw air-guns, DJs, and orchestras in weddings. Many guests have fought while dancing at Sikh and other weddings. Gunshots in the air have killed and injured many state residents. He said to eliminate these ills. Jhinda declared that



Sikh brides should not wear lehenga, so they founded a women's association to promote salwar kameez. The Sikh leader said they don't have punishments for violating these rules because they want people to follow them. We are creating 21-member youth and women committees in each hamlet in five districts to spread awareness of the prohibition. He added more individuals are needed to make it successful. Jhinda added that people who disobey the reform body will face fines and social punish-

ment later. Karnail Singh, another Sikh leader, said they created Samaj Sudhar Lahar on Sunday at the gurdwara in hamlet Malikpur, Jind. Office bearers will be nominated at the next meeting in Nissing, Karnal, to intensify reform body efforts. Jhinda said that these limits are working in his native hamlet Rastak Jhinda in district Karnal and hopes to duplicate them across the state. "The Lahar will launch another campaign against dowry and female foeticide in Haryana.

Manipur distributes 300 crore to 4 lakh as part of social programs

Delhi: Under 46 state and federal programs, the Manipur government provided direct benefit transfers (DBT) of Rs 300 crore to four lakh people. The drive's main target group was internally displaced individuals who were impacted by the ethnic violence that broke out in May 2023. For the benefit of the displaced families from the Kuki and Meitei tribes as well as those living in relief camps, Rs 32 crore was provided. As the first installment of the recently announced special aid of Rs 1 lakh per family for dis-



placed families in relief camps, Rs 25,000 per family, or Rs 15 crore, was made available. This will help about 6,000 displaced families. In order to assist handloom weavers and other craftsmen, the government has introduced the Chief

Minister's Yarn Scheme, which offers yarn at fair prices with government subsidies. The government also introduced the Sports persons Livelihood Guarantee Scheme, which is intended to help retired athletes.

Centre refutes Stalin, announcing 3-lakh cr project clearance for TN



Government sources also indicated the state has not implemented approved projects

Delhi: While dismissing Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin's claims of the Centre not sanctioning significant projects for the state in the past decade, sources highlighted railway, highway, and social infrastructure projects worth at least Rs 3 lakh crore. Government sources also indicated the state has not implemented approved projects. Tamil Nadu received Rs 5,167 crore from the Jal Jeevan mission between FY20 and

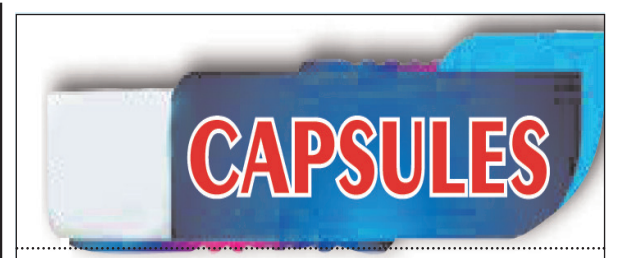
FY24. Under PM Vishwakarma, the state has not helped check and register 8.4 lakh program hopefuls, sources said, adding that states should use central schemes. They said a record number of central projects were sanctioned and implemented in Tamil Nadu in the past decade and that states are not discriminated against. Stalin's claim is false. Indeed, the NDA government has boosted money for trains, roadways, airports, social and rural schemes in the state during the previous decade "added an official. Officials said the state received Rs 6,331 crore in the Budget for railway development this year, up from Rs 879 crore between 2009 and 2014.

Haryana BSP-INDLD alliance; Abhay Chautala will be CM face

Delhi: The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) will join forces for the October assembly elections in Haryana. Abhay Chautala, general secretary of INLD, would represent the party. BSP will compete for 37 seats in the 90-seat state assembly, while INLD will vie for 53. Chautala's designation as the alliance's chief minister was revealed by Akash Anand, the nephew of BSP chief Mayawati.

Despite their understanding of seat sharing, Chautala stated that INLD would not be reluctant to share additional seats with its alliance partner in light of the candidates' chances of winning.

Chautala said that after consultations, the parties would decide how to divide the seats among themselves.



MVA Secures Two Seats, Mahayuti Wins All Nine Seats It Contested

Delhi: The Mahayuti alliance, which is in power in Maharashtra and is composed of the BJP, Shiv Sena, and NCP, won every one of the nine seats it ran for in the biennial elections, giving it an 11-seat state legislative council. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured five seats in the results of the earlier-day polls, while the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) led by Ajit Pawar and the Shiv Sena led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde secured two seats apiece. The results were released in the evening. Milind Narvekar, a close aide of Uddhav Thackeray, the chairman of the Shiv Sena (UBT), and Congress candidate Pradnya Satav emerged victorious on the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA). The NCP (SP) led by Sharad Pawar backed Jayant Patil, the candidate for the Peasants and Workers' Party (PWP), lost the polls.

Refund for Selling Old Car

Delhi: You may want to scrap your old car. Because doing so will get you new car discounts. To encourage Delhiites to trash their old cars, the transport department intends to rebate motor vehicle tax and registration by 10-20%, depending on vehicle category and fuel used. Motor tax is 20% lower when buying a new automobile or two-wheeler after scrapping a petrol, CNG, or LPG non-transport vehicle. The registration of a new diesel automobile or motorcycle will be 15% cheaper for those who scrap them. Diesel buses and transport vehicles receive a 10% discount, while petrol, CNG, and LPG ones receive 15%. To qualify for savings, one must acquire a new car in the same category as the scrapped one. A spokesperson added that motor vehicle tax reductions should not exceed 50% of scrap value. The National Green Tribunal prohibited diesel and petrol vehicles over 10 and 15 years old from Delhi roads. Because many outdated cars remain on the road, the state government wants to scrap them. The official stated the buyer must get a concession certificate after dismantling the old car to get the discount. "This certificate will be valid for three years, during which one should purchase a new vehicle," stated. The initiative, which would be implemented once authorized by the government, encourages Delhi residents to replace their old automobiles with newer, more ecologically friendly ones to reduce pollution and improve air quality.

"The initiative encourages people to themselves take the step of scrapping their vehicles instead of the transport department taking action," stated a worker. Last year, the department impounding end-of-life automobiles drew criticism.

Rain leaves Delhi vegetable buyers high and dry

Delhi: Tomato prices have risen in wholesale and retail markets in the capital in recent days due to monsoon rains. Tomatoes, a household essential, cost over Rs 100 per kg in numerous city neighborhoods. Vegetable traders blamed the rise on northern regions' heavy weather affecting truck transit. The

Union ministry of consumer affairs, food, and public distribution's price monitoring section reported an average wholesale price of Rs 3,600 per quintal (Rs 36 per kilo) for tomatoes. July's pricing was about 1.5 times normal.

Azadpur Mandi dealers reported retail veggies were offered at 100-150% of whole-

sale. Krishna Gulati of Hauz Khas said her normal vegetable supplier offered her tomatoes for Rs 100 per kilogram on Friday compared to Rs 40 earlier this month. "I questioned him how prices rose so much in Delhi with little rain. According to Gulati, wholesale prices had risen.

Mahayuti defeats MVA as 7 Congress MLAs cross-vote in MLC polls

Delhi: Seven Congress MLAs voted for Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar-led NCP in MLC polls for 11 seats, which had 12 candidates, confirming fears of cross-voting. Mahayuti Friday won all nine legislative council seats, while Maha Vikas Aghadi lost one of three seats. Five BJP candidates and two each of CM Eknath Shinde-led Sena and NCP won, with Congress and Sena (UBT) winning one seat each. MVA and NCP (SP)-backed Peasants and Workers Party's Jayant Patil lost. The result hurts MVA before the assembly elections and reveals that CM

Shinde and Ajit Pawar kept their legislators when there was anticipation they might vote for the other side. Significantly, Uddhav Thackeray's trusty assistant Milind Narvekar won the third round after being predicted to win in the first. After its poor Lok Sabha performance in Maharashtra and its recent loss in the Mumbai graduates and teachers seat elections, deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis led poll management for Mahayuti, which gained support. Seven Congress members voted for NCP or Sena.

RSS branch to finance ministry: Help farmers, control inflation

Delhi: The Swadeshi Jagran Manch (SJM), an RSS offshoot, has urged the Union finance ministry to offer micro irrigation system subsidies for small farmers and ensure remunerative prices for growers due to inflation, especially in essentials and food items. It also offered industry tax incentives on an employment-output ratio to increase employment. The ruling National Democratic Alliance's Bharatiya Janata Party draws its ideology from the RSS. The ideas were presented last month during a pre-budget meeting with government officials, according to



sources. The SJM proposes a wealth tax on vacant land to discourage "unnecessary land holding on the pretext of future requirements." The ruling National Democratic Alliance's Bharatiya Janata Party draws its ideology from the RSS. The ideas were presented last month

during a pre-budget meeting with government officials, according to sources. The SJM proposes a wealth tax on vacant land to discourage "unnecessary land holding on the pretext of future requirements." This was done to offer homes for all, stated a source. "Affordable

housing should include hostels for workers and students," says SJM. RSS offshoots have urged the government to curb inflation, a significant issue. In line with it, the SJM suggests that government spending on rural infrastructure like warehouses and cold chains "may be increased substantially". Pointing out that increased farmer prices are thought to induce food inflation, SJM national co-convenor Ashwani Mahajan stated there is evidence that farmer pricing may lower inflation by preventing market profiteering. He added the govern-

Unrecognized schools are instructed to cease operations

Delhi : 163

unrecognized schools in Gurugram have received letters from the district elementary education department requiring them to close and forbidding further enrollment. The list was created as a result of the schools' failure to meet the standards necessary for recognition until March 31, according to people with knowledge of the situation. According to the agency, unrecognized schools will not be permitted to continue operating. The education administration published a list of 282 schools in the district earlier this month that did not meet the requirements for recognition. Of them, 20 have ceased business, 163 have received notices, and 99 have sought affiliations. They said that those who received notices had been asked to reply. The district elementary education officer, Muni Ram, stated that they had begun the process of bringing



"PS Baghel is in charge of enrollment, making sure that rules are followed and that, in the event that parents are not present, a legal guardian is named"

IIT-Kharagpur has announced graduated fines for fighting and alcohol misuse

Delhi:

IIT Kharagpur has proposed graded fines of Rs 5,000 for the first offense and Rs 10,000 for a repeat offense for students caught consuming alcohol on campus. In both situations, parents will be notified. A disciplinary committee will be tasked with reviewing cases involving students found guilty more than twice. The committee's recommendation will include "appropriate punishment" and a minimum penalty of Rs 50,000.

criminal charges against these institutions. They have requested that police look into and take action against schools that continue to accept new pupils in defiance of government directives. "We have intervened and notified the police in the suburbs of Manesar, Pataudi, Farrukhnagar, and the city.

27 companies, 3,000 students: DU job mela resonates

Delhi: A two-day placement-cum-internship employment fair ended at Delhi University. The university central placement unit organized the career fair. The expo attracted around 3,000 kids this year. The university's placement department expects many students to be placed this year. The placement exercise included 27 companies, according to DU. The placement cell reported that 1,000 of 3,000 registered students were shortlisted by firms. "The job mela was a hit. Student involvement was high across disciplines and colleges. Around 27 companies offered placement and internships to over 3,000



students. We are certain that our students will receive good gifts and hope this trend continues in future melas and recruitment efforts." She said the institution barred registration this year to simplify placement, unlike usual. "We will know the exact packages offered during the placement and how many students actually got placed only in the coming days after the entire process is over,"

stated. Jasleen Kaur, 21, a BSc mathematics student at the employment fair, stated, "I like that the institution organizes job fairs. That way, students can find work." Subham Kumar, 20, a BSc student, said the employment fair offers students possibilities and should be held more often. Some students wanted more companies and more detailed career options at the job fair.

National Eligibility Test to replace PhD entrance exams at JNU

Delhi: JNU will use the National Eligibility Test (NET) score instead of the National Testing Agency (NTA) entrance test for PhD admission starting this academic year. JNU reported that UGC, as part of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, has decided to

allow universities/HEIs to use the score of the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by UGC and CSIR for Ph.D admission in place of an entrance test.

According to this decision, JNU will use NET scores for PhD admissions, replacing the NTA

entrance test. "Accordingly, JNU has decided to use NET score in place of the entrance test conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA) for admission to Ph.D Programmes in the University from the academic session 2024-25," said the note.

HC lets Stephen's interview minority applicants

Delhi: Delhi High Court allowed Delhi University's St Stephen's College to interview minority students applying for post-graduate courses and to give 15% of the marks to the interview and 85% to the CUET score. The high court said non-minority students would not be interviewed for PG courses in the college and would be admitted based on their CUET score, which is assessed by the National Testing Agency (NTA) for central university admis-



sion. Justice C Hari Shankar said Delhi University (DU) would keep college post-graduate (PG) seat allocations fair. The DU may

evaluate the college's facilities and the number of undergraduate (UG) students in that field of study while allocating PG seats. The

high court said these are guidelines and the DU can use any objective criterion. The court noted that universities had no standard for allocating PG seats and concluded "this is not an acceptable situation". PU regulating panel approves NEP 2020 undergraduate program extensions at associated colleges. Colleges will implement NEP for UG courses in 2024-25. Training programs for college faculty to implement new requirements.

Designers Bharat and Reshma Grover Celebrated for Fashion Excellence in London

New Delhi: At a prestigious event in London, renowned Indian designers Bharat and Reshma Grover were recently honored for their remarkable achievements in the field of fashion. They received a prestigious award from Lord Barrister Ben Brennan, recognizing their outstanding contributions to design, creativity, and innovation. This accolade underscores their dedication and impact in the industry, cele-



brating their creative vision and entrepreneurial spirit that have set new standards and inspired

others in the field. Bharat and Reshma Grover are established names in the fashion world,

having carved out a niche for themselves in a very short span of time. Their influence is so significant that today's fashionistas and style icons eagerly follow in their footsteps. The Grovers are a holistic package, offering much more than just design. They embody an all-pervading sense of style that goes beyond mere fashion. Their creations appeal to a wide cross-section of society, particularly resonating with Generations Y and Z.

JEE-Main: 56 applicants score 100 NTA, IIT cut-offs rise

Delhi: On night, the National Testing Agency (NTA) reported that 56 applicants, including two women, scored 100 in JEE-Main. The qualifying percentile for JEE (Advanced), the entrance test for 23 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), reached a five-year high. In the JEE (Main) January session, 23 applicants obtained 100 NTA, whereas 33 in April did. The 56 winners include 40 generals, 10 OBC, and six gen-EWS. No SC or ST applicant scored 100 NTA this year. Officials say NTA score is not the same as mark %. "NTA scores are normalised across multi-session papers and based on the relative performance of all one-session exam takers. For each exam session, marks are translated into a 100-to-0 scale" said a sen-



ior NTA official. The official added that 39 students were blacklisted from JEE-Main for three years for cheating. According to protocol, candidates' ranks are based on the best of two NTA scores. Telangana leads state-wise for the third year with 15 top scorers. Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, with seven individuals each, scoring 100 percentile, were distant second, followed by Delhi with six. About 96% of the 14.1 lakh candidates took the

undergraduate admissions test for engineering and architecture programs in centrally financed technical institutions to qualify for JEE (Advanced). Around 24,000 seats are available at NITs. The exam was given in 13 languages (Assamese, Bengali, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu) at 571 centers in 319 cities, including 22 outside India.

Despite university protests, the ambassador tells Indian students the US is safe to study



Delhi: After nearly half a dozen Indian and Indian-origin students died in the US this year, US ambassador Eric Garcetti stated the US is safe and "cares deeply" for their well-being. After President Joe Biden's decision to cut the time for Indian applicants, Garcetti said the US took on the issue of decreasing visa backlogs and is proud of the three-quarters reduction in American visa wait

times in a year. Indians favor the US for higher education, but a succession of deaths of Indian and Indian-origin students has raised concerns. Indian students in the US reached a record 268,923 in 2022-23, according to the US embassy. "We care deeply about US Indian students' well-being. When in the US, parents should realize their children are ours. In the US, there are

many mental health and distance-learning options for students, parents, and families. The US is safe and has many resources to protect students. We may not learn about occurrences until it's too late if they don't seek out, he said. Students accepted to US universities attended a pre-departure orientation program at the American Center in New Delhi.

Before the T20 World Cup, Uganda named Abhay Sharma as their coach

Delhi: In the lead-up to the Twenty20 World Cup, the Uganda Cricket Association appointed Indian former first-class cricket player Abhay Sharma as the men's national team's new coach. Uganda has secured its spot in the competition for the first time, and starting on June 1, 20 teams from the United States and the West Indies will compete together. In a statement posted on its website, the UCA announced Sharma's hiring on a three-year working contract, citing his "wealth of knowledge and expertise to lead the Cricket Cranes into their next chapter of success."

Former wrestler Narsingh named WFI's seven-member athletes' panel

Delhi: former Commonwealth Games gold medalist Narsingh Panchar Yadav was chosen chairman of the Wrestling Federation of India's (WFI) Athletes' Commission, as required by the sport's world governing body. Eight people competed for seven seats. Narsingh made news before the 2016 Olympics when two-time Olympic medalist Sushil Kumar, who missed the qualification event due to injury, demanded a match against him. After Sushil's Delhi High Court petition was dismissed, Narsingh was confirmed for the Rio Olympics. In a startling turn of events, Narsingh failed two dope tests before the Games and was banned for four years by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) despite the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) clearing him on the grounds of sabotage.

Yogi gov't plans to set up solar-powered drinking water kiosks across various cities in UP

Lucknow

In a new push for solar energy, the Yogi government is set to introduce a groundbreaking initiative. Building on its ongoing efforts to promote solar energy across the state's solar cities, the government is now focusing on a novel solar-powered solution. In line with Chief Minister Yogi's vision, plans are underway to establish state-of-the-art solar-based drinking water kiosks throughout various regions of the state. As part of this initiative, the Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Agency (UPNEDA) has commenced the setting up of 20 solar-powered drinking water kiosks, with a total investment of Rs 3.99 crore. Solar based drinking water kiosk is a smart water purification and distribution system designed to increase access and ease of use



for water purification in remote areas. It is powered by solar energy and can run the device for hours once fully charged. In line with the Chief Minister's vision, the solar-powered water kiosks being established are notable for their advanced features. These kiosks will utilize reverse osmosis technology for water treatment, ensuring high-quality purification. Each kiosk is designed to dispense pure water at temperatures ranging from 10 to 30 degrees Celsius, tailored to seasonal needs. The filtration

will meet BIS 16240 standards, with a storage capacity of 5,000 liters and a treated water capacity of 1,000 liters. The kiosks are capable of delivering 250 liters of pure water per hour, with a dispensing rate of 10 to 12 liters per minute. They are engineered to supply at least 2,000 liters of clean water daily. The project, set to last for 5 years, is currently in the agency determination and work allocation phase, managed by UPNEDA. Each kiosk will feature a remote monitoring system that tracks various water.

Yogi gov't targets new record with over 4.75 crore tricolours across UP under Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan this year

Lucknow

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Uttar Pradesh government aims to set a new milestone this Independence Day by unfurling over 4.75 crore tricolours across the state. This represents a 5 to 10 percent increase compared to last year when 4.5 crore tricolours were hoisted. It is worth mentioning here that the Yogi government is set to organize the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' from August 13 to 15 to inspire patriotism in citizens. Each district has

been assigned a target to contribute to achieving the goal of over 4.75 tricolours. In 2022 and 2023, Uttar Pradesh led the nation in the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan, hoisting over 4.5 crore flags yearly. Citizens also enthusiastically participated in the selfie upload campaign, contributing the highest number of selfies. This year, Independence Day will be celebrated with the same enthusiasm. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has issued directives for the initiative. Approximately 4.30 crore flags will be hoisted, including four

crore at homes and 30 lakh at establishments across the state. The public will be encouraged through various media to display the tricolour at homes, offices, commercial and industrial establishments, Anganwadi centres, hospitals, and other public places. They will also be urged to take selfies with the tricolor and upload them on the Har Ghar Tiranga website. Flag distribution will be facilitated by various institutions and organizations, with self-help groups manufacturing the flags.

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 increment

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.

Start Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan to connect youth with self-employment and make them self-reliant: CM Yogi

Lucknow

To connect educated and trained youth in Uttar Pradesh with self-employment opportunities, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has called for the launch of the Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan. During a high-level meeting on Thursday, the Chief Minister stated, "In the original budget for the financial year 2024-25, the government had allocated funds for the 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan.' The time has now come to implement this initiative." Observing the presentation of the MSME

Department regarding the campaign, the Chief Minister stated that this scheme will play a significant role in efforts to create self-employment. He emphasized that more youth should be made aware of the scheme to encourage them to earn their livelihood and become self-reliant. The Principal Secretary of MSME informed the Chief Minister that the campaign will provide financial grants to 100,000 youth annually by facilitating loans from banks, enabling the establishment of 100,000 micro enterprises each year. "Thus, over the next 10 years,

1 million youth will have the opportunity to engage in self-employment," he noted. The Chief Minister instructed that under the campaign, provisions should be made to offer grants not only to the general category but also to OBCs, women, Divyangjans, and SC/ST individuals men as well as women for setting up enterprises.

Additionally, subsidies should be provided on margin money. The Chief Minister said that to ensure that interest-free loans are available to young entrepreneurs as far as possible, the facility of interest subsidy and CGTMSE cov-

erage should also be provided for the fixed period of a loan.

To guarantee effective implementation and ongoing monitoring of the scheme, the Chief Minister directed that qualified youth be assigned to each district, similar to the CM Fellows deployed in aspirational development blocks. He also stated that before offering financing for setting up an enterprise, it is essential to provide proper training to the youth. New entrepreneurs should receive assistance in packaging, branding, and marketing their products.

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, Nexon.ev, and Punch.ev models until July 31, 2024.

Post list of top 10 criminals at police stations, take strict action against land mafia: CM Yogi

Lucknow

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath stated on Wednesday that the list of the top 10 criminals in the district should be displayed in police stations, and effective action taken against copying, cattle, mining, and land mafia. During his one-day visit to Ambedkar Nagar following a two-day tour of Ayodhya, the Chief Minister held a review meeting on development works and law and order in the district. Emphasizing the need to maintain a fear-free environment, the CM highlighted that the safety of women should be a top priority. He instructed the Anti Romeo Squad team

and directed district-level officers to ensure public hearings and communication. Additionally, he stressed the importance of the timely and quality resolution of complaints received on the IGRS and Chief Minister Helpline Portal, with complainant satisfaction being a top priority. Additionally, the Chief Minister mentioned that the Trinetra Abhiyan should be successfully implemented and extended to every body and gram panchayat. In the meeting held in the Collectorate auditorium, CM Yogi Adityanath instructed officials to improve the functioning of the medical college and conduct regular reviews.

He also directed them to submit proposals for tehsils lacking fire stations. CM Yogi emphasized the importance of advance flood preparations, ensuring no compromise in the quantity and quality of relief materials provided to flood-affected individuals and families. Regarding the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan, he stated that the Indian flag should be hoisted on every house, and voluntary organizations should be involved. Additionally, he mentioned that the Kakori Train Action Centenary Festival should be celebrated on August 9, 2024. During this time, he instructed.

Upcoming by-election will be held between BJP's development agenda and opposition's destructive propaganda: CM Yogi

Ambedkar Nagar/Lucknow,

During a day-long visit to Ambedkar Nagar, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath held a strategic meeting with officials and public representatives of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). In this gathering, CM Yogi shared his strategies for the upcoming assembly by-election, stating that this upcoming election is a contest between "the BJP's development agenda and the opposition's destructive propaganda." Addressing the attendees, CM Yogi highlighted the opposition's tactics of dividing society along caste lines and spreading false rumors, similar to what he witnessed in the

recent Lok Sabha elections. He said, "Opposition might use social media and other platforms to mislead the public during the by-election." To counter this, CM Yogi urged BJP officials and representatives to actively engage with the community and dispel the opposition's misinformation from every platform. He said that the party officials and public representatives should go among the people and communicate with them. During a meeting at the Circuit House, the Chief Minister concentrated on the upcoming Katehari assembly by-election. Emphasizing the importance of booth management, he said, "If we win

the booth, we win the election." He stressed the need to activate all booth committees and verify each booth to ensure efficient booth-level operations. CM Yogi highlighted the crucial role of Panna Pramukhs in the election strategy, urging their prompt deployment as they are instrumental in bringing voters to the booths. He instructed officials to arrange comprehensive training for Panna Pramukhs and encouraged public representatives and party officials to engage directly with workers, motivating them to stay connected with beneficiaries of government schemes.

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.

Expansion of national highways will not stop in UP: CM Yogi

Lucknow Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attended a review meeting on national highway-related projects held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on Monday. During the meeting, he presented the demand for the expansion of national highways in the state to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari. He also assured that the process of expanding national highways in Uttar Pradesh will not be halted and that any obstacles in this process will be resolved on time. Additionally, land from any department required for the expansion of national highways will be provided



free of charge. The Chief Minister mentioned that in 2017, the state had a total of 48 national highways spanning 8,364 kilometers, while by 2024, their number increased to 93, and the length of the national highways also grew to 12,733 kilometers. However, he also pointed out that in terms of population, this is still below the national average of 11.77 kilo-

meters per lakh population. To bring it up to the national average, an additional 11,500 kilometers of national highways will need to be constructed. Yogi noted that in the state, 500 kilometers of national highways are less than two lanes wide, and 1,500 kilometers of national highways are only two lanes wide. The minimum standard for a national highway

should be two lanes plus paved shoulders. Additionally, he emphasized the necessity of completing the projects related to the Mahakumbh to be held in 2025, including the Prayagraj Ring Road, by December 2024. The Chief Minister, while specifically mentioning Varanasi, Mathura, and Ayodhya, stated that these are the main tourist attractions in the state, where the number of tourists and pilgrims is steadily increasing. He emphasized the need to complete the remaining work on the Varanasi Ring Road (Ganga Bridge) and to open the ring road for traffic as soon as possible. CM Yogi highlighted the necessity of declar-

ing the Braj 84 Kosi Parikrama route as a national highway. He also urged the strengthening of the Ayodhya Bypass. Additionally, he said that 10 new highways in the state be declared as national highways. Yogi mentioned that the process of constructing ring roads in 13 out of the 18 divisions of the state is either ongoing or has been completed and that it is also necessary to build ring roads in the remaining five divisions — Aligarh, Devipatan, Jhansi, Mirzapur, and Saharanpur. He emphasized the importance of maintaining a high standard of upkeep for all national highways in the state.

YES BANK Celebrates Neeraj Chopra's Silver Medal at the Paris Olympics 2024



Official Banking Partner

FARIDABAD / ROHTAK:

YES BANK proudly celebrates the phenomenal success of India's star track and field athlete, Arjuna awardee, Neeraj Chopra for securing the silver medal at the Paris Olympics 2024 with his season's best throw of 89.45m. Neeraj Chopra became the first Indian track-and-field athlete to win back-to-back medals at the Olympics. Neeraj's incredible achievement has ignited a wave of inspiration among millions of aspiring athletes across the nation.

As the official banking partner and principal sponsor for Team India, YES BANK has launched yesteamindia.com, a platform where fans can

send their best wishes directly to Olympians. This initiative aims to support and motivate athletes to achieve their best by connecting them with their supporters. Building on its commitment to sports, YES BANK's "Milkar Jitayenge" campaign, in collaboration with the Indian Olympic Association, highlights the vital role of communities in nurturing Olympic talent. Neeraj Chopra's success is a testament to the strong support from his family, coaches, and mentors, demonstrating the power of collective effort. In addition to supporting athletes, YES BANK has introduced the

YES Glory savings account, which provides exclusive benefits like a Taj voucher, orthopaedic consultations, zero cross-currency mark-up, medical insurance, a YES Glory Gold Debit Card, and international lounge access. This initiative ensures athletes have financial support and benefits tailored to their unique needs. Moreover, YES BANK empowers communities in Haryana through tailored banking products designed to meet the financial aspirations of the affluent population. Products like YES Grandeur, YES Elite Credit Cards, and YES First offer exclusive services that cater to their specific needs.

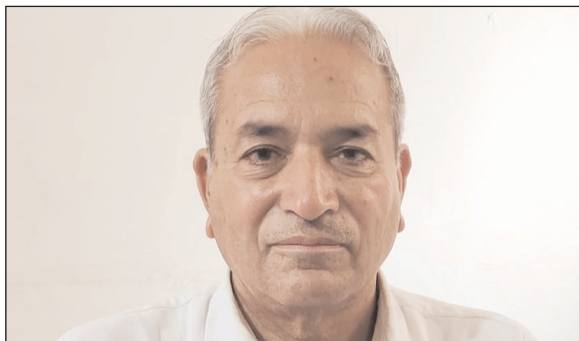
Over 35,000 candidates register for the Chief Minister Apprenticeship

Lucknow In a significant move to bolster employment opportunities for diploma and degree holders across Uttar Pradesh, the Yogi Adityanath-led government has intensified efforts to connect youth with skill development initiatives. The Chief Minister's Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (Higher Education), which was launched to provide hands-on training to graduates and diploma holders, has seen over 35,000 candidates register so far in the financial year 2024-

25, with approximately 2753 currently engaged in apprenticeships. Its main objective is to motivate the maximum number of youth for apprentice training while preparing a large, highly-skilled workforce for industries and establishments. CMAPS (HE) provides apprenticeship training for graduates and diploma holders, with programs lasting between 6 months and a year. The scheme guarantees a minimum monthly stipend of Rs. 9,000 for graduates and Rs. 8,000 for diploma holders throughout their

training period. The financial support is provided to the trainees jointly by the central and state governments as well as the entrepreneurs. For graduates, the central government provides Rs. 4,500, while the entrepreneurs contribute Rs. 3,500, and the state government adds Rs. 1,000, all of which are directly transferred to the trainee's bank account through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Similarly, for diploma holders, the central government offers Rs. 4,000, ensuring significant support.

Hooda's visit to Pundri on 17th will break all crowd records: Shyam Sundar Kaul



Kaithal: Former Sarpanch Shyam Sundar Kaul, a senior Congress leader and a close supporter of former Chief Minister Chaudhary Bhupendra Singh Hooda, claimed that there is a lot of enthusiasm among people of every section including Congress workers about the Haryana Mange Hisaab Yatra to be held in Pundri on August 17 under the chairmanship of MP Deepender Singh Hooda. The Yatra will prove to be historic by breaking all records of the crowd. He said that all sections including farmers, sportspersons, poor, laborers have been exploited in the BJP rule. Due to which all sections are fed up and now the strongest option in front of the common people is Congress. Former Sarpanch Shyam Sundar Kaul appealed to people of every section includ-

ing workers to participate in large numbers in the Haryana Mange Hisaab Yatra to be organized on August 17 under the leadership of MP Deepender Hooda and said that in the Haryana Mange Hisaab Yatra, MP Hooda is exposing the anti-people policies of the BJP government and the Yatra is getting full public support from people of every section. Congress leader Shyam Sundar Kaul said that in the upcoming assembly elections, the public will answer the BJP government for every atrocity committed on the public with the blow of votes. The common people have made up their mind to throw the BJP out of power and bring the Congress to power by giving it full majority. Due to which, in the upcoming assembly elections.

MP was criticized as footage showed booze being given

Delhi: A BJP public rally to celebrate former minister K Sudhakar's election as Chikballapur MP was criticized as footage showed booze being given. Nelamangala hosted the event. Sudhakar, Opposition Leader R Ashoka, and JD(S) leaders attended. Sidelined videos showed cops giving out booze packages and bottles to people in a long line. Deputy Chief Minister and Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar criticized BJP. In Nelamangala, liquor was distributed publicly. BJP President JP Nadda must explain for registering a case. How could the MP distribute alcohol? "Said Shivakumar. "More than local leaders, it is important for the BJP's national leaders to tell citizens how their party is upholding culture by distributing liquor at public meetings," he said.



From Diary to Playlists, Talwar's 'Ferozi Figures', a blend of raw emotions and irresistible beats

Delhi: The rap music scene is buzzing as the multi-talented rapper, singer, and producer, Gaurav Talwar drops his latest 4-track album "Ferozi Figures". Following his previous album 'Ferozi Feelings', Talwar ups the game with a whole new level of emotions, beats and stories to your playlist. Blending raw emotions with freestyle beats, the album takes listeners on an emotional journey through heartbreak and personal victories.



Featuring four standout tracks - "Valentine", "Ice", "Trust Issues" and "Tasweeran", every track reveals a different facet of Talwar's artistic depth. In "Valentine" Talwar expresses frustration with materialistic love, or getting pumped with "Ice", a bold celebration of flashy lifestyle despite the personal struggles. "Trust Issues" hits the spot with the raw take on betrayal and shakey trust, and "Tasweeran" tugs at those moving on from lost love. Talwar's vocals hook you in from the get-go, where each song is an experience wrapped in unforgettable tunes.

While talking about his latest drop Talwar shared, "Working on 'Ferozi Figures' was like flipping through my diary and turning pain into power with music. Every song is a chapter of life and a journey through heartbreak and triumph. From melodic rap to R&B/Drill, trap, boom bap, and new wave trap, every song reflects my evolution and resilience. I hope the album connects with listeners to find their own stories within these songs." Produced by Dfaq, performed, penned and composed by Talwar, the album showcases his artistry and his knack for striking a chord with the audience. So crank up the volume and let the blend of emotions with 'Ferozi Figures' take you on a ride with its catchy beats and lasting experience. Sony Music Entertainment is a global recorded music company that has on its roster a rich and storied history of iconic artists like Beyonce, Michael Jackson, Shakira, Mariah Carey and Britney Spears and today's superstars like Harry Styles, Camila Cabello, Travis Scott and Khalid, pan-Indian superstar Raftaar, pop sensation AKASA, new age artists like OAFF-Savera, Mitraz, Talwinder and South India's biggest acts like Anirudh, A.R. Rahman, GV Prakash, Yuvan Shankar Raja, Devi Sri Prasad, Thaman S, Vivek-Mervin, Darbuka Siva and Ghibran including several decades-long relationships with Dharma Productions, Maddock Films, Red Chillies Entertainment, Vishesh Films, Madras Talkies, Raaj Kamal Films International. Seven Screen Studio, The Route, Mythri Movie Makers, Vyjayanthi Movies and SVCC among others. On offer is a vast catalogue that comprises .

Celebrate sibling bonds with the perfect gift from Amazon.in Raksha Bandhan Store

FARIDABAD: This Raksha Bandhan, Amazon.in is set to make sibling celebrations extra special with their Raksha Bandhan store, powered by Cadbury, live until 20th August. Customers can explore a treasure trove of thoughtful gifts for every type of sibling, whether they are fashion aficionados, foodies, or tech enthusiasts, and find exciting deals on premium brands including Lindt, Instamax, Titan, Giva,

Noise, Kimirica and others. Amazon.in's specially curated selection includes personalized hampers and combo sets, designer Rakhis, premium grooming products, electronics, smartphones, apparel, skin care essentials, gourmet groceries, and much more. For customers seeking a versatile gifting option, Amazon.in's 'First-in-India' animated Gift Cards offers a quirky solution that

caters to any preference. Through a special Raksha Bandhan offer that will be live between August 14 to August 20, 2024; customers can avail benefits like INR 50 back on Gift Cards and Shopping Vouchers on a minimum transaction of INR 1,500. Customers can also get up to INR 100 back* on Gift Cards and Shopping Vouchers with a minimum transaction of INR 2,500 or more.

Over 2.5 lakh devotees turn up at Kashi Vishwanath Temple on fourth Monday of Shravan

Varanasi

Over 2.5 lakh devotees offered prayers at the Kashi Vishwanath (KV) Temple on the fourth Monday of Hindu holy month of Shravan. Lord Shiva devotees from across the country, including scores of Kanwariyas flocked to Kashi on this auspicious day to offer their devotion. Many began queuing up late at night to have darshan of Baba shwanath. Following the instructions of CM Yogi Adityanath, special arrangements were made to ensure smooth.

Amitabh Bachchan and Manoj Pahwa partner with GSK for new shingles awareness and prevention campaign

GURUGRAM / FARIDABAD: GSK today launched a new campaign on Shingles awareness, featuring veteran actors Amitabh Bachchan and Manoj Pahwa, explaining the scientific link between chickenpox and Shingles. The campaign films use everyday conversations between two friends to talk about shingles and the increased susceptibility of shingles in people with diabetes. Commenting on the campaign, Manoj Pahwa said, "I am in an age group that is susceptible



to shingles, and through GSK's shingles awareness campaigns I have understood more about this painful disease and its associated risk factors. I have faced multiple health problems and

know how difficult it is to lead an active and fulfilling life when affected by infectious diseases. I am proud to be a part of this initiative to educate people about the cause of shingles and the importance of prevention. I encourage adults over 50 years, to talk to their doctors about shingles and its prevention." Shingles is caused by the re-activation of the virus that lies dormant in the nerves if a person has had chickenpox. People with a history of chickenpox who also have diabetes face a 40% higher

risk of developing shingles. High blood sugar levels can weaken the immune system, and when that happens it can increase the risk of re-activation of the chickenpox virus and emergence of shingles. Vigyeta Agrawal, Patient Empowerment Head, GSK said, "The 2023 APLIpsos survey showed that even those who had shingles did not know the cause of this painful disease. It is essential that all people above the age of 50 years know about shingles and its prevention.

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