

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Saturday 05 October, 2024

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

## 'Disappointing, condemnable but not ... ': India on fugitive Zakir Naik's Pakistan visit

**NEW DELHI:** The central government on Friday reacted to controversial Islamic preacher Zakir Naik's Pakistan visit, calling it "disappointing and condemnable but not surprising". Naik, who is wanted in India for hate speech and terror-related charges, was warmly welcomed in Islamabad on October 1 for his month-long visit.

"We have seen reports that he (Zakir Naik) has been fitted into Pakistan and warmly welcomed there. It is not surprising for us that an Indian fugitive has received a high-level welcome in Pakistan. It is disappointing and condemnable but not surprising," said Randeep Jaiswal, minister of external affairs spokesperson, told media at a press brief. Naik, who has lived in exile since 2016, also met Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who praised him for his "insightful and impactful" lectures on Islam. Zakir Naik's Pakistan visit was at the invitation of the government and marks his first return to the country in



### Why NIA and ED are after him

Naik is the founder of Peace TV, a channel on comparative religion with a reported audience of over 100 million. It faces a ban in India in connection with alleged money laundering and hate speeches. India also banned IRF in 2016, accusing it of encouraging followers to promote enmity and hatred. He fled India in July 2016 after Bangladeshi authorities claimed that one of the attackers on a

cafe in Dhaka was inspired by Zakir Naik. The incident had left 22 people dead. The NIA filed a charge sheet under Section 10 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and various sections of the Indian Penal Code, which has been replaced by Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. The investigation revealed that Naik is the founding trustee and a member of an "unlawful association" - IRF.

over three decades. He will be delivering lec-

tures in major cities including Karachi,

Islamabad, and Lahore. Naik fled India in 2016 following allegations of money laundering and promoting , and was granted permanent residency in Malaysia by then-Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed. His visit to Pakistan has sparked renewed attention, given his controversial reputation and ongoing legal issues in India.

### Who is Zakir Naik?

Naik, 58, is the founder of the Islamic Research Foundation (IRF). A doctor by profession, he is known for delivering inflammatory lectures in English, unlike many other Islamic preachers who use Urdu or Arabic. He was born on October 18, 1965, to Abdul Karim Naik and Roshan Naik in Mumbai. He attended Kishinchand Chellaram College and then studied medicine at the Topiwala National Medical College, where he obtained a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBS).

Naik attended South African Islamic preacher Ahmed Deedat's lecture in the late 1980s.

## 'China rapidly building infrastructure along LAC': IAF chief Amar Preet Singh

**NEW DELHI:** Chief of air staff (CAS) Air chief marshal Amar Preet Singh on Friday said that China is rapidly building infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), especially in the Ladakh sector. While addressing a press conference ahead of the Air Force Day, the chief of air staff also said that India too was upgrading infrastructure in the area rapidly. In response to a question, the IAF chief shared his views on China's military growth and India's preparedness in response, saying, "We have done our analysis. We don't have a design to go offensive unnecessarily. Only when we are pushed will we be doing something. So we have our plans in place. One place we can positively say we are training much better than them. We have exposure much better than them." Singh acknowledged that India has lagged behind China in terms of technology, and stressed the need for India to catch up in



### India's quiet diplomacy in UK's return of Chagos Islands to Mauritius

**NEW DELHI:** India played a quiet yet significant contribution in the historic transfer of the sovereignty of the Chagos Islands from the United Kingdom to Mauritius. According to ANI sources, India had steadfastly and unwaveringly advocated for "the need to do away with the last vestiges of colonisation"

both technology and production rates. "Because we do come to know through our sources how they train, how many different air forces they interact with and how many do we interact with. So I am very confident that

during the negotiations. The joint statement released by UK and Mauritius also acknowledged New Delhi's involvement in the matter. The statement specifically mentioned, "In reaching today's political agreement, we have enjoyed the full support and assistance of our close partners."

as far as human angle is concerned, as far as our people behind the machine are concerned, we are way ahead of them. As far as technology is concerned, we may be not so good as of now.

### Woman files gangrape complaint, then goes missing

**Mumbai:** The MRA Marg police are searching for a 29-year-old woman who had lodged a gangrape complaint with the police. The woman was admitted to a social center in Central Mumbai, but when police reached there, she was nowhere to be found. Meanwhile, police are scanning CCTV footages to trace two accused persons. A city police officer said that as per the FIR initially registered at the CSMT railway police station, the incident took place around 10 days ago. The woman stated in her complaint that she was near CSMT railway station on that night when two unidentified men approached her, took her to a nearby footpath and raped her. The railway police had admitted the woman to a social center.

## Hilarious! Aussie players unanimously name Rishabh Pant as India's top sledger

**NEW DELHI:** Sledging has been a hallmark of the India vs Australia Test cricket rivalry, adding a layer of intensity to their encounters. Australian teams, known for their aggressive on-field tactics, often employed verbal exchanges to unsettle opponents.

India, initially more restrained, began to respond in kind, especially under captains like Sourav Ganguly and Virat Kohli, who encouraged a more combative approach. India not only triumphed in their last two tours Down Under but also matched the Australians in the art of sledging. Rishabh Pant, in particular, gave the hosts a run for their own money, with his behind-the-wickets taunts aimed at Australian batters becoming major talking points of the tour. In a video shared by Star Sports on their X handle, Australian players were asked to name the Indian player who sledges and banters the most. The unanimous choice among all players was Rishabh Pant, leaving the anchor in splits.

In the video, Pant clarified that he never sledges with a particular purpose but does it because he enjoys it. He also revealed that during the team's meeting with the Australian Prime Minister, even the PM recognized him, saying, "You're the one who sledges." The highly anticipated five-match Border-Gavaskar Trophy will begin in Perth on November 22, followed by matches in Adelaide (a pink-ball game), Brisbane, Melbourne, and Sydney. India's recent Test series win against Bangladesh has strengthened their position atop the World Test Championship (WTC) standings, with eight wins, two losses, and one draw, amassing 98 points and a points percentage of 74.24. If India goes on to defeat New Zealand 3-0 at home, will secure their place in the WTC final.

## With 24-hour ultimatum to Mamata govt, protesting doctors end 'total cease work'

**Kolkata:** Protesting junior doctors in Kolkata called off their "total cease work" on Friday and resumed their service while also issuing a 24-hour ultimatum to the Mamata Banerjee government to meet their demands or else they would launch an indefinite hunger strike. The doctors had called for "total cease work" demanding better safety and security at medical facilities. The now-



called-off strike, which began on October 1, followed an earlier partial return to work on September 21 after a 42-day protest. The initial protest was triggered by the rape and murder of a trainee woman doc-

tor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9. "Considering the well-being of the patients, we've decided to call off the 'total cease work', but we are not doing this due to the fear of

(West Bengal) government. If our demands are not met within 24 hours, we will be forced to go on a hunger strike," said an agitating junior doctor to news agency PTI. The doctor also alleged that one of their colleagues was assaulted by the police during their protest march earlier today. On , a protest march was organised by the Junior Doctors' Front in Kolkata, demanding

## Jaishankar reaffirms India's support for Sri Lanka's economic recovery

**NEW DELHI:** External affairs minister S Jaishankar met with Sri Lankan president Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Friday and conveyed India's unwavering commitment to supporting Colombo's economic recovery efforts. During their meeting, they explored avenues to enhance the existing cooperation and fortify the ties between India and Sri Lanka. Jaishankar is the first foreign digni-



tary to visit Sri Lanka since the National People's Power (NPP) government led by Anura Kumara Dissanayake came to power on September 23.

Jaishankar, who arrived in Sri Lanka for a one-day visit, also held meetings with prime minister Harini

Amarasuriya and his Sri Lankan counterpart, Vijitha Herath. In his social media post, president Dissanayake mentioned that their discussions centered around strengthening cooperation in various sectors, including tourism, energy, and investment.

He also highlighted the importance of ongoing collaboration in areas such as fisheries, security, and national unity.

## External affairs minister S Jaishankar to visit Pakistan for SCO meeting

**NEW DELHI:** External affairs minister S Jaishankar will be visiting Pakistan for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting scheduled to take place on October 15 and 16.

"The external affairs minister will lead our delegation to Pakistan to participate in the SCO summit which will be held in Islamabad on 15 and 16 October," said Randeep Jaiswal, external affairs ministry spokesperson. Pakistan had invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) in-person meeting, but given the strained bilateral relations between



both nations, Jaishankar will be participating in the meeting. Pakistan will be hosting the SCO meeting as it holds the rotating chairmanship of the CHG, the second highest decision-making body in the Eurasian group after the Council of Heads of State. PM Modi has been a regular at the heads of state summit, although he skipped the same in Kazakhstan this year apparently because it clashed with the

Parliament session in early July. SCO is one of the few multilateral forums where India and Pakistan have managed to work together, despite the hostilities that have plagued the relationship since their abortive attempt to relaunch the dialogue process in 2015 and the terror attacks that followed. While Indian delegations have travelled to Pakistan for participation in SCO exercises and

vice versa, Pakistan's then foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari visited India last year for a meeting of SCO foreign ministers. This cooperation has been made possible by the SCO Charter that doesn't allow member-states to raise bilateral issues.

What is SCO? The SCO is a Eurasian permanent intergovernmental international organisation created in June 2001 by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and China. The SCO was preceded by the Shanghai Five mechanism. Known as the "alliance of the East", the SCO is the largest regional organisation in the world in terms.

## Nationality enough for Afghan women to seek asylum, rules EU court

**The European Court of Justice (ECJ)** on Friday said that an EU country can grant asylum to Afghan women solely based on their nationality and gender. The decision comes in response to the severe restrictions imposed on women's rights by the Taliban since their takeover of Afghanistan in 2021. Under Taliban rule, women in Afghanistan have faced an extreme interpretation of Islam, which has gradually pushed them out of public life. The United Nations has described these restrictions as "gender apartheid," with women bearing the heaviest burden, AFP News Agency.

## 'Israel will not last long': Top quotes from Iran Supreme Leader Khamenei's rare sermon



**NEW DELHI:** Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei defended Hamas' attacks on Israel as legal and accused the US and its allies of supporting Israel for energy interests. He vowed continued resistance in the Middle East and emphasized regional solidarity. Khamenei honored the late Sayyid Hassan Nasrallah, urging Hezbollah youth to continue his mission. 'Israel will not last long': Top quotes from Iran Supreme Leader Khamenei's rare ser-

mon Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei on Friday delivered a rare prayer sermon in Tehran, where he defended Hamas' and Iran's attacks on Israel as "legal and legitimate". During the sermon attended by thousands at a mosque in Tehran, Khamenei claimed that the US and its allies were preserving Israel's security to make it an energy exporting gate from the region to the West, and declared that the resistance against the Zionist force would not back down.



## State level virtual meeting of Bharatiya Janata Party NGO cell concluded

Prayagraj: Sandeep Shahi State Convenor said that assembly elections are to be held at 10 places in the state. Awadh province, Ayodhya is connected to our idol. We all, from our acquaintances, all those residing in Ayodhya. Make people take pledge to feed lots. Both the districts of Kashi province are important. Kumbh in Prayag and Maa Vindhyavasini in Mirzapur. Elections are to be held in Prayag and Mirzapur districts. We all are getting an auspicious opportunity to give a befitting reply to the opposition. We all are voting with full dedication. As much as the opposition is trying to destroy your Sanatan culture with your vote, using abusive language towards saints, we all should contact the NGOs working in the society.

Connect them with you and get their full support. Rajnikanth Province Co-Convenor said that in the upcoming assembly elections, NGO conferences will be organized in both the assemblies of the province. It is expected from the people that whatever NGOs and social workers are working in the society, they should get in touch with you. District Convenor should provide the list to such workers. Please contact the NGO cell on the provincial helpline 9415 970989. Contact all such NGOs who are taking benefits of the government and working in the society. Also make a list of those who can support you. NGOs have been working with social workers to knock door to door, achievements made by the government, will work to reach door to door, made the leadership unhealthy, Sanjay Kashyap, state co-convenor conducted the meeting, Sandeep Shahi Sunil Jain, Vipin Pathak, Rajnikant, Manjeet Singh, Pawan Kumar etc. prominent people participated in the virtual meeting.

## Kavi Sammelan to be organised

Prayagraj: On Saturday, under the joint aegis of North Central Region Cultural Centre, Ministry of Culture, Government of India and Narayan Art Academy, a Kavi Sammelan and the release of the poetry book Sursarita based on Ganga will be held in the Cultural Center Auditorium at 4:30 pm.

## Scoda Tubes Limited files draft papers to raise 275 crore via IPO

Varanasi: Scoda Tubes Limited has filed its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to raise funds through an initial public offering (IPO). The IPO is a complete fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to Rs. 275 crore. Proceeds from the fresh issue will be used for Capital expenditure towards expanding production capacity of seamless and welded tubes and pipes, Funding the part incremental working capital requirements of the Company and General corporate purposes.

The company is a stainless-steel tubes and pipes manufacturer based in India having over 14 years of experience. The products are broadly categorised into: (i) seamless tubes/pipes; and (ii) welded tubes and pipes, under five (5) product lines, namely, (i) stainless steel seamless pipes; (ii) stainless steel seamless tubes; (iii) stainless steel seamless "U" tubes; (iv) stainless steel instrumentation tubes; and (v) stainless steel welded tubes and "U" tubes ("Products" or "Stainless Steel Products"). The products are under the brand, "Scoda Tubes Limited". These products are used by a diverse range of customers like engineering companies, EPC and industrial companies engaged in Oil and Gas, Chemicals, Fertilisers, Power, Pharmaceuticals, Automotive, Railways and Transportation sectors As of August 31, 2024, the company's manufacturing facility has a total installed capacity of 20,000 MT per annum of mother hollow, 10,068 MT per annum of seamless products and 164,1,020 MT per annum of welded products. The company caters to both domestic as well as international markets. Samarth Patel, Jagrutkumar Patel, Ravi Patel, Saurabh Patel, Vipulkumar Patel are the promoters of the company having years of experience in the stainless steel, seamless & welded tubes and pipes industry.

# Meja Urja Nigam announces first dividend after record performance in FY 2023-24

The corporation's aim is to become the top electricity producer in Uttar Pradesh : Kamlesh Soni

Meja: Meja Urja Nigam Pvt Ltd, an equity participation joint venture company promoted by Maharatna power utility NTPC Limited and Uttar Pradesh state-owned Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited, has for the first time announced Rs. Final dividend of ₹ 28 has been paid on Rupee ordinary share, which is a total of ₹ 102.27 crore. This dividend declared in the 16th Annual General Meeting of the company has been transferred to both the shareholders. Shri K. Shanmuga Sundaram Chairman MUNPL and Kamlesh Soni CEO Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited

handed over a formal check of Rs 46.02 crore (after TDS deduction) as the company's first dividend to Gurdeep Singh Chairman and Managing Director NTPC Limited on October 4, 2024. On this occasion, Ravindra Kumar, Director (Operations) NTPC Limited, Anil Kumar Jaddi, Director (Hon.) NTPC Limited, Aditya ED (Finance) NTPC, Ritu Arora Company Secretary NTPC, Amit Rautela Chief Finance Officer, Meja Urja Nigam Pvt. Ltd. And Priyanka, Company Secretary Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited etc. were present. This remarkable achievement reflects the record performance of Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited



in the financial year 2023-24. This year the company has achieved revenue of Rs 4,283 crore and net profit of

Rs 348 crore. Kamlesh Soni CEO MUNPL said that in the financial year 2023-24 the company has achieved

the highest commercial production of 8276 million units and 660x 2 MW MTPP phase After successful sta-

bilization of -I the company aims to become the top power generating company in Uttar Pradesh with plans to add additional capacity of 5600 MW. Apart from power generation, Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited is committed to community development and corporate social responsibility. The company is particularly focusing on areas like infrastructure development, health, clean drinking water, education, women empowerment and skill building. The company's maiden dividend not only reflects its commitment to increasing the capital of its shareholders, but also reinforces its commitment towards sustainable development and community upliftment.

## Police arrested two advocates including the President of Lalganj Joint Advocates Association, huge outrage

Lalganj, Pratapgarh: Late on Thursday night, the police took into custody two advocates, including the President of the Joint Advocates Association, in connection with a case registered under various serious sections including SCST and attempt to murder for assault and abuses in the court of the then Tehsildar. Baghrai in-charge Inspector Pradeep Kumar, along with forces from several police stations including Lalganj, raided the houses of the lawyers wanted in the gangster case at midnight on Thursday. The police team raided their homes and detained Joint Advocates Association President Sandeep Singh from Belaha village and former association president Rao Virendra Singh, a resident of the same village. The police team took the two detained advocates from Lalganj to Baghrai police station and left in the night itself. Let us tell you

that on December 26, 2016, the lawyers had an altercation with the then Tehsildar Thakur Prasad, who was hearing the case in Lalganj Court. Regarding this, the then Tehsildar Thakur Prasad had registered a case against four named and twenty-five unknown advocates in Lalganj Kotwali. On the complaint of Tehsildar Thakur Prasad, the Kotwali police had registered a case against the advocates under serious sections including attempt to murder, abusing while being held hostage, harassment of Dalits and obstruction in government work. At that time, the police had arrested Rao Virendra Singh, the then president of the Joint Advocates Association, regarding the incident. On the instructions of the then DM Dr. Adarsh ??Singh, the police had also registered a case under the Gangster Act against the named accused advocates. After this, the police was

busy searching for other accused advocates. On the orders of the court, the houses of the absconding named advocates were also attached. On Thursday night, the police arrested the current president Sandeep Singh and former president Rao Veerendra.

When the friends in Lalganj came to know about the arrest on Friday morning, there was anger among them. Most of the advocates also reached Baghrai police station early in the morning. Sensing the situation, Baghrai police took both the arrested advocates to SCST and Gagster Court. The advocates detained from there were sent to jail. Meanwhile, angry over the arrest of the association president, the lawyers started raising slogans against the police administration in the tehsil premises. In anger, the advocates even locked the tehsil gate for some time. However, later on persuasion by

senior lawyers, the gate was locked. Under the leadership of Joint Advocates Association General Secretary Suryakant Niral, the advocates also started raising slogans in the tehsil premises. After this, in the general meeting, the advocates termed the police action as inhuman. The general meeting was presided over by Vice President Balendra Tripathi and former President Devi Prasad Mishra. Under the leadership of Senior Vice President Vibhakarnath Shukla, the advocates raised slogans in the Civil Court premises. Due to the resolution passed in the General Assembly, judicial work in civil and tehsil courts also came to a standstill. When information about the closure of the tehsil gate reached the officers at the district headquarters, CO Lalganj Ramsurat Sonkar along with forces from several police stations reached the auditorium inside the tehsil.

## IAMGAME unveils power-packed agenda for its 2-day conclave

Harmanpreet Singh, Aparna Popat, Nikhat Zareen, Jaspal Rana, Kush Maini and more to speak at the conference

Lucknow: IAMGAME is thrilled to announce the release of the agenda for its upcoming 2-day conclave, which will feature an exceptional lineup of speakers and thought-provoking topics. The event will bring together renowned sports professionals, leaders, and innovators to discuss the future of sports in India. With a focus on collaboration, innovation, and building the sporting ecosystem, the agenda is designed to offer invaluable insights and foster meaningful conversations that can shape the next generation of Indian sports. Confirmed speakers for the conclave include Harmanpreet Singh, Indian field hockey player and captain of the national team; Aparna Popat, OLY, 2-time Olympian (Badminton); Ryan Fernando, sports nutritionist for Olympic athletes and Kush Maini, Indian motorsport driver. Attendees will also hear from experts such as Christophe Draye, a global sports events specialist from FiveCurrents.

Key sessions include: From Policy to Podium, which will delve into the role of government and institutional policies in nurturing sporting talent and driving success at international plat-

forms. Game Changers: Investing in the Champions, where industry leaders like Raghuram Iyer, CEO of the Indian Olympic Association will explore the strategic investments that propel Indian athletes to the world stage.

The Next Big Thing: Scouting Future Legends, featuring Jaspal Rana, Indian sport shooter, and Harmanpreet Singh, highlighting the importance of scouting and developing the next generation of sporting talent.

In addition to the panels, The Grandeur Game: The Impact of Ceremonial Splendor will explore how large-scale sports events and ceremonies can enhance the sporting experience, while Fueling the Future: Through Sports Sciences, led by Ryan Fernando, will focus on the critical role of nutrition and sports science in ensuring athletic success. IAMGAME's co-founders, Mandeep Malhotra and Karan Chhetri, expressed their excitement and vision for the conclave, stating, "The IAMGAME Conclave is more than just a gathering of industry leaders; it's a platform for meaningful change in Indian sports."

## All Time Plastics Limited files DRHP with SEBI

Varanasi: All Time Plastics Limited has filed its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company plans to raise funds through fresh issue of equity shares aggregat-

ing upto Rs. 350 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of up to 52,50,000 equity shares. The company proposes to utilize the net proceeds towards (i) prepayment or repayment of all or a portion of certain outstanding borrowings

availed by the company, amounting to Rs. 120 crore, (ii) the purchase of equipment and machinery for the upcoming Manekpur Facility amounting to Rs.133.73 crore, and the rest for general corporate purposes.

The company is the

second largest B2B participant in India's plastic consumerware industry by revenue for Fiscal 2023 (Source: Technopak Report). It has over 13 years of expertise creating plastic consumerware goods for common household usage.

## Vi Game to Fame' set to democratize esports gaming in India

Varanasi: Vi launches its first ever gaming competition to provide an international stage for budding eSports enthusiasts. In the run-up to the India Mobile Congress 2024, leading telecom operator Vi, today, announced the launch of its first ever grassroots eSports tournament - 'Vi Game to Fame'.

India, today, is among the top markets for gaming, accounting for approximately 20% of the world's total mobile game downloads. Vi Game to Fame aims to bring together amateur esports enthusiasts from across the country to compete, collaborate, showcase their skills and earn an opportunity to shine at not only national, but also at an international level.

Vi Game to Fame highlights the company's commitment to enable

exciting immersive digital experiences for its customers and foray into gaming with a comprehensive mobile gaming platform - Vi Games. Vi Games today, offers many premium and free online games across Cloud Gaming, Casual Gaming, eSports, AAA Games, Multi-Player Games and more, that can be played on the Vi App.

The first edition of the competition is set to kick off on 1st October 2024 and will feature Call Of Duty: Mobile, with the grand finale to be held at the India Mobile Congress 2024, Asia's largest tech fest. Call of Duty: Mobile is a popular first-person shooter (FPS) title, with participants battling for prizes that amongst others include a trip to visit Team Vitality facility in Paris and get a chance to interact with global eSports teams & managing partners.

## Seagram's Royal Stag Packaged Drinking Water Launches Festive Campaign

Varanasi: The campaign has an immersive AI-led experience that enables the new generation, Generation Large, to have the Largest festive celebration ever.

New Delhi, 3rd October 2024: Kicking off the festive fervour in India, Royal Stag Packaged Drinking Water has unveiled a new campaign #CelebrateLarge. The campaign showcases how today's youth want to infuse different festive celebrations with their unique style and energy. The campaign tagline - 'Generation Large ka Celebration Large,' elegantly weaves this desire of the young generation with brand's Live It Large philosophy. The campaign features India's T20 cricket captain Surya Kumar Yadav and is an engagement-led 360 campaign, including an interactive AI film, an innovative AR-enabled festive canvas and a chance to celebrate with the Indian cricket superstar himself,

Surya Kumar Yadav.

Conceptualized in association with creative agency partner FCB India, every touchpoint of the campaign aims to inspire the youth to 'Live It Large' and take their festive celebration to a new level. The campaign film beautifully showcases all major festivities across regions and also invites audience to #CelebrateLarge with Surya Kumar Yadav. The whole experience has been curated keeping today's youth, aka, the digital natives, in mind by offering them a simplified user journey. The power of regenerative AI is leveraged to create an ultimate personalized celebration experience with SKY. AI-generated personalized greetings from the cricketer also add an exciting layer to the overall consumer experience. Audience can also get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to celebrate with Surya himself, thus, making their celebrations

truly Large.

Meanwhile, on scanning the QR code on print as well as outdoor campaign communication, audience can unlock an AR version of the intricately designed festive canvas which gracefully depicts the various aspects of festive celebration in all its glory. Generation Large can stay on top of all their festive wish-lists on Food, Music, Fashion, Gifting & Greetings by visiting www.royalstagfan.com brand's fan community page to get the top trending festive info. The campaign will be amplified through a high-decibel 360-degree plan spread across digital, print, radio and OOH to offer an immersive, unforgettable experience.

Kartik Mohindra, Chief Marketing Officer and Head of Global Business Development, Pernod Ricard India said, "Festivals are the perfect occasions for the youth to infuse with their unique style & energy and

create memories to cherish for years to come, and of course, to Live It Large. True to the brand ethos, our carefully curated #CelebrateLarge 360-degree campaign offering multi-faceted experiences, embodies this youthful spirit and enables Generation Large to have the largest festive celebration."

Mayuresh Dubhashi, Chief Creative Officer, FCB India, shared, "There's an inherent desire in today's youth to make every celebration large. We see that feeling come to life even more during the festive season. This year through our campaign #CelebrateLarge we are giving this generation a first-of-its-kind interactive platform to enjoy their festivities like never before. Through Regenerative AI, AR and food, gifting, music, fashion recommendations and a new vibrant festive canvas, we want to inspire them to Live It Large."



On 04.10.2024, under the leadership of Shri Ajay Kumar Zonal Officer-Zone 6, illegal plotting done in about 25 bigha area by unauthorized plotters Shri Harsh Singh and Shri Pappu Tiwari (Giri) near Dharwandpur, Bhatta of Kaudihar area was demolished and illegal plotting done by Shri OP Yadav in about 10 bigha in Uthagi, Kaudihar was demolished on the spot in the presence of Nawabganj Police Station. In the said action, Zonal Officer and PDA enforcement team should be present on the spot.



Assistive devices and equipment provided to disabled children



Prayagraj: Under the able direction of District Basic Education Officer Prayagraj Praveen Kumar Tiwari today, 04 October 2024, under the auspices of integrated education under holistic education, assistive devices and equipment were provided to disabled children in collaboration with Alimco Kanpur. To provide this, a measurement camp was organized at the Block Resource Center Bahadurpur. A total of 300 children were tested in the camp, and about 250 disabled children were given

equipment and equipment in the camp, in which 16 children were given equipment and equipment under the PM Shri Yojana. In the said camp, Vikas Pandey, District Coordinator, Integrated Education, Alimco Kanpur rehabilitation specialists Ramanand, Gajendra Kumar and Rajeev Kumar, audiologist Vikas Verma, data operator, composite school principal Billu Devi, all the special educators and physiotherapists, and all the staff of BRC and Sanjeev Tiwari of Block Handia provided their special support.

Preps for Maha Kumbh Mela: Bhoomi Pujan of electrical works conducted

Prayagraj: As part of the preparations for Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, temporary electrical works were started on Friday at Triveni Road, Parade area. On this occasion, Managing Director of Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited, Mr. Shambhu Kumar started the work with the Bhoomi Pujan of the sub-centre. A total of 85 nos. 2x400 KVA DTs will be installed in the area during the Maha Kumbh Mela. Apart from this, 182 km HT lines, 1405 km LT lines, 128 nos. 100 KVA converter tube wells, 67,000 LED street lights, 2,000 solar hybrid lights and 15 nos. RMUs (Ring Main Units) are also to be installed. A total of 425,900 pieces of LED bulbs and tube lights will be installed for power



supply in the camps of devotees and Kalpavasis. This time, especially in the Mahakumbh, solar hybrid lights, highmast generators and 11 KV RMUs are being installed, which is an innovative experiment. Managing

Director Shri Shambhu Kumar directed the officers present that all the temporary works should be completed within the stipulated time. During the Bhoomi Pujan, prominent officials included Director (Techni-

cal) Jitendra Nalwaya, Chief Engineer Int. P.K. Singh, In. Sheesh Pal Singh, In. Manoj Gupta, Executive Engineer In. Anup Kumar Sinha, In. Praveen Kumar Singh and other assistant engineers were present.

Ashes of Gaurishankar ji, former national president of All India Kesarwani Vaishya Mahasabha immersed in Sangam

Prayagraj: Patron and former national president of All India Kesarwani Vaishya Mahasabha, Late Gauri Shankar Kesarwani, Amravati, Maharashtra's ashes, his cousin, Brother Santosh Kumar Kesarwani, nephew Gaurav Kesarwani, relatives Arvind Kesarwani, Bajinath Kesarwani along with themselves and other friends reached Prayagraj in the morning from Amravati.



At 7 am in the morning, the urn was kept in the courtyard of Central Office 20 Mirganj Chowk, Prayagraj Kesar Vidyapeeth for darshan and offering of floral tributes. Thereafter, Hasti Kalash was immersed in the Sangam and floral tributes were flowed by his family members. National Patron Shivkumar Vaishya, National Treasurer Satish Chandra Kesarwani, National Managing Minister Vinod Kumar Advocate, Kesar Vidyapeeth Manager Dr. OP Gupta, State President Teerthraj Gupta, State General Secretary were present in the program. Pramil Kesarwani, State Minister Ashok Kumar Gupta, State Media Incharge Rajesh Kumar Kesarwani, District President- Prayagraj Narayan Kesarwani, Prayagraj City Minister Rajesh Kumar Kesarwani, City Treasurer Suresh Chandra Kesarwani, Dharmendra Kesarwani, Santosh Kumar Kesarwani, Anshu Kesarwani, Anil Kumar Kesarwani, Nitesh. Kumar Gupta and other people of the society paid tribute.

We will do justice to women by becoming their strength: Geeta Vishwakarma

Prayagraj: BJP workers welcomed the newly appointed member of Uttar Pradesh Women's Commission, Geeta Vishwakarma, on her first arrival in Prayagraj in the courtyard of Allahabad Junction and Circuit House. On this occasion, Mrs. Geeta Vishwakarma said that the party's Fulfilling the responsibility assigned by the top leadership, we will become the strength of women by solving their problems and will work to give full strength to get them justice. District spokesperson



Rajesh Kesarwani said that she was migrating to Haryana for the Haryana Assembly elections. And today when he arrived in his home town Prayagraj, the workers gave him a grand welcome. Those who welcomed him included Rajesh Kesarwani, Councilor Aman Walecha, Gauri Shankar Verma, Prayag Dutt Gupta, Vikas Kanojia, Aman Kesarwani, Umesh Kesarwani, Mandal President Kaushiki Singh, Rajat Gupta, Ranjan Shukla, Nishu Sharma, etc. were workers.

Terehavi rites of former MLA Neelam Udaybhan Karwariya ji on Oct 8

Prayagraj: Many ministers of Center and State, MPs, MLAs and many senior leaders of the party and thousands of supporters. And workers will be included. They told that on September 26, former MLA Neelam Karwariya ji had died during treatment, whose 13th rites and Brahm Bhoj will be organized on October 8 in the courtyard of Choudhary Garden in which many ministers of the Center and State, MPs, MLAs and members of the Bharatiya Janata Party will be present. Senior leaders and dignitaries of the district and more than 20,000 supporters and workers will participate and pay tribute to him. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that there is a possibility that during the arrival of Honorable Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ji to Prayagraj on 6th September, former MLA Neelam Karwariya ji will be honored. Will go to his residence Kalyani Devi to pay tribute and will meet former MLA Uday Bhan Karwariya and family members while expressing condolences.



Lions Club Alld City distributes umbrellas to poor, announces winners of Dandiya Fashion Show

Prayagraj: Under the leadership of Lion Anoop Singh, President of Lions Club Allahabad City, umbrellas were distributed to the poor and destitute at many places in the city. While giving information, Club's Public Relations Officer Lalu Mittal said that an effort has been made to help vegetable vendors, rickshaw pullers and street vendors by distributing free umbrellas to them and will continue to be done. Under the charity programme, fashion including Dandiya will be organized on Navratri. Show sangeet evening was organized by announcing the names of winners and participants



and felicitating them with crowns and special gifts. Around 40 people participated in different categories. In the competition, Lt. Archana Pradeep Gupta

stood first, Prachi Jaiswal and Rashmi stood second, Lion Ajay Awasthi in the men's category. And in second Rahul Jaiswal and Youngest, La Varanya Yathar was victorious. Consolation prizes were also given to all the participants participating in the couples category. Rita Veer, Prateek Ahlani were also thanked for successfully conducting the Navratri program. Dr. Jyoti Jaiswal, Colonel Rajat Bhambani and Sonia were responsible for judging the competition. It belonged to Ambani ji. At the beginning of the program, La. Rama Tiwari ji expressed his gratitude by praising Ganesh.

Mother Kalyani in form of Brahmacharini gave darshan to devotees

Prayagraj: Temple complex echoed with the praise of the mother. On the second day of Sharadiya Navratri Mahotsav fair organized in the courtyard of Mahashakti Peeth Kalyani Devi temple, Mata Kalyani gave her divine darshan to the devotees in the form of Brahmacharini Mata. On this occasion, in the morning in the Shat Chandi Mahayagya going on in the temple premises. From 7:00 am to 12:00 noon, the devotees performed puja, circumambulated the Yagya, took vows and performed the Mundan Sanskar of their children. The chief priest of the temple, Pandit Sushil Kumar Pathak told that at 6:00 pm, the Brahmacharini form of Maa Kalyani appeared. The doors of the temple were opened for the devotees to see the make-up of Maa Brahmacharini, holding a lotus mandala and a rosary in her hands, giving darshan to

the devotees and the devotees offered coconut chunari and prayed for their well-being. Rajesh Kesarwani, the media in-charge of the temple, said. That on the third day of Navratri, on October 5, at 5:00 am, the pro-



gram of darshan worship with Mangala Aarti will continue till 1:00 pm and in the form of Maa Kalyani Chandraghanta, she will visit the devotees riding on a lion with after-arms in her ten arms. will give darshan.

Max Hospital extends medical expertise in Prayagraj With launch of exclusive cardiology and neurology OPD services

Prayagraj: Max Super Speciality Hospital, Lucknow, today announced the launch of its dedicated Cardiology and Neurology OPD services. The OPD services were launched in the presence of Dr. Vijayant Devenraj, Director and HoD, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery (CTVS), and Dr. Tushar Kant Arora, Consultant, Neurosurgery, Neuro-Oncology & Spine Surgery at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Lucknow. The OPD launch is yet another patient-centric step taken by the hospital to empower patients with accessibility and quality

healthcare services without the inconvenience of traveling to metro cities. Dr. Vijayant Devenraj, will be conducting OPDs at Veracity Clinic and Dr. Tushar Kant Arora, will be conducting OPDs at Guru Gobind Singh Memorial Hospital. Both will be available on the 1st Friday of every month from 11 am to 3 pm at the respective mentioned centers. Speaking on the initiative, Dr. Vijayant Devenraj, Director and HoD, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery (CTVS) at Max Super Speciality Hos-

pital, Lucknow stated, "It's troubling to see so many young patients needing heart surgery. We want to catch these issues early. On average, I am now performing two bypass surgeries for young heart patients each month, a condition

that was previously very rare in those under 40. This underscores the gravity of the situation and calls for urgent intervention. Our initiative aims to provide local consultations and continuous care to address this issue effectively." Dr. Tushar Kant Arora, Consultant, Neurosurgery, Neuro-Oncology & Spine Surgery at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Lucknow commented, "Neurological conditions often require prompt and specialized care. Our pres-

ence in Prayagraj will ensure that individuals with complex neurological issues can receive timely consultations and management. With these OPDs, we aim not only to treat but also to educate the community about early diagnosis and preventive measures." Max Super Speciality Hospital, Lucknow remains at the forefront of healthcare innovation, offering patients access to advanced and comprehensive care. The hospital's multidisciplinary team is committed to ensuring that each patient receives personalized treatment tailored to their unique needs.



Ganga Gurukulam students pledge to uphold Gandhi's and Shastri's ideals

Prayagraj: MPVM Ganga Gurukulam celebrated the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd of October 2024 with great fervor. Two great personalities of our country shared their birthdays on this day. One is the Father of our Nation Mahatma Gandhi and the other, Second Prime Minister of our Country Lal Bahadur Shastri. To revere this day, the Students and Teachers of Ganga Gurukulam held a Special Assembly to commemorate the Mahatma's life and teachings on 1 October 2024. Gandhian ideals were depicted through devotional songs presented by Primary, secondary and senior secondary teachers.

A special article with Gandhian quotes and messages brought the gathering to understand more about this iconic leader. Students Reflect on



Gandhian Values through Various online Activities. Students of classes 1 and 2 engaged in online sessions, listening to anecdotes from Gandhi Ji and Shastri Ji's

lives. Students from Classes 4 and 5 participated in "March to Freedom," while younger students enjoyed "Inspiring Lives." The secondary section

(Classes 6-12) showcased their creativity through various events: - Class 6 students recited poems on the freedom struggle.

- Class 7 students created collages depicting India's freedom saga. - Class 8 students delivered speeches on Gandhiji and Shastriji. - Classes 9 and 10 wrote articles on Gandhian thoughts and Shastri's contributions. - Classes 11 and 12 shared inspiring incidents from Gandhi and Shastri's lives through online anecdotal recital. Mrs Madhuri Srivastava the principal, emphasized that Gandhi and Shastri Jayanti is an opportunity for us to instill values of compassion, empathy, and service in our students. The celebration concluded with a pledge to uphold Gandhi's and Shastri's ideals and strive for a better India.

AIMIM submitted memorandum

Prayagraj: AIMIM submitted a memorandum to the Police Commissionerate to register an FIR against the mischief done in the honor of Prophet Hazrat Mohammad SAW. Prayagraj. Under the leadership of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen AIMIM Metropolitan President Afsar Mehmood and District President Meraj Ahmed, AIMIM submitted a memorandum across the state regarding the objectionable statement of Ghaziabad priest Swami Yeti Narsingh Anand Saraswati attacking Prophet Mohammad Sahib. In the absence of the Police Commissioner of Prayagraj, in the presence of four police station chiefs, a memorandum was submitted at the Hari Masjid located in Civil Lines in which Swami Yeti Narsingh Anand

Saraswati has made objectionable remarks on Prophet Mohammad Sahab. The entire Muslim community is hurt by it and the police is angry. In the memorandum to the Commissionerate Prayagraj, Swami Yati Narsingh Anand Saraswati has been booked under the Indian Judicial Code for uttering words etc. with the intention of hurting religious sentiments and intentionally hurting the religious sentiments of a particular class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs with malicious intent. A demand was made for immediate arrest. Apart from this, the action was demanded without any discrimination against those who spread hatred in the society in the name of any religion or caste in the country and the state. A Muslim can tolerate everything but can never tolerate

insolence in the honor of Mohammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam. Ever since the Bharatiya Janata Party government has been formed in the country and the state, it has become a trend and a fashion to tease the society and hurt its sentiments and such people are growing up under the protection of the government and doing whatever they want. What they are doing is a poison for the unity, integrity, Ganga, Jamuni culture of the country and brotherhood. Even before this, he has committed such a crime. The government has not taken any cognizance of this. The reason for this is that today a large number of people with poisonous thoughts are coming here, spreading poison in the society. The government is silent. It is requested to the government and administra-

tion that people making such objectionable statements and hurting faith should be arrested with immediate effect and they should be given strict punishment so that no further objectionable statement like this is made against any religion. If action is not taken on this issue as soon as possible, then the Muslim community will use the Constitution made by Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar and will hold a big protest against it. The main people involved in giving the memorandum are Metropolitan President Officer Mahmood Ganga Par District President Meraj Ahmed Jamuna Par. District President Shaukat Ali Metropolitan Spokesperson Iftikhar Ahmed, Mohammad Asad, Kalimul Rehman, many other worshippers were present.



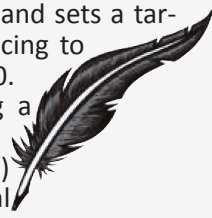
## Editorial

### Climate Policy Initiative

It was only in 2022 that developed countries provided and mobilised \$115.9 billion in climate finance for developing countries. By the end of COP29, all parties must agree on a "new collective quantified goal" (NCQG) to guide the provision of climate finance, intended to replace the \$100 billion target after 2025. Progress on negotiating the NCQG has been slow. Disagreements persist on almost every aspect of the new target, including the amount of money to be provided, the sources of these funds, the recipients, and the specific forms of financial assistance. Current climate finance is grossly inadequate for the scale of action required. The \$100 billion target for climate finance is laughably insufficient. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Adaptation Gap Report 2021 estimates that the costs of adapting to climate change in developing countries could reach \$140-300 billion per year by 2030, escalating to \$280-500 billion per year by 2050. Furthermore, the Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2021 report highlights that global climate finance flows reached a record \$632 billion in 2019/2020. Despite this record, the funding falls significantly short of the \$4.13 trillion annual investment required by 2030 to meet the Paris Agreement targets, as estimated by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in its Net Zero by 2050 report. Now even these estimates are seen as low. As highlighted by the Independent High-Level

Expert Group on Climate Finance in their November 2022 report, emerging markets and developing countries (excluding China) are starting at a financial chasm. These nations must mobilise approximately \$1 trillion annually by 2025, amounting to 4.1 per cent of their GDP—double the 2.2 per cent spent in 2019. Fast forward to 2030, and the figure balloons to a staggering \$2.4 trillion per year, or 6.5 per cent of GDP. This glaring disparity underscores the urgent need to recalibrate climate finance targets.

if we are to meet the colossal demands of climate adaptation and mitigation. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's AR6 Synthesis Report on Climate Change 2023, the 2018 UNFCCC biennial assessments and the IPCC 1.5°C report estimated that global financial needs for achieving a 2°C warming target are \$1.7 trillion annually from 2020 to 2030-2035, and \$2.4 trillion annually for the 1.5°C target, specifically for the energy sector. The report concludes that global climate finance flows must increase by three to six times the current levels to meet the average annual financial requirements until 2030. This cannot happen in the absence of reforms in multilateral development banks (MDBs). A high-level expert group established by the G20 under India's presidency has proposed a 30-point roadmap to reform multilateral development banks (MDBs) and triple their lending by 2030. The Independent Expert Group, led by former US Treasury Secretary Larry Summers and India's 15th Finance Commission Chairman NK Singh, emphasized urgent action to scale MDBs to be "fit for purpose" by 2030. Their report, 'The Triple Agenda: A Roadmap for Bigger, Bolder and Better MDBs', advocates for tripling MDBs' sustainable lending limits, introducing new financial instruments like pooled portfolio guarantees and hybrid capital, and attracting private investors. The report underscores the urgency of these reforms, warning against delays and weak responses, and sets a target of increasing MDB financing to \$390 billion annually by 2030. It also suggests establishing a pilot Global Challenges Funding Mechanism (GCFM) to attract additional resources from various investors for priority goals.



## Congress Just Can't Shed Its Emergency Mindset

This year marks the beginning of the 50th year since the imposition of Emergency, the darkest chapter of Indian democracy when all civil and constitutional rights were curtailed. While that Emergency was lifted after 21 months, the Emergency mindset seems to persist within the Congress even after five decades. What else could be the reason behind intimidating, threatening, holding hostage and harassing a journalist for asking an innocuous question during a scheduled interview? Just as the Leader of the Opposition (LoP), Rahul Gandhi, was about to land in Dallas, USA, his Overseas Congress leader, Sam Pitroda, invited a journalist from a well-known Indian media house for a pre-scheduled interview. As narrated by the reporter, Rohit Sharma, the interview was progressing smoothly until he asked whether Rahul Gandhi would be raising the issue of attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh during his meetings with US government officials. This question did not sit well with either Pitroda or the other Congress persons in the hall. In a sloop, Sharma's phone was snatched away. He was asked to delete the clip, but when he refused, his phone was forcibly unlocked by being



**Could have simply deflected the question. To hold a reporter hostage and subject him to such intimidating behaviour over an innocuous question reveals the Congress party's deeper issues with everything Hindu. When the shocking treatment of the journalist hit social media platforms, all Sam Pitroda could say was he would 'look into it'**

brought close to his face. By that time, Pitroda had left to receive Rahul Gandhi. The video was deleted.

However, the journalist's ordeal did not end there; he was made to remain in the room, as a hostage, for an agonising 30 minutes. What is most baffling here is not the conduct of the Congressmen. We will see why in the next few lines. What is particularly striking is the way a question about

attacks on Hindus riled the Congressmen so much. What was so 'controversial' about asking whether their leader would raise the issue or not? If Pitroda was unsure, he could have simply deflected the question. To hold a reporter hostage and subject him to such intimidating behaviour over an innocuous question reveals the Congress party's deeper issues with everything Hindu. When the shocking

treatment of the journalist hit social media platforms, all Sam Pitroda could say was he would 'look into it'. It was only after Prime Minister Narendra Modi linked the incident to Rahul Gandhi's false claims about the constitution that Pitroda reportedly called the journalist to apologise. It is not rocket science to understand that he must have been directed to do so, as the matter had become politically unten-

able. The top leadership of the Congress, including Rahul Gandhi, continue to maintain a deafening silence on the disturbing turn of events in Dallas. This brings us back to the original concern: the Congress party's treatment of the media. In his speeches, Rahul Gandhi frequently berates media persons for not providing him and other anti-Modi parties with fair coverage. He even singles out individual reporters and humiliates them publicly for no reason, but their caste. In Karnataka, police have visited the homes of YouTubers to interrogate them, simply for criticising the Congress using quotes from its own leadership. The humiliation is not limited to those who are critical of the Congress. Even reporters who are known for giving optimum coverage to Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, and other party leaders in the most charitable manner, are ostracised and insulted by spokespersons if they stray 'off-script' even once. This ensures the message goes across to others. Ironically, freedom of the media is one of the favourite topics of the LoP. Perhaps he could make it a bit more convincing by shedding the Emergency mindset that his party displays at the drop of a hat.

### Women in Indian Politics

**India's progress vis-à-vis women's representation in leadership positions** has remained rather slow and rarely linear, often pushing them to the margins of politics. UN Women/Ruhani Kaur. India recently concluded its 2024 general elections, which took place in seven phases—from April 19 to June 1—to elect all 543 members of the Lok Sabha (lower house). While the results have taken many by surprise, what has been even more astonishing is the fact that for a country that has rigorously been trying to establish a more progressive front on women's rights and gender equality over the past few years, the new Indian parliament has failed to showcase a notable

uptick in the representation of women after the latest elections. Making just 13.63 per cent of the elected strength, the 18th Lok Sabha will comprise only 74 women compared to 469 men. This share is not only abysmally skewed but also lower than the 14.4 per cent share of female representation during the 2019 election, where 78 women were elected as MPs. The irony here is that just last year, India—during its G20 presidency—brought about a paradigm shift in gender-based policymaking by challenging the status quo and with the innovative idea of women-led development in order to ensure women's inclusion and representation at all levels of decision-making. Even at the domestic level,

India—after many deliberations—finally passed the historic Women's Reservation Bill in 2023, which seeks to reserve one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women. While it is true that the bill has not yet come into effect, the journey from 13.63 per cent to 33 per cent (for the next elections) still seems rather long, especially given that, despite being the central agents of the 2024 elections and forming an important core of party manifestos as well as campaign speeches, only a handful of them were able to achieve the final victory.

It is, however, important to note here that the gender gap in elected representatives—in a lot of ways—begins.

## India took centre stage during the summit

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi** attended the 50th G7 summit on June 14, 2024, in the city of Fasano in Apulia, Italy. The region of Apulia, throughout its history, has been inhabited by Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Normans, and Spanish. The region has also served as a bridge between the West and the East, thanks to its geography. Apulia's rich history as a cultural crossroads underscores the significance of this year's G7 summit, which brings together diverse global leaders. In this summit, along with the G7 countries, the other invitees were India, the African Union, Brazil, the UAE, Argentina, and others, making the location and the purpose of the summit significant. India took centre stage during the summit, and the family photograph taken post-summit is a testament to it. Two years ago, India was invited to the 48th G7 summit in 2022, after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The primary narrative at that time was to punish India for keeping the ties intact with Moscow. The Western 'experts', who are habituated to see things in binary, refused to believe that India can have ties with the G7 without harming relations with Russia. As per the

Financial Times, the reason behind the invitation to India at the summit was "to woo New Delhi away from its longstanding alliance with Russia". Two years down the line, India's relations are not majorly harmed, neither with Russia nor with the G7 countries! Freshly re-elected, PM Modi's attendance at the G7 summit signals a robust continuation of his administration's foreign policy initiatives, particularly his advocacy for the Global South. In 2023, New Delhi organised the two Voice of the Global South Summits, first in January and next in November, to understand the concerns of the developing countries. The words and advocacy of Modi in Apulia should be taken as a continuation of this. Modi exploited the opportunities provided to put forward these concerns. "India has considered it its responsibility to place the priorities and concerns of the countries of the Global South on the world stage," he said. At the same time, while putting forward his vision of a developed India in 2047, he emphasised that "no section of society should be left behind in the country's development journey," followed by applying this "in the context of

international relations. The countries of the Global South are bearing the brunt of global uncertainties and tensions". Then, Modi put forward the concern of ending monopolies in technology, one of the points of action at the end of the second Voice of the Global South Summit. On the sidelines of the G7 meeting, PM Modi also met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. However, Modi skipped the Ukraine Peace Summit, organised just after the G7 meeting, by sending a secretary-level delegation. The Indian delegation visited the summit but didn't sign the Joint Communiqué. This reflects a nuanced stance on the conflict, aligning with the broader Global South's cautious approach. India's significant presence at the G7 summit,

coupled with PM Modi's diplomacy, marks a pivotal moment in its global engagement. By advocating for the Global South in the G7, India continued efforts to emerge as a leader of developing nations in a China-fearing world. India took centre stage during the summit, and the family photograph taken post-summit is a testament to it. Narendra Modi/X.

## Promise made for assistance in the space sector

Since during Kim Jong Un's September 2023 visit to Russia, there was a promise made for assistance in the space sector; there is a possibility that for the November 2023 launch, some Russian assistance was there. Unfortunately for North Korea, its recent launch (on May 27, 2024) to put up a military reconnaissance satellite (Malligyong-1-1) ended in failure. For a nuclear weapon state like North Korea, it is a necessity to have a mechanism for gathering real-time intelligence. Hence, it has interests in spy satellites. It is keen to establish a space-based architec-

ture that offers intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities. For this purpose, it wants to have increasing assistance from Russia in the space domain. The potency of North Korea's nuclear deterrence structure would depend not only on the number of nuclear weapons in its kitty but also on various factors, like having capable missile systems to deliver the weapons correctly to the target. At the same time, it needs to guard its state from any attack by its adversaries. Hence, space-based ISR systems are important both for defence and offence purposes.

There are reports indicating that North Korea has developed several types of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for ISR purposes. However, there are limitations in regards to the types of sensors in use. Also, endurance and communications restraints limit its utility. North Korea is keen to expand its space program. It understands that there is a 'global' watch on its space and missile programs. The South Korean and US investigators have analysed the recently failed (2023) two launches by North Korea. In its estimation carried out by analysing the recovered

parts from these launches (fallen in the ocean), the North Korea payloads had 'no military use'. This indicates that North Korea needs to improve on sensor technologies, satellite design and development capabilities, and rocket launch capabilities. Today, various activities undertaken by North Korea are being continuously monitored by the US with the assistance of Japan and South Korea. The US has the Combat Sent and the Cobra Ball systems for gathering electronic intelligence. It is known to carry out 'air espionage' of the area from which North Korea .



## Next for Ayush 2021-2022 to improve Ayurveda education and healthcare

**Delhi:** Shri Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State for Ayush (Independent Charge), said today that the National Exit Test (NExT) for Ayush will begin in 2021-2022. The Minister said the decision was based on the committee's suggestion to investigate student concerns. The committee suggests applying the NExT to 2021-22 students under the NCISM and NCH Acts, 2020, eliminating any ambiguity. The committee was led by Vice Chancellor National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur Prof. Sanjeev Sharma, who reviewed student ideas and submitted them to the Ministry. After a one-year internship, the problem-based test is required for licensing and membership in State or National Registers. It evaluates practical skills using clinical case scenarios, photos, and videos. Without completing their internship, interns who pass the National Exit Test (Next) can only register with a state or national registration board after one year. After several Ayush students expressed concerns about NExT, the Union Minister of State (IC) for Ayush met with BAMS/BHMS students to discuss the NCISM & NCH NExT exams.

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) Act 2020 and National Commission for Homoeopathy



(NCH) Act 2020 took effect on June 11 and July 5, 2021. National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) Act 2020 and National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act 2020 mandate the Commissions to undertake the National Exit Test (NExT) within three years of enforcement. The Minister said we want a fair and transparent procedure while sustaining Ayush education and healthcare standards. In 2020, the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) introduced the NExT, an important exam. It evaluates Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Sowa-Rigpa graduates' clinical proficiency, medical ethical knowledge, and medico-legal skills. Minister announced the nationwide "Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyan" campaign for citizen health and well-being in today's Press Conference. He stated that the Ministry of Ayush and the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine would lead the campaign.

## India wins two Chess Olympiad golds

**Delhi:** Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand joined India's sporting community in praising the men's and women's teams' historic gold medals at the Chess Olympiad in Budapest. Prime Minister Narendra Modi thanked the contingent, saying it symbolizes a new era in Indian sports. India's first win in both the Open and Women's divisions at the same Olympiad shows its expanding chess dominance. Anand, Modi, Hikaru Nakamura, and Rahul Gandhi congratulated the Indian chess team.

**India's First Open Section Gold** The Indian men's team, with top young chess players like Gukesh D, Praggnanandhaa R, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, and Pentala Harikrishna, won India's maiden Open gold. Srinath Narayanan, their captain, led them to important final-round wins and the top spot. Gukesh D's win over Vladimir Fedoseev and Arjun Erigaisi's win over Jan Subelj helped India overtake their



toughest competitors in the final matches. China losing crucial points against the US let India reach the top. India had to beat top teams like the USA, Poland, and Kazakhstan to win gold. However, their well-rounded squad and strategic brilliance helped them win the majority of their matches, finishing with 17 match points. **Female Team Wins Golden Double** The Indian women's team also won gold, boosting national pride. The team of Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, and Tania Sachdev dominated the competition.

Harika Dronavalli defeated Gunay Mammadzada in the last round to help India beat Azerbaijan 3.5-0.5. The team tied Kazakhstan on 17

points after 10 games, but a great final performance and Kazakhstan's draw versus the USA in the last round gave them the win. Indian women's chess talent is shown by Harika and Vaishali's outstanding performances. The team's gold medal marks India's women chess players' international rise. The Future of Indian Chess India's 2024 Chess Olympiad double win will be remembered as a major chess victory. The players, trainers, and India's chess infrastructure deserve credit for the wins. This success follows Praggnanandhaa R's impressive performances against elite players and Gukesh D's ascent as a top emerging talent. Many more Indian chess players are poised for international stardom.

## CAPSULES

### Helping non-engineering students learn semiconductor technologies is important

**Delhi:** The semiconductor industry's growing need for skilled workers and India's commitment to initiatives like the Indian Semiconductor Mission have prompted several HEIs to teach non-engineering students semiconductor fabrication. The India Semiconductor Association (ISA) estimates that the semiconductor industry might create 1.75 to 2 million direct and indirect jobs by 2025. In collaboration with Inter University Accelerator Centre (IUAC), New Delhi, IIT Delhi, and Miranda House, DU, Shyam Lal College, University of Delhi (DU), held the 'National Summer School & Workshop on Semiconductors: Hands-on Training for Undergraduates' to train BSc in Physics, Chemistry, Physical Sciences with Electronics students from Khalsa College, Acharya Narendra Dev College, Miranda House, Amity College, and Galgotias University. According to Pradeep Kumar Sharma, assistant professor of physics at Shyam Lal College, semiconductor technology like layout design and manufacture require technical skill and knowledge of electronic circuits and electronics basics, among other engineering courses. Due to the growing requirement for qualified workers, non-engineering students must learn semiconductor technology. This will increase student interest, improve their CVs, and encourage them to pursue a profession or research in the field in their master's degrees. Several departments teach Semiconductor Physics, Diodes, and Transistors to science undergraduates. "The subjects are not offered in the industry-required format. Some semiconductor-related topics are offered in one department and others in another.

## As strict immigration regulations wreck Punjab students' Canada hopes, local colleges see enrollment rise

**Delhi:** With Canada's onerous immigration policies turning conservative, Punjab's prospective students have moved from IELTS coaching institutes and visa offices to the state's colleges and universities. Punjab's higher education institutions saw a sharp surge in admissions this year, with some courses shutting above 90%. With Canada cutting international student visas by 35% this year and 10% next year, the trend is expected to continue. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted on 'X' that "Immigration is an advan-



tage for our economy—but when bad actors abuse the system and take advantage of students, we crack down." This year, 24 Punjabi University departments enrolled about 2,000 students in Bachelors and integrated studies, up from 1,700 in 2023. According to Panjab University, Chandigarh, admissions

increased by approximately 2,000 students in nine colleges. College principals and university officials attributed this sharp rise to students' inability to immigrate to Canada due to immigration policy changes that include no work permits for undergraduates and a higher Guaranteed Investment Certificate requirement that makes immigration more expensive. Additionally, Canadian housing is more expensive and scarce. Students usually study in Canada as undergraduates. Students cannot afford to travel overseas this year.

## The top 100 JEE (A) rankers chose IIT Bombay 72 times

**Delhi:** The top 100 JEE (A) rankers chose IIT Bombay 72 times and Delhi 23 times. All 10 top rankers at the Powai campus have chosen computer science. IIT Madras reported that 179 of the top 500 chose IIT-B, 109 Delhi, and 69 Madras at the end of 2024-28 admissions. In Mumbai, 16 of the top 500 girls arrived, whereas IIT Kharagpur received no top-100 students. 72 of the top 100 JEE (Advanced) rankers chose IIT Bombay. A further 23 chose IIT Delhi, and



two IIT Madras. All 10 top JEE all-India rankers are enrolling in IIT-B Powai, increasing demand for computer science. At the end of 2024-28 admissions, 24 of the first 25 and 47 of the top 50 chose the college over other technology schools. Quality engineering education draws a large number of applicants to the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay computer science department each year. One in two JEE (Advanced) 2024 candidates listed IIT-B computer science as a top choice on their admission papers.

## Helping non-engineering students learn semiconductor technologies is important

**Delhi:** The semiconductor industry's growing need for skilled workers and India's commitment to initiatives like the Indian Semiconductor Mission have prompted several HEIs to teach non-engineering students semiconductor fabrication. The India Semiconductor Association (ISA) estimates that the semiconductor industry might create 1.75 to 2 million direct and indirect jobs by 2025. In collaboration with Inter University Accelerator Centre (IUAC), New Delhi, IIT Delhi, and Miranda House, DU, Shyam Lal College, University of Delhi (DU), held the 'National Summer School & Workshop on Semiconductors: Hands-on Training for Undergraduates' to train BSc in Physics,

Chemistry, Physical Sciences with Electronics students from Khalsa College, Acharya Narendra Dev College, Miranda House, Amity College, and Galgotias University. According to Pradeep Kumar Sharma, assistant professor of physics at Shyam Lal College, semiconductor technology like layout design and manufacture require technical skill and knowledge of electronic circuits and electronics basics, among other engineering courses. Due to the growing requirement for qualified workers, non-engineering students must learn semiconductor technology. This will increase student interest, improve their CVs, and encourage them to pursue a profession or research in the field in their mas-

ter's degrees. Several departments teach Semiconductor Physics, Diodes, and Transistors to science undergraduates. "The subjects are not offered in the industry-required format. Some semiconductor-related topics are offered in one department and others in another. Sharma adds there is no standardization in the syllabus across disciplines for semiconductor technology, thus undergraduate programmers require more semiconductor technology studies.

Basics of Semiconductor Physics, Devices, and Fabrication Fundamentals are taught in BSc in Physics, Physical Sciences with Electronics, and Electronics to give students technical and theoretical knowledge.

## Child pension accounts

**Delhi:** Parents can now plan for their children's long-term financial security, including retirement. Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the NPS Vatsalya pension program for minors to implement the FY25 Budget. Over 250 minor subscribers received PRANS (permanent retirement account numbers) when the scheme debuted concurrently at 75 locations nationwide. FM stated NPS Vatsalya is a major milestone in the government's initiative to create long-term financial stability for all. The system protects subscribers' futures and promotes intergenerational equity by covering older and younger family members. "I encourage parents to bring cakes and other gifts to a child's birthday party, but also money to invest in NPS Vatsalya. Sitharaman claimed it will benefit the youngster forever.

## 1,700 more rooms were added to fight the problem, says the government

**Delhi:** The Delhi government has built roughly 1,700 rooms to northeast Delhi schools to address overcrowding, which students say is ongoing. Due to classroom space shortages, students in Khajoori Khas, Tuhmirpur, and Yamuna Vihar are sitting in staff rooms, libraries, laboratories, and portable cabins. This is despite 30% of enrolled children not attending school regularly, experts claim. A Delhi government official remarked, "High-enrollment schools in the city's densest neighborhood.

With the opening of a Sri Ram Colony school, Khajoori Khas is less stressed. Classes have been suspended in Tuhmirpur while extra rooms are built. However, all pupils now attend school regularly." The source stated 37 local schools were built to accommodate extra kids. Nearly 1,700 rooms have been built for 37 institutions. Some schools have 'new' and



'ancient' building blocks on the same campus. He stated historic blocks coexist with new schools. Three schools in Yamuna Vihar, 152 in the new and old Khajoori Khas schools, 76 in two Tuhmirpur schools, 81 in a Karawal Nagar school, 80 in Shahdara, and many more have added rooms, according to Delhi government figures. All Delhi governments since Independence had 24,000 classrooms in 2015.

However, in nine years, we erected 22,711 citywide rooms "Source: Delhi government official. He continued, "The government has built new classrooms and improved educational infrastructure. As part of Delhi government school infrastructure expansion, 1,541 new rooms are being built." The Delhi High Court criticized the Delhi government's education department.



# Netsmartz Announces \$20 Million Investment in Canadian Tech Expansion

**Chandigarh:** Netsmartz, a global IT services company having development centers based in India at multiple strategic locations like Chandigarh, NCR, Pune and more, has announced the expansion of its operations in Canada, furthering its commitment to innovation and excellence in the North American market. With a presence in more than ten global locations for over 25 years, Netsmartz has grown to employ more than 1,000 professionals, providing comprehensive IT solutions and services to a diverse range of clients.



Netsmartz's strategic expansion into Canada signifies a crucial step, emphasizing the country's pivotal role in our global growth strategy. This strategic shift is about improving service delivery, strengthening relationships with local businesses, and invest-

ing in infrastructure and local talent to address clients' needs better and integrate more effectively into the Canadian tech sector. Canada's thriving technology sector, skilled workforce, and supportive business environment offer an ideal

backdrop for enhancing Netsmartz's global delivery capabilities. Manipal Dhariwal, Co-founder and CEO of Netsmartz Group stated, "Over the next five years, Netsmartz plans to invest \$20 million to enhance its infrastructure, research and development, and local partnerships. This investment aims to foster innovation, support local talent, and create numerous job opportunities within the Canadian tech industry." Stewart Wheeler - Acting High Commissioner of Canada to India said "We are delighted to

welcome Netsmartz in Canada and have them join some of the largest Canadian software and AI companies. Canada has a diverse, highly educated and growing tech talent pool that continuously attracts investments from global businesses" Manipal Dhariwal said "I sincerely thank Patrick Hébert - Deputy High Commissioner of Canada to India and Soumen Mondal - Trade Commissioner for investments at the High Commission of Canada in New Delhi for helping us navigate this opportunity.

## Tata Electronics will build 2 additional Dholera fabs

**Delhi:** Dholera, India's first semiconductor fab, would start making chips in 2026 with Tata's Rs 91,000-crore plant in cooperation with Taiwan's Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC). However, the second and third fab partnerships and timetables are still being determined. Next-generation fabs are planned to start production in five to seven years at the same scale as the first. "The nodes and technology will be decided once the first

fab is at full capacity and will depend on the global demand and technology development within the semiconductor industry," a source said. A top government official said the first semiconductor fabrication plant is being built. Dholera Special Investment Region development commenced in March by Tata Electronics. The company is evaluating the installation capacity needed to test equipment and start a pilot production line before commercial manufacturing. A senior official said that

since the fab will produce chips at several nodes, certain infrastructure could be created by all three fabs during the initial phase. Thus, while future phases will require enormous investment, it is unlikely to match the multi-billion-dollar first fab. Tata is negotiating with buyers for first-fab chips. According to sources, Singapore state-owned investor Temasek Holdings is close to buying a major minority share in VFS Global, which may value the visa outsourcing.

## PM Modi heads back to India without handing MAGA supremo a 'trump card'

**WASHINGTON:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi headed back home to India on Monday night after a hectic 72-hour visit to the US during which he steered clear of domestic American politics, including giving a wide berth to the two 2024 Presidential candidates Donald Trump and Kamala Harris. Modi's packed schedule, which included bilateral talks with out-

going President Joe Biden, a summit of Quad leaders, an address at the UN Summit of the Future, a community reception, and meeting with high-profile CEOs, left him little time to meet the candidates, both of whom have also been on the road electioneering. But a Trump teaser last week that Modi was coming to the US to meet him had

triggered speculation about whether the MAGA supremo would turn up in NYC or at the diaspora event at the Nassau Coliseum in Long Island, where Trump himself had held a raucous rally a few days before. As it turned out, it was just some hot air from the MAGA poohbah, whose bloviating in recent months includes constant bragging.

## Servotech Power Systems Ltd. Board Approves Issues of Convertible Warrants to Promoter

**Chandigarh:** Servotech Power Systems Ltd. (NSE: SERVOTECH), India's largest EV Charger manufacturer, has announced that in its board, in its meeting held on 23 September 2024, it approved the issue of 58,50,000 convertible at a price of Rs. 167.40 per share, aggregating up to Rs. 97.93 Cr to Sarika Bhatia, Promoter of the company. Recently, the company secured a substantial contract to build 11 DC Fast EV charging stations from Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM). This contract involves Servotech installing public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at 11 Regional Transport Office (RTO) premises across Karnataka. The project will significantly enhance the charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, making it more convenient for EV owners to charge their vehicles across various regions of Karnataka. Servotech will manage the entire

project execution, from planning and design to final installation. This includes developing a comprehensive plan for the installation of EV charging stations at each RTO location, ensuring optimal placement and capacity. High-quality charging stations will be manufactured, tested, and inspected to meet strict safety and performance standards. Additionally, Servotech will provide warranty support and handle all necessary electrical connections and power supply arrangements. Earlier, the company secured a substantial contract for installing 12 EV charging stations from the Agency for New and Renewable Energy Research and Technology (ANERT), Department of Power, Govt. of Kerala. Under this contract Servotech has to build 12 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations with 30KW Fast DC EV Chargers at the various locations of Kerala Motor Vehicle Department.

## Didn't indulge in victim shaming, says FM after Oppn fire on EY case



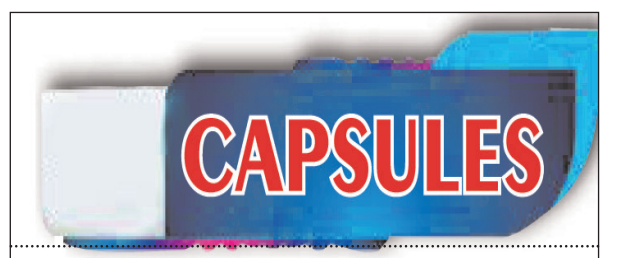
**NEW DELHI:** Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday clarified that she had not intended or indulged in any "victim shaming" when she referred to building inner strength to deal with work-related stress. The FM's comments were in response to a post on X by Shiv Sena (UBT) lawmaker Priyanka Chaturvedi who referred to Sitharaman's remarks in Tamil Nadu over the weekend to accuse her of "victim shaming". This was in reference to

the recent death of EY chartered accountant Anna Perayil in Pune due to alleged work-related stress. Sitharaman's comments have stoked a controversy, with Congress and other opposition parties attacking her for "lack of sensitivity". "Anna had inner strength to handle the stress that came with pursuing a gruelling chartered accountancy degree. It was the toxic work culture, long work hours that took away her life which needs to be addressed. Stop victim

shaming and at least try to be a little sensitive, am sure god will be the guide if you seek," Chaturvedi said on X. Referring to her talk at a deemed university on the outskirts of Chennai, the FM said, "Had specifically mentioned that after clearing a demanding and rigorous examination such as CA, the stress on her was unbearable. No names were taken, neither of the lady nor of the firm. The university has set up a meditation hall and a place of worship for all its students.

## Rate of unemployment unchanged at 3.2% in year ending June 2024

**NEW DELHI:** The unemployment rate in the country for those in the 15 years and above category remained unchanged at 3.2% in 2023-24, while joblessness rate for women inched up to 3.2% from 2.9% in the previous year, official data showed on Monday. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) annual report for July 2023 to June 2024 released by National Sample Survey Office also showed that the labour force participation rate (LFPR) for both females and males rose to a seven-year high during 2023-24. The LFPR is defined as percentage of persons working or seeking or available for work in the population. The PLFS annual report, which covers both rural and urban areas, showed LFPR for women rose to 41.7% in 2023-24, up from 37% in previous year. Rate of joblessness down from 5.3% in 2017-18 to 2.5% in 2023-25 in rural areas.



## Odisha joins Ayushman; BMW Delhi, Bengal remain

**Delhi:** Odisha may soon join AB-PMJAY. Health ministry sources say discussions with the Odisha government, now led by the BJP, are nearing completion and the government may sign a MoU with NHA, AB-PMJAY's implementing agency, within days. Only Delhi and West Bengal remain to join AB-PMJAY after Odisha. After Odisha joins AB-PMJAY, Delhi and West Bengal are the only remaining states/UTs. A senior health ministry official said all other states/UTs had adopted the scheme. In 2018, AB-PMJAY provided Rs 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to 55 million people, or 12.34 crore poor and vulnerable families. The former Odisha government, led by BJD's Naveen Patnaik, refused to join Ayushman Bharat, arguing that its own health system, Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY), covered about 90% of the state's population and had higher health coverage.

## Out of Kashmir, Pandits vote for Valley return

**Delhi:** Kashmiri Pandits, expelled from Kashmir three decades ago by militancy, cast their ballots in Jammu, Udhampur, and Delhi in hopes of returning. Family and I moved to Jammu in 1990 as part of the exodus. Assembly elections are finally held after 10 years. I voted today in hopes that the new government will restore our property, orchards, and land and fix our long-standing concerns, said PL Tickoo, 83, originally from Batmaloo in Shopian district. Family and I moved to Jammu in 1990 as part of the exodus. Assembly elections are finally held after 10 years. I voted today in hopes that the new government will restore our property, orchards, and land and fix our long-standing concerns.

## 'Grave insult': Atishi's 'Bharat'-like gesture with CM chair for Kejriwal angers Congress, BJP

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi's new chief minister Atishi faced criticism from the BJP and Congress as she decided to leave Arvind Kejriwal's chair in the office empty in a symbolic gesture and sat on a second chair on the day she took over the office. The opposition hit out at Atishi describing the gesture as a "grave insult" to constitutional norms and the role of chief minister. Atishi, who took office as Delhi's eighth chief minister, said she would serve a four-month term, likening her role to that of Bharat from the Ramayana, who ruled Ayodhya in Lord Ram's absence by placing his wooden slippers on the throne. Atishi placed an empty chair beside her CM chair and said, "This chair belongs to Arvind Kejriwal. Today I took charge as the CM of Delhi. Today I have the same pain in my heart as Bharat ji had. Just like Bharat ji worked by keeping Lord Shri Ram's sandals, I will take charge as CM for the next four months."

## Cellecor Gadgets Ltd. Expands Home Appliances Portfolio, To Launch Refrigerators, Geysers, & Room Heaters This October

**Chandigarh:** Cellecor Gadgets Limited (NSE: CELLECOR), a pioneer name in the consumer electronics industry, is pleased to announce its latest additions to the home appliance market. In line with its mission to enhance everyday life through innovative and reliable products, Cellecor is launching a new series of refrigerators, geysers, and room heaters this October, diversifying its portfolio with modern and efficient solutions that cater to house-

hold needs. **Refrigerators: Practicality Meets Affordability** Cellecor is launching a new line of refrigerators, available in 180L, 185L, and 205L capacities. These refrigerators cater to household needs, combining energy efficiency and durability. With an energy-efficient compressor and toughened glass shelves, these refrigerators provide reliable performance and ample storage, ensuring reduced electricity bills and lasting durability.

## Delhi airport to get India's first air train by 2027 for seamless terminal connectivity

**Delhi:** Transitioning between Delhi Airport's Terminal 3 & T2 on one side and T1 on the other will finally be a breeze before the end of calendar year 2027. Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has issued the tender to build an air train or automated people mover (APM) that will have four stops - T2/3, T1, Aerocity and cargo city. The GMR-backed DIAL has given the alignment for this 7.7-km route. Once ready, trudging by DTC buses between these two distant terminals from city side will be a thing of the past. Sources say the airport



operator is likely to get bids for what will India's first air train at an airport, in Oct and Nov. The winning bidder will be decided based on the cost quoted by different parties and whether they offer a revenue share model or seek viability gap funding for the project. "If all goes well, contract will be awarded before the end

of this fiscal. Work will then begin and it is targeted to be over before end of CY 2027. That is what has been conveyed to the Union aviation ministry by DIAL," say sources. The tender document says: "DIAL proposes to implement an elevated cum at-grade APM system at Delhi International Airport on

design, build, finance, operate and transfer (DBFOT) model. The APM system is intended to provide reliable, fast and seamless connectivity between T1 and T3/2 spanning route length of around 7.7 km via Aerocity and Cargo city. In addition to providing required connectivity between terminals, APM system will enhance passenger convenience, improve ASQ score and reduce carbon footprint. "The aviation ministry in Modi 2.0 had told DIAL it will not allow levy of any development fees to fund this project before the same is ready.



## #Travel With Limca On An Exhilarating Exploration Of Your City

**Panipat/Karnal:** Coca-Cola India's homegrown heritage brand Limca, India's favorite lemony flavored drink, has launched its exciting new campaign, #TravelWithLimca. Launching Triptii Dimri as the Limca girl, the campaign is built on the idea that there is a whole world waiting to be discovered right in our neighborhoods. The #TravelWithLimca campaign encourages people to discover new hotspots within their cities. Conceptualized by Studio X, the campaign film takes viewers on a vibrant journey alongside Triptii Dimri as she embarks on a bus ride that takes her on a delightful city exploration. As the bus rattles through the streets, with the

first sip of the ultimate thirst quencher, Limca, a layer of happiness envelops her, igniting a sense of excitement and curiosity. Energized by the refreshing taste, Triptii's journey takes an enchanting turn, setting out to traverse through the hidden gems of her city. From bustling markets to sizzling street snack shops, she uncovers the rich experiences, inspiring consumers to tour the city with a refreshing Limca. Expressing her excitement about joining the Limca family, Triptii Dimri said, "I am very happy and excited to be a part of Limca. Exploring new places and experiencing different cultures has always been my passion, and I am thrilled to encourage others to do the

same. Together with Limca, I look forward to embarking on this exciting journey of discovery." Ruchira Bhattacharya, Senior Director, Marketing - Hydration, Sports and Tea Category, India and South-West Asia Operating Unit at The Coca-Cola Company, said, "With its legacy of lime and lemony credentials, Limca has been rejuvenating consumers with its unique taste for 5 decades. We are thrilled to launch the #TravelWithLimca campaign featuring Triptii Dimri as our new Limca face. With this campaign, we hope to encourage people to get out there and discover the beauty of their own cities and refresh themselves with a chilled Limca! Mukund VML, Chief Strategy Officer, Studio X said.

**GURUGRAM :** Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (the "Company"), proposes to open the initial public offering of its Equity Shares on, 8, 2024. ("Offer") The initial public offering comprises a fresh issue of Equity Shares aggregating to ₹ 10,000 million ("Fresh Issue") and an offer of sale of up to such number of Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 20,000 million by BCP Topco VII Pte. Ltd. (the "Promoter Selling Shareholder") ("Offer for Sale" and together with the Fresh Issue, the "Offer"). The Company proposes to utilize the Net Proceeds from the Fresh Issue, (i) to meet future capital requirements towards onward lending; and (ii) general corporate purposes. The Equity Shares are being offered through the Red Herring Prospectus dated April 30, 2024 ("RHP") filed with the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka at Bangalore ("RoC"). The Equity Shares



issued through the RHP are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges being BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE") together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges". For the purposes of the Offer, the designated stock exchange shall be NSE. Amit Dixit, Head of Private Equity Asia, Blackstone, said, "The listing is a significant milestone for Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, and its transformation and growth. Our priority has been to build through close alignment with the Company's leadership and using Blackstone's access to capital, resources, and our technology expertise."

## CAPSULES

### Rush at OPDs as heat soars, doctors sound dehydration-exhaustion alert

**KOLKATA:** The hot and discomfort weather conditions in the past few days are taking a toll on the health of Kolkatans, especially those who have to remain outdoors for hours. Even though none of the city hospitals have recorded any heat stroke cases so far, doctors are getting a good number of people with heat exhaustion and dehydration. Health experts have cautioned people to take all precautions when outdoors to avoid severe consequences. "Because of such hot and humid weather, the people who are engaged in outdoor activities are prone to develop heat exhaustion when the body starts sweating a lot due to the rise of the core body temperature resulting in dehydration. Heat exhaustion makes the person feel weak, dizzy and thirsty. I have seen two to four such cases in the past one week, mostly middle aged men, probably due to their higher exposure to the sun," said internal medicine specialist Joydeep Ghosh of Fortis Hospital, Anandapur. opd B P Poddar Hospital had tended to 14 persons in its emergency in the past three days, most of them down with extreme dehydration making them unwell while they were out in the sun. "37 patients came to our OPD with heat related issues. While most of them were middle-aged patients, some were school children. We had to admit two senior citizens because in addition to dehydration they had other issues like BP fluctuation and sodium, potassium imbalance," said Supriyo Chakrabarty, group advisor, BP Poddar Hospital.

## Probe Shortage Of Medicines: Bharadwaj To LG



**New Delhi:** Health minister Saurabh Bharadwaj has written to lieutenant governor VK Saxena demanding strict action against officials responsible for the non-availability of medicines and consumables at Delhi govt health facilities. He also demanded a "time-bound inquiry" against them for misrepresenting facts and misleading govt on the issue. The letter was sent on Thursday in response to a story, 'Boy with broken arm turned away by hosps'. On April 1, an 8-year-old boy with a broken arm was turned away by two state-run

hospitals, Dr Hedgewar Aarogya Sansthan and Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya, a dedicated paediatric facility. While one hospital claimed it did not have cotton, the other said it had no orthopaedic doctor at the time to treat the boy. The boy's father, a guard with a monthly salary of

Rs 15,000, had to ultimately take him to a private hospital and pay Rs 13,000, including the doctor's consultation fees, which would have been negligible at a govt hospital. Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya, where Class II student Aditya Kumar was taken by his parents, has now started "emergency ortho" till

8pm on all working days. Until now, this facility was available from 9am to 4pm. Bharadwaj wrote about the health secretary misinforming and misleading the minister concerned about the availability of the items. Bharadwaj underlined that either the senior officers of health and family welfare were unaware of the actual situation or were not deliberately resolving this imminent crisis. He said he had directed the chief secretary and the health secretary multiple times to ensure the supply of medicines and consumables.

## PAT Day 1 marked by shortage of question and answer booklets

**Mumbai:** As the Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT). School heads said despite sending details of the number of students appearing for PAT, the SCERT on Wednesday directed schools to take photocopies of the question papers wherever there was a shortage. Schools also complained of not receiving the answer keys to the questions. Teachers assess papers based on answer keys. Mahendra Ganpule, spokesperson of the Maharashtra School Principals' Association

highlighted the need for improved planning by the education department. Ganpule said, "Despite the challenges, teachers managed to distribute papers on the first day, albeit with additional effort and expense. The issue was more pronounced in remote areas and was exacerbated by a lack of manpower at the taluka level for distribution." Over one crore students are participating in these exams, which are part of the Strengthening

Teaching-Learning and Results for States project funded by the World Bank. The PAT aims to enhance the quality and governance of school education and includes a basic test followed by two comprehensive assessments. The mandatory test is to determine the learning outcome of students. It is based on second semester syllabi. Schools that incurred expenses on photocopying question papers last year said they are yet to receive reimbursement.

Teaching-Learning and Results for States project funded by the World Bank. The PAT aims to enhance the quality and governance of school education and includes a basic test followed by two comprehensive assessments. The mandatory test is to determine the learning outcome of students. It is based on second semester syllabi. Schools that incurred expenses on photocopying question papers last year said they are yet to receive reimbursement.

## HC seeks status of criminal cases filed in 2020 Delhi riots

**New Delhi:** Delhi High Court on sought status of criminal cases registered following riots that broke out in the national capital in Feb 2020. A bench of Justice Suresh Kumar Kait and Justice Manoj Jain asked police to furnish details after noting that over 750 FIRs were registered in the aftermath of violence and the investigation in 273 was still pending. Communal clashes had broken out in northeast Delhi on Feb 24, 2020, after violence between citizenship law supporters and protesters spiralled out of control leaving at least 53 people dead and around 700 injured. The bench was hearing a public interest litigation by Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind seeking setting up of special investigation team (SIT) to hold an independent probe into the riots.

The petitioner's lawyer said that SIT should be set up at least in those cases where the stage of filing of chargesheet has not even come till now. "How much time will you take? That was 2020 and we have entered 2024... Total cases registered is 757; transferred to Crime Branch 62; number of cases chargesheeted 367; number of cases pending trial 250 and pending investigation is 273. Therefore, pending cases are 273 as on April 2. So many cases," said the bench, relying on the figures furnished. During the hearing, the court observed that the cases were registered in 2020 but several of them were still pending and asked the police the reason behind it. The petitioner had approached the high court in March 2020 seeking several reliefs, including

preservation of the CCTV footage of the riots in northeast Delhi. The PIL claimed that FIRs have not been lodged against persons responsible for the riots and alleged that the police is not accepting the complaint in which the accused are named and they are insisting to give a complaint against unknown persons. The court posted the matter for next hearing on April 29. We also published the following articles recently: 2020 Delhi riots: Court rejects Tahir Hussain's bail Former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain's bail plea rejected by New Delhi court in the 2020 Delhi riots case due to prima facie true allegations. and UAPA provisions, including dismissal based on a larger conspiracy.

## 2 calves born in Kashi farm mark new start for Gangatiri breed

**LUCKNOW:** UP govt's Varanasi farm has become the country's first conservation centre to breed two high-merit Gangatiri cow calves using embryo transfer technology (ETT) and IVF. The two female calves were born on March 26 and 27. Gangatiri breed is native to eastern UP and Bihar. It got its name after Ganga as it is the belt along the river which is its natural habitat. The breed has low input costs and is resistant to many diseases. "Gangatiri is recognised nationally and has high significance as a source of livelihood to local farmers in the state," said Dr Neeraj Gupta, CEO of the UP Livestock Development Board. The ETT will help produce elite cows at a faster rate as a single mother can produce multiple high-merit progenies, he added. In the current case, four elite females at the farm were selected as egg donors. Semen from a high-merit bull was used to fertilise the eggs in-vivo (inside the body).



After about seven days, the embryos were flushed from the donor cows and transferred into four surrogate cows, which may not have been of high merit. However, only two pregnancies were successful, and two calves were born, said Gupta. The ETT is being extensively used for the improvement of indigenous cow breeds at var-

ious places as elite cows are used as egg and sperm donors. "This technique will increase the efficiency as well as productivity of Gangatiri bovine herds. It has huge potential to multiply the income of farmers," said Ravinder, principal secretary of animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries, and chairman of UPLDB.

## Joyride? Man risks life travelling 400km on the train's roof

**KANPUR:** A man spotted lying on the roof of New Delhi-Gorakhpur bound Humsafar Express (12572) triggered panic at the Kanpur Central railway station on Tuesday. Investigation revealed that the man, identified as Dilip Kumar of Fatehpur, had travelled an astonishing 400km between Delhi and Kanpur by lying on the train's roof. The video of his bizarre act also went viral on social media. Fortunately, Kumar did not stand on the train's roof during the journey and got saved from getting electrocuted by the overhead wires, said GRP personnel. When the train entered platform 9 of Kanpur Central, passengers noticed Dilip on the roof of the B-11 AC coach of the Humsafar Express and raised an alarm. Deputy chief traffic manager Ashutosh Singh, assistant commercial manager railway Santosh Kumar Tripathi, station superintendent.



## BELSTAR MICROFINANCE LIMITED FILES DRHP WITH SEBI TO RAISE UP TO 1,300 CRORE

**GURUGRAM :** Belstar Microfinance Limited ("The Company" or "BML") has filed its Draft Red Herring Prospectus ("DRHP") with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"). The Company offers a wide range of loan products, such as micro enterprise, small enterprise, consumer goods, festival, education and emergency loans.

The Company plans to raise fund through Initial Public Offering of Equity Shares (Face Value 10 each) aggregating up to 13,000 million [ 1,300 crore]. ("Total Offer Size") The total offer size comprises of - (i) fresh issue of equity



shares aggregating up to 10,000 million [1,000 crore] ("Fresh Issue") and (ii) offer for sale of equity shares aggregating up to 3,000 million [ 300 crore] ("Offer for Sale"). The Company proposes to utilize the net proceeds of the fresh issue to meet future capital requirements towards onward lending estimated to be 7,600 million [ 760 crore] in FY 2025 and the balance amount towards general corporate purposes. ("The

Objects of the Offer") The Offer for Sale comprises of Equity Shares aggregating upto 1,750 million [ 175 crore] by MAJ Invest Financial Inclusion Fund II K/S; upto 970 million [ 97 crore] by Arum Holdings Limited and upto 280 million [ 28 crore] by Augusta Investments Zero Pte Ltd ("Investor Selling Shareholder"). (Combined the "Selling Shareholders") ICICI Securities

## ICICI Bank enables NRI customers to use international mobile number to make UPI payments in India

**GURUGRAM :** ICICI Bank today announced that it has enabled NRI customers to use their international mobile number to make UPI payments instantly in India, thereby significantly enhancing their convenience of making everyday payments. With this facility, the NRI customers of the Bank can make payments for their utility bills, merchant and e-commerce transactions with their international mobile number registered with their NRE / NRO bank account held with ICICI Bank in India. The Bank has made this service available through its mobile banking app, iMobile Pay. Earlier, NRIs had to register an Indian mobile number with their banks to

make UPI payments. To bring forth this facility, ICICI Bank has leveraged on the international infrastructure laid down by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for convenient usage of UPI across countries. The Bank offers this facility across 10 countries namely USA, UK, UAE, Canada, Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia. NRI customers of the Bank can make UPI payments by scanning any Indian QR code, sending money to a UPI ID or any Indian mobile number or Indian bank account. Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Sidhartha Mishra, Head – Digital Channels and Partnerships, ICICI Bank said, "We are delighted to

partner with NPCI to launch the UPI facility on international mobile number through iMobile Pay. With this facility, our NRI customers residing in 10 countries do not need to switch to an Indian mobile number to pay using UPI. This launch reinforces our commitment to provide our NRI customers with innovative solutions, for them to have a safe, secure and hassle-free payment experience. We are witnessing a positive response from our NRI customers who have started using this facility. With this initiative, we intend to leverage on NPCI's UPI Infrastructure in strengthening and transforming the digital payments ecosystem globally".

## CAPSULES

### Rahul Baba is running from one place to another to contest elections: Amit Shah

**Jammu** Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation and senior BJP leader Amit Shah addressed a massive public meeting organised in Daman and Diu during the third phase of the Lok Sabha elections, targeting the Congress, especially Rahul Gandhi. Considered a school of politics in himself, Amit Shah clearly stated that, 'Rahul Baba is running from one place to another to contest elections. There is no problem with the seat, the problem lies with Rahul, wherever he goes, he will lose.' Amethi and Rae Bareilly have traditionally been strongholds for the Congress. The current state of the Congress is such that after losing in Amethi, Rahul Gandhi is attempting to contest from Wayanad, and now in 2024, he is going to contest from Rae Bareilly. Those with a basic understanding of politics believe that Rahul Gandhi has been attempting to be launched for almost 20 years, but every time his launch has been unsuccessful. The Chanakya of Indian politics, Amit Shah, has even claimed that in the 21st attempt, Rahul's launch will fail. After Independence, Congress ruled the country for decades. During the Congress era, terrorism, Naxalism, and extremism were at their peak. In the last 10 years, under the leadership of PM Modi and skilled guidance of Amit Shah, terrorism and Naxalism have been eradicated from across the country. The BJP government has proven that development work can also be done while preserving the symbols of faith.

## My real strength is the cooperation, support and blessings of people from 36 communities: Pala Ram Saini

**Kaithal:** Jananayak Janata Party's candidate from Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency, social worker Pala Ram Saini, during his election campaign, visited various villages, cities and shops of the Lok Sabha constituency and asked people of every section to vote in his favor. Appealed to. During this, people welcomed Pala Ram Saini with garlands of flowers and announced their support in the elections. Addressing the people, JJP candidate Pala Ram

Saini said that in every village and city of the Lok Sabha constituency, people of 36 communities are continuously getting full support, cooperation and blessings and with the blessings of the public, they will hoist the flag of victory in the elections. The public has come to know that their interests are safe only in JJP. Pala Ram Saini said that the huge support, cooperation and blessings of the people of the parliamentary constituency is my real strength, which

inspires me to move forward. Along with hoisting the flag of victory in the elections, I will serve day and night for the all-round development of Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency and it will be made the number one area in the race for development. His victory will be a victory for the people of Kurukshetra. He alleged that BJP and Congress are two sides of the same coin, whose only objective from the

beginning is to gain power and fulfill their selfish interests by exploiting the people. In this Lok Sabha election, the aware public will not fall prey to the false promises of BJP and Congress and will wipe out both the parties at the cost of votes and give victory to JJP. The JJP candidate said that he believes in working rather than talking and it is my duty to serve the public selflessly throughout my life and I will continue to do so.

## Sarveshwar Foods Ltd Launches Free certified Sona Masuri Paddy Seeds Distribution Initiative

**Chandigarh:** Sarveshwar Foods Ltd. has announced a pioneering initiative aimed at supporting farmers in the Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory through free distribution of certified Sona Masuri paddy seeds, known for their high quality and yield potential, to farmers across the region. Sarveshwar aims to empower the farming community by providing the seeds of export-oriented rice varieties. Free distribution of certified seed of Sona Masuri paddy will be

done at Sarveshwar procurement facilitation center under this program. This initiative reflects Sarveshwar Foods' dedication to empowering local farming communities and promoting agricultural development in the area. In light of the economic challenges confronting farmers in Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Rohit Gupta, Chairman of Sarveshwar Foods Ltd, has announced a compassionate initiative. Under the supervision of the Agriculture Specialist team,

Sarveshwar has resolved to distribute paddy seeds free of cost. This distribution will specifically target non-basmati growing areas of Jammu. The primary aim of this program is to extend support to the farmers, prioritizing their welfare and interests in the state. Sona Masuri Rice is a variety of medium-grain rice mainly grown in Southern India. One of the unique features of Sona Masuri rice is its ability to absorb flavors and spices easily, making it an ideal ingredient for prepar-

ing a variety of Indian dishes. Additionally, it has a lower glycemic index compared to other varieties of rice, making it a healthier choice for people with diabetes. Sona Masuri Rice, due to its increasing popularity, is also finding its position in the international market, mostly exported to countries with a large Indian diaspora. The distribution will benefit around 1000 farmers across various regions, including Paragwal, Mirpur, Garkhal, Akhnor East, Panjtoot.

## The Foundation and India Impact Sherpas Release a first-of-its-kind report on Systems Change in the Indian context



**GURUGRAM:** The Convergence Foundation, in collaboration with India

Impact Sherpas, released their seminal report titled, 'Systemic Impact Exemplars: Unique Approaches Towards Solving India's Development Challenges.' This report aims to identify and learn from organizations that have achieved significant impact by adopting the systems change approach. These organizations—System Support Organisations (SSOs)—work in close collaboration with governments at the Centre as well as State levels, to create

impact at a large-scale. In addition to working with the governments and aiming for impact at population scale, systems change involves solving the problem at the root cause; no quick fixes or band-aid solutions. The report profiles 20 of India's leading SSOs, shedding light on their innovative strategies and impactful initiatives. By showcasing real-world examples, the report seeks to inspire and inform other non-profits, providing valuable insights into what works in the Indian context.

## Cong to review 'anti-people laws', says Ramesh, mum on CAA repeal

**NEW DELHI:** Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh on Friday said the party's position on Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) was clearly stated in its manifesto where it promised to "review and change all anti-people laws" brought by BJP govt. However, he refused to explicitly say whether the contentious law would be repealed. Senior Congress politician P Chidambaram had said last month that CAA would be scrapped once the INDIA bloc was voted to office. Notably, CAA did not find a mention in the party's mani-



fest, which was drafted under Chidambaram's chairmanship. Asked whether the party would repeal CAA, Ramesh told, "I am not commenting on what Chidambaram said. What he said is his personal view. I am going by the manifesto approved by him as chairman of the committee and approved by Congress prez and

the party's working committee. I am stating the party position. The word CAA does not figure in the manifesto." He, however, said Congress believed that making religion the basis of reservation and citizenship was unconstitutional. "We opposed CAA in Parliament on the ground that it gives citizenship on the basis of reli-

gion. Our Constitution doesn't provide for reservation or citizenship on the basis of religion," Ramesh added. Congress manifesto said, "We promise that all anti-people laws passed by the BJP-NDA without proper parliamentary scrutiny and debate, especially those relating to workers, farmers, criminal.

## 1.3 crore mutual fund accounts on hold owing to insufficient KYC

**Delhi:** KYC registration entities report 1.3 crore mutual accounts 'in hold' due to incomplete KYC. This is because people gave non-Aadhaar and non-OVDs during KYC registration. From April 1, 2024, SEBI will prohibit mutual fund transactions for investors having 'on hold' KYC status. This involves buying or redeeming mutual fund units. "After many investors' KYCs were still unupdated with PAN and Aadhar and the linkages were missing, KYCs had to be reclassified. Several of these KYCs used utility bills (electricity, telephone), bank account statements, etc., which Sebi no longer accepts." The report added, "7.9 crore investors (73%), have valid KYC. About 1.6 crore registered investors have limited investment access, and 12% can't manage their demat accounts and MF folios." KYC-verified status:.