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

PM counters opposition: 'I'm indebted to Constitution, it's article of faith for us'

Contrary to allegations levelled against BJP, it was RJD's ally Congress that imposed the infamous Emergency decades ago"



'A family will always treat the Constitution with disdain'

Those who want to confine governance to a family will always treat the Constitution with disdain—so much so that they threaten not to accept the outcome of polls held under its provisions," he said. In 2015, Lalu played on RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat's call for a "review" of the

The PM's statement came a day after RJD chief Lalu Prasad raked up alleged utterances by BJP and RSS functionaries that the party

Constitution as a threat to reservation for backward classes. BJP-led NDA lost in the assembly polls that year. Modi criticised Congress president for questioning the need for a Samvidhan Diwas (Constitution Day), saying it was part of the INDIA bloc's strategy.

would change the Constitution if it received a two-thirds majority in Parliament. Modi said neither he nor BJP would consider

attempting such an abomination, adding that even Ambedkar couldn't have changed the Constitution he authored.

The PM reminded the gathering that contrary to allegations levelled against BJP, it was RJD's ally Congress that imposed the infamous Emergency decades ago, entailing the suspension of several constitutional rights and provisions. "Our opponents are those who held the Constitution hostage and tried to tamper with it during Emergency.

In SC, govt praises PV, Manmohan for ending 'licence raj'

NEW DELHI: BJP-led NDA govt on Tuesday praised former PM Narasimha Rao and his then finance minister Manmohan Singh in Supreme Court for pioneering economic liberalisation in 1991 to end 'licence raj' while taking care to ensure that overarching control over any industry remained with the govt in order to deal with exigencies. Solicitor general Tushar Mehta told a nine-judge bench led by CJI D Y Chandrachud that while post-economic reforms ushered in by Rao and Singh liberalised many laws, including company law and MRTP Act, govt headed by different political dispensations over the next three decades did not consider it necessary to amend the Industry (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. He was responding to a question from the bench, also comprising Justices Hrishikesh Roy, A S Oka, B V Nagarathna, JB



Pardiwala, Manoj Misra, Ujjal Bhuyan, Satish C Sharma and Augustine G Masih, which had sharply criticised IDRA, 1951, saying the archaic legislation appeared regressive and reflective of licence raj days. Mehta said winds of change did not touch IDRA, giving the Centre overarching control over the entire spectrum of industries, even though with passage of time, the Union govt gave up regulating most of them. But the Centre relinquishing control over industries did not mean it did not have the power to regulate them, he added. This regulating control

was retained by the Centre in national interest and to meet exigencies like the Covid pandemic. If the Union govt did not have the power to regulate industrial alcohol and direct most of it to be utilised to produce hand sanitisers during Covid and had to wait for permission from states, the robust response to the pandemic would have suffered, Mehta said. "The Centre retains its regulatory power over industries, though it may not exercise it, to meet unforeseen exigencies arising from situations not within contemplation right now," he added.

Centre sets up panel to address queer community concerns

NEW DELHI: The Centre has constituted a six-member committee to examine and recommend on various issues affecting queer community. This is in keeping with the Supreme Court's judgement in Oct last year in which it examined the issue of same sex marriages. The top court had asked the govt to form a committee to address the concerns of the queer community.

Ramdev, aide say sorry to SC, offer to issue public apology

Baba Ramdev and his disciple Balkrishna appeared before the Supreme Court and admitted to giving misleading advertisements about Patanjali products, apologizing with folded hands. The court criticized their actions, stating there was a procedure to get products recognized by a competent authority and admonishing them for irresponsible behavior. Despite their defense of ignorance of the law, the court reminded them of previous orders they had violated. Pushed to the wall by the Supreme Court for violating its order, Baba Ramdev and his disciple Balkrishna on Tuesday admitted to giving misleading advertisements about Patanjali products and sought to apologise to the court with folded hands. At the outset of the hearing, a bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Ahsanuddin Amanullah said it wanted to talk to them in person and asked them to come to the front. Appreciating Ramdev for his contribution in the field of yoga, the court quizzed him on why he violated laws and its orders. Ramdev replied that he did not have an understanding of law and it was unbecoming of him to make such statements. He said the mistake would not be repeated. Talking in Hindi with the judges, he said Patanjali had conducted clinical trials of its products, which were very beneficial. The bench, however, said there was a procedure to get his products recognised by a competent authority and it did not give him licence to criticise modern medicine. The court told him that his behaviour had been irresponsible. Noting that he had a legal team to assist him and the company, the bench said it could not accept his defence of ignorance of law. "We cannot forget the history of the case. We passed three orders... You are not so innocent that you were not aware about the court orders," the bench said. Thereafter, the bench interacted with Balkrishna who also apologised with folded hands.

We know flaws of ballot papers, SC

New Delhi "We are in our 60s. We all know what happened when there were ballot papers, you may have forgotten but we have not. As far as ballot box or ballot paper is concerned, we all know its drawbacks," a Supreme Court bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta said Tuesday as it responded to pleas for discarding electronic voting machines (EVMs). The petitioners have



demanding 100% verification of EVM votes with VVPAT (voter-verifiable paper audit trail) slips just days before the first phase of Lok Sabha polls. As advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for one of the peti-

tioners, Association for Democratic Reforms, contended that many European countries had returned to paper ballots, Justices Khanna and Datta said a comparison could not be done with nations with tiny populations. The court said holding elections in a country like India with such a large population was a humongous task and it was not like in European countries where the electorate consisted of only a few crore people. "We have to repose faith in the system. Let's not bring it down," the bench said. Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for another petitioner.

India aims to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030: Isro chief

NEW DELHI: Making India's intention clear to join global efforts to remove debris from space, Isro chairman S Somanath on Tuesday announced that the country aims to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030. Addressing the 42nd Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) annual meet in Bengaluru, Somanath said Isro has a clearly laid-out plan for space



exploration. "It is one of the intent or initiative of India to ensure that debris-free space missions are conducted so as to ensure the sustainability of space. I would like to make this initiative a declaration today. This initiative

aims to achieve debris-free space missions by all Indian space actors, governmental and non-governmental, by 2030. India also encourages all state space actors to follow this initiative for long-term sustainability of outer space," the Isro chairman said. On the number of Indian satellites in space, Somanath said, "Currently, we have 54 spacecraft in orbit, plus there are non-functional objects.

Was praying for rank in top 70, number 1 a surprise: UPSC topper Aditya

LUCKNOW: Aditya Srivastava had to sacrifice his passion for cricket and give up a high-paying job, before his years of hard work paid off, securing him the top rank in UPSC civil services examinations in his third attempt. Talking exclusively from Hyderabad, Aditya, an electrical engineering graduate from IIT-Kanpur, exclaimed it was "unbelievable" for him. "I was praying to secure a rank in the top 70 so that I get IAS, but bagging the top slot in the coveted exams is a sheer surprise. But, definitely a lot to rejoice all my life (sic.)," he said. Already undergoing training at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel



National Police Academy in Hyderabad, after having secured rank 216 in 2022 and joined the Indian Police Service, Aditya was on cloud nine after the UPSC announced the results for the 2023 exams on Tuesday. A small video of his celebration with his batchmates at the academy went viral. "I missed my parents on this special occasion. I celebrated by cutting two cakes with my friends, but the feeling of being

RBI diktat to payment cos on merchants

RBI tightens scrutiny on online payment sector, introducing new guidelines with varying due diligence levels for merchants. Payment aggregators must track merchant-employed agents. Data storage restrictions start Aug 1, 2025. RBI on Tuesday asked online payment firms to monitor transactions-related activities of merchants on their platforms and ensure that they meet its fresh guidelines, in a series of moves aimed at tightening the scrutiny of the sector. India's burgeoning yet relatively less-regulated online payments industry has come under RBI's cross-hairs given the lax oversight of some of the platforms.

Won't get into action by central agencies, says EC

The Election Commission released its report card on the enforcement of the model code of conduct (MCC) during the first month of elections. It decided against acting on opposition parties' requests to stop alleged misuse of central agencies like CBI, ED, and NIA. , citing a commitment to not interfere with the legal process. Won't get into action by central agencies, says EC NEW DELHI: Making public its report card on enforcement of the model code of conduct in the first month of polls, Election Commission on Tuesday said it had decided against acting on opposition parties' pleas for stopping the alleged "misuse" of central agencies.

In 1st op as part of CMF, Navy seizes 940kg of drugs

NEW DELHI: As part of the multi-nation Combined Task Force-150, an Indian warship intercepted a suspicious dhow and seized 940 kg of illegal drugs in western Arabian Sea under Operation Crimson Barracuda. Marine commandos of the multi-role frigate INS Talwar, which was mission-deployed for maritime security operations, boarded the dhow and seized 453 kg methamphetamines, 416 kg hash and 71 kg heroin on April 13. "This is the first such operation conducted by an Indian warship after India joined Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) last Nov. Indian Navy's relentless efforts. as a CMF partner reaffirms its commitment towards ensuring a drug-free neighbourhood," an

officer said. CMF is a 42-nation naval partnership that aims to uphold the international rules-based order by promoting security and stability across 3.2 million square miles of water encompassing some of the world's most important shipping lanes. "I commend the crew of INS Talwar for their efforts throughout this focused operation and their hard work has paid off with this seizure," CTF-150 commander and Royal Canadian Navy Captain Colin Matthews said. "This seizure, the fourth of this focused operation, demonstrates the effectiveness of CMF, and of Indian Navy, in deterring and disrupting criminal and terrorist activities at sea," he added.

Minor Sai Brothers composed voting awareness song, which authorities released

Prayagraj: Lok Sabha elections are going to be held from April 19 across the country. In this sequence, the little Sai Brothers of Sangam city Prayagraj has composed a voter awareness song. Top officials of Prayagraj administration released the song. Earlier, along with Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, District Election Officer/District Magistrate Navneet Singh Chahal, Nodal Officer Sweep/Chief Development Officer Gaurav Kumar and Joint Magistrate Anubhav, at KP Inter College Ground discussed the voting to be held in the district on May 25 under the Lok Sabha General Elections 2024. In order

to make more and more people aware about voting, more than 3000 motorcycle/scooty rallies were flagged off courtesy the Secondary Education Department.

Despite the fact that the little Sai Brothers have not cast any vote yet, they have made a song to make everyone aware, seeing which the Divisional Commissioner and DM were very happy. He urged everyone to spread the song as much as possible and to make everyone aware for maximum voting on 25th May. Today Sai brothers who made this song say that it is very important for today's times. "It is necessary that people do not consider the day of voting as a holiday, they



should not sit at home forgetting their rights. Do not forget your rights and vote as much as possible," Sai brothers opined. Young Sai

brothers told that they wrote this song just in 7 days and have prepared it with hard work. When they came to know that Lok

Sabha elections were to be held in the month of May, both the children composed this song to make people aware. Let us tell you that

Sai brothers, residents of Prayagraj, are real brothers. Ashit Sai is 11 years old while Aarav Sai is 6 years old. In the past too, Sai Brothers have composed many songs in which the DM of Prayagraj, apart from the MP and many ministers have given honor for the song for voter awareness, traffic rule awareness song in 2022 assembly elections. An awareness song on women's safety was released by the international player and the song was highly appreciated and Har Ghar Tiranga song was released as a children's song by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and the children's song created a stir in the entire country.

Meeting with political parties leaders discussing LS polls, conducted

Required to obtain approval for events and usage of vehicle linked to public relations

Prayagraj: Under the chairmanship of the District Election Officer Navneet Singh Chahal, a meeting was held at Sangam Auditorium on Tuesday with the representatives of all the political parties regarding the Lok Sabha General Election-2024. A meeting was organized regarding General Elections-2024. In the meeting, representatives of political parties were given detailed information about the nomination process, Suvidha portal, expenditure, Saksham App, CVigil App and other guidelines of the Election Commission. It was told in the meeting that only online applications can be made for all types of permissions. Offline



applications of any kind will not be accepted. It was told in the meeting that it is mandatory to take permission for any kind of event related to campaigning and for the use of vehicle. If any program related to election campaign is organized or vehicle is used without taking permission, then it will be considered illegal. Will be considered a violation of the code of conduct. For any type of permission, online applications will be made on the Suvidha portal. Similarly, information about CVIGIL app was also given. It was told that violations of the Model Code of Conduct can be reported on the CVigil app.

Once the complaint is registered, the complaint will be immediately investigated and necessary action will be taken immediately. It was told in the meeting that it will be mandatory for the candidates to open a separate account for election related expenses, through which only election related expenses can be incurred. In the meeting, while giving detailed information about the guidelines of the Election Commission related to the nomination process, it was told that only five people, including the candidates, will be allowed to enter the RO room at the time of nomination. On this occasion, Chief Development Officer Mr. Gaurav Kumar, Chief Revenue Officer Mr. Kunwar Pankaj, Deputy District Election Officer Mrs. Pooja Mishra, Additional District Magistrate Nazul Mr. Pradeep Kumar, Additional District Magistrate Finance and Revenue Mr. Vinay Singh along with representatives of all political parties and other concerned were present. Officials of the departments were present.

Animesh Verma achieved success in UPSC Exam-2023

Lucknow: Lucknow resident Animesh Verma has succeeded in getting selected in the Union Public Service Commission Examination-2023 by securing 38th rank. This is a matter of pride for Uttar Pradesh as well as the people of



Lucknow. The ancestral home of Animesh Verma is basically Hardoi district of Uttar Pradesh. Dr. Sarvesh Kumar, father of Animesh Verma, who got success in UPSC examination, is working on the post of Joint Director in the Horticulture and Food Processing Department of Uttar Pradesh. His mother Mrs. Rekha Verma is a housewife. Animesh Verma did his primary education from Seth MR Jaipuria School, Lucknow, passed high school with 97.2% marks in the year 2016 and passed intermediate from the same institute with 97.75% marks in the year 2018. Graduated in Electronic Engineering from IIT, New Delhi in the year 2022 and in his first attempt after graduation, in the year 2022 itself, he passed the preliminary and main examination of UPSC and gave the interview. In his second attempt, he succeeded in the UPSC recruitment examination for the year 2023 and secured 38th rank. On the success of Animesh Verma in the UPSC examination, his parents, relatives, well-wishers, friends and people of Lucknow congratulated him and wished for his bright future.

Our focus in education is to assist youngsters realize their highest goals: Shivani

Meja: Our goal in the educational field is to help the students reach their best goals and move towards the goal of determination to perform. The above things were said on Monday by Mrs. Shivani Kheda Soni, Principal of St. Peter's School, located in Chhatwa, Sirsa, while congratulating the children of the school who performed excellently and during the distribution of certificates and medals. He said that in the educational field, the aim is to make the students citizens with strong moral values along with the desire for lifelong learning and to move towards the goal of perseverance and reaching their best goals. It is noteworthy that the top students of class nursery are Hamaira Ansari, Nitya Keshari Chitrisa Mishra, Shruti Patel and Atharva Kushwaha and Ansh



Keshari Shreya Patel of LKG, Akash Inaya Shaikh, Aashi Keshari Dev Kumar of U KG, Saumya Yadav Mohammad Adil Saksham Tiwari, Dhruvi Agarwal of class 1, Yuvan Seth Junaira. Bano, Ekanshi Keshari of class 2, Karthik Krishna, Shanvi Keshari of class 3, Anaya Ansari, Anuj Upadhyay, Dhairya Dhairya

Agarwal, Pari Keshari of class 4, Mohammad Ayan Pranchi Yadav, Nishtha Seth Sanchi Agarwal of class 5, Atharva Krishna, similarly, Anshika Pal Riya of class 6, 7 and 8 respectively. While giving excellence awards along with certificates to children like Keshari Safriyah Wasim, Ayush Singh Manshi

Yadav, Aaradhya Keshari, Samridhhi Pathak, Anveshi and Jayshree Keshari, Principal Mrs. Shivani congratulated them and wished them for their bright future. During this, there was a clear smile and happiness on the faces of all the students of the school after receiving the certificates and awards.

Kheraje Aqidat presented on d' anniv of Allama Zeeshan Haider Jawwadi, who penned 300 books

Prayagraj: On the twenty-fourth death anniversary of Prayagraj's great and renowned religious leader Allama Zeeshan Haider Jawwadi, the Olama presented Kheraj Aqidat along with various arrangements and decorations of the city. In Masjid Qazi Saheb Bakshi Bazaar, on behalf of Khanwada-e-Allama Jawwadi, the master students of the Madarsa Jamia Anwarul Uloom established by him and a large number of scholars participated. Hujjatul Islam Maulana Kamal Ahmed Khan Saheb Qibla, while addressing the Majlis, made a detailed

speech citing his service to the people and three hundred books written by him. The Majlis started with the recitation of Maulana Mohammad Tahir's Kalam-e-Pak. Poets also presented refreshing poems. According to Syed Mohammad Askari, General Secretary of Ummul Baneen Society, Allama Zeeshan Haider Jawwadi died of a heart attack in Abu Dhabi in the year 2000 after reading the Ghariban Majlis in the evening on Shahadat-e-Imam Hussain on Roza Ashura i.e. 10th Moharram. His funeral procession was brought to Prayagraj and his ashes



were laid to rest in Daryabad graveyard.

On his demise, the then President and Prime Minister along with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh expressed their condolences and termed his demise as a big loss for the peace-loving people of the country.

The then Mayor Smt. Rita Bahuguna Joshi along with offering floral tributes paid tribute to him. The road near Karaili Askari Market was named after Allama Jawwadi, which still bears the same name. Maulana's elder son, Maulana Jawwadul Haider Rizvi, said that Allama

Zeeshan Haider Jawwadi had written about three hundred books and compiled the Quran Majeed. Great things like Tarjuma (translation), Nahjul Balagha, Sahifa-e-Sajjadiya, translation of Mafatah al-Janaan, Naqoosh Asmat ka Mutalba and Tarjuma (translated) Quran were made available to the community, which are still benefiting the people.

In the Majlis, prayers for forgiveness were also offered for Allama Jawwadi's wife Hayat (wife) Zameer Fatma and younger son Maulana Ehsaan Haider Jawwadi, who have now departed from this world. On

this occasion, Maulana Razi Haider, Maulana Mohammad Ali Gauhar, Dr. Rizwan Haider Rizvi, Maulana Shahryar Hussain, Maulana Mohammad Abbas, Maulana Amirur Rizvi, Maulana Akhtar Hussain, Maulana Zargam Haider, Maulana Azam Meerthi, Farid Raza, Farman Raza, Maqsood Rizvi, Zulqarnain Abdi, Haider Ali, Khushnood Raza Rizvi, Maulana Saqib Mustafa Rizvi, Raza Ismail Safvi, Syed Mohammad Askari, Shahrukh Qazi, Zamin Hasan, Safdar Hussain Zulfekar Haider etc. were included.

Meeting of District Sainik Bandhu on April 20

Prayagraj: District Sainik Welfare and Rehabilitation Officer Group Captain Ashok Pandey (AD) informed that the monthly meeting of District Sainik Bandhu will be held on 20.04.2024 at 12.30 pm in Sangam Auditorium, Collectorate, Prayagraj. It will be organized under the aegis of Rehabilitation Office, Prayagraj. This meeting is to be convened under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate as per the instructions of the Uttar Pradesh Government, in which the nominated officers of the district and the ex-servicemen of all the development blocks and their dependents present their respective problems before the District Magistrate. Those problems are resolved by the District Magistrate on the spot or through correspondence. Therefore, all the ex-servicemen of the district/their brave women and their dependents are requested to take maximum benefit of the above mentioned event.

Service is the basic mantra of humanity: MLC Dr KP Srivastava Farewell ceremony of BPharma students organized in SHUATS

Naini, Prayagraj. A farewell ceremony for the students of B. Pharma course was organized at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Sam Higginbottom University of Agricultural Technology and Sciences (SHUATS), Prayagraj. The chief guest on the occasion was BJP MLC Dr. K P Srivastava. He inaugurated the program by lighting the lamp. The chief guest while wishing all the students said that service is the basic mantra of humanity. Dr. Srivastava said that working with honesty and selflessness leads to success as well as fame. Explaining the importance of pharmacists and nursing staff, he said that their contribution for the most needy is commendable.



Guest of honour Director Administration Mr. Sanjay Phillip Das honored the chief guest by presenting memento and shawl. He also wished the students for their bright future. On this occasion, students presented a series of cultural programs. Associate Dean Dr. Amrita Verma, Deputy Registrar Administration Mr. Aaron Alexander, PRO II Brajesh Pandey, Deputy PRO Mr. Kaushal Saxena, Dr. Pankaj Yadav along with faculty members and staff of Health and Medical Sciences were present in the farewell ceremony.

Uncle arrested on charges of raping minor niece in UP

Banda: A 42-year-old man has been detained in Fatehpur district here for allegedly raping his six-year-old niece, police said on Tuesday. SHO Bechelal Prasad stated that the girl was sleeping alone on the terrace of her home when the accused arrived from his neighbouring residence and allegedly raped her. He claimed that the event occurred on Saturday night in the Chandpur police station area. The case was opened on Sunday after the girl's mother made a complaint, and the accused was apprehended on Monday night, according to the SHO. Prasad stated that the child experienced heavy bleeding during the event and is currently being treated at a government hospital, where her health is improving.

No matter how hard anyone tries, we will not let Manipur break: Amit Shah

Lucknow: Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, who is busy preparing to make the lotus bloom with a huge majority in the Lok Sabha elections and make Modi ji the Prime Minister for the third time, is holding public meetings across the country. In this connection, Amit Shah addressed a huge public meeting organized in Imphal, Manipur and targeted the opposition who are repeatedly plotting to burn Manipur. Shah, a supporter of the unity and integrity of the country, gave the message that, 'No matter how hard anyone tries, we will not let Manipur break.'

History is witness that Congress divided India into two parts. Congress ruled the country for decades after independence. But the entire North East was isolated from the rest of the country. For years, the North East suffered from separatism, insurgency, poverty, hunger and racial violence. This is the same Congress which now talks about dividing India into two parts - North India and South India. The people of the country have now come to know the truth of Congress. In fact, it has become clear to the people of Manipur that in the coming elections, on one side there are people who want to break Manipur and on the



other side there are people who want to keep Manipur together.

Under the leadership of Modi ji and the able guid-

ance of Amit Shah, today the North East is writing a new chapter by riding on the chariot of peace and development. In Amritkaal,

the distance between North East and Delhi has reduced. Who does not know that in the last 10 years, more than 10 peace agreements were

signed in the North East, under which more than 9,000 militants surrendered and today they are included in the mainstream of the society. During the Congress era, Manipur was made a blockade state. Drug smuggling, illegal infiltration and insurgency had become a curse for Manipur. Whereas today the work of building the border is going on in full swing on the Myanmar border. The decision to stop the free movement regime to curb infiltration is also unprecedented. Every child in the North East knows that as long as the Modi-Shah duo is there, no one can dare to break Manipur.

Krishna Janmbhumi-Shahi Idgah dispute maintainable argues Hindu side in Alld HC

Prayagraj: The Hindu side submitted Tuesday in the Krishna Janmbhumi-Shahi Idgah dispute in the Allahabad High Court that the suit is maintainable and the plea regarding application of the places of worship Act and the waqf Act can only be determined by evidence. The matter is being heard by Justice Mayank Kumar Jain on applications under Order VII Rule 11 of Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (CPC), moved by the Muslim side regarding maintainability of suits. Under Order VII Rule 11 of CPC, the court is empowered to summarily dismiss a

suit at the threshold, without proceeding to record evidence and conducting a trial, on the basis of the evidence adduced, if it is satisfied that the action should be terminated on any of the grounds contained in this provision.

The court fixed April 22 as the next date of hearing. In reply to the arguments raised by the Muslim side, the counsel for the Hindu side, Vishnu Shankar Jain, submitted that the suit is maintainable and the plea regarding the application of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 as well as the Waqf Act, 1995

can only be determined by evidence by the parties in suit and cannot be decided while hearing an application under Order VII Rule 11 of CPC.

Jain said the waqf Act will not apply merely by saying that now a mosque exists there. The religious character of the property cannot be changed merely by demolishing it.

He further submitted that it has to be seen and decided whether the alleged waqf deed is valid or not. All these things have to be seen in trial and thus, the present suit is maintainable, Jain said. On the question

of limitation, he said the present suit has been filed well within time. The alleged compromise of 1968 came to knowledge of the plaintiff in 2020 and within three years of knowledge, the suit has been filed, he said.

Jain further submitted that it was also said if the Sibayat or trust is negligent and not performing its duty, the deity can come forward through the next friend and can file suit. In such a case, the question of limitation does not arise, he added. Earlier, arguing on behalf of the Muslim side, Taslima Aziz Ahmadi had appeared through video conference

and submitted that the suit is barred by limitation.

According to her, the parties had entered into a compromise on October 12, 1968 and the said compromise has been confirmed in a civil suit decided in 1974. The limitation to challenge a compromise is three years but the suit has been filed in 2020 and thus, the present suit is barred by limitation, she argued. She further submitted that the suit has been filed for possession after the removal of structure of Shahi Idgah masjid as well as for restoration of the temple and for per-

manent injunction.

The prayer in the suit shows the structure of the masjid is there and the committee of management is in possession of the same, Ahmadi said. She said in this way, a question or a dispute has been raised on the waqf property and thus, the provisions of waqf Act will apply. In such cases, it is the waqf tribunal which has jurisdiction to hear the matter and not a civil court, she added. Ahmadi argued that the suit is not maintainable as it is barred by the provisions of the waqf Act as well as the places of worship Act.

Sanjay & Vinita Kudesia performed Kanya Pujan at IFFCO

Prayagraj: On the occasion of Chaitra Navratri Ashtami Mahagauri Mata, the eighth form of Durga Mata, was worshiped in the temple IFFCO Ghiyanagar campus. Senior Executive Director (Unit Head) Sanjay Kudesia along with his wife Vinita Kudesia performed



Kanya Pujan and offered bhoj to the girls. During this, Dr. Anita Mishra, Chief Priest Ranjit Mishra and a large number of women devotees participated in the Ashtami Puja Bhajans and kirtans were sung by women, prayers were offered for the progress and prosperity of the family members.

Jagatguru Om Prapannacharya narrates Ram's ideal state system

Prayagraj: Jagatguru Swami Om Prapannacharya Ji Maharaj, who came from Shri Ayodhya Dham on the seventh and rest day of Shri Ram Katha going on in Chandi Prayagraj, Shri Sumangalam Complex, while giving a detailed explanation of the coronation of Shri Ram Ji, said that during the reign of Ram Ji, everyone We lived with love without any jealousy, the water in the rivers was always clean, there was a weekly yajna to purify the atmosphere, the earth nourished itself, all the energy emitted by the five physical elements was clean and pure. It used to be that, on the basis of Yajna culture, Shri Ram Ji used to do daily research by sitting with many sages, sages, mahatmas and gurus to keep the five elements sacred, due to this, there were



no diseases or infectious attacks of any kind in Ram Ji's kingdom. And during that period, rivers used to hold sacred water, trees gave sacred fruits, air was fragrant and everything was pure, hence all the people used to have clean food and clean minds, hence Ramrajya was the best among all the states.

Shri Maharaj ji said that Ayodhya has been the land of longest rule since the creation of the world. Of all the kings who ruled Ayodhya, the best system in terms of revenue, punishment, justice, education and system was of Ramrajya, that is why we, the people of India, all of us. Wanted that the kingdom should be established according to the kingdom of Ram Ji, Ram went ahead of Chitrakoot and gave darshan to Sutikshna Rishi August Rishi Sarbhag and saved Jatayu, by giving knowledge of Navadha Bhakti to Shabari Maiya, freed Sugriva from Bali and Sugriva became the king. Shri Hanuman ji Maharaj searched for Sita ji, after that he established Rameshwaram Mahadev on the sea bridge and invaded Lanka. In the midst of a fierce battle, after killing Kumbhakaran Meghnath and Ravana, Shri Ram ji handed over the kingdom of Lanka to Vibhishan ji and flew to Ayodhya by Pushpak Viman.

Dept. of Posts releases special cover on Ram Navami

Prayagraj: In a program organized under the aegis of Postal Department and Prayag Philatelic Society, Postmaster General of Prayagraj Region Shri Krishna Kumar Yadav released a special cover with cancellation on "Ram Navami" on the eve of Ram Navami in Prayagraj Head Post Office. This special cover was cancelled with the picture of a bow by pasting a postage stamp issued on 'Ramayana' on it. Director Postal Services Shri Gaurav Srivastava, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices Shri Abhishek Srivastava, President of Prayag Philatelic Society Shri Pramod Kumar Bansal and Secretary Shri Rahul Ganguly were also present.

On the occasion Postmaster General Shri Krishna Kumar Yadav said that Lord Shri Ram expresses our spiritual and cultural values. The prevalence of Ram Katha in human history is rarely found anywhere else. Lord Shri Ram also has a deep connection with Prayagraj. After exile, when Shri Ram left Ayodhya with Sita and Lakshman, Nishadraj in Prayagraj helped them cross the Ganga in his boat. Shri Ram

is deeply prevalent in the minds of the people of the country. The character of Shri Ram influences the civilizations and cultures of not only India but many countries also. Shri Ram became such a standard of human

Lord Shri Ram is also being spread in the country and the world through Postal Stamps. Along with India, more than 20 countries of the world have issued Stamps from time to time on the characters and stories

that the character of Lord Shri Ram is omnipresent and inclusive. Following the path of truth, kindness, compassion, religion and dignity, he set new standards.

Senior Superintendent



conduct, life values and self-confidence that he was accepted as Maryada Purushottam. He is not carrying only religious but also social, literary and cultural importance. Lord Ram has been vibrating the consciousness of people for centuries.

Postmaster General Shri Krishna Kumar Yadav said that the Postal Department issues various stamps and special covers to connect people with their culture and heritage. The glory of

related to Ramayana. That means Ram Raj is visible even on Postal Stamps. In this sequence, all the Stamps related to various episodes from 'Ramayana' to 'Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple' have also been included, so that the young generation can become aware of their culture through philately. These stamps will move around the world and spread the story of Ramayana there. Director Postal Services Shri Gaurav Srivastava said

of Post Offices Shri Abhishek Srivastava told that the special cover issued on Ram Navami will be available for sale with price of Rs. 25 in the Philatelic Bureau, Prayagraj Head Post Office. On this occasion, Senior Postmaster Shri Rajesh Srivastava, Assistant Director Masoom Raza Rushdi, Tanveer Ahmed, Deputy Superintendent of Post Offices Smt. Pramila Yadav and many other officers, employees and philatelists were present.

Divisional Commr started off bike rally planned to raise voter awareness

Prayagraj: Divisional Commissioner flagged off the bike rally organized to give the message of voter awareness. Divisional Commissioner and District Election Officer asked every voter of the district to come out of their homes on May 25 and exercise their franchise. Divisional Commissioner Mr. Vijay Vishwas Pant, District Election Officer/District Magistrate Mr. Navneet Singh Chahal, Nodal Officer Sweep/Chief Development Officer Mr. Gaurav Kumar and Joint Magistrate Mr. Anubhav along with more than 3000 motorcycle/scooter rallies were flagged off courtesy the Secondary Education Department. Before the rally, headmasters, teachers, students and other officers/employees of various schools of the district stood in queues and put stickers related to voter awareness on their vehicles, encouraging people to compulsorily exercise their franchise and

to vote more. Encouraged to motivate more people to vote. This motor cycle/scooter rally will be held at Jagattaran Girls Inter College, Bhardwaj Muni Ashram, Allahabad University, Lallahung Square, Bank Road Square, Bharat Scout Guide, Lakshmi



Square, Kachari Square, Kachari Mod, Lucknow Road, Police Line, Dhobighat Square, Chaudhary Chundi Lal Crossing, AG Office, Eklavya Crossing, Patthar Civil Line, Subhash Crossing, Hindu Hostel and again ended at KP Ground. In the programme, "Let's vote" was

presented by Sai brothers, voter awareness songs were presented by the students of St. Anthony's Girls Inter College and welcome songs were presented by the students of Government Girls Inter College.

Divisional Commissioner Shri Vijay Vishwas

and District School Inspector Mr. P.N. Singh. Selfies were taken at the selfie point by all the people who came to the program. Addressing the program, Divisional Commissioner Shri Vijay Vishwas Pant said that I welcome all you enthusiastic Prayagraj residents to the land of Chandrashekhar Azad. This day of 25th May coming in this hot weather is the day of examination for you. We should not become soft and weak and must go out of the house and vote with determination.

He said that I take an oath in front of you that I will definitely vote on 25th May, you also take an oath with me that you will definitely vote along with your family members and neighbours. I hope that the torch that you have lit today to make people aware about voting will move forward and go to every home. Addressing the program, District Election Officer Shri Navneet Singh Chahal said that through the rally you should make all the residents

of the district aware, motivate and encourage them to exercise their franchise and make the great festival of democracy successful. He administered voter awareness oath to all the people present in the program. On this occasion, District School Inspector Mr. P.N. Singh welcomed the chief guest and special guests and informed about the objectives of the SWEEP program. He said that all those who have completed 18 years of age on April 01, 2024 and have not yet registered themselves in the voter list, can get their names registered in the voter list till April 26. The program was conducted by State Referrer Dr. Prabhakar Tripathi. On this occasion, Additional Municipal Commissioner - Municipal Corporation, Assistant District Magistrate Shri L.B. Maurya, Dr. B.S. Yadav, officers/employees of Secondary Education Department and a large number of teachers and students of various schools were present.

Files and original communication should be assured completely in Hindi: GM CORE CORE Regional Official Language Implementation Committee meet held

Prayagraj: Central Rly Electrification Organization Regional Official Language Implementation Committee meet was organized on Tuesday under the chairmanship of General Manager Ashok Kumar Verma at Central Railway Electrification Organization, Prayagraj. The General Manager said in his presidential address that Since Ambala and Jaipur projects including the headquarters are located in 'A' zone, most of the work here should be done in Hindi and the projects of 'B' and 'C' zones must also meet their set targets. He said that Section 3 (3) is being fully complied with. It should be continued like this in future too. General Manager said that noting in files and original correspondence should be ensured 100% in Hindi. He said that projects located in 'C' areas should be encouraged to do most of the work in Hindi. The General Manager said that devnagari

script should be used in normal colloquial language or where there are difficult Hindi words. Before this, Chief Official Language Officer and Chief Electrical Engineer S.S. Negi addressed all the officers present including the Chairman (General Manager) and

added. In the meeting, Head of Department of Headquarters Yatendra Kumar, Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. R.N. Singh, Principal Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, A.K. Singh Shaiwal, Principal Chief Engineer, and Chief Project Directors and Deputy Chief



welcoming the Chief Project Directors, he said that if we all are sincerely dedicated to the use of Hindi, we will definitely be able to achieve the goals set for the use of Hindi. "This is our constitutional responsibility. We will have to fulfill it with full sense of responsibility," he

Official Language Officers of the projects and Liaison Officers (Official Language) of all the departments of the Corps Headquarters also participated. The meeting was conducted and the vote of thanks was given by Office Superintendent (Official Language) Brijendra Singh.

Editorial

Global renewable energy discourses

India's progress in renewable energy infrastructure Some of the above factors provide the structural framework for locating India's approach to renewable energy security discourses. One needs to underline here that over the years, India has made tremendous progress with regard to boosting the domestic infrastructure for harnessing renewable energy. This progress is evident from the fact that by 2030, India will be able to harness 500 GW of renewable sources, as per the report of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India. This demonstrates India's commitment to harnessing clean energy. Similarly, a recent report published by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy highlights that the installed capacity of various sources of renewable energy is "Solar, 48.55 GW; Small Hydro, 4.83 GW; large hydro, 46.51 GW; biopower, 10.62GW; Nuclear, 6.7 GW".

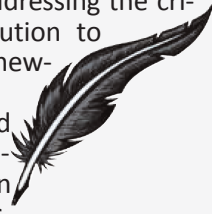
A cursory survey of India's quest for harnessing renewable energy demonstrates that over the years, India has scaled up its renewable energy sector. In this regard, it is pertinent to highlight that India started its journey to acquire renewable energy by diversifying into the nuclear energy sector in 1945 when the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) was established. It is pertinent to highlight that in 1957, the Atomic Energy Research Centre came up and was later renamed the Bhabha Atomic Energy Research Centre (BARC) in 1967. Over the years, India has made a quantum in harnessing nuclear energy the commissioning of the first civilian nuclear reactor, Apsara, as the BARC website suggests, in 1957.

The two recent wars — the Russia-Ukraine War as well as the Israel-Hamas War — as well as sanctions on Iran and Russia have had much impact on global energy geopolitics. Contrary to expectations, the above-mentioned wars have also demonstrated the vulnerability of developed countries in terms of accessing energy, especially those in the advanced Global North, like European countries, which are facing major challenges due to the wars. In this regard, it may be added that the Red Sea chokepoint crisis has further aggravated the global energy crisis. Some of the aforementioned geopolitical crises have demonstrated that many advanced European countries were ill-prepared to face the recent crisis, thus putting stress on their access to energy. However, Global South countries have also faced challenges equally due to the above-mentioned wars. What needs to be underlined is that Global South countries are in a precarious position due to the non-availability of energy, which has aggravated other crises, including food and related crises. The reason for identifying the vulnerability of the Global North and Global South in the present geopolitical crisis is to locate how the energy crisis affects the accessibility of energy. In this context, one must emphasize the importance of renewable energy discourses. It is pertinent to highlight how India provides a leadership role to the global community, particularly to the Global South, in addressing the issues of the energy crisis by initiating a host of renewable energy initiatives.

Three important issues need to be addressed while discussing India's role in the global renewable energy discourses. These are:

India's initiative with regard to the renewable energy sector. How India's policy towards the renewable energy sector will provide a model for the Global South countries in particular and Global North in general in addressing the crisis. To assess India's contribution to global discourses on the renewable energy sector.

These three above-mentioned vectors will provide a blueprint for India's contribution to the global renewable energy discourses.



A veritable roller-coaster ride

Despite the relentless scrutiny and controversies galore that have dogged, from the very inception, his comeback campaign, Trump remains a rallying figure for American conservatives across the nation. However, this support base is by no means traditional or uncomplicated. The old guard Republicans view him as too much of a maverick if not an outright megalomaniac. Washington insiders, so used to wheeling and dealing across the aisles with their Democratic counterparts, find in Trump an unpredictable if not inconvenient leader. American conservatism is centuries old. It relies as much on the rule of law as on privilege.

Trump has the distressing ability to call the former into question. As to the latter, he does not represent old money. On the contrary, he is seen as a bit of an upstart. Trump's standard operating procedure is to revile and discredit not only his adversaries and opponents, but also those very judicial and legal processes that have now been used against him to stop him in his tracks. But by undermining the institutions that make the United States great, Trump may be playing into the hands of arch-rival China. Chinese propaganda has been emphasizing that the US is a broken society and polity, no longer fit to serve as an example to

other nations let alone rule the world. During his widely publicised trials, Trump comes across as someone, who far from being contrite for his alleged misdemeanors and indiscretions is consistently and deliberately defiant and disrespectful of the laws of the land. True, many of the members of the prosecution ranged against him are Democrats; even so, in the eyes of the people the trials show Trump as somewhat beyond the pale of the law. This makes him a destabilizing and divisive figure. There is, of course, the further question: what if he is actually convicted and declared a felon? What if he serves time in jail, during

his campaign? Or, worse, what if he wins when he is serving a term? This would take America into totally uncharted waters. It is not as if no US presidential candidate has stood for election while being in jail. But the last time this happened was certainly not in living memory. US history buffs would know that the Socialist candidate for US presidency, Eugene Victor Debs (1855-1926) stood for election five times. Of these, his last attempt, in 1920, was when he was imprisoned. Of course, Debs was never a serious candidate, nor did he ever poll more than 6 per cent of the popular vote. It is also an irony of history.

Ukraine has already lost the war and it is time NATO pulled the plug

Those opposed, think that letting Ukraine join NATO while the war with Russia has raged on for over two years now, will likely provoke sharp and dangerous reactions from President Vladimir Putin. Besides, there is a growing perception that Ukraine has already lost the war and it is time NATO pulled the plug.

Placing NATO on Russia's doorstep with the inclusion of Ukraine, even though it cannot pay its way with a devastated economy, is a violation of previous understandings, according to Russia. It was one of the reasons why Russia went to war against Ukraine in the first place. The other was Ukraine's harsh treatment of Russian-speaking populations in the Donbas region bordering Russia. However, Secretary of State Antony Blinken recently told reporters in Brussels that 'Ukraine will become a member of NATO. Our purpose at the summit is to help build a bridge to that membership'. If Biden does not win the presidency in November, then this process of 'bridge' building will most likely not be pursued. Trump is certainly not in favour of mollycoddling Ukraine's security at the expense of Russia. Various member countries such as Poland that want Ukraine in NATO may not find much purchase with Trump in the



White House. Candidate Donald Trump has let it be known he will 'settle' the war in Ukraine, if elected to office, 'in 24 hours', without specifying how. His formula flies in the face of those in Europe and America who do not want to concede any Ukrainian territory to Russia. Trump favours ceding the territory claimed by Russia in the Donbas region.

and beyond. Others think this will encourage Russia to invade again but surely this can work both ways. There will have to be a massive international reconstruction effort in what remains of Ukraine after a settlement in any case. This means business for many. Nevertheless, the brightest hope of a swift end to the war in Ukraine is Trump back in the saddle.

Similarly, Trump has a 2020 formula for ending the war in Gaza. He wants Jerusalem and the West Bank-occupied

territories as part of Israel and simultaneously a Palestinian state established. Only America can make this happen. This solution is likely to be supported by the major Arab countries already drawn in by the Abraham Accords from Trump 1.0. Trump's ideas on Iran, North Korea, China, Taiwan, Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam, are not that different from those of Democrat President Joe Biden and the State Department. They will have to evolve after he comes to office of course. India will continue to be considered a strategic ally of the US in the South Asian region and as a bulwark against Chinese hegemony. There will be more collaborations, joint ventures, American investment, and defence technology transfer. India is likely to rapidly gain from more manufacturing relocations from China. Trump and Narendra Modi also have a personal

chemistry that will help. However, the IT industry may face challenges with visa restrictions on working in the US. Pakistan will probably receive less American support than it does at present with a Republican administration in office. It will most likely be clubbed with China strategically. American relations with Russia will proceed at a better pace, as Trump has no real quarrel with Putin, and Trump will withdraw all sanctions against Russia and encourage his western allies to do so. To some extent this will free Russia to forge better ties with the West, instead of being limited to a Chinese embrace. The presumptive Republican Party nominee Donald Trump, is inching ever closer to the US presidency as his legal challenges melt away. Polls show him ahead of President Joe Biden. Even critics who think it will be a close election give Trump a 50-50 chance right now. NATO in Europe, much closer to the war in Ukraine than the US across the Atlantic, is scrambling to mobilise resources to 'Trump-proof' themselves in anticipation. Trump has recently said Russia can do 'what the hell it likes' to any European country that does not pay its share in NATO and its war support to Ukraine. Europe realises it needs to think much beyond Ukraine

going forward because Trump's transactional and quid-pro-quo style will not treat their security as guaranteed by Uncle Sam. Finland, for example, has just ordered 64 F-35A fighter jets from the US and has decided to double artillery shell production. The outgoing NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, is drumming up support for the now 32 member-country NATO to establish a new five-year, 100-billion-euro fund for the battle in Ukraine. But many in Europe and America realise that Ukraine is militarily unequal, finding it difficult to find more conscripts let alone trained soldiers and that there is massive corruption in addition to gross incompetence. Twenty of the 32 member-NATO have set a target of spending 2 per cent of GDP for defence this year as called for earlier. But Trump says NATO security guarantees would only apply to those countries that actually meet their defence spending commitments. This will profoundly change the way that NATO operates. Stoltenberg, a former prime minister of Norway and an international diplomat wants Europe to assume leadership of the Ramstein Group which gathers more than 50 countries to coordinate weapons deliveries to Kyiv. This sounds like a fond hope rather than a practical strategy.

Celebrating Indian cinema on French Riviera

The famed seaside resort filled with the faint licorice smell of mimosa saw the birth of Italian neo-realism with the screening of Rome Open City by Roberto Rossellini. The festival brought some of the best films from around the world, including Jean Cocteau's Beauty and the Beast, Alfred Hitchcock's Notorious, and Gilda by Charles Cukor. Among the thousand delegates, a young man born in the distant town of Gurdaspur, India, was in Cannes to screen his directorial debut, Neecha Nagar. Chetan Anand, the highly educated son of a lawyer, had no previous experience in cinema or family in the film industry. For his debut film, written by Hayatullah Ansari with dialogues by KA Abbas, he cast his wife Uma Anand along with Kamini Kaushal,

Rafiq Anwar, Rafi Peer, and a much younger Zohra Sehgal. The music for the film was composed by sitar maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar. The film that effectively used the expressionist montage technique to portray the gulf between the rich and the poor appealed to the jury at Cannes. Chetan Anand's Neecha Nagar became the first Indian film to be honoured at Cannes, sharing the top prize, the Grand Prix du Festival International du Film. Inspired by the success of Neecha Nagar at Cannes, a young Indian advertising executive, Satyajit Ray, wrote a letter to Chetan Anand saying that he was making his own first film. Another aspiring filmmaker who saw the film during its limited screenings in India was Mrinal Sen. In

1956, towards the end of the Cannes Film Festival, an unknown Indian film was scheduled to be screened at midnight. It was titled 'Pathar Panchali' and was the debut film of Satyajit Ray. Pathar Panchali's journey from Calcutta to Cannes was fraught with political shenanigans. Ultimately, the direct intervention of the Prime Minister's office enabled the print to reach the projection room at the Palais de Festival in Cannes as India's official entry. However, the national award-winning film had arrived in Cannes starved of any advance publicity and the filmmaker was not present. Ray later recalled, "I had no means of going, so I stayed back and held my breath. As I learnt later, the official screening of the film.

Saga behind yellow metal

Traditionally, gold has been an adored property in India, a possession of emotional value as well as a sturdy and supreme asset that can stand firm in the uncertain storms of global economic fluctuations and uncertainties.

Gold also has special cultural significance during weddings and religious festivals such as Dhanteras and Diwali. On these auspicious occasions, the demand for gold usually increases, and this anticipation usually leads to speculative buying by traders and investors, driving up its price.

Not just in India, the value of gold is deeply rooted in the history of human civilisation, as the metal has remained a symbol of wealth and prosperity for thousands of years. Its reputation for such high value ultimately stems from a social construction based on the common understanding that gold has been valuable in the past and will continue to be in the future. The supply of gold is driven primarily by mining production. Major players in worldwide gold mining are China, South Africa, the US, Australia, Russia, and Peru. Investors have long been enamoured by gold, and the price has steadily risen over the past five decades. Not

only does gold retain additional value, but supply and demand have a huge impact on the price of gold, especially demand from substantial ETFs (Exchange Traded Fund). Government vaults, or central banks, are also a principal source of demand for gold.

Gold also moves in a contradictory motion to the US dollar, the reason being due to the fact that the metal is dollar-denominated, which makes it a hedge against inflation and a very comfortable blanket of security indeed. All else remaining equal, a stronger US dollar tends to keep the price of gold lower and more controlled, while a weaker US dollar is likely to drive the price higher through increasing demand (because more gold can be purchased when the dollar is weaker).

In the past few months, the market price of this precious yellow metal has skyrocketed globally, especially in India, hitting its lifetime peak on April 8, as Gold Contracts on MCX hit Rs 71,080 per 10 grams as it rose Rs 440 or 0.62 per cent. So, what are the reasons for this sudden and meteoric rise in gold prices? First of all, the worrying and rapidly escalating geopolitical tensions in the

Middle East, the Russia-Ukraine war, and an uncertain impending presidential election in the US have led to unstable global markets, which is a key factor in the sudden bull rally in gold. Secondly, the US Federal Reserve's decision to increase interest rates in order to combat inflation-influenced currency markets has made alternative investments like gold less attractive. However, global uncertainty and inflation have overridden this rationale, pushing investors towards gold as a store of value and driving up prices. Thirdly, and very crucially, after the US started imposing sanctions on China since 2020, in response to their support of Russia in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine war and human rights abuses in Hong Kong and Tibet, amongst other reasons, the Chinese central bank has purchased gold for the 17th straight month in March for their reserves in a bid to decrease their reliance on the dollar. Bullion held by the People's Bank of China rose to 72.4 million fine troy ounces last month, according to official data released earlier this week. China has been trying to reduce its dependence on the US dollar for a while now.

The blessings, cooperation and support of the people of Kurukshetra are my real strength: Naveen Jindal



Kaithal: BJP candidate for Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency Naveen Jindal said that the blessings, cooperation and support of the people of Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency is my real strength. He will go to every constituency of the Lok Sabha constituency and appeal to the people for votes. With the blessings of the public, he will once again serve them and live up to their expectations. He said that BJP's resolution letter is Modi's guarantee. Prime Minister Narendra Modi does what he says. In BJP's resolution letter, every section of the society, including poor, young farmers and women, has been taken care of. Naveen Jindal was addressing a huge crowd today in a program organized at the establishment of former Sarpanch Pawan Kasana in Dhand town. On reaching here, Pawan Kasana along with hundreds of villagers welcomed Naveen Jindal with a

garland of flowers and honored him with a memento. On this occasion, BJP District President Ashok Gurjar Dhand, former MLA Prof. Many dignitaries including Dinesh Kaushik, Tejveer Singh, Shamsher Bagga, Ishwar Sakra Block Committee Chairperson representative, Women District President Anita Chaudhary, Birbhan Garg, Ramswaroop Gangal, Mahendra Kasana, former Block Committee Vice President were present. Addressing the villagers, BJP candidate Jindal congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the entire central leadership for issuing an

excellent manifesto and said that the manifesto that has been issued is a sure guarantee, because the country knows that Modi's guarantee will be fulfilled. Meaning there is a firm guarantee of guarantee. He said that along with free ration and better health services, Modi has promised to make the country the world's third largest economy by 2029. After the resolution letter, it is certain that there will be only one guarantee in the country and that is Narendra Modi's guarantee of development. He said that BJP has resolved to promote the youth of the country in sports.

India is currently the fourth-largest exporter of services offered online

Delhi: With almost a fifth of global trade in services, India is now the world's fourth-largest exporter of digitally provided services. The World Trade Organization (WTO) recently released its Global Trade Outlook and Statistics report, which states that India's exports of digitally delivered services reached \$257 billion in 2023—a 17 percent rise from the year before. Compared to China and Germany, which both had growth of 4%, the nation's performance

was far better. The World Trade Organization (WTO) projects that in 2023, global exports of digitally delivered services reached \$4.25 trillion, rising 9% YoY and making up 13.8 percent of global exports of goods and services. In contrast to the decline in global and regional commerce in products in 2023, exports of digitally provided services remained strong. The research also stated that exports increased by 11% and 9% in Europe and Asia, which account for 52.4

percent and 23.8 percent of world exports, respectively. 41.2 percent of global exports of digitally delivered services in 2023 were made up of business, professional, and technical services. These were followed by computer services (20.5%), financial services (16%), services related to intellectual property (10.9%), insurance and pension services (5.2%), telecommunications services (2.6%), audio-visual and other personal, cultural, and recreational services (2.1%).

Cotton farmers need to embrace early weed detection for better yields – Godrej Agrovet

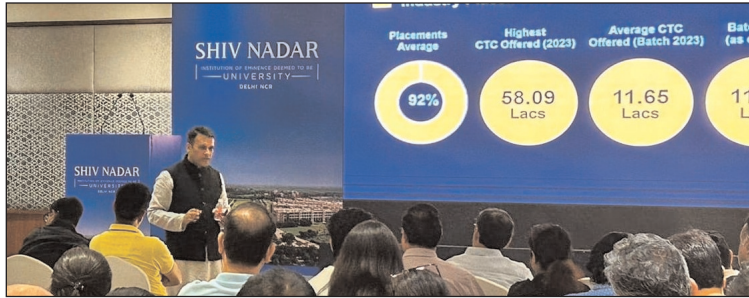
Bhatinda, Mansa, Fazilka: Impacting the livelihood of an estimated 60 Lacs farmers in India[1], Cotton is one of the most important cash crops in India. However, causing yield reduction between 40 percent to 85 percent during the last few years[2], weed infestation in cotton continues to impact the cotton farmers. "Weeds are the unwelcome guests

in any cotton field," said Rajavelu NK, CEO – Crop Protection Business, Godrej Agrovet Limited. "They fiercely compete with the crop for precious resources like sunlight, water, and nutrients. With a capability to remove about 30 percent to 50 percent of applied fertilizer and 20 percent to 40 percent of moisture[3], it is important for the farm-

ers to imbibe the habit of focusing on early detection of weeds so as to safeguard their yields," he added. Studies have shown that the first 60 days after planting are a critical window. Hence to mitigate the nuisance caused by the weed, herbicide applications are recommended approximately seven days before planting.

Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence hosts Information Session in Gurugram for Admissions for 2024-25

Gurugram: Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence (IoE) welcomed prospective students and their families to an information session in Gurugram. The gathering served as a platform for students and parents to engage with the academic leadership and faculty members, offering insights into admissions for the academic year 2024-25. The university is currently accepting applications to all programs across its four schools in Engineering, Natural Sciences, Management and Entrepreneurship, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Application forms are available on the university's official website (<http://www.snu.edu.in/home>). Dr. Rajeev Kumar Singh,



Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Academics at Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence who moderated the session highlighted the diverse opportunities available at the university and new scholarships for deserving students. Details about the scholarships are available at this website <https://snuadmissions.com/>. While addressing the parents and students during the ses-

sion, Dr. Singh, said, "Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence is a student-centric, multidisciplinary research university. Teaching at the university is continuously enriched by our faculty's research work along with strong industry connect. The university's Atal Incubation Centre is a cradle that nurtures startup ideas and handholds them till it fructifies. The learning environment is not only exceptional in

the physical infrastructure but also in how the curriculum is planned." The session also shed light on the university's robust research ecosystem, comprising 16 departments and 6 research centers emphasizing the university's cutting-edge research endeavours. Professor Sanjeev Galande, Dean, School of Life Science; Professor Suneet Tuli, Dean, School of Engineering; Professor Rajat Kathuria, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences; Dr. Debrati Basu, Associate professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences; and Dr. Sanju Kalra, Assistant Professor, School of Management and Entrepreneurship answered queries.

ICICI Bank's iMobile Pay is used by over one crore customers

GURUGRAM / FARID-ABAD : ICICI Bank announces that its retail mobile banking app, iMobile Pay, has on-boarded over one crore customers of other banks. This significant achievement comes just over three years after ICICI Bank made the app open for customers of other banks. ICICI Bank was the pioneer in launching mobile banking app in 2008, expediting the way for digital banking in India. In December 2020, it became the first bank to make the app interoperable by extending the benefit of its ser-



ices to customers of other banks. Since then, customers of any bank can use iMobile Pay by following a few simple steps: link their savings bank account with the app, generate a UPI ID and enjoy a wide range of convenient services. These include making payments to any UPI ID or merchants, paying bills, recharging online and transferring money to any bank account, payment app and digital wallet.

Further, users can also open a savings account, apply for a home loan or credit card among other banking services provided by ICICI Bank. With over one crore customers of other banks using iMobile Pay, there has been 26% growth in the overall transactions value in this financial year till the end of February 2024 (April-February), compared to the same period last year.

Former SpiceJet COO Kashyap starts a company for aircraft chartering

Delhi: Arun Kashyap founded Sirius India Airlines, an aircraft charter business, a few days after leaving his position as COO at SpiceJet. The company and the Dubai-based Transworld Group have partnered to introduce Airavat Aviation, the latter's upscale private aviation brand, to the Indian market. Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East are already home to Airavat Aviation. The JV intends to offer fractional ownership and charters in India and beyond, according to Sirius India Airlines. Arun Kashyap departed SpiceJet to form Sirius India Airlines in partnership with Transworld Group, introducing the premium Airavat Aviation brand to the Indian market. Plans are for operating a Hawker 4000, expanding to three planes, and



"They also recommend trash management plans, decentralization of protest sites, leadership commitment, budgetary obligations, and mayor in council"

offering charter and fractional ownership options. Parties are required by Urja's Citizens Charter to take action regarding trash management, traffic, pollution, safety, green cover, and digitization.

They also recommend trash management plans, decentralization of protest sites, leadership commit-

ment, budgetary obligations, and mayor in council. Air India, SpiceJet, Akasa Air, and Indigo flight cancellation fees are compared, with a focus on the significance of comprehending refund procedures, time-dependent fees, and variances based on price classes and booking dates.

CIFDAQ Launches Groundbreaking Blockchain Ecosystem in India: Pioneering Innovation and Compliance

Chandigarh : CIFDAQ - The Evolution of Innovative Blockchain Ecosystem powered by AI, is a new-age fintech company that offers integrated solutions spanning the blockchain layer 1, native coin, exchange services, MPC Wallet, DeFi, NFT, gaming, and other products. It is proud to announce the launch of its India operations. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Himanshu Maradiya, Founder & Chairman of CIFDAQ, expressed his enthusiasm for CIFDAQ's entry into India, stating, "We are thrilled to embark on this new chapter of CIFDAQ's journey as we set foot in the vibrant and dynamic Indian market. Our innovative solutions are



poised to address the unique challenges and opportunities present in India's blockchain and digital finance ecosystem. We aim to empower businesses and individuals with enhanced security and efficiency, driving growth and innovation across various sectors." Reflecting on CIFDAQ's India launch, Rahul Maradiya, Co-Founder and Global CEO, CIFDAQ com-

mented, "We envision CIFDAQ as a catalyst for change, empowering businesses and individuals with cutting-edge solutions that enhance security, efficiency, and accessibility in the digital finance space. Our goal is to revolutionize the blockchain ecosystem and unlock its full potential, paving the way for a more inclusive and prosperous future."

Tasva, the Indian Menswear Brand by Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail and Designer Tarun Tahiliani

NEW DELHI: Tasva, the Indian menswear brand by Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd. and celebrated designer Tarun Tahiliani, is pleased to announce the launch of its sixth store in Delhi, situated in DLF Avenue, Saket.

Strategically located within DLF Avenue, Saket, the new store is poised to serve the discerning clientele of the city and its environs, presenting a diverse array of meticulously curated wedding and occasion wear that seamlessly amalgamates comfort with style. The opening of Tasva's sixth store in Delhi marks a significant milestone in the brand's journey, underscoring its growth trajectory and unwavering dedication to delivering unparalleled fashion and lifestyle products. Encompassing an expansive area of 2,041 sq. ft., the new store showcases an impressive assortment of kurtas, bundis, sherwanis, bandhgalas, achkans, churidars, aligarhis, and an array of accessories such as safas, brooches, pocket squares, shawls, stoles, mojaris, and more. The store's elegant ambience harmonizes seamlessly with its exceptional collection, ensuring an unparalleled shopping experience. Tasva's team of proficient stylists is committed to comprehending the unique preferences of customers and providing tailored assistance. Each garment epitomizes Tarun Tahiliani's distinctive style, meticulously crafted with impeccable attention to detail to achieve the quintessential Tasva fit. Leveraging fabrics such as silk, banarasi brocade, velvet, and cotton that pay homage to the rich legacy of Indian textiles, the collection features traditional embroideries.

'India to remain global growth driver in foreseeable future'

WASHINGTON:

Krishnamurthy V Subramaniam, the Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), said on Tuesday that India will continue to be a driver for global growth in the foreseeable future.

In an interview with ANI, he noted that India, ever since the COVID-19 pandemic, has witnessed consistent growth at 7 per cent plus. He predicted that India will have 8 per cent growth in the fourth quarter and called it "good" growth considering the current global economic situation.

Asked where India stands amid the current global economy, he responded, "I think India will continue to be the driver for global growth in the foreseeable future. The maximum sort of contributor to global growth. I expect growth in India to be consistently above 7 per cent in this decade. You would recall back in September 2021, when I was with the government as well. I



"I think that is very good in the current global economic situation. As I said, 3.1 per cent expectation for the global economy."

predicted that India will emerge out of COVID with 7 per cent plus growth. So I continue to maintain that assessment." Subramaniam, India's former Chief Economic Adviser, said that the IMF has revised its projection for growth for India in 2024 to 7.8 per cent, which he emphasised reflects overall growth. On being asked about

how India's economy is viewed in the IMF meetings being held in the US, he said, "So, if you look at the Indian economy now, ever since COVID, it has grown consistently at 7 per cent plus, 9.7 per cent the year after COVID, then 7 per cent and then this year, 8.2 per cent, 8.1 per cent, and 8.4 per cent growth in the first three quarters. So even with a much lower 7.3 per cent growth, if it so happens, actually in the fourth quarter, India will have an average of 8 per cent growth. And I think that is very good in the current global economic situation. As I said, 3.1 per cent expectation for the global economy."

CM Arvind Kejriwal, wife Sunita, Sisodia among AAP's star campaigners for Gujarat



NEW DELHI: The Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday released a list of star campaigners for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls for the state of Gujarat, which include Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and his wife Sunita. The list also includes Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann,

Manish Sisodia, Satyendar Jain and Raghav Chadha, along with others. AAP is fighting two of 26 Lok Sabha seats in Gujarat-- Bharuch and Bhavnagar-- as a part of INDIA bloc. The party has fielded Chaitar Vasava from Bharuch and Umesh Makwana from

Bhavnagar. Arvind Kejriwal was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate on March 21 in excise policy case. He is in judicial custody until April 23. Gujarat's Lok Sabha elections will be held in a single phase on May 7, and the deadline for filing candidacy papers is April 19.

This year, CBSE will pilot NCrF in classes 6, 9, and 11

Delhi: The CBSE will trial the National Credit Framework (NCrF) for classes 6, 9, and 11 in 2024-25. The NCrF will allow students to earn credits through classroom instruction, laboratory work, projects, sports, performing arts, NCC, social work, voca-

tional education, experiential learning, and relevant professional experience. Students' Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) will be linked to their APAAR ID and DigiLocker in the future. To implement the framework, the board drafted guide-

lines. The CBSE has invited all affiliated schools to discuss the proposed rules. The board wrote, "The CBSE drafted NCrF implementation guidelines, debated them in workshops, and gained Union Ministry of Education approval.

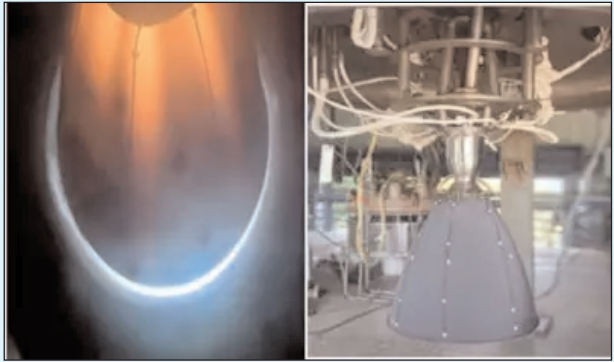
CAPSULES

'Dry promotion': New job trend causing concern among employees

NEW DELHI: The emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI), particularly in the post-pandemic years, has pushed big multinationals and startups to rejig their work structure in accordance with the evolving trends, one such step being the ever-despised layoffs. While layoffs continue to serve as grim reminders about the flaky global job market, a new phenomenon called "dry promotion" has become a part of corporate corridor discussions. Dry promotion means elevating an employee's position in the company without a monetary hike. This implies a change in title, more workload, and increased responsibility without a raise in salary. Compensation consultant Pearl Meyer's recent report has revealed that more than 13% of employers chose to give their employees new job titles instead of money. This number was only 8% in 2018, reported the Wall Street Journal. Also, a recent survey conducted by Mercer, a benefits-advisory firm, involving 900 companies revealed a shift in the allocation of salary budgets for promotions in 2024 compared to the previous year. The data indicates a decreasing trend in promotion-related hikes, signaling a potential impact on employee satisfaction. Experts see this change as a reflection of the weakening bargaining power of the average worker. The current scenario, characterized by cost-cutting measures, has led to a rise in dry promotions, where employees are given added responsibilities without a corresponding increase in compensation. This shift contrasts with past practices of offering raises to retain staff during labor shortages.

Isro achieves with lightweight carbon-carbon rocket engine nozzle

BENGALURU: In what it describes as a significant advancement, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Tuesday said it has successfully developed a lightweight Carbon-Carbon (C-C) nozzle for rocket engines, marking a breakthrough in rocket engine technology. This innovation, accomplished by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), promises to enhance the vital parameters of rocket engines, including thrust levels, specific impulse, and thrust-to-



weight ratios, thereby boosting the payload capacity of launch vehicles. VSSC has leveraged advanced materials like Carbon-Carbon (C-C) Composites to create a nozzle divergent that offers excep-

tional properties, Isro said. "...Utilising processes such as carbonisation of green composites, chemical vapour infiltration, and high-temperature treatment, VSSC has produced a nozzle with

low density, high specific strength, and excellent stiffness, capable of retaining mechanical properties even at elevated temperatures," Isro said. A key feature of the C-C nozzle is its special anti-oxidation coating of silicon carbide, which extends its operational limits in oxidising environments. This innovation not only reduces thermally induced stresses but also enhances corrosion resistance, allowing for extended operational temperature limits.

India imposes fresh port restrictions on export of commodities to Maldives

NEW DELHI: India on Tuesday has imposed fresh restrictions on the export of prohibited or restricted essential commodities to Maldives. According to the notification from the Director General of Foreign Trade, these commodities will only be permitted for export through four designated customs stations — Mundra Sea Port, Tuticorin Sea Port, Nhava Sheva Sea Port (JNPT), and ICD Tughlakabad. Earlier on April 5, India had removed the restrictions on export



of specified quantity of nine products including potatoes, onions, eggs, rice, wheat flour and sugar to Maldives for the current fiscal year. Notably, the approved quantities of the essential commodities are the highest since the bilateral

ties between the two nations came into effect in 1981. The quota for river sand and stone aggregates, critical for the construction industry in Maldives, has been increased by 25 per cent to 1,000,000 metric tonnes.

Quotas for eggs, potatoes, onions, rice, wheat flour and dal (pulses) have been increased. Moreover, last year, India continued to export rice, sugar and onions to the Maldives despite a worldwide ban on the export of these items from India. "India remains strongly committed to supporting human-centric development in the Maldives, as part of its 'Neighbourhood First' policy," the statement by the Indian High Commission in Maldives then stated.

Forever Global Rally 2024 Concludes with Spectacular Grandeur

New Delhi: The curtains have fallen on the Forever Global Rally 2024, culminating in a dazzling display of achievement for Forever Living Products. Spanning from April 9th to 13th, this grand event unfolded amidst the vibrant energy of New Delhi, promising an unparalleled experience meticulously crafted by Forever. The event took place at Indira Gandhi National Stadium. Gathering delegates from over 160 nations, the rally showcased the expansive reach and influence of Forever across the globe. With its captivating ambiance and comprehensive itinerary, the event captured every essence, offering transformative training sessions, interactive workshops, and heartfelt recognition for



unwavering dedication. As India graciously hosted this year's rally, it not only provided a platform for business but also lent a significant boost to tourism, benefiting thousands engaged in the hospitality and tourism sectors. The event witnessed an impressive turnout of over 30,000 attendees from all corners of the country. Aidan O'Hare, President of Forever Living Products, emphasized the signifi-

cance of navigating global challenges and seizing opportunities, making FGR 2024 a melting pot of innovative ideas and boundless inspiration. Gregg Maughan, CEO of Forever Living Products, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the Forever Business Owners worldwide, particularly acknowledging the exceptional audience in India. He elaborated on the compelling.

Patanjali ads case: You are doing good work but can't degrade allopathy, SC tells Ramdev

NEW DELHI: Yoga guru Baba Ramdev on Tuesday once again issued an apology to the Supreme Court in connection with the Patanjali misleading advertisement case, assuring the court that such incidents will not occur in the future. During the proceedings, Ramdev and Patanjali Ayurved Ltd MD Balkrishna acknowledged their guilt in violating the court order. They requested the court to allow them to make amends by voluntarily taking certain measures, including issuing a public apology for their actions. The Supreme Court, however, strongly criticized Patanjali, stating, "You are doing good work but you can't degrade allopathy. You are not so innocent that you didn't know what we said in earlier order."



Ramdev, who also interacted with the bench, said he had no intention to show disrespect to the court in any manner. Stop misleading advertisements immediately: Supreme Court of Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurveda. However, the bench told Balkrishna that they (Patanjali) are not so innocent that they didn't know what the top court had said in its earlier orders in the case. The apex court granted Ramdev, Balkrishna, and

Patanjali a one-week period to issue a public statement regarding the advertisements case. The matter is scheduled for the next hearing on April 23. The Supreme Court informed Ramdev's counsel, "We are not saying at this stage we are letting them off the hook." "Not doing any false propaganda..." Baba Ramdev defends Patanjali after SC cautions firm over misleading ads. Last week, the Supreme Court had rejected an affidavit submitted by

Patanjali, which offered an 'unconditional apology' in the misleading advertisement case. The Supreme Court emphasized that its primary concern is the health of common people who fall victim to deceptive advertisements and are enticed by companies to buy their products. The court clarified that its intention was not to single out anyone but to convey the message that violations of the law will not be tolerated.

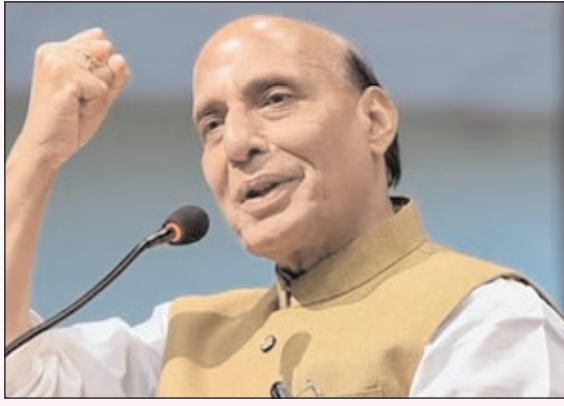
DoE instructs NE district schools to resolve desk issues by next week

Delhi: In response to the Delhi High Court's criticism of the government schools in Northeast district, the Directorate of Education (DoE) has sent out a circular instructing all institute heads to make sure that there is a sufficient supply of desks for students. The April 12 circular addressed the issue of some schools still lacking multiple desks in spite of prior attempts. It has requested that, by April 20, school leaders identify desks that may be repaired and get them fixed. The education zonal deputy directors (DDEs) have been directed to locate extra, functional desks in schools and make arrangements for their transfer to the schools that are experiencing a scarcity. By April 17, the relevant head will send a demand request with the necessary explanation to the DDE in question if the schools still need more desks.

Rajnath Singh's veiled attack at Tejashwi Yadav

NEW DELHI: Union defence minister and former BJP president Rajnath Singh on Sunday made an indirect reference to former Bihar deputy chief minister Tejashwi Yadav, asking why some people made a show of what they ate at a time when others were observing austerities.

Earlier this week, a video of RJD leader Yadav eating fish fry during Navratri sparked controversy, with BJP leaders expressing disapproval. Addressing an election rally in Bihar's Jamui district, Rajnath said without taking Tejashwi's name, "You may eat fish, a pig or an elephant. But what is the point you are trying to prove by making a show of your act at a time when people are observing austerities." Yadav had defended himself on X, stating that the video was recorded on April 8, a day before Navratri began. He dismissed the outrage as a distraction tactic and mocked the reaction of



BJP supporters and the media, asserting that Sahnji's use of the phrase "mirchi lagegi" had been proven correct. Earlier on Friday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also targeted Rahul Gandhi and Lalu Yadav during an election rally for allegedly consuming mutton during the month of Sawan last year. Referring to a viral video from September 2023 in which the two leaders were seen preparing 'Champan mutton' together, PM Modi accused the INDIA bloc allies of 'echoing the Mughal era mentality.' "They visit a criminal's house, a convict out on bail in Sawan to cook mutton. They make videos to

mock people, echoing the Mughal era mentality. They aim to provoke citizens and secure their vote bank, now they'll rain bullets on me, abuse me. But it's my responsibility to show the the right aspect to the country," PM Modi had said while addressing an election rally in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur. Yadav had taken to X to respond to PM Modi's attack saying, "Idhar udhar ki baat na karein, muddey ki baat karein Pradhanmantri (Talk of issues that matter)." Yadav further said that PM Modi doesn't talk about jobs, employment and inflation. "He can say anything he wants.

CBI books Megha Engineering, officials of NMDC & MECON

NEW DELHI: Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Ltd, two MECON, and eight NISP and NMDC officials over alleged corruption of Rs 315 crore.

MECON officials have been booked for receiving an alleged bribe of around Rs 78 lakh in clearing bills of Rs 174 crore of Megha Engineering in connection with works related to Jagdalpur integrated steel plant, officials told news agency PTI on Saturday.

According to the FIR, the CBI had registered a preliminary enquiry on August 10, 2023 about the alleged bribery in Rs 315 crore project related to works of intake well and pump house and cross-country pipeline at the integrated steel plant Jagdalpur which was awarded to the company. Based on the findings of the preliminary enquiry, a recommendation was made on March 18 to register a regular case into the alleged bribery which was filed on March 31.



The CBI has named eight officials of NISP and NMDC Ltd -- retired executive director Prashant Dash, director (production) DK Mohanty, DGM PK Bhuyan, DM Naresh Babu, senior manager Subro Banerjee, retired CGM (finance) L Krishna Mohan, GM (finance) K Rajshekhar, manager (finance) Somnath Ghosh, who allegedly received Rs 73.85 lakh bribe.

Two officials from MECON Ltd are - AGM (contracts) Sanjeev Sahay and DGM (contracts) K Illavarsu - who allegedly received payment of Rs 5.01 lakh against the payment of Rs 174.41 crore by NMDC Ltd to MEIL against 73 invoices from Subhash Chandra Sangras, general manag-

er, MEIL and Megha Engineering and unknown others. Chandra and Megha Engineering have also been named as accused in the case.

Hyderabad-based Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Ltd (MEIL) is one of the biggest electoral bond donors to BJP and BRS, and the second largest donor to Congress.

The company also donated Rs 195 crore to BRS, Rs 85 crore to DMK, and Rs 37 crore to YSRC.

The TDP got about Rs 25 crore from the company, while the Congress got Rs 17 crore.

The JD-S, Jana Sena Party and the JD-U got smaller sums ranging from Rs 5 crore to Rs 10 crore.

(With PTI inputs)

CAPSULES

UP fraudster offering pooja in 'repentance' held at temple

DEHRADUN: A 30-year-old former security guard with a private agency who was running a fraudulent call centre which had duped people across the country on pretext of offering loans under the PM Mudra Loan scheme (PMML), was on Saturday nabbed by the Uttarakhand police special task force (STF) and state cyber cell from a temple in Vrindavan, where he was allegedly conducting a pooja in repentance for his crimes.

From Sultanpur in UP, Deepak Raj Sharma initially did small jobs in Dehradun including working as a security guard after landing in the town in 2015. "His journey in crime began when he joined a fraudulent call centre the same year, hoodwinking individuals with promises of mobile signal tower installation at their homes. He was arrested and subsequently jailed," STF SSP Ayush Agrawal said. Released on bail a few months later, Sharma established his own fraudulent call centre in Dehradun's posh Vasant Vihar area in 2022. "He employed some youngsters to call people across India and dupe them on the pretext of offering them loans under PMML," Agrawal said. Another STF officer involved in his arrest said Sharma opened another call centre in the city's Premnagar area.

Focus on Bishnoi as intel, Delhi special cell launch parallel probe

NEW DELHI: While Mumbai Police are investigating a firing incident at actor Salman Khan's house, the intelligence establishment and Delhi's special cell are parallelly probing the case, focusing on the Lawrence Bishnoi syndicate. Their probe gained momentum after Mumbai cops suspected that the shooters could be from outside the city, and a Facebook post purportedly by Bishnoi's nephew Anmol, claiming responsibility for the act, surfaced on social media on Sunday.



Bishnoi is in the dock because his threats to Salman were in public domain as recently as Nov last year when his henchmen fired shots at the house of Punjabi singer Gippy Grewal in Canada, whom they thought to be the

actor's "brother". Grewal had to clarify that he wasn't. The Bishnoi group has for long been vocal against Salman, accusing him of killing a black buck, which his community considers sacred. The Bishnoi

syndicate wanted to assassinate Salman before killing Punjabi pop singer Sidhu Moosewala, but their multiple attempts failed. Just days after Moosewala's death in 2022, the security team of Salman's father, Salim Khan, found a threat letter near their house in Mumbai.

Shooters sent by Bishnoi had also conducted a recce of Salman's farmhouse in Panvel, Mumbai, Delhi Police had earlier said, citing the interrogation of three suspects arrested in the Moosewala case.

S Boy who fell into MP borewell found dead after 45-hour rescue

BHOPAL: A six-year-old child who had fallen into a borewell in Madhya Pradesh's Rewa district on Friday evening is dead. Rescuers finally reached Mayank Kol on Sunday afternoon, after a gruelling 45-hour operation, but found him covered in soil and rocks.

Tired hands and anguished hearts roped the child's body 40 feet up to the surface. Mayank was taken to hospital where doctors confirmed the worst. Mayank had gone to the farm in Manika vil-



lage, close to MP-UP border, along with other kids to collect leftovers of harvested wheat crop. It was while picking up handfuls of grains that he fell into the flimsily covered borewell. He was stuck 36 ft to 40

ft down the 70-ft borewell. Rescuers worked relentlessly, without a break, for nearly two days and two nights, but were hampered by unseasonal rain and loose earth. The borewell walls were not cement-

ed, so soil kept falling into it. "Had it not been for the rocks and soil that fell on the child after he slipped into the borewell, I believe we would have been able to save him," SDM Teonthar Sanjay Kumar Jain told.

Manish Sisodia interim bail: Delhi court issues notice to ED, CBI



NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Friday issued a notice to Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of India (CBI) following Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia's request for interim bail to campaign in general elections.

Rouse Avenue Court's special judge Kaveri Baweja instructed the central probe agencies to respond by April 20, when the court will review the plea.

CBI and ED have alleged irregularities in the modification of Delhi's excise policy, including undue favors to license holders, waivers of license fees, and extensions without proper approval. The accused officials are said to have diverted illegal gains to themselves and falsified accounts to avoid detection. Sisodia was arrested by CBI on February 26 and ED on March 9 last year in connection with these allegations. He resigned from the

Delhi cabinet on February 28, 2023. Earlier, while opposing the regular bail plea of Sisodia, ED said that there was no delay on the part of the prosecution, rather, the delay was caused by the accused persons by filing frivolous applications in the excise policy case, extending his judicial custody till April 18. However, Sisodia's counsel cited in his bail plea a delay in trial. It was argued that trial proceedings are going at a snail's pace.

Politicians' vocal cords suffer silently as poll campaign picks up

As we brace for the impending political showdown with candidates giving it their vocal all, spare a thought for the unsung hero — the voice box — that often bears the brunt of their campaign rhetoric. With World Voice Day approaching on — a day dedicated to spotlighting the role vocal cord health plays in our personal and professional lives — it might be timely to explore how politicians, notorious for pushing their voices to the limit, struggle to keep their pipes in shape. Voice surgeon Dr Nupur Nerurkar says she often encounters politicians with "phonotraumatic lesions" or benign growths on the vocal cords due to overuse or non-stop speeches. "I see politicians all year round. That's because unfortunately, most

seek help only after three to six months of symptoms," says Nerurkar whose yearly tally sees close to 15 politicians lining up for assistance with raspy, fatigued voices. The vocal folds, Dr Nerurkar explains, is in the shape of a 'V' roughly in the middle of the larynx and when one speaks, the folds vibrate 100 times in a second in men and 200 in women. While people whose jobs require them to talk a lot are more prone to voice disorders — think singers, teachers, RJs, actors, builders, housewives, and call centre workers — "What distinguishes politicians is that they not only speak loudly and continuously but their speeches are often emotionally charged. Also, they frequently address small gather-

ings or party meetings without a microphone, which further increases vocal strain," says Nerurkar, adding that this relentless strain on the mid membrane of the vocal cord, also called the 'striking zone', takes its toll resulting in swollen tissues and the arrival of pesky bumps — nodules, polyps, or cysts. Based on a study that Nerurkar had conducted in 2016, politicians tend to fit into a personality type, with an increased chance of developing these vocal disorders. "We discovered a strong correlation between personality type and vocal health, and that the incidence of vocal abuse and subsequent vocal pathologies are heavily governed by the person's personality traits," explained Nerurkar.

Researchers examined 100 individuals, half with vocal issues and half with healthy vocal cords, analysing personality traits, speech speed, and volume to identify factors causing polyps, nodules, and cysts. Interestingly, it wasn't speech speed or volume that mattered most, but personality type. "Type A individuals, known for speaking loudly and quickly, were more prone to vocal problems compared to Type B who spoke more softly and slowly. Politicians typically fall into the Type A," she said. It's become a familiar sight over the years for audiologist and speech therapist Dr Piyush Gujarathi, to see politicians flocking to him with voice woes. "When their voice takes a hit, politicians tend to get jittery. because speech holds

1 dead, 80 sick after eating prasad at Maharashtra temple

CHANDRAPUR: A person died and 80 other devotees allegedly suffered food poisoning after partaking 'mahaprasad' at a Kali Mata temple during navratri puja in Majri in Maharashtra's Chandrapur on Saturday. Six are critical, police said. Only those who consumed 'boondi' have food poisoning symptoms including diarrhea & vomiting, sources said. The affected individuals, including 30 women and 24 children, were rushed to WCL hospital in Majri and from there to sub-district hospital in Warora. Six critical patients were shifted to Govt Medical College and Hospital in Chandrapur.

The deceased, identified as Gurufen Yadav, 80, had co-morbidities, said doctors. About 24 patients have been discharged, they said. Police are probing into the alleged food

Jos Buttler ton powers Rajasthan Royals to record IPL chase

NEW DELHI: Jos Buttler showcased his prowess with an unbeaten 107 runs, outshining Sunil Narine's maiden T20 century, as Rajasthan Royals executed a thrilling joint-record IPL chase against Kolkata Knight Riders, sealing victory off the final ball on Tuesday. Facing a daunting target of 224 runs, Rajasthan found themselves in trouble at 121-6 by the 13th over. However, Buttler's masterclass, delivered in a 60-ball blitz, propelled them to victory with two wickets in hand at Kolkata's Eden Gardens. This remarkable feat saw Rajasthan matching their own record set in 2020, when they successfully chased down 224 runs against Kings XI Punjab in Sharjah. Buttler, who entered the fray as an impact substitute, reached



his second century of the season in just 55 balls, punctuating his achievement with a six off Varun Chakravarthi at the onset of the final over. Buttler, struggling with cramp, then played out three dot balls before a two and a single on the final delivery ensured Rajasthan held on to top spot in the table with six wins in seven matches. England's Buttler, who hit nine fours and six sixes, moved ahead of Chris Gayle with seven IPL tons and is only behind Virat Kohli's eight in the T20 tournament. Buttler built key partnerships including 50 runs with Riyan Parag

(34), 57 with Rovman Powell (26) and then an unbeaten 38-run stand with Avesh Khan (0 not out). Spinners Narine, Chakravarthi and fast bowler Harshit Rana took two wickets each for KKR. Narine hammered 109 off 56 balls to guide Kolkata, who stay second in the 10-team standings, to 223-6. Narine put on 85 runs for the second wicket with Angkrish Raghuvanshi, who hit 30, and got together for a 51-run stand with Andre Russell. Narine, playing his 504th T20 match, reached his ton from 49 balls with a six and a four off Yuzvendra Chahal.

'Don't have idea...': KKR skipper Shreyas after losing a thriller

NEW DELHI: Reflecting on Kolkata Knight Riders' (KKR) narrow 2-wicket defeat to Rajasthan Royals (RR) in the IPL 2024, captain Shreyas Iyer expressed difficulty in explaining the turn of events that led to the loss. In his post-match remarks, Shreyas conveyed the roller-coaster of emotions experienced by the team, particularly in the tense final moments of the game. He admitted that they hadn't anticipated finding themselves in such a closely contested situation, which made the outcome even more challenging to process. Iyer also acknowledged that it was a bitter pill to



swallow for his team. "I would second that actually (bitter pill to swallow), emotions were a roller coaster, certainly I didn't think we would get into this situation. It's a funny game at the end of the day, he was striking the ball cleanly and timing them so well, have to take it on the chin and move on. I mean at this point of time you see that you bowl your best deliver-

ies, a little bit hit or miss and you are sent out of the ground. It's good that it happened now rather than it happening in the later stages of the tournament, good learning for us," Iyer said after the match. "(On Sunil Narine) He is a great asset to the team and he is showing it every game, he is that kind of player who capitalizes on each and every moment.

I always keep believing, that was key, says Jos after match-winning knock

NEW DELHI: Jos Buttler, the standout performer for Rajasthan Royals on Tuesday, emphasised that he maintained unwavering self-belief throughout his match-winning century and drew inspiration from the likes of Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Virat

Kohli on how to navigate challenging situations. Despite missing RR's previous game due to injury, Buttler returned to the field in spectacular fashion, spearheading his team to victory in the IPL's most monumental chase against Kolkata Knight Riders.

His unbeaten knock of 107 runs off 60 deliveries epitomised resilience and determination. Buttler's unwavering resolve was evident even as he battled physical discomfort towards the end of the innings, yet he refused to relent.

'Jos did what he...': Sanju says Buttler's knock should go right on top

In a display of sheer batting brilliance, Jos Buttler lit up the stage with a merry swing of his bat, crafting a remarkable 60-ball 107 to single-handedly propel Rajasthan Royals (RR) to a sensational two-wicket triumph over Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), scripting the IPL's most monumental run chase on Tuesday.

Facing the daunting task of chasing down KKR's imposing total, powered by Sunil Narine's scintillating 109 off 56 deliveries, Buttler emerged as the game-changer for the



Royals. Despite the team's dire situation at 121/6 in the 13th over, Buttler remained undeterred, orchestrating a breathtaking comeback. With the pressure

mounting and the required run rate soaring, Buttler exhibited nerves of steel as he steered the Royals past the mammoth target of 224 on the very last ball of the game. His

extraordinary innings rescued the visitors from the brink of defeat, particularly during the crucial final three overs when they needed 46 runs, and then 28 runs from just 12 deliveries. RR skipper Sanju Samson said Buttler is a special player and when he is on song, no target is safe. "Very happy with the win. We were wondering like the wickets we lost..

.. six down and then Rovman came in and hit those couple of sixes and that's when we felt like we were still in the game.

'Guys like Dhoni and Kohli...': Jos reveals Sangakkara's advice after win

NEW DELHI: In a breathtaking display of batting mastery, Jos Buttler spearheaded Rajasthan Royals (RR) to a historic victory, trumping Sunil Narine's blazing century as they pulled off a joint-record chase in the IPL against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) on Tuesday. Facing a daunting target of 224 runs, RR found themselves in a precarious position at 121-6 in the 13th over. However, Buttler showcased remarkable resilience and determination, unleashing a sensational 60-ball 107-run



innings to guide his team to victory with just one ball to spare at Kolkata's iconic Eden Gardens. This remarkable chase equaled RR's own record set in 2020 when they successfully chased down 224 against Kings XI Punjab in Sharjah. Buttler's

heroics didn't stop there as he notched his second century of the season in just 55 balls, including a crucial six off Varun Chakravarthi at the start of the final over. Despite battling cramps, Buttler held his nerve, ensuring RR's triumph with a composed finish in the nail-biting

finale. His unbeaten innings, embellished with nine boundaries and six maximums, propelled him past Chris Gayle to claim the second spot in the list of players with the most IPL centuries, with a total of seven, trailing only behind Virat Kohli's eight in the T20 extravaganza. Buttler, who was named player of the match, asserted that self-belief was crucial, and that was the key tonight.

"Keep believing, that was the real key today. I was struggling a bit for rhythm.

Jos goes past Gayle, becomes second highest centurion in IPL

NEW DELHI: Rajasthan Royals' Jos Buttler showcased his batting brilliance once again as he blazed his way to a magnificent unbeaten century, catapulting himself to the second position in the list of most hundreds in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL). Buttler's scintillating innings not only



earned him personal glory but also propelled his team to a thrilling 2-wicket win against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the match. Buttler blasted his way to an unbeaten 60-ball 107 as Rajasthan pulled off the IPL's biggest run chase by gunning down 224/8. Surpassing the legendary Chris Gayle, who has six tons to his name, Buttler is now at second spot with seven hundreds only behind RCB star batter

Virat Kohli's eight centuries. His century marked his ascent to the esteemed position, solidifying his reputation as one of the premier batsmen in the IPL. The Englishman's achievement reflects his consistency and ability to deliver match-winning performances on the grand stage of T20 cricket. Buttler's century was a testament to his exceptional batting prowess, characterized

Players who opened up on mental health challenges

Maxwell has taken an indefinite "mental and physical break" from the Indian Premier League, citing his poor batting form for the decision. It's not the first time Maxwell has taken a break from competitive cricket due to mental health challenges; he had done so back in October 2019. Besides Maxwell, some other big names from the cricketing world have taken breaks citing mental health issues. TOI takes a look...

From Virat Kohli to Glenn Maxwell: Payers who opened up on mental health challenges Glenn Maxwell has taken an indefinite "mental and physical break" from the Indian Premier League, citing his poor batting form for the decision. It's not the first time Maxwell has taken a break from competi-



tive cricket due to mental health challenges; he had done so back in October 2019. Besides Maxwell, some other big names from the cricketing world have taken breaks citing mental health issues. **Ishan Kishan** The most recent one. Wicketkeeper Ishan Kishan has been a regular member of the Indian team set up for a while, especially in white-ball ball cricket. Due to continuous competi-

tive cricket around him, Kishan decided to take a break last year and came back to India midway through the tour to South Africa. He has been out of Indian squads ever since. **Virat Kohli** India's star batsman opened up about his mental health struggles after returning from a one-month break just before the 2022 Asia Cup. In an interview, Kohli said that he had been trying hard to fake his

intensity, even though he was feeling mentally down and that he was in need of a break. A month of rest and introspection helped him feel refreshed. He has been playing at his peak ever since.

Ben Stokes One of the best all-rounders and the current captain of the England Test team, Stokes decided to take an indefinite break from cricket to prioritize his mental well-being in July 2021. Stokes later revealed that he had gone through a series of panic attacks before finally deciding to step away from the game. He was able to make a successful return to the team after six months.

He continued to be on medication for anxiety after his return.

Mohun Bagan pip Mumbai City to win maiden League

KOLKATA: As referee Venkatesh R blew the final whistle, the entire Mohun Bagan SG bench huddled around Antonio Lopez Habas, hugging and exchanging high fives with him. In the middle of the Salt Lake Stadium, Manvir Singh, Liston Colaco, Dimitri Petratos and others began dancing and jumping in joy. It was party time for Mohun Bagan, the new winners of the Indian Super League's coveted Shield. It was their tryst with history. They won the championship last season but their trophy cabinet was missing the ISL Shield — still considered the real big prize after the end of a home-and-away league. It was quite a statement of intent made by Habas' team in achieving that goal as they pipped Mumbai City FC to the post with a 2-1 win, thus topping ISL 2023-2024 group stage as winners and conquering the throne.

CAPSULES

Avesh Khan grabs a one-handed blinder on his follow-through

NEW DELHI: In a breathtaking display of athleticism, Rajasthan Royals fast bowler Avesh Khan stunned spectators with a one-handed blinder on his follow-through to get rid of Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) opener Philip Salt in the IPL match at the Eden Gardens on Tuesday. The remarkable feat didn't end there, as Avesh, in a moment of flair, took skipper Sanju Samson's glove and theatrically displayed it towards the dressing room. This theatrics by Avesh transpired due to Samson's statement after their last match against GT: "I need to tell my fast bowlers that it's a bit easier to catch with the gloves instead of hands." Samson was not very happy with the way RR fielded against GT, especially on one occasion when he almost collided with paceman Avesh in pursuit of a skier, ultimately both making a mess of it. The incident happened on the third ball of the fourth over when Salt smashed the delivery, which landed a bit wide of off, straight past the bowler but an alert Avesh managed to stick his left hand out to take a well-judged low catch, which certainly ranks as one of the top catches of the Coming to the match, opener Sunil Narine slammed his maiden IPL century to power KKR to a commanding total of 223 for six against RR in Kolkata. Facing the challenge of batting first, Narine blazed his way to a sensational century, smashing 109 runs off just 56 deliveries. His innings featured a stunning array of 13 boundaries and six towering sixes, showcasing his formidable batting prowess. Contributing to KKR's formidable total, Angkrish Raghuvanshi chipped in with a brisk 30 off 18 balls.