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

Opposition leaders criticise NTA over UGC-NET cancellation

NEW DELHI:

Opposition leaders on Thursday mounted an attack on the National Testing Agency (NTA) after the UGC-NET exam was cancelled and accused the agency as well as the Union government of destroying the future of students who appeared for these exams. The UGC cancelled the UGC-NET examination on Wednesday, a day after it was held, after receiving certain inputs from the National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the ministry of home affairs on the examination. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav hit out at the Centre saying the paper mafia is "rigging exams" under BJP rule. The former UP chief minister said if the police recruitment exam is leaked, it will have a bearing on law and order while if there is a fraud in the NEET exam, honest people will not become doc-



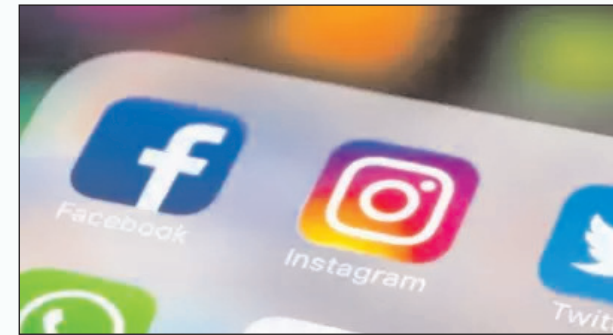
tors. Likewise, the cancellation of the UGC-NET exam will have a bearing on the education system. "Under the BJP rule, the paper mafia is rigging every exam, one after the other. This could also be someone's big conspiracy against the country," Yadav charged on X. Trinamool Congress MP Saket Gokhale said "The examination process structure of our country has crashed. Paper leaks and irregularities are rampant and the useless NTA is complicit in it," in his post on X. "After the NEET fiasco, the UGC-NET has now been cancelled - literally 1 day after students

wrote the exam. The lives and futures of our students are being destroyed every day and the NDA 1.0 govt is shameless to even take responsibility," he said, adding that, "Incompetent education minister Dharmendra Pradhan has been repeated despite being an utter failure. The same is with Ashwini Vaishnaw as railway minister & now we saw a train crash just days ago. They need to be sacked." The Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP) slammed the Centre over the cancellation of the UGC-NET exam, saying it has exposed another "failure" of the BJP-led government in

running the country's education system, in Mumbai. A few days ago, the NEET exam issue brought to the fore the "malpractices" and "favouritism" prevailing in the education system, said NCP (SP)'s national spokesperson Clyde Crasto in a statement. "The central government, by failing in doing their duty diligently towards the students of our country are disrespecting their hard work and also playing with their lives," he said. RJD MP Manoj Jha demanded that the NEET exam should also be cancelled. "You had to scrap NET and you must scrap NEET now as there is ample proof that this examination was compromised. And it is time to acknowledge that the NTA is a fraud," he said. CPM post on X, accused the government of making a mockery of the education system. "First there were discrepancies in CUET, then the NEET Scam, and now UGC-NET.

Over 70% Indians rely on online media for news; majority on social media: Report

NEW DELHI: Nearly 71% people in Indians prefer online medium for news with 49% relying on social media, digital news report 2024 by Reuters Institute said. It further stated that 54% Indians consume news from YouTube, 48% from WhatsApp and 35% from Facebook. The report is based on YouGov survey covering over 95,000 individuals in 47 countries, representing approximately half of the global population. When it comes to the device used for news, majority, i.e. 79% of responders use mobile phones for news consumption. TV witnesses a declining trend. The report states that people's reliance on television for news is declining with 46% this year. However, print media remained at the lowest at 40%. Nearly 49% people use



DRI seizes contrabands worth Rs 3,500 cr in FY24; narcotic drugs

NEW DELHI: Revenue Intelligence officers have seized contrabands worth Rs 3,500 crore in 2023-24 fiscal, with narcotic drugs and gold seizures constituting a major chunk, a top official said on Thursday. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence Principal

DG Mohan Kumar Singh said infiltration of supply chains has emerged as a significant challenge in curbing smuggling. Also, growing use of air passenger, courier and postal cargo for smuggling of drugs and other contrabands r RI detected 623 smuggling cases.

social media for news. Overall, 71% people depend on online media for news. YouTube most used while X least used for news. With 54%, YouTube tops in terms of online platforms used for news consumption.

Whereas, X (formerly known as Twitter) is least used online platforms by Indians (13%) for news. YouTube is followed by WhatsApp at 48%, Facebook at 35%, Instagram at 33% and Telegram at 20%.

China boosting nuclear arsenal, has 3x India's warheads: SIPRI

NEW DELHI: China is boosting its nuclear arsenal faster than any other country around the globe, and now has triple the number of warheads that India has, while it also deploys some of them on "high operational alert" on ballistic missiles. Pakistan, in turn, maintains its rough parity with India in the number of nuclear warheads, while Russia and the US are leagues ahead of others, together accounting for 90% of all nuclear weapons. China now has 500 warheads, up from 410 in January 2023, while India has 172 (from 164 in 2023) and Pakistan 170 (unchanged from 2023), as per the latest assessment by the Stockholm International Peace Institute.

Could China's Fire Dragon missiles sink US warships?



NEW DELHI: A study by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) suggests that China's Fire Dragon 480 missiles, developed by Norinco Group, could pose a significant threat to US warships. This long-range rocket, known for its precision-guided sensors and high impact velocity, is recognized as a formidable tactical ballistic missile, a South China Morning Post report said. Li Jiangjiang, a scientist with the PLA's 92228 unit, emphasized the missile's capabilities in a paper, saying, "Its warhead surpasses the 400kg mark, significantly outweighing that of a conventional anti-ship missile. Moreover, its impact velocity exceeds 500 meters (1,640 feet) per second, ensuring that a 10,000-tonne cruiser would be destroyed upon being struck by just two of these missiles." Despite its advertised range of 290km, the study suggests that the Fire Dragon 480 could potentially reach targets over 500km away. The missile can be launched from a high-speed mobile wheeled platform, making it both cost-effective and adaptable to harsh environments.

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal gets bail in excise policy case

NEW DELHI: Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court on Thursday granted bail to chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on a bond of Rs 1 lakh in the money laundering case related to the alleged excise policy case. The court also declined Enforcement Directorate (ED) prayer to stay the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader's bail order for 48 hours. Kejriwal has been in jail since March 21



and was granted bail for a short period to campaign for his party during the Lok Sabha elections held last month. The court, however, imposed conditions on the bail, including prohibiting him from hampering the investigation or influencing witnesses. Kejriwal has been instructed to appear before the court whenever required and to cooperate with the investigation.

Special Judge Niyad Bindu issued the order after listening to arguments from both the prosecution and the defence counsel. On Wednesday, Kejriwal's judicial custody had been extended until July 3. The judge had reserved the order earlier in the day after hearing arguments from the ED, which sought to link Kejriwal to the alleged proceeds of crime.

Preparations for assembly polls in J&K have begun': PM Modi

NEW DELHI: PM Narendra Modi on Thursday said that preparations for assembly elections in the state of Jammu and Kashmir have begun. He is on his two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir. Speaking at Empowering Youth, Transforming J&K, PM Modi said, "The people of Jammu and Kashmir elect their representatives at the local level, through them you find ways to solve problems, what can be better



than this? Therefore, now the preparations for the Assembly elections have also started." "The time is not far when you will elect the new government of Jammu and Kashmir with your votes. That day will also come

soon, when Jammu and Kashmir will once again make its future better as a state," he added. PM Modi laid foundation stone and inaugurated 84 developmental projects worth nearly Rs 1,500 crores. He also distributed appointment letters to more than 2000 people for government jobs in the state. Talking about the Parliamentary elections, he said, "Youths of Jammu & Kashmir have ensured victory of democracy.

India stresses on border peace as China pushes for resumption of direct flights

NEW DELHI: China is pushing India to restart direct passenger flights after a four-year hiatus, though India remains hesitant due to ongoing tensions over a border dispute. The diplomatic strain stems from a major military confrontation in June 2020 that resulted in the deaths of 20 Indian soldiers and at least four Chinese soldiers. Thousands of troops from both nations are still deployed along their shared border. Since the clash, India has restricted Chinese investments, banned numerous popular apps, and halted passenger flights between the two countries, although cargo flights continue to operate.



While both economies stand to gain from resuming direct flights, the stakes are particularly high for China, where recovery in international travel post-COVID-19 has been sluggish, in contrast to India's booming aviation sector. Over the past year, China's government and airlines have approached India's civil aviation authorities several times to restore direct air links. "We hope the Indian side will work with China in the same direction for the early resumption of direct flights," China's Foreign Ministry told Reuters last week, highlighting that resuming flights would benefit both countries. However, a senior Indian official responded, "Unless there is peace and tranquillity on the border, the rest of the relationship cannot move forward." Indian airlines, including Indigo, and Chinese carriers are discussing with their respective govern-

ments the feasibility of resuming direct routes. "When the time is right and the governments come to a mutual understanding of how to move forward, we'll assess the market," said Pieter Elbers, CEO of Indigo, India's largest airline. Direct flights between India and China hit a peak in December 2019, with 539 scheduled flights, according to aviation analytics firm Cirium. Chinese carriers accounted for 371 of those flights, while India's airlines scheduled 168. These flights were halted in early 2020 as the Covid-19 pandemic escalated. Despite the resumption of international travel restrictions being lifted a year.

Anupam Kher's office burgled

MUMBAI: Two unidentified individuals broke into the office of renowned Bollywood actor Anupam Kher, stealing a locker containing Rs 4.15 lakh in cash and the negative of his 2005 film, "Maane Gandhi Ko Nahin Mara." The burglars were caught on closed-circuit television (CCTV) footage as they fled. In an auto-rickshaw waiting on Veera Desai Road in Andheri (West) on Wednesday midnight. Amboli police, who retrieved the CCTV footage, are analysing it to obtain clear images of the thieves who sped away with the stolen locker. Actor Anupam Kher tweeted: "Last night in my Veera Desai Road office two thieves broke two doors of my office and the whole safe from the Accounts Department (which probably couldn't break) and negative of a film produced.

Monsoon breaks its hiatus, brings relief from the searing heat wave

NEW DELHI: Breaking its hiatus, the monsoon on Thursday finally advanced into remaining parts of Maharashtra (Vidarbha), Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and some parts of Bihar bringing relief to these states from the searing heat wave. "No heat wave conditions are likely over the most parts of the country during next 4-5 days," said India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Thursday while also noting that the monsoon will now gradually progress towards the remaining parts of the country. "Conditions are favourable for further advance of south-west (summer) monsoon into some more parts of North Arabian Sea, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, northwest Bay of Bengal, some parts

of Gangetic West Bengal, remaining parts of Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, some parts of Jharkhand, some more parts of Bihar and some parts of east Uttar Pradesh during next 3-4 days," it said. Monsoon, which made its onset over Kerala two days in advance and arrived in the north-east six days before its normal date, remained almost at a standstill during June 12-19. The hiatus led to a deficit rainfall situation in the country in June and delayed sowing operations of kharif (summer sown) crops in north and east India including Bihar and Jharkhand. IMD data showed the country has received 17% deficient rainfall than normal this season - 77 mm as against the normal of 92.8 mm between June 1 and 20.

Coordination meet of Prayagraj Division with Civil Admin to review preparations for Kumbh Mela-2025

Prayagraj: Kumbh Mela in the "Sankalp" auditorium of Prayagraj Divisional Office under the chairmanship of Divisional Railway Manager, Himanshu Badoni on 20.06.2024. -To prepare for 2025, a coordination meeting was organized with the civil administration of Prayagraj Division. On this occasion, Kumbh Mela Officer, Vijay Kiran Anand; District Magistrate, Navneet Singh Chahal; Col Ravi Kumar Singh, Col Q; District administration and police administration, railway officials of Prayagraj division, Lucknow division and Varanasi division were present. Today, during this meeting, the progress works for successful completion of Kumbh Mela-2025 were reviewed. During this, detailed information about the construction work and crowd management during Kumbh Mela was shared by the fair administration through power point presentation. On this occasion, through power point presentation, the works under construction in Prayagraj including Prayagraj Junction, Prayagraj Rambagh, Prayagraj Sangam, Prayagraj Chhivki Jhuni, Naini, Phaphamau and Subedarganj stations were

reviewed and the prescribed completion deadline was ensured. Instructions were given to do so. In the meeting, to smoothly manage the movement of the crowd of devotees, a plan was presented through a map and suggestions to improve it were discussed. According to the suggestions, instructions were given to the concerned officers to submit a revised plan in the next meeting. Co-ordination meeting of Prayagraj Division with Civil Administration to review the preparations for Kumbh Mela-2025 Rail Correspondent Prayagraj, Sanyam Bharat, Kumbh Mela in the "Sankalp" auditorium of Prayagraj Divisional Office under the chairmanship of Divisional Railway Manager, Himanshu Badoni on 20.06.2024. -To prepare for 2025, a coordination meeting was organized with the civil administration of Prayagraj Division. On this occasion, Kumbh Mela Officer, Vijay Kiran Anand; District Magistrate, Navneet Singh Chahal; Col Ravi Kumar Singh, Col Q; District administration and police administration, railway officials of Prayagraj division,

Lucknow division and Varanasi division were present. Today, during this meeting, the progress works for successful completion of Kumbh Mela-2025 were reviewed. During this, detailed information about the construction work and crowd management during Kumbh



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revised plan in the next meeting.

In this meeting, while reviewing the progress of the work of widening of the approach roads of all the major stations of the city, instructions were given to improve their capacity and complete the work on time. Acquisition of land, approach roads, shifting of power cables, railway stations and along railway lines during review of work progress of Road Over

Bridges and Road Under Bridges in and around the city to handle high speed traffic. Detailed discussion was held on every topic including boundary wall, development of circulating area, arrangement of toilets, parking arrangement, development of connectivity roads. In the meeting, road over bridge at level crossing gate number 34A of Chhivki, road over bridge at level crossing gate number 3 of Begum Bazaar in Bamrauli-Manauri section, road over bridge at level crossing gate number 4 of Bamrauli-Manauri section, ring road in Chhivki-Karchhana section. Road over bridge at level crossing gate number 32 at United College, Road over bridge at level crossing gate number 424 at Jasra yard, Road over bridge at level crossing gate number 31 at Karchhana yard, Road over bridge between Subedarganj-Prayagraj, Phaphamau-Prayagraj section. Road over bridge at level crossing gate number 75A at Salori, Road over bridge at level crossing gate number 76 special at Prayag Yard and Road under bridge on 77 special, Road over bridge at level crossing gate number 40A in Phaphamau

Tharwai section, Phaphamau-Sarai Gopal. In the section, several under construction infrastructures including Road Over Bridge at Level Crossing Gate No. 1-C were discussed and the time for their completion was fixed.

On this occasion, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (General Administration)/Prayagraj, Sanjay Singh; Senior Divisional Commercial Manager (Freight)/Prayagraj, Shashikant Tripathi; Senior Divisional Security Commissioner/Prayagraj, VP Pandit; Senior Superintendent of Police/Railway, Prayagraj, A.P.Lion; Senior Divisional Security Commissioner/NR/Lucknow, Dr. Shreyansh; Deputy Chief Engineer/Gati Shakti Unit/Prayagraj, BK Verma; Senior Divisional Engineer-VI/NR/Lucknow, Indra Kumar; Senior Divisional Security Commissioner/NER/Varanasi, S Ramakrishna; Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations)/Lucknow, Shivendra Shukla; ADM Mela, Dayanand Prasad, ADM Mela, Vivek Chaturvedi; ADM City, Madan Kumar and other officials of Railway and Civil Administration were present.

Maruti Suzuki Campus Drive kicking off today

Prayagraj/Lucknow: Campus Drive of Maruti Suzuki India Limited, Manesar Gurgaon is being organized on 21st and 22nd June 2024 at Government Industrial Training Institute, Lucknow. Principal Raj Kumar Yadav has given this information. Training, Counseling and Placement Officer M.A. Khan said that selection for apprenticeship will be done by Maruti Suzuki India Limited in this campus drive. To join this, the educational qualification of the candidates should be High School and ITI in various professions (Fitter, Welder, Painter General, Electrician, Turner, Diesel Mechanic, Machinist, Machinist Grinder, Tool Must be in Die Maker, Mechanic Motor Vehicle, Tractor Mechanic, MABP, MABR, Technician Automotive Manufacturing Automobile Manufacturing). The age limit has been fixed at 18 to 32 years. Candidates will be provided with Rs 18,000 per month as honorarium along with subsidized canteen and other facilities. A total of 500 posts will be selected in this campus drive. Both male and female candidates can participate in it. Interested candidates can come to Government Industrial Training Institute, Aliganj, Lucknow campus on 21st and 22nd June 2024 at 09 am. Original and photocopy of all educational certificates and 2 passport size photographs attached along with their bio-data. This campus drive is an important opportunity for the youth and by participating in it they can give a new direction to their career.

Biscuits and cold water served to passengers On behalf of Ek Soch Sanstha and Railway Employees Union

Prayagraj: Law students' organization Ek Soch and officials of North Central Region Railway Employees Union provided biscuits and cold water to the passengers at Prayagraj Railway Station to provide relief from



the scorching heat. A stall was set up and distributed. The team members along with Advocate Syed Mohammad Abbas Hussain, founder of Ek Soch Sanstha, handed over biscuits and cold water bottles to the passengers traveling to Prayagraj station in their bogies. On this occasion Syed Mohammad Abbas Hussain, Manish Kumar Rai, Ahmed Nawaz, Kartikeya Singh, Sahil Dwabe, Mohammad Shariq, Mohammad Adnan, Hasham Ansari, Daniyal Siraj, Ashutosh Kumar Srivastava along with members of Railway Employees Union and officers of Railway Protection Force were also present.

Yoga practice to be conducted by Fatima Welfare Society

Prayagraj: Yoga practice to be conducted by Fatima Welfare Society in Khusrobagh on Saturday at 7 am. On behalf of Fatima Welfare Society, an organization working in the social, educational and medical field, array of activities are being organised all round the year. A balloon burst competition to get a prize has also been organized among the people participating in the yoga practice. Arrangements for cold sherbet and cold water have also been made. The said information was given by Dr. Naz Fatma, director and president of the organization.

UP PWD Circle Offices Ministerial Association

Dinesh Singh District Prez, Yogesh Shukla became minister

Prayagraj: A wave of happiness among the employees on the formation of the new executive of Prayagraj district A meeting of UPPWD Circle Offices Ministerial Association Uttar Pradesh State President Shri Sunil Kumar Yadav Under the chairmanship of Ekta Sadan, Lucknow was convened, in which the pending proposal was passed in the House, after which State General Secretary Shri Jaiprakash Tiwari also proposed to nominate some regional/district branches, in which District Prayagraj Public Works Department Prayagraj The proposal for nomination of the district branch was unanimously passed in the House, full-time approval was given to the following officials of Prayagraj district, in which District Presi-



dent Mr. Dinesh Singh, Administrative Officer, Prayagraj Circle, PWD, Prayagraj and Mr. Yogesh Shukla, Senior Assistant, Prayagraj Circle, Public Works Department, Prayagraj, District Minister for the second time. Created 1 PWD Regular Work Charge Employees Union Prayagraj Regional Minister Mr. Ravi Shankar Mishra and Administrative Officer Mr. Premchandra Verma, Mr. Ashish Kumar Srivastava, Mr. Udhavshyam Kesharwani, Mr. Ghanshyam Shukla, Mr. Vedprakash Srivastava, Mr. Ofzal Hussain, Mr. Prakash, including circle office employees. Kushwaha, Mr. Sachin Maurya, Mr. Naveen Kumar Yadav, Mr. Vipin Yadav, Mr. Nitin Pandey, Mr. Deepak Lal Stono etc. presented bouquets and congratulated him.

Identifying potential of rural youth, imparting employable skill training based on their interest

Prayagraj/Lucknow: Under the Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, run by the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission, the Yogi government is recognizing the potential of the rural youth and providing them employable skill training on the basis of their interest. Under this scheme, so far 2,35,334 rural youth have been trained and 1,25,822 youth have been employed. The scheme specifically targets members in the age group of 15-35 years (15-45 years for women) from families included in the BPL list, MNREGA workers, unemployed, less educated or school dropouts. It is noteworthy that on the occasion of the 98th birthday of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, the Government of India had launched the Deendayal Upadhyay Rural Skills Scheme. The objective of this scheme is to provide free skill training to poor rural youth and connect them with employment and self-employment. In Uttar Pradesh, this scheme is being run by Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission. State Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Vocational Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Kapil Dev Aggarwal said that under this scheme, Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission is identifying the

potential of rural youth and providing them employable skill training based on their interest. Along with training in modern classrooms and labs, the youth are also being provided facilities of free accommodation, food, training material, uniforms etc. across various disciplines like Apparel, Automotive, Beauty & Wellness, Capital Goods, Construction, Domestic Works, Electronics & Hardware, Food Processing, Green Jobs, Leather, IT-ITES, Logistics, Power, Retail, Media & Entertainment, Telecom, Textile, Tourism Along with hospitality etc., soft skills are also being taught.

The objective of this scheme is to make the rural youth self-reliant and to enable them to set records of development by making them self-reliant with their skills. Through Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, a significant contribution is being made towards brightening the future of the youth living in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh by connecting them with skills. Through this scheme, the youth who are becoming empowered with skills are building a better tomorrow, due to which the dream of developed villages and developed states is coming true.

Seminar related to Anti-Drug Fortnight organized

Prayagraj: Under the direction of Diet Principal / Deputy Education Director Rajendra Pratap, a seminar related to Anti-Drug Fortnight was organized in the auditorium of District Education and Training Institute Prayagraj. Under Anti-Drug Fortnight in District Education and Training Institute Prayagraj, the seminar organized under the aegis of Narcotics Control Bureau was monitored online and a resolution was taken not to consume intoxication and drugs. Diet Principal Rajendra Pratap and senior spokesperson Shiv Narayan Singh and Vipin Kumar, senior spokesperson in-charge Ratna Yadav and Mamta Yadav, spokesperson. With Vivek Tripathi, Dr. Ambalika Mishra, Dr. Abdul Mohayi, Virbhadr Pratap, Richa Rai, Amit Singh, Akhilesh Singh, Shabnam, Surbhi Singh,



Vartika Kushwaha, Shashank, Nidhi Mishra, Rajesh Pandey, Rambabu Shukla, Manisha Prakash, Rashmi Chaurasia - Along with this, non-teaching staff of DIET family and trainees of DIET and private D.El.Ed colleges participated in this program. In the program, Adarsh Tripathi from NCB, while talking about drug de-addiction, said that it has adverse effects on the civilized society. The special motto of this fortnight is "A war against drugs" "Say yes to life, say no to drugs". In the program, the nodals of the program Rajendra Pratap and Virbhadr Pratap and Pankaj Kumar Yadav informed the trainees about the ill effects of addiction and drugs. In this programme, everyone took oath against online drug addiction and received certificates.

Inspection of Manikpur-Khairar-Bhimsen railway section by GM North Central Rly

Prayagraj: General Manager North Central Railway Ravindra Goyal along with Divisional Railway Manager Jhansi Deepak Kumar Sinha inspected the Manikpur-Khairar-Bhimsen railway section. The General Manager started his inspection through "Window Trailing" between Manikpur and Banda, during which he inspected the track and all the nearby installations like signals, OHE, platform cleaning etc. in the running train. Inspection was done from the rear window of the inspection vehicle. Along with other safety related works, he also examined riding quality especially improvement in track geometry index at points and crossings, OMS (Oscillation Monitoring System) details, condition of OHEs, condition of level crossing gates on the route, scrap around the track. Took stock of the condition, cleanliness, wiring or loose installation, minor and major bridges on the route as well as the doubling work going on in the said section

from the rear window and immediately informed the concerned officers following full efficiency and safety standards. He directed to complete the work at the earliest.

Ravindra Goyal reviewed the ongoing devel-



opment works at Banda station selected for redevelopment under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and directed for improvement. During intensive inspection of Banda station, he observed the available passenger facilities. Shri Goyal ji inspected the Loco Pilot/

Guard Running Room and took feedback from the railway personnel present regarding the facilities and their maintenance, as well as tested their safety related knowledge. Thereafter he met the family members of the railway workers and

General Manager inspected Hamirpur Road and observed the passenger facilities and directed for improvement/improvement as per the need. After the inspection, Goyal ji along with Divisional Railway Manager Deepak Kumar Sinha and other senior officers inspected the GTPL (Ghatampur Thermal Power Limited) power plant siding. During the inspection, Chief Traffic Planning Manager Rajesh Kumar, Chief Project Manager Hashmi ji, Senior Divisional Engineer from the headquarters. (Coordination) Ashutosh Chaurasia, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Aman Verma, Senior Divisional Operations Manager Akhil Shukla, Senior Divisional Engineer (East) Ayush Srivastava, Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) Nitin Gupta, Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD) Mayank Shandilya and Senior Divisional Signal and Telecom Engineer Narendra Singh and other officers, inspectors and supervisors were present.

Flipkart announces June edition of its back to campus campaign for students

Varanasi: As students gear up for the new academic year, Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has announced the June 2024 edition of its annual 'Back to Campus' program after successfully concluding its May 2024 edition. Scheduled between June 21 - June 27, the campaign will provide an expansive assortment of products across brands, including laptops, tablets, gaming consoles, monitors, smartwatches, true wireless earphones, printers, laptop accessories, and more, to cater to the entire spectrum of student's requirements.

With a wide selection of devices, the program also prioritizes affordability and a rewarding experience, given the primary buyers are students. In this regard, consumers can avail various options on Flipkart including, SuperCoins, No-Cost EMI, and attractive exchange deals for old laptops to ease the upgrade process. There will be additional student offers up to Rs 6000 off on Laptops and Tablets coupled with No-Cost EMI offers up to 12 months on a wide range of credit cards. Catering to diverse payment preferences, Flipkart will provide multiple constructs such as cash on delivery, UPI, and credit/debit cards for seamless transactions.

Young consumers now prefer feature-rich, premium products with advanced technology and high performance that fit their lifestyle and budget. In the laptop segment, students seek devices with the latest-generation processors and ample RAM. A comprehensive selection of laptops with key specifications will be available at a starting price range of Rs. 9,990 from brands like HP, Asus, Acer, and others. Moreover, laptops with powerful processors and graphics cards starting at Rs. 45,990 will be part of the offering. Additionally, tablets are gaining popularity among students due to their versatility. Flipkart will make LTE tablets with 4 GB of RAM and 128 GB of internal storage available to students at a starting price of Rs. 9,999. Interestingly, students show a strong preference for aesthetically pleasing design in headphones, particularly dual colors and stylish finishes. True-wireless headphones are popular due to their lack of phone tethers, extended battery life, and fast charging.

Give strong reply to opponents in 2027 elections: Keshav Maurya

Prayagraj: Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya ji, who came to Prayagraj to participate in the International Yoga Day, was warmly welcomed by the workers at the airport and in the courtyard of Chandrashekhar Azad Circuit House on this occasion. But Honorable Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya told the workers that even though the results in the Lok Sabha elections may not have been as per our expectations, we have not lost, no, we have won, hence there is no need to be disappointed and the opponents should be defeated in the 2027 assembly elections. Be prepared to give a strong reply and review within



yourself the results that did not come in our favor as per expectations in this Lok Sabha election and where we have become weak, remove those weaknesses and contact the angry voters and get their problems resolved. And said that un-

der the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for the third time we have created history and succeeded in forming a strong government. He said that even though we did not get the results as per our expectations in Uttar Pradesh, the

Bharatiya Janata Party won Meghalaya for the third time with a huge majority. And for the first time in Orissa, a government has been formed with a huge majority and for the first time in Kerala, lotus has bloomed and in Andhra

Pradesh, NDA government has been formed. Regarding the paper leak issue, he said that the opposition is only spoiling the atmosphere and there will be no harm to the criminals will not be spared at any cost. On this occasion, Rath Yatra co-coordinator Rajesh Kesarwani invited the Deputy Chief Minister to join the Rath Yatra and he assured to narrate and resolve the problems of the workers.

Before this, Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani and Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra welcomed Deputy Chief Minister Jesus Prasad Maurya with a bunch of flowers. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani informed that on

International Yoga Day, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya will participate at Bharat Scout and Guide College Munfordganj at 6:00 am. Prominent among those who will welcome are District Panchayat President BK Singh, MLC Surendra Chaudhary, Nirmala Paswan, MLA Guru Prasad Maurya, District President Ganga Par Vinod Prajapati Yamuna Par Kavita Patel, Neeraj Tripathi, Kavita Yadav Tripathi, Raees Chandra Shukla, Kunj Bihari. Mishra, Rajesh Kesarwani, Raghavendra Singh, Ajay Agrahari, Shatrughan Jaiswal, Rakesh Jain, Sachin Jaiswal, and hundreds of workers were present.

Atiq Ahmad's sister-in-law's house demolished

Prayagraj: The Prayagraj Development Authority (PDA) on Thursday demolished the house of Zainab Fatima, who is the wife of gangster Atiq Ahmed's brother Ashraf. "This building was constructed under the name Zeeshan Fatima. This is constructed on Waqf land. They could not prove their ownership. Hence, the order to demolish it was passed," said PDA Zonal Officer N. Hashmi. Last week, the Prayagraj police compiled records of illegal properties of five members of slain gangster Atiq Ahmad's gang across the state, officials said. The Bareilly police have already listed the properties of two brothers-in-law of slain gangster Ashraf -- Saddam and Zaid Master. Both are history-sheeters at the Puramufti police station. Ashraf was also killed along with Atiq Ahmad in April last year.

The Bareilly police have already slapped the Gangster Act against Saddam, currently lodged at Budaun jail, and Zaid Master will be booked under the same too. Deputy Commissioner of Police (City), Deepak Bhuker, said that police had been compiling details of illegal and benami properties of five more gang members of slain Atiq Ahmad's gang.

Minister in-charge Nandi appealed to practice yoga on Yoga Day

Prayagraj: Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi ji, Industrial Development Minister and Minister in-charge of Kanpur Nagar Government of Uttar Pradesh, will participate as the chief guest in the yoga camp organized at Green Park Stadium from 06.00 am on the occasion of International Yoga Day. In-charge Minister Nandi appealed to the



people of Kanpur Nagar district in-charge to participate in yoga camps organized at various places and practice yoga. Minister Nandi said that Yoga, a historical heritage of Indian culture, is such a need of the human body, the practice of which has thousands of benefits. On the occasion of Yoga Day, there is an appeal to everyone to make yoga a part of their regular routine to maintain physical, mental and spiritual balance in life. Yoga is an ancient method of Indian culture which fills the human body with new energy.

Srijan Jan Seva Samiti to continue their over decade old tradition of yoga events

Prayagraj: Dr. BB Aggarwal Organizer Srijan Jan Seva Samiti, Prayagraj informed about the event to be held on 10th Yoga Day. "With the inspiration and efforts of the illustrious Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, the World Health Organization had announced to celebrate 21st June as World Yoga Day in the year 2014. Since that time, from June 21, 2015, every year on this day, various events and programs of World Yoga Day have been organized in more than 193 countries. In the same sequence, this Yoga Mahotsav is being organized continuously for the last 10 years by Srijan Jan Seva Samiti. Under which it is proposed to organize a large health fair, yoga training, curiosity solution and demonstration camp at Sahyog Diagnostic Centre, next to Railway Crossing, New Bazaar, Mirzapur Road, Naini, Prayagraj. In which about 2000 participants will be given free health and blood tests by experts and about 6000 participants will practice yoga. Like previous years, this year also a large number of respected people of Prayag are expected to participate in this Yoga Mahotsav," he informed via press communiqué.

Lord Jagannathji's Vishram Yatra kicking off on June 22

Prayagraj: The Rath Yatra Mahotsav of Lord Jagannath Ji by Shri Jagannath Ji Mahotsav Committee Trust will start with Vishram Yatra on June 22. Rath Yatra co-coordinator Rajesh Kesarwani informed that this year the Trust is celebrating its Silver Jubilee year, hence every program of the Mahotsav.

The first program of the Mahotsav will be spectacular and the first program of the Mahotsav will be taken out by the Trust on 22nd June at 5:00 pm, with the traditional splendor of Lord Jagannath Ji's resting journey from Prayageshwarnath Temple Jagannath Dham to Katghar, Salikganj, Mutthiganj, Ram Bhawan, Bahadurganj, Mansarovar, Johnson. Johari Tola will take rest at Arya Bhavan via Ganj, Ghantaghar. DJ band, pipe band, flag ensign, tableaux of Ganesh ji, Guru Maharaj, Radha Krishna, Balram Krishna, Lakshmi Narayan, Narsingh Bhagwan, etc. will be included in the rest journey. When Lord Jagannath ji falls ill for 14 days, medicinal decoction will be offered to him and the story of Lord Jagannath ji will be organized and on 7th July, Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath ji will be taken out from the grand Arya Bhavan Zero Road which will be held as per schedule. Prayageshwar Nath Jagannath Dham Temple will reach Kashiraj via the route.

After that, from 7th July to 13th July, Shrimad Bhagwat Katha will be organized in the Jagannath Dham Temple premises and on 14th July, Maha Bhog will be offered to Lord Jagannath Ji with 56 types of dishes. Will be installed and distribution of Mahaprasad will be organised.

CBI should investigate and take strict punitive action against those found guilty of irregularities in exams: ABVP

Prayagraj: With the news of cancellation of UGC NET exam due to irregularities yesterday, doubt, confusion and disappointment has spread among students across the country. This year, PhD admissions will also be based on UGC NET score. Due to this, a situation of confusion has suddenly arisen among the candidates. In this regard, ABVP has demanded the Education Ministry to take immediate decision in this matter and clarify the situation so that the time and future of the students does not come in jeopardy. For the past several days, huge irregularities have been seen in the examinations conducted by NTA. After the irregularities in NEET-UG examination, now the cancellation of UGC-NET examination yesterday raises a big question mark on a government organization like NTA, which is extremely unfortunate and a matter that plays with the future of the students. It may be noted that this year admissions for PhD in universities were also to be done through UGC-NET score. Due to the cancellation of the examination, deep doubts have arisen in the minds of the candidates for PhD admission. ABVP has demanded from the Education Ministry that the concerned agencies should immediately clarify the situation in this regard so that PhD candidates do not suffer any kind of loss, and it should also be ensured that the examination is completely fair and transparent.

ABVP National General Secretary Yagyavalkya Shukla said, "The continuous incidents of irregularities in examinations are disturbing and unfortunate which not only raise questions on the credibility of examination agencies like NTA but are also playing with the future of the students. This situation is not acceptable in any way. The cancellation of UGC NET exam yesterday is going to put the future of the candidates preparing for UGC NET as well as the ABVP education in jeopardy. The ABVP demands immediate clarification of the situation in this regard, so that the deep doubts prevailing in the minds of the students regarding their future can be removed. ABVP demands that such irregularities happening continuously should be investigated by the CBI. This should be done and strict punishment should be ensured to the culprits, even if they are involved in bureaucracy."

Children of Defense Classes made aware about traffic rules

Take injured to hospital, later make a video: Pawan Kumar Pandey

Prayagraj: Boys and girls of Trishakti Defense Classes were made aware about the rules of road

the children that many people lose their lives in road accidents. Safe travel has become a big challenge

belts and helmets of correct standards. A certain distance should always be maintained from other ve-



safety by Prayagraj Traffic Inspector Pawan Kumar Pandey. Pawan Pandey ji was welcomed by the institute by giving him a bouquet. In the programme, Inspector Pawan Pandey told

especially for cyclists. The reason is that people are careless about the rules. Students were told that car drivers and two-wheeler drivers should leave the house only wearing seat

hicles on the road. One should have thorough knowledge of the road side directional (prescriptive, informative, indicative) boards and road safety rules. Do not drink alcohol while driv-

ing. People drive with earphones in their ears which is very dangerous. And also answered the children's traffic related questions. He also told the children about Good Samaritan or the ten golden principles of traffic. While driving, you can keep the necessary documents safe in government certified apps (DG Lakar, M Parivahan), immediately help the injured person in any accident and become a Good Samaritan and also get a reward from the government. 55 boys and girls from one batch participated in this workshop. Director Sangeeta Kushwaha, YK Nitish, social worker (Child Line 1098) Nitish Shukla, Aman Shukla from IT department etc. were present in the workshop.

BJP people congratulated Prez Murmu on her b'day

Prayagraj: Congratulating Her Excellency Mrs. Draupadi Murmu Ji, the second woman President of India, on her 66th birthday. On this occasion, wishing good health and long life, BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra and District Spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that President Draupadi Murmu ji is a symbol of simplicity, gentleness and women power. Her political journey from councilor

to the highest post of President of India was full of struggle. Those who congratulated him on his birthday include Kunj Bihari Mishra, Devesh Singh, Councillor Kiran Jaiswal, Rajesh Kesarwani, Ramesh Pasi, Vivek Aggarwal, Vijay Vaishya, Prashant Shukla, Rakesh Bharti, Anand Vaishya Sudarshan, Ajay Agrahari, Shatrughan Jaiswal, Neeraj Kesarwani, etc.

Workers deserve congratulations and move forward with new energy: Sanjay Rai

State General Secretary praised President and encouraged workers

Prayagraj: Phulpur BJP came to review the Northern and Western Assembly of Prayagraj metropolis under the Lok Sabha. State General Secretary Sanjay Rai, while congratulating the party workers including Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra for winning Vijayashree in Phulpur Lok Sabha, talked about moving forward with new energy. State General Secretary Sanjay Rai interacted directly with workers and officials on various topics in the review meeting that lasted for 3 hours at the party office located in Civil Lines. He listened to every worker present in the meeting and assured to implement it. Addressing the meeting, the State General Secretary said that the party had to suffer some loss due to the lies spread by the opposition about changing the Constitution and despite reservation, but ending this the people elected Narendra Modi as the Prime Minister and cast their vote on the

NDA alliance. Expressed confidence. The State General Secretary said that the northern and western assembly constituencies of Prayagraj metropolis come under Phulpur Lok Sabha and the party has won these two seats due to the hard work of the workers, for this



the party workers including metropolitan president Rajendra Mishra deserve congratulations. The shortcomings that have come to light will be conveyed to the state and central leadership and will also be rectified.

He said that no one has organizational capacity like BJP. SP, BSP, Congress do politics of familyism. Before Modi, there was a Congress government in this country

which was full of scams, but under Narendra Modi's government, the country is moving on the path of development. The State General Secretary said that if elections were held a few days after the grand Ram temple in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024, the opposition would

have been defeated. Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, while presenting the blueprint of the metropolis, said that the party has won by 7 thousand votes from all the three assembly constituencies of Prayagraj metropolis, Northern, Western and Southern, in which the southern region comes under Allahabad Lok Sabha, and from Northern and Western Phulpur, which comes

under the Lok Sabha constituency, has sent its candidate as MP from here, which was possible due to the tireless work of the workers. The workers cannot be praised enough for this. BJP workers are not among those who are disappointed but are among those who move ahead with enthusiasm. On this occasion, Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, Sant Vilas Shivhare, Kunj Bihari Mishra, Devesh Singh, Sanjay Srivastava, Shiva Tripathi, Anand Dubey, Rajesh Gond, Avinash Dubey, Nawab Khan, Raju Pathak, Anita Tripathi, Anuj Parihar, Sanjay Gupta, Archana Shukla, Natwar Lal, Anil Bhatt, Ganesh Verma, Gyanendra Gupta, Avinish Tiwari, Bharat Nishad, Shikha Rastogi, Deep Dwivedi, Anand Jaiswal, Rohit Jaiswal, Rajiv Party workers including Rai, Gaurav Gupta, Lovelesh Mishra, Raghavendra Kushwaha, Vivek Gaur, Prashant Shukla, Rakesh Bharti, media in-charge Vivek Mishra were present.

Full fledged metro should be operated in Prayagraj: Revati Raman

Prayagraj: Connectivity of surrounding areas will increase along with getting rid of the hassle of Jam. Prayagraj: Former minister and former MP Kunwar Revati Raman Singh wrote a letter to the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh Government demanding that the most populous metro in the state there is severe traffic jam every day in Prayagraj district, for this a full-fledged metro should be operated. Giving this information, SP State Secretary Vinay Kushwaha said that in the Akhilesh government, the task

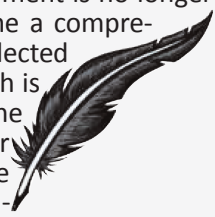


of preparing DPR for operating the metro for Allahabad was given to RITES. But it has been seven years since Allahabad became Prayagraj, but no work has been done on the metro project. The former MP said that metro work is going on in cities with less population than Prayagraj, whereas after Lucknow, the most important city from administrative and religious point of view. Every year, Magh Mela, Ardh Kumbh in six years and Maha Kumbh in twelve years are held in which crores of people from all over the country and abroad come to take bath at the Sangam, due to which the city residents have to face problems due to jams and route diversions. The former MP said that The problem of demolishing people's houses and shops in the name of road widening and light metro will not be solved. Prayagraj only needs a full fledged metro which will operate from Karchana to Malaka and from Saidabad to Puramufti in the first phase.

Editorial

Why Uttar Pradesh Needs Yogi Adityanath

That is to say, to understand India, would be to swallow multiple worlds. It is another matter that the Opposition in India does not understand this simple point. No matter how badly the Opposition and critics may slam, sledge, and try to ostracise Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath over the election debacle of the BJP in Uttar Pradesh, it would be an intellectual feebleness, even suicidal, to singularly view the result of the 18th Lok Sabha, 2024 election, as a barometer of his creditability or the delegitimisation of the Yogi model of development. A point can be made that the election results may be an indication that excessive polarisation, convincingly demonstrated by almost all parties in India, can only lead to virtue-signalling gestures rather than converting into votes for all of them, but that is precisely the reason why the Yogi model is still needed. What this election result signifies is that people have evaded the scrutiny of religion, opting mostly for development, modernisation, employment, and inclusiveness. While compartmentalisation of communities cannot be entirely rejected, it is also understood that people in Uttar Pradesh are looking for cross-fertilisation of ideas/ideologies that can fortify their living standard in quotidian life, thus making the implicit hint that communities may be tacit to be (mis)used as election cannon fodder by political parties. The implication of this shift is already obvious with CM Yogi strictly asking his cabinet ministers, in the wake of the election outcome, to deter from practising "VIP culture" and instead promote the practice of "samvaad (dialogue), samanvay (coordination), samvedansheelta (sensitivity)." The mantra is simple if only they are willing to listen. The Yogi model has been the model of communication, interaction, dignity, and development. It has always been like that since its inception in 2017. In fact, CM Yogi's efforts to stabilise people's lives can be gauged from the fact that "in the last six and a half years, more than 55 lakh underprivileged people in the state received free housing facilities under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana." Those who cast doubt over the inevitability of Yogi in Uttar Pradesh discount the fact that in his tenure as CM, Yogi has bulldozed the aspirations of criminals, which for so long existed in the state both as a reality and anecdotal evidence. The fact that not many would like to present is that Yogi triggered "68K 'encroachments' [with] Rs 844-crore property seized." These seized lands have been converted into living houses that the Yogi government has provided to the marginalised section of society in the state. That hue and cry over his bulldozer image is, therefore, a diversion tactic by his opponents. It is a strange paradox that those who cry about democratic backsliding and its failure in Uttar Pradesh, whenever Yogi takes strict actions against criminals, do so only due to their inherited character of loot and corruption, something with which the state has become a synonym for so long. The hypocrisy of these experts on democracy is not only acute but also detrimental to the progress of Uttar Pradesh. It is not rocket science to understand that any state can make economic progress only when it ensures a firm grip on the law-and-order situation. By the same equation, it is not difficult to understand who is afraid of strict laws and actions. In Yogi lies the answer to Uttar Pradesh's future. No wonder, he has managed to attract so many investors to the state, which his predecessors failed to do. Under his leadership, Uttar Pradesh's development is no longer a fairy tale but it has become a comprehensible reality, which is reflected in the fact that "Uttar Pradesh is contributing 9.2 per cent to the national income. Today, Uttar Pradesh is becoming the growth engine of the country's development as the second largest economy of the country."



Livelihood of farmers and agriculture

Being a slave means becoming subservient, that is, the person under whose rule you are a slave can drive you like an animal as he wishes. By the way, slavery has been prevalent for centuries in almost all the countries of the world, let alone India. In Germany, Russia and many other European countries, slaves used to be sold regularly. Now the governments of all the countries, in collusion with the capitalists, are hatching such a conspiracy for the benefit of those capitalists that instead of giving proper benefits to the farmers and laborers (farmer-coomera class), that is, these two hard working classes, which is quite a lot, they are following the policy of keeping the farmers and laborers as slaves. The current central government of India has also decided to do the same with the farmers and laborers associated with the country's largest agricultural sector. In fact, the farmer workers who provide food to the people of the entire country, as well as run small and cottage industries that make agricultural equipment and medicines to keep the crops disease-free and nutritious, and run small and cottage industries that convert agricultural produce into



refined food products, and give impetus to other government institutions with their skilled labour, have given power to the BJP twice by giving it full support in the hope of improving their economic and social condition; but today the Modi government of the same center has spoiled the country's semi-system by giving these resources and institutions to private hands with the intention of snatching the livelihood of farmers and agriculture-related businesses from the hands of laborers and small traders. Because in the last 10 years, the Modi government of the center has not only snatched the means of livelihood from the farmer workers, i.e. farmers and laborers, by handing over most of the government institutions to private hands, but has also made the reservation given to their children ineffective without

amending the Constitution. Because as long as an institution remains government, there is a provision of reservation in it; but there is no provision of reservation in the private sector. In this way, the Modi government of the Centre has snatched away the biggest wish of the children of farmers and labourers, the hope of getting a government job. Actually, this anti-farmer and anti-labour policy of the Central government has forced the youth of these classes to live in a miserable condition due to unemployment. This government did not have any pity on the increased misery of the farmer-labour classes due to privatization of government institutions. The biggest proof of the continuous cruelty of the Central government on the farmer-labour classes is that it has cut down the rights given to

the workers and with the intention of not paying the salary fixed on the basis of government standards, it has legalized the contract system in government institutions as well as private sector institutions and pushed them towards slavery by adopting that policy. In this way, the Modi government of the Centre, without changing the chronology, very cleverly made it ineffective and forced all the workers from skilled and unskilled to technical and non-technical workers to work on low wages in all government institutions, even ministries.

Apart from this, the same thing is being done in other middle class positions from government clerks, due to which such people are also losing their jobs or those who are retiring. Instead of making new recruitments in their place, under this contracting system, instead of hiring new people, many people are being replaced by one or two people on low salary by the contractor companies and more work is being done by them and they are not even being paid the salary that a person used to get on a government post. That is, by saving the salary of 5-7 government people, one person is being paid half

the salary of a government person and the work of 5-7 people is being done from him. And in this way, the Modi government at the center has given the exploiters i.e. capitalists the legal right to exploit the workers and educated youth economically, mentally, physically. This government has not only done injustice to the workers, but in order to suppress the voice of the workers who come together and raise their voice against the exploitation of the exploiters i.e. industrialists and capitalists engaged in business etc., it has increased the number of workers required to form a constitutional organization from 60 to 300 from an institution, so that they cannot form an organization. That is, the registration of the organization will be possible only when at least 300 workers from an institution come together and agree to the organization and sign to get the organization registered.

It is obvious that today there are no 300 workers in any institution and even if there are any, it is difficult for them to gather. Because the capitalists make many of their own laws beforehand and get them to sign. Similarly, this government has given legal freedom.

Health trade license required for city amusements

According to the latest Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) for 2019-20, the registered food processing sector employed a total of 20.32 lakh individuals, with an estimated 2.27 lakh women constituting 11.18 per cent of the workforce. The Mega Food Parks Scheme was a groundbreaking initiative designed to develop a modern infrastructure for food processing units. The primary objective of the scheme was to establish an integrated value chain, with food processing at its core, supported by necessary forward and backward linkages. While mega food parks have the potential to attract significant investments in the food processing sector, it is equally important to establish

small-scale food processing units and parks at the district level. Currently, there is no such scheme implemented by the Ministry. Small food parks can contribute to rural employment, while large food parks can enhance the value of exports. The Ministry has implemented a cold chain infrastructure scheme that aims to promote uninterrupted cold chain facilities throughout the entire process, from the farm gate to the consumer. This scheme aims to reduce losses by improving the efficiency of collecting farmers' produce, storage, transportation, and minimal processing. The presence of a cold chain infrastructure is crucial for enhancing the shelf value of agricultural

produce. By implementing precision agro-processing techniques, we can further increase the value of agricultural produce. Introducing technology to this sector is crucial to prevent wastage of agricultural produce, which not only holds political implications but also poses a significant threat to our economic development. The horticulture sector has the potential to enhance farmer incomes, and exporting horticultural produce can substantially boost our economy. With India's diverse horticultural wealth, the country has the capacity to become a leading producer of high-quality horticultural products, thereby benefiting farmers. Floriculture is another area.

Over a year since ethnic violence erupted in Manipur, people are slowly losing hope. Thousands who fled their homes fear they may never return, as one of India's longest-running conflicts drags on with no resolution in sight. Unlike other states, like Gujarat in 2002, where violence between communities was swiftly contained, the situation in Manipur continues to be volatile. With elections over, will the new Narendra Modi-led government finally address Manipur's plight with the urgency it deserves? In May 2023, simmering tensions between Manipur's Kuki-Zo-Hmar and Meitei communities boiled over into violent clashes. Fearing for their safety, people of the Kuki-Zo-Hmar community fled back to the hills, while Meiteis in the hill districts evacuated to the valley. But even as they ran, leaving everything behind, they clung to the hope that their displacement would be temporary. Yet, as time passes, the division between the hills and the valley only becomes more pronounced and lawlessness prevails. Just last Saturday, alleged militants set fire to two police outposts and dozens of houses in Jiribam district, with the flare-up of tensions causing some 600 people to seek refuge in Assam's Cachar. The crumbling of trust in the system is now palpable.

There's a profound sense of betrayal that the state (read Centre) has failed to safeguard its citizens within their own homes. After all, safety and protection are fundamental rights that any state is obligated to guarantee. This has shattered people's faith in the government and the feeling of alienation is intensifying with each passing day. In the wake of the grand election season that swept across India, the central question has become whether the crisis in this small but strategically important border state will finally be tackled seriously. More than 60,000 people in Manipur are internally displaced in their own country. Many are stuck in relief camps with not even a minimum subsistence allowance, while others continue to survive on the love and compassion of others—who, in turn, are running out of resources and reserves. On top of this, residents in hill districts like Churachandpur and Kangpokpi now face restricted access to Imphal airport, resulting in difficulties in obtaining essential goods, medicines, and healthcare, among other things. Life isn't easy for everyone in Imphal either. Not everyone has the luxury of travelling by air, and many residents are effectively trapped in a landlocked state, unable to pursue business or educational opportunities outside

their immediate vicinity. In reality, both sides have axed their feet and need rescue, but there's little help coming even from within the Northeast region. When the Jiribam violence led to hundreds crossing the Jiri River to neighbouring Assam, they weren't exactly welcomed with open arms—the state government responded to their arrival by immediately tightening its border. While concerns about security and infrastructure burdens may be behind this, it is also essential to consider the plight of those fleeing Manipur in distress. State policies should reflect humanitarian principles of compassion and solidarity so that no one is left abandoned during crises.

What is not in doubt is that the prolonged crisis in Manipur is bound to have a spillover effect on neighbouring states. Northeast leaders should have acted early to help resolve the situation, but concrete actions have been scarce, except for a few like Mizoram, where about 9,000 displaced people from Manipur are living. United efforts from Northeast leaders could have significantly alleviated the situation. However, their lack of unity has resulted in a missed opportunity to leverage their collective strength. It's crucial for them to recognise that one state's problems resonate.

India must not serve fanatics in Myanmar

Faced with an increasingly successful insurgent campaign, the country's all-powerful Tatmadaw, or army, has been desperately seeking help from New Delhi. Last week, the Tatmadaw rolled out the red carpet for an Indian Army delegation led by the Military Intelligence Directorate's Major-General Charanjeet Singh Dewgun. And even as Myanmar's air force continued to bomb rebel-held villages along the border with India last month, Air Vice Marshal Ichettira Iyappa Kuttappa, was in Naypyidaw for talks. To influential sections of New Delhi's foreign policy establishment,

the Myanmar military seems like a natural partner. For one, the Tatmadaw's long-standing superpower sponsor, China, has now deepened its ties with the insurgents. Like Hindu nationalists, moreover, the Generals see themselves as being besieged by jihadism and ethnic minorities, often linked to the church. Ever since it seized power in 2021, the Tatmadaw marketed itself as a defender of the Buddhist state against assault by Islam and the West. Far-Right monks like Ashin Nyanissara and Ashin Chekinda, who supported the coup, gained patronage from the Generals. The leaders of

pro-military religious orders, commentator Aung Zaw writes, began to be seen on the streets of Yangon in Mercedes and Bentleys—drawing derision from an increasingly impoverished population. The junta even cultivated Ashin Wirathu, sometimes described as the Buddhist Bin Laden. The monk, alleged to have provoked genocidal violence against the Rohingya, was released from prison, acquitted of all charges, and eventually given state honours. Thiri Pyanchi, the title granted to Wirathu, honours those who have performed services to advance the greatness of

Myanmar. Fearful of alienating its core Bamar supporters, the government of former Prime Minister Aung San Suu Kyi had been reluctant to act against Wirathu. Even though Wirathu was banned from preaching in 2017 for a year by the state-run council that regulates religious activity, he toured the country after the anti-Rohingya violence broke out. In one speech, he called Muslims "crazy dogs" that are "breeding so fast," "stealing our women, raping them" and "would like to occupy our country." The monk was charged with sedition in the summer of 2019.

unclaimed deposits in banks have surged by 26% year

NEW DELHI: The Reserve Bank of India's Annual Report, released on , revealed that unclaimed deposits in banks have surged by 26% year-on-year, reaching Rs 78,213 crore by the end of March 2024 from Rs 62,225 crore reported a year ago. Banks, including cooperative banks, are required to transfer unclaimed deposits of account holders that have remained dormant for 10 years or more to the RBI's Depositor Education and Awareness (DEA) Fund. The central bank, earlier this year, issued extensive instructions in an effort to assist account holders and streamline the existing guidelines on inoperative accounts. These guidelines cover various aspects of classifying accounts and deposits as inoperative or unclaimed, as well as measures to be implemented by banks.



The RBI advised banks to conduct periodic reviews of such accounts, implement measures to prevent fraud, establish grievance redress mechanisms for swift complaint resolution, and take steps to trace customers of inoperative accounts or unclaimed deposits, including their nominees or legal heirs, for account reactivation, claim settlement, or closure. These instructions were expected to complement the current initiatives taken by banks and the Reserve Bank to decrease the amount of unclaimed deposits within the banking system and return such deposits to their rightful owners/claimants. The updated instructions, which came into effect on April 1, 2024, are applicable to all commercial banks (including Regional Rural Banks) and all cooperative banks. To make it easier for depositors to search for unclaimed deposits across multiple banks in one centralized location, the Reserve Bank developed a web portal called UDGM - Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Access Information.

Oyo posts first profitable year in FY24

MUMBAI: Oyo Hotels & Homes has recorded its first profitable year in FY24, posting net profits of nearly Rs 100 crore, founder Ritesh Agarwal said on Thursday. "This (January-March quarter) was our eighth consecutive quarter of a positive EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation) and we also have a cash balance of about Rs 1,000 crore," Agarwal said in a post on social media platform X, adding that the numbers are provisional. EBITDA is a metric of operational profitability.

Oyo is among a batch of late-stage startups which have been working towards reduc-

ing cash burn, building in operational efficiencies and achieving profitability. A global tech downturn and reset in startup valuations nudged companies to set their financials in order and chase prudent growth. Investors have been maintaining a cautious stance and only cutting cheques for companies which have been at least able to demonstrate a path to profitability. SoftBank-backed Oyo recently withdrew its draft initial public offering (IPO) papers with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for the second time and is negotiating with investors for a fundraise

at lower valuation. The fresh funding could be at a 70% drop from its peak valuation of \$10 billion, had reported last week. Company insiders claim that the Gurgaon-based startup plans to refinance its \$450 million loan. Agarwal said that various emerging travel trends bodes well for the hospitality sector. "I see growth ahead not just in India with emerging travel trends such as premiumisation, spiritual travel, business travel and conferences, destination weddings but also in our other key markets of Nordics, South East Asia, US and UK," Agarwal said.

At 61.3%, Maha LS polling shade better than in 2019

PUNE: Maharashtra registered 61.3% voter turnout in the five phases of the ongoing general , almost on a par with the last LS poll turnout, amid urban voter apathy. State chief electoral officer S Chockalingam said the

state's average in this election was better by 0.6% as compared to 2019 polls. "If we look at phase five, we are 1.4% better as compared to the last LS polls. This, however, does not include postal ballots, which will be

added on the counting day," he said. "We will take more steps to make voting easier and increase voting percentage in the coming assembly elections," Chockalingam said. Additional chief electoral officer .

Corporates debate setbacks in creating gender inclusive workspaces

BENGALURU: Corporates acknowledge that there is a need for streamlining the system to increase female workforce participation in the organized sector. Poor pay parity is one of the key aspects contributing to high attrition, stakeholders agreed. Karthik SK, head of talent acquisition, human resources at Biocon Biologics, mentioned that women construction workers were tasked with heavy lifting while men did plastering, stone laying, and were paid Rs 200 more. After a dialogue with the contractor, he ensured the rectification of this discrepancy to provide equal pay for all. During an in-depth study, Karthik discovered that the lack of clean and



dedicated washrooms contributed to women leaving the workspace within six months of joining. "When young girls join, I observe their families waiting outside until evening for them. They are unsure if their daughter is in the right job or a safe space. That assur-

ance must be provided," he said. Over the years, with reforms at the ground level, he noted that attrition was reduced from 11 percent to six percent. Sayantan Nandy, chief of staff at Delhivery, mentioned the need to sensitize people in the warehouse

about their language. "The warehouse is a loud space, and the language used may not be appropriate. We sensitized them. Whenever we encountered resistance, we inquired why it was difficult." Nandy added that with the integration of technology in the workspace, where battery-operated pallet trucks and telescopic conveyor belts were introduced, the physical hazards of the job were mitigated. This made it easier for women to join. "Initially, we did not have separate female washroom facilities or female security guards. But that changed. A larger diversity presence was seen with more female employees, even in admin and HR," he said.

Godrej Agrovet arm Creamline Dairy forays into premium milk

HYDERABAD: Creamline Dairy Products Ltd, an arm of agribusiness player Godrej Agrovet Ltd, on Thursday announced its foray into the premium milk category with the rollout of Godrej My Farm Milk in the Hyderabad market. The company said the milk is sourced directly from the 1,400 cows at its own farm at Nashik using a completely automated process from milking to pasteurization and packaging. The milk is processed and packaged at its unit in



Hyderabad. The farm has a 9,000 litres per day capacity and the company is currently selling around 400 litres of the premium milk exclusively in the Hyderabad market through the quick commerce route, Godrej CEO Bhupendra Suri said. The company also launched its milk

report that highlighted that 55% of consumers associate unhygienic milk with unbranded milk options and that 90% of consumers are willing to pay more or a premium for high-quality and safe milk, reiterating the growing demand for pure and safe dairy products among consumers.

US GDP growth was slower last quarter on soft consumer spending

US GDP growth was slower last quarter on soft consumer spending. The US economy grew at a slower pace in the first quarter than initially reported, primarily reflecting softer consumer spending on goods. Gross domestic product rose 1.3% annualized in the first three months of the year, below the previous estimate of 1.6%, Bureau of Economic Analysis figures published Thursday. The economy's main growth engine — personal spending — advanced 2.0%, versus the previous estimate of 2.5%. The numbers underscore a loss of momentum to start 2024 after continual upside surprises in 2023. High interest rates, waning pandemic-era savings and slower income growth are some of the key factors weighing on American households and busi-



nesses. Consumer spending was marked down as outlays for goods — particularly autos — were much softer. Federal government spending slowed, while imports picked up compared to the first estimate. Net exports subtracted from growth for the first time in two years. The downward revision to consumer spending was partially offset by stronger business and residential investment. A key measure of underlying domestic demand known as final sales to private domestic purchasers rose 2.8%, versus the initially reported 3.1% increase. Economists have pointed

to the strength in this metric as reason to believe that demand is still strong, even if the headline GDP figure looks weak by comparison. "Monthly data beyond March generally point to a continued, albeit gently cooling, economic expansion. We anticipate continued GDP gains this year and a healthy advance in 2024 overall," Nationwide Financial Markets Economist Oren Klachkin said in a note. "Some warning signs regarding the economic outlook are visible beneath the surface, but nothing that makes us pessimistic about the road ahead."

Birla Estates sets a new benchmark in Uber luxury real estate with the launch of Silas at Birla Niyara clocking over INR 2500 Cr Sales

Birla Estates Pvt. Ltd. a 100% wholly owned subsidiary of Century Textiles and Industries Limited and the real estate venture of the Aditya Birla Group, announces record sales of its signature tower Silas at Birla Niyara clocking an extraordinary INR 2500 Cr at launch. This has propelled Birla Niyara's cumulative sales thus far to over INR 5400 Cr. Silas at Birla Niyara features 148 4BHK-5BHK palatial residences, continuing the legacy of luxury set by the first tower. Birla Niyara epitomizes convenience as it seamlessly connects Mumbai's premier commercial hubs, Fort and Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC). Its strategic location, in close proximity to the imminent Worli-Sewri connector and the new

trans-harbor link, guarantees swift and effortless access to these distinguished Central Business Districts (CBDs). The project also stands as a testament to Birla Estates' commitment to sustainability and boasts of 3 exclusive clubhouses for every age and interest, Hive - The Social Club, Playpen - The Children Clubhouse and BeFit - The Sports Club. Commenting on this development, Mr. K. T. Jithendran, MD & CEO at Birla Estates said, "Silas at Birla Niyara will set new standards for luxury living in Mumbai. With its exquisite design and premium amenities, it promises residents an unparalleled lifestyle experience. Additionally, being India's first LEED Platinum

Residential Project underscores our commitment to sustainability in real estate development." He further added, "Today's luxury homebuyers seek privacy, exclusivity, and unique experiences. At Birla Estates, our commitment extends beyond luxury to embrace a vision of residences that not only epitomize opulence but also champion a greener, more sustainable tomorrow." Birla Niyara is a canvas where luxury meets purpose, creating a living experience that is both refined and meaningful. Silas' design ensures that every residence captures the beauty of the surroundings, offering a majestic view that enhances the overall living experience.

Pharma exports grew 10% to \$28 billion in FY24, poised to hit \$31 billion

HYDERABAD: India's pharmaceutical exports clocked a nearly 10% growth in FY24 to hit \$27.8 billion, propelled by the double digit growth in the US and UK generics market, and is poised to reach \$31 billion in the current fiscal year, a top official of Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) said on Thursday. India's pharma industry, which is currently pegged at around \$65 billion, is poised to grow to around \$130 billion by 2030, Pharmexcil director general Ravi Uday Bhaskar said at the inaugural of the 10th edition of PharmaLytics here. Pointing out that 50% of the Indian pharma sectors exports go to highly regulated mar-

kets, Bhaskar said exports to US grew over 15.6% to over \$ 8.7 billion in FY24 due to shortages in drug manufacturing capacities and the increasing demand for drugs pertaining to lifestyle diseases such as hypertension, depression, diabetes in the US. He said exports to the UK saw a 21.6% growth partly due to the increased cost of drugs, which were earlier sourced from Europe, post-Brexit. Apart from this, Africa showed a positive turnaround during FY24, from a degrowth of 5% to a growth of 8% as NGOs, who had diverted their funds meant for Africa towards Covid-19 vaccines and medicines, restarting procurement of drugs, he said.

'Make Your Way' with Toyota Urban Cruiser Taisor

AMBALA: The All-New Toyota URBAN CRUISER TAISOR is Toyota Kirloskar Motor's latest addition to its robust SUV lineup in India. This dynamic SUV seamlessly blends style, advanced features, and power-packed performance, making it a perfect choice for Indian customers seeking both prestige and practicality. With its modern styling and cutting-edge technologies, the URBAN CRUISER TAISOR reinforces Toyota's commanding presence in the SUV category. The vehicle's powertrain options include a 1.0L Turbo engine, a 1.2L Petrol engine, and an E-CNG variant, each designed to deliver a remarkable driving experience. The 1.0L Turbo engine is available with both 5-speed manual and 6-speed automatic transmissions, offering versatility for those who prioritize power and performance. The 1.2L Petrol engine comes with a 5-speed manual transmission and Intelligent Gear Shift (IGS), while the 1.2L E-CNG option ensures



exceptional fuel efficiency. The All-New URBAN CRUISER TAISOR delivers maximum power of 100.06 PS @ 5500 rpm in the 1.0L Turbo option, offering a power packed driving experience with segment best fuel efficiency of 21.5* km/l for Manual and 20.0* km/l for Automatic. The 1.2L Petrol Engine offers maximum power of 89.73 PS @6000rpm with a fuel efficiency of 21.7* Manual and 22.8*(AMT) km/l. The All-New URBAN CRUISER TAISOR is also available in the E-CNG option offering fuel efficiency of 28.5* km/kg. Exterior - All-New D 27 proudly reflects Toyota's illustrious SUV pedigree through a bold, unique and stylish Aerodynamic Exterior

design with a sleek sloping roofline, enhancing both visual appeal and performance.

The vehicle boasts a premium front grille with chrome garnish showcasing Toyota's signature elegance uniquely created by Toyota designers. Complementing its sporty demeanour are the sleek 16" Machined Alloy wheels, the S+ and G variants stand-out with Dynamic All Black Painted Alloy Wheels. Twin LED Day Time Running Lights not only enhance visibility during the day but also contribute to a modern aesthetic. The Connected LED Rear Combi lamps, Shark Fin Antenna and the Sporty rear Skid Plate add a contemporary and adventurous touch.

President makes way for cafe run by persons with disabilities in 'Presidents Estate' for making inclusion a reality

NEW DELHI: Sending a strong message towards creating an inclusive environment, President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday inaugurated a cafe in the President's Estate run by persons with disabilities. 'Mitti Cafe', which has more than 40 outlets in different parts of the country, including one in the Supreme Court, will now be available to all visitors to the President's Estate which is home to the much visited museum, the sprawling greens of 'Amrit Udyan' and the families living in the complex. Murmu, who turned 66 on Thursday, also chose to

spend a good part of her morning meeting and addressing children with disabilities and their families at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities in central Delhi. Addressing the gathering at the National Institute, the President said the progress of a country or society could be measured by the sensitivity shown by people towards persons with disabilities. She cited examples of sports persons like Deepa Malik, Arunima Sinha and Avani Lekhara and social workers like K S Rajanna

and said all such people were examples of the fact that with dedication and determination, one could overcome every kind of physical limitation. Meanwhile, as Rashtrapati Bhawan shared photos of Murmu inaugurating Mitti cafe and celebrating her special day with the cheerful staff at the Cafe, a post from the official handle of the President of India on X described the opening of the cafe as "another step towards creating an inclusive environment" by the President. "Mitti cafe is a movement towards an inclusive society.

Canada Parliament honours Nijjar; India plans Kanishka tribute

JALANDHAR: Canadian parliament honoured pro-Khalistan separatist and designated terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar with a moment's silence on his first death anniversary Tuesday, reigniting the row triggered by PM Justin Trudeau last year when

he insinuated that Indian agents masterminded the Punjab-born immigrant's killing. The Indian consulate general in Vancouver responded almost immediately with a reminder of the country's fight against terror and an open invitation

to the diaspora to "a show of solidarity against terrorism" at a memorial service this weekend for the 329 victims of the 1985 Kanishka bombing. Nijjar was killed outside the parking lot of a gurdwara in Canada's Surrey on June 18 last year.

Strengthening last mile connectivity with the Tata Magic Bi-Fuel

GURUGRAM / FARIDABAD: From bustling city streets to rural landscapes, the Tata Magic has successfully transported lakhs of passengers across the country on their last mile journeys. Now, the recently launched Tata Magic Bi-Fuel is set to elevate the journey even further. Combining a 60-litre CNG tank with a 5-litre petrol tank, the vehicle offers a cumulative range of approximately 300 kilometers on a single fill, making it ideal for



longer routes and varied terrains. This innovative variant offers a seamless switch between CNG and petrol, helping save time and reduce

fuel consumption. The Tata Magic Bi-Fuel caters to the evolving needs of passengers as well as drivers. With the highest seating

capacity of 9+D in its segment and features including radial tyre, gearshift advisor and enhanced driver ergonomics, the vehicle optimizes fuel consumption, thereby offering a low cost of ownership. Backed with an exceptional two-year or 72,000 kilometers warranty, the Tata Magic Bi-Fuel reiterates the company's promise of offering reliable and durable vehicles, ensuring peace of mind for fleet owners and individual operators alike.

Flagged high speed of goods train, gateman deposes before probe panel

Ten railway staffers - three gatemen of level crossings between West Bengal's Rangapani station and the accident site, two linesmen, two station managers, the pilot and the co-pilot of Kanchanjunga Express and another railway employee - deposed before the chief commissioner of railway safety, NFR, on the first day of the probe on Wednesday, with one of the gatemen confirming that he had raised an alarm about the



goods train moving at more than the approved speed, report. "One of the gatemen said that he had seen the train passing at a speed higher than the allowed limit and had immediately called

Rangapani station to alert them. We are checking the timing of the landline conversation and are questioning the station manager and other officials about what they had done after receiving the information," said

Surendra Kumar, divisional railway manager, Katihar Division, who is part of the investigation team. Probe day 1_ Level-crossing gateman had alerted about goods train speed. So far around 30 people - including railway personnel, multiple witnesses and rescuers who reached the spot immediately after the accident - have been called to help the investigation being held at the additional divisional railway manager's office in Siliguri.

When will NEET exam be cancelled': Congress demands PM

NEW DELHI: The Congress party on Wednesday called upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address the ongoing controversy surrounding the NEET-UG 2024 exam and take responsibility for preventing paper leaks.



the post. Kharge also pointed out the inconsistencies in the Education Minister's statements regarding paper leaks and demanded the cancellation of the NEET exam. "The Union Education Minister had earlier said that no paper was leaked in NEET. When arrests are made of the education mafia in Bihar, Gujarat and Haryana, the Education Minister accepts that some scam has taken place! When will the NEET exam be cancelled?" he added. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi also

commented on the matter, highlighting the negative impact of the BJP government's alleged laxity and corruption on the youth. "The laxity and corruption of the BJP government is fatal for the youth. After the news of the scam in NEET exam, now the NET exam held on June 18 has also been cancelled due to the fear of irregularities." Priyanka said in a post on X. The ministry of education has sought a detailed report from the Economic Offences Unit of the Bihar Police regarding the alleged irregularities.

Tata AIA announces its highest ever bonus payout of INR 1,465 crores

HISAR: Tata AIA Life Insurance Co. Ltd. (Tata AIA), one of India's leading life insurers, has declared a bonus of INR 1,465 crores for Participating (PAR) policyholders for the financial year 2024. The bonus payout announced is the highest ever paid by the Company, showcasing an increase of 24% over the INR 1,183 crore bonus announced in FY23. Tata AIA's strong investment management capabilities and robust risk management practices have consistently resulted in higher bonuses for participating policyholders. This is also one of the reasons that the company enjoys the trust of its consumers, as they continue to renew their policies. During FY24, Tata AIA



achieved industry-leading Persistency performance (based on premium), ranking #1 in 4 cohorts - 13th Month (89.40%), 25th Month (80.70%), 37th Month (75.00%) and 49th Month (73.10%). Persistency ratio indicates the percentage of policyholders who renew their life insurance policy every year, demonstrating their loyalty and trust in the brand. Kshitij Sharma, Executive Vice President and Appointed Actuary,

Tata AIA, said, "We are delighted to deliver yet another year of excellent performance of bonus payout in our participation policies. Tata AIA's record bonus announcement underscores our commitment to rewarding our policyholders for superior returns to our policyholders is our continuous endeavor, enabling our consumers to live a fikar-free life and fulfill their aspirations towards their loved ones." Tata AIA offers

a range of Participating products that help consumers accumulate wealth or earn income, to secure their family and fulfil their aspirations. These products offer life insurance cover, income, as well as regular or lump-sum benefits in the form of bonuses. Consumers can grow their investments through these solutions without taking any risks associated with market-linked investments.

Congress poses six questions as PM Modi visits J&K

NEW DELHI: As Prime Minister Narendra Modi made his maiden visit to Jammu and Kashmir since the Lok Sabha elections, Congress party posed six questions regarding the restoration of full statehood to the Union Territory and the holding of assembly elections. Congress General Secretary Jai Ram Ramesh took to X and questioned BJP for not holding elections in the region and raised concerns about the deteriorating law and order situation under Modi's watch. "As the 'one-third' Pradhan Mantri makes his maiden visit to Jammu and Kashmir since the Lok Sabha elections, six questions he should answer," Ramesh wrote on X. "Since 2018, the people of J&K have been denied any avenue to express their grievances. The region has become a bureaucratic fiefdom controlled by the BJP-RSS cabal.

SC stays all proceedings before high courts on pleas against NEET-UG paper leak

NEW DELHI: Supreme Court on Thursday issued notice on petition filed by National Testing Agency (NTA) seeking transfer of pleas relating to NEET-UG, 2024 from high court to the apex court and stayed all proceedings before different high courts on alleged leak of NEET-UG exam question paper.

The apex court also issued fresh notices to Centre and National Testing Agency seeking their responses on new petitions filed by students against NEET-UG and said that all petition so far filed would be taken up together on July 8.

'Memorised overnight': Arrested candidate confesses leaked NEET paper matched with exam paper

It refused to pass any interim order on the case. The announcement of the NEET-UG 2024 results on June 4 sparked significant



backlash from both students and their parents. The results were met with legal challenges, which focused on three primary concerns. Firstly, there were allegations that certain students were awarded grace marks. There were also assertions that the question paper had been leaked prior to the examination. Suspicions were raised about potential malpractices at particular exam centres.

No stay on NEET counselling SC once again declined to halt the counselling process for admissions based on the results of the NEET-UG examina-

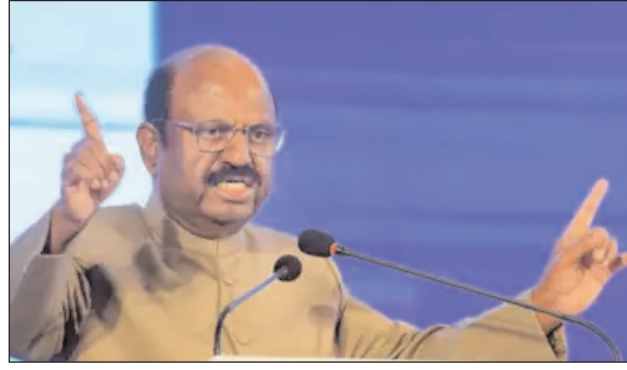
tion. The court said that if the petitioning students were to succeed in their legal challenges, it would lead to the cancellation of the 2024 exam and the subsequent counselling process.

This development follows the hearing on Tuesday, during which a petition seeking the cancellation of NEET UG 2024 was considered. During the proceedings, the court remarked that the 'sanctity of the exam has been affected' and requested a response from the National Testing Agency (NTA) regarding the matter.

'Not secure': Bengal governor says police at Raj Bhavan a 'safety threat'

NEW DELHI: West Bengal governor CV Ananda Bose on Thursday said he sees the current contingent of Kolkata Police posted at Raj Bhavan as a "threat" to his security.

"I have reasons to believe that the presence of the current officer-in-charge and his team is a threat to my personal security," Bose told news agency PTI. "I have informed Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee that I am insecure with Kolkata Police in Raj Bhavan, but there was no action," he said. The West Bengal governor's statement comes days after he called for the Kolkata Police team to leave Raj Bhavan campus. Police officers, however, remained at their posts as the Lalbazar official said no communication had been received from Raj Bhavan on the matter. According to a Raj Bhavan official, a letter was sent to the relevant state government authority. At a press meet on Friday, Bose had expressed his displeasure at victims of poll violence being denied entry to Raj



Bhavan despite being granted requisite permission. He had sought a reply from CM Mamata Banerjee, alleging that Kolkata Police had tried to prevent him from carrying out his duty as governor. On Monday morning, Raj Bhavan officials requested closure of the police outpost at the North Gate, but cops said they could not leave without a directive from Lalbazar. Additionally, Bose wanted to set up a Jana Manch near the gate, but the police team refused, citing that Raj Bhavan was in a high-security zone with prohibitory orders under Section 144 CrPc permanently imposed around it. Sources said the gover-

nor wanted the team of over 100 Kolkata Police personnel to be removed, suspecting that they were keeping tabs on him. Bose already receives Z category security from CRPF; Kolkata Police is posted only in the outer ring. An official said since Raj Bhavan was a state-owned heritage property maintained by the PWD, it was the duty of Kolkata Police to guard the area, which it had been doing since 1866. Additionally, several cabinet ministers reside on the campus. The governor, therefore, could not give police marching orders at whim, the official said, hinting that the state may seek legal opinion on the matter if needed.

CAPSULES

Man with dyed hair, beard held at Delhi airport for impersonating 60-plus passenger

NEW DELHI: A 24-year-old man, disguised as a 67-year-old, was arrested by the CISF at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport while attempting to board an Air Canada flight to Canada on

Tuesday evening. The man, identified as Guru Sewak Singh, was detained after security personnel found his behavior suspicious, said a senior CISF officer on Wednesday.

The suspect presented a passport under the name Rashvinder Singh Sahota, claiming to be a sexagenarian. However, his youthful appearance, voice, and skin texture raised doubts among the CISF personnel, leading to a more thorough investigation. Closer scrutiny revealed that Singh had dyed his hair and beard white and was wearing glasses to appear older.

Upon further questioning, Singh admitted to his true identity and showed a digital copy of his authentic passport on his mobile phone. The real passport identified him as a 24-year-old named Guru Sewak Singh. The CISF handed Singh and his belongings over to the Delhi Police for further legal action.



'Memorised overnight': Arrested candidate confesses leaked paper matched with exam paper

NEW DELHI: Amid the ongoing controversy over the alleged National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) paper leak, one of the arrested candidates from Bihar, Anurag Yadav (22), has confessed to receiving the leaked exam papers through his uncle, a junior engineer. In his statement, Anurag Yadav said, "I returned from Kota and was taken to Amit Anand and Nitish Kumar by my uncle on the night of May 4, where I was given the NEET exam question paper and answer sheet, which I was made to study and memorise overnight." The confession from Anurag Yadav, report-



edly a student of Allen Institute Kota, highlights the extent of the leak. As per the report by Times Now, Yadav said that his uncle arranged the papers for him. Upon receiving the call from his

uncle, Anurag returned to Bihar, where he was given the question paper and answer sheet on the night of June 4. He confirmed that the questions provided to him matched those in the

actual exam held at DY Patil School.

Despite the National Testing Agency (NTA) denying any paper leak, Anurag's confession, along with those of others, brings to light the serious breach in the examination process.

"I am conducting a thorough investigation in my department to identify officers or employees working at the behest of Tejashwi Yadav. The entire RJD system is based on crime and corruption," he said.

However, NHA has clarified that it does not operate any guest house facility in Patna.

Army doctor turns saviour for ill man onboard flight

MUMBAI: An Army doctor saved the life of a 27-year-old critically ill man onboard a Pune-Chandigarh flight by resuscitating him, giving emergency medicines and also requested for an emergency landing in Mumbai. Major Simrat Rajdeep Singh, a medical officer with the Western Command Hospital, Chandimandir (Haryana), said while he was travelling from Pune to Chandigarh by an Indigo flight on Monday, a co-passenger, who boarded in Goa, started experiencing respiratory distress



mid-air at an altitude of 39,000 feet. "I asked about the previous medical history of the patient, who was from Belgaum, from his brother who was also travelling with him. The medical reports showed the patient has small kidneys with poor renal function," Singh told PTI over phone on Tuesday. Clinically, the

patient was in "fluid overload" and was getting drowsy. He also had accelerated hypertension, tachycardia, tachypnoea and he gradually he started gasping, the medical officer said. The crew had most of the necessary equipment and drugs available in their medical emergency kit, he said. Singh said he administered the required emergency drugs to the patient through intravenous line access and kept him on continuous oxygen support for an hour. He also requested the flight captain.

NEET paper : RJD leader Tejashwi's aide booked room for arrested students, alleges Bihar deputy CM Vijay

NEW DELHI: The NEET paper leak controversy has taken a political turn with Bihar's deputy chief minister, Vijay Sinha, accusing the leader of the opposition in Bihar, Tejashwi Yadav, of involvement in the scandal.

During a press conference in Patna, deputy CM Vijay Sinha detailed phone calls made by Tejashwi Yadav's personal secretary, Pritam Kumar, to book accommodations for Sikander Kumar Yadavendu, the mastermind of the NEET question paper leak. "On May 1, Tejashwi Yadav's personal secretary Pritam Kumar called guest-house worker Pradip Kumar to book a room for Sikander Kumar Yadavendu... On May 4, Pritam Kumar called Pradip Kumar



again for booking the room... The word 'mantri' was used for Tejashwi Yadav," Sinha said. "Sikandar Yadavendu is a close relative of Tejashwi Yadav's PS Pritam Kumar. An NHA guest house was booked for Sikandar's sister Reena Yadav and son Anurag Yadav on May 4. A phone number and 'Mantri Ji' were mentioned in the NHA guest house's diary. The investigating agency is trying to identify this 'Mantri Ji,'" Sinha

added. Sinha, also the minister of road construction, ordered an inquiry into the booking of the NHA guest house. "I am conducting a thorough investigation to identify officers or employees working at the behest of Tejashwi Yadav. The entire RJD system is based on crime and corruption," he said. However, NHA has clarified that it does not operate any guest house facility in Patna.

Highcourt strikes down Bihar govt's 65% reservation in jobs

NEW DELHI: Patna high court on Thursday struck down a 65 per cent reservation cap set by the state in government jobs and educational institutions. The high court in March had reserved its judgment on a batch of writ petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the increase in quota for backward, extremely backward classes, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes from 50 per cent to 65 per cent in government jobs and higher educational institutions in the state. A division bench of Chief Justice K Vinod Chandran and Justice Harish Kumar reserved the judgment while concluding a marathon hearing on 10 writ petitions filed by one Gaurav Kumar and others. The petitioners had challenged the constitutional validity of the amendments made in

reservation laws. On November 21, the state government had notified the amended reservation laws. The Bihar government in November last year had officially notified in the state gazette two bills, aiming to raise the quota for deprived castes from 50 per cent to 65 per cent in government jobs and educational institutions. With the enactments, Bihar held the highest reservation percentage among larger states, reaching a total of 75 per cent. Reacting to the court's order, RJD leader and Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Jha urged Bihar CM Nitish Kumar to challenge the decision in the Supreme Court. "We consider it as very unfortunate. I would like to say that we should see the social background of the petitioner. Who are those people trying to do this

from behind the curtains? We would urge Nitish Kumar to challenge this decision immediately in the upper court," Manoj Jha said. The two bills that hiked quota The two bills, namely the Bihar Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes) Amendment Bill-2023 and the Bihar (in admission in educational institutions) Reservation Bill, 2023, had become law after the gazette notification. Bihar, with the law, was the second only to Tamil Nadu to provide the highest percentage of reservation to backward classes. While Tamil Nadu offers 50 per cent, Bihar provided 43 per cent reservations for them, followed by Sikkim and Kerala with 40 per cent

'Didn't know carrying copies of big brands is a serious offence'

HYDERABAD: Travelling to the United States with a Puma, Adidas, or Nike fake? Your bargain buys might just get confiscated - or even destroyed - by US customs officials. With US Customs and Border Protection (CPB) stepping up its surveillance of smuggling of counterfeit goods, many Indian students and travellers who flew into America in recent months had their fake luxury items seized at the port of entry. Some told they had to watch the staff run scissors through their clothes or ditch them in the trash can. CPB rules say an individual can carry one counterfeit item of each type (like one shirt, handbag, or pair of shoes) provided it is for personal use and not for sale. Anything in "excess" of this is banned. travelled to the US to meet my son, who is pursuing a master's in supply chain management in Texas. I was carrying eight shirts, four trousers, some socks, and a pair of shoes. All the goods were still packed as I had just bought them, said a schoolteacher from Jamshedpur, Jharkhand. "At the port of entry officials checked my bags and bombarded me with questions about where I was travelling from, who the goods were for, if I was smuggling them, etc. Though I tried explaining to them that it was all for my son, they insisted that I could not take them as they were all counterfeit goods - copies of big brands - which I wasn't aware of. Since they threatened me with criminal charges, I had no choice but to let them seize everything immediately." The traveller said many of the clothing items were torn before being discarded. "I lost goods worth at least Rs 30,000," added the 43-year-old, appealing to authorities to mention these rules on relevant platforms for the benefit of travellers.

Cellecor Gadgets Limited expands its overseas operations by incorporating a new Wholly Owned Subsidiary in Hong Kong

Chandigarh: Cellecor Gadgets Limited (NSE EMERGE: CELLECOR), a rapidly growing leader in India's dynamic Electronics and Consumer Durables Goods Market, proudly announces the establishment of its wholly owned subsidiary in Hong Kong, named Cellecor Gadgets HK Limited.

This strategic initiative, in line with the company's announced blue print for growth, underscores company's commitment to enhancing its supply chain capabilities and seizing whatever the opportunities available. Located strategically in Hong Kong, known as a gateway to Asia's electronics industry, the new subsidiary will serve as a pivotal hub for Cellecor Gadgets' procurement of critical components and operational activities, and with Hong Kong's robust logistical

infrastructure and business-friendly environment, the Company aim to further optimize its supply chain efficiencies and strengthen its competitive edge in delivering innovative, high-quality cost-competitive products to its customers. "We are excited to establish our wholly owned subsidiary in Hong Kong, a move that enhances our ability to meet the evolving demands of the electronics and consumer durables goods market," said Mr. Ravi Agarwal, Managing Director of Cellecor Gadgets. "This expansion positions us closer to key suppliers and partners, reinforcing our commitment to operational excellence and customer satisfaction." Hong Kong's strategic location and established supplier network will enable Cellecor Gadgets to streamline operations, reduce lead times, and

respond swiftly to market trends. The subsidiary will foster closer collaboration with regional distributors, enhancing growth opportunities and facilitating seamless market penetration across key consumption centres. As Cellecor Gadgets continues to innovate and expand its product offerings, the establishment of the Hong Kong subsidiary reaffirms our dedication to driving technological advancement and sustainability in the electronic consumer durables industry. Earlier, the company unveiled its strategic blueprint to propel the company toward its ambitious sales milestones. This comprehensive plan encompasses various aspects of operations and marketing to drive growth and ensure market leadership.

ONE DESPERATE THIEF ARRESTED BY THE TEAM OF PP TILAK VIHAR PS TILAK NAGAR

The diligent team of Police Post Tilak Vihar under Police Station Tilak Nagar has done commendable work by arresting active one active snatcher cum autolifter namely Rahul s/o Prem Pal along with the recovery of two stolen/snatched mobile phones, one stolen motor cycle and two stolen scooties. With this, five cases of theft have been solved. INFORMATION, TEAM AND APPREHENSION On 12.04.2024, a case regarding the theft of a motorcycle was registered at PS Tilak Nagar. A team comprising HC Raj Kumar and HC Dharmveer, under the leadership of SI Naresh, IC PP Tilak Vihar, and under the supervision of SHO Tilak Nagar and ACP/Tilak Nagar, was formed to apprehend the accused person. On 19.04.2024, information was received that a person with a stolen motorcycle would arrive from Kesho Pur Mandi. Upon this information, a trap was laid. At approxi-



mately 9:30 PM, a person arrived on a motorcycle. The informer pointed out and informed that this was the person about whom he had provided information. Immediately, the team swung into action and apprehended the accused person. Upon checking the motorcycle's details, it was found to be stolen in the aforementioned case. During the inquiry, the identity of the accused person was revealed as Rahul, son of Prem Pal, resident of Sikari Batta, Shyam

Nagar, Tilak Nagar, Delhi, aged 24 years. A cursory search of his person revealed two stolen mobile phones. Upon sustained interrogation, two more stolen scooters were recovered based on his information. RECOVERIES: 1. Two Scooties. 2. One motorcycle. 3. Two mobile phones. WORKED-OUT CASES: 1. E - F I R No. 010423/24 u/s 379 IPC PS Tilak Nagar. 2. E - F I R No. 3355/24 dt. 06/02/2024 u/s 379 IPC PS Tilak Nagar. 3. E - F I R No. 19312/2023 dt. 28/06/2023 u/s 379 IPC PS Dabri. 4. E - F I R No. 80033737/2024 u/s 379 IPC PS Mehroli. 5. E - F I R No. 80031962/2024 u/s 379 IPC PS Okhla. ACCUSED PERSON: Accused Rahul s/o Prem Pal R/o Jhuggi No. S-111, Sikari Batta, Shyam Nagar, Tilak Nagar, has studied up to 5th standard. Due to poor economic condition of the family, he came in contact of bad elements and got involved criminal activities.

CAPSULES

Vishal Mega Mart selects ICICI and Kotak for a massive IPO

Delhi: According to persons acquainted with the situation, Indian grocery chain Vishal Mega Mart Pvt has chosen banks as it moves forward with a planned IPO in Mumbai this year. These individuals, who wished to remain anonymous due to the confidentiality of the discussions, stated that Vishal Mega Mart selected Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd and ICICI Bank Ltd to assist in setting up a share sale as early as the fourth quarter of this year. According to the persons, Partners Group Holding AG and Kedaara Capital, two private equity firms that hold it, would be able to reduce their ownership stakes through the IPO. The people claimed that other banks will probably be brought on board to work on the IPO. According to them, the Gurugram-based business might raise anywhere from \$850 million and \$1 billion through the IPO. Partners Group, Kotak, ICICI, and Vishal Mega Mart did not immediately respond to requests for comment made outside of business hours, while a spokesman for Kedaara declined to comment. In 2018, investment firm TPG Capital sold Vishal Mega Mart to Switzerland-based Partners Group and India-focused private equity firm Kedaara for an undisclosed sum. Food and groceries, fashion and general products, and private labels are all available at Vishal Mega Mart. Because of its potential for expansion, India has become a burgeoning market for deals, especially initial public offerings (IPOs).

Blood donation camps will be organized in the future too in the service of humanity: Ramchandra Jadoula

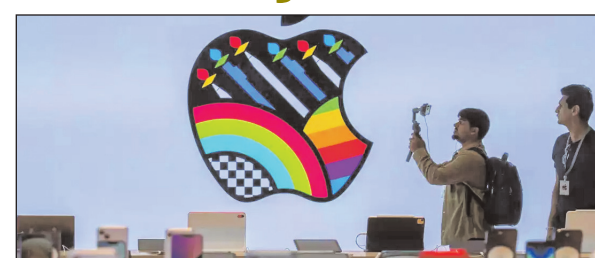
Kaithal: Barfani Seva Mandal Regd. Kaithal Branch Dhand was honored with a letter of appreciation from Haryana State Blood Transfusion Council for doing the noble work of social service through blood donation at the Blood Center District Civil Hospital Kaithal on the occasion of World Blood Donation Day and for making a selfless and invaluable contribution towards humanity. Those honored included Barfani Seva Mandal Dhand's head social worker Ramchandra Jadoula,



Mandal member Sheeshpal Garg, Hon. Subhash Gupta, Malkhan Singh Jadoula etc. After this, while talking in the Dhand office, head Ramchandra Jadoula said that there is no greater donation than blood donation and every citizen should sacrifice his cooperation in this great donation, so that everyone's cooperation and contribu-

tion is in the service of humanity. He said that the Mandal will keep organizing huge blood donation camps from time to time in the service of humanity in the future too, in which full cooperation of people of every section, especially the youth, will be taken. It is important to mention here that a huge blood donation camp was organized in Dhand on 15 June, in which 114 blood donors donated blood. Due to which Barfani Seva Mandal has been honored by the Health Department by giving a letter of appreciation today.

Apple may hire 5 lakh Indians in 3 years



Delhi: Government sources expect Apple and its vendors to employ over 5 lakh Indians over the next three years. Apple's distributors and suppliers employ 1.5 lakh Indians. Tata Electronics, which operates two Apple plants, creates the most jobs. "Apple is employing more in India. Its vendors and components suppliers will employ five lakh people in the next three years, conservatively," a senior government officer told PTI. Apple would not comment on the forecast.

Apple wants to increase Indian output by five-fold to USD 40 billion (approximately 3.32 lakh crore) in 4-5 years. Counterpoint Research reported that Apple dominated the India market in revenue for the first time in 2023, while Samsung led in volume sales. The company reported that Apple surpassed

10 million units in shipments and topped revenue in a calendar year for the first time.

According to commercial intelligence platform The Vision, Apple's iPhone shipments from India increased nearly 100% to USD 12.1 billion in 2023-24 from USD 6.27 billion in 2022-23.

Flipkart Announces the June edition of its 'Back to Campus' Campaign for Students

Vatika Times GURUGRAM : As students gear up for the new academic year, Flipkart, India's home-grown e-commerce marketplace, has announced the June 2024 edition of its annual 'Back to Campus' program after successfully con-



cluding its May 2024 edition. Scheduled between June 21 - June 27, the campaign will provide an expansive assortment of products across brands, including laptops, tablets, gaming consoles, monitors, smartwatches, true wireless earphones, printers, laptop accessories, and more, to cater to the entire spectrum of student's requirements. With a wide selection of devices, the program also prioritizes affordability and a rewarding experience, given

the primary buyers are students.

In this regard, consumers can avail various options on Flipkart including, SuperCoins, No-Cost EMI, and attractive exchange deals for old laptops to ease the upgrade process. There will be additional student offers up to Rs 6000 off on Laptops and Tablets coupled with No-Cost EMI offers up to 12 months on a wide range of credit cards. Catering to diverse payment preferences, Flipkart will provide multiple constructs such as cash on delivery, UPI, and credit / debit cards for seamless transactions. Young consumers now prefer feature-rich, premium products with advanced technology and high performance that fit their lifestyle and budget.

GRM Overseas Ltd. Board to Meet on 21 June to Consider Fund Raise

Vatika Times Chandigarh: GRM Overseas Limited (GRM), a leading a consumer staples organization, has announced that its board will meet on 21 June 2024 to consider and approve the proposal of raising funds by way of preferential issue of securities to the person belonging to the promoter/ promoter group/ Non-promoter group category subject to such regulatory/statutory approvals as may be required and the approval of shareholders of the company. Earlier, the company had informed that it had received its first order from the Ministry of Agricultural, Fisheries Wealth & Water Resources, Sultanate of Oman, to supply 4,500 MT of Premium basmati rice the order is worth Indian Rupees

465 million. The Govt. entities in MENA region opens a significant target market for GRM Overseas with approx total size of 7,00,000 MT+ import of Basmati Rice. MENA region is the largest importer of Basmati Rice, having a lion's share ~78% of the total exports from India in FY23, while Europe contributes 6.9% and USA+ Canada contributes 6.6% (FY23). GRM Overseas has positioned itself strategically, as 95% of its export business is to the MENA region and has established itself as among the top 5 Basmati Rice exporters in MENA region. From humble inception in 1974 to redefining itself in the form of GRM, the Company has travelled a long way since then. Initially set up as a rice processing and trading

house, it is growing to become a consumer staples organisation. During the initial years, GRM exported rice to the Middle East, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Gradually expanding its reach, GRM has developed a market for its rice in 42 countries, thereby achieving the title of the 3rd leading Rice Exporter in India. GRM has three rice processing units with an overall annual production capacity of 4,40,800 MT-based out of Panipat (Haryana), Naultha (Haryana) and Gandhidham (Gujarat). Additionally, the Company has a warehousing facility of 1.75 Lakhs sq ft space adjacent to the Gandhidham plant facilitating speedy shipments from Kandla and Mundra ports.

Paytm approved for UPI ID migration



Delhi: The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has permitted Paytm operator One97 Communications (OCL) to begin customer migration to a new PSP the bank controls. SBI, Axis, HDFC, and YES Bank will be Paytm's PSPs. Paytm users will need permission to use a new UPI ID with one of the four banks' UPI handles. Paytm may urge you to change your '@paytm' handle to a UPI handle linked to one of the banks listed (such yourname@axis). Bank selection is available. This shouldn't affect UPI payments. Paytm will continue to transfer and receive money. This modification lets Paytm offer UPI services. A UPI handle update prompt may appear soon. To ensure uninterrupted UPI payments for customers and merchants, Paytm will transition users from its Paytm Payment Bank to Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, SBI, and YES Bank. Users with @paytm handles will migrate first. Users can continue offering UPI through partner banks with NPCI clearance. The Paytm app will let them make UPI payments from their bank accounts. Create bank-specific VPAs: Paytm now lets users set up VPAs with SBI, Axis, HDFC, and YES Bank.