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

## INDIA bloc a den of corrupt, anti-national people: Modi

● "PM candidate will be taken after the election, though at an INDI Alliance meeting in December last"



**PATNA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi** on Sunday said the opposition INDI Alliance has neither vision nor credibility. Taking a dig at their claim to fight unitedly with an aim to defeat Modi and the BJP-led NDA in the Lok Sabha election beginning on April 19, the PM said, "Unke bich sirf utauwal machi hai (infighting), Even one of the INDI Alliance leaders has refused to campaign until he is declared the PM candidate." Addressing an election rally in Nawada, Modi said INDI Alliance is a divided lot, fighting against

each other in different states."The INDI Alliance is a den of corrupt and anti-national people trying to divide the country between north and south. They have come together under compulsion to protect the corrupt, but don't know who their leader is. When I enquired recently why their leaders were not being seen in electioneering, I came to know that a storm has been brewing in the alliance. for the last 15 days as one of their leaders is adamant

that he would not campaign and won't address even a single election rally until the alliance declares him the PM candidate," said Modi while keeping the audience guessing who that leader is."The INDI Alliance partners say their PM candidate will be announced only after the election and they are trying to convince him. Let's see whether he is persuaded or not," Modi said in a lighter vein, adding that even one of their leaders admit-

ted that their "people" were lazy and did not want to do anything. Even Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, on the occasion of releasing his party election manifesto on Friday, said the decision on PM candidate will be taken after the election, though at an INDI Alliance meeting in December last, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee and her Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal had suggested Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's name.

## Climate change can stoke inflation, stunt growth: RBI

**MUMBAI:** RBI has cautioned that frequent shocks to inflation due to climate change can weaken policy transmission and necessitate tighter monetary policy. RBI's monetary policy report noted that climate change can increase inflation and stunt growth. The report said global average temperatures are rising, with an increase in extreme weather events, and the economic and social impact is becoming increasingly evident. Untitled design (78) It noted three ways in which climate change can impact monetary policy. First, it affects inflation through adverse weather events, disrupting agricultural production and global supply chains. Second, rising temperatures and extreme weather events may alter the natural rate of interest, reducing productivity and potential output.



### DJB got 28,400 crore since '15-16, but 'no accountability', Delhi finance dept tells SC

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi finance department has informed Supreme Court that Delhi Jal Board (DJB) received Rs 28,400 crore since 2015-16 but complained that "there is no accountability and funds are not used as per sanction conditions" as financial statements from 2018-2023 were not produced for audit. Responding to the notice on Delhi gov't's plea from a bench headed by CJI D Y Chandrachud, the department quoted extensively from the Delhi chief secy's report, submitted pursuant to a Delhi assembly resolution, of March 9 asking him to present a progress report on resolution of water.

Third, the aftermath of climate change could hinder the effectiveness of monetary policy in influencing financing conditions for households and firms.

### Fresh blow for Cong as U'khand ex-minister quits party, joins BJP

**DEHRADUN:** Former cabinet minister and three-time MLA, Dinesh Agarwal, joined BJP on Sunday, a day after resigning from Congress. Agarwal previously held the forest, law, and sports portfolios in Congress govt from 2012 to 2017. He represented Dharampur seat and was among the senior-most ministers. Incidentally, he was among the star campaigners shortlisted by Congress for campaigning in Uttarakhand, reports Gaurav Talwar. On joining BJP, Agarwal said he commenced his political journey with Congress in 1968, but now "there is complete lack of leadership in the party."

### In Coimbatore, BJP has high hopes on Annamalai to lead



**NEW DELHI:** In what will be a riveting battle for the prized Lok Sabha seat of the 'Manchester of south India' - Coimbatore, the BJP, led by Prime Minister Modi, has placed all bets on its state president, K Annamalai's popularity and profile to lead the 'change from Coimbatore' in Tamil Nadu. In the first media interview to a regional outlet ahead of the polls, the Prime Minister, expecting the 'tables to turn' in Tamil Nadu, argued that the BJP was the preferred party of choice for youngsters like Annamalai, who are not swayed by 'money and corruption.'

The Prime Minister, also endorsing the ex-IPS officer's candidature, took part in the culmination of his 'En Makal En Yatra' at Palladam, not very far from Coimbatore. Modi held the longest roadshow in the constituency with Annamalai and paid obeisance to the victims of the 1998 blast that happened during LK Advani's visit - after which the constituency has featured importantly in BJP's electoral thinking in the region. Speaking about the significance of the Prime Minister's visit and roadshow in Coimbatore ahead of the , a BJP worker recalled that 'Modi's first visit after assuming office as Prime Minister in 2014 was to Coimbatore.' BJP's Tamil Nadu chief Annamalai, who of late has made news more often than not, is pitted against IT wing head.

## Rajnath Singh bats for 'One Nation, One Election' at Bikaner rally

**JAIPUR:** Union minister Rajnath Singh, in his inaugural election rally in Rajasthan's Bikaner on Sunday, advocated for the implementation of 'One Nation, One Election' to fortify democracy in India. He stressed the need for streamlining the electoral process to prevent frequent elections, from panchayat to Parliament, which occur one after



another. "I feel that people will support us in implementing 'One Nation, One Election', for which PM Narendra Modi has taken the initiative by forming a committee under former President Ram Nath Kovind..." Singh said while seeking support for

his Cabinet colleague and party candidate Arjun Ram Meghwal. The defence minister highlighted the efforts of Modi's tenure, stating: "In the past ten years, I have been visiting foreign countries, and I've observed a significant change. Previously, Indian views were not taken seriously by world leaders, but now they pay full attention."

## Ex-finance commission panel chiefs raise key economic issues

**NEW DELHI:** Two former finance commission chiefs N K Singh and Vijay Kelkar have raised key issues that policymakers need to address in the coming years to deal with changes in the economy. Kelkar, who headed the 13th Finance Commission, underlined the need to rationalise the GST structure and move to a single rate mechanism, something that was recommended by the panel ahead of the key



tax reform. Besides, he has recommended sharing GST receipts with the third tier - panchayats and municipal bodies - while also calling for the secretariat to be made independent of the finance ministry. While rationalisation of rates has been discussed in the GST Council in the past, the current thinking is not in support of a single rate structure. A discussion on the issue is expected to take place after the general election.

## Neither surprised nor upset over ticket denial to Varun: Maneka

**LUCKNOW:** BJP's Sultampur Lok Sabha candidate and former Union minister Maneka Gandhi on Sunday said she was neither surprised nor upset when the party didn't nominate her son and three-time MP from Pilibhit, Varun Gandhi, from the constituency. "BJP is a cadre-based party, and everyone adheres to the decisions made," she said. BJP has nominated UP public works minister Jitin Prasada from Pilibhit, replacing Varun, who has been critical of his own government on issues of alleged inflation and unemployment. During an interaction with a prominent news channel, Maneka expressed her pride in her son



and her complete trust in him to contribute positively to the country. "I have no idea if he is joining any other party and about his future plans," she said. Stressing her connection as the bahu (daughter-in-law) of Amethi-Sultampur, Maneka highlighted her ability to dedicate complete time and ensure ongoing development works in Sultampur. "It

doesn't matter whether I was made a minister again or not. Voters from my area have not faced any problems. No difference could be felt, and the pace of work has only increased," she said. Earlier, after BJP didn't repeat his candidature from Pilibhit, Varun penned an emotional letter to the people of his constituency, affirming that his relationship with them

### US lawmakers reach bipartisan agreement on data privacy legislation

**NEW DELHI:** Two US lawmakers, democratic senator Maria Cantwell and republican representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers, have reached a bipartisan agreement on draft data privacy legislation. The proposed legislation aims to limit the collection of consumer data by technology companies and empower Americans to control the selling and deletion of their personal information. It also includes provisions for individuals to oversee the use of their personal data and mandates disclosure if data is transferred to foreign entities. The ongoing debate on online privacy protections.

### 'Kanyadaan' not essential under Hindu Marriage Act, 'saptapadi' is, says HC



**LUCKNOW:** 'Kanyadaan' isn't necessary for solemnisation of a marriage under Hindu Marriage Act, Allahabad high court has recently said. Only 'saptapadi' (Sanskrit for 'saat phere') is an essential ceremony of such a marriage, Lucknow bench of HC said while hearing a revision petition filed by one Ashutosh Yadav. Yadav, who had challenged an order passed by Lucknow additional sessions judge on March 6 while contest-

ing a criminal case filed by his in-laws, had maintained before the trial court that his marriage under the Act mandated a 'kanyadaan' ceremony, which was not performed in his case. "The Act provides 'saptapadi' as an essential ceremony... Whether the ceremony of 'kanyadaan' was performed or not, would not be essential for a just decision in this case," Justice Subhash Vidyarthi of HC said and junked Yadav's revision plea.

## Meja Urja Nigam celebrates World Health Day 2024

**Meja.** On the occasion of World Health Day, Aarogyam Hospital, MUNPL organized various events to promote health awareness and accessibility to healthcare for everyone. The day kicked off with a "Walk for Health" led by Shri Kamlesh Soni CEO-MUNPL, and Smt. Anu Soni President, Aparajita Mahila Samaj (AMS).

Participants chanted health slogans and stressed personal responsibility for health. After the walk a plantation activity was conducted by the senior management, highlighting the hospital's commitment to environmental sustainability. During the occasion, the Voluntary Blood Donation Camp was also organised in collaboration with MLN College and SRN Hospital, which was inaugurated by MUNPL CEO Shri Kamlesh Soni and



AMS President Smt. Anu Soni. The camp saw a significant turnout with 35 units of blood collected, addressing the critical need for blood donations. CEO Shri Kamlesh Soni praised Aarogyam Hospital's efforts and encouraged employees to continue serving society.

Smt Anu Soni urged employees and staff members to engage in such noble causes in future also. My Health, My right themed event also witnessed the insightful session on 'Relevance of Blood Donation' by Aarogyam Hospital's CMO Dr. Manisha Pandey.

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

**Mumbai:** As the Progressive Assessment Test (PAT) for class 3 to 8 students of government and aided schools in the state began on Thursday, a number of schools complained of shortage of question-cum-answer booklets.

On the very first day, schools had to take photocopies of the first language paper. The maths and third language English papers will be held on Friday and Saturday, respectively. The question papers were set by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT). School heads said despite sending details of the number of

students appearing for PAT, the SCERT on Wednesday directed schools to take photocopies of the question papers wherever there was a shortage. Schools also complained of not receiving the answer keys to the questions. Teachers assess papers based on answer keys. Mahendra Ganpule, spokesperson of the Maharashtra School Principals' Association highlighted the need for improved planning by the education department. Ganpule said, "Despite the challenges, teachers managed to distribute papers on the first day, albeit with additional effort and expense. The issue was more

pronounced in remote areas and was exacerbated by a lack of manpower at the taluka level for distribution." Over one crore students are participating in these exams, which are part of the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States project funded by the World Bank. The PAT aims to enhance the quality and governance of school education and includes a basic test followed by two comprehensive assessments. The mandatory test is to determine the learning outcome of students. It is based on second semester syllabi. Schools that incurred expenses on photocopying question papers last year.

## Girders launched between Kalyan & Kasara till early Sunday morning

**MUMBAI:** The Central Railway launched a girder on the bridge between Khadavli and Vasind stations shortly till early Sunday morning and also girders for FOB between Asangaon and Atgaon. Due to the girder

work and related rail blocks, passengers were inconvenienced with late night suburban train cancellations for Kasara. Six Mail and Express trains were rescheduled while ten other long distance trains were regulated due to

the girder work. Girders were also launched for FOB between Shahad and Ambivali station. As a result, the suburban local train for Kasara leaving CSMT at 12.15am on Sunday was short terminated at Thane.

## CAPSULES

### Kashi Vishwanath temple clocked highest revenue in March

**VARANASI:** As the Kashi Vishwanath Temple continues to attract devotees from far and wide who are making generous donations, the temple earned Rs 83.34 crore in 2023-24 financial year, registering a jump of 42.43% as compared to collections in 2022-23. The income of Rs 11.14 crore in March was also the highest single-month collection made ever by the temple. Talking to, temple's chief executive officer Vishwa Bhusan said, "Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple Trust (SKVTT) has recorded its highest ever collection as well as expenditure in the 2023-24 financial year. On the income part, its gross earning was Rs 83.34 crore, which was 42.43% more than the gross earnings of 2022-23. The expenditure was Rs 25.32 crore which was 40.38% more than the figures of the previous financial year." All previous records of income were broken by Feb-end when Rs 69.92 crore was received by the temple even when the value of precious metals received as donation was not included in it. In 2022-23, the temple had recorded income of Rs 58.51 crore while it was over Rs 26 crore in 2018-19 and 2019-20 financial years.

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

**KOLKATA:** The hot and discomfort weather conditions in the past few days are taking a toll on the health of Kolkatans, especially those who have to remain outdoors for hours.

## Delhi police sub-inspector found dead in apparent suicide

**NEW DELHI:** A sub-inspector of Delhi Police died by allegedly shooting himself with a pistol at his flat in east Delhi, in a suspected case of suicide, officials said on Sunday. The deceased has been identified as K Ganesh, a resident of Telangana who was currently posted at the Madhur Vihar police station here. According to police, the incident occurred in the early hours of Sunday when the family members of the sub-inspector called the police, stat-



ing that he was not responding to their calls. Upon arrival, the local police discovered the sub-inspector's locked apartment and found

him dead inside with a pistol on his lap. Crime and forensic teams were summoned to the scene, and preliminary investigations suggest that

the sub-inspector took his own life using the firearm. No suicide note has been found at the location, and the investigation is ongoing.

## Killer caliber: Meet BSF's first woman sniper

**INDORE:** The sniper stealthily crawls into position, smoothly works the bolt and slides a round into the chamber. Target in crosshairs. And a glass ceiling pierced at 3,200kmph... It's only when the sniper gets up and takes off the camouflage ghillie suit that you realise it's a 'she'. Meet BSF's first woman sniper, sub-inspector, Suman Kumari, also the first woman to get 'instructor grade' in the gruelling eight-week BSF sniper course at Central School of Weapons and



Tactics (CSWT), Indore. Suman joined BSF in 2021 and was commanding a platoon in Punjab when she realized, with fury, the threat of sniper attacks from across the border. Determined to pay back in kind, Suman volunteered for the sniper course and

wrote to her superiors. Encouraged by her steely resolve, they readily gave the go-ahead. "She was the lone woman among 56 men and she put up an amazing performance in every activity. We are hoping that more female recruits will take up this course,"

CSWT IG Bhaskar Singh Rawat told TOI on Saturday.

"Trainees who perform exceptionally well get Alpha and Bravo grading, but a separate screening test is done for 'instructor grade' that Suman has achieved. She is the first woman sniper in BSF and will be an inspiration for other women to come forward. This course is one of the toughest after the commando training," Rawat said. She is now eligible to get posted as a sniper instructor.

## Megablocks on Central Railway suburban to inconvenience commuters, no blocks on W.Railway

**Special suburban trains will run on the CSMT Mumbai-Mankhurd section during the block period.**



The Central Railway will carry out megablock on slow lines between CSMT Mumbai and Vidyavihar from 10.55am to 3.5 pm today on Main line. On the Main line, during the rail blocks, the Up slow services departing Ghatkopar from 10.41am to 3.52pm on Sunday will be diverted on Up fast

line between Vidyavihar and CSMT stations and will halt at Kurla, Sion, Matunga, Dadar, Parel and Byculla stations, an official said.

On the Harbour line, the rail blocks will be carried out between Mankhurd and Nerul from 11.15am to 4.15pm. Special suburban trains will run on the CSMT Mumbai-

Mankhurd section during the block period. Harbour line passengers are permitted to travel on Trans Harbour / Main Lines from 10am to 4.30pm during the block.

period, the official said. There will be no megablock on the Western Railway suburban section on Sunday, bringing relief to citizens.

## Jamia Hamdard organises Cultural and Sports Week

**Jamia** Hamdard University wrapped up its Sports and Cultural Week recently. Over eight days, the university grounds bustled with a myriad of activities, offering a platform for students to display their diverse abilities.

Under the leadership of Vice Chancellor M Afshar Alam and with support from Chancellor Janab Hammad Ahmad and Sajid Ahmed, CEO HNF HECA, the festivities commenced with an inaugural ceremony. DSW Prof Reshma Nasreen ignited the spark for an exhilarating journey filled with literary, cultural, musical, and sports performances, encapsulating the essence of Jamia Hamdard. At the helm of the seamless execution was the core coordination committee, led by Reshma Nasreen, and comprising faculty members



such as Dr Kursheed Ansari, Prof Sohrab Ahmad Khan, and the renowned academician and media personality Prof Farhat Basir Khan. Their collective expertise underscored the university's commitment to excellence, ensuring every moment of the event was a success. Students during Salman Ali's performance during Salman Ali's performance. From captivating calligraphy to vivid rangoli displays, students unleashed their artistic prowess, infusing the atmosphere with

vibrancy and color. Entertainment soared as participants engaged in activities like Dumb Charades and delivered soul-stirring musical performances, ranging from solo acts to ensemble renditions. Meanwhile, on the literary front, intellectual discourse flourished with stimulating debates, insightful essay writing, and moving poetry recitations, fostering a culture of understanding and intellectual growth. Throughout the week-long celebration, the dedication and hard work of

Jamia Hamdard's youth resonated with the ethos of sportsmanship and camaraderie. The grand finale witnessed the crowning of champions in sports and cultural events, graced by distinguished guests like B Shankar Jaiswal, and Danish Ashraf. Adding to the grandeur was the electrifying performance by Indian Idol 10 winner Salman Ali, marking a fitting conclusion to the festivities.

The event reached its crescendo with Salman Ali's mesmerising performance at the sports complex, blending sportsmanship with cultural vibrancy. Known for his soulful voice and dynamic stage presence, Salman Ali took the audience on a musical journey, leaving a lasting impact with his renditions of iconic hits and sufi melodies.

## Met museum head talks art of repatriation and relevance

Vatika Times

**It's not easy running one of the world's largest museums with more than 1.5 million works spanning 5,000 years. And certainly not easy amidst heightened scrutiny over looted objects and mounting pressure for repatriation. Max Hollein—who took charge of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (Met), New York as director in 2018 and CEO last July—knows this all too well. Fresh from signing an MoU with India's Ministry of Culture, being "blown away" by the Sanchi Stupa, Jantar Mantar and the Kanheri Caves and ahead of delivering a lecture at the CSMVS on Friday, Hollein remained composed as he sat down for a chat about policing its art and artefacts with a problematic past recent restitutions and keeping the museum relevant in an age of sensory overload. What kind of collaborations do you foresee with the signing of the MoU with India's culture ministry. It marks a continuatio.**

## NECC Ltd. Board Approves Allotment of Equity Shares and Warrants on Preferential Basis

**CHANDIGARH:** North Eastern Carrying Corporation Ltd. (NECC) (BSE: 534615, NSE: NECCCLTD), a leading player in domestic, international, commercial, and industrial goods transportation, has announced that its Board of Directors approved the allotment of 6,70,000 Equity shares and 39,55,062 Share warrants convertible into equity shares on preferential basis of face value of Rs. 10/- at a price of Rs. 32.05/- which includes a premium of Rs. 22.05/- per Equity Share, to Promoters and other non-promoter group person for cash consideration by way of preferential issue on a private placement basis in accordance with the Companies Act, 2013, SEBI (ICDR) Regulations and other applicable laws. Earlier, the company announced that it bagged an order from GAIL (India) Ltd. for trans-



portation of polymer under a contract value of Rs. 52.48 Crores for a period of three years. The company had recently entered into MOU with SG logistic Management Pvt Ltd. to invest up to Rs. 20 Crores for up to 20% of shares/ Securities for the purpose of trucking through Electric Vehicles. Since its inception, North Eastern Carrying Corporation has been providing clients with flexible, responsive, and affordable services that they deserve. The company utilizes its deep operating knowledge to offer extraordinary solutions tailored to the unique needs of its clients. Specializing in

domestic, international, commercial, and industrial goods transportation, along with warehousing services, North Eastern Carrying Corporation has established itself as a leading freight forwarding company in India. For those seeking to transport goods from one destination to another, North Eastern Carrying Corporation offers cost-effective solutions. Its services encompass a wide array of freight management and customized logistics solutions, supported by an automated ERP-based software system. Leveraging its operational expertise, extensive transportation network.

## Paramount Communications Ltd. Assigned BBB-(Stable) Credit Rating by ICRA

**CHANDIGARH:** Paramount Communications Ltd. (BSE: 530555, NSE: PARACABLES), a prominent player in the India's wire and cable industry, has announced that ICRA, a Credit Rating Agency has, assigned its long-term ratings on the bank facilities of the Company at [ICRA]BBB-(Stable). For Q3FY24 and 9MFY24, the Revenue from Operations grew by 30.3% from Rs. 2,180.9 Mn in Q3 FY23 to Rs. 2,842.5 Mn in Q3FY24 and by 25.7% from Rs. 5,943.9 Mn in 9MFY23 to Rs. 7,472.3Mn in 9M FY24. This growth was led by robust demand of our products and efficient execution of its order book reflecting the strength and resilience of our business. PAT increased by 53.8% from Rs. 143.2 Mn in Q3 FY23 to Rs. 220.2 Mn in Q3 FY24 and by 65.0% from Rs. 339.7 Mn in 9M FY23 to Rs. 560.6 Mn in 9M FY24. PAT margins increased by 130 bps and by 180 bps to 7.7% in Q3 FY23 and to 7.4% in 9M FY24 respectively. Earlier, the Company on 29th January 2024, approved the allotment of



2,03,74,980 shares at a price of 66.50/- per share, raising a total of Rs. 1,354.94 Mn by way of preferential allotment of equity shares to non-promoter, public category. Incorporated in the year 1955, Paramount Communications Limited is a prominent player in the India's wire and cable industry, renowned for manufacturing high-quality products catering to diverse infrastructure segments. The company operates through 2 state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities situated in Khushkhera, Rajasthan and Dharuhera, Haryana. These facilities hold certifications from various Indian and global agencies, testifying their strict compliance with high quality standards. It boasts of expansive product portfolio that comprises over 25 distinct products and an impressive array of over 2,500 SKUs. This diverse selection serves a wide spectrum of markets, including government, B2B, and B2C segments

encompassing industries like Power, Railways, Telecom, Construction, Defence & Space Research, and residential spaces. The company has an extensive pre-qualifications credentials and competencies has been instrumental in establishing its nationwide and international presence, notably in USA. Paramount holds the prestigious status of three star export house by the Government of India. Over the years, The Company has successfully served 500+ institutional clients, broadened its outreach via a network of 400+ channel partners, encompassing over 250 retail points, and have formed active partnerships with 5,000+ electricians across India. Further, The Company has created direct connections with all these stakeholders through its newly launched "Paramount Parivar" app. Its R&D team comprises of highly skilled.

## Not asking India to cut down oil imports from Russia: US

**NEW DELHI:** Two senior treasury department officials, who are in India to discuss what is Phase 2 of the Russian oil price cap, said Thursday the US and others imposing the cap, are seeking to minimise Kremlin's profits and stifle its Ukraine aggression, but without destabilising the global energy market or forcing India to slash its imports from Russia. The officials, however, said allowing unrestricted Russian oil trade will remain unacceptable. Eric Van Nostrand, assistant secretary for economic policy, and Anna Morris, assistant secretary for terrorist financing and financial crimes, said the US isn't asking India to cut down its oil imports from Russia, adding the price cap isn't meant to block the flow of Russian oil. Russia accounted for a third of India's oil imports last month. Nostrand said it's important to keep the oil supply going in the market and that what the US is seeking to do is to limit Putin's profit. Russia has the option of selling under the price cap or to sell at deep discounts if it doesn't follow the Western regulations. The officials were speaking at an event organised by Ananta Centre. The US and an international coalition opposed to Russia's war on Ukraine had implemented a price cap, \$60 per barrel, on Russian oil, allowing them to support trade in Russian oil only if it was sold at or below the price cap. The second phase was launched in Oct last year to tighten the enforcement of the cap and to restrain the Kremlin's ability to export oil through alternative shipping ecosystems. "There is no curbs, we have not asked India to reduce Russian oil buying," said Morris, adding US hasn't sanctioned any Indian entity for importing or refining Russian crude. With India exporting oil products.

## Chief Minister Saini has patted Saurabh Goyal Chaudhary on the back in the campaign to connect traders with BJP

**Kaithal:** BJP Business Cell Haryana Co-convenor Saurabh Goyal Chaudhary said that Modi Naib Government has always protected the interests of traders. BJP Government is fully committed to provide a good environment to traders. Businessmen should work to make lotus bloom in 10 Lok Sabha and 90 seats of Haryana Assembly. It is worth mentioning that BJP leader Saurabh Chaudhary is continuously organizing meetings and programs at



the ground level in various districts of the state to connect the business class with BJP and under his able leadership, the business class, especially the young business class, is joining BJP after being influenced by the

business friendly policies of BJP.

In the campaign to connect traders with BJP, Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini has praised BJP leader Saurabh Goyal Chaudhary by patting his back. Talking

here, Saurabh Goyal Chaudhary said that the business cell has been formed under the guidance of the Chief Minister and the Naib Government will not let any harm come to the interests of traders. The interests of the business class are completely safe in Modi Naib Government.

Every problem of the traders will be solved by making Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini aware of it, so that the traders do not face any problem.

## Bollywood star Malaika Arora inaugurated Kalyan Jewellers' first showroom in Rohtak at Jhang Colony

**Rohtak:** Kalyan Jewellers, one of India's most trusted and leading jewellery companies, today launched its all-new showroom at Jhang Colony, Delhi Road, Rohtak. Bollywood star Malaika Arora inaugurated the showroom, which features an extensive range of designs from various collections of Kalyan Jewellers. Patrons can expect state-of-the-art facilities with world-class ambience, providing an unparalleled experience. Addressing the enthralled crowd, Bollywood star Malaika



Arora said, "I am pleased to be present here today for the inauguration of the new Kalyan Jewellers showroom. It is an honour to represent Kalyan Jewellers - a brand that stands firm on the principles of trust, transparency, and customer-

centricity. I am confident that the patrons will welcome Kalyan Jewellers warmly, while enjoying the service-backed shopping experience and exploring the diverse range of jewellery collections offered by the company." Commenting on the

new showroom, Mr. Ramesh Kalyanaraman, Executive Director of Kalyan Jewellers, said, "With the launch of our all-new Kalyan Jewellers' showroom in Rohtak, the aim is to create a holistic ecosystem and cater to the distinct needs of our customers, enhancing their shopping experience. We aspire to continue reinventing ourselves, providing customers with world-class ambience, while staying true to the company's ethos of trust and transparency. At Kalyan Jewellers, we will continue.

## Supreme Court restores Scheduled Caste status to BJP leader Navneet

**NEW DELHI:** In a relief to BJP leader and MP from Amravati reserved constituency Navneet Kaur Ravi Rana just ahead of general elections, Supreme Court on Thursday quashed Bombay high court order by which her Scheduled Caste certificate of 'Mochi' was cancelled. A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and Sanjay Karol held that 2017 order of District Caste Scrutiny Committee which validated Kaur's caste claim as 'Mochi' was right and the HC inadvertently undertook an erroneous exercise of appreciating evidence and swayed itself into a roving inquiry which was not expected as per settled legal position. "When the scrutiny committee which is principally tasked with the fact finding exercise for validation of caste claim, had

applied its mind and reached a conclusion, then in such a situation, whether a roving enquiry by HC was required? It is well settled that high courts as well as Supreme Court should refrain themselves from deeper probe into factual issues like an appellate body unless the inferences made by the concerned authority suffers from perversity on the face of it or are impermissible in the eyes of law. In the instant case, the order passed by the committee reflects due appreciation of evidence and application of mind and in absence of any allegation of bias/malice or lack of jurisdiction, disturbing the findings of the committee cannot be sustained," the bench said. Kaur was elected from reserved seat on the basis of the certificate which attested to her being a 'Mochi'

which is Scheduled Caste in the state making her eligible to contest from a reserved seat. The court had in 2021 stayed the HC order, paving the way for her to continue to represent the constituency in Parliament. The HC quashed the order of the scrutiny committee primarily on the ground that the same was obtained fraudulently. Finding fault with the HC order, SC said, "the Scrutiny Committee duly considered the documents placed before it and after due application of mind on being satisfied, accorded reasons for accepting/validating the caste claim of the appellant herein while accepting/rejecting other certain documents. The Scrutiny Committee heard all the parties in detail complying with the principles of natural justice.

## Apollo Micro Systems Ltd. Enters into Rs. 252 Cr Term Loan Agreement with SBI

**CHANDIGARH:** Apollo Micro Systems Ltd. (BSE: 540879, NSE: APOLLO), a pioneer in Design, Development and assembly of Custom-Built Electronics and Electro-mechanical solutions, has announced that it has entered into a term loan agreement worth Rs. 252.5 Cr with State Bank of India (SBI). Nature of the Loan is Term Loan (TL) and renewal cum enhancement of the Working Capital (WC) credit facilities. The Total Loan Amount is split as - Term Loan (TL) of Rs. 110 crores for implementation of the upcoming project, Integrated Plant for Ingenious Defence Systems (IPIIDS) at Hardware Park, Hyderabad and renewal cum

enhancement of the Working Capital (WC) credit facilities of Rs. 142.50 Crores from State Bank of India. Earlier, in February, the company announced that it performed the groundbreaking ceremony and foundation stone laying for integrated plant for Ingenious Defence Systems (IPIIDS). The company has laid a roadmap to expand its manufacturing infrastructure by augmenting the facilities with capacity expansion in 5 Acres of Land at Hardware Park-2 situated at Pahadi Sharif, Hyderabad, Telangana. Apollo Micro Systems Ltd. intends to manufacture Missiles and its sub-systems and also undertake MRO of

the weapons in this facility. The company is also working closely to manufacture Unmanned Aerial Systems and Unmanned Ground Systems through this facility. This manufacturing facility shall be built on around Five Acres land with total built up area of 3,50,000 Sq. Ft. with end-to-end manufacturing and qualification set-up as per international standards with a Total investment of Rs 210 Crores. The company intends to provide an additional employment to around 400 people. The Foundation Stone Laying and Groundbreaking ceremony of the facility named IPIIDS (Integrated Plant for Ingenious Defence

Systems) was performed by the Hon'ble Minister for ITE&C, Industries & Commerce and Legislative Affairs, Government of Telangana, Sri Duddilla Sridhar Babu Garu, on 19th February 2024 in presence of Principal Secretary ITE&C, Industries, and Commerce, Sri Jayesh Ranjan - IAS, Managing Director TSIIC, Sri Vishnu Vardhan Reddy - IFS and Director Aerospace, Government of Telangana, Sri P.A. Praveen. Hon'ble Minister stated that Telangana is at the forefront and has established itself as a Hub for Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing in India.

## New tax regime hits private sector addition to NPS

**NEW DELHI:** The pension scheme for the corporate and individuals, regulated by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), may have been hit by the new tax regime, which offers lower tax rates but no exemptions, such as, those for investment. Latest data released by PFRDA on Thursday estimated that the growth in overall subscriber base, comprising govt, private sector and Atal Pension Yojana, slowed to 16.3% during the last financial year, with the total number pegged at over 7.3 crore. Within National Pension System (NPS), with under 36 lakh subscribers, the share of private sector contributors, comprising the corporate scheme (where the employer and employee contribute) and individual pension accounts, was estimated at 7.5% pvt sector. In terms of growth, in the last financial year.

## Editorial

### Fiscal capacities in national growth

India's economic progress is a composite reflection of the growth trajectories of its states. Given the federal structure of the country, each state operates with a degree of autonomy in implementing policies that drive their individual economies. This results in a broad spectrum of growth rates across states, highlighting significant disparities. For the nation to achieve holistic growth, it is imperative for all states to experience economic advancement. Despite this, there is a notable discrepancy in the attention paid to fiscal matters at different levels of government. The Union Budget, detailing the central government's finances, often garners substantial scrutiny and debate for its potential impacts on the nation's economic direction. In contrast, state budgets, which are crucial for addressing local needs and fostering regional development, do not attract a similar level of public and analytical scrutiny. Fiscal capacity, the government's ability to generate revenue from available tax and non-tax bases, is crucial for several reasons. First, it underpins a government's ability to provide essential public goods and services. These range from healthcare and education to infrastructure and defense, which are fundamental for the welfare of the citizenry and the smooth functioning of the economy. Without adequate fiscal capacity, governments may struggle to maintain these services at levels that meet public demand and expectations, potentially leading to social unrest or a decline in the quality of life. Second, fiscal capacity is vital for economic development and growth. Governments need resources to invest in infrastructure projects like roads, bridges, and digital networks, which are critical for enhancing productivity and competitiveness. Such investments not only improve current living standards, but also set the stage for future economic expansion. The Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) in 2017 and the World Bank in 2015 highlighted the risk of economies falling into a 'middle-income trap' where they are unable to transition to high-income status due to inadequate fiscal capacity among other factors.

Moreover, fiscal capacity is essential for macroeconomic stability. It allows governments to manage economic cycles more effectively, applying fiscal stimulus in downturns and restraint in booms to maintain economic stability. The Covid-19 pandemic's impact on Indian states underscored this point, as reduced fiscal capacities constrained their ability to respond effectively to the crisis and its economic repercussions.

Finally, a robust fiscal capacity enables equitable social development. It allows for redistributive policies that can mitigate income inequality and fund social safety nets for the vulnerable. Studies have shown that factors such as high per capita income, education levels, and low corruption contribute to higher fiscal capacity, which in turn can be used to foster a more inclusive society.

Given that state governments account for over 60 per cent of general government expenditure in India, enhancing their revenue-generating capacity is imperative for the needed investment in areas such as education, research and development, and skill development.

The Reserve Bank of India recently released a report on state finances, which gives an insight into the state budgets of 2023-24. It has some important findings. First, revenue mobilisation in Indian states comprises both tax and non-tax revenues, with a significant portion coming from state's own tax revenues (SOTR). Over the years, there has been a noticeable increase in SOTR, growing from 5.7 per cent of GDP in 2003-04 to 6.9 per cent in 2022-23. This growth, particularly in the post-GST era, reflects a shift in the composition of tax revenues.

He also championed free-market capitalism and globalization. Reagan was socially and culturally conservative, coming down heavily against abortion and LGBTQ activism in the name of supposedly traditional American values. Trump, in contrast, is a nationalist. Recently he said in his own blunt and undiplomatic way that he didn't really care what the Russians did with Ukraine. He is also an economic protectionist, particularly when it comes to targeting Chinese goods flooding the US after his predecessors shifted the

entire manufacturing process of the country to cheaper labor markets overseas. Trump also doesn't care much to be seen as an anti-abortionist let alone anti-LGBTQ. His solid American values, instead, are about championing the rights of ordinary Americans who tend to feel left out — Social Security and Medicare, the US version of welfare statism. America for Americans is what Trump stands for. One might even go so far as to say that he is the most anti-immigration of any US president so far, especially

if the immigrants are illegal. Modi too has totally reinvented the BJP, which in the Vajpayee era, was often a safe-haven version of the Congress party. Arguably, Vajpayee, the orator-poet and parliamentarian par excellence, was closer to our first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, than any other BJP leader. Modi is unapologetic majoritarian and has normalised Hindutva-driven development as the nation's ideology displacing both secularism and socialism, which Indira Gandhi.

# What facet of the military's participation in the nation's political apparatus

What facet of the military's participation in the nation's political apparatus contributes to its operational dysfunction? Alternatively, what constituent of the military's involvement propels society towards the precipice of civil conflict?

From a subjective standpoint, the military's influence on decision-making processes, notably in formulating foreign and internal security policies, does not inherently manifest as problematic.

Given its precarious geopolitical surroundings, the contextualisation of Pakistan as a security state from its inception underscores the historical roots of such a paradigm. The 1990s witnessed the ascendancy of a military-oriented perspective, accentuating assumed internal threats to the nation's survival. This perspective gained further traction in the aftermath of the post-9/11 security paradigm. The substantial role assumed by the military in shaping foreign and security policies finds its justification in these historical antecedents. Critics of the military's pervasive role in these processes must proffer pragmatic alternatives, implying the establishment of alternative institutional frameworks to curtail the involvement of military



bureaucracy. However, complications arise when the military bureaucracy exploits international linkages forged during policy formulation to consolidate its influence within the country's power structures.

In the post-Musharraf epoch, military leadership assumed the mantle of de facto diplomats for Pakistan. The security landscape emerged as the preeminent foreign policy concern for successive governments in Islamabad, prompting foreign leaders, including foreign ministers and heads of state from Western and Muslim nations, to seek consultations primarily with the Chief of Army Staff (COAS).

The high-profile international visits undertaken by the Army chief were extensively publicised in domestic and international media during this time. This heightened vis-

ibility finds rationale in the geopolitical reality that Pakistan and its adjacent Afghanistan were focal points in global terrorist networks, hosting the headquarters of major international terror organisations.

A historical context is pertinent, wherein the nexus between the Pak-Afghan border areas and mainland Afghanistan was implicated in major terrorist incidents worldwide. In such scenarios, the discernment of a foreign leader is of manageable complexity; the point of contact for addressing such difficulties is perceived to be the Army chief rather than the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The irony is underscored by the conspicuous absence of institutional capacity within the prime minister or the civilian government to formulate policies germane to these concerns. Despite the

technical attribution of military capacity within the ambit of the prime minister's executive powers, the unequivocal proclamations of the military's media wing regarding its intent to support civil governments on diverse policy matters substantiate the de facto institutional autonomy exercised by the army. This nuanced interplay unfolds within Islamabad's structured and disciplined bureaucratic milieu, characterised by an absence of tumult or disorder. The constitutional powers of the prime minister are willingly ceded, facilitating the encroachment of the Chief of Army Staff and the military bureaucracy, particularly in scenarios where civilian governments lack the independent capacity for policy formulation and execution. However, it is essential to note that this singular dynamic does not make Pakistan's political system dysfunctional. Comparable instances of military leadership involvement in the formulation and execution of foreign and security policies are observable in other nations. The difficulty associated with the military's engagement in Pakistan lies primarily in its role as a partisan actor in the nation's internal political contentions. This predicament is

further underscored by the extensive historical record depicting the Pakistani military's involvement as a participant in ideological, religious, sectarian, and political conflicts.

The epoch of General Zia-ul-Haq's military regime stands out as a significant period wherein the military was ostensibly positioned as the guardian of the state's ideological frontiers. During this tenure, the military administration actively contributed to the cultivation and reinforcement of profound religious and sectarian divisions within society through legislative measures, persisting as unresolved issues within the broader Pakistani political landscape. Since its inception, Pakistan has manifested itself as an ideologically diverse society, accommodating various political, religious, sectarian, and ideological factions, a characteristic dating back to British colonial rule. However, the Zia-led military sought to impose an ideological homogeneity on Pakistani society, endeavouring to enforce a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam. Consequently, the military, under Zia's leadership, assumed a partisan role in ideological, sectarian, and religious conflicts, aligning itself with advocates promoting its cause.

## Happy to see Indian girls coming up in golf

Among the longest hitters, at 25 years of age, this girl has been wowing golfing fans across the world. Her straight hits cover much ground, leaving onlookers agape. For world no. 41, Aditi Ashok, who has had a spectacular run in the 2023 LET, opens with a much-cherished win on European soil, winning the Ladies Open 2023 season-ending tournament at the Andalucia Costa Del Sol Open (Spain). It's total surrender to the game: she won her fourth Ladies European Tour title at the Kenya Ladies Open, came third in Morocco, and was runner-up in Saudi Arabia (2023). Scratch the calm demeanour, and there is a girl with a plan who wants to hit straighter and longer. Golf consumes her. She recently

reconnected with her childhood coach, Gaurav Diwan, and is "working on my swing speed and distance". From those early years, she turned pro in 2016 and was also rookie of the year, and Ashok is the first Indian female golfer to enter the top 50 world ranking. On a journey that began at age five, she accompanied her father, Ashok Gudlamani, onto the Karnataka Golf Course in Bangalore. One swing and another, and soon she was hooked. Over the years, her resolve, passion, and stoic stance have seen her climb deftly along the ranks of ladies' golf. Putting, she believes, is her strength, and often birdie-ing to perfection, the ramrod straight serious girl with her lips pursed in concentration has beaten

men, trumped tournaments, and is eyeing 2024 as the greens promise victories ahoj. "Finishing in the top 5 in Spain has been heartening after the work I have put in. It has been completely different when compared to where I was in 2022. Then, I was ranked 99 at the LPG. So, the first win (in Kenya) got the ball rolling," smiles Aditi. A miss at the 2020 Olympics (she came fourth), a silver at the Asian Games 2023, she dug deep after an off-kilter season. Having crossed the finish line with wins, she feels failure teaches, victories not so much. "In August, I took a month or two off to prepare for the Asian Games. Even though it had no ranking points and had nothing to do with my LPGA.

## The solar system is working like a potter's wheel

In the Indian culture, at one time, there used to be 365 festivals in a year. Almost every one of these festivals is connected to the lunisolar calendar. The solar system is working like a potter's wheel to generate this body. Who we are and the way we are structured physically is the consequence of the way the planetary system is made. If you are sensitive, for different days of the month, there are different things happening in nature, and whatever is happening in nature is also happening in this body. In this tradition, what is happening in the solar system on a given day has been very keenly observed, and accordingly, we have crafted different kinds of celebrations for each day. The fourteenth day of every lunar month, or the day before the new moon, is known as Shivratri. Among the twelve or thirteen Shivratri that occur in a calendar year, Mahashivratri, the one that occurs in February-March, is the most significant. Planet Earth is spinning with a certain precision. It is not simply rotating on its axis — there is always a wobble. That wobble creates a certain situation on the planet where, on the night of Mahashivratri, there is a natural upsurge of energy in the Northern Hemisphere. On this day, every life-form experiences a certain upsurge of

energies within themselves. This upsurge of energies can be truly made use of only by those creatures who have their spine erect. Our fortune of being human is that we are the only species here that graduated to the level of an erect spine. If you look at the evolutionary development of various species, you will notice that moving from invertebrate to vertebrate is one significant step. Another significant step in the evolutionary process is the spine moving from a horizontal position to a vertical position. The true development of the brain happened only after the spine became vertical.

The Puranas say blessed are those whose spines are erect because they can move their energies upward effortlessly. All evolution in a human being is fundamentally an upward movement of energy. By making use of this natural upsurge on the nightlong festival of Mahashivratri, we can move one step closer to the Divine. The raising of energies takes place even if there is no sadhana in a person's life, but especially for people who are into some kind of Yogic sadhana, keeping the body in a vertical position — in other words, not sleeping on this night — is very important. When everything is being pulled up on Mahashivratri, if your spine takes a horizon-

tal position, it will cause imbalances in your system. This is why the culture told you not to sleep on Mahashivratri. If you can stay awake and be conscious, you will benefit most. But if that is not possible, somehow stay awake — at least watch a movie in a cinema theatre, play cards with your friends or run around on the street. Do whatever, but do not put your spine into a horizontal position.

This is why, at Isha, we celebrate Mahashivratri as a nightlong festival. If you just ask people to sit for a few hours, they will not.

They have to be entertained. So, on that night, we have a celebration from 6:00 in the evening to 6:00 in the morning — twelve hours of non-stop music, dance, meditations and various other things — so that everyone stays alert. When there is a big wave of energy, if you know how to ride it, it will be a great joy. If you do not know how to ride the wave, you will get crushed by it. An expert wave rider's dream is to ride a tsunami. But the word tsunami would strike terror in most people's minds. There is a little bit of a tsunami happening within you on Mahashivratri. It is my intention, wish and blessing that you must ride this upsurge towards your wellbeing and to become an exuberant and ecstatic human being.

## They have totally upended their respective political parties

They have totally upended their respective political parties, the very vehicles of their spectacular success. Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is as different from Atal Bihari Vajpayee's as Trump's is from Ronald Reagan's Republican Party. In my last column I wrote about how Reagan rode to power in 1980 and in two terms established the United States as the dominant power in the world. He adopted a tough foreign policy against the erstwhile Soviet Union, pushing it to what some would say its overdue demise.

He also championed free-market capitalism and globalization. Reagan was socially and culturally conservative, coming down heavily against abortion and LGBTQ activism in the name of supposedly traditional American values. Trump, in contrast, is a nationalist. Recently he said in his own blunt and undiplomatic way that he didn't really care what the Russians did with Ukraine. He is also an economic protectionist, particularly when it comes to targeting Chinese goods flooding the US after his predecessors shifted the

entire manufacturing process of the country to cheaper labor markets overseas. Trump also doesn't care much to be seen as an anti-abortionist let alone anti-LGBTQ. His solid American values, instead, are about championing the rights of ordinary Americans who tend to feel left out — Social Security and Medicare, the US version of welfare statism. America for Americans is what Trump stands for. One might even go so far as to say that he is the most anti-immigration of any US president so far, especially

if the immigrants are illegal. Modi too has totally reinvented the BJP, which in the Vajpayee era, was often a safe-haven version of the Congress party. Arguably, Vajpayee, the orator-poet and parliamentarian par excellence, was closer to our first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, than any other BJP leader. Modi is unapologetic majoritarian and has normalised Hindutva-driven development as the nation's ideology displacing both secularism and socialism, which Indira Gandhi.

## HC restraint on razing unit built to provide jobs at defunct mill



**Mumbai:** The Bombay high court has placed a restraint on the demolition of a recently built multi-storey structure for 10,000 spindle units at the defunct Mafatlal Mill in Byculla (Mazgaon division) next to Veer Jijamata zoo. The high court slammed a builder for putting profit over the livelihood of erstwhile mill workers and quashed as "illegal" the 2019 decision of the state to do away with a two-decade-old town planning condition. The 2004 stipulation was intended at social

re-engineering, said the high court as it required construction of the spinning unit while allowing sale of the mill land. The high court allowed a petition by Mafatlal Industries that challenged the state decision. The high court restrained the state, BMC and Glider Buildcon Realtors from razing the spindle unit building and from using any of its FSI. "This is a case of... relentless pursuit of profits by a developer; and the fates and livelihoods of the textile mill's erstwhile workmen

and their families," said the division bench of Justice Gautam Patel and Justice Kamal Khata. "Or, to badly paraphrase Lewis Carroll, the time has come to speak of many things: of mills and zoos and city plans, of workers and developer kings," said the judges in an order uploaded on Monday. Mafatlal Industries, which owned the land, had in 2020 approached the high court against the Sept 2019 letter of the state to dispense with a condition incorporated in 2004 to DCR 58.

## Pre-emergent herbicide key for cotton crops – Godrej Agrovet

**PUNJAB:** With 333 Lakh Hectares under cotton cultivation, India ranks first. However, when it comes to productivity, our country ranks 38th in productivity. The problem lies in weeds infestation which as per studies cut down cotton yields by 40 percent to 85 percent. "During the initial stages, the cotton growth is very slow. With the row spacing also being wider during this time, it enables growth of different categories of weeds which in turn compete with the emerging crop for water, nutrients and light," said Rajavelu NK, CEO, Crop

Protection Business at Godrej Agrovet Limited. To address this issue, company launched Maxxcott last year. A Pre-emergent herbicide, Maxxcott controls most of the major weeds of cotton from day one, giving crop weed free growth period of 25-30 days. This not only translates into superior weed control and low cost of weed management as compared to conventional methods. Added Rajavelu NK, "It is a known fact that cotton farmers in Punjab face a persistent battle against weeds and rising cost of labor. To add to this, due to low awareness of

nuances in technology and reliance on manual/mechanical weed management, marginal farmers struggle with low productivity. Hence, a pre-emergent herbicide like Maxxcott can aid farmers check weed competition during the critical period of crop growth resulting in healthier crops & higher productivity." By utilizing advanced technologies and research, GAVL's ongoing efforts extend beyond weed management in cotton and have had a positive impact on other crops. The company has been committed to farmers' well-being.

## WFH fraud kingpin held in Goa

**Kolkata:** In a major success against the ongoing cryptocurrency Work From Home (WFH) frauds through Telegram app, the detective department has arrested a kingpin from Goa who had allegedly cheated a Kolkata resident of Rs 10 lakh. The cyber cell arrested the accused,

identified as Milind Gurudas Chari, from Dhatwara in south Goa from his residence and brought to Kolkata on transit remand after he duped a Kasba woman in the name of greater gains through time bound investments. "Most of the Rs 9.4 lakh defrauded from the

woman reached this man's accounts," said joint CP (crime) Syed Waqar Raza. Obsessed with recovering her money, the complainant kept investing until the amount reached Rs 10 lakh. "Plenty of people have stepped into such traps and continue to do so.

## Doc suspended over unruly behaviour

**Bengaluru:** Following complaints of rude behaviour and use of unparliamentary language, the commissioner of health and family welfare services suspended Dr Leela Sampath, gynaecologist attached to KR Puram General Hospital, and ordered an inquiry against her. A few complaints were made against Dr Leela by students of Vydehi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, fellow doctors at KR Puram General Hospital, nursing staff and 108 ambulance service employees in February. The complainants had provided video-proof of the doctor's behaviour during duty hours on a pen drive. Dr Raveendranath Meti, district health and family welfare officer, and Dr Nadeem Ahmed, district family welfare officer, inspected the hospital on March 22. They observed Dr Leela's alleged unruly behaviour and dereliction of duty by allowing nursing staff to maintain the records of patients admitted to the labour ward.

## Pre-merger turbulence forces Vistara to cancel 50 flights, may hit 60 today

**NEW DELHI:** Vistara's woes ahead of its merger with Air India (AI) have mounted, with "significant cancellations and delays in the past few days" forcing the Tata-owned carrier to "temporarily" truncate schedules. The airline was forced to cancel close to 50 flights on Monday. Sources said the number of cancellations could go up to 60 on Tuesday. Vistara — a full service carrier that operates over 300 domestic and international flights.

## Asia Society India Centre Board Names Sangita Jindal New Chair

**AMBALA/ HISAR:** The Asia Society India Centre Board has announced the election of Sangita Jindal as the new Chair of the Board. Her role will be effective from the 1st of April, 2024. "I am so delighted to welcome Sangita Jindal as Chair of the Asia Society India Centre Board.

She has been an immense support to our mission in South Asia and her work to support contemporary art in India and South Asia has been a transformative force; I look forward to working with her to strengthen Asia Society's footprint in



South Asia," said Asia Society India Centre CEO Inakshi Sobti. Sangita Jindal is President, Art India and Chairperson of the JSW Foundation, which is responsible for the social development projects of the JSW Group of Companies. In the twenty years that she has been spear-

heading the JSW Foundation, it has enlarged its scope of activities in the areas of education, health, livelihood creation, local sports development and conservation of arts and cultural heritage. She established the Jindal Arts Centre in 1992 and founded Art

India, India's premier art magazine, in 1994. She was among the team that conceptualised the Kala Ghoda Arts Festival and was awarded the Eisenhower Fellowship in 2004. Foundation that has undertaken conservation work at three temples in Hampi. She is a Global Trustee of Asia Society and a member of the Board of the National Culture Fund, Trustee of the World Monument Fund, advisor to TEDxGateway and a member of the IMC Ladies' Wing Art, Culture and Film Committee.

## Tamana Organizes Human Chain Event to Commemorate World Autism Awareness

**New Delhi:** World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD), recognized by the United Nations since April 2, 2007, stands as a beacon for advocating the rights and freedoms of individuals with autism. In alignment with this noble cause, Tamana, a pioneering NGO in India, marked the occasion with a remarkable initiative. Established in 1984 by the mother of Tamana, a child born with Cerebral Palsy, Tamana has been a trailblazer in addressing disabilities. Notably, in 1995, Tamana became



the first NGO in India to recognize autism as a distinct disability and initiated specialized programs for individuals on the spectrum. The inauguration of the Tamana Autism Centre School of Hope in 2003, graced by

the esteemed Late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, further solidified Tamana's commitment to serving the autism community with world-class facilities and unwavering support. This year, Tamana celebrated WAAD 2024 by

fostering unity and inclusivity through a unique event. Mainstream schools- including Modern School Vasant Vihar, Springdales School, Dhaura Kuan, KR Mangalam School, Prudence School, Dwarka- joined hands with Tamana Autism Centre students to form a symbolic human chain. This collective gesture symbolized solidarity and underscored the importance of embracing diversity while recognizing the unique talents and capabilities of every individual.

## Lizol launches #Test WhatYouTrust challenge

**GURUGRAM :** Lizol, India's leading disinfectant brand, has launched a unique, first-of-its kind large scale testing challenge – Test What You Trust to question consumer trust in phenyls and demystify their efficacy with factual evidence on germ kill and cleaning. Consumers today test all kinds of products before making a purchase decision. However, they tend to rely on generational trust and familiarity for homecare products like floor cleaners and disinfectants, associating the strong pungent smell of phenyls as a proof of their germ-kill and cleaning efficacy. With its innovative campaign, Lizol boldly challenges consumers to reassess the phenyls they trust for maintaining home cleanliness. By advocating for proactive



testing, Lizol urges everyone to prioritize their family's safety and protection with the same scrutiny applied to floor cleaners as to other products. The campaign invites consumers to nominate their phenyl brands to undergo scientific testing against Lizol for germ-kill and cleaning efficacy. The top 10 nominated phenyls will be tested, and final results published by an independent ISO-certified lab. With assured prizes to participants for each submission, consumers will have the opportunity to win weekly bumper

prizes including iPads, refrigerators and washing machines. Saurabh Jain, Regional Marketing Director, Hygiene, Reckitt- South Asia said, "Lizol has been championing the cause of protecting families from germs for decades. Consumers often misrelate Phenyls' strong smell with better germ-killing properties. The #TestWhatYouTrust challenge will help educate consumers on their misplaced trust in phenyls and reiterate the need to adopt Lizol for 99.9% germ-free homes. We are confident about Lizol's efficacy in germ-kill and cleaning and invite consumers to nominate any phenyl brand they feel can stand the test of science and prove to be superior to a specialist."

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Abdul Kalam, further solidified Tamana's commitment to serving the autism community with world-class facilities and unwavering support. This year, Tamana celebrated WAAD 2024 by fostering unity and inclusivity through a unique event. Mainstream schools- including Modern School Vasant Vihar, Springdales School, Dhaura Kuan, KR Mangalam School, Prudence School, Dwarka- joined hands with Tamana Autism Centre students to form a symbolic human chain. This collective gesture symbolized solidarity and underscored the importance of embrac-

ing diversity while recognizing the unique talents and capabilities of every individual. The event encompassed various awareness activities, including the screening of an autism-themed film and a compelling street play performed by students from the Tamana Teacher Training Cell. Additionally, students with neurodiversity showcased their remarkable singing and dancing talents through a cultural program, captivating the audience with their sheer enthusiasm and spirit.

Dr. Shayama Chona, President of Tamana and a recipient of the

Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awards, expressed, "At Tamana, we believe in fostering a culture of understanding and compassion through inclusive events. Our collaboration with mainstream schools not only enriches the experiences of typically developing students but also contributes significantly to the broader movement for autism awareness and acceptance." Tamana's legacy of excellence in disability advocacy has been recognized nationally and internationally. The organization was honored with the National Award for Best Institution for Child Welfare in 2010 and granted Special Consultative Status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 2005.

## Arvind Kejriwal's day in Tihar jail: Wake-up call at 6am

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal last week joined the ranks of incarcerated AAP members, becoming the fourth from the party and the fifth opposition leader overall to be confined in the national capital's Tihar jail currently. If you are curious about how Kejriwal will spend his time behind bars? Here's a glimpse into his routine.

**Jail No 2** Kejriwal will be situated in Tihar's jail No 2, alongside his former deputy, Manish Sisodia, who is in jail No 1. Former Health Minister Satyendar Jain occupies Jail No 7, while Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh resides in jail No 5.

## Naveen Jindal will win from Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency with record breaking votes: Saurabh

**Kaithal:** BJP Business Cell Haryana Co-Convenor Saurabh Goyal Chaudhary claimed that famous industrialist and BJP candidate from Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency Naveen Jindal will create history by winning with record breaking votes. BJP's storm is blowing across the country and this time under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP will create history of crossing 400. BJP leader Saurabh Goel Choudhary was talking to reporters after congratulating BJP candidate Naveen Jindal from Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency. BJP Business Cell co-coordinator Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal said that BJP candidate Naveen Jindal is set-

tled in the hearts of the people due to his friendly and clean image and is a favorite of 36 communities. Naveen Jindal will hoist the flag of victory on the basis of public blessings and record breaking development works done by the BJP government. He said that the victory of Naveen Jindal will be the victory of the people of Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency and Naveen Jindal will get record breaking work done in Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency by following the policy of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas. Even today, the public is getting full benefit of the public interest works done by Naveen Jindal during his tenure as MP in Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency.

He said that every BJP worker and official should think of himself as Naveen Jindal and get involved in publicity and go door to door about the development works done by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini and the public welfare measures implemented by him. By publicizing the policies, connect people with BJP and appeal to them to vote in favor of Naveen Jindal. BJP leader Saurabh Goyal Chaudhary claimed that the people of the country that their interests are safe only in the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and for the third time the people have announced to hand over the command of the country to Modi.

## DUROPLY CELEBRATES HOLI MILAN WITH ITS SKILL PARTNERS ACROSS INDIA EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THEM

**New Delhi :** Duroply, India's premium and most experienced among the leading plywood companies, celebrated the festival of colours Holi, by expressing heartfelt gratitude towards its Skill Partners across India. Duroply Skill Partners (contractors and carpenters) play a critical role in educating customers on the importance of using branded Plywood. Mr. Akhilesh Chitlangia, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Duroply, said, "Our mission at Duroply has been to adorn the home interiors of Indians with quality plywood that lasts generations. Our Skill Partners share our commitment and therefore, most of them are with the Company for generations. As lasting home interiors bring spring of happiness to a fami-



ly's life, we choose Holi to express our gratitude to our Skill Partners as they symbolically bring happiness to a family by explaining to them the enduring advantages of using branded plywood. Duroply Skill Partners play a decisive role in ensuring that the customers buy the right plywood. Holi symbolises the coming together of one and all welcoming vibrant hues of the colourful spring season. We personally visit our Skill Partners across India to celebrate our

everlasting bond." Duroply has over 12,000 committed Skill Partners across India who share a common vision of Duroply to see every household use branded plywood because of several benefits to the customers. Duroply remains steadfast in its mission to provide innovative plywood and veneer solutions that enhance durability and elevate the standards of interior craftsmanship across the nation. As our nation embraces the festive spirit and looks forward.

## CAPSULES

### Bharti Hexacom Limited Initial Public Offer to open on Wednesday

**GURUGRAM :** Bharti Hexacom Limited ("Bharti Hexacom" or "the Company"), shall open its Bid / Offer in relation to its initial public offer (IPO) of Equity Shares on Wednesday, April 03, 2024. The total offer size of Equity Shares of face value ₹ 5 each comprising an offer for sale of up to 75,000,000 equity shares by Telecommunications Consultants India Limited ("Selling Shareholder") (The "Offer For Sale"). The Anchor Investor Bidding date shall be Tuesday, April 02, 2024. The Bid/Offer will close on Friday, April 05, 2024. The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at 542 to 570 per Equity Share. Bids can be made for a minimum of 26 Equity Shares and in multiples of 26 Equity Shares thereafter. The objects of the Offer are to (i) to carry out the Offer for Sale of up to 75,000,000 Equity Shares by the Selling Shareholder; and (ii) achieve the benefits of listing the Equity Shares on the Stock Exchanges. (The "Objects of the Offer") This Equity Shares are being offered through the red herring prospectus of the Company dated March 22, 2024 filed with the Registrar of Companies, Delhi & Haryana (The "RHP") and are proposed to be listed on the BSE Limited ("BSE") and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"). (The "Listing"). SBI Capital Markets Limited, Axis Capital Limited, BOB Capital Markets Limited, ICICI Securities Limited and IIFL Securities Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers to the offer ("BRLMs").

## LocalCircles Survey: 42% of parents claim school tuition climbed 30-50% post-Covid

**Delhi:** Parents are concerned about rising tuition rates as schools reopen for the new school year. LocalCircles found that one in two parents reported fees rising by 30% or more in the preceding two years.

It indicated that 8 percent of parents reported a fee increase of more than 50%, while 42 percent reported a 30-50% increase.

They said that new books and other educational fees at the start of a session increased this. It indicated that 8 percent of parents reported a fee increase of more than 50%, while 42 percent reported a 30-50% increase. They said that new books and other educational

fees at the start of a session increased this.

Data reveals that reputed private schools in tier 1 and 2 cities charge Rs 1 lakh to Rs 4 lakh for annual all-inclusive fees. Between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakh in tier 3 and 4 cities. However, Action Committee Unaided Recognised Private Schools President Bharat Arora said that fee hikes have been "reasonable".

"The school managing committee decides how much to raise the fee—sometimes 9-10% or even 2%. No school can raise fees without DOE approval, he said.

The LocalCircles study contained 27,000 parent answers from 312 Indian districts.

## WFI takes over sports when the panel is dismissed

**Delhi:** After the suspension on the national federation was lifted, the Indian Olympic Association abolished the wrestling ad-hoc committee, stating that "there is no further need" for it to continue. The national federation now has full administrative control over the sport.

According to IOA, the decision was also influenced by the way the trials for the Olympics qualifying event next month went. Last December, following WFI's suspension by the Sports Ministry, the panel was established.

## The CBSE revoked the affiliation of 20 Indian schools after they were found guilty

**Delhi:** The CBSE revoked the affiliation of 20 Indian schools after they were found guilty of wrongdoing. Last December 21, the CBSE dispatched a two-member team to 34 schools to prevent sham candidates from being sponsored in the Board Exams.

According to officials, 34 schools were inspected in one day, and many were found guilty of negligence. 11 schools received advice and 23 received show-cause warnings from the CBSE Affiliation Unit based on these

complaints. Board endorsed the decision late last year. The following Delhi schools lost affiliation: Siddhartha Public School, Bharat Mata Saraswati Bal Mandir, National Public School, Chand Ram Public Senior Secondary School, and Marigold Public School.

Two Rajasthani schools, Prince UCH Madhyamik Vidyalaya in Sikar and Global Indian International School in Jodhpur, and two Chhattisgarh institutions, Dronacharya Public School and

Vicon School in Raipur, have lost their affiliation. Kathua's Kartar Public School is disaffiliated in Jammu & Kashmir. Rahul International School in Thane, Pioneer Public School in Pune, San RNS Academy in Dispur, and Sardar Patel Public School in Bhopal lost affiliation in Maharashtra. In Uttar Pradesh, Loyal Public School in Bulandshahr, Trinity World School in Gautam Buddha Nagar, and Crescent Convent School in Ghazipur lost affiliation. Ryan

Einstein International School in Uttarakhand. and Mother Theresa Memorial Central School in Kerala have been disaffiliated. The Vivekananda School in Narela, Delhi, Sri Dasmesh Senior Secondary Public School in Bathinda, Punjab, and Sreeram Academy in Barpeta, Assam were degraded. The affiliation bylaws require schools affiliated with the Board to sponsor only students who regularly attend lessons and take the Board exams.

## The main causes of the rise of GATE qualifiers is the incorporation of AI and data science

**Delhi:** The number of people registering for the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) 2024 has increased due to a number of factors, including the return of traditional classrooms following the pandemic, increased knowledge of GATE's future prospects, and a strong desire for further education, research, and career opportunities in public and private sector organizations. With almost 8.26 lakh applications for 30 test papers, the exam saw a 23% rise in registrations over the previous year. 6,53,292 of these candidates showed up for the test. 1,29,268 candidates in total qualified on all GATE test papers in their respective categories, a continuous increase of more than 29,000 above the almost one

lakh candidates from the previous year. Experts speculate that the ability to select two-paper combinations and the addition of Data Science and AI (DA) as a topic paper may

have contributed to the increase. The addition of new and varied fields to GATE over the years has increased its prominence as a route to postgraduate programs in India and abroad by reflecting the changing needs of academia and industry. Therefore, the concentration in 2022 was on Environmental Science & Engineering (ES) and Humanities & Social Sciences (XH), whereas Geomatics Engineering (GE) and Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering (NM) were the new arrivals in GATE 2023. More than 50,000 applications were

received for the recently introduced DA paper, of which about 39,000 appeared and about 8,000 qualified in

various categories, according to Chandra Sekhar Seelamantula, the organizing chair of GATE-2024 and a professor in the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore's Department of Electrical Engineering. "There are numerous reasons for the increased subscription to the GATE exam," he says.

The exam is becoming more and more well-liked in PSU (Public Sector Undertaking) and academic circles. According to Prof. Rajive Kumar, member secretary of the AICTE, the rising number of GATE applications is encouraging for postgraduate admissions.

## Can Arvind Kejriwal manage Delhi from jail? Legal experts comment

**Delhi:** After Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) National Convenor Arvind Kejriwal was remanded to the Enforcement Directorate (ED), who will lead the Delhi government? Atishi Marlena, Delhi's finance minister, has often suggested that Kejriwal will rule from prison. How feasible is this legally and practically? The 1951 Representation of the People Act prohibits parliamentarians convicted of certain crimes from office for six years. The Lieutenant Governor (LG) can recommend President's Rule in Delhi under Article 239 AB if there is a 'breakdown of constitutional machinery,' among other conditions. Saket District Court Advocate

Karambir Kamal says that I see no legal obstacle to Kejriwal running the administration from jail. However, being in detention makes public representation harder. When detainees cannot work as public representatives, the law will take effect. Practically every matter and paper requires jail administrator approval. Otherwise, Kejriwal cannot sign. Do not call a cabinet meeting there. Senior Advocate Mohit Bhardwaj says that Chief Ministers meet and sign files with their ministers. He'll accomplish that how? How will you handle the two visits a week jail rules allow? Someone will have to be appointed.

There is no legal, practical, or constitu-

tional way for a Chief Minister to govern from jail. Make a case for President's Rule if the government is headless. Elder Advocate Sumit Yadav Before conviction, MLAs might be suspended for appeal. An MP/MLA in custody can vote and attend the assembly. The presumption is innocence. Since the person is in custody, the court can allow such activities. Government cannot function without court approval. He needs authority to sign files, meet ministers, etc. The Supreme Court ordered Subrata Roy to negotiate the sale of Sahara properties from Tihar Jail, which had conference facilities. The Narada Scam in West Bengal last year led to the arrest and home

imprisonment of various Trinamool Congress politicians. The High Court authorized them to remain as ministers and bring paperwork to their dwellings for review and signing. Practically, it's hard yet achievable. Arvind Datar, Senior Advocate He is simply charged, not convicted. Anyone can be jailed to lose power otherwise. The court can make provisions for him to serve as CM while he is in custody. The President can take over the administration if they believe it is not being done according to 239AA, but that might be contested in court. Wait and see whether the LG initiates President's Rule. while Kejriwal governs his administration from custody.

## Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Hosts

**New Delhi:** The Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia hosted a heartwarming "Love Walk for Humanity" on the eve of Valentine's Day, February 14, 2024 curated and presented by Dr Sanjanaa JonThe Love Walk for Humanity aimed to transcend the traditional celebration of Valentine's Day by fostering love and compassion for humanity. In a world grappling with conflicts, attacks, and hatred, the event aimed to build a collective love for humanity, extending beyond personal relationships to include care for the environment, animals, and all aspects of life. Distinguished guests in attendance included Raghav Chandra, Managing Director, Audi Delhi South, H.E Demeke Atnafu Ambulo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ethiopia to India.

## Tamana Organizes Human Chain Event to Commemorate

**New Delhi:** World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD), recognized by the United Nations since April 2, 2007, stands as a beacon for advocating the rights and freedoms of individuals with autism. In alignment with this noble cause, Tamana, a pioneering NGO in India, marked the occasion with a remarkable initiative. Established in 1984 by the mother of Tamana, a child born with Cerebral Palsy, Tamana has been a trailblazer in addressing disabilities. Notably, in 1995, Tamana became the first NGO in India to recognize autism as a distinct disability and initiated specialized programs for individuals on the spectrum. The inauguration of the Tamana Autism Centre School of Hope in 2003, graced by the esteemed Late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, further solidified Tamana's commitment to serving the autism community with world-class facilities and unwavering

support. This year, Tamana celebrated WAAD 2024 by fostering unity and inclusivity through a unique event. Mainstream schools- including Modern School Vasant Vihar, Springdales School, Dhaura Kuan, KR Mangalam School, Prudence School, Dwarka- joined hands with Tamana Autism Centre students to form a symbolic human chain. This collective gesture symbolized solidarity and underscored the importance of embracing diversity while recognizing the unique talents and capabilities of every individual.

The event encompassed various awareness activities, including the screening of an autism-themed film and a compelling street play performed by students from the Tamana Teacher Training Cell. Additionally, students with neurodiversity showcased their remarkable singing and dancing talents

through a cultural program, captivating the audience with their sheer enthusiasm and spirit. Dr. Shayama Chona, President of Tamana and a recipient of the Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awards, expressed, "At Tamana, we believe in fostering a culture of understanding and compassion through inclusive events. Our collaboration with mainstream schools not only enriches the experiences of typically developing students but also contributes significantly to the broader movement for autism awareness and acceptance." Tamana's legacy of excellence in disability advocacy has been recognized nationally and internationally. The organization was honored with the National Award for Best Institution for Child Welfare in 2010 and granted Special Consultative Status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 2005.

## Cricketer, IITian: How a bright lad's path spun towards a dark 'terror' alley



**NEW DELHI:** Tauseef Ali Farooqui was a promising cricketer. Known for his left-arm spin in the neighbourhood and the cricket academy, the lad even aspired to play for India one day. He distinguished himself academically too

- it took him just a single attempt to crack the IIT entrance exams after passing out from Sanskriti School in Chanakyapuri. He enrolled as a student of biotechnology at IIT Guwahati.

In his final year at IIT, the

22-year-old has been arrested by Assam Police under the stringent Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) for openly expressing his goal of joining terror outfit IS on emails and LinkedIn post.

## 'More than Z+': Odisha BJP asks EC to downsize Pandian security

**BHUBANESHWAR:** BJP moved poll authorities on Saturday seeking withdrawal of "unnecessary security benefits" given to VK Pandian, Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik's aide and BJD leader, claiming his squad of 74 personnel outstripped even Z+

cover of 55 guards. The move came a day some RTI activists shared the information about security of Pandian, who currently holds cabinet rank. Pandian is protected by two SIs, 12 havildars, 56 constables and four women constables. A

BJD spokesperson declined to comment on the matter. As per a memorandum submitted by BJP leader Surath Biswal and others to chief electoral officer Nikunja Bihari Dhal, such huge deployment using public money violates model code.

## NC set to hand Ladakh Lok Sabha seat to Congress

**NEW DELHI:** Congress is likely to contest Ladakh parliamentary seat in upcoming 2024 elections, which will make it the third seat of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state to come to the party's kitty. Sources said partner National Conference has agreed to Congress's claim on Ladakh seat of the newly-carved UT. It will be some consolation for the principal opposition party which was keen on securing Anantnag constituency in Kashmir region, only to be rebuffed by ally NC which asked Congress to contest two seats in Jammu region, a difficult turf in view of ruling BJP's stranglehold on the area. A senior Congress leader said, "We will contest the Ladakh seat. It has been decided. We were also keen on Anantnag where we performed well last time, but National Conference is unwilling. Congress is making sacrifices for the larger cause of opposition unity."

## PWD to inspect 100 flyovers in city for repair

**New Delhi:** Public Works Department (PWD) has directed officials to carry out inspections of 100 flyovers in the city for any structural defect for their timely repair and maintenance. According to its latest order, PWD's maintenance wing will be given responsibility after the flyover construction work is completed in some cases and for rest of the existing ones as well. "Routine maintenance works like painting, desilting, re-carpeting, pothole repair, road marking, signage etc should be done by the maintenance team. Maintenance unit should continue to inspect the flyovers, underpasses, bridges in general and intimate any defect in the structure to the flyover unit."

## Experience Effortless Facial Hair Removal with the KAI CAN Face Razor

**New Delhi:** KAI India, a leading name in personal grooming products, offers the CAN Face Razor for Women. This revolutionary product is designed to give women a painless and effortless way to achieve smooth, flawless, and radiant facial skin, free from unwanted hair. KAI India is the Indian subsidiary of Japan's leading brand KAI, with over a 115-year legacy in crafting exceptional beauty tools. The CAN Face Razor is easy to use, glides smoothly on the face, and leaves the skin feeling softer,

brighter, and clear. With its specially designed blade using PTFE Technology, the razor requires less force while shaving, and its special coating keeps the blades rust-resistant, durable, and sharper for an extended period. The double-coated stainless steel blade, with protective skin guards, make shaving safe and avoid any cuts or skin abrasions. The anti-slip handle ensures a perfect grip, providing smooth and precise shaving. The protective blade cover makes it travel-friendly and protects the blade

from dust. Mr. Rajesh U. Pandya, Managing Director, KAI India, said, "The CAN Face razors are safe, suitable for all skin types, and even removes the tiniest of hair with precision. After using the CAN Face Razor, the skin will be smoother, making it the perfect canvas for better application of skincare products and makeup.

Shaving facial areas will become a lot easier in just a few minutes." The KAI India CAN Face Razor is available on their website [www.kai-indiaonline.com](http://www.kai-indiaonline.com) and all other leading e-com-

merce platforms for INR 279/- only. Say goodbye to unwanted facial hair and welcome smooth, flawless, and radiant skin with KAI India's CAN Face Razor. Founded in Seki in 1908, KAI group products have cult status in Japan. The brand is known for its high-quality beauty care and personal grooming products integrating practical aesthetics with refined craftsmanship providing well-designed, innovative houseware, and beauty care products that are used widely in day-to-day lives.

## Lost & not found: 22% rise in misplaced, stolen phones

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi witnessed a rise of 22% in the number of lost and stolen mobile phones in 2023 compared with the previous year. From 2.8 lakh such cases in 2022, the figure jumped to 3.4 lakh last year. Police have not revealed the details of the recovery, but sources said it was minuscule. The reasons behind the spurt and the dismal recovery are many. Gangs use technology to make the police's job of tracing these phones difficult. These criminals operate in an organised network. Snatchers,



robbers and thieves work together, selling stolen phones at discounted prices to mobile shop owners. These shopowners then tamper with the phones' IMEI numbers and resell them to unsuspecting customers

or even ship them to other countries, allowing them to earn significant profits from this criminal activity, cops say. Lost & Not Found: 22% Rise In Misplaced, Stolen Phones Last year, Delhi Police's

Crime Branch busted a gang that employed a sophisticated smuggling method. The gang prepared and packed several bundles, each containing 40 phones, into bags. These bags were then handed over to drivers or cleaners of tourist buses plying on the Delhi-Nepal route. The gang would inform their accomplices in Nepal about the bus numbers beforehand. A key member of the gang received between Rs 1,500 and Rs 2,500 per phone, depending on its condition, through hawala channels.

## Battered & burned, teen help flees captivity

**NEW DELHI:** A teen domestic worker was allegedly beaten with rods and subjected to burns by her employer in Ghaziabad. The girl who managed to escape from the house of her employer on the eve of Holi is undergoing treatment for injuries at a Ghaziabad hospital. Police have registered an FIR in the case. The girl came to the city around a year ago from Siliguri in West Bengal. A relative had got her a job as a domestic worker in the house of Reema Sharma, a single mother, in Ghaziabad's Vasundhara. "My mother is a labourer in a tea garden and the only one with an income. I wasn't attending school, so my family and I decided it would be best if I worked in the city and contributed to the family finances," said the 17-year-old girl. The torture started soon after, she alleged.

"My employer beat me with rods and made me work from 6am to two at night. Once she poured boiling water on my leg when I couldn't finish a task," the teenager said, showing scald marks on her left leg and a swollen right ear on Tuesday. She couldn't tell her parents about this because she did not have a phone. "Once, when my employer let me speak to my mother on her phone, I tried telling my mother about my ordeal. That night, I was mercilessly beaten for trying to inform my mother about my state," claimed the girl, whose body showed numerous injury marks. On March 24, her employer allegedly beat her mercilessly over household chores. "I somehow mustered courage and escaped," the traumatised girl said. She hid herself under the stairs of the building all

night. In the wee hours the next morning, the colony security guard noticed her and alerted the housing society secretary, who contacted Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA), a child's rights NGO. BBA took the girl to the hospital, where she is undergoing treatment. Police have filed an FIR against Sharma. Unable to speak properly due to injuries and seeking justice, the girl said, "I want my employer to be punished in the same way she punished me." Manish Sharma, director, BBA, said, "As if stripping them of their childhood isn't enough, girls brought from distant places from vulnerable families are tortured, abused and made to live in horrifying conditions. We need stricter laws and monitoring of placement agencies if we want to save our children from such abuses.

## The BPCL Sanawar Polo 2024 Hosted by the Old Sanawarian Society

**New Delhi:** The BPCL Sanawar Polo 2024, hosted by the Old Sanawarian Society, unfolded amidst the vibrant ambiance of Delhi's Jaipur Polo grounds on a delightful afternoon of March 30th, 2024. Polo aficionados gathered to witness this prestigious event, which was co-hosted by entrepreneur Sunayana Chibba. Some of the esteemed guests present at the event were Arjuna Awardee Col Billy Sodhi (Senior Most Living Polo Player in India), Polo Players Jai Shergill, Youngest Polo Player Jaiman Shergill, Jaimal Shergill, Donna Chadha, Amarjyot Hundal, Pankaj Sappru President OSA, Riyad Kundenmal, Uday Kalyan, Angad Kalan also part of Indian World Cup team, Mau Shergill, Afsana Cherian Kapoor, Rajendra Singh Chadha, Aparna Verma to name a few. The event featured two exhilarating exhibition matches: traditional Polo and Cycle Polo, with teams predominantly composed of Old Sanawarians. Adding to the



spectacle were the officers of the 61st Cavalry, showcasing their equestrian prowess. The splendid performance by the Army Band further enhanced the atmosphere. Attendees numbering over 300 included distinguished personalities from the National Capital Region (NCR), notable alumni of Sanawar, senior bureaucrats, leading industrialists, accomplished scientists, renowned doctors, eminent artists, and prominent figures from the film and media industry. During the presentation ceremony, 14 revered Old Sanawarian Polo players were honored with Lifetime

Achievement Awards. Among them were several Arjuna awardees who had represented and captained the Indian Polo team since the 1960s. The esteemed gathering paid tribute to these stalwarts, with Col. (Retd.) H S Sodhi VSM, the senior most among them, gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest. The presentation party included representatives from the Title Sponsor Bharat Petroleum, Co-Sponsor Hero Insurance Broking, Gifting Sponsor Shaza Life, the Headmaster of The Lawrence School, Sanawar, and the President of The Old Sanawarian Society.

## Landlord, nephew kill man for using 'foul language' in northeast Delhi

**NEW DELHI:** A 47-year-old man, employed as a marshal with the DTC, has been killed allegedly by his landlord and landlord's nephew for using foul language in northeast Delhi's Karawal Nagar area. While suspect Rahul (30) was arrested, landlord Sunil (50) remains at large, police said on Wednesday. After receiving a PCR call at 12.15am on Monday regarding the incident, a police team was rushed to the spot to find that victim Satvir had been rushed to the hospital. "When admitted, the victim was unconscious, displaying injuries to his limbs but none on vital areas" said Joy Tirkey, DCP (north-east).

## Rohit Sharma becomes fourth player to achieve this feat in IPL

**NEW DELHI:** Mumbai Indians batsman Rohit Sharma became the fourth player in IPL history to reach 100 catches on Sunday at the Wankhede Stadium. This milestone was achieved during MI's victory over Delhi Capitals, where Rohit completed the catch off Jhye Richardson. It was Rohit's 247th match in the IPL.



Jasprit Bumrah broke and set records as well.

In a high-scoring run-fest, when bowlers conceded at an economy of more than eight, Bumrah was once again efficient with his figure of 2/22 in four overs, spilling away runs at an economy of just 5.50. Following his spell, he made the record trackers rewrite the history books as he reached the 150-wicket mark in the IPL in just 124 matches.

MI's iconic pacer, Lasith Malinga, holds the record as he

accomplished the feat in just 105 matches. Star spinner Yuzvendra Chahal is in the second spot as he achieved the mark in 118 matches.

Bumrah made ground on Malinga's record for most wickets for a team in the IPL. The legendary pacer ended his career in the IPL with 170 wickets for MI.

Coming to the match, after being put to bat MI posted 234/5 on the board following exceptional performances from Rohit Sharma (49), Ishan Kishan (42), Tim David (35\*) and Shepherd (39\*).

## Yash Thakur, Marcus Stoinis shine as Lucknow Super Giants beat Gujarat Titans by 33 runs

**NEW DELHI:** Lucknow Super Giants secured a convincing 33-run victory over Gujarat Titans, propelled by an outstanding performance from all-rounder Marcus Stoinis and pacer Yash Thakur in their IPL 2024 match at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow.

Choosing to bat first, LSG capitalized on Stoinis' superb half-century, scoring 163 for 5, aided by his partnership of 73 runs with skipper KL Rahul.

Stoinis' 58 off 43 balls set the stage, while Nicholas Pooran's quickfire 32 off 22 balls added the finishing touches to the innings, ensuring a formidable total. Thakur's exceptional five-wicket haul further bolstered LSG's dominance, sealing their triumph over Gujarat Titans.

It was a torrid chase for GT with Thakur (5/30) and Krunal Pandya (3/11) sharing eight wickets between them, and they were bowled out for 130 in 18.5 overs.

Opener B Sai Sudharsan (31 off 23) opened up his arms in the second over and struck Naveen-ul-Haq for two boundaries in the second over. Sudharsan was at his attacking



best as he caressed pace sensation Mayank Yadav past mid-off on his first delivery.

He followed that up with another four through midwicket. If that was not enough GT skipper Shubman Gill (19) struck another four to end Mayank's over that yielded 13 runs. Mayank, who impressed all with bowling 150 kmph thunderbolts consistently in the last two games, couldn't even reach 140 kmph tonight and left the field with a side strain after his first over.

He did not return to the field thereafter.

Gill, however, didn't last long as he was cleaned up by Thakur in the sixth over.

While Sudharsan held one end, wickets kept tumbling at the other end in the form of Kane Williamson, who hit a tossed up delivery from Ravi Bishnoi straight back to the spinner. Krunal struck twin blows in the ninth over to peg back LSG's chase.

He first ended Sudharsan's entertaining knock as the batter top-edged one to Bishnoi at deep mid-wicket and then three balls later accounted for BR Sharath as LSG slumped to 61 for 4.

Krunal continued to trouble LSG as Darshan Nalkande became his next victim, caught by Thakur at short-fine leg as he went for a big shot.

## 'I stuck to my plan...': Five-star Yash Thakur credits team strategy for success

**NEW DELHI:**

Indian seam bowler Yash Thakur spearheaded Lucknow Super Giants to a resounding victory over Gujarat Titans in Sunday's IPL clash, clinching the Player of the Match award for his exceptional performance. Thakur's memorable five-wicket haul proved pivotal in LSG's triumph, as he dismantled the Gujarat Titans' batting lineup with figures of 5-30, leading his team to a commanding 33-run win. Reflecting on his remarkable achievement, Thakur attributed his success to meticulous planning and team strategy, emphasizing the importance of executing their game plan against key opposition batsmen.

"Happy with this five-wicket haul and Man of the Match award. I had planned against Gill, I stuck to my plan, KL Rahul had advised me to do so and it paid off," Thakur stated, highlighting the significance of adhering to their strategies on the field.

## Injury scare for LSG as pace sensation Mayank goes off the field with side strain

**NEW DELHI:** During Sunday's IPL match between Lucknow Super Giants and Gujarat Titans in Lucknow, pace sensation Mayank Yadav suffered a side strain. After bowling just one over for Lucknow Super Giants, the 21-year-old had to leave the field. He came to bowl in the fourth over of Titans' chase of 164 but could only manage to clock in excess of 140 kmph twice in the over before being attended to by the LSG physio and walking off the field. IPL 2024 Points Table | IPL 2024 Schedule He gave away 13 runs



in that over and did not reappear on the field afterward, despite LSG securing a 33-run victory over GT. Later, Lucknow all-rounder Krunal Pandya said the young pacer seemed

alright after coming off the field.

"I had a brief chat (with Mayank) and he seemed okay, which is a positive." Whatever conversation I have had, whatever we see,

he has a good head on his shoulder. Really excited to see how his career pans out," said Krunal in the post-match presentation ceremony. This injury is a recurrence of the one that kept him on the benches during the Ranji Trophy season for Delhi.

Mayank, who had previously battled with ankle and hamstring issues in his career, marked his IPL debut this season against Punjab Kings.

He immediately caught attention with his effortless ability to surpass the 150 kmph mark.

## 'It helps when we bat first...': KL Rahul reveals why LSG prefer to field after winning the toss

**NEW DELHI:** As Lucknow Super Giants notched up their first-ever win against Gujarat Titans on Sunday, skipper KL Rahul credited the bowlers as they successfully defended 163 at home and registered a third straight win.

While pacer Yash Thakur (5/30) picked up his maiden IPL fiver, spinners Krunal Pandya (3/11), Ravi Bishnoi (1/8) and Manimaran Siddharth (0/29) chipped in with crucial contributions to strangle Titans in the chase as Lucknow registered an easy 33-run win



Lauding the all-round bowling effort, Rahul admitted that the home advantage also helped the side in defending the total.

"For the young bowling group we have, it helps when we bat first and they can assess the conditions. They have been adapting really well, so credit to them. Having

the home advantage obviously helps a bit. The same guys were playing last season as well, they have adjusted their roles and they are reading the wicket well. That is something I try to speak to them about in the nets and in practice, to help them make the right choices when the pressure is on.

Hopefully we can continue," Rahul said in the post-match presentation.

With three wins in a row, Lucknow now sit pretty at the third spot in the points table. The skipper pointed out that spinners have been the key for their side and he expects them to continue in a similar fashion as the tournament progresses. "We knew very early that it (the pitch) was not as good as the other day. We were not trying to get to a particular score, and were just trying to bat and see how many we would get.

## Kolkata Knight Riders aim to ambush Chennai Super Kings at Chepauk

**CHENNAI:** The high-flying Kolkata Knight Riders could not have asked for a better time to make the trip to MA Chidambaram Stadium, the 'fortress' of reigning champions Chennai Super Kings. While the Shreyas Iyer-led Kolkata - one of the two unbeaten teams in the competition - have made a rol-



licking start to the IPL season with three victories on the bounce, Ruturaj Gaikwad's Chennai have lost their way a bit after suffering back-to-back defeats on the road. The fact that the Chepauk pitches have been conducive for stroke-making will light up the eyes of the KKR batters, who have smashed more sixes (45 in 3 matches) than fours (44) so far this campaign. Globetrotter Sunil Narine's promotion to the top has worked a treat as the West Indian allrounder

joined forces with Phil Salt to feast on the Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Delhi Capitals bowling attacks in the power-play. Bubbling with confidence after two consecutive fruitful knocks, Narine, a versatile operator who is as cool as a cucumber, will look to rub salt into the wound of the out-of-form CSK bowling pack on Monday. His Caribbean colleague Andre Russell, too, has been in great nick, having put the icing on the cake whenever called upon to bat.

## 'Feels great to defend this score': Krunal Pandya after helping Lucknow Super

**NEW DELHI:** Lucknow Super Giants clinched a resounding 33-run victory against Gujarat Titans in their IPL 2024 showdown on Sunday, with all-rounder Krunal Pandya lauding his team's exceptional defensive bowling display. Opting to bat first, LSG put up a competitive total of 163 for 5, propelled by Marcus Stoinis' impressive half-century, which formed the backbone of their innings. Stoinis' 58 off 43 deliveries, coupled with crucial contributions from skipper KL Rahul and Nicholas Pooran, laid a solid foundation for LSG's batting effort. Scorecard: LSG vs GT However, it was LSG's bowling prowess that truly stole the show, with pacer Yash Thakur shining bright with a sensational fiver,



claiming five wickets for 30 runs.

Thakur's relentless accuracy and skillful execution dismantled the GT batting lineup, restricting them to a modest total of 130 all out.

Following the match, Krunal Pandya, who delivered a stellar bowling performance, reflected on the team's defensive mindset and their ability to defend a challenging total.

Pandya expressed satisfaction with his own contribution, crediting his success to backing his strengths and executing his plans effectively on the field.

"When I went in, I played a couple of balls, I had a chat with Pooran as well, the wicket was very good. We felt that we were 10-15 short but at the end of the day, that's what we got, so we had to defend. I like to

know the batters' strengths and weaknesses, and try to bowl according to it. It comes off some days and it doesn't some days.

I backed my strengths and stuck to my plans, one of those days I executed what I wanted, tonight it came off. It feels great to defend this score, the way we have defended even last year," Krunal said.

## Punjab Kings' Shashank Singh gets platform to express himself

Finally, Shashank Singh is in the news for the right reasons. Last year, during the IPL auction in Dubai, Punjab Kings bid successfully for Shashank but then tried to persuade the auctioneer, Mallika Sagar, that it was a mixup on their part. 'A case of mistaken identity'. The hesitation on the part of Punjab Kings' owners transpired as there was another player by the name of 'Shashank Singh' who went under the hammer and was unsold.

The 'other Shashank' was a Bengal player, while the one under the spotlight was Chhattisgarh batsman Shashank, who had played for Sunrisers Hyderabad and been a member of Rajasthan Royals and Delhi Daredevils squads in previous IPLs. The bid was complete and the auctioneer refused to reverse the process. As conjectures and theories started circulating on social media.