

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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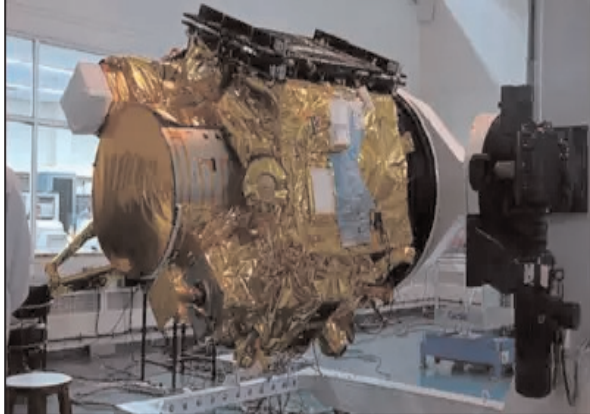
MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ Saturday 12 October, 2024 UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

CCS 'approves launch of 52 spy satellites for Rs 27,000 crore to boost space surveillance

NEW DELHI: To boost India's surveillance system from space, the Cabinet Committee on Security led by PM Narendra Modi has quietly approved the phase III of the Space Based Surveillance (SBS-III) for launching a big bunch of spy satellites in low earth and geostationary orbits.

"CCS on Monday gave the approval for launching 52 satellites under the SBS-III project, which would cost around Rs 27,000 crore," a source in Isro told TOI.

1x1 polls India had already launched several spy or earth observation satellites under the SBS programme like Risat, Cartosat and Gsat-7 series satellites. The SBS-1 was first approved under the Vajpayee regime in 2001 under which four surveillance satellites were launched. Thereafter, six such satellites were launched under the second phase in 2013. The 50+ satellites, which are likely to be launched in five years, will boost the numbers of 'eyes in the



Express train rams into freight rake near Chennai, 20 injured as 12 coaches derail

CHENNAI: A packed express train travelling at 75kmph rear-ended a stationary freight rake on the outskirts of Chennai at 8.30pm Friday, causing at least 12 passenger coaches to derail and sparking a fire in the parcel van. At least 20 passengers on Mysuru-Darbhanga Bagmati Express were injured but there was no casualty reported. Bagmati Express entered the loop line — a track that branches out from the main route and merges with it again after a short distance — and

rammed into the back of the freight train stationed on that stretch of Kavaraipettai station, about 46km from Chennai, Southern Railway said. The passenger train had passed Ponneri station at 8.27pm and received the green signal to proceed to Kavaraipettai. "While entering KVP station, the train crew experienced a heavy jerk and, instead of going into the main line per the signal that was given, the train entered the loop line and hit the goods train.

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lance system of India's land and sea borders at

a time the country is facing security concerns on the western border with Pakistan, northern border with China and increased sea surveillance by Chinese spy vessels and submarines in the Indian Ocean Region.

The new fleet of satellites will be based on artificial intelligence (AI) that can "interact with each other in space to gather geo-intelligence" on the Earth. "We will have communication between satellites, so that if some satellite detects something, which is at GEO (geosynchronous equatorial orbit) at 36,000km altitude, it can ask another satellite in the lower orbit (at 400-600 km altitude) to check much more carefully and then give us more information. This capability will give us enormous potential," a senior Isro official said last December.

The new tech will be able to "improve the ability of satellites to detect changes, to bring in more AI-related and data-driven approaches to analyse data.

Omar Abdullah on Thursday said the National Conference's tally in Jammu and Kashmir has reached the majority mark of 46 seats after 4 Independent MLAs extended support to the party, adding that he was now waiting for the letter of support from Congress to stake claim to form the government. Earlier in the day, Omar was elected the leader of the legislature party by the National Conference -- a stepping stone towards becoming the chief minister. Thanking the legislators, Abdullah told reporters: "You are aware of the decision that was taken. A meeting of the NC legislature party took place, the legislature party has decided its leader and I am thankful from the bottom of my heart to the NC legislators that they have reposed their faith in me and given me a chance to stake claim for government formation."



RG Kar case: Bengal governor, Kolkata police expresses concern over deteriorating health of protesting doctors

NEW DELHI: West Bengal governor, CV Ananda Bose, expressed concern over the deteriorating health conditions of junior doctors who have been on a hunger strike for the past five days and requested them to continue their protest without affecting their

On being asked when he will meet the governor to stake claim to form the government in J&K, Abdullah said he was waiting for the letter of support from the Congress. "We are in talks with

health, news agency PTI reported citing a source of Raj Bhavan. "The governor is very concerned with the deteriorating health conditions of the agitating young medics who have been fasting since Saturday. On behalf of the people of Bengal, civil society of India.

Congress for their letter of support. Once we have it, will go to the governor as soon as possible. We have given Congress' today's day to complete the process for the letter," Abdullah said.

8 railway services notified as sub cadre under IRMS

NEW DELHI: Barely days after the personnel department (DoPT) allowed rail-ways to recruit engineers through two different examinations, the railway board has notified that now there will be eight streams under the Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS), which the Cabinet had approved in 2019.

The eight services have been notified as a "sub-cadre" under IRMS and these include traffic, accounts, personnel, civil electrical, mechanical, signal & telecommunication and stores. The recruitment for first four services will be done through Civil Services Exam (CSE) and remaining will be through Engineering Services Exam (ESE). Earlier there was only one exam of CSE for recruitment under IRMS. This move comes as a big relief for aspiring.

Coach Class: Tim Walz and a teachable moment in US politics

WASHINGTON:

Presented as a regular guy, a workaday dad, a teacher and a coach from the time he came into national limelight, Minnesota governor Tim Walz accepted the Democratic vice-presidential nomination on at the party convention with an address highlighted by a memorable teachable moment. Walz was speaking about reproductive rights being infringed on by Republicans and the difficulties.

infertile couples face when attention turned.

to his family as he expressed love for his wife Gwen, and children Hope and Gus, both born through fertility treatments. At this point, Gus, a neurodivergent teen with a nonverbal learning disorder and ADHD, jumped up to emotionally shout "That's my dad," while his daughter signalled a heart shape.

It was a rare and unfiltered moment of love in a public arena -- where politicians typically stage togetherness -- that sent the gathering into raptures, and occasioned thousands of laudatory comments and commentaries for hours after. It also underlined a fundamental difference with Republicans, who despite their emphasis on raising families, want intrusive oversight and control of women's reproductive freedom and gender rights, whereas Democrats want choice in the matter.

PM Modi a 'shahanshah': Priyanka Gandhi

NEW DELHI: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra launched a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, labeling him 'Shahanshah' (king of kings) during a public rally held in Lakhani, cy. Her remarks came in response to PM Modi's recent jibe at her brother Rahul Gandhi, where he referred to him as 'shehzada' (prince). Addressing a public rally at Lakhani in Gujarat's Banaskantha Lok



Sabha constituency to canvass for her party candidate Geniben Thakor, she also accused PM Modi of using the people of Gujarat for power and then forgetting them. "He calls my brother 'shehzada'. I would

like to tell him that this shehzada walked for 4,000 kilometres from Kanyakumari to Kashmir to listen to your (people's) problems, met my brothers and sisters, farmers and labourers and asked how we can

resolve their problems," she said. Addressing a rally in Gujarat on Thursday, PM Modi had targeted Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, saying Pakistan was eager to make the 'shehzada' of the grand old party India's next PM as the country's enemies want a weak government at the helm. "On the other hand is your 'shahanshah', Narendra Modiji. He lives in a palace. Have you ever seen him on TV?"

Ahead of polls, Maharashtra govt seeks hike in non-creamy layer income limit

NEW DELHI: The Maharashtra cabinet has decided to request the central government to raise the income limit for the 'non-creamy layer' category to Rs 15 lakh per annum from the current Rs 8 lakh. This decision came ahead of the upcoming assembly elections, likely to be held next month. Months before the Haryana polls, CM Nayab Singh Saini had also implemented a similar move and

increased annual income limit for creamy layer from ₹6 lakh to 8 lakh. Poll experts have opined that the move was crucial in helping the BJP get the SC and OBC vote in the recently concluded Haryana polls in which the party won 48 seats. The cabinet also approved a draft ordinance to grant constitutional status to the Maharashtra state scheduled caste commission, which will be

presented in the next legislative session. The commission will have 27 approved posts. A non-creamy layer certificate, stating that the family income of a person is below the prescribed limit, is needed to get reservation benefits in the OBC category. By raising the income cap, more individuals from the OBC community can qualify for reservation benefits and government schemes.

Faith and politics: NC's double-engine spiritual drive unified Muslim votes

SRINAGAR: Some call it religious appeal. Some call it "Peer-Mureedi". Whatever it may be, the presence of two spiritual guides of different Muslim sects in National Conference's campaign consolidated the mood for the Omar Abdullah outfit and put it beyond the fight that PDP, newbies and independents could put up. Lok Sabha MPs Mian Altaf Ahmad of Anantnag-Rajouri and Syed Aga Ruhullah Mehdi of Srinagar are respected clerics, who were inseparable from Omar's travels across J&K in the cut-throat campaign that lasted over a month. The Mian family rep-



resents the revered spiritual seat of Gujjar-Bakarwal communities across J&K. While the community has a presence in parts of Kashmir, they are in good numbers in Jammu region as well. Interestingly, Mian Altaf's son Mehar Ali debuted from his erstwhile assembly seat of Kangan which impeded the MP's movement in the party's campaigning.

He addressed many rallies in Poonch and other regions of Jammu by video call, while apologising for being hobbled by his son's contest. Two Cleric MPs Shaped Mood In Omar Outfit's Favour. Aga Ruhullah is a young and respected cleric of Shia sect which has a good presence in Srinagar-Budgam pockets, both of which have been swept by NC. In

fact, Budgam that Omar chose as his second seat after Ganderbal this time was Aga's earlier assembly turf. Observers point out that beyond being representatives of individual sects, the two are also respected by the vast swathe of the Kashmiri community as also by Jammu Muslims. It works twofold - in taking the political campaign.

Coach Class: Tim Walz and a teachable moment in US

WASHINGTON:

Presented as a regular guy, a workaday dad, a teacher and a coach from the time he came into national limelight, Minnesota governor Tim Walz accepted the Democratic vice-presidential nomination on Wednesday at the party convention with an address highlighted by a memorable teachable moment. Walz was speaking about reproductive rights being infringed on by Republicans and the difficulties infertile couples face when attention turned to his family as he expressed love for his wife Gwen, and children.

J&K headed for winter of discontent? It will depend on Lt Guv's

NEW DELHI: The J&K LG will, prima facie, have the same powers as the Delhi LG, and also control prisons, which come under the state govt in Delhi. Observers are not ruling out recurrent strain in working ties between the LG and the elected govt -- a common occurrence in Delhi -- over several issues. Perhaps the first indication that the Centre was ready for assembly polls in Jammu & Kashmir came when it amended the Transaction of Business of the Govt of Union Territory of J&K on July 12, 2024, to make it mandatory for all decisions relating to postings and transfers of secretary-level officers, appointment of law officers, grant or refusal of prosecution sanction and prison-related matters, to be

put up to the lieutenant governor (LG) for approval, through the chief secretary. The amendments -- which the Centre had said it was authorised to notify as per provisions of the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019 -- enhance LG's powers by making his approval necessary for postings and transfers of secretaries of all J&K administrative departments and cadre-post officers. While this is a significant power as the LG can decide the heads of various J&K departments, a source said the transfers and postings of the subordinate staff, which total nearly five lakh, will continue to be in the hands of the J&K govt. The J&K LG will, prima facie, have the same powers as the Delhi LG, in that he shall have the final word on matters.

Grandeur of Navami in Baghambari Math

Prayagraj: Navami was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Baghambari Math. Special adornment of Bageshwari Devi took place in Baghambari Math, while Mahant Balbir Giri Ji Maharaj washed the feet of the girls. On the ninth date of Shardiya Navratri, Mahant Balbir Giri Maharaj worshiped Goddess Bageshwari in the morning at Baghambari Math. After this, the goddess



was worshiped while washing the feet of the girls. He performed the traditional Navami puja ritual with his own hands. After this, after feeding the girls, they gave them Dakshina and gifts and bid them farewell. The head of the monastery, Mahant Balbir Giri Ji Maharaj, performed the anointment of Bageshwari Devi in the morning. After this, decoration and aarti was done. Mahant Balbir Giri told that on the occasion of Navami Tithi of Navratri, special worship was performed in the monastery. Mother Bageshwari wished well for all the devotees.

Tughlaki Farmaan: Non-veg shops closed

Prayagraj: The administration closed down all the non-veg shops in the city. All the small shopkeepers in the city having non-veg shops are in trouble. The administration closed down all those shops. Congress leader Irshad Ullah said that there are big restaurants in the city, who are operating and serving non-veg without any hiccups. It is wrong to harass small shopkeepers who had food shops. This is happening for the first time. This is a Tughlaqi decree. It should be reversed.

Sandhi Puja of Maa Durga completed in Bagh of Durga

Prayagraj: Sandhi Puja was conducted at the auspicious time of Durga Puja. This year, the special time of transmission from Ashtami Tithi to Navami Tithi was from



11:32 to 12:28. In the puja courtyard, women started Sandhi Puja by lighting lamps and making the sound of Dhak. Everyone congratulated each other; prominent among them were President Praveen Chandra Jain, Rajesh Malik, Anu Pandey, Acting President Lalu Mittal, Aditi Rai, Jhumru Jain, Chunky Chatterjee, Ambrish Jain, Happy Chaturvedi, Ankit Singh, Mudit Singh, Shashank Mittal, Soma Chatterjee, Jai Aggarwal, Kavita Mukherjee, Rohini Chatterjee Ruma Lahiri, Sushil Lahiri, Raju Dwivedi, Richa Dwivedi, Babu, Rajan Yadav, Pawan, Anu Yadav, Raman Gupta, Jai Hind Shweta Mittal etc. were present.

Vi Business to introduce Make-In-India SD-WAN Solution

Varanasi: Vi Business, the enterprise arm of leading telecom operator Vi, today announced a strategic partnership with Infinity Labs Ltd to introduce a Make-in-India SD-WAN solution as part of its Hybrid SD-WAN portfolio. The collaboration enhances the portfolio by integrating advanced AI-based security features, offering Indian enterprises a robust defence against the growing threat of cyber-attacks and demonstrating Vi Business's commitment to offering cutting-edge indigenous technology and nurturing innovation.

Stronger security frameworks are crucial for any enterprise to thrive in a digital business environment. Hybrid SD-WAN is designed to provide businesses with solutions like Hybrid Network, Integrated Security, Intelligent Routing, Monitoring, and Analytics. The partnership with Infinity Labs Ltd will further equip enterprises using Vi Business Hybrid SD-WAN with AI-powered security features to enhance their threat detection mechanisms, automate responses, and safeguard sensitive data more effectively.

Sassy Kapoor sisters get candid about B'wood

Kanpur: For the first time ever, fans are in for a treat as the iconic sister duo, Karishma Kapoor and Kareena Kapoor Khan, share the screen on Netflix's The Great Indian Kapil Show. In their most candid avatars yet, they take viewers on a rollercoaster of laughter, sharing fun-filled and lesser-known anecdotes. Kapil Sharma digs into how well the sisters know each other, their famous Kapoor khandan, and the memories of their Bollywood journey, spiced with tales of their childhood and film sets. During one such conversation, Karishma hilariously recounts her reaction to learning about Kareena's relationship with Saif Ali Khan. She shares, "I remember, main London mein thi and Kareena ka phone aaya. I asked kya ho raha hai, she said I think I need to tell you something but you should sit down, if there is a calm place, you sit on a sofa.

Mata Siddhidatri is the goddess of accomplishment of all powers: Pt Sushil Kr

Prayagraj: Mahashakti Peeth Maa Kalyani gave darshan to the devotees in the form of Mata Mahagauri on the occasion of Navratri Mahotsav fair in the abode of Maa Kalyani Devi. On the ninth day of Navratri, Maa Kalyani gave darshan to the devotees in the form of Mata Mahagauri. But in the morning, Mangala Aarti and Abhishek of Mata Kalyani in the form of Mata Siddhidatri was performed and she was invoked. On this occasion, the devotees worshiped the mother and circumambulated the Shatchandi Mahayagya and got their children tonsured by the chief priest of the temple. Pt. Sushil Pathak told that today on the day of Navami, Kanya Puja and food was provided to the girls, after which Maha Bhandare Prasad was dis-



tributed. On this occasion, an exhibition was organized by the Sanskrit Department on the symbol of women power and devotees from far and wide came to fulfill their wishes. But along with the DJ band, Nishan was offered to Maa Kalyani and said that Mata Siddhidatri is the goddess of accomplishment of all powers and the seeker who worships Maa as per the complete rituals gets the powers of Mata Siddhidatri. Media in-charge Rajesh Kesarwani told that at 6:00

pm, the door of the temple was opened to see the nightly adornment of Mata Siddhidatri form. The mother was riding on a lotus flower and holding Shankha Chakra Padma in her hands. The mother was adorned with jewel-studded jewelry and Bela was done with lotus flowers and Havan was done at 7:00 pm and Shayan Aarti was done at 12:00 pm. Media in-charge Rajesh Kesarwani told that on 12th October, on the day of Vijayadashami, Maa Kalyani was decorated in the form of Durga. Will go and at 7:00 pm cultural programs will be organized by the Culture Department and at 9:00 pm Maryada Purushottam Lord Shri Ram and Lakan Ki Sawadi of Pajava Ramlila Committee team will come to Mata Kalyani's Dham to give darshan to the devotees.

Jayaprakash Narayan, symbol of defense of democracy: BJP

Prayagraj: On the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Jayaprakash Narayan, BJP members paid tribute to him by garlanding the statue of Jayaprakash Narayan located at Manmohan Park. On this occasion, Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani said that the life story of the true guardian of democracy, Jayaprakash Narayan, is an example for the protection of the Constitution and democracy. She will always inspire all of us on the path and said that for their selfish politics, Akhilesh Yadav and Lalu Prasad Yadav, by joining hands with Congress, the mother of corruption and anti-democratic emergency, have turned their backs on the ideas of Jayaprakash Narayan ji and broken his dreams. Which the people of the country will never accept, Regional Vice President Awadhesh Chandra Gupta, and Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra said that Bharat Ratna Jayaprakash



Subhash Chandra Vaish, Aman Kesarwani, Vikas Jaiswal, Ajay Agrahari Shatrughan Jaiswal etc.

Narayan played a remarkable role in preserving and promoting democratic values after independence, he became a symbol of protecting democracy during the Emergency. He emerged and organized the youth for the welfare of the country and his life story will always inspire all of us in the position of protecting the Constitution and democracy. Apart from this, District Spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani was prominent among those who paid tribute to Jayaprakash Narayan ji at the Muthiganj office. Kunj Bihari Mishra, Varun Kesarwani, Ramesh Pasi, Rajesh Kesarwani, Vivek Mishra, Pramod Modi, Prashant Shukla, Vivek Aggarwal, Raju Pathak, Girjesh Mishra, Subhash Chandra Vaish, Aman Kesarwani, Vikas Jaiswal, Ajay Agrahari Shatrughan Jaiswal etc.

Durga Puja award distribution to be based on titles Kamal Ki Murti-1 and Dhamaal Ka Pandal-2

Durga-Puja award distribution on Oct 20 at Bharat Seva Ashram

Prayagraj: This year Bengali Welfare Association has divided Durga Puja award distribution into high and medium budget, so that medium budget puja can be promoted. On one hand seven awards have been allotted for high budget puja, on the other hand 15 awards have been set for various categories for medium budget puja organisers, including the best traditional puja. This year the organization has separately allotted two awards for the best theme

based puja for high and medium budget puja award distribution ceremony will be organized on October 20 in the premises of Bharat Sevashram Sangh under the joint aegis of Bengali Welfare Association and Allahabad Durga Puja Committee. Divisional Secretary of Allahabad Durga Puja Committee, Uttam Kumar Banerjee said that like every year, this year also the organization will honor the elderly and young generation associated with the Puja. Senior jury member of Bengali Welfare Association and media in-charge of cultural cell, artist Ravindra Kushwaha said that the list of people to be honored and the list of pandals receiving awards will be published soon.



Skill Impact Bond trains over 29k candidates, empowering women in workforce

Varanasi: The Skill Impact Bond, launched by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in 2021, has successfully trained more than 29,000 first-time job seekers from low-income families across 18 sectors in 24 states and union territories wherein 73% of them have joined jobs. This initiative aims to equip 50,000 young Indians by bridging the gap between skilling and employment, where women account for 60% of the reach. A key feature of the Skill Impact Bond is its strong gender-responsive approach. With 74% of trainees being women from low-income backgrounds, many with limited education and no prior work experience, the program has successfully engaged and retained

these women in the workforce. Strategies such as family engagement, workplace familiarization, mobility support, and post-placement assistance have been instrumental in achieving these outcomes.

create pathways to better livelihoods, stronger families, and a more resilient nation. The Skill Impact Bond exemplifies this vision, having already trained nearly 29,000 first-time job seekers from low-income

Minister's vision of a future-ready, inclusive workforce that will propel India towards global leadership."

While addressing the gathering, Shri Ved Mani Tiwari, COO (Officiating CEO), NSDC & MD, NSDC International said, "Skill Impact Bond has reached 29,000 lives across 24 states and 18 sectors with a 57% retention rate, aiming for 60%. Moving forward, the focus is on Employability, Employment, Income Enhancement, and Entrepreneurship. By leveraging digitalization and AI-driven innovations in healthcare, education, and beyond, SIB aligns with India's \$35 trillion economic vision for 2047, building a future-ready workforce and fueling a more inclusive startup ecosystem."



During his address, Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship said, "When thoughtful minds collaborate together, we don't just invest; we build communities. We families across 24 states and union territories. It reflects true social responsibility by shifting focus from short-term inputs to long-lasting impact. With SIB 2.0, we aim to raise the bar, aligning with the Hon'ble Prime

BJP's second phase of campaign will run on Oct 13

Prayagraj: Metropolitan President Rajendra while meeting a meeting on special membership campaign in BJP office civil line Mishra said that we have to take the special membership campaign running on October 13 as a challenge and we have to achieve the target set by



Prayagraj metropolis, for which every worker has his own responsibility and has to fulfill it. General Secretary of Operations Kunj Bihari Mishra said. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that a resolution was taken to cross the target of Rs 2 lakh under the campaign. On this occasion, Ramesh Pasi, Devesh Singh ji, Varun Kesarwani, Vivek Aggarwal, Girjesh Mishra, Raju Pathak, Pramod Modi, Ramlochan Sahu and other officials were present. And the board president and workers were present.

Mayor paid obeisance at Shaktipeeths

Prayagraj: Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani, wishing for the welfare of the people of Prayag on Navami of Navratri, visited Maa Kalyani, Maa Lalita Devi, Kalibari Mata Kali temple, and Goddess Durga Puja located at



Arya Nagar, Ghaziganj, Shiv Colony, Muthiganj, Zalim Singh Hatha, Salikganj intersection. On this occasion, Rajesh Kesarwani, Pappu Katra, Shatrughan Jaiswal, Ajay Agrahari, Pinky Jaiswal, Ashok Gupta, Neeraj Kesarwani etc. were present.

On this occasion, Councilor Sunita Chopra, Councilor Mukesh Dusehra, Councilor OP Dwivedi, Mandal President Rank Vijay Singh, Rajesh Kesarwani, Pappu Katra Shatrughan Jaiswal, Ajay Agrahari, Pinky Jaiswal, Ashok Gupta, Neeraj Kesarwani, Amit Gupta, Achal Malviya, Amar Singh etc. were present.

Mauaima XI in semi-finals Late Chhote Lal Hela Memorial Cricket Tournament

Prayagraj: Mauaima XI defeated Ali XI and made it to the semi-finals of the Late Chhote Lal Hela Memorial Tennisball Cricket Tournament. In the first quarter-final played at Daulat Hussain Inter College ground, Mauaima XI scored 68 runs in 8 overs (Abdullah 15, Sheikh Mohsin 11, Kamil, Muqem, Irshad Khan one wicket each). In reply, Ali XI could score only 54 runs in 8 overs (Mohd. Taimur 24, Arshad 2/14, Abrar, Asif and Abhay Singh one wicket each). Former cricketer Santosh Yadav gave the Man of the Match award to Abhay Singh.



Earlier, in the pre-quarter-final, Ali XI defeated Naini Knightriders by nine wickets. Naini Knightriders made 47 runs in 8 overs (Manu Raja 18, Wamiq 14, Muqem Siddiqui 2/10). In reply, Ali XI made 51 runs in 5.1 overs for the loss of one wicket (Ashfaq 25 not out, Imran 15, Vijay Tiwari 1/08).

Popular Rani Ki Bagh Dangal on Oct 20

Prayagraj: The famous state level Rani Ki Bagh Dangal of Soraon tehsil of Gangapur will be organized on 20th October! Let us tell you that in this dangal organized in Pasiyapur village, Etawah, Banda, Mainpuri, Agra Wrestlers come from different districts of the state and showcase their skills. Social worker Shashank Mishra, media in-charge of Dangal Committee, said that Dangal has been organized continuously for more than 100 years. Security and fairness are the hallmarks of Dangal. To encourage the wrestlers, the prize money has been increased last year, where the first person gets the prize. Eleven thousand rupees and one shield will be given to the second champion and seven thousand rupees and shield to the third champion and five thousand rupees and shield will be given to the third champion. As usual, a skit has been organized in the night!



Minister Nandi & Abhilasha perform Kanya Puja & worship amid Vedic rituals

Prayagraj: On the Mahanavami of Sharadiya Navratri, Industrial Development Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi and former Mayor of Prayagraj Abhilasha Gupta Nandi worshipped the eternal form of Goddess Bhagwati with their family at their residence in Bahadurganj. They wished for public welfare and sarve bhavantu sukhinah (happiness of all). Along with the holy festival of Durgashtami and Mahanavami, the couple also extended hearty congratulations and best wishes to all the daughters of the state on the occasion of International Girls Day. Minister Nandi and the former mayor observed a nine-day unbroken fast of Adi Shakti Maa Durga at their residence in Bahadurganj on Mahanavami of Shardiya Navratri. After completing the resolution, the family performed havan-puja

along with praising Maa Durga as per the rituals. Kanya Puja was done along with Havan puja.

Minister Nandi and the former mayor washed the feet of virgin girls with water from a pot in a brass vessel. Applied color on girls feet. They received blessings by applying tilak of Roli, sandalwood, curd and Akshat on girls forehead and wearing them chunari. The girls were served food with their own hands and fed with love.

They received blessings after performing Aarti. Minister Nandi said that daughters are the basis of happiness, prosperity and progress. Their worship is the best worship. Minister Nandi said that Navratri is the festival of worship of Adishakti, who is almighty and omnipresent. Navratri is dedicated to this mother of the world and in Indian culture, virgin girls are considered to be the em-



'Regardless of how powerful evil is, it cannot compete with virtue'

On the eve of Dussehra, the great festival of victory over evil, Uttar Pradesh Government's Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi extended hearty congratulations and best wishes to all the people of the state on the occasion of Vijaydashami. Minister Nandi said that Vijaydashami is the festival of victory of religion, truth and justice as well as the festival of victory of Sanatan's flag. Minister Nandi said that the life of Maryada Purushottam Prabhu Shri Ram is an example of ideals, which continuously teaches the society about the truth and inspires to follow the virtuous path. Minister Nandi said that when Lord Shri Ram left kingdom,

wealth and went to exile following the orders of his parents, he became Maryada Purushottam, who is the pillar of this virtuous world. Minister Nandi said that no matter how big evil is, it cannot stand in front of good. Lord Shri Ram remained ethical even in adverse circumstances. He established a happy kingdom by following the Vedas and dignity. Lord Shri Ram is called Maryada Purushottam because he never violated dignity anywhere in his life. Why did you never utter words while obeying the orders of your parents and teacher? He became an ideal son, ideal disciple, ideal brother, ideal husband, ideal father and an ideal king.

bodiment of goddesses. Minister Nandi said that in today's time, daughters are not behind sons in any sense and in any field. They are achieving remarkable achievements in every field. Therefore, in today's time, there is a need to empower and prosper daughters and encourage them to move forward. For which our government is committed. Minister Nandi said that women empowerment is very important for any country, state or society.

DGC visited Bholenath and Masurian Mai

Prayagraj: On Friday, the ninth day of Navratri, District Government Advocate (Criminal) Gulab Chandra Agrahari, after having darshan of Baba Bholenath, offered water and prayers at the Mankameshwar temple located in Sapatni Lalpur. While returning, also had darshan of Mai Masurian Devi and offered prayers. Gunner Shri Prakash Shah, SI Kaushal Kumar, SI Soumya Devi, SI Dayashankar Yadav and other police personnel were under his security. High Court advocate Javed Alam also remained with him.



Businessmen paid tribute to Ratan Tata

Prayagraj: A condolence meeting was organized at Kharbanda Complex on Friday under the joint aegis of Central Trade Board, Civil Lines Trade Board and Prayagraj Automobile Association. Businessmen paid tribute to industrialist Ratan Tata. Speaker Sushil Kharbanda said in the meeting that there are some personalities who remain immortal even after leaving the body. Ratan Tata's personality was like this. General Secretary Shiv Shankar Singh said in the meeting that Ratan Tata's contribution can never be forgotten. Qadir Bhai, Ashish Arora, Dinesh Singh, Ritesh Singh, Dr. Subhash Yadav, Prabhat Pandey, Rahul Agarwal, DK Agarwal, Hema Bhargava, Sanjeev Agarwal, Shashank Jain, Sheikh Dabur, Advocate Rajkamal Jaiswal, Anil Suneja, Sanjeev Kapoor, Sunny Kohli, Dinesh Singh, Sandeep Katyal, Dr. Subhash Yadav, Sardar Ranveer Singh, Sardar Harvinder Singh Narula, Sikandar Ali and a large number of businessmen were present.

Muslims gave message of mutual brotherhood by worshipping girls

Prayagraj: The harmony of mutual brotherhood was once again seen in the Sangam city of Ganga-Jamuna, Prayagraj Chak Dalit colony. Under the leadership of Muslim Rashtriya Manch's Eastern Uttar Pradesh co-ordinator Farid Sabri, nine girls were worshipped as goddesses on Navami in the holy month of Navratri, were given alta color and dahi jalebi on their feet and gifted educational materials to the girls. There were



daughters of all religions. Their status is very high, we all should respect the daughters of each other's religion. Also, the daughter of Hindu brothers has the form of a goddess and gets mercy in the Muslim society, people should learn from these things. Respect women, even the government has promoted women empowerment like Beti Padhao Beti Bachao, along with, women help desk has also been created in all the police stations so that if women face any kind of problem then they can be heard there. Wakim Ahmed, Rahila Begum, Shakeel Salmani, Moni Khan, Anita Devi etc. were present in the program.

Abbas and Hasbeen become selectors in state cricket

Prayagraj: Mohammad Abbas and Hasbeen Ahmed of the city have been appointed selectors in the state school boys cricket Tournament to be held in Agra from 15 to 21 October. According to the letter issued by the Principal of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar State School Sports Institute Ayodhya, Mohammad Abbas, Sports Teacher of Yadgare Hussaini Inter College has been made selector in the Under-19 age group and Hasbeen Ahmed, Sports Teacher of Pt. Hanuman Dutt Tripathi Inter College Ismailganj Prayagraj has been made selector in the Under-17 age group. Hasbin has been a selector of the school team many times before this.



Nand Gaon Colony presents a festering picture of utter civic neglect

Residents shot off letter to DM, requesting grievance redressal

Prayagraj: Sapendra Singh (Satyendra Kumar Singh) Advocate High Court Prayagraj R/o Kasari-Masari Housing Scheme Phase - 2 Nand Gaon Colony has shot off a letter to district magistrate regarding public hearing and disregard of IGRS complaints. He has demanded to ensure necessary action be taken after investigation of the case and upload the quality report on the portal. He has stated in the letter that application forms are being given from time to time in the public hearing in the Municipal Commissioner's

office regarding the problems of Awas Yojana Phase-2 Nandgaon Colony, but the subordinates of the Municipal Commissioner do not follow his instructions and throw the application forms in the garbage heap. Be it City Environment Officer Uttam Kumar, or Road Lighting Administrator Kaihar or Chief Engineer Municipal Corporation Satish Chandra ji. It is common to ignore the instructions of the Municipal Commissioner. There is a park of 30 acres in Nandgaon Colony, which is like a forest, in which crimi-

nals and gamblers are running their illicit operations. Many applications have been given to the city commissioner regarding the beautification and maintenance of the park. The subordinates do not implement the instructions given by him. Let's do it by filing a report. This is the condition of street lighting, the street lights are broken, some are lit, some are lit day and night, at some places there is a shadow of darkness, in this colony the Municipal Corporation has made a road in the name of literary poet Jamadar Dheeraj. The

road is in poor condition, the road is dilapidated, the Municipal Corporation has shirked its responsibilities by installing a naming board, at least 30 to 40 complaints have been lodged with the IGRS regarding parks, roads and lighting. But due to the indifference of the Municipal Corporation officials and employees, the colony residents are helpless and left to fend themselves. Prior to signing off, he has requested district magistrate to direct the Municipal Corporation officials to resolve the above mentioned problems.

Navratri Cup U-15 Football Tournament: Northern & FUC in final

Prayagraj: On the third day of Navratri Cup Football Tournament organized by Northern Football Academy, Northern Football Academy and Friends United Football Club made it to the final by winning their respective semi-



final matches. According to football coach Indranil Ghosh, in the first semi-final match, Northern Football Academy defeated Super Avengers 3-0. Kumar Ansh from a pass of Nishant, Aditya Upadhyay with the help of Aditya Singh, Shaksham Oraon from a cross by Rudransh scored one goal each. In the other semi-final match, Friends United Football Club defeated Youth Football Academy by 1-0 in the tiebreaker. Ayan Ahmed scored the only winning goal. The final match will be played on October 12.

Guest Lecture held in Pharmacy Department of SHUATS

Prayagraj: The Pharmacy Department of SHUATS organized a guest lecture on "Eco-friendly and Economic Applications of Solubilizing Properties of Safe and Economic Solids in Various Fields of Pharmacy". Renowned academician Prof. (Dr.) R. K. Maheshwari, Retd. Professor and Ex-Head of Pharmacy Department, SGSITS, Indore delivered a lecture at this event. Associate Dean, Faculty



of Health Sciences Prof. Amita Verma welcomed all the guests and encouraged the participants to use green solvents. Prof. Maheshwari interacted with the students and made them aware that harmful organic solvents can be replaced with eco-friendly and cheap materials using scientific techniques. The program was concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Vandana Gupta. Plantation of saplings was also held during this event. Dr. Danish Ahmed, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Yadav, Dr. Ekta Yadav, Mr. Anup Masih, Mr. Vinay, Dr. Jagat Pal Yadav, Mr. Ankit Kumar Singh, Mr. Ankit Sahoo, Ms. Monisha and students, as well as faculty members of the pharmacy department, were also present in this event. Dean Faculty of Health Sciences Dr. Shekhar appreciated the organization of the guest lecture.

On b'anniv of Jaiprakash Narayan, SP leaders offered floral tributes

Prayagraj: Samajwadi Party district and metropolitan officials paid tribute to the pioneer of complete revolution, Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan, on his 122nd birth-

day by garlanding his life-size statue at Manmohan Park. Tributes were paid. District President Anil Yadav, Gaugapar District President, Jamuna Par Pappu Lal Nishad, SP leaders gathered under the leadership of Metropolitan President Syed Iftekhar cleaned the statue with water and offered floral tributes. Leaders Dr. Man Singh Yadav, Anil Yadav, Pappu Lal Nishad and Iftekhar. While reminding the workers at the district office, Hussain said that Jayaprakash Narayan, born on October 11, 1902 in Saran district of Bihar, was called the pioneer of complete revolution. It was said by Loknayak that people like political, economic, social, cultural, intellectual, educational and spiritual The total revolution is made by combining all the seven revolutions. General Secretary Ravindra Yadav said that as BJP is moving towards its decline, it is also crossing all limits of tyranny and dogmatism, this is the reason why today when Jayaprakash Narayan is being



remembered in the entire country and state, our Last year, to stop Akhilesh Yadav ji from paying tribute to the leading leader and the true adopter of socialist ideology, he was stopped by placing a tin on the JPNIC gate and by deploying a large number of police contingents, but Akhilesh ji is afraid of this government. No, they were forced to pay homage by crossing the gate, this is the reason that due to the fighting spirit of Samajwadi Party, there was a surge of enthusiasm among the workers which will pave the way for the downfall of BJP in the 2027 elections.

Those who garlanded and offered flowers at the statue of Jaiprakash Narayan included Syed Iftekhar Hussain, Anil Yadav, Pappu Lal Nishad, Dr. Man Singh Yadav, Ravindra Yadav Ravi, Mehboob Usmani Sandeep Yadav, Mahendra Nishad, Nate Chaudhary, OP Pal, OP Yadav. Rakesh Verma, Suresh Srivastava, Syed Mohammad Hamid, Alok Dwabe, Mohammad Yusuf Ansari, Dilip Chaurasia, Vikas Chaurasia, Ankit Patel, Sanjay Yadav, Ashutosh Tiwari, Dan Bahadur Madhur etc. were included.

Vipul Singh selected as international hockey adjudicator

Prayagraj: Gangapar Jhusi hockey players congratulated Vipul Singh on being made the international adjudicator in Malaysia Sultan Johar Cup. On this occasion, players of Vijay Group of Jhusi Hockey Academy congratulated Vipul Singh on being selected as the international adjudicator. Vipul Singh son Santosh Singh Jhusi will play the role of judge in the international hockey competition held in Azad Nagar Malaysia from 19th October to 26th October. Jhusi resident Vipul Singh has played the role of judge in the national competition from Chandigarh Hockey Association in the National Championship in 2015 and is an excellent hockey player. Presently, he has played the role of a judge in many national competitions. Presently working in Prayagraj Ministry of Defence, he is also a member of Vijay Sansthan Group family. On this occasion, coach Vijay Singh congratulated the Indian team with Vipul Singh's wishes for a bright future. Returned with the medal or gave good wishes. On

this occasion, senior hockey player Rajneesh Chaturvedi Ashwani Srivastava Shailesh Kesharwani Mohammad



Azam Mohammad Harun Kush Shukla Pitambar Yadav Vaibhav Dubey and hockey players boy and girl Kavya Singh Shivanya Prince Priyanshi Deepu Yadav Vinod Pal Sahil etc. congratulated.

Dandiya Garba Nights today

Prayagraj: "Dandiya Garba Nights" is going to be organized at Srishti Imperial Heights Society, Civil Lines, (opposite Public Service Commission) on Sunday, 13th October. In which various types of entertaining games and dinner along with songs and music have also been arranged for the people of the society. The entire program of the society will be under the supervision of committee secretary Prasenjit Kanungo, Sunaina Aggarwal, Garima Arora and Ashutoshji.

Editorial

Why China is blocking Dalai Lama's Sri Lanka visit

The Sri Lankans have been trying to have the Dalai Lama visit since January 2023

The—70 per cent plus Buddhist—Sinhala population of Sri Lanka fervently wants to welcome the 87-year-old Dalai Lama into their country at the earliest. A group of Sri Lankan Buddhist monks who met the Dalai Lama in Bodh Gaya in 2022 invited him to come. Dalai Lama is revered by his direct followers and other Buddhist sects as the 14th reincarnation of the Buddha, Avalokiteshvara. The current monk was anointed at the age of 15 in 1950, the very year the Chinese took over Tibet.

The Sri Lankans have been trying to have the Dalai Lama visit since January 2023. They are trying once more now as fresh efforts intensify on the open invitation from the various Buddhist monasteries. Many Sri Lankan Buddhists feel the Dalai Lama can help sort out the island nation's economic woes with his wisdom and blessings. Leading Sri Lankan Buddhist leader Waskaduwe Mahindawansa went on television to state that the Chinese had pressured the Sri Lankan government to prevent the visit. The Chinese, ever political and strategic, want the Sri Lankan Buddhists to team up with Gandharan Buddhists in Pakistan rather than the Indian orders that are opposed to the Chinese. And certainly, they do not want the Dalai Lama to visit and be honoured. The impediment to a Sri Lankan visit comes every time by way of China. Beijing's debt restructuring will play a crucial role in obtaining further soft loans from the IMF. This has tied the hands of the Sri Lankan government. The Chinese still regard the elderly Dalai Lama as a dangerous separatist with massive influence, a living and highly popular symbol of resistance to the Chinese takeover of Tibet. One of the thorny problems stretching beyond the present incumbent is that the Buddhist monasteries in Tawang, Leh, and elsewhere in India do not agree that the Dalai Lama's successor can be chosen by the Chinese. The Buddhists everywhere are furious at the constant insults hurled by the Communist Chinese against the Dalai Lama, who do not recognise him as a spiritual leader at all, calling him a 'wolf' in monks robes. The internal facts in Tibet are quite damning. Since 1949, over 1.2 million Tibetans have been killed, over 6,000 monasteries destroyed, and thousands of Tibetans imprisoned. The Tibetans are being relocated to dense city enclaves in Lhasa; their smart phones are monitored; and the Mandarin language is being pushed in place of the Tibetan. With all this and 74 years of effort, including much infrastructure development and the relocation of ethnic Han Chinese to Lhasa, the Chinese are still not the masters of Tibetan hearts and minds. Similar problems of non-acceptance of unbridled repression plague the Communist CCP in Xinkiang, Hong Kong, against dissidence of any kind in the country, and of course, Taiwan. The Chinese authorities bristle at everything the Dalai Lama says and does, and are disturbed every time the Dalai Lama travels within India or internationally. Still, the Dalai Lama has been very successful at promoting the Tibetan cause. The Chinese don't like the fact that the Dalai Lama is completely free in India. They objected strongly to the Dalai Lama's visit to the Tawang Buddhist monastery and other parts of Arunachal Pradesh as a state guest in 2016. China, typically and audaciously, claims 90,000 sq km of the state, even today as 'South Tibet'. China is firmly opposed to the Nobel Laureate and international apostle of spiritual optimism. The fact that the young Lama escaped to India, which gave him sanctuary, is a constant thorn in the flesh.

2024 polls, election manifestos and Sanatana Dharma

One of the primary issues of the 2024 national election campaign has become Sanatana Dharma. The BJP accuses the Opposition of insulting Sanatana Dharma. The Opposition rebuts this by saying that the BJP is deliberately politicising the issue and misguiding ordinary voters. Elections will come and go. Political parties will win and lose. But in a country where the overwhelming majority is Hindu, the debate is one of pivotal importance, transcending transient political dividends. It has a bearing on the very nature of Sanatana Dharma, its evolution, its philosophical wisdom, its inherently eclectic and inclusive character, and all the factors which make it different from Abrahamic faiths. Let me clarify at the outset that I am a proud Hindu. The number of books I have written on the Hindu faith, and the sheer profundity of its thought as well as the remarkable achievements of Hindu civilisation which forms the foundational period of our history, bears testimony to this. My real worry, however, is that this acrimonious political wrangling on Sanatana Dharma could reduce this great religion to a new level of fundamentalist illiteracy. And such a consequence goes far beyond the immediate political for-



tunes of expedient politicians.

by Taboola Sponsored Links The crux of the matter is: what is Sanatan Dharma? Is it an unchanging monolith? Is it compiled in a single text, like the Bible or Koran, which cannot be transgressed by believers? Is it written in stone, to be interpreted by one Pope or Ayatollah? Or, has it evolved to be what it is precisely because it is none of the above? It is exceptionally significant that in its entire history, not a single Hindu has been burnt on the stake or killed for blasphemy, as is not uncommon in some other faiths. What this means is that Sanatana Dharma has allowed for differences of opinion within its fold, including trenchant criticism of some aspects of it, by its own followers. The

Hindu faith had not one but six systems of philosophy attempting to understand the truth behind the vast and bewildering plurality of the cosmos. Each of them had a different interpretation. In addition, there is the Lokayita Charvaka school, which cogently argued the materialist school of thought, denied the existence of God, and considered the Vedas, regarded as Shrutis or revealed texts by many Hindus, as devoid of all sanctity. But the Charvakas were not ostracised, or worse, beheaded for blasphemy. Instead, they enriched the dialogic debate within Hinduism and were countered in a civilised manner by those opposed to them. In the 8th century CE, Adi Shankaracharya, who is considered the 'reviver' of

Hinduism, could say without na veda na yajnah: neither mantras, nor pilgrimages, nor the Vedas or yajna (rituals), matter. What matters is: Chidananda roopam, Shivo hum, Shivo hum: bliss and awareness, I am Shiva, I am Shiva. In many religions, the declaration of equating oneself with God would be considered blasphemy. For instance, in Persia, a Sufi mystic, Al Hallaj (858-922 CE), almost contemporaneous with Shankaracharya, was put to death for having the temerity to say: 'Ana'l Haq: I am the Truth'. But not so in Sanatana Dharma. The basic point is Sanatana Dharma is eternal for the grandeur of its philosophical vision, and not only for its religious practice; it is eternal for the diversity it allows for in thought, and not necessarily its rituals. Therefore, narrowing the interpretation of Sanatana Dharma to exclude all differences of opinion is distorting its greatness and, indeed, the very reason for survival. Unfortunately, this is precisely what we see happening today. Anybody and everybody is 'hurt' by anyone who does not blindly endorse everything that is deemed by the 'hurt' to be a part of Sanatana Dharma, including those ills that urgently need reform, such

as the pernicious caste system and gender disparity. If this is the criteria, then Veer Savarkar, the icon of Hindutva, would be hounded today, because he wrote extensively and consistently about what is wrong in the Hindu faith and practice. He called these the 'seven fetters, including the misinformed religious sanction given to the caste system, inter-dining between castes, inter-caste marriage, gender disparity (beti-bandi) and untouchability'. So would Dr Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi, Vivekananda and Jotibhai Phule. The language used by Udhayanidhi Stalin against Sanatana Dharma—as I have written strongly about before—is abominable and unpardonable. But the original inspiration for the revolt against the social evils that were sanc\against 'inferior castes', as part of Hindu religious practice, in Tamil Nadu came from EV Periyar, who is the ideological inspiration for both the DMK and the AIADMK. The language of Udhayanidhi was emphatically wrong, but the idea behind it of attacking the discrimination, oppression and exploitation of Dalits and the backward classes, is still valid, especially in Tamil Nadu where 70 per cent of Hindus are of the backward classes.

Unravelling West Asia's Geopolitical Chessboard: Iran, Israel, and Saudi

In its effort to position Iran as a true Muslim power, it made anti-Israel posturing an intrinsic part of its foreign policy rhetoric. Image: Reuters File Photo

On Sunday, April 14, Israel experienced a barrage of missiles launched from Iran, marking a notable escalation in tensions between the two nations. Although Iran and Israel do not engage in direct conflict, their rivalry is entangled within the broader power struggle between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Both Tehran and Riyadh vie for regional dominance, not just through geopolitical manoeuvring but also through religious leadership.

Lebanese analyst Patricia Karam posits that Iran perceives the

Israel-Palestine conflict as an opportunity to bolster its influence over Shiite groups in the Middle East. Iran aligns itself with the so-called "axis of resistance," loosely comprising regional military proxies closely linked to Tehran. The year 1979 witnessed a dramatic shift in the Middle East's power dynamics. Mass protests in February 1979 in Iran culminated in overthrowing the Pahlavi dynasty's decades-long rule. The new regime, led by Ayatollah Khomeini, established a Shi'ite Islamic Republic, directly challenging Saudi Arabia's self-proclaimed leadership of Sunni Islam. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia took it as an anti-royalist coup that happened earlier in Cairo and Baghdad. This sectarian divide intensi-

fied later that year when an extremist religious group led by extremist Juhayman Al-Otaybi, a follower of the Wahhabi Salafi creed of Islam, carried out a 14-day occupation of Mecca's Grand Mosque. Driven by a messianic mission, the group exhorted the Saudi population to rise up and overthrow the monarchy and establish an anti-Western, Islamist regime. According to the attackers, the Al-Saud family had lost its legitimacy because it was corrupt, ostentatious, and under the spell of the morally degraded values of the West. The siege of Mecca struck a direct blow to the religious and political legitimacy of the House of Saud. Saudi Arabia, as custodian of Islam's holiest sites in Mecca.

West Asia crisis: Israel's inevitable retaliation against Iran

In fact, even as this column predicting Israel's strike against Iran as inevitable was sent for publication, media reports have emerged that Israel has carried out retaliatory strikes inside Iran while Iranian state media, according to CNN, have reported explosions in the centre of the country. This completely changes the equation. The region and the world are now caught in a dangerous escalatory spiral, should Iran choose to respond to the latest strikes as it has vowed to, and India will inevitably get caught in the crossfire. The world, however, wanted Israel to show "restraint". It is being said that the April 13 attack by Tehran — in which a multifaceted strike package including over 300 cruise missiles, ballistic missiles and kamikaze drones were fired at Jerusalem — was "symbolic" in nature, a bit like scripted WWE 'fights'. The reasons behind such a suggestion are two-fold: one, that Israel did not suffer any meaningful damage and two, Tehran had announced its intent well before the attack, giving the other side enough time to prepare. World leaders led by the US are leaning on Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his war cabinet to "defuse and deesca-



late" tensions. There is even a cautious optimism in the air that the situation can be contained. UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres has urged "maximum restraint" and said at an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council on Sunday that "it's time to step back from the brink". The Joe Biden administration, which has already declared that the US "won't take part" in any counter-offensive against Iran, is sending a message to its ally that Washington is "not looking for a war with Iran". According to US media outlet Axios, Biden apparently told Netanyahu, "You got a win. Take the win." The US is apparently organizing a "diplomatic response" along with other G7 nations that is likely to involve fresh sanctions on Iran's missile and drone programmes. US secretary of state Antony Blinken, according to Axios, has said that "strength and wisdom must be the two sides of the same coin" in a veiled message to Israel. Germany and the UK have sent

their foreign ministers Annalena Baerbock and David Cameron, respectively, to Israel to plead with Netanyahu not to retaliate. The result of this coordinated western pressure on Israel, so far, has been poor. Israel is reserving its right to strike back at Iran. Netanyahu flatly told the visiting German and British ministers that Israel will make its "own decisions" and "do everything necessary to defend itself." Israel's defence minister Yoav Gallant has told his American counterpart, Lloyd Austin, that Israel has "no option but to respond" while the Jewish state's military chief has said that the inevitable response will come at a place and time of Israel's choosing. Israel's 'war cabinet' is meeting again to decide on the modalities of response, and according to Jerusalem Post, an Israeli media outlet, the country has already decided on the type but not the timing of the counter-strike on Iran. From the outside, all this may seem a little mystifying.

Why Maldives may rework India relations after Majlis

Strategic thinkers in the two nations are keeping their fingers crossed, but are still hopeful, over the future of Maldives-India bilateral relations after parliamentary polls in the two countries, especially the former. That is to say, the negativity of the past months, particularly emanating from the Maldivian side, may slowly be replaced by positivity and even more objectivity in the coming weeks, months and years. The mostly unnoticed, yet quietly efficient posturing in the whole melee was the official position, as 'stated' by India. Rather, there was no official response to any of the nega-

tive observations and governmental initiatives that have had the potential to 'kill' bilateral relations for good. If anything, India has responded only with abundant positivity through deeds, still abiding by the nation's value-based 'Neighbourhood First' ethos through Prime Minister Narendra Modi breathes in fresh air through words and deeds — especially in the case of a 'smaller neighbour' Maldives. It was thus that the Modi government took President-elect Mohamed Muizzu's reiteration of his poll-campaign 'commitment' on India withdrawing military pilots and technicians man-

ning the three flying platforms that were gifts from India through the past decade. Muizzu has since announced that the second of three batches of Indian personnel have since left Maldives as agreed upon. The third one is due to depart in May, all of them being replaced by civilian 'technical personnel'. The Indian acceptance of the Muizzu diktat with grace and dignity did ensure that the new President had nothing to fear from India or be suspicious about the larger Ocean neighbour in the north. Muizzu's estranged political mentor and jailed former President Abdulla Yameen

had injected those unnecessary and unjustified fears and suspicions into the bilateral discourse with his 'India Military Out' request in the closing months of his presidency in 2018. Barring India's regional adversary China's unilateral declaration that they would defend Maldives' 'sovereignty and territorial integrity in case of external threats', there was nothing to suggest that either India or any other nation or force was threatening the archipelago-nation at the time — or, even in the past six years since Yameen lost the presidential polls of 2018. Yet, after losing power and leaving without a cause.

As hundreds of Chinese items lose tax exclusions, the US-China trade battle escalates



Delhi: Recently, the US has banned, restricted, or imposed high taxes on hundreds of Chinese imports to stimulate domestic production and reduce dependence on Chinese commodities. The USTR has already added tariffs to half of 429 items. The USTR excluded further duties from the "Section 301" probe of China's technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation measures in previous announcements. The current 429 product-specific exclusions (352 reinstated and 77 COVID-related) expire

on May 31, 2024. The US trade agency declared a 14-day transition period for all current exclusions until June 14, 2024, and to "extend certain exclusions through May 31, 2025" in a new notice. "To allow for a transition period, the US Trade Representative is extending all currently expiring exclusions through June 14, 2024," it stated. Chinese motors and medical equipment are excluded until May 2025. The USTD ruled that "extending these exclusions will support efforts to shift sourc-

ing out of China, or provide additional time where, despite efforts to source products from alternative sources, availability of the product outside of China remains limited". Last March, the USTR reinstated some "Section 301" tariff exceptions for Chinese goods. Former President Donald Trump began a trade war with China and imposed tariffs on nearly \$300 billion in Chinese goods, invoking Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Trump granted product tariff exclusions for select businesses

AESL Bhiwani students create history in NEET 2024, Disha Agarwal scores 710 out of 720 and AIR 368



Bhiwani : Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparation services, is proud to announce the remarkable achievement of its 11 students in Bhiwani who have scored 650 and above marks in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) 2024. Along with this, they have achieved impressive All India Rank. Among the students who scored impressive marks, Disha Agarwal scored 710 marks and AIR 368, Arjun scored 690 marks, Amrendra Singh scored 681 marks, Shubhi Kartik Kapoor scored 677 marks. At the same

time, a total of 11 students from Bhiwani scored 650 and above. The National Testing Agency (NTA) has recently declared the results of National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) 2024. The students' achievement is a big contribution of their families, teachers, and Aakash Educational Services Limited. The united support of their family, and supporters has brought them to this important milestone. The students have made their parents and the entire staff of Aakash Institute proud by achieving impressive scores. Aakash Educational Services

Limited (AESL) Regional Director Parmeshwar Jha said, "Congratulations to all the students on their outstanding achievement. We are proud of the achievement of our students. Their impressive scores are shining examples of the potential of our students and the effectiveness of our teaching methods. At Aakash, we are committed to providing our students with the best resources and training to help them achieve their dreams. The success of these students will undoubtedly inspire many more students to strive for excellence."

CAPSULES

Comments by Mr. Abheek Barua, Chief Economist – HDFC Bank on RBI Monetary Policy Committee

Ambala/Hisar: As expected, the RBI kept its policy rate and stance unchanged. Although, the MPC decision saw two dissents instead of the one seen in the previous policy. The one positive out of the policy was the upward revision in the GDP growth forecast to 7.2% from 7% earlier for FY25. On the other hand, inflation forecasts were kept unchanged. The RBI remains in a wait and watch mode to assess domestic developments like the monsoon performance, food inflation, and the new fiscal strategy before moving on rates. We continue to see the possibility of a rate cut in Q4 2024. Despite the governors' emphasis that monetary policy decisions are driven primarily by domestic considerations, we think that any rate cut action could end up being aligned with the timing of the Fed's rate cut cycle to limit financial market volatility. On the regulatory front, the increase in bulk deposit limit to INR 3 crore from INR 2 crore, signals the RBI's intention to encourage banks to garner greater retail deposits to fund credit growth.

AESL Ambala students create history in NEET 2024, 18 students score 650 and above

Ambala: Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparation services, is proud to announce the remarkable achievement of 18 of its students in Ambala who have scored 650 and above out of 720 marks in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) 2024. The students who scored impressive marks include Ritvik Sharma with 710 marks and AIR 464, Muskan Malhotra with 710 marks and AIR 618, Himansh Chawla with 710 AIR 658, Alina Garg with 694 marks, Harshpreet Kaur



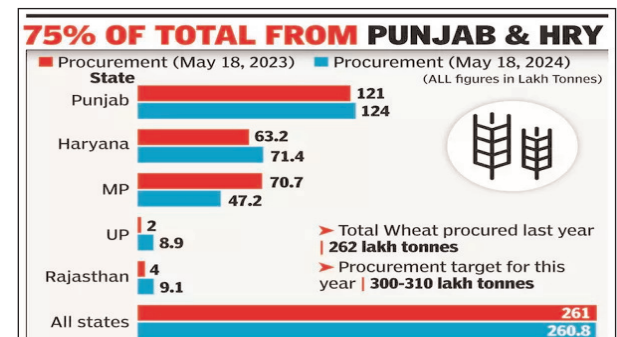
with 690 marks, Kusha Lamba with 687 marks, Aksha and Kanika with 685 marks. A total of 18 students from Ambala scored 650 and above. The National Testing Agency (NTA) has recently declared the results of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) 2024. The achievement of the stu-

dents is a big contribution of their families, teachers, and Aakash Educational Services Limited. The united support of their peers, family and supporters has brought them to this important milestone. The students have made their parents and the entire staff of Aakash Institute proud by achieving impressive scores.

Parmeshwar Jha, Regional Director, Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL) said, "Congratulations to all the students on their outstanding achievement. "We are proud of the achievement of our students. Their impressive scores are shining examples of the potential of our students and the effectiveness of our teaching methods. At Aakash, we are committed to providing the best resources and training to help our students achieve their dreams. The success of these students will undoubtedly inspire many more students to strive for excellence."

Fully procured wheat by centre exceeds last year's mark

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



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

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

Intoxicated with power, the BJP government is playing with the future of the youth: Ramchandra

Kaithal: Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee Executive Member Ramchandra Gurjar Dhand said that the Haryana government is playing with the future of the youth. The recent High Court decision regarding various recruitments shows that thousands of youth of Haryana will be affected by unemployment. The Haryana government is talking about appealing to the Supreme Court only for its political gains. Talking at his establishment in the town, Ramchandra Gurjar Dhand said that the BJP-led government disappointed the youth in its 10-year tenure and stalled the recruitment of youth due to its

wrong policies. In the second term of the BJP government, the JJP in the alliance was also involved in playing with the future of the youth. Various vacant posts could not be filled and to garner applause, the tune of 75 percent reservation to the youth of Haryana in the private sector was also sung and that too was cancelled. Congress leader Ramchandra Gurjar Dhand said that similarly not a single recruitment process was completed during the BJP rule and students spent thousands of rupees in filling forms, taking coaching and giving its papers. When the youth were recruited after many efforts, then the High Court

of Punjab and Haryana gave a shock by declaring the rules and policies of the Haryana government as wrong. Congress State Executive Member Ramchandra Gurjar Dhand said that not a single recruitment process was completed in the 10 years of BJP rule and the youth is disappointed with the wrong policies of the government. There can be no greater sorrow for the youth than getting a job once and then losing it. He said that to take electoral advantage, the Haryana government talked about going to the Supreme Court regarding the decision of the High Court, but the government's promises.

Hardwyn India Ltd. Reports Robust Earnings for Q4FY24, Revenue Jumps 23% YoY

CHANDIGARH:

Hardwyn India Ltd. (BSE: 541276, NSE: HARDWYN), a leader in architectural hardware and glass fittings, has announced robust earnings for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2024. For the quarter ended 31 March 2024, the company reported Revenue from operations at Rs. 36.94 Cr, a growth of 23.63% YoY. The EBITDA jumped 5.48% YoY, from Rs. 5.66 Cr (Q4FY23) to Rs. 5.97 Cr (Q4FY24). PAT fell 11.80% YoY, from Rs. 3.73 Cr (Q4FY23), to Rs. 3.29 Cr (Q4FY24). For the year ended 31 March 2024, the company saw a robust 8.34% growth in its revenue from operations, growing from Rs. 125.07 Cr (FY23) to Rs. 135.5 Cr (FY24). EBITDA grew 15.31% YoY, from Rs. 13.91 Cr (FY23), to

Rs. 16.04 Cr (FY24). PAT grew 7.97% YoY, from Rs. 9.03 Cr (FY23), to Rs. 9.75 Cr (FY24). Earlier, the company had announced that it's newly formed Subsidiary 'Slim-X' has unveiled a range of innovative products. The new brand, with cutting-edge technology, now plans to generate revenue of Rs 100 crore in the next two years, leveraging the growth potential of innovative products-ultra-slim, high-performance aluminum profiles- for industries. Hardwyn India Ltd. is a leading brand among the architectural hardware manufacturers in India. For over half a century, Hardwyn India Ltd. has been redefining perfection in the realm of architectural hardware. The company offers comprehensive solutions for resi-

dential and commercial structures as an unwavering manufacturer of architectural hardware and glass fittings. Through rigorous testing and relentless research and development practices, Hardwyn has earned a stellar reputation for benchmark quality through a customer-centric philosophy and relentless pursuit of world-class quality. To create a robust global supply chain and establish a trusted distribution network, Hardwyn has continually strived to expand its global footprint. The company has built a large network of dealers and distributors to provide unwavering customer support. Beyond business success, Hardwyn holds a deep commitment to environmental sustainability.

DD Kisan launches 50-language AI anchors Krish and Bhoomi



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

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

How first battle between Modi govt 3.0, INDIA bloc hits a flashpoint over NEET

New Delhi: With the Lok Sabha election results signalling a resurgent Opposition INDIA bloc, the raging row over alleged irregularities in the NEET-UG examination and the now-cancelled UGC-NET examination have become the first major issue of conflict between the new BJP-led NDA government and the Opposition alliance. This is set to make stormy the first session of the 18th Lok Sabha beginning June 24. The Congress-led Opposition has made its intent clear soon after the poll results — that it will not let the government rest, vowing that it would be a “fierce challenger” on issues of national importance. At a press conference in Delhi two days ago, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi repeatedly attacked the government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi over their



alleged failures to stop paper leaks. Rahul made it clear that the Modi government 3.0 will face “intense scrutiny” of the Opposition on various public issues. “They (government) can indulge in eye-wash. But they will face such pressure from the Opposition that they are going to think twice about whatever they are doing. We will make sure that we put so much pressure on them that this issue (leaks of exam papers) is resolved,” Rahul said. He added that the Opposition would raise this issue in the upcoming session of Parliament. **Was paper leaks a**

poll issue During the recent Lok Sabha polls, which saw the INDIA bloc win 234 seats, the issue of paper leaks featured frequently in the election speeches of prominent Opposition faces — including Rahul, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav, among other INDIA leaders — as a way to reach out to the youth. The Congress, in its manifesto, had promised fast-track courts to adjudicate cases related to question paper leaks.

Guntur: A row broke out over the demolition of an office of YSRCP in Guntur district on Saturday with party chief Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy accusing Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of functioning “like a dictator”. “Chandrababu took vendetta politics to the next level. Like a dictator, he got YSRCP’s central office demolished with excavators and bulldozers, which was almost complete,” he said in a post on X. Former CM Jagan also accused the state government of carrying out the demolition against the high court orders. **What had the high court said about demolition activity** According to a statement by YSRCP, the Andhra Pradesh High Court on Friday had ordered the demolition to be halted. The order was also conveyed to the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) commissioner by a party lawyer, but the authority is said to

Like a dictator’: Jagan Mohan Reddy hits out at Andhra CM



have still gone ahead and demolished the structure at 5.30 am on Saturday. “The demolition proceeded even though the YSRCP had approached the High Court the previous day (Friday), challenging the preliminary actions of the CRDA (Capital Region Development Authority),” the statement read. According to YSRCP, CRDA’s action amounts to contempt of court. ‘Law and justice completely vanished’: Jagan on NDA govt in Andhra The former chief minister lashed out at the newly-formed NDA government in the state and added that the demolition indicates how Naidu’s reign in the next five

years would be. “Law and justice have completely disappeared in the state,” he said in his post. The NDA government in the state comprises of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in alliance with Pawan Kalyan’s Jana Sena Party and the BJP. In the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the TDP won 16 seats while its allies won three (BJP) and two (JSP) respectively. In the state Assembly polls which were held simultaneously, the TDP won 136 Assembly seats, while the JSP and BJP emerged victorious in 21 and eight seats respectively. The Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSRCP was restricted to 11 seats, down from the 151 it won in 2019.

CAPSULES

Aundh-Baner residents grapple with inadequate garbage disposal problem and its consequences

Ill-equipped waste disposal systems, leading to garbage getting piled at various points, is a cause of worry for residents of Aundh, an area which is otherwise considered as one of Pune’s most developed and progressive zones. Residents are concerned about the problems that could be caused by frequent dumping of trash at various spots in the Aundh-Baner areas, such as those between Jupiter Hospital and Nagras Road. “I know there are these agencies that dump garbage anywhere in Aundh; there are specific spots. There is no control at all,” noted Subhabrata Sanyal, 51, a resident of Kumar Padmalay. He said the waste menace could also draw in more stray dogs, posing a threat to people going for morning and evening walks. “When you walk onto the streets, you can see food littered all over, that attracts stray dogs. In case we go near the garbage by mistake, these animals could even attack us,” observed Deepa Adiga, 47, a resident of Sylvan Heights. Residents blamed lack of a proper collection system by the municipality for the mounting garbage piles. “Sometimes the municipal truck may be arriving at a particular time and the waste is generated later, particularly by restaurants where the waste is generated very late at night, post 11 pm or midnight, after the restaurant is closed,” said Anil Gokarn, founder of ProEarth Co., a company that deals with effective waste management.

Meet Dot, a new AI chatbot that could become your ‘friend, companion and confidant’

AI chatbots like Gemini, ChatGPT, and Copilot may be helping you with work and everyday tasks, but Dot AI is designed as a digital companion that mimics human speech and empathy. Developed by New Computer, a startup founded by ex-Apple designer Jason Yuan and engineer Sam Whitmore, the app is currently available for free on the Apple App Store. While it may appear to be just another AI chatbot at first glance, what makes Dot unique is



its ability to remember your conversations to offer a more personalized experience. As of now, there are no specific details on the underlying technology, but some reports suggest that Dot AI uses natural language pro-

cessing in combination with machine learning to understand user inputs and generate responses. Unlike ChatGPT, Gemini, and Copilot, which focus on providing factually correct information, Dot AI focuses on

emotional support and intelligence. Dot AI App Store For unlimited conversations, you have to buy a monthly subscription. According to the Apple App Store listing, Dot AI is described as a “friend, companion, and confidant.” On opening the app, users are taken through an onboarding process with questions like “What do you do for work?”, “Favorite TV show”, and “How do you spend a typical Sunday” Based on these answers, the chatbot asks more

about the user.

Subscribe for new launches, reviews and all that’s making headlines in the tech world The App Store description also indicates that Dot AI has an infinite long-term memory and can assist with career advice and date spot recommendations. While a free plan offers limited conversations, users can bypass this limit by purchasing the paid plan for \$11.99 per month, which includes access to Chronicles, a feature that curates a history of the user.

Tamil Nadu govt to rehabilitate reformed bootleggers

Tamil Nadu: Prohibition and Excise Minister S Muthusamy told the legislative assembly on Friday that bootleggers who are remorseful and wish to turn over a new leaf will be rehabilitated after they serve a prison term. Such persons who repent for their wrongdoings should be rehabilitated to prevent them from returning to bootlegging, he said. The minister’s statement comes amid the hooch tragedy that has claimed the lives of 48



persons and has affected the health of more than 100 people, who are currently undergoing treatment at various hospitals. “Persons punished for the offence of distilling and selling illicit arrack will be rehabilitated if they show a change of heart, after serving a term,” Muthusamy said. They will be provided a sub-

sidy of Rs 50,000 each and encouraged to start a trade on their own. The government has earmarked Rs 5 crore for the rehabilitation fund, he said replying to the demand for grants for his department. Further, an integrated scheme will be formulated to equip them with the required skills through various departments, he added. A campaign to create awareness among the people, particularly the youth, on the dangers of consuming illicit arrack.

No request yet from Nikhil Gupta for consular access: MEA

New Delhi: Indian authorities haven’t received any request for consular access from Nikhil Gupta, the Indian national extradited to the US from the Czech Republic following allegations of his involvement in a foiled plot to assassinate Khalistani extremist Pannun. Gupta, who was arrested in the Czech Republic in June last year, was extradited to the US on June 14. “He was extradited to the US on June 14. We have so far not received any request for consular access from Gupta but his family has got in touch with us,” External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. “We are in touch with the family mem-



bers and are looking at the matter as to what can be done on their request,” he said during his weekly media briefing while replying to a question. Gupta, 53, pleaded not guilty when he was produced in a court in New York on June 17. While Gupta was in custody of Czech authorities, Indian officials were given consular access to him on a few occasions. Last November, US federal prosecutors charged Gupta with working with an Indian government

employee in the foiled plot to kill Pannun in New York. Pannun, wanted in India on terror charges, holds dual of the US and Canada. The issue of consular access to Gupta would be decided in line with provisions of the Vienna Convention on Consular of 1963, people familiar with the matter said. Article 36 of the Convention states that a detained person will have to make a request for consular access to authorities of his or her country. “Nevertheless, consular officers shall refrain from taking action on behalf of a national who is in prison, custody or detention if he expressly opposes such action,” the article states.

National Conference urges PM to keep his word on holding J-K polls

Jammu: The National Conference urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to back his word on holding assembly elections, restoring statehood and bridging development gaps in Jammu and Kashmir with concrete action. In a statement, NC leaders and members-elect of Parliament, Mian Altaf Ahmad and Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi, said the people of Jammu and Kashmir “are tired of empty promises and meaningless rhetoric”. “It is time for some real progress. Let’s see some action instead of just words. The people of J-K deserve more than just lip service. It is time for the prime minister to deliver on his promises and bring about real change in the region. The future of J-K hangs in balance, and it is up to PM



Modi to make a difference. The time for action is now,” they said. The newly elected MPs said the people of J-K “have been dealt a raw deal for the past 10 years”. “They (people) are demanding action, not just empty words. Our people lament the lack of progress despite all the talk of humanity, democracy, and bridging ‘Dil Ki Doori’. It seems like all we have gotten are vague promises and no real answers about where the funds are going,” the joint statement

said. The MPs-elect said people were expecting big announcements about infrastructure projects like Gurez, Simthan, Mughal Road and Karna tunnels, as well as a substantial employment package for the youth. during the two-day trip of the prime minister to the valley. “But, alas, all they got was big disappointment. With over 14 lakh educated individuals twiddling their thumbs due to unemployment, what good does it do to issue a measly.

Seasoned diplomat and India’s envoy to Türkiye Virander Paul dies

New Delhi: A 1991-batch IFS officer, Paul was struggling with health issues for over one-and-a-half years and he breathed his last at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi this evening, one of his colleagues said. “Deeply grieved at the passing away of Virander Paul, our Ambassador in Türkiye,” Jaishankar said on X. “A great loss to the Indian Foreign Service. Have worked closely with him in his many postings. Always admired his commitment and service and value his many contributions,” he said. Paul held a medical degree from AIIMS. The external affairs minister also conveyed his “deepest condolences” to Paul’s family. Paul is survived by his wife Racheline and two daughters. “We are deeply sad-

dened at the untimely demise of Ambassador Virander Paul, India’s envoy to Türkiye. A dedicated officer, he will always be remembered for his exceptional human qualities and impactful professional contribution,” external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. “Our heartfelt condolences to his family. Team @MEAIndia stands with them in this difficult hour,” he said on X. Before arriving in Ankara as ambassador of India to Türkiye in the second half of 2022, he was India’s High Commissioner to Kenya and Ambassador to Somalia. Prior to that, he served as additional secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, dealing with multilateral engagement in India’s neighbourhood.

Sultan Jadoula is getting blessings for victory during campaigning in every village of Pundri....

Pundri: Congress candidate from Pundri constituency Sultan Singh Jadoula is continuously getting full cooperation, support and blessings of people of 36 communities in every village of the constituency and is moving towards victory day by day. Under the election public relations campaign, people of 36 communities welcomed Sultan Jadoula by putting a garland of flowers in Salimpur Mahdood, Dhand, Faral, Myouli, Pundri, Munnarehdi, Habdi, Bandarana, Sirsal, honoured him by weighing him with laddus and wearing a turban and openly supported him and blessed him for victory. This showed the growing popularity of Jadoula in the above vil-



lages and the surrounding areas and made it clear that the villagers are completely united to give him a big victory this time. Before the public meeting, Jadoula was honoured by villagers and shopkeepers in many other villages including Balaji Market by weighing him with laddus and wearing a turban. After this, while addressing the public meeting organized in Gurjar Chaupal, Jadoula

said that Dhand village has respected me earlier also and this time also I will get your full support. This village has played an important role in the field of development and employment. Jadoula said that whether it is about making the road from Baba Bihari Das Chowk to Pabnawa Mode in Dhand four lane or building any road, street, Chaupal etc. or giving employment, Dhand vil-

lage was given priority in all and will be given the same in future also. The villagers also expressed their commitment towards Jadoula and said that this time they will make him win with double the votes than before. The villagers declared to stand with Jadoula with body, mind and money.

leaders also appealed to the people to vote in favor of Jadoula

Vikas Tanwar, Dr. Satpal Sakra, Ramchandra Gurjar Dhand, former chairman Randhir Singh Bhalla, former Sarpanch Pyara Ram, Balkar Khepad, Harsh Gurjar Dhand, Ramswaroop Gangal, former chairman Bhalle Ram, Rajendra Gurjar Dhand and other prominent

leaders took part in the public meeting of Dhand. All of them appealed to the villagers to make Sultan Singh Jadoula win with maximum votes so that he can take forward the issues of development and employment of the area more effectively.

All private schools of Pundri and Dhand block supported Jadoula

Today in the town of Dhand, hundreds of officials and members of All Private School Pundri and Dhand block organized a program and announced their support to Sultan Jadoula in the elections. The private school operators honored Jadoula by giving him a garland of flowers, a turban and a memento.

All Time Plastics Limited files DRHP with SEBI



GURUGRAM : All Time Plastics Limited has filled its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company plans to raise funds through fresh issue of equity shares aggregating upto ₹350 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of up to 52,50,000 equity shares. The company proposes to utilize the net proceeds towards (i) prepayment or repayment of all or a portion of certain outstanding borrowings availed by the company, amounting to ₹120 crore, (ii) the purchase of equipment and machinery for the upcoming Manekpur Facility amounting to ₹133.73 crore, and the rest for general corporate purposes. The company is the second largest B2B participant in India's plastic consumerware industry by revenue for Fiscal

2023 (Source: Technopak Report). It has over 13 years of expertise creating plastic consumerware goods for common household usage. As at March 31, 2024, the company had 1,608 stock-keeping units ("SKUs") across eight categories: Prep Time (kitchen tools for preparing cooking ingredients); Containers (food storage containers); Organization (miscellaneous storage containers); Hangers (various types of hangers); Meal Time (kitchenware); Cleaning Time (cleaning equipment); Bath Time (bathroom products); and Junior (child-friendly tableware, cutlery and

other items).

Over the years, the company has specialized in white-label manufacturing, producing high-quality products for customers who market them under their own brand names. Additionally, it promotes its own range under the proprietary brand "All Time." The company has a strong presence in markets such as the European Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Domestically, the company collaborates with prominent retailers, super distributors, and distributors, including IKEA, Tesco, Asda, and Spencer's Retail Limited.

AU Small Finance Bank supports Shimla's Municipal heroes with raincoat distribution under Swachhta Pakhwada initiative

Shimla: AU Small Finance Bank, India's largest small finance bank, today demonstrated its unwavering commitment to community welfare by distributing 1,500 raincoats to the Municipal Corporation staff in Shimla. This CSR initiative was part of the conclusion of the Swachhta Pakhwada programme, a nationwide cleanliness drive organized by Municipal Corporations and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across India. With Shimla experiencing heavy rainfall, this initiative aims to safeguard daily wage workers, garbage collectors, sweepers, and on-site construction workers who work in difficult weather conditions. AU Small Finance Bank's efforts reflect its dedication to support those who are instrumental in maintaining the cleanliness and hygiene of the city. The raincoat distribution was done by Mr. Surinder Chauhan, Honorable Mayor of Shimla; Smt Uma Kaushal, Deputy

Mayor of Shimla; IAS Mr. Bhupinder Attri, Municipal Commissioner, Shimla; Mr. Harish Janartha, MLA, Shimla Urban alongside Mr. Vishal Singla, Regional Sales Manager-Govt. Business, AU Small Finance Bank. Speaking on the initiative Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, Founder, MD & CEO, AU Small Finance Bank, said, "At AU Small Finance Bank, we believe in building meaningful connections with the communities we serve. We are honored to participate in the Swachhta Pakhwada initiative and supporting the backbone of Shimla's cleanliness efforts—its municipal workers. This initiative reflects our commitment to go beyond banking and contribute to the well-being and we are proud to play a role in supporting these everyday heroes." This initiative is part of AU Small Finance Bank's broader CSR commitment, which focuses on making meaningful contri-

butions to the communities in which it operates.

About AU Small Finance Bank

AU Small Finance Bank Limited (AU SFB) is a scheduled commercial bank and has established itself as the largest SFB in India since starting its banking journey in April 2017. Established in 1996 by Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, a first-generation entrepreneur, AU SFB boasts a 29 year legacy with deep understanding of the rural and semi-urban markets and customer segments. The Bank operates a sustainable and business model that facilitates credit to the unserved and underserved retail and MSME customer segments while providing complete banking solutions to its deposit and branch banking customers. As a tech-led Bank, AU has a strong digital presence with innovative products and services like 24x7 video banking, credit cards, personal loans, UPI

Dev Accelerator Limited (DevX) files DRHP with SEBI



GURUGRAM : Dev Accelerator Limited (DevX) has filed its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to raise funds through IPO. Dev Accelerator Ltd (DevX) is promoted by Umesh Uttamchandani, Parth Shah, Rushit Shah & Dev Information Technology Limited. DevX is one of the largest managed space operator in Tier 2 markets in terms of operational flex stock, with centres across 6 cities. (Source: JLL Report). Specializing in complete Built to Suit Managed Office Solutions for enterprises, the company has established a presence across 15 submarkets in India across Tier 1 markets of Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Pune and Tier 2 markets of Ahmedabad (including Gandhinagar), Indore, Jaipur, Udaipur, and Vadodara (Source: JLL Report). DevX provides

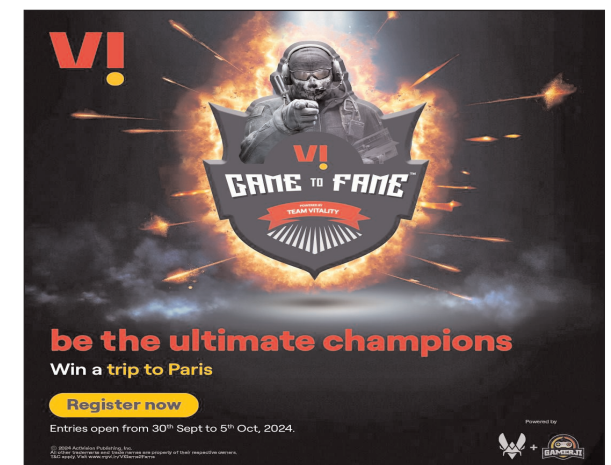
integrated services from sourcing office spaces, customizing designs, developing spaces, and providing technology solutions to providing complete asset management. As on August 31, 2024, the company has serviced over 230 clients and have 25 Centers across 11 cities in India. The company's clientele comprises of large corporates, MNCs and SMEs, offering variety of flexible office space solutions such as managed office spaces and coworking spaces as well as design and execution services through the Subsidiary, Needle and Thread Designs LLP. The Company has experienced rapid growth in their business. Between March 31, 2022 to March 31, 2024, company's Operational Centers, Operational seats and Operational Super Built-Up Area grew at a CAGR of 66.67%, 39.89% and 53.14%, respectively.

Taj first Indian hotel chain to top IL cr mcap

Delhi: At its initial location in Bombay in 1903, Tata Group's Taj Hotels charged Rs 6 per day. It is presently the first Indian hospitality company to reach a market worth of Rs 1 lakh crore. Second-most valued is Oberoi Hotels at Rs 24,000 crore. Post-Covid tourism surge is boosting desi sectoral valuations. "While IHCL is proud to attain this milestone, I feel the Indian tourism economy and our hospitality sector have yet to reach their full potential. The country's MICE sector will increase dramatically. Domestic tourism will soar. Overall, the Indian tourist industry is about to undergo a dramatic shift that will boost growth, create direct and indirect jobs, and boost GDP "IHCL MD & CEO Puneet Chhatwal. IHCL crossed Rs 1 lakh crore last week. The company has opened hotels.



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



GURUGRAM / HISAR : In the run-up to the India Mobile Congress 2024, leading telecom operator Vi, today, announced the launch of its first ever grassroots eSports tournament – 'Vi Game to Fame'. India, today, is among the top markets for gaming, accounting for approximately 20% of the world's total mobile game downloads. Vi Game to Fame aims to bring together amateur esports enthusiasts from across the country to compete, collaborate, showcase their skills and earn an opportunity to shine at not only national, but also at an international level.

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

The first edition of the competition is set to kick off on 1st October 2024 and will feature Call Of Duty: Mobile, with the grand finale to be held at the India Mobile Congress 2024, Asia's largest tech fest. Call of Duty: Mobile is a popular first-person shooter (FPS) title, with participants battling for prizes that amongst others include a trip to visit Team Vitality facility in Paris and get a chance to interact with global eSports teams & managing partners. Registrations for Vi Game to Fame opens from 1st October till 5th October 2024 through Vi's website (myvi.in) & Vi App. Seasoned, pro as well as casual gamers can witness esports excitement by registering for the competition. The tournament is open for both, Vi and non-Vi subscribers.

Jharkhand moves contempt plea against Centre

NEW DELHI: In a first, Jharkhand government has moved Supreme Court seeking contempt of court action against the Centre for its "deliberate and wilful" delay in implementing the SC collegium's July 11 resolution recommending appointment of Justice M S Ramachandra Rao as chief justice of the state, reported. In its petition, the Hemant Soren govt said the state was without a chief justice for two months, since the retirement of Justice B R Sarangi on July 19. It said the SC's five-member collegium led by CJI D Y Chandrachud, anticipating the vacancy, had recommended to the Centre to transfer the

Himachal Pradesh HC CJ to Jharkhand HC as its CJ. Can't pick & choose It said despite the passage of more than two months, the Union govt was deliberately sitting over the SC collegium's recommendation, a situation that displayed the Centre's complete disregard for the highest court's decisions. Jharkhand govt said Centre's deliberate inaction on the collegium resolution was also in violation of Article 216 of the Constitution, which says, "Every high court shall consist of a chief justice and such other judges..." Constitutional courts are empowered to initiate contempt of court proceedings.

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

Delhi: Shri Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State for Ayush (Independent Charge), said today that the National Exit Test (NExT) for Ayush will begin in 2021-2022. The Minister said the decision was based on the committee's suggestion to investigate student concerns. The committee suggests applying the NExT to 2021-22 students under the NCISM and NCH Acts, 2020, eliminating any ambiguity. The committee was led by Vice Chancellor National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur Prof. Sanjeev Sharma, who reviewed student ideas and sub-

mitted them to the Ministry. After a one-year internship, the problem-based test is required for licensing and membership in State or National Registers. It evaluates practical skills using clinical case scenarios, photos, and videos. Without completing their internship, interns who pass the National Exit Test (NExT) can only register with a state or national registration board after one year. After several Ayush students expressed concerns about NExT, the Union Minister of State (IC) for Ayush met with BAMS/BHMS students to discuss the NCISM &

NCH NExT exams.

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) Act 2020 and National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act 2020 took effect on June 11 and July 5, 2021.

National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) Act 2020 and National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act 2020 mandate the Commissions to undertake the National Exit Test (NExT) within three years of enforcement. The Minister said we want a fair and transparent procedure while sustaining Ayush education and healthcare

standards. In 2020, the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) introduced the NExT, an important exam. It evaluates Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Sowa-Rigpa graduates' clinical proficiency, medical ethical knowledge, and medico-legal skills. Minister announced the nationwide "Desh Ka Prakriti Pariksha Abhiyan" campaign for citizen health and well-being in today's Press Conference. He stated that the Ministry of Ayush and the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine would lead the campaign.

Vi Business Partners with Infinity Labs Ltd to introduce Make-In-India SD-WAN Solution

GURUGRAM / HISAR

: Vi Business, the enterprise arm of leading telecom operator Vi, today announced a strategic partnership with Infinity Labs Ltd to introduce a Make-in-India SD-WAN solution as part of its Hybrid SD-WAN portfolio. The collaboration enhances the portfolio by integrating advanced AI-based security features, offering Indian enterprises a robust defence against the growing threat of cyber-attacks and demonstrating Vi Business's commitment to offering cutting-edge indigenous technology and nurturing innovation. Stronger security frameworks are crucial for any enterprise to thrive in a digital business environment.

Hybrid SD-WAN is designed to provide businesses with solutions like Hybrid Network, Integrated



Security, Intelligent Routing, Monitoring, and Analytics. The partnership with Infinity Labs Ltd will further equip enterprises using Vi Business Hybrid SD-WAN with AI-powered security features to enhance their threat detection mechanisms, automate responses, and safeguard sensitive data more effectively. Rochak Kapur, EVP, Vi Business, said, "This partnership with Infinity Labs Ltd will allow us to deliver an indigenously developed SD-WAN solution with advanced security capabilities and a robust roadmap for future evolution. This collaboration is about Technology

and Make in India infrastructure empowering Indian businesses with the secure connectivity they need to thrive in a digital-first environment." "We are thrilled to collaborate with Vi Business in this significant endeavour. This strategic partnership marks a significant step forward in our mission to provide cutting-edge AI-based network solutions. Together, we will enterprises with an AI-based Secure SD-WAN solution that not only meets their growing business needs but is also locally developed," stated Rakesh Goyal, CEO & MD, Infinity Labs Ltd.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Introduces Urban Cruiser Hyryder 'Festival Limited Edition'

PANIPAT/SONIPAT:

Reinforcing its legacy of innovation and customer-centric approach, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today announced the introduction of the Urban Cruiser Hyryder 'Festival Limited Edition', featuring exclusive Toyota Genuine Accessories (TGA) Package. This latest addition to the Urban Cruiser Hyryder line-up comes with 13 specially designed TGA, further enhancing the dynamic and premium driving experience.

Exterior Chrome and Ornamental Accessories: Mudflap, Door Visor (Premium with SS Insert), Front and Rear Bumper Garnish, Hood Emblem, Body Cladding, Fender Garnish, Rear Door Lid Chrome Handle

Interior Premium and Advanced Accessories: All-Weather 3D Floormat, Leg Room Lamp, and a Digital Video Recorder



Since its debut in 2022, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder has carved a special place in the hearts of the consumers across the country, with its cutting-edge technology, dynamic performance, and best-in-class fuel efficiency. Its bold and sophisticated styling, combined with Toyota's renowned global SUV lineage, has made it one of the most sought-after models in the B-SUV segment. With ever growing customer demand and overwhelming acceptance across the nation, the Urban Cruiser Hyryder continues to be a preferred choice for customers seeking a more sustainable driv-

ing option without compromising on the performance or the comfort. The Urban Cruiser Hyryder Festival Limited Edition will offer a range of premium enhancements with the TGA Package, designed to further accentuate the vehicle's aesthetics and convenience. This package with 13 accessories is specifically selected to give a refined premium look to both the exterior and interior of the vehicle.

This exclusive package is available for the V and G grades of both the Neo Drive and Hybrid variants, providing wider choices to diverse customers.

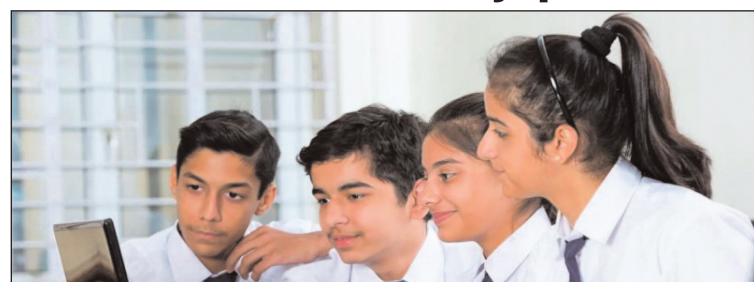
CAPSULES

118 branches across these states will host the loan drive

Ambala: HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank, will be organizing 'Auto Loan Carnival' across its branches in NCT Delhi, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir on 14th and 15th October 2024. Over 118 branches across these states will host the loan drive in partnership with leading car brands and regional dealerships which will be present at the branches to showcase their car models to customers. For eligible customers, the bank would provide on-the-spot loan sanctions. HDFC Bank provides a host of loans to its customers at affordable interest rates. The Auto Loan Carnival is envisioned to provide customers easy access to auto finance especially in the SURU (semi-urban and rural) locations. The Bank will provide an end-to-end solution for processing loan requests with a variety of repayment configurations and minimal paperwork. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Arun Mediratta, Branch Banking Head, North said, "The Auto Loan Carnival offers a great opportunity for customers to avail finance with ease for their favourite car. We have invited leading carmakers and auto dealers to display their top models at our branches. We are confident that customers will benefit from this Mela." For the quarter ending June 30, 2024, HDFC Bank's auto loan book size was ₹ 1,330 billion. HDFC Bank's 'Xpress Car Loan' facility, a state-of-the-art digital API platform facilitates credit loans into accounts of dealers in about 30 minutes.

CBSE recommends stronger internal examinations in schools to reduce theory-practice gaps

Delhi: The CBSE recently advised schools to review their own assessment systems. After finding a large gap between theory and practical test marks in classes X and XII in over 500 schools. Many students who did poorly in theory tests did well in practical exams. The advice proposes a more robust, transparent, and dependable approach to provide realistic assessment and significant academic value for pupils." The CBSE circular says An anonymous CBSE official said, "We have complete theory and practical mark data for grades X and XII. If all 40 students in a class obtain full marks in practical but just a few get good scores in theory,



we can uncover exam disparities." The board has provided guidance before, he says, adding that the CBSE conducts this procedure annually. Says, "Many schools give additional marks in practical tests to boost grades. With practical marks, a student can pass the exam despite low theory marks. This improves school performance and reputation." Teachers and school manage-

ment should be consistent and ethical while deciding practical marks. "Many times, to save their jobs, teachers resort to mark inflation," he says. "These discrepancies affect the morale of the bright students who despite all their hard work are positioned together with the non-deserving students." Senior official: "There are a few rules, but officials are striving to estab-

lish a more comprehensive assessment system to eliminate irregularities. CBSE will sensitize schools." Former Delhi government school administrator Sangeeta Jay believes, "Familiar environments improve student performance. Students feel comfortable at school since they are surrounded by instructors and friends during internal assessment and no other agencies or examiners are involved. This is why 30%-40% of pupils do well. When students appear for boards that require them to complete papers at different centers, they may be nervous in a new atmosphere. This may hinder student performance.

89% of MCD students have bank accounts post

Delhi: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) claimed that the education department opened bank accounts for 89% of its students. The project allows direct bank transfers to students' accounts for numerous objectives. As per the Delhi High Court's orders, MCD is striving to cover 100% of student bank accounts following summer breaks. An official said, "MCD's persistence is getting more students to open bank accounts. We're working to

open 100% of pupils' bank accounts after summer breaks." Students in MCD schools receive funding for clothes, shoes, bags, and stationery. Students need bank accounts to get these funds. MCD ordered zonal deputy commissioners to ensure every student in their zone had a bank account. An official said, "We are holding camps for pupils at its schools to open bank accounts in various banks and post offices. Teachers contact parents to collect

Shiksha Abhiyan textbooks during summer vacations. In April, the court raised concern over MCD's inability to provide uniforms, notebooks, and stationery to 2,00,000 bankless pupils. The judge stated this could make kids lose interest in school. NGO Social Jurist asked the education department and MCD to ensure that all schoolchildren had bank accounts, and the court responded.

HDFC Bank To Launch 'Auto Loan Carnival' in NCT Delhi, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir

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India's GenNext looks to 'Test' red-ball mettle against Australia

Delhi: The India U-19 team is set to step into unfamiliar territory. With youth Tests being a rarity, India will play their first multi-day match in over five years when they cross swords with Australia U-19 in the first of two games that begins on Monday here. The India U-19 side had last featured in a red-ball fixture way back in February 2019. At the MA Chidambaram Stadium, Soham Patwardhan & Co, all new kids on the block, should tackle an element of uncertainty and handle the vagaries of long-format cricket besides adapting to the pitch and weather.

Both India and Australia will have their work cut out, having had only three days to acclimatise to the challenging conditions in Chennai - in the one-day series that preceded the Tests and



ended on Thursday in Puducherry, the hosts produced a 3-0 whitewash. India U-19 head coach Hrishikesh Kanitkar acknowledged that the home team has a tough task in front of it. "It is a great initiative to play Tests. Red-ball cricket really tests you. For every player, it is the ideal challenge to see where they stand," Kanitkar said on Sunday.

"There is enough time for the bowlers to plan and devise their strategies. Playing against a foreign side is a great thing.

Playing foreign teams at the U-19 level has helped a lot of players, including myself," said Kanitkar, a former India batter.

While India will head into the assignment as the favourites, considering the home advantage and recent results over their rivals, Kanitkar stressed that they will start afresh.

"The boys are confident, we had a good one-day series. But having said that, this is a different format altogether. The place is different. It is better to take the good things and leave the highs as we prepare for the Tests. That is what we have done," said Kanitkar. As for the Oliver Peake-led Australia, they will be keen to open their account after having a frustrating start to the tour.

Applications Open For CBSE Supplementary Exams 2024

Delhi: The CBSE is accepting online applications for class 10 and 12 supplemental and improvement exams. LOC filing for additional exams for both courses for 2023-24 commenced. Exam LOCs can be submitted until for Rs 300. From J, the LOC can be submitted late for Rs 2,000. LOCs must be submitted via CBSE's Pariksha Sangam link <https://cbse.gov.in>. Only students who submit their names online can take Supplementary Exams, 2024. Schools must use their affiliation number and password to connect into the system to submit LOC. Students who took the 2023-24 Board test and received a Compartment can register on the official website. Passed candidates who want to improve in two class 10 and one class 12 courses can contact their schools. According to the official announcement, schools must submit LOC for all students. Schools must submit LOC on time. Only students who passed Supplementary examinations 2024 and were included in board's test 2024 will receive a consolidated score sheet. The class 10 supplemental exam 2024 begins July 15, 2024. Class 12 supplemental exams are on 2024. The CBSE website has all the details.