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

'Relentless operations will continue': Army after J&K terror attack

NEW DELHI:

The Indian Army on Tuesday said that a series of joint and coordinated operations with J&K Police will continue the scourge of terrorism in the Union territory after four army personnel, including an officer, were killed in action after being injured in a gunfight with heavily armed terrorists in Doda district.

"All formations of northern command are committed to eliminate the scourge of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir for which the relentless operations will continue," the Army said in a statement.

"A number of measures have been instituted to enhance synergy between various agencies", it added.

"These include joint training with JK Police and Central Armed Police Forces and robust intelligence sharing mechanism between Army, police and other intelligence agencies," the official release said.

The Army assured that strict protocols have been put in place to minimize



Nagaland moves SC to prosecute 30 Armymen

NEW DELHI:

Supreme Court on Monday admitted a writ petition by Nagaland govt challenging the Centre's one-and-a-half-year-old order denying sanction for prosecution of 30 Armymen who were named in the FIR lodged by state police for killing 13 civilians in a botched-up operation to ambush militants in Mon district on Dec 4, 2021.

Moving the petition, filed under Article 32 of the Constitution invoking violation of the fundamental rights of citizens, before a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, state advocate general K N Balgopal said though state police has clinching evidence against the Armymen, including a Major.

collateral damage and avoid disrupting the daily

lives of local residents in the area.

It also highlighted the importance of maintaining close communication with the local population to facilitate the flow of intelligence information. "Clear guidelines have been enunciated towards ensuring no collateral damage and disruption in day-to-day life of the locals in the area. Close interaction with local populace is also ensured for flow of intelligence inputs," the statement further said.

"We deeply regret the loss of precious lives of our four brave soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty," it said. Similar operations are being conducted in the Kathua area in a relentless manner, it said, adding series of operations in the recent past have resulted in neutralisation of three terrorists in Gandoh on June 26, besides successfully thwarting Chattargala terrorist attack on June 11.

"Line of Control and fence is intact and alert troops have recently neutralised.

Puja Khedkar's IAS training put on hold amid fake certificate row

NEW DELHI: The government on Tuesday put Puja Khedkar's IAS training on hold amid a fake certificate probe and directed her to return to the academy in Mussoorie at the earliest.

Khedkar has also been relieved from the District Training Programme of the Maharashtra government.

"LBSNAA, Mussoorie has decided to keep your District Training Program on hold and immediately recall you for further necessary action..." the letter from Nitin Gadre, additional chief secretary (P) read.

Puja Khedkar has been in the eye of the storm for alleged misuse of power and manipulating disability and OBC quotas. Khedkar allegedly submitted fake disability and Other Backward Class (OBC) certificates to clear the civil services exam. Reports indicate she also submitted a men-



Musk calls report on pouring Trump campaign with \$45 million a month

Billionaire Elon Musk, who recently "fully" rooted for Trump for the presidency, seemingly on Tuesday denied reports of pouring \$45 million a month into a pro-Donald Trump political group, a move that would help the Republican nominee's reelection campaign big time. Suggesting that the

report was fake, the Tesla CEO posted a picture of two gnus (wildbeest) with human legs on X, captioned "fake gnus." "The statement from the billionaire comes after The Wall Street Journal reported that Musk plans to give \$45 million a month to a new super political-action committee.

Khedkar is said to have recurrently failed to appear for mandatory medical tests to confirm her disability, despite having qualified for IAS in the 'Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD)' category.

Swati Maliwal assault case: Delhi Police files chargesheet against Kejriwal's aide Bibhav Kumar

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Tuesday filed 500 pages chargesheet against Bibhav Kumar, a close associate of AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal, in connection with the Swati Maliwal assault case, at the Tis Hazari Court.

The charge sheet was submitted to Metropolitan Magistrate Gaurav Goyal, who also extended Bibhav's judicial custody until July 30, who appeared before the court via video conferencing.

Swati Maliwal claims that Bibhav assaulted her when she visited the Delhi CM's residence on May 13 to meet with him. Based on Maliwal's complaint, the final report was filed under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including sections 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence)

One Indian among 6 killed in Oman Shi'ite mosque shooting



NEW DELHI: An Indian national was killed and another sustained injuries among six killed in a shooting near a Shiite mosque in the Omani capital Muscat on July 15.

Taking to X, the Indian embassy in Oman said, "Following the shooting incident reported in Muscat city on 15 July, Foreign Ministry of Sultanate of Oman has informed that one Indian national has lost his life & another is injured."

"Embassy offers its sincere condolences & stands ready to offer all assistance to the families," it added. Monday's mosque attack, which has yet to be claimed, came as Shiites this week mark Ashura, an annual day of mourning that commemorates the seventh-century death in battle of Imam Hussein, regarded by the sect as the rightful successor to the Prophet Mohammed. "The Royal Oman Police have responded to a shooting incident that occurred in the vicinity of a mosque in the Al-Wadi Al-Kabir area" of the capital, a police statement said.

The three gunmen behind the attack were killed and police officers have "concluded the procedures for dealing with the shooting," it said. The area remained cordoned off on Tuesday, with journalists unable to access the mosque, an AFP photographer reported.

Oman has a population of more than four million, of whom upwards of 40 percent are expat workers, mostly from south Asia, according to government figures. Shiites make up a small minority of Oman's overwhelmingly Muslim population.

From today, you are one year younger': Amit confesses to shocking age fraud

NEW DELHI:

Former Indian spinner and IPL legend Amit Mishra made a stunning admission about the age fraud that has rocked Indian cricket in the past. In a candid statement, Mishra acknowledged that his officially recorded age is inaccurate, differing from his actual age by a year. The leg spinner acknowledged that the controversy surrounding his age played a role in his



ability to participate in age-group cricket and gain entry into the cricketing system. The 41-year-old asserted that he was unaware of the deception and shifted the responsibility to his coach from

his early years. Mishra disclosed that falsifying his age granted him an additional year to compete in U-19 cricket. "Let me tell you, I have a one-year discrepancy, and my coach helped with that. I didn't even know about it. The coach called my home and asked for one more year for me. It was quite an emotional story. I was surprised and asked, 'How?' He said, 'From

today, you are one year younger; now you have two more years.' I agreed," said Mishra in an interaction on Shubhankar Mishra's YouTube Channel. During a lighthearted conversation following the 2024 IPL match between Lucknow Super Giants and Mumbai Indians, former MI captain Rohit Sharma playfully teased Mishra about his age.

BRS leader K Kavitha taken to hospital from Tihar jail

NEW DELHI:

BRS MLC K Kavitha was admitted to Deendayal Upadhyay hospital on Tuesday after she developed gynaecological problem and high fever in Tihar Jail.

"She was taken to DDU Hospital due to some health issues," an official said. The 46-year-old Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader was brought back to prison after undergoing some tests at the hospital, the officials added. After staying in



the hospital for two hours, she was sent back to jail, the official said, adding that she is lodged in Tihar's jail number 6. The BRS leader was arrested on March 15 from Hyderabad, hours after an ED team

searched the premises and interrogated her in a money laundering probe linked to the Delhi excise policy case. She is currently in judicial custody in Tihar Jail. Kavitha, daughter of former Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao was later arrested by the CBI on charges under sections of criminal conspiracy and falsification of accounts of the Indian Penal Code & certain sections of Prevention of Corruption Act.

NEET scam: CBI arrests key accused who stole question paper from NTA's trunk

NEW DELHI:

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday arrested key accused from Patna who allegedly stole NEET-UG question paper from the National Testing Agency's (NTA) trunk. His associate who helped him in stealing the paper was also arrested by the CBI from J h a r k h a n d ' s Hazaribagh. With the two arrests, the total number of persons arrested in connection with cases pertaining to leakage, impersonation and other irregularities in the medical entrance exam has now reached 14, the officials told news agency PTI.

The agency has arrested Pankaj Kumar alias Aditya, a



2017-batch civil engineer from the National Institute of Technology Jamshedpur, who allegedly stole the NEET-UG paper from the NTA trunk in Hazaribagh, the officials said. Kumar, a resident of Bokaro, was arrested from Patna, they said. The CBI has also arrested one Raju Singh from Hazaribagh. After the huge nationwide uproar following

paper leaks, the national investigation agency launched a massive crackdown on those involved in the paper leak. A few days ago, the CBI made a significant breakthrough in the case as it arrested Rakesh Ranjan alias Rocky, the alleged mastermind behind the paper leak scam, in Patna's Kanti Factory Road. Last Thursday, he was produced in the special CBI court that

remanded him in 10-day custody of the probe agency. Rocky, a resident of Nalanda district, is accused of obtaining the leaked NEET question paper, solving it, and circulating the answers to MBBS aspirants. He allegedly arranged for solvers, including MBBS students from Patna and Ranchi, to assist in the cheating racket. He was found to be physically man-

Teen abducted, drugged & raped, rescued after 10 days

AGRA: Ten days after a 16-year-old girl was abducted and assaulted in captivity by three boys in Aligarh, police rescued her and apprehended the accused, among them a minor and a woman, officials said on Tuesday. The perpetrators had allegedly held the teenager captive, force-feeding her multiple sleeping pills every day to render her unconscious, and then gang-raping her.

During this period, they even called the girl's family and demanded a ransom. Subsequently, a team of 24 police personnel traced the mobile location and reached the accused on Monday. The father of the survivor, resident of a colony in the Quarsi police station.

Suryakumar set to pip Hardik Pandya, emerges as dark horse

NEW DELHI:

Suryakumar Yadav, the dynamic batsman, has unexpectedly emerged as a strong contender to lead India's T20 team until the 2026 World Cup, potentially surpassing Hardik Pandya, who was previously considered the natural choice for the position.

Despite Pandya's availability for the upcoming T20I series against Sri Lanka, it has come to light that Suryakumar, who led India in eight T20Is against Australia and South Africa in the previous year, is the favoured choice of the newly appointed head coach Gautam Gambhir and the chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar.

It is understood that Gambhir and Agarkar had a discussion with Pandya earlier in the evening, explaining the decision to finalise a long-term option to ensure stability within

the team. The T20 captaincy position became available following Rohit Sharma's retirement from international cricket in the shortest format after India's triumphant World Cup campaign in the West Indies last month. Pandya, a key contributor to that victory, will be absent from the three-match ODI series against Sri Lanka due to "personal reasons". The T20I series is scheduled from July 27 to 30 in Pallekele, followed by the ODIs from August 2 to 7 in Colombo. The squad announcement for the series is expected in the coming days.

"Hardik Pandya was India's T20 vice-captain under Rohit Sharma. He is completely fit and available for the three-match T20I series and was supposed to lead the side but there is a very strong feeling that SKY.

In Rajiv Gandhi Tree Plantation Campaign, MP planted trees in park

Prayagraj: Congress MP Ujjwal Raman Singh in a program organized today by the Metropolitan Congress Committee under the leadership of President Pradeep Mishra Anshuman in connection with the Rajiv Gandhi Tree Plantation Campaign run by the Congress for environmental protection. He planted trees in Swaroopnani Park opposite Ajanta Talkies (Chinese Dharamshala). On this occasion, he said that environmental protection is a



challenge before humanity today, the responsibility of which we all have to take up. He said that due to widening of roads, decades old trees have been cut down, while proper plantation in their place has not been ensured. Referring to Prayagraj-Mirzapur and Prayagraj-Reenwa highways, he said that the roads are deserted. Even the trees that were planted dried up. He demanded the state and central governments to work sensitively in this direction. On this occasion, Metropolitan President Pradeep Anshuman said that Late, Shri Rajiv Gandhi ji had dreamed of making India a leader in science and environment in the 21st century, towards which Congress workers are committed. He said that under the Rajiv Gandhi Environment Campaign, the party is running a large number of tree plantation drives in different parts of the city. Prominent people participating in the program include Abhay Awasthi, Nem Yadav, Rajendra Aggarwal, Mohammad Irfan, Ramesh Jaiswal, Santosh Mishra, Sushil Dwivedi, Raju Kesarwani, Poonam Yadav Rachna Pandey, Madhavi Rai, Irshadullah Shakeel Ahmed, Abdul Kalam, Rakesh Srivastava, Pradeep Verma, Virendra Sharma, Nafees Qureshi, Pramod Sonkar Sunny etc. were included.

Bharti Airtel Scholarship Prog launched

Lucknow: Bharti Airtel Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Bharti Enterprises, is commemorating its 25 years with the launch of a prestigious 'Bharti Airtel Scholarship Program'. This merit-cum-means based Scholarship Program aims to support deserving students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds with a focus on girl students, pursuing Technology-based Engineering UG and integrated programs (up to 5 years) in the top 50 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) (Engineering) colleges, including IIT Kanpur, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University) Varanasi, Aligarh Muslim University, Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Amity University and others. This will be applicable to students eligible for admissions in August 2024. Starting this year with 250 students, the Program is designed to scale up incrementally with its successful implementation through each cohort. The ambition is to expand reach to 4,000 scholars with an outlay of Rs. 100+ cr per year as the Program reaches its peak.

The fully funded scholarship is envisaged to dissolve the financial barriers that hinder access to quality education for meritorious students, especially from disadvantaged backgrounds. The scholarship will be provided to students with an annual family income not exceeding ₹ 8.5 lacs. The Bharti Airtel Scholarships will focus on UG and integrated courses in fields of Electronics & Communication, Telecom, Information Technology, Computer Sciences, Data Sciences, and Emerging Technologies (AI, IoT, AR/VR, Machine Learning, Robotics) at the top 50 NIRF (Engineering) colleges.

Recipients of this scholarship will be known as 'Bharti Scholars'. They will receive 100% of their college fees throughout the duration of their course and will also be given a laptop. Additionally, hostel and mess fees shall be given to all eligible students who apply for it. With an underlying philosophy to ensure that the benefits accrued through enabling access to quality higher education remain perennial, Bharti Scholars will be encouraged to support at least 1 student on a continuous basis, voluntarily, once they graduate & are subsequently gainfully employed. This transformative, enduring initiative will shape lives and enable the youth to partake in the economic opportunities and growth of India.

OBC students will soon get benefit of scholarship and fee reimbursement

Prayagraj/Lucknow: Yogi government has released the timetable of scholarship schemes for students of Other Backward Classes (except Minority Backward Classes) for the financial year 2024-25. These schemes include Purva Dasham Scholarship (Class 9 and 10), Post Dasham Scholarship (Class 11 and 12) and Post Dasham Scholarship/Fees Reimbursement (except Class 11-12). Its application process will start from July 20, 2024 and will continue till October 20, 2024, while the last date to apply for fee reimbursement is November 20, 2024. The funds will be released from the directorate level through PFMS by 19 December 2024 (for classes 9-12) and 20 January 2025 (except for classes 11-12). The aim of the government is to encourage the education of backward class students by providing financial assistance to them through these schemes.

Narendra Kashyap, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Backward Class Welfare and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Uttar Pradesh, said that students can apply online for these schemes at <https://scholarship.up.gov.in>. These schemes have been started with the aim of providing financial assistance in the education of students, so that they do not face obstacles in their studies. Narendra Kashyap has appealed to the students and their parents to complete the application process within the stipulated dates and avail the benefits of the scheme. He also said that the government is committed to the welfare and education of OBC students and will continue to take such steps in future also.

BJP members welcomed Union Minister of State Arjun Ram Meghwal

Prayagraj: On the arrival of Union Minister of State with Independent Charge Arjun Ram Meghwal to Prayagraj, BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra welcomed Bamrauli. Welcomed at the airport by wearing Ang Vastram and giving a bunch of flowers. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that Union Minister of State Arjun Ram Meghwal arrived in Prayagraj as the chief guest in the Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman program organized



in the courtyard of AMA Convention Center, Stanley Road. On this occasion, he met the Bharatiya Janata Party workers at Amar Krantikari Chandrashekhar Azad Circuit House and inquired about their well-being. Prominent among those who welcomed him were Arvind Singh, Rajesh Kesarwani, Sanjay Srivastava, Rajesh Gond, Mohammad Sharif, Prashant Shukla, Krishna Mohan Mishra, Vijay Srivastava, etc. were other workers.

Lord Jagannath reaches his abode, Rath Yatra festival organized

Prayagraj: Shri Jagannath Ji Mahotsav Committee Trust organized the closing ceremony of the Rath Yatra Mahotsav, which was started with the rest journey of Lord Jagannath Ji, on 22nd June. On this occasion, Trust Minister Gagan Das Gupta worshiped Lord Jagannath Ji with rituals. Following the tradition of Bahuda Yatra, Lord Jagannath ji's brother Balbhadra and Goddess Subhadra were re-established in Lord Jagannath ji's Dham Shri temple in Kashi Rajnagar, following the return of Lord Jagannath ji from the house of his aunt

Gudinchcha Maa, and then performed the aarti of Lord Jagannath ji.



On this occasion, Trust President Durga Prasad Gupta and Rath Yatra Coordinator Basant Lal Azad expressed their gratitude to all the Trust officials and workers for making the 25

Mahotsav. He said that the upcoming program of the Trust, preparations for Shri Krishna Janmotsav and Chhath Mahotsav will be made big and grand on the occasion of the ongoing Silver Year of the Trust. Rath Yatra co-coordinator Rajesh Kesarwani conducted the program. On this occasion, Kanhaiya Lal Gupta, Dau Dayal Gupta, Shashikant Jaiswal Pappu, Triloki Kesarwani, Happy Kaseera Sanjay Singh, Shubham Aggarwal, Ajay Agrahari, Shatrughan Jaiswal, Rahul Kesarwani, Mahesh Soni, Deepu, Pandit Manoj Pandey, Kamlesh Jaiswal, etc.

Minister held review meeting of construction works of Saharanpur, Aligarh, Azamgarh, Ballia Univ

Prayagraj/Lucknow: State Higher Education Minister Yogendra Upadhyay held an important meeting on Tuesday in the Assembly Committee Auditorium regarding the construction works of Saharanpur, Aligarh, Azamgarh and Ballia Universities. In this meeting, he reviewed the progress of construction works of Maa Shakumbhari University, Saharanpur, Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University, Aligarh, Maharaja Suhail Dev State University,

Azamgarh, and Jannayak Chandrashekhar University, Ballia and took steps



to complete them in time bound manner with quality. Gave instructions. The Minister asked the officials to conduct regular inspections to ensure the quality

of construction works. Apart from this, action should be taken to quickly

fill the vacant posts in universities so that the educational environment can be further improved. The Higher Education Minister said that the Yogi govern-

ment is committed to providing higher education to the youth. For this, not only the existing universities are being upgraded, but new universities are also being opened. He instructed the officials to start employment-oriented courses in universities, so that the youth can get employment opportunities along with education. Principal Secretary M.P. Aggarwal, Special Secretary Girijesh Tyagi and Registrars of the concerned universities were present in the meeting.

Turbat procession will be take out from Imambara Nazir Hussain on Ashura

Prayagraj: Even today, fourteen hundred years after the battle of right and wrong in Karbala, the fans of Hussain-e-Mazloom are shedding tears in the Majlis and describing his martyrdom. The process of sorrow started with the sight of the moon of Moharram. Today, the ninth day of Moharram was also remembered with great enthusiasm. Maulana Syed Razi Haider Rizvi Saheb Qibla addressed the Majlis of the ninth Moharram at Imambara Deputy Zahid Hussain, located on Chak Zero Road, while inaugurating the title of Imam. When we mentioned the martyrdom of Hussain's son Hum Shakle Prophet Hazrat Ali Akbar and six-month-old Hazrat Masoom Ali Asghar, the slogans of 'Aho Buka' started rising from everywhere. Before the Majlis, Raza Ismail Safvi and his companions recited Purdard Marsiya. Rose and Jasmine. When the flower-decorated coffin of Hazrat Ali Akbar and the swing of Hazrat Masoom Ali Asghar were taken out, a flood of devotees flocked to Ziyarat. The mourners mourned in full with the prayers of Ali or Hussain. Shah Bahadur, the elderly Naukhanaw of

Anjuman Hussainiya Qadeem read the Nauha while embroidering the painful scene of Karbala and every eye became drenched with tears. Whereas the second Nauha was read by Yusha Bahadur, Mohammad Ahmed Guddu and friends. Whereas the younger Chak performed Ashra in Imambara Wazir Haider. The ninth Majlis was inaugurated by Zakir Ahlebait Ashraf Abbas



Khan. When Mirza Kazim Ali of Anjuman Abidya recited the Qadimi Nauha in the traditional style, the atmosphere became somber. In the Imambara Syed Miyan located at Ghantaghar, Zakir Ahlebait Raza Abbas Zaidi inaugurated the event and Nauhakwan of Anjuman Haidaria inaugurated the ninth Majlis. Hasan Rizvi and colleagues read Purdard Nauha. A procession of Alam and Zuljanah was taken out

from Mirganj from the Azakhana of Imambara late Razi Askari located in Mirganj. A procession of Duldul and Alam of the ninth Moharram came out with Aqidat and Ahteraam. Anjuman Mohafize Aza Qadeem Daryabad and Anjuman Abbasia Rani Mandi raised hue and cry in the procession that started from Mirganj. The procession passed from Loknath Square, Kotwali,

Road by Arshad Naqvi and on Chowk Kotwali by Shahrugh Qazi and Momneen Rani Mandi. After drinking water, he kept remembering the martyrs of Karbala along with Hussain-e-Mazloom and little Ali Asghar, who were martyred innocent and hungry for three days. Today, on the 10th of Moharram, the procession of Turbat will come out from Imambara Nazir Hussain Bakshi Bazaar. According to Anjuman Guncha-e-Qasimya spokesperson Syed Mohammad Askari, on Wednesday, the 10th of Mahe Moharram, at 7 am in the morning on the day of Ashura, from Imambara Nazir Hussain situated in front of Bakshi Bazaar Masjid Qazi Saheb in 1928. A historic procession of Turbat will be taken out. After the speech of Maulana Aamirur Rizvi, the procession of the trumpet along with the sad Marcia and Soz will be taken to Imambara Mir Hussaini in front of Bacha Ji Dharamshala from Daira Shah Ajmal, Kolhantola, Rani Mandi by the famous O Maaroori Sozkhwan Zaigham Abbas. The trumpet will be kept in the Imambara.

Pramodji is embodiment of struggle: Ujjwal Raman

Prayagraj: The District Congress Committee members celebrated the birthday of Deputy leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha Pramodji Tiwari with enthusiasm and joy at zero road party office this afternoon with Gangapar presi-

dent Suresh Yadav on chair. The chief guest Lok Sabha MP from Allahabad, Ujjwal Raman Singh cut the cake with partymen. He said Tiwari ji is an embodiment of service, struggle and sacrifice. He is one such respected personality of the Indian polity who subordinate self interest to national interest and remained undeterred in his upholding of principles and policies. Tiwariji has been the dear-

est of Congress leaders from day one of his entry into politics, he added. Ex.MLA Vijay Prakash presided over the function said his sense of selfless service, simplicity, perseverance and dutifulness is infusing new energy and



new hopes in the party. They prayed his long life. DCC Jamunapur president Arun Tiwari, Mukund Tiwari, Fuzail Hashimi, Kishore Varshney, Harikesh Tripathi, Sudhakar Tiwari, Haseeb Ahmed, Sanjay Tiwari, Talat Ajim, Anil Pandey, Manoj Pasi, Rakesh Patel, Vijay Yadav & hundreds of others were present. Beside of this various other programs were also organized in District and City area.

Employees union celebrated anniv



Prayagraj: All India president of employees union celebrated 80 years anniversary here at BSNL office on Tuesday. Union leaders from all over India were present and Congress leader Javed Urfi was guest of honour.

Birthday greetings given to BJP City Chief Rajendra Mishra

Prayagraj: Bharatiya Janata Party workers congratulated BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra on his birthday at BJP office Civil Line. On the occasion, after cutting the cake and feeding him sweets while wearing



Ang Vastram, he congratulated him on his birthday and prayed to God for his long life. Among those who congratulated him were Vijay Srivastava, Sachin Jaiswal, Rajesh Kesarwani, Shikha Rastogi, Pawan Mishra, Arun Kumar, Anjani Singh, Apoorva Chandra, Anand Jaiswal, Rajesh Gond, Prashant Shukla, Rakesh Bharti, Mahendra Tiwari, Ravindra Jaiswal, etc. were hundreds of workers.

Vi users in UP East to experience faster data speeds

Varanasi: Vi, a leading telecom operator, announced the successful expansion of its L2100 technology to 8500 sites across 48 districts in UP East. This deployment is part of Vi's broader strategy to upgrade network infrastructure, after successfully raising funds recently, and demonstrates its commitment to provide Vi's best-ever network - Vi GIGANet to its users for faster data speeds, enhanced connectivity and a superior mobile experience. Furthermore, Vi will also expand L900 Technology in UP East in the coming days, to enhance indoor network experiences, and enhance voice call quality, messaging.

Commenting on the development, Pravir Kumar, Operations Director, Vodafone Idea, said, "We are committed to delivering superior network experiences to our users by expanding network coverage and capacity. The deployment of L2100 and L900 is an important step in enhancing Vi's 4G network. In the coming months, we will continue to expand our network as well as bring relevant services and offerings to delight our customers."

Vi has been making significant strides in enhancing its plans and offerings for customers. Some recent offers for users in Uttar Pradesh East include: To ensure a worry-free data experience for its prepaid users Vi's Hero Unlimited Offering include unique benefits such as Unlimited High Speed Data from 12am - 6am, Weekend Data Rollover and Data Delight which provides upto 2GB extra data/ month, over and above their daily data quota at no extra cost. Users can avail this HERO Unlimited Benefit from recharge pack starting with Rs. 349.

People's interests should also be taken care by PDA: Vijay Vaishya

Prayagraj: BJP members and businessmen under the leadership of former chief whip of Bharatiya Janata Party councilor party Vijay Vaishya. A delegation of Prayagraj Development Authority met Secretary Ajit Singh in the absence of the Vice Chairman and submitted a memorandum to him saying that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government, Honorable Yogi Adityanath, Deputy Chief Minister Honorable Keshav Prasad Maurya and Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani have envisioned that Divya Kumbh will be grand Kumbh and Navya Kumbh. For this, crores of devotees coming to Prayagraj should be welcomed by widening and beautification of the

roads at a fast pace, but the authorities have laid 10 feet by 10 feet sewer lines on both sides of the road, due

government's money because there was no need to make drains.

And further said that in



to which the rain water and the common people's houses get drained. If so, then why are unnecessary drains being made? This is also wasting the

order to bring transparency in the work, there is an order of the government that where the work is starting, a board should be put up and the complete informa-

tion about the project should be given to the general public, but no board was seen installed anywhere, which is a sign of the government.

There is a clear violation of the orders and said that the boards of traders on the road and the road plaque which was inaugurated by late Keshari Nath Tripathi by Kar Kamalo were also broken by the contractor and taken to his home whereas it should have been returned to the authority or to the responsible person of the authority. Due to giving many works to the same contractor, the work of the authority is going slow and due to this, people are falling into pits during the rainy

season, their hands and legs are getting broken. Shri Vaishya further said that along with the development, public interest should be kept in mind. PDA officials should direct the contractors to increase the number of workers and end the work by making them work day and night.

Those who submitted the memorandum included Vijay Vaishya, Bharatiya Janata Party District Media Incharge Rajesh Kesarwani, AK Singh, Advocate Akhilesh Vaishya, Umashankar Kesari, Shri Bhagwan Kesarwani, Rajesh Sharma, Padmakar Srivastava, Shatrughan Jaiswal, Vivek Tripathi, Kamlesh Kesarwani, Ritesh Kesarwani and others.

Tree plantation performed in Industrial Tribunal

Prayagraj: Tree plantation program was organized in the Industrial Tribunal First Uttar Pradesh Prayagraj campus. On this occasion, saplings were planted under the

chairmanship of Dr. Pradeep Kumar, Presiding Officer of the Authority. In the presence of Divisional Forest Officer Arvind Kumar Yadav, Sub Divisional Forest Officer Sangeeta, Regional Forest Officer Vibhuti Narayan, Deputy Regional Forest Officer Abhay Mishra and officers and employees of the Forest Department, Lokpahal coordinator Dr. Vijay Kumar Singh, litterateur Dr. Arun Kumar Tripathi, Bhanu Prasad Tiwari, Rahul, Anil Mishra, Pushpendra Singh, Rajendra Kumar, Umesh Chandra, Prem Kumar, K. Of. Many people including Jaiswal, Pawan Srivastava, Anil Sonkar, Shivam, Gangaram, Tarachand etc. planted about 100 saplings. On this occasion, the Presiding Officer of the Authority, Dr. Pradeep Kumar and the Divisional For-



est Officer encouraged people to plant more and more saplings and motivated them for their proper maintenance. On this occasion, he also discussed the importance of trees.

He said that along with preserving the climate and environment, it will also provide vital air for future generations, shelter and food for animals and birds and fulfill other social needs.

Account of virtue and sin determined on basis of karma

Shringverpurdham: Garun Mahapuram Katha is being organized under the aegis of Shri Tulsi Sahitya Prachar Samiti in Shringverpurdham. The program is being organized continuously at Shri Ram Vishram Ashram, Shringverpurdham. On Tuesday, Garun Mahapuram Katha was started with the worship, devotion and worship of Garun form of Lord Vishnu.

On the third day of Garun Mahapuram Katha running under the aegis of Shri Tulsi Sahitya Prachar Samiti in Shringverpurdham, the narrator Shringverpurdham Peethadhishwar Mahant Ramprasad Das Shastri Maharaj, while reciting the chapter mentioned in Garun Puran, said that the account

of virtue and sin is based on the deeds of man. Is ready. On the basis of which man has to suffer the consequences of his deeds. Man is engaged in struggle in life according to both his karma and destiny in the world. But



it is on the basis of karma that the path of the soul is determined after getting liberated from the cycle of life and death. Garun Purana is not just a book to be heard or for the salvation of the soul after death. Rather, Garun Purana is a book about the pastimes of Lord Shri Hari and liberation from worldly

bondages by getting absorbed in God from material life. Among the eighteen Puranas, Garun Purana is such a book in which Truth, Karma and Fate all three change the fate of a new body after death. A crowd of villagers gathered in the Garun Mahapuram Katha going on in Shringverpurdham. The villagers became emotional after listening to the story. After the story, aarti of Shri Hari Vishnu and his forms was performed. Villagers coming from far flung areas participated in the divine aarti. Shri Tulsi Sahitya Prachar Samiti Vice President Arun Dwivedi conducted the program and expressed his gratitude to the devotees. On this occasion, Dr. Shubhash Mishra, Munna Soni, Hari, Bhim Mishra, Savita Devi, etc.

District level advisory/review committee meet held

Prayagraj: A meeting of District level advisory/review committee was organized in Sangam Auditorium on Tuesday under the chairmanship of District Development Officer Bholanath Kanojia. In the meeting, the District Development Officer discussed about the Annual Loan Scheme, Loan-Deposit Ratio, Kisan Credit Card, Financial Inclusion Scheme, Self Help Groups, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Swanidhi Yojana, Prime Minister Employment Generation Scheme, One District One Product Scheme, Chief Minister Youth Self-Employment Scheme, etc. Other points were discussed in detail. While reviewing the progress of



Prime Minister Employment Generation Scheme, One District One Product Scheme, Chief Minister Youth Self-Employment Scheme, the District Development Officer has asked to dispose of all the applications pending at the

branch level expeditiously. He said that if any kind of problem arises in disposal, then DIC should be informed about the problem and it should be solved in time. Reviewing the progress of making Kisan Credit Card, the District

Development Officer said that as per the intention of the government, there should be at least one KCC in every farmer family. He has asked the banks to saturate the district with KCCs by issuing Kisan Credit Cards to more and

more people.

In the review of Pradhan Mantri Swanidhi Yojana, he has asked for speedy disposal of applications pending under the scheme in many branches and distribution of loans to eligible street vendors. To increase the loan-deposit ratio, it has been asked to give loans to more and more eligible people under the schemes. He has asked all the banks to prepare an action plan to provide benefits to as many eligible people as possible. BC Sakhis have also been asked to be further empowered. On this occasion, representatives of all the banks including LDM, Horticulture Officer Mamta Mishra were present.

KISNA celebrates 19th anniv, projects vision for future

Prayagraj: KISNA Diamond and Gold Jewellery, a leading name in the jewellery industry, celebrated its 19th anniversary with a grand event held in Lonavala. The celebration was marked by the appreciation and awarding of top-performing retailers, franchisees, and employees who have significantly contributed to the brand's success over the years.

The event was graced by the presence of Managing Director Ghanshyam Dholakia, Director Parag Shah, and the next generation of the Dholakia family, Mr. Hitarth Dholakia and Mr. Ruvin Dholakia. They shared their vision for the

future, emphasizing innovation, customer satisfaction, and sustainable growth.

In his address, Managing Director Ghanshyam



Dholakia said, "As we celebrate 19 years of excellence, we are grateful for the unwavering support and dedication of our partners and employees. Together, we have built a brand that

stands for trust and quality. Our vision for the future is to continue this legacy, embracing new trends and technologies to serve our

customers better."

Director Parag Shah added, "Our journey has been remarkable, and it's the hard work of our team and the loyalty of our customers that have brought us here.

We are committed to maintaining the high standards that KISNA is known for and exploring new avenues for growth." The event also featured a series of engaging activities, including presentations on upcoming product lines, interactive sessions with the Dholakia family, and a gala dinner. The highlight of the evening was the award ceremony, where top performers were recognized for their exceptional contributions. KISNA Diamond and Gold Jewellery extends its heartfelt thanks to all its partners, employees, and customers for their continuous support and looks forward to many more years of success and prosperity.

AIMIM submits memo over mob lynching & bulldozer policy

Prayagraj: All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin AIMIM submitted a memorandum at the district headquarters postponing the proposed protest demonstration at the protest site due to imposition of Section 144. AIMIM Prayagraj, as per the orders of State President Honorable Shaukat Ali, is facing increasing number of Dalits and backward classes in the country and the state. Regarding the incidents of mob lynching of Muslims and stopping the bulldozer action, party officials under the leadership of MIM Dis-

trict President and Metropolitan President together submitted a five-point

zen should be ensured. Imposing false cases on Muslims, Dalits and the poor



memorandum addressed to Madam President in the Collectorate to the Additional District Magistrate. In which the following main demands are made in the memorandum. Terror and panic should be ended in the state and security of life and property of every citi-

should be stopped. Under the bulldozer policy of the state government, the malicious and planned step-motherly treatment against Muslims, Dalits and the poor by keeping the legal process aside should be stopped. The atmosphere of hatred spreading in the

country and the state should be ended and strict action should be taken without any discrimination against those who spread hatred in the society in the name of religion and caste. Appropriate steps should be taken to stop the incidents of mob lynching and cases should be decided through fast track courts under Section 103(2) of the Indian Justice Code (BNS). The main ones who submitted the memorandum were Mujibur Rahman Advocate, Syed Mohammad Muntazar, Afsar Mahmood, Meraj Ahmed, Shaukat Ali, Iftekhar Ahmed Mander, Aamir Badshah Manzoor Alam, Riazul Haq Chaudhary, Tariq Nadeem, Shafiqat Ali, Mohammad Siraj, Afzal, Ashraf, Sarwar were present today.

How azadars commemorate martyrdom of Imam Hussain on Ashura, explains Engg Farooq Naseer

Prayagraj: "The 10th of Muharram, known as Ashura, holds significant religious and cultural importance for Muslims worldwide. This day marks the climax of the mourning for the martyrdom of Imam Hussain Ibn Ali, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad, and his companions at the Battle of Karbala in 680 AD. The event is pivotal in Islamic history and holds deep spiritual and emotional resonance for Muslims, particularly the Shia community. The Battle of Karbala is a critical event in Islamic history, representing the struggle between justice and tyranny. Imam Hussain, along with his family and a small band of supporters, stood against the oppressive rule of Yazid, the Umayyad caliph, in defense of Islamic prin-

ciples. Despite facing overwhelming odds, they chose to uphold their beliefs, leading to their martyrdom and becoming symbols of resistance, sacrifice, and righteousness in Islam," said Engineer Farooq Naseer on Tuesday.

"In India, where Muslims constitute a significant minority, Ashura is observed with solemnity and reverence. The observance varies between Sunni and Shia Muslims, with the latter typically engaging in more elaborate mourning rituals," he added.

Rituals associated with Ashura: Fasting: Many Shia and Sunni Muslims observe fast on the 9th and 10th days of Muharram. The fast on the 10th day, Ashura, is particularly emphasized as a commemoration of the suffering of Imam

Hussain and his followers.

Majlis and Mourning Gatherings: Shia Muslims gather in mosques and imambargahs (congregational halls) for Majlis,



which are gatherings where the story of Karbala is retold through lectures, poetry, and recitations of marsiyas (elegies). These sessions often evoke strong emotions as participants mourn the tragedy and express solidarity with Imam Hussain.

Tazia Processions: Shia communities organize Tazia processions. These processions feature elaborately crafted replicas of the tomb of Imam Hussain and are carried through the streets amidst chants and lamentations. The Tazias are often adorned with black banners and symbols of mourning.

Charity and Communal Meals: It is also common for Muslims, regardless of sect, to engage in acts of charity (sadaqah) on Ashura. Community meals (niyaz) are organized where food is distributed among the needy, fostering a sense of community and solidarity.

"While Ashura holds particular significance for Shia Muslims, Sunnis also acknowledge its importance, albeit with different

rituals and practices. In India, this day serves as a reminder of the shared values of compassion, justice, and standing against oppression, resonating with people of all backgrounds. The observance of Ashura in India reflects the diverse tapestry of Islamic traditions and cultural practices within the country. It is a day marked by introspection, mourning, and solidarity, emphasizing the enduring message of sacrifice and righteousness embodied by Imam Hussain and his companions. As Muslims come together to commemorate Ashura, they reaffirm their commitment to the principles of justice and humanity, transcending sectarian boundaries to uphold the universal values cherished by Islam," he said prior to signing off.

Mango Day celebrated

Prayagraj: Mango Day was celebrated today at Shri Narayan Ashram Balika Intermediate College, Shivkuti, Prayagraj. Nursery and KG children reached the school wearing beautiful yellow colored and mango shaped dresses. The little ones told about mango through their talent. They also brought different kinds of mangoes with them. Besides being a fun activity, Mango Day celebration also became a medium of language development in the children. Principal Mrs. Vibha Mishra praised the children and made them aware of the qualities of the King of fruits, Mango. The children also presented poems, dances and rhymes. Class teacher Shikha Kushwaha was present.



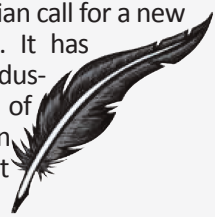
NOTICE

This is to hereby inform that I, Ram Kumar son of late Gangadeen and Late Dharampal son of Gayadin, resident of Amarsapur Malawa Khurd, Pargana Jhansi district, Prayagraj, registered deed of Araji Sankhya-115 Mauza Saraishankar at Sub Registrar Phulpur Prayagraj on 24.10.2000, Book No. 1, Volume No. 533, Page No. 71 to 156, Serial No. No. 3315, original is lost somewhere on 11-06-2024.

Editorial

Verge of a cascade of conflicts

The world today appears to be on the verge of a cascade of conflicts. Over two years since it started, the Russia-Ukraine war does not seem to be heading towards an imminent settlement. Likewise, despite calls for a ceasefire, the Israel-Hamas conflict appears unlikely to abate anytime soon. And now, events over the past month involving Israel and Iran have demonstrated the potential for a wider regional conflict. While the wars in Eurasia and the Middle East may seem disjointed and seeped in their own historical and political contexts, they are also interconnected in a broader sense of the emerging great power competition for the future of the world order. What we are witnessing today is an era of great power competition in an increasingly multipolar world. The US and China are the chief protagonists in this new order, although each is constrained by its domestic politics and capacities. This creates a certain power vacuum, but also space for autonomy of action, balancing and bandwagoning, and even adventurism by middle powers. In this environment, while there are no distinct blocs that have emerged, there are certain alignments that are becoming more prominent. For instance, NATO seems to have found a fresh purpose following Russia's assault on Ukraine, but there are deep concerns related to American policy continuity. Likewise, there is the emergence of a Russia-Iran-China axis based on common interests and grievances with the West. But there are limits to the nature of support that each lends to the other. After years of mutual antagonism, Israel and Iran now appear to be on the brink of a new conflict. The proximate cause for this can be traced back to Israel's frustration with what it argues is Iranian support for Hamas, and other groups such as the Hezbollah, the Houthis, the Syrian government and groups in Iraq. Over the course of the past month, the two countries have engaged in a cycle of attack and counter-attack. Neither seems to desire a major escalation. But the ladder of escalation often follows its own logic, which can put the best-laid plans to waste. Two strategic outcomes can be observed amid these recent events. First, the persistence of the war in Gaza and the emerging spillovers have exposed the limitations of American and Chinese power, particularly since the situation does not necessarily serve either's strategic interests. Second, there is a clear alignment, albeit with increasing friction, between the US and Israel. The US has been at the forefront, supporting Israel in its war against Hamas, and led its defence amid the recent Iranian strikes. It is interesting to note that this effort was supported by regional actors like Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Jordan. In addition, options to coerce Iran economically are being discussed in both the European Union (EU) and the US. On the other hand, China and Russia have been critical of Israeli actions since October 2023. Amid the Iran-Israel tensions, Beijing has backed Iran and sought to preserve its tenuous effort at reconciliation between Saudi Arabia and Tehran. Russia, meanwhile, has become Iran's largest military backer since 2022 and threw its diplomatic weight behind Iran's "retaliatory measures" on April 14 against Israel. On the other side of the world, the war in Ukraine is well into its third year. The conflict has fundamentally reshaped European geopolitics and geo-economics. The war has re-energised transatlantic unity for the moment. However, the direction of American domestic politics has a significant bearing on this momentum. Beijing has sought to straddle the line in Europe by trying to appear neutral while backing the Russian call for a new regional security architecture. It has supported Russia's defence industrial complex with the supply of dual-use items, but has been cautious to avoid direct weapons support. Russia, meanwhile, has economically become more dependent.



There was no Google in those days

I was born in the Indian Railways township of Tundla, a major junction on the historic Delhi-Howrah trunk route, in the heartland of Uttar Pradesh. The town had a population of just 30,000 then, divided almost equally between the railwaymen and their dependents and 'the townwallahs', as the others - shopkeepers, traders, professionals and some farmers - living there were fondly called. Tundla was like a microcosm of India, with people from all parts of the country, representing all religions, faiths, languages, traditions, colours and festivals, living there. Ramlila, Durga Puja and Guru Parva festivities always fascinated me, as did the sombreness of the

Muharram processions. Nobody ever asked me my caste or, for that matter, my religion. My parents were refugees, thanks to the unfortunate Partition. My father had to leave behind his ancient village in the Frontier, bordering Afghanistan, and my mother had to flee from Mianwali in western Punjab. But it did not matter to our neighbours or friends. It was a childhood full of carefree joy, play and happiness. The whole town was like a family, which would transform into a big mela (a fair) on occasions like Diwali, Durga Puja and 'chhabbis janyari' (January 26, the Republic Day of India). I did not know anything about caste. Two families living opposite our house

were Dalit, which I had heard - mostly in whispers - from the priest of our local temple, but we all prayed together, celebrated together, and often ate together. I am sure the caste fissures were all there, and probably profoundly, but they were under the radar, never paraded nakedly. Caste was a reality, a big social cleavage in villages just outside our microcosm, but I also know for sure that most even in those villages would have wanted to be like us. Honestly, I did not know - and did not care to know - my caste until I was already settled, had travelled all around the world, married and even had the first child. The 1990 violence over the implementation of the Mandal

report shattered me. Suddenly, everybody was asking each other about their caste. If you used only 'Kumar' or 'Singh' or 'Bharti' as your last name, people were careful not to offend you, staying neutral on the Mandal debate in social gatherings. It was in such an atmosphere and anxiety I called up my father one evening to ask him about our 'caste'. He was baffled. All he managed to say was, "We are Hindus, Panjabi Hindus." I persisted, "That I know, but what is our caste... I mean caste?" I listed out all the four varnas and asked him to tick the right box. He said, "We are Arora. I do not know beyond that." There was no Google in those days.

Impact of mobilization of caste panchayats on voting



In the this Lok Sabha election, a large number of Jat voters were seen missing in Western UP, called Jatland. Rajputs and Thakurs have also opened a front against the BJP governments in the entire northern region of India. Their Panchayats are being held and despite the persuasion of many big Rajput and Thakur leaders, their opposition is not calming down. In this way, the disappointment shown among the voters in Western Uttar Pradesh, known as Jat Land, on April 19 and the number of voters who came to vote at the booths till almost noon, has given rise to disappointment that whether this time are voters so angry with the attitude of one party governments that they do not even want to exercise their voting rights? But what is this resentment that if people are angry with the governments of one party, then they should not vote, this will only increase the problem. The way Jats are disappearing from the Panchayats, and the Rajput community and other castes also want to establish their dominance by doing Panchayats and want to show the ruling party that not only Jats, but also Rajputs and Thakurs live in the area. The government is feeling scared because of it, but the unity seen in the Panchayats of these three

big castes will be affected in some way or the other. In such a situation, when these three castes have tried to create an opposing wave through Panchayats, then they need to remain united to get their demands met. In western Uttar Pradesh, there is evidence of unity of Ajjars i.e. Ahirs, Jats, Gurjars and Rajputs. In a way, Thakur is also a caste of Rajputs, so it is counted in it. These four farmer communities are not only hardworking but also honest. And these four communities can tolerate everything, but do not tolerate fraud. Although I believe that all the farmer communities or should we say all the farming communities are honest and hardworking, the Jat and Rajput communities have always been at the forefront in taking decisions in the Panchayats, taking everyone along and history is witness to this. These communities have always resolved all

small and big disputes in the villages through their Panchayats. Apart from this, the kindness among the farming communities, especially the big farmers, is so much that no one can go through their doors without eating and drinking. About four years ago, when the Corona epidemic was spreading globally and there was chaos all around, people suffering from Corona were dying and villagers living in cities were returning to their homes on foot hungry and thirsty, then the farmers had opened the stores of his house and helped such helpless travelers a lot. Not only this, almost all the works were closed at that time, but the farmers kept the country's GDP intact by working day and night in their fields. At that time, only one or two leaders would have come forward to help the people, the rest of the help was either done by the farmers,

or by those who were sons of farmers and were in jobs. But the way farmers have been ignored in this country for the last few years and especially what has happened to them during the farmers' movement, it is clear that the resentment of Jats, Rajputs and other big castes was bound to come to the fore. But it is not wise to stay away from voting and separate from each other. However, if we talk about reduction in voting, we will see that while 69.2 percent voting took place in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, this time only 55 to 66 percent voting took place at various booths. If the voting percentage remains the same in future, then it will be a big warning not only for the democracy of the country but also for the Election Commission about the dissatisfaction of the voters. Because voters are the basis of elections and if voters do not vote, then how will governments be elected? The fewer voters will vote, the easier it will be for the political parties to manipulate them in their favor and it will also be easier to win, because the mood of the voters is such that the angry voters do not vote or Those who vote for a particular party get burnt on NOTA, whereas those who vote only for a particular party come to vote in any circumstances

and in this way, even if the voting percentage is low, that party can also win, due to which a large number of voters are attracted. The section should be angry. But this is not even 100% true. Because many times people come out in large numbers for anti-voting and those voters get angry, who are stuck to one party and are angry with that party for some reason. But they do not get angry and vote for other parties, rather they prefer to sit at home and protest against voting. If we want to see such examples, we will see that in the 2018 assembly elections in Rajasthan, the Rajputs there had opened a front against the BJP and the result was that the BJP had lost in Rajasthan. Despite being less in number than other castes, the opposition of Rajputs proved too much for BJP and after two five-year plans, BJP could return to power in Rajasthan in the year 2023. This time, the way the resentment of Rajputs has come to the fore in the northern region of India after the Jats from Western Uttar Pradesh, anything can happen. In fact, for the last one year, BJP has been continuously trying to target every caste in the country except Muslims, which have good numerical strength. , for the Lok Sabha elections. But as elections approached

There's A Deeper Problem

According to the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) latest forecast, India is expected to receive above-normal rainfall during the upcoming June-September southwest monsoon season. This is great news after a gap of eight years; 2016 was when India last experienced decent rain. The country's dependence on monsoon can be gauged from the fact that it receives about 70-90% of its annual rainfall in the four months of June-September. Normal monsoon has a direct impact on the country's economy. Evenly-distributed rainfall is crucial for the 61% of Indian farmers who are dependent on monsoon for agriculture. A positive monsoon enhances agricultural production, which in turn boosts the country's economy and

enhances food security. Over the last few decades, dwindling resources have led to overuse of groundwater. According to the Central Groundwater Board of India, 18% of India's groundwater assessment units are overexploited or critical, meaning that the rate at which water is extracted is higher than the rate at which the aquifer can recharge. The overuse of groundwater for agriculture has increased since the 1960s, especially after the Green Revolution. To fulfil requirements, a largely unregulated groundwater irrigation economy has mushroomed in rural areas. Increased availability of borewells and free or subsidised electricity have allowed farmers to withdraw groundwater at will, leading to the resource's overexploitation. The practice raises concerns given

that about 75% of the annual groundwater recharge takes place during the southwest monsoon. With climate change altering monsoon patterns, these recharge cycles can get disrupted, consequently leading to high crop failures. The IMD's latest monsoon prediction is music to not only farmers but also lakhs of people in Indian cities that have been battling water-related crises. Bengaluru is foremost among them these days. It has two major sources of water - while Cauvery water takes care of 60% of the city's water needs, the rest is fulfilled by borewells handled by Bengaluru's water supply authority. Two large lakes in the metropolis, Varthur and Bellandur, have been lying empty for the last four years due to desilting work.

Suspicion and allegations on the use of EVM

Another election, another round of suspicion and allegations on the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). The voting machine has always been mired in controversies, with debates heating up around the time of elections. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has repeatedly defended EVMs as non-tamperable, citing technological measures and strict administrative and security measures taken by the poll body. Unfortunately, S. Rangarajan, the man who designed the EVM, is no longer here to defend the device that has drastically reduced the time taken to count votes. However, he was more popularly known as 'writer Sujatha' - among the most prolific writers in Tamil - who wrote thrillers, science fiction, human drama, critiques on Tamil classics, and explained science and technology. He also wrote screenplays that went on to become hugely successful. If alive, he would have turned 89 on May 3 this year. He passed away on February 27, 2008. Rangarajan was an electronic engineer at Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), where he led the team that designed such machines. After their experimental use in 1989, followed by other successful exercises during elections, about one million EVMs were deployed in the 2004 elections. In 1977, S.L. Shakhdar, the then Chief Election

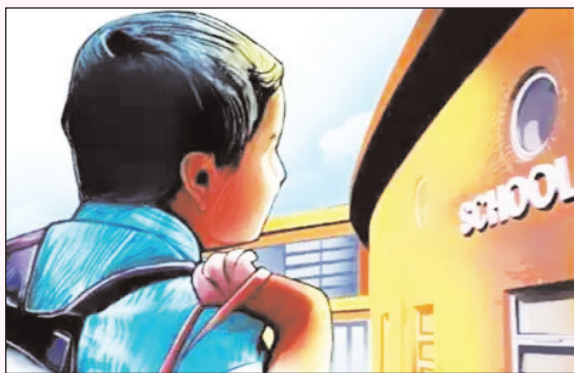
Commissioner (CEC), during a tour to Hyderabad, requested the Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECL) to study the possibility of using an electronic device for conducting elections, writes Anil Maheshwari and Vipul Maheshwari in 'The Power of the Ballot: Travail and Triumph in the Elections. In 1979, a prototype was developed, and its operation was demonstrated by the Election Commission of India (ECI) before the representatives of political parties in August 1980, they add. Meanwhile, BEL, a Defence Ministry PSU, had also developed a microcomputer-based voting equipment, which they had used for the elections for the various unions of the company, say the authors. In January 1981, BEL approached the ECI for a contract for manufacturing EVMs, and on July 29, 1981, the ECI held a meeting with the representatives of BEL, ECL, the Ministry of Law, and the CEOs of some states regarding the use of EVMs in elections. But since its introduction, some parties have raised doubts over the possibility of EVMs malfunctioning or being tampered with to register votes in favour of a particular candidate or party. Even the introduction of the Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) has not been able to satisfy complainers. Incidentally, a VVPAT

machine is attached to the main EVM, which, as soon as a button is pressed, prints out a piece of paper with the voter's choice. The printed slip is visible for seven seconds. These slips are used later by officials to verify the votes cast in randomly selected polling booths. It was with the very idea of introducing more transparency into the election process that the concept of VVPAT was proposed in 2010. Following discussions with political parties and others, the idea was referred to the ECI's Technical Expert Committee. Finally, VVPAT machines were attached to EVMs and trials were conducted in some constituencies during the 2013 assembly elections. Following that, the ECI decided to introduce VVPATs in a phased manner, and in the 2019 General Elections, all EVMs were used with VVPAT machines. Let me point out two things. Firstly, it was precisely to remove doubts regarding the EVMs that VVPAT machines were introduced - to provide voters with a means to verify that their vote was cast correctly and for the audit of stored electronic results. Using these machines, voters can review a physical ballot to confirm their electronic vote. Secondly, it was the VVPAT machines that malfunctioned in the recent by-polls, and not the EVMs," writes former.

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

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.

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

MCD commissioner inspects primary schools' infrastructure

Delhi: MCD commissioner Gyanesh Bharti visited elementary schools across the city to inspect their facilities, maintenance, and student services, including book and uniform distribution. The commissioner, along with additional and deputy commissioners and education department officials, visited MCD-run schools a day after Delhi High Court expressed its displeasure over the lack of textbooks, uniforms, and stationery. In a routine tour, the com-



missioner visited schools in Old Gandhi Nagar, Kailash Nagar, South Gandhi Nagar, and Subhash Mohalla. The goal was to improve school facilities and atmosphere, "explained an official. He stated that department heads have been ordered to use mainte-

nance monies and allocate school budgets based on urgency. "The department will take necessary steps for the schools that need extensive repair or maintenance work." The commissioner told the court that two lakh students lacked bank accounts and were

being opened on a "war footing". He further blamed the delay in book delivery on the lack of a Standing Committee with authority over Rs 5 crore contracts. With 1,534 schools, MCD allocates maintenance money annually based on classroom count. Schools with one to 10 classrooms receive Rs 1 lakh, those with 10 to 20 Rs 1.5 lakh, and those with 20+ Rs 2 lakh. The official said schools must utilize the monies by March 31 or MCD will take them back.

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. Paper ballots were used. 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.

Dr. Vinod Kumar conferred D. Litt

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



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

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

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

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

Hyderabad no more capital of Andhra Pradesh from today

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Srestha Finvest Ltd. Reports Excellent Earnings for Q4FY24, Revenue

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

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

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

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

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

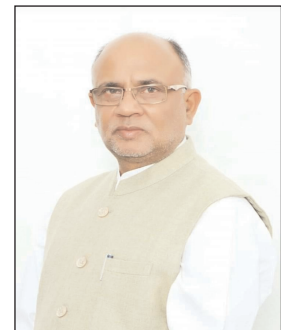
BAREILLY: Four farmers were killed and two critically injured when a speeding pickup van, allegedly driven by a drunk driver, lost control and ploughed through the group as they sat under a tree seeking respite from the scorching heat in Paigha Bhikampur village in Bisauli area of Budaun district on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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ication for 1 year following the Transplant.

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

Utkarsh Small Finance Bank continues to expand its presence!



HISAR : Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (Utkarsh SFBL) proudly announces the inauguration of 900th outlet of the Bank at Khunti, Ranchi, Jharkhand. This milestone is part of a broader expansion, which includes 7 new outlets launched today across Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. With this, the Bank now operates 81 banking outlets in Jharkhand and a total of 903 outlets nationwide. Customers in Khunti, Ranchi will now have access to a wide range of the Bank's products

and services. These include savings accounts, current accounts, fixed deposits, recurring deposits, and various loan products such as housing loans, business loans, loans against property, credit, insurance, and investment products. The Bank's extensive infrastructure, digital banking capabilities, and ATM network aim to provide integrated customer service. Commenting on the expansion, Mr. Govind Singh, MD & CEO of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited, "Today is a landmark day for

us as we inaugurate our 900th banking outlet of the Bank at Khunti, Ranchi, Jharkhand. Jharkhand is a significant state for us, and the inauguration of our 7 new banking outlets across Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh further reinforces our commitment to these regions. Our new banking outlets will not only foster local entrepreneurship but would also provide essential resources to strengthen the financial resilience to enhance the livelihoods of these entrepreneurs.

Durex TBBT celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community with a special issue of Outlook magazine

GURUGRAM : Durex, globally renowned for its dedication to promoting sexual health and wellness, is thrilled to announce a special collaboration with Outlook Magazine for an exclusive Pride Month edition. Curated under Durex's flagship initiative, The Birds and Bees Talk (TBBT), this issue is designed to celebrate and support the LGBTQIA+ community, in alignment with this year's Pride Month theme, 'Reflect. Empower. Unite.' This special edition of Outlook Magazine, in partnership with Durex TBBT, is more than just a publication. It is a testament to the

power of storytelling, education, and community support in fostering a more inclusive and understanding society. By celebrating the achievements and addressing the challenges of the LGBTQIA+ community, this initiative truly embodies the Pride Month theme of 'Reflect. Empower. Unite.' This initiative stands out as a significant contribution to the community, aiming to foster inclusivity and drive important conversations about sexual and reproductive health. Guest edited by Ravi Bhatnagar, Director of External Affairs and Partnerships, SOA, Reckitt and recipient of Trans Allyship award by

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the special edition features a range of inspiring stories, expert insights, and educational content tailored to resonate with a broad audience. Empowering Voices: This edition provides a powerful platform for influential LGBTQIA+ figures such as Sushant Divgikar, Alok Verma, Dutee Chand, and Trinetra Haldar Gummaraju. Their stories of overcoming societal barriers and fostering inclusivity are truly inspiring and aim to empower readers by showcasing the resilience and achievements of the LGBTQIA+ community.

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

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



to communicate the terms and conditions of loans in written form to

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

Davangere Sugar Company Ltd. Announces Capacity Expansion by 45 KLPD, Targets Additional Sugar Cane Growing Area by 15000 Acres

CHANDIGARH: Davangere Sugar Company Ltd. (DSCL) (BSE: 543267, NSE: DAVANGERE), a leading player in Sugar, Sustainable Power and Ethanol Solutions, proudly announces the expansion of its distillery and operations.

Additional capacity expansion of Grain distillery by 45 KLPD

By adding another 45 KLPD grain-based unit at a cost of project of Rs.54.00 crores. The financial tie-up with banks is completed and about Rs. 2.00 crores is invested in civil works. Negotiations completed with machinery suppliers. It is marking a significant milestone for the company and the local agricultural



community. Its intention to expand the distillery will allow the company to now operate independently for 330 days of the year, ensuring a steady and robust production cycle. "We are thrilled to deepen and further strengthen our collaboration with local farmers," said Mr. Ganesh, MD of DSCL. "Their quality crops are the cornerstone to produce ethanol, and this expansion allows us to create more jobs, boost

local income, and maintain our high standards year-round. "The expansion not only enhances the distillery's production capabilities but also offers farmers a reliable market for their produce. This mutually beneficial relationship promises to enhance the region's agricultural landscape, providing stability and growth opportunities for all involved.

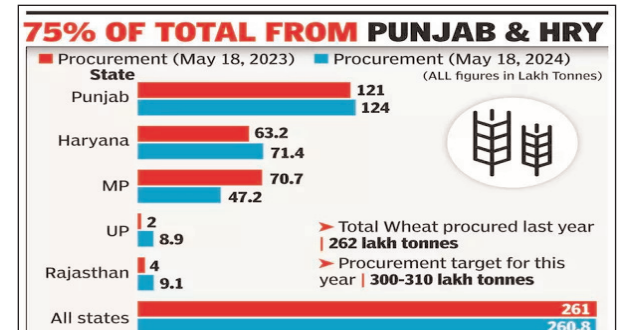
Target of achieving additional Sugar Cane growing area by 15,000 acres:

DSCL is committed to not just cultivating sugarcane, but to revolutionize its growth and practices. One of our key initiatives involves promoting and developing sugarcane crops

up to 15000 acres in existing cane cultivation areas and regions traditionally not associated with cane cultivation. By expanding into this non-cane growing areas and ensuring sufficient raw material for the company, we not only secure a sustainable raw material supply for our company but also usher in a wave of socio-economic benefits for local farmers. The company further added, "Our primary aim is to provide farmers in these regions with assured and timely returns on their produce. We understand the challenges they face and strive to alleviate them through various means, including financial assis-

Fully procured wheat by centre exceeds last year's mark

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



Uttar Pradesh followed with 9.66 and 9.07 LMT. According to the Ministry, 728.42 LMT paddy equivalent to 489.15 LMT of rice has been acquired directly from 98.26 lakh farmers during the Kharif marketing scheme 2023-24, with a total

MSP outflow of Rs. 1,60,472 crores. The Food Ministry said the Central Pool's wheat and rice stock had topped 600 LMT, allowing the country to meet its food grain needs under PMGKAY, other welfare initiatives, and market interventions.

Standard Capital Markets Ltd. Reports Stellar Earnings for FY24, PAT Jumps 380% YoY

CHANDIGARH : Standard Capital Markets Ltd., a leading player in the financial services sector, has announced its earnings for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2024. For the quarter ended 31 March 2024, the company reported Revenue from operations at Rs. 1069.67 Lakhs, a growth of 200.31% YoY. The EBITDA jumped 273.94% YoY, from Rs. 218 Lakhs (Q4FY23) to Rs. 817 Lakhs (Q4FY24). PAT grew 57.39% YoY, from Rs. 159.99 Lakhs (Q4FY23), to Rs. 251.81 Lakhs (Q4FY24). For the year ended 31 March 2024, the company saw a 142.72% growth in its revenue from operations, growing from Rs. 1128.77 Lakhs (FY23) to Rs. 2739.76 Lakhs (FY24). EBITDA grew 146.50% YoY, from Rs. 938.17 Lakhs (FY23), to

Rs. 2312.63 Lakhs (FY24). PAT grew by a staggering 380.69% YoY, from Rs. 222.81 Lakhs (FY23), to Rs. 1071.02 Lakhs (FY24). Earlier, the company announced that it has partnered with a leading fintech company to provide educational loans to individuals seeking higher education. This collaboration aims to make education more accessible and affordable for students, empowering them to pursue their academic goals. Through this strategic partnership, Standard Capital Markets Limited will leverage the fintech company's innovative platform and expertise in student financing to offer competitive loan options tailored to the needs of students. The loans will cover tuition fees, living expenses, and other educational

costs, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder students from receiving a quality education. Standard Capital Markets Limited is a leading player in the financial services sector. Embracing the uniqueness of each client, the company consistently strives to deliver personalized, professional services. It upholds an unwavering commitment to every client, while adhering rigorously to the best professional norms and practices, exuding dynamism in every interaction. The company offers a diverse range of Personal Loans, ensuring not only competitiveness but also flexible repayment terms. With their support, clients can confidently pursue their goals without confusion or worry.

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

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

Boost For Quick Commerce Foray

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

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



Flipkart as it looks to enter the quick commerce space

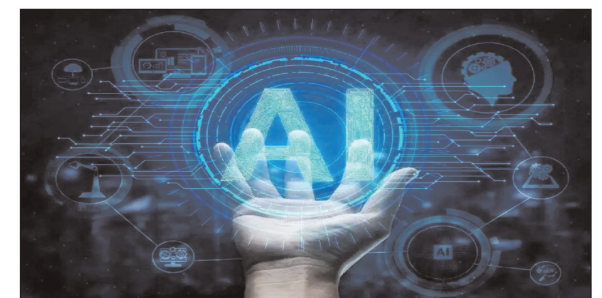
Flipkart has been in a partnership with Google Cloud since 2022

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

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

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

DD Kisan launches 50-language AI anchors Krish and Bhoomi



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

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

The success of Congress's Haryana Maange Hisaab program created a stir in BJP: Sultan Jadoula

Kaithal: Senior Congress leader and former Chief Parliamentary Secretary Sultan Singh Jadoula said that the immense success of the BJP government under the leadership of MP Deepender Singh Hooda has created panic in the BJP government. It is clear from the huge crowd that gathered at the start of the campaign that the people of the state have pledged to form a Congress government under the leadership of former Chief Minister Chaudhary Bhupendra Singh Hooda.

Congress leader Sultan Jadoula was inviting villagers and workers to participate in the huge workers' conference to be held at Jashn Palace in Pundri on August 4 under the Haryana Maange Hisaab Abhiyan. During this, Sultan Jadoula also distributed letters of



Haryana Maange Hisaab among the villagers and made them aware of the announcements of the Congress. Former MLA Sultan Jadoula said that everyone in the state has become aware of the reality of the false promises and claims of the current government and in the assembly elections to be held this year, the public will not fall into any trap of BJP and will teach BJP a lesson with the blow of votes.

In the 10-year tenure, BJP has harassed the public, made false promises and trapped them in the game of portals.

Every section is unhappy with the govern-

ment. Congress leader Sultan Jadoula said that today every section is walking shoulder to shoulder with the Congress and the public has come to know that their interests are completely safe in the hands of Hooda.

As soon as the Hooda government is formed, all the announcements of Congress will be implemented with the first pen. Former MLA Jadoula appealed to the villagers and workers to participate in large numbers in the workers' conference organized under Haryana Maange Hisaab Congress Se Aas in Pundri on August 4.

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

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

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Amaravati and Visakhapatnam still raging in courts. Incumbent Andhra chief minister Jagan Mohan Reddy has said that if he retains power,

Visakhapatnam will be the administrative capital while Amravati will be the seat of legislature and Kurnool will be the judicial capital.

Those disrespecting medals, uniform won't be spared

NEW DELHI: Enough is enough, says the 12-lakh strong Army, grappling with the repeated unauthorised use of its uniform and medals across the country. The force is now cracking the whip with the message that those "disrespecting the sanctity" of military attire and decorations will not be spared and could even face legal

action. "The Army headquarters has taken a stern view of such violations," a senior officer told on Friday. A strong warning, for instance, was recently issued to a Noida-based event management firm after one of its employees was spotted flaunting Army medals at a function, which drew widespread attention on social media platforms. "The firm has apolo-

gised in writing for the blatant disregard of the honour and integrity associated with the medals after the Army threatened to file an FIR. The firm has also assured us it would not repeat the mistake in the future," the officer added. Earlier, the Army even initiated "appropriate action" against a retired Lt-Colonel, who appeared in a YouTube podcast wearing.

Government may intervene if tomato prices rise

Delhi: Officials stated they are closely observing the pattern as tomato prices grow as a result of a shortage in key cities including Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata. Although the essential kitchen commodity cost between Rs 80 and Rs 90 per kg in each of the three major cities, officials expressed hope that the costs will drop within the following seven to ten days. They went on to say that the govern-

ment might step into the retail market if the price increase persisted for a longer time. Government organizations had subsidized the price of tomatoes in retail markets the previous year. Due to rain and a sharp decline in supply, traders claimed that price increases for tomatoes are typical in July and August. In Himachal Pradesh, heavy rains have disrupted the supply system.

Over 2.4 lakh CCTV cameras installed in city"

New Delhi: More than 2.4 lakh cameras have been installed in the 70 Assembly constituencies of the capital as part of Delhi government's CCTV project, officials said on Wednesday. Public Works Department has set a target of installing 2.8 lakh CCTV cameras across the city. It received approval to install 2,68,462 cameras and 2,46,424 or 88 per cent of them have been installed in phase 1 and phase 2, they said. This

information was shared by Delhi government in the Vidhan Sabha. The CCTV project is one of the flagship schemes of the AAP government in Delhi while the PWD is the nodal department for installing the cameras at public places, according to officials. The CCTV cameras provide support to police in maintaining law and order, and help to monitor suspicious people, vehicles and objects officials said.

An election at world's highest polling station

TASHIGANG: Prem Lal arrived early at the sub-divisional magistrate's office last Thursday, the icy cold and crisp morning air hinting at the challenges ahead. As one of the 29 booth-level officers deployed from Kaza to polling stations in Lahaul-Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh, Lal knew the next few days would be demanding. Wearing sunglasses to shield his eyes from the glaring sun, the teacher joined others in a semi-circle. The SDM, carrying a bunch of papers, called out the names of the poll-booth officers and their assignments.

It was Tashigang for Lal and his team of five others. Tashigang is a tiny village perched high in the icy Himalayas at a staggering altitude of 15,256 feet. The village holds the distinction of hosting the highest polling station in the world. Located



near the India-China border, Spiti Valley is part of the Mandi Lok Sabha seat, one of the four parliamentary constituencies in Himachal Pradesh and second largest in India. The polling station at Tashigang served 62 voters from Tashigang and Gete. The hour-and-a-half-long journey to Tashigang, located on the other side of a moun-

tain facing the SDM's office in Kaza, was as formidable as the landscape itself - rugged terrain, narrow winding dirt roads and unpredictable weather. Yet, for Lal and his team, the assignment carried a sense of purpose. In a place where the harsh environment shapes every aspect of life, facilitating the democratic process was both a "duty and

an honour". On voting day on Saturday, the polling team and voters donned traditional Chuba attire. A lunch was organised for voters. They took selfies at a selfie point set up against the backdrop of brown hills and a bright blue sky. "My vote, my right," it said, capturing the spirit of democracy in this remote corner.

Delhi civic body renovates Ambedkar Stadium

Delhi: The peeling plaster, exposed rebars, damaged windows, staircase railings, and overflowing toilets. The Ambedkar Stadium at Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg in downtown Delhi has hosted no national-level football events for three years. It once hosted international football matches and the Durand Cup.

However, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), which manages the 25,000-capacity stadium, has begun renovating the arena, including adding dressing rooms, a cafeteria, spectator stands, and a media center. The 5 crore project will be completed in many parts, with the civic body focusing on the

facade, spectator stands, and public amenities in the first phase by December, according to officials. Ambedkar Stadium last had major restoration in 2007 to add floodlights for the 2010 Commonwealth Games, and more work was needed. The stadium is MCD's largest, but we aim to refurbish and repair

five smaller arenas across the city. "A senior MCD official said on condition of anonymity. The Delhi Soccer Association (DSA) president, Anuj Gupta, stated Ambedkar Stadium is the Capital's football home. Even DSA's registered office is in the stadium. The stadium has hosted numerous major football leagues.

Courts can't have defendants divulge Google location

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

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

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

GODREJ & BOYCE EMPOWERS INDIA'S YOUTH FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

GURUGRAM: Godrej & Boyce, a leading Indian conglomerate, reaffirms its commitment to upskilling and reskilling the youth to prepare them for the future. The company as of March 2024 has skilled close to 2 lakh youth across India. India is at a critical point in its education and skill development journey, as the landscape of learning and development undergoes a significant transformation. This shift is driven by the demands of a digital economy, evolving job markets, and India's ambitious SDG goals. As a result, an increasing demand is witnessed for green skills owing to companies taking a lead in prioritizing green technologies and actively seeking talent with expertise in this area. India's green sector is

poised to expand its workforce from 18.52 million to 35 million by 2047, (According to the Green Industry Outlook report by TeamLease Digital) offering vast opportunities for growth and development. Commenting on the rising trend of green jobs Ashwini Deodeshmukh, Head CSR & Sustainability Reporting, Godrej & Boyce said, "As industries shift towards AI and IoT-based operations, training a workforce skilled in current and emerging green technologies is critical. Further, as we transition to clean and renewable energy sources, it is increasingly important to reskill the existing workforce and train the future to ensure their employability. One such course that can aid people in gaining green

skills and becoming ready for jobs of the future is the Solar PV Installation Technician course. With advancements in solar photovoltaic technologies and significant price reductions, solar electricity is an economically viable alternative to grid electricity. Additionally, in the interim budget 2024-25, the Indian government also announced incentives for rooftop solar that will create close to 10 million jobs in the sector which will open avenues for employment. Aligning with the government's vision and contributing to the growth of the nation, we at Godrej & Boyce have introduced the solar technician course as a part of our CSR skill development programme — DISHA".

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