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

Centre issues first set of citizenship certificates under CAA to 14 people

NEW DELHI: The ministry of home affairs on Wednesday issued the first set of citizenship certificates under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act. Union home secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla handed over citizenship certificates to first 14 people in New Delhi after their applications were processed online through a designated portal, an official spokesperson said. Home secretary congratulated the applicants and highlighted the salient features of the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024 while granting the citizenship. "Today itself in Delhi 300 people are being given citizenship under CAA. CAA is the country's law", home minister Amit Shah told ANI. Bhavna, one of the applicants who received citizenship certificate said, "I have got the citizenship today and I am feeling very happy, I can study further. I came here in 2014, and I was very happy when this (CAA) was passed...in Pakistan, we girls could-



n't study and it was difficult to go out, if we had to go out, we used to wear burqa. In India, we get to study, I am currently in 11th standard and I got to tuition as well." Harish Kumar, one of the applicants said, "I have been living in Delhi for the last 13-14 years. This is a dream come true feeling, I am very happy, this is a new life to me...I am very thankful to the central gov't. The Citizenship Amendment Rules, 2024, notified by the MHA on March 11, have paved the way for the operationalization of the CAA, which was passed by Parliament in 2019. As per the regulations, migrants from six minority communities in

Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh can seek Indian citizenship under the CAA, with retrospective effect. This was made possible following the enactment of law. Under CAA 2019 amendment, migrants who entered India by December 31, 2014, and had suffered "religious persecution or fear of religious persecution" in their country of origin, were made eligible for citizenship by the new law. These type of migrants will be granted fast track Indian citizenship in six years. The amendment also relaxed the residence requirement for naturalization of these migrants from eleven years to five.

Judges can't dodge explainability of their decisions: CJ

NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Wednesday told a gathering of Chief Justices of J-20 countries, the judicial counterpart of G-20 nations, that judges are neither princes nor sovereigns to dodge the critical responsibility of writing judgments which everyone can understand. Speaking on 'Digital transformation and use of technology to enhance judicial efficiency' at the Rio de Janeiro J-20 summit in Brazil, Justice Chandrachud said, "As judges, we are neither princes nor sovereigns who are above the explainability requirement ourselves." This probably stems from his experience of reading past judgments of the SC and HCs, which though lucidly written, would be Greek and Latin to majority.

Modi first PM to create divide on religious lines for votes: Sharad

MUMBAI/NASHIK: While PM Modi was in the city for a road show on Wednesday to woo voters for Mumbai North East candidate Mihir Kotecha, this was countered by NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar who campaigned for MVA candidate Sanjay Dina Patil in the same constituency on the eve of Modi's visit. Addressing a rally in Kanjurmarg East on Tuesday night, Pawar strongly criticized Modi and said "official power was being blatantly misused during the Modi era in the past ten years." He alleged whoever criticised Modi was being jailed and this was unwarranted. In another rally in Dindori LS constituency on Wednesday, Pawar said Modi is the first PM to create a divide on religious and caste lines to garner votes. At a rally at Vani, he said the aim of the PM should be to keep different sections of society united. "However, instead of keeping the country united, PM



Modi will no longer be PM, BJP will split: UBT chief Thackeray

NASHIK: Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Wednesday said BJP would split after the Lok Sabha poll results are declared on June 4 as it would lose and Narendra Modi would no longer be the Prime Minister. Addressing a rally to campaign for Rajabhau Waje, the Shiv

Sena (UBT) nominee for Nashik, Thackeray apologized for seeking votes for Narendra Modi the the Lok Sabha elections in 2014 and 2019. Talking indirectly to Modi, Thackeray said: "While you have claimed that our party would merge with Congress, I am more concerned about BJP. 2019, Modi had urged women to 'salute cylinders' while going to vote, Pawar accused the BJP govt of being responsible for rising prices of gas cylinders, petrol and diesel. He said the govt was to be blamed for inflation.

Ad company head earned Rs 25 crore a year from 4 hoardings

MUMBAI: Bhavesh Bhide, the head of Ego Media Pvt Ltd that erected the Ghatkopar hoarding that crashed on Monday and is on the run, was earning Rs 25 crore a year from the four hoardings erected on police land, former BJP MP Kirit Somaiya alleged on Wednesday. The one that crashed was the largest among the four. Sources said Ego Media was paying GRP an annual rent of Rs 24 lakh for all four hoardings collectively, besides a one-time deposit of Rs 40 lakh. The money went towards GRP's welfare fund. In Oct 2020, GRP had issued a tender notice for the hoardings with an aim to raise money for the welfare of its personnel. Three of the hoardings came up in 2021 after GRP awarded the highest bidder, Ego Media. The fatal hoarding came up in 2022.

Will support INDIA bloc from outside to form govt at Centre: Mamata



NEW DELHI: West Bengal chief minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee announced on Wednesday that her party will support the opposition INDIA bloc from outside to form the government at the Centre. She also pledged to repeal the CAA, NRC, and UCC once the BJP government is voted out of power. Banerjee expressed doubt about the BJP's ambitious goal of securing 400 seats in the Lok Sabha elections, stating that people will completely reject them. "BJP is claiming that it will win 400 seats, but people are saying it will not happen. The entire country has understood that the BJP is a party full of thieves. We (TMC) will support the INDIA bloc from outside to form a government at the Centre. We will extend our support so that in (West) Bengal, our mothers and sisters never face a problem... and those who work in the 100 days' job scheme, also do not face problems," Banerjee said. However, Banerjee clarified that in West Bengal, her party will not support the Congress and CPI(M), alleging that both parties, despite being part of the INDIA alliance, have joined hands and are helping the BJP in the state. "Do not count on the CPI(M) and the Congress in Bengal. They are not with us, they are with the BJP here. I am talking about that (INDIA bloc) in Delhi," she clarified. "They (BJP) are desperate to win. But the country's voice is also united in calling for their defeat. Nobody was able to predict Atal Bihari Vajpayee's defeat in 2004. He gave the slogan 'India Shining' but the winds changed and the people didn't vote for him."

Finger in every pie? 'Double voters' press button where they are and 'back home'

NEW DELHI: Double voting is a common problem in Indian elections, with voters exploiting loopholes to cast multiple ballots. Instances of voter fraud, like using oily fingers to remove ink marks, have been reported in Mumbai and Ahmedabad. The need for Aadhaar linking to prevent such fraud is crucial. Lok Sabha polls: Finger in every pie? 'Double voters' press



button where they are and 'back home' Shanti keeps her hair well-oiled every election, preparing for a "picnic" - voting at home in Mumbai's Panvel as well as her native village in Maharashtra. She

populations and many voter IDs not linked to Aadhaar yet, double voting is more common than many would like to believe, and most officials are in denial or profess ignorance. "We were advised to oil our hair. Just before my turn (to vote), I was asked to ensure my index finger is oily by rubbing it against my hair. As soon as the ink was applied, I rubbed my finger back again in my oily hair.

Slovakia PM out of danger after being shot multiple times

Vatika Times
NEW DELHI: Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico is no longer in a life-threatening condition after he was shot in an assassination attempt when leaving a government meeting on Wednesday, a government minister said. The assailant shot Fico, 59, five times, initially leaving the prime minister in critical condition and necessitating surgery hours later on Wednesday evening. "I was utterly shocked ... fortunately as far as I know the operation went well - and I surmise in the end he will survive ... he's not in a life-threatening situation at this junct-



ture," Slovak Deputy Prime Minister and Environment Minister Tomas Taraba told the BBC's Newshour. Interior Minister Matus Sutaj Estok had said earlier that Fico was in a life-threatening condition while he remained in the operating room. "This assassination (attempt) was politically motivated and the perpetrator's decision was made closely after the presidential election," Sutaj Estok said, referring to an April election won by a Fico ally, Peter Pellegrini. The shooting in the central Slovak town of Handlova, which Slovak media said was carried out by a 71-year-old man, stunned the small central European nation and drew international condemnation. "I think I can confirm this, yes," Interior Minister

28-week-old fetus' right to life trumps right to abort: SC

NEW DELHI: Putting a premium on a 28-week-old fetus's right to life, Supreme Court Wednesday declined a 20-year-old unmarried woman's plea to let her terminate her pregnancy, even though it had allowed rape survivors or minors to abort much beyond the 24-week outer limit prescribed under Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act. SC said, "The child in the womb has a fundamental



right to live." Can't pass order contrary to MTP Act mandate: SC When the woman's counsel argued for permission to terminate the pregnancy saying she is highly traumatised because of social stigma, a bench of

Justices B R Gavai, S V N Bhatti and Sandeep Mehta asked, "Her pregnancy is more than seven months old. How do you address the right to life of a foetus which is fully developed? The child in the womb also has a fundamental right to live." The counsel said, "right of a child to live materialises only after it is born. The MTP Act only protects the mother's well-being and health.

Dowry FIR post divorce plea not vendetta: MP HC

BHOPAL/JABALPUR: If a woman remained quiet about dowry harassment to save her marriage and lodged a complaint after her husband filed for divorce, it cannot be construed as an act of vendetta, high court has said while refusing to quash an FIR filed against the husband and in-laws. The husband had filed a petition seeking quashing of the FIR, arguing that his wife lodged a complaint of dowry harassment in retaliation to his divorce petition. Quoting Supreme Court orders on what forms a "counter blast" to an action, like filing of divorce by a husband, Justice G S Ahluwalia said: "If the wife had maintained silence in order to save her marital life and did not lodge the report, then her silence.

Quota short of 50% mark, raise OBC share: NCBC to West Bengal, Punjab

NEW DELHI: National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) on Wednesday said West Bengal and Punjab govts have not fully used the space available under the 50% ceiling for reservations for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes, and asked the two opposition-governed states to fill the gap by raising the share of OBCs. Citing that the total reservation for SCs/STs and OBCs for govt employment and education came to 45% in West Bengal, and 37% and 35% respectively in Punjab, the commission recommended that the two states enhance without delay the quota for OBCs to make full use of the limit permitted under the Supreme Court-mandated 50% cap. NCBC recommended that West Bengal

increase the quota for OBCs by 5% in govt employment and educational institutions. For Punjab, it suggested an increase of 13% and 15% for govt employment and education respectively. NCBC's 'advisory' comes amid an intensifying battle between BJP, on the one hand, and TMC, AAP and Congress, on the other, over quotas. The INDIA bloc has alleged that BJP is seeking 400 seats so that it can abolish quotas by amending the Constitution. BJP has retaliated by citing moves by Congress to cut into the quota for OBCs by declaring Muslims as a whole as "backward" in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. NCBC chairman Hansraj Ahir told that he had been taking up this issue with the two states for quite some time.

All classes were taken care of without any discrimination: Swatantra Dev Singh

Prayagraj. A Backward Morcha conference was organized on Wednesday in support of BJP candidate Neeraj Tripathi in Nari Bari of Bara assembly of Allahabad parliamentary constituency. In which, as the chief guest, State Cabinet Minister Swatantra Dev Singh said that BJP has implemented many public welfare schemes in the interest of backward and extremely backward people. Due to which poverty could be controlled. Besides, many such castes were included in the backward castes and got the benefit of reservation, which no government has been able to do till date after independence. BJP is the only organization in which all classes are taken care of without any discrimination and even an ordinary worker can reach the top position. While interacting with the traders in Karma

Bazaar of Kohdar Mandal today, Cabinet Minister Nand Gopal Gupta said that under the BJP government, the traders are running their business in complete safety. There has never been a business environment like this. Due to Yogi's good governance, today the state is riot and crime free due to which every section of the society is happy. Especially businessmen and women took historic steps in the field of development, consecration of Shri Ram Temple, Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, Vindhyaal Corridor and many airports along with public interest in the fields of transport, electricity, water, health, education and housing. Today India has become the fifth largest economic superpower worth three trillion dollars. It will soon lead the world by creating a power of five trillion dollars. Due to



Ayodhya being an international tourist destination, it will not only gain world-class recognition but will also increase all types of businesses. BJP candidate Neeraj Tripathi

held public talks in the assembly areas of Karchana and Bara, Mohabbatganj Dhanuha COD Gate Chaka Mama Bhanja Talab Chak Garib Das Amilia Sarangapur Champat Pur

Chaukha Ugrahi Balapur Ghonghapur Nibi Bhaluha etc. Shri Tripathi said that whoever the Congress wants to form an alliance with, its account will not be opened. The Prime Minis-

ter has clearly said that he never does any work on the basis of Hindu-Muslim but serves the 140 crore people of the country without any discrimination. No matter what anyone does, no one can spoil the country as long as I am alive. Today the youth of the country have resolved to make Modi the Prime Minister for the third time. She is going to score a hat-trick of victories in Allahabad parliamentary constituency. According to parliamentary media in-charge Devendra Nath Mishra, Neeraj Tripathi's popularity among the general public is at its peak. Wherever he goes, common citizens come out to welcome him with full joy and enthusiasm. Among those who welcomed were Babburam Dwivedi, Ramesh Dwivedi, Rajesh Shukla, Bhola Tiwari, Dnyaneshwar Shukla etc.

50-year-old pharmacist died due to heart attack in moving car in Prayagraj

PRAYAGRAJ: A 50-year-old pharmacist died due to heart attack in moving car in Prayagraj here on Wednesday. He left home in his car for Handia Community Health Centre. He had an attack when he was just a short distance from home. In panic he parked the car on the side of the road. By the time the police arrived on the information given by passers-by, he was dead. He was driving the car himself and was alone in the car, police said.

Passersby told the police that he stopped the car suddenly. After this, he sat down leaning against the mirror. People went to him because he was sitting in the same position for a long time. But when there was no movement on his side, the police was informed.

Jhansi police station in-charge Upendra Pratap Singh said that pharmacist Pramod Yadav was posted at Handia Community Health Center (CHC) in Upardahan. He lived in a rented house in Munshi Ka Pura village of Jhansi police station area here. He used to go to the hospital in his car every day. He left for the hospital on Wednesday morning. When he reached Jhansi-Sonauti road, some distance away from home, at 9.30, he had an attack. Pramod was slumped over on the driving seat and was alone in the car. Seeing him distressed on the driving seat for a long time, people informed the police. When the police arrived at around 12 o'clock, he was already dead. On the basis of the identity card found in his pocket, it was learnt that he was a pharmacist. Police took the body of the deceased into its custody and sent it to mortuary for an autopsy and his family members were informed about it.

Azm Saeed 'Manu' appointed state vice president of SAS

Prayagraj: Azm Saeed Manu, Advocate, High Court, has been nominated as the State Vice President of Samajwadi Party Advocate Sabha (SAS) by State President of Advocate Sabha Sikandar Yadav, with the instructions of Samajwadi Party National President Akhilesh Yadav, High Court advocate Azm Saeed Manu was. On their nomination, Mahanagar President Syed Itekar Hussain, General Secretary Ravindra Yadav Ravi, Legislative Assembly Speaker City West Abhimanyu Patel, Tariq Saeed Aju, Ramakant Patel, Syed Mohammad Askari, Mayank Yadav Jonty, Musheer Ahmed, Shakeel Ahmed, Yathansh Kesarwani, Veer Yadav, Balveer. etc gave best wishes.

Pharmacist dies of heart attack in car

Prayagraj: A pharmacist posted at Handia Community Health Center (CHC) died due to heart attack in car. He had left home for the hospital in his car. Pharmacist Pramod Yadav (50) posted at Handia Community Health Center located in Upardahan. He lived in a rented house in Munshi Ka Pura village of Jhansi police station area. He used to go to the hospital every day in his own car.

On Wednesday, Pharmacist Pramod Yadav left home for the hospital. When he reached Jhansi-Sonauti road, some distance away from home, at 9.30, he had an attack. He parked the car on the road side. He was slumped on the driving seat and was alone in the car. On basis of the identity card found in his pocket, it was revealed that he was a pharmacist. The police informed the family members over the phone about the incident.

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Probe into beating of victim in police station kicks off, perpetrators to be punished

Kanpur: Investigation has been started into the video that went viral regarding the beating of the victim in Sachendi police station. However, a case has been registered based on the complaint of the victim and the accused has been arrested. This information was given by Assistant Police Commissioner Panki Tej Bahadur Singh on Wednesday. He said that yesterday at the sweets shop of Rohit Gupta and Sumit Gupta located in Sachendi police station area; there was a dispute and fight with the resident Munna Mishra over some issue. A written complaint was lodged with the police in this regard. When the matter came to notice, a case was registered against Munna Mishra on the complaint of victims Rohit and Sumit and the accused was arrested. Medical examination of victims Rohit and Sumit Gupta is being done. Meanwhile, a video is going viral on social media accusing the police of beating the victim in Sachendi police station. Its investigation has also been started today. Whatever evidence and facts come to light during the investigation, strict action will be taken against the guilty police personnel.

Heat and humidity to increase further in Uttar Pradesh from May 17

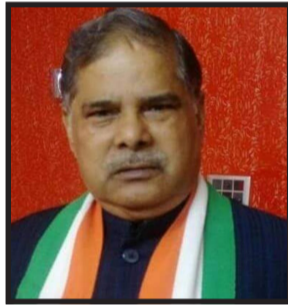
Kanpur: The Meteorological Department has predicted that from May 17, there will be more heat, sunshine and humidity. The sky will be clear in North India, due to which the sunlight will fall directly. Due to all these reasons, the temperature will increase, the heat will increase and there is no relief anywhere in the coming week. Dr. S.N. Sunil Pandey, meteorologist of Chandrashekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur, said on Wednesday that in such a situation, whenever someone ventures outside the house, he should carry drinking water, cap, towel and umbrella. Moreover children, elders and sick people should avoid going out of the house and take precautions. What to do in case of extreme heat and humidity? Dr. Pandey suggested people to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids, especially water.

Ex- MLA Bhagwati Prasad and Maqsood Khan figure in star campaigners list

Mirzapur: The All India Congress Committee congratulated the national leadership on making former Vice President of Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee, former MLA Bhagwati Prasad Chaudhary and Vice President of Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee Maqsood Khan as star campaigners for the Lok Sabha elections. among those who congratulate importantly, District Congress Committee President Dr. Shiv Kumar Singh Patel, City Congress Committee President Rajan Pathak, District Panchayat member Shivshankar Chaudhary, Deepchand Jain, Uttar Pradesh Congress member and media in-charge Chhote Khan, Bhubendra Shukla, Chunmun Shukla,



Sonawar Khan, Pappu Pandey, District President of Kisan Congress Sanjay Dubey, Senior Advocate Ram Singh, Ramesh Prajapati, Pappu, Gulab Pandey, Kamlesh Dubey, Zafar. Iqbal, Sangeeta Tiwari, Shabnam Ansari, Ishfaq Ansari, Bharat Bhushan, Rajendra Vishwakarma, Monu Patel, Rajesh Mishra, Jyoti, Bhola Chaurasia, Attaullah Siddiqui, Ritesh Mishra, Janardan Pathak, Satish



Sharma, Ankush Srivastava, Sandeep Tiwari, Dinesh Kumar Chaudhary, Aditya Gupta, Dwarika Pal, Siraj Ahmed, Dr. Dinesh Chaudhary, Dr. Chhviraj Pal, Dilip Maurya, Ravi Shankar Tiwari, Shyamdhara Upadhyay, Anuj Mishra, Vijay Dubey, Pahari, Shivshankar Pandey, Monu Patel, Naresh Chaudhary, Narendra Thakur, Santosh Yadav, Rajendra Nishad etc. have expressed happiness in congratulating.

BJP Kisan Morcha organized Kisan Annadata Sammelan

Mirzapur: Bharatiya Janata Party Morcha Mirzapur organized Kisan Annadata Sammelan at Guru Karshni Mahavidyalaya, Kasehar Daulatabad of Adalhat Mandal of Madihan Assembly under the leadership of District President Kisan Morcha Dinesh Singh. In which the chief guest Rajya Sabha MP Darshana Singh addressed the present farmer Annadata at the Centre. And while explaining in detail about the public welfare schemes being run by the state government for the farmers, the measures taken before and after 2014 by the government of the country's successful Prime Minister Narendra Modi to solve the problems of the farmers and to make the farmers economically stronger. Told the tasks. After this, the farmers present were asked to vote for NDA candidate Anupriya Patel in the Lok Sabha elections to be held in the district on June 1. Called for victory with the largest number of votes. Annadata Kisan Sammelan was also addressed by BJP District President Brij Bhushan Singh, MLA Madihan Ramashankar Singh Patel, MLC Shyam Narayan Singh (Vineet Singh). In the

end, Guru Karshni Mahavidyalaya Manager Sandeep Singh expressed his gratitude to all the guests who had come. The program was conducted by District General Secretary Kisan Morcha Nageshwar Tiwari. Mainly in the conference BJP District Vice President Dinesh Pratap Singh, Kisan Morcha District Vice President Dr.



Prashant Pandey, District General Secretary Kisan Morcha Amar Bahadur Singh, Jai Prakash Mishra, Alok Singh, Siddharth Singh, Abhishek Dwivedi, Bhagwan Das Prajapati, Baldev, Abhishek Choubey, Dheeraj Singh, Banarasi Lal. Hundreds of workers were present along with Gupta and Jai Prakash Singh. The above information has been given by District Media Incharge Gyan Prakash Dubey.

Observer & DEO inspected polling party departure point

Mirzapur: In order to conduct the elections safely in Mirzapur Lok Sabha constituency, all preparations are being made at the place of departure of polling parties and counting of votes in the polytechnic complex and room located at Bathua. General appointed from Election Commission of India Observer M. Vallalar and District Election Officer Priyanka Niranjan reached the Polytechnic and inspected the polling party departure point and all the ongoing preparations for counting of votes. During the inspection, the District Election Officer directed the officials of the Public Works Department, the officer in-charge related to barricading and other arrangements, and said that there should be proper arrangements for parking of the personnel's vehicles, cleanliness, adequately should be ensured. During this, while giving necessary guidelines for the arrangements for departure and return of polling parties, form counters to be given to polling personnel, security and other election related works, he said that proper arrangements for drinking water and toilets should be ensured at the departure point and return point. Adequate arrangements for shade, fans and coolers etc. should also be made at the departure point. During this period the district The election officer and observer visited every room of the polytechnic and also inspected the counting place being set up and gave necessary guidelines. On this occasion, Police Observer, Deputy District Election Officer Shiv Pratap Shukla, District Horticulture Officer Mewa Ram, Executive Officer Municipal Council Mirzapur Goa Lal were present.

After scrutiny, nominations of 10 candidates found valid for Mirzapur Lok Sabha seat

Mirzapur: Nominations for Mirzapur Lok Sabha General Constituency were done by 36 candidates till the scheduled time yesterday i.e. 14th May 2024. Today, District Election Officer/Returning Officer Priyanka Niranjan herself will collect all the nomination papers. Scrutiny/ investigation was done. During this time, the candidates who have made nominations as per the list received or their proposers should also be present. After scrutiny, nomination papers of a total of 10 candidates were found valid. Among the candidates found valid from recognized national and state political parties, nomination papers of Anupriya Patel Apna Dal (Sonelal), Manish Kumar Bahujan Samaj Party, Ramesh Chandra Samajwadi Party were found valid. Its Candidates of additional



nationalized political parties (other than recognized national and state political parties) found valid include Anil Kumar Eklavya Samaj Party, Daulat Singh Apna Dal (Kameravadi), Ramdhani Rashtriya Samaj Paksha, Satya Dev Purvanchal Mahapanchayat, Sameer

Singh All. The nomination papers of India Forward Bloc were found valid. Apart from this, Rajesh is running as an independent candidate and Lalji Verma is running as an independent candidate. The nomination papers were found valid. Observer General M.

Vallalar, Deputy District Election Officer Shiv Pratap Shukla, Chief Revenue Officer Satya Prakash Singh, Sub District Magistrate Madihan Yugantar Tripathi and Deputy Collector Bharat Lal Saroj were present in the scrutiny of nomination papers.

Airtel and Google Cloud to Accelerate Cloud Adoption and Deploy Generative AI Solutions

Gurugram: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel") and Google Cloud today entered into a long-term collaboration to deliver cloud solutions to Indian businesses. The strategic collaboration will offer a suite of cutting-edge cloud solutions from Google Cloud to fast-track cloud adoption and modernization for Airtel's customers. In addition, Airtel will provide a suite of cloud managed services to its customer base of more than 2,000 large enterprises and one million emerging businesses. Through this collaboration, the two companies are targeting the large and growing Indian public cloud services market, which is expected to reach \$17.8 billion by 2027, according to IDC.* The two companies will bring together their unique strengths of connectivity and AI technology to develop industry-leading AI/ML solutions that Airtel will

train on its large data set. These unique solutions will drive greater value to Airtel's customers and will include geospatial analytics solutions with advanced location intelligence for trend-spotting, predictive capabilities, market assessment, site selection, risk management, and asset tracking; voice analytics solutions for superior conversational applications trained across languages; and marketing technology solutions to forecast consumer behavior, perform tailored audience segmentations, and streamline content creation with high-precision contextual ads at reduced costs. In addition to these offerings, Airtel has developed an end-to-end IoT solution designed for the utility sector that combines connectivity, Google Cloud services, and application software under one of-

fering, enabling seamless, hassle-free, and faster deployment. To power its cloud-based solutions business, Airtel has set-up a managed services center in Pune with 300+ experts who are being extensively trained to champion Google Cloud services and develop world-class tech solutions. Gopal Vittal, MD & CEO, Bharti Airtel, said: "As India accelerates its digital transformation, cutting-edge cloud and AI solutions will be at the heart and center of this change. We are happy to partner with Google Cloud and jointly address this market opportunity with secure and scalable Cloud solutions for government, enterprises, and emerging businesses. Together, we will also accelerate the deployment of gen AI in the country and unlock its potential to solve problems."

Much hyped book "101 reasons why I will vote for Modi" unveiled

Prayagraj: "101 Reasons Why I Will Vote for Modi" graphic novel was released at Vitthal Hotel in Prayagraj. During this, the author of the novel, Shantanu Gupta, informed everyone about the book and inspired all the readers to read the book. During the release of the book, chief guest Shantanu Ji Maharaj, special guest Mahamandaleswar Pavitanand Giri, Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani, Mahila Morcha State Minister Kavita Yadav Tripathi and advocate Abhijeet Mukherjee were the keynote speakers. The forum was moderated by Shivam Bhagwati. The author of the book is Shantanu Gupta, an Indian writer, political analyst and founder of the Ramayana school. He has published 9 of his books with renowned publications like Penguin,

Sage, Bloomsbury, Garuda, Prabhat and Rupa Prakashan. He is the biographer of UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, his book, 'The Monk Who Became Chief Minister' was listed as 'Most Memorable Non-Fiction Books of 2017' by Amazon India. Shantanu is a Chevening Gurukul Fellow from Oxford University, UK. Shantanu holds an engineering degree from G.B Pant University, a management degree from XLRI, Jamshedpur and a degree in Policy and Administration from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex (United Kingdom). Shantanu has worked for a decade as a consultant in several cities in India, Switzerland, Cyprus, Hungary and Israel. He has represented India in several international conferences on economy and policy in Germany, Malaysia and Sri



Lanka. He has worked with think tanks such as the Center for Civil Society and non-profits such as UNICEF, Nandi Foundation, and the National Independent Schools Alliance. During the book launch, the book's author Shantanu Gupta said, "This is a rare experiment in making serious political commentary

through a graphic novel on the 10 years of work of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The book features 10 different popular art styles. During my research on 'Using graphics novels for political commentary' at the University of Oxford, I studied and followed various political graphic novels. Novels can be a very powerful

means of conveying political ideas to the public. Most of my stories are written from the perspective of a voter who will vote for Narendra Modi back to power in 2024. After talking directly to the beneficiaries of various schemes of the Modi government, there has been a lot of change in the situation. Earlier, the

roads were red due to the bullets fired on the devotees in the same religious city. Lala is from the showered flowers. All sections of the society have benefited and to reflect this, this book has been given the form of a comic, so that people of all age groups can read it and choose the right person for their country. Chief guest Shantanu Maharaj said that "Everyone should read this book, the interesting and well-organized manner in which it has been written is commendable. There has been a lot of positive change in the last 10 years, which has been accurately described in this book. This book will surely help everyone in choosing the right representative for themselves." Alok Parmar was the coordinator of the program and vote of thanks was given by Sandeep Shukla.

NFA organizes Grassroots Football Day

Northern Wonders won the match

Prayagraj: Northern Football Academy Prayagraj today organized a one day grassroots football competition for football players aged 8 to 19 years. Under the guidance of Asian Football Confederation and Indian Football Federation, 15th May is celebrated as Grassroots Football Day across the country. On this day, various small and big football clubs, academies,



government and non-government football institutions in the country organizes various programs to promote football for children.

In today's match, Northern Wonders defeated Northern Sunrises 2-1 in the tiebreaker. Saksham, Shivansh scored a goal for the winning team, while the only goal for the losing team was scored by Aditya on a pass from Annant Pandey. Head Coach Indranil Ghosh and Asst Coach Rahul Verma distributed prizes to all the players. The program was presided by Indranil Ghosh.

People of Bara considering voting for development-centric party

Prayagraj: Our correspondent met the people in Jasra, Rehi, Bada Khas, Tikri Kala village of Bara tehsil of Allahabad parliamentary constituency and tried to know their feelings. The people say that in their area the situation of illegal mining and hooliganism was at its peak. However, since the BJP government came to power in the center and state, illegal mining and hooliganism has been curbed to a great extent. People are living without fear. When asked what type of MP they want for the development of their area, the people of Bara area say that they have seen the work of MPs of all parties, be it SP, Congress or BSP, everyone has betrayed our trust, in such a situation, the tenure of BJP government in the last 10 years has been unprecedented, development work is being seen in every corner of the country. The poor are getting their rights directly, although hooliganism has not been completely curbed, people are living a life of peace.

This time, people have made up their mind to vote for the BJP candidate. The candidate who has been fielded by BJP from Allahabad parliamentary constituency, his image is quite clean, he has the full support of the people of the area and the people of the area are confident that such

a candidate will be elected from their constituency. When asked about the candidates of the parties, the people of the area said that we all have seen the hooliganism and mafia rule during the tenure of SP. Illegal mining was at the peak during the SP rule, hence BJP is a viable alternative. There is a hope of peace from the government itself, which we all have been seeing for the last 10 years, the development of our entire area has been done by BJP and this time also we want to vote for BJP only. The successful Prime Minister of the country fulfilled what he said. He is a sympathizer of the poor. He knows what is the problem of the poor. He has been solving it. More and more poor families of Bara area are getting permanent houses. They are getting ration every month and are getting free treatment. Modi government has been solving every small and big problem. The entire region has faith in Modi government. Modi government will be formed for the third time. We, the people of Bara region have faith in Modi. In such a situation, BJP candidate Neeraj Tripathi is the link of our trust. The BJP candidate has to win with the support of the people of Bara region. When asked what he would say about the BSP candidate, people said that they only want BJP.

Dr. Deepak Bisla gave thorough talk on uses of ICT

Prayagraj: The concluding session of 8 day 12th training program 'Orientation and Sensitization Program on NEP (from May 7 to May 15) under the Malviya Mission Teacher Training Programme of government by Malviya Mission Teacher Training Center (MMTTC) Ishwar Sharan P.G. College, concluded via virtual mode on Tuesday. Program coordinator Dr. Ragini Rai, (Asst. Professor, Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archeology) described the ongoing programs in the Faculty Development Center of the college as the result of the efficient guidance and diligent efforts of

Director of the Center and Principal of the college, Prof. Anand Shankar Singh. Presenting a brief outline of the 8-day program, Dr. Rai said that in a total of 16 sessions and 14 resource persons from 14 universities and institutes of the country presented their lectures.

Dr. Ragini Rai said that this digital platform is a boon for the 21st century, which has brought together participants not only from every corner of the country but also from the USA, who are working on various projects by the universities here. But have been sent here to work. About 178 participants from various districts of 24 states of the

country including J & K, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, North Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala etc. participated in the program.

Welcome address of first session of the program was given by the Director MMTTC Centre. Director Dr. Manoj Dubey Nadia. The speaker of this session, Dr. Rekha Chauhan (SNDT Women University, Mumbai) said that Information and Communication

Technology is the basic structure and component which enables modern computing. The vote of thanks for the first session was given by Dr. Refaq Ahmed, co-coordinator of the program. The speaker of the second session of the program, Dr. Deepak Bisla, Department of IT, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi, presented a detailed lecture on the uses of ICT, especially in higher education and said that electronic text books, Instructional software, e-mail, chat and distance learning programs and e-learning programs provided by UGC can make the present era the era of information revolution.

Prayagraj Division's female player bags gold medal For performing excellently in steeplechase of National Federation Senior Athletics Competition

Prayagraj: Divisional female player Chhavi Yadav won the gold medal at 3000 meter steeplechase in the National Federation Senior Athletics Competition 2024 held in Bhubaneswar. Chhavi Yadav won the gold medal by standing first in this 3000 meter steeplechase competition by taking a time of 10 minutes 7 seconds. Chhavi Yadav is working as Deputy Chief Ticket Inspector at Kanpur Central Station of Prayagraj



Division. On this occasion, Divisional Railway Manager/Prayagraj, Himanshu Badoni including other officers congratulated Chhavi Yadav and wished her a bright future.

Chhavi Yadav, has earlier won the gold medal in the World Railway Cross Country 2022 held in Germany, the gold medal in the National Cross Country 2023, and the gold medal in 10 km in the Asian Cross Country 2023 held in Nepal.

Free Summer Camp at Khelgaon Public School from today

Prayagraj: Since the beginning of its establishment, Khelgaon Public School has been committed to world class sports and high level education for the all-round development of the students. In the past years, the students here have achieved high level performance in education, sports and other extra-curricular activities. The performance and the high records established are indicative of the uniqueness of Khelgaon Public School. Like previous years, this year too a free summer camp is being organized for boys and girls from class I to VIII. Khelgaon Public School Free Summer Camp will be organized in the school from 16-23 May from 5:30 am to 7:30 am. "Certificate of Participation" and "Certificate of Merit" will be given to the participants.

Students from classes I to VIII will be able to participate. In this free summer camp, which will run from May 16 to May 23, boys and girls from classes I to VIII will be trained by experienced trainers in various disciplines. Students will be given training in various sports disciplines like gymnastics, cricket, shooting, hockey, football, volleyball,



basketball, badminton, lawn tennis, chess, taekwondo, boxing, kabaddi, skating, aerobics and athletics, karate etc. in summer camps. Apart from this, boys and girls will also be trained in structural disciplines like dance, art and craft yoga training, and music. Children will also be given training on Personality Development, Communication Development, Debate, Group Discussion, Spell Bee and Quiz

Competition during the summer camp. Competitions will also be organized in this free summer camp running from May 16 to May 23, in which various Prizes and certificates will also be given to the winning participants of the categories. Certificate of Participation will be given to the students participating in the said free summer camp. Besides, the winners of various competitions organized during the summer camp will be honored with certificates of merit. While telling about the free summer camp to be organized from May 16 to May 23, the director of the school, Dr. R. C. Srivastava said that the said summer camp will be organized from 5:30 to 7:30 in the morning.

Pratiksha Tiwari of Khelgaon Public School became Prayagraj topper

Prayagraj: Pratiksha Tiwari of Khelgaon Public School got first position in the district with 99% marks in CBSE 12th examination. Pratiksha Tiwari got 99 marks in English, 99 in Physical Education, 99 in History, 100 in Political Science and 98 marks in Geography. Saronika Jatav, a student of Khelgaon Public School, got 100 in English, 100 in History, 99 in Physical Education and Scored 95 marks in Geography. Names of other students who achieved remarkable success in the 12th examination announced today are as follows - Rakhi (95.80) Aastha Rai (95.60) Adarsh Kesarwani (95.20) Srishti Gupta (94.6) announced today by CBSE. In the results of class 10th, Arnay Vedant Agrahari stood first in the school by scoring 97 marks. While Yatharth Rai (94.6) got second place, Harshit Shah (94.2) and Soumya Yadav (94.2) got third place, Stuti Karwariya (93.2) and Saket Agarwal (93.2) got fourth place.

Following are the names of the students who scored 100% marks in the Intermediate and High School examinations declared by CBSE - Class 12: Pratiksha Tiwari (Political Science - 100), Saronika Jatav (English - 100, History - 100) Class 10: Harshit Shah (Computer - 100), in the high school examination, Mansi Verma got 99 marks in Hindi, Arnay Vedant Agrahari got 99 marks in Mathematics, Yatharth Rai got 99 marks in Social Studies, while Arnay Vedant Agrahari, Saumya Yadav, Aukitash Maitri, Shrivani Tripathi, Mansi Verma, Aryan Singh, Parth Pandey, Pratishta Kushwaha, Anushka Sharma, Aditya Singh Bhadoria and Harsh Chain all got 99 marks in computer subject.

Senior leaders reach out to voters via social contact

PRAYAGRAJ: The arrival of senior leaders of Bharatiya Janata Party in Prayagraj as a migration has started and their meeting, talks and meetings with the workers are continuing. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that Prayagraj's National General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party and Rajya Sabha MP Radha Mohan Agarwal, former National General Secretary and former MLA of Karnataka CTV Ravi, Gujarat MLA Hardik Patel, Haryana Karnal MP Sanjay Bhatia, Chhattisgarh for election camping in Allahabad and Phulpur Lok Sabha. Raipur MP Vijay Baghel, Aligarh MLA Anil Parashar, National President of BJP Scheduled Front Lal Singh Arya, National President of Backward Class Morcha Laxman ji, Harishchandra Chaudhary of Bharatiya Kisan Sangh of Aligarh have come to Prayagraj as a sojourn, who are social workers. According to the social equation, through the Sampark Toli, we will woo the voters in favor of the Bharatiya Janata Party candidate through meetings and meetings and further told that within a day or two, more leaders will also visit.

Let's come together and ensure 100% voting

PRAYAGRAJ: At Feroz Gandhi Intermediate College Garapur Adhikar Prerna Mahila Samiti, Garapur conducted a voter awareness rally to make people aware for 100% voting. In the rally school children were carrying placards and posters with slogans in their hands and motivating people to vote. After leaving the school the rally traveled around the villages and ended again in the school premises. Thereafter, the women and children of the self-help group present took a pledge to conduct and conduct 100 percent voting. On this occasion, Vice Principal of the school Om Prakash Shukla, Gopal Krishna Shukla, Vinay Pandey, Girish Kushwaha, Vinay Shukla and committee chairperson Pushpa Devi, Vimlesh Pal, Resha Bharatiya and other groups of women and children were present.

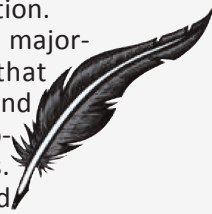


Editorial

Arise Before It's Too Late

The findings of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PM-EAC) are alarming with dangerous consequences for India's survival as a country of Sanatan culture. Those who would ignore this would do so at their own peril. The report says that between 1950 and 2015, the population of Hindus declined by 8 per cent whereas the population of Muslims grew by 43 per cent. In 1950, Hindus comprised 84 per cent of the total population but it came down to 78 per cent in 2015. During the same period, the population of Muslims increased from 9.84 per cent to 14.09 per cent. Those who are talking of the timing of the report want to mislead the nation. This is a crucial issue that affects the survival of the country in its present form. Election time is the right time to discuss how the country should be governed and what policies are needed to correct this imbalance that is sure to multiply if not addressed properly. The country has witnessed the Partition and its aftermath. The Partition happened on religious grounds. Are we in a position to afford another division of the country? Even if the Partition does not happen, the rhetoric and aggressive statements of some Islamic leaders have the potential to create social, cultural and political conflicts. Islamists in India still hold on to the dream that a day would come when India would become an Islamic country. They still feel Muslims, who were once a ruling elite, would reclaim their position with an increase in the Muslim population. Madrassas have become the breeding ground of such thoughts that are antithetical to the very idea of India being a Republic. Is it not strange that the majority in this country fear Muslim aggressiveness? The report indicates this fear is real. What took 65 years to transpire could happen in less than 25-30 years due to the unchecked population growth. The main reason for higher growth is rapid reproduction, illegal infiltration encouraged by vested interests and conversion. The issues that concern every Indian (Hindu) is whether they can survive with their civilisational and cultural values under Islamic rule. The country has witnessed untold misery because of Muslim rulers' enthusiasm to convert Hindus into Islamic faith. Entire Kashmir which was once a Hindu land of Hindu cultural renaissance has become Islamic due to this. We all know how infiltration has threatened the demographic composition of Assam and endangered the indigenous culture. The experience of Hindus in Muslim countries has not been good. They have witnessed persecution and forced conversion and there are very few countries or rights groups talking about them. The plight of Hindus in Pakistan and Bangladesh is too well known in the entire world. Luckily, they have India as their ancestral place to come and take refuge. The Modi government has made policies to give citizenship to such persecuted Hindus. However, what will Hindus do if India becomes Islamic and they are forced to flee? To which country would they go? What protection or insurance do they have that the country would not be disturbed from growing as a liberal democracy? Hindus in this country faced violence and paid jizya under the Mughals to retain their culture and ways of worship. Let's not close our eyes and lull ourselves into a make-believe world where everything will be okay, a world where we shouldn't worry about a rising population.

Despite being in the majority, Hindus have shown that they believe in democracy and have no problems with people practicing other faiths. But can the same be said about those who claim to be exclusivist and superior?



The Middle East is in a situation of flux

There was an element of restraint on both sides which stemmed from a combination of factors -- Iran weighing in the US support for Israel and Israel sensing the limitations on American backing put by the international criticism of the loss of civilian lives in Gaza at the hands of Israeli Defence Forces. In fact, in the Joe Biden administration, the White House was contemplating measures to balance its support to Israel with an effort to counter any Islamophobic trends that the Israel-Hamas conflict could produce following the October 7 'terror' attack of Hamas on Israel. The US is also at the same time,

having to deal with pro-Palestinian demonstrations held in the country, particularly on the university campuses there. Iran and Pakistan, the two neighbouring Islamic countries -- though inherently prone to the repercussions of the historical Shia-Sunni divide, have maintained a cautious line of peaceful relationship that could even overcome the incidents of exchange of missile attacks between them in January this year. The Sunni Islamic radical outfit Jaish Al Adl based in Baluchistan intruded into the adjoining Sistan area of Iran whereupon Iran fired missiles on the outfit's base in Baluchistan.

-- inviting in return, a retaliatory military strike from Pakistan that seemed somewhat symbolic. In the background of the Israel-Hamas conflict, Iran was getting politically drawn to the China-Russia combine -- it had already extended military help to Russia by way of supply of drones to the latter during the Ukraine-Russia 'war'. Pakistan on its part, has historically been opposed to the creation of a Zionist state and maintains no diplomatic relations with Israel even today. Pakistan has a strong strategic alliance with China but has managed to be on the right side of the US after playing the role of a mediator in the talks between the

Taliban and the US at Doha that resulted in the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan and the reinstatement of the Taliban Emirate at Kabul in 2021. Pakistan is also a key member of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and has been extremely close to Saudi Arabia, the Chairman of this block of 57 Islamic countries. Sunni radicals consider the US and the Shiites as their enemies and would abhor the idea of Pakistan getting close to the US. Pakistan, however, has struck an equation with radical outfits like the Taliban, Al Qaeda and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

BSP supremo Mayawati is considered a strict administrator

BSP supremo Mayawati is considered a strict administrator. On the contrary, she has avoided using abusive language or making false allegations against any party. She has always read written speeches, and perhaps that is so that she does not say anything that could bring any stain on her or her party. She has been the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh four times and due to her strict attitude every time, people like her a lot. His vote bank is also so strong that it is not easy for anyone else to break it. In 2014, even though they could not get a single Lok Sabha seat in the Modi wave, BSP got 19.6 per cent votes. Whereas in the year 2019, BSP got 10 seats, that too when Mayawati had fielded her candidates on 38 seats only in alliance with Akhilesh. Even today his vote bank is intact and both things are intact in his nature like a well-informed ruler. However, the BSP supremo's decision to remove her own young nephew Akash Anand from party post and succession has shocked everyone and has also changed all the equations of the Lok Sabha elections.

However, Akash Anand has been in politics for a long time and obviously he must have learned a lot of political tricks from his aunt and his father. As far as qualifications and maturity are



concerned, Akash has completed higher education and was educated abroad. If we talk about their language and their aggressive statements, then the rhetoric of the leaders in Uttar Pradesh is above this.

The way the BSP supremo has issued a formal letter and statement on Twitter's new name Mayawati had appointed nephew Akash Anand, who returned from London after studying MBA, as the national coordinator of BSP in the month of June 2019 itself. After this, last year i.e. in the last month of 2023 i.e. December, Mayawati declared him as her successor. According to this responsibility, Akash Anand was handling the responsibility of all the states except Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. But the succession given to Akash Anand in December itself was snatched away in the first week of May. This has not

only angered a large number of BSP supporters, especially the youth, but the BSP, which was expected to rise again by its supporters and other leaders and workers, was feeling that a young Bahujan Samaj Party would be leading the party. While doing this, he has found someone who will become the voice of the Bahujan community, today he seems disappointed in himself. People are raising questions whether Mayawati has entered into an internal vote transfer agreement with BJP?

Some people are even saying that they have surrendered to the BJP. What has he got for this or what lure has he been given by BJP, only he knows? At the same time, some people are also believing that Mayawati has not removed her nephew from the post under any pressure, but has removed him to avoid allegations of nepotism. However, this type

of argument cannot be considered correct, because if she wanted to be free from the allegations of nepotism, she would have freed her brother as well as her nephew from the responsibilities, and she also does not say that Akash Anand is an expert. Everyone has definitely seen it through their own eyes, but no one has a definite idea as to what is the reality behind it?

However, the reason behind this is believed to be that Akash Anand has waited for succession and removal from the post of National Coordinator until his sharp electoral maturity matures. Then he should have clearly said that BSP never promoted nepotism, hence Akash Anand is being removed from the posts and the party is searching for a worthy successor, it will be announced in future.

But he did not say anything like that, rather what he said revealed only two things, firstly, that Mayawati is angry at her nephew's statements and not speaking as per his temperament in the rallies, or secondly, that Mayawati, somewhere or the other, she is under pressure from BJP and instead of saving the credibility of BSP, she has made an agreement to help BJP win maximum seats in Uttar Pradesh in this election by any means. In fact, Mayawati has said that

Akash Anand will be removed from both the posts till he attains maturity and said that Anand Kumar (i.e. Akash's father and Mayawati's brother) will continue to fulfill his responsibilities as before in the interest of the party and the movement. In her letter written to remove Akash Anand from both the important posts, Mayawati has said that the leadership of BSP will not shy away from making every kind of sacrifice and sacrifice in the interest of the party and the movement and in taking Dr. Ambedkar's caravan forward. Not there. This decision of the BSP supremo was compared to BJP with terrorism in the speeches of political parties and politicians, due to which not only was an FIR filed against him, but Mayawati, to save her soft image, legally removed him from the party.

Although this is not the first time that BSP supremo Mayawati has suddenly used her power to vent out her anger on an official, even before this she has done the same with many officials. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, when Mayawati was accused of nepotism in the party, she also removed her brother Anand Kumar from the post. Apart from this, he has also removed many key officials after being accused of committing mistakes and making mistakes.

What's Xi Jinping doing in Europe?

In 1964, when French President Charles De Gaulle visited Beijing to formalise the West's first diplomatic ties with China, he made a profound statement about Parisian weltanschauung -- "France simply recognises the world as it is." Decades later, amid waves of geopolitical turbulence, Chinese President Xi Jinping has embarked on his first visit to Europe in five years since 2019, cherry-picking three countries -- France, Serbia and Hungary. At the outset, the selection seems emphatically aimed at driving wedges in the Western alliance. It also confirms that the objective of his visit is not economic but strategic.

He chose Paris because it conveniently coincided with marking 60 years of China-France diplomatic relations. That said, the real

reason was to appeal to Paris' strategic autonomy at a time when the European bloc has undertaken an uneven but ambitious project to de-risk its grossly imbalanced trade with China. This includes addressing the burning issue of Chinese EVs flooding the European market, outperforming their European counterparts due to unfair trade practices. The other two countries that Xi visited were Serbia and Hungary. Xi's strategic signalling is basic. In the case of France, he wishes to capitalise on the country's strategic autonomy -- which is most susceptible to being misread due to Macron's mixed statements -- to distance it from the United States and NATO.

Although there is no real evidence to suggest so, Macron's outlandish statements are

enough to create and sustain this confusion. Xi's Serbia visit coincided with the 25th anniversary of the bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade; an incident that had occurred during NATO intervention in the bloody breakdown of the former Yugoslavia in May 1999. Serbia is witnessing the unending war that has engulfed core supporter Russia and is looking at European Union accession afresh. In a strategic shift, it has inked a deal on French Rafale jets in its largest military procurement in history. Despite the winds of change, Serbia remains a Russia supporter and mistrustful of the Western bloc. However, Xi has spent the greatest amount of time in Hungary saying the two countries will enjoy a "golden voyage" in relations.

Rahul's " ideas may adversely impact Cong prospects

Now in 2024, the buzz about Congress promising to take away all that 'extra' wealth of a section of the population brought back memories of the pain that Dhar and many others had to endure. Kamlesh, a 47-year-old house help, whose family resides in a dwelling built with government funds in her village in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad district, is confused today. After hearing about the Congress' wealth distribution plan, she feared that her family might lose the new house as the joint family had an ancestral dwelling in the same village. She is also apprehensive since her family is worried about talks regarding the reservation rights for Backwards being snatched away and given to the Muslims by Congress. These fears have become a topic of discussion among the general populace. The fact that Congress has a history of doing such things has made people take Rahul Gandhi's statement critically this time. In 1953, then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's government brought the inheritance tax under the Estate Duty Act as it found that there were inequalities in wealth.

The Act, also known as 'Death Tax' was imposed on the principal value of movable and immovable property, including agricultural land, which a person inherited after the death of the owner



of the property. The Act was abolished in 1985 by the Rajiv Gandhi government when he became Prime Minister after the death of Indira Gandhi. The BJP has accused that he did so to escape from the said tax on inheritance. With this piece of history being resurrected, people feel that this is Rahul Gandhi's plan for a new 'INDIA'. What has given credence to this is the statement by Sam Pitroda, a close aide of the Gandhi family and Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, who highlighted the importance of wealth redistribution policies, citing the US laws. Though the Congress later distanced itself from Pitroda's comments, the cat is already out of the bag Rahul's pledge to pursue 'jitin abadi utna haq' and his X-ray plan to detect peoples' wealth have set the middle-class thinking. Amit is an IT professional in Delhi, who bought an apartment on EMI. Recently his loan ended and he got the ownership paper from the bank. Rahul Gandhi's wealth distribution plan has worried him as now he owns the flat and

has also inherited property from his late father. There are millions of Amit-like stories in the middle class. The voices may or may not reflect the sentiment of the whole nation, but hint at the ? churn that has started, especially among the middle class. They work hard, take loans to build new nests and create assets after paying taxes. It is not just the lands and houses; the fear is also about Rahul Gandhi's Congress/INDIA bloc government -- if voted to power -- sneaking into the lockers and cabinets of millions of women who keep their valuable 'stree dhan' hidden away. It is also about the attack on the tradition of hidden savings done by women in all households. Women in India are highly sensitive and emotive about stree dhan and their hidden treasures in the lockers. These are things passed on from generation to generation. But Rahul Gandhi seems to have other plans for this 'hidden' wealth. What he wants the Congress to do is what is at the core of Communist philosophy.

India-made Micron Tech semiconductor chips to launch globally in 2025



Delhi: Micron India Managing Director Anand Ramamoorthy said that Micron Technology's packaging operation in Gujarat's Sanand will produce the first Indian semiconductor chips in the first half of 2025. "We expect to have products roll-out early next year, in the first half, which is a very good turnaround given that we had announced this whole engagement in the middle of last year," he said. Sanand may become a worldwide semiconductor powerhouse since Ramamoorthy predicted most of its chips will be exported. The chips will be utilized in data centers, smartphones, notebooks, and IoT devices, said Ramamoorthy. Demand, cost, and customer needs will dictate chip allocation closer to manufacturing. Micron also wants to explore two-wheeler electric vehicles and Indian government contracts. Micron's semiconductor supply chain is moving to India, with Simmtech opening operations in Gujarat. Ramamoorthy said the company is working with the government and suppliers to capitalize on India's semiconductor ecosystem. Micron is building an ATMP plant in India under the government's \$10 billion semiconductor production and assembly incentive program. The initiative, funded by central and state governments, will create thousands of direct and indirect jobs, boosting India's semiconductor industry.

AI reduces the lowest-fare luggage limit to 15kg

Delhi: Air India economy class domestic fliers on reduced fares can now check in 15kg of baggage instead of 25kg. AI's substantial allowance for economy fliers within India was its USP, and it would help make up for the long-awaited enhanced cabin product on the airline's outdated planes. All major Indian airlines give 15kg check-in for free. AI spokesperson: "Last year, we adopted a menu-based pricing strategy for branded fare families to comply with worldwide airline industry standards. Air India's 'comfort', 'comfort plus', and 'flex' fare families offer dis-



tinct features and limits at varying prices. We offer tariff families to help guests choose the finest meal and services for them." "Bundled fares provide passengers more value and choice for less. On a domestic sector like Delhi-Mumbai, the price difference between 'comfort plus' and 'flex' fares is typically about Rs 1,000, with the 'flex' fare offering nearly Rs 9,000, including 10kg extra baggage, zero change or cancellation fees, more loyalty points, and more free seats." On domestic economy class routes, 'comfort' and 'comfort plus' price families allow 15kg baggage, while 'flex' allows 25kg.

Apple may employ 5 lakh Indians

Delhi: Government sources that Apple will significantly increase its vendor workforce in India. In the next three years, Apple's suppliers and component makers might employ nearly 5 lakh people, up from 1.5 lakh. Apple's Indian vendor with the most jobs is Tata Electronics,

which runs two factories. A senior government official "Apple is hiring faster in India. They may employ five lakh people through vendors and component suppliers in the next three years, conservatively." Apple has not commented on this forecast. Apple's ambitions

to boost Indian manufacturing coincide with this announcement. The corporation aspires to surpass five-fold manufacturing production in India, aiming for USD 40 billion (3.32 lakh crore) in the next four to five years. This surge aligns with Apple's Indian success.

CAPSULES

Home loan outstanding rises Rs 10 lakh cr

Delhi: Household debt has skyrocketed in the past two years. According to RBI's 'Sectoral Deployment of Bank Credit' data, housing sector credit grew by about Rs 10 lakh crore in the last two fiscals to a record Rs 27.23 lakh crore in March. Experts credit this to a significant home market recovery following COVID-19. Buyers who delayed buying homes during the pandemic are now buying. Government efforts to provide affordable housing have also driven this increase. An analogy: Imagine a house loan pool. This pool has risen dramatically in the past two years, signaling a homebuying boom. People catching up on delayed purchases and government affordable housing schemes may explain this. While the pool will undoubtedly increase, its rate may slow. Home ownership remained one of the top three goals in 2023, according to the BankBazaar Aspiration Index. Despite rising interest rates, bank loan books exceeded Rs 21 lakh crore as housing loan demand rose. Bankbazaar's average house loan ticket size in 2023 was Rs 28.19 lakh. Metros had an average house loan ticket size of Rs 33.10 lakh and non-metros Rs 22.81 lakh. Existing customers can move to lower home loan rates and prepay a portion of the loan to minimize the strain of rate spikes.

Ola Cabs announces 10% layoffs; CEO leaves in three months.

Delhi: Sources say Ola Cabs is laying off 10%, or 200 workers, as part of its restructuring before an IPO. The company plans to file its draft IPO papers with SEBI in three months and list on the bourses later this year.

Eight US publications sued OpenAI and Microsoft for copyright infringement

Delhi: OpenAI and Microsoft are being sued by eight US newspapers for "purloining millions" of copyrighted news stories to train its artificial intelligence chatbots. New York federal court received the lawsuit from the Daily News, Chicago Tribune, Denver Post, and others. The MediaNews Group and Tribune Publishing executive editor Frank Pine wrote, "We've spent billions of dollars gathering information and reporting news at our publications, and we can't allow OpenAI and Microsoft to expand the Big Tech playbook of stealing our work to build their own businesses at our expense." The lawsuit also



names MediaNews Group's Mercury News, Denver Post, Orange County Register, St. Paul Pioneer-Press, and Tribune Publishing's Orlando Sentinel and South Florida Sun Sentinel. Alden Global Capital

owns all publications. Microsoft declined comment. A request for comment from OpenAI was delayed. The New York Times sued OpenAI and Microsoft in December for Copyright infringement in ChatGPT's con-

struction and training. Teams of wealthy lawyers seeking to stop us from publicizing their stories. Lobby groups with unclear funding that debunk climate emergency and other science. Authoritarian regimes that disregard press freedom. Bad actors propagating online falsehoods to subvert democracy. Something powerful is on our side. We got you. The Guardian is funded by Indian readers like you, and our editor selects what we publish. This week is the 31st World Press Freedom Day, a time to reflect on free expression as the foundation of all rights. It's also a chance to assist independent media worldwide.

Jio Financial Services will hire the head of consumer banking at Standard Chartered Bank

Delhi: Kusal Roy, the head of Standard Chartered Bank's consumer banking division in India, has tendered his resignation and is anticipated to join Jio Financial Services. The news of upcoming consumer-focused initiatives that Jio Financial Services would soon offer coincides with the development. Roy is a seasoned banker who joined StanChart Bank in 2020 after heading Tata Capital. He had previously worked for Citibank and ICICI Bank.



Roy's departure was verified by StanChart in response to an email inquiry. Following the release of the company's most recent financial results on April 19, Jio Financial Services announced a number of initiatives, which were unveiled concurrently with the announcement of Roy's resignation.

Godrej & Boyce to own Godrej land bank exclusive construction

Delhi: According to sources and regulatory filings, Jamshyd Naoroji Godrej and his sister Smita Krishna Godrej-controlled Godrej & Boyce will have exclusive construction rights over a vast land bank, including a prime 3,000-acre property in Mumbai, they received as part of the family agreement that split the Godrej empire. Deal splits the 127-year-old organization into two groups commanded by Adi Godrej and his brother Nadir and their cousins Jamshyd and Smita. The former would oversee Godrej Industries Group, which includes listed firms Godrej Industries Ltd, Godrej Consumer Products Ltd, Godrej Properties Ltd, Godrej Agrovet Ltd, and Astec Lifesciences Ltd. Jamshyd Godrej, 75, will manage Godrej



Enterprises, which includes Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co., which operates in aerospace, aviation, defense, energy, construction, IT, and software. His niece Nyrika Holkar will be executive director. Both groups will use the Godrej brand, but they have a six-year non-compete arrangement to avoid each other. According to sources and the regulatory filing, they can enter other domains after the non-compete period, but not use the Godrej name. Sources indicated the separation was done through share transfers, not value. Adi and Nadir Godrej will sell their Godrej & Boyce shares to the other branch. Jamshyd Godrej and his family will pass GCPL and Godrej Properties to their cousins through a family agreement. A separate agreement will regulate ownership rights for thousands of millions of rupees of real estate in affluent Mumbai areas under Godrej & Boyce (G&B).

Bandhan Life hires 1,000 avatars

"Most of our partner distribution operations are tech-enabled, so once a consumer knows what they want to buy, it's quick" said

Delhi: After acquiring Aegon Life Insurance, Bandhan Financial Holdings rebranded it Bandhan Life. The new company plans to become a multi-channel life insurance in five years as part of its expansion strategy. It will hire 1,000 people soon. After buying BCLL and Aegon Indian Holding's shareholding in February 2024, BFHL became the promoter. "Our vision for the next five years is set,"



stated Bandhan Life MD and CEO Satishwar B. We will grow into all important product areas to improve our offerings." He continued, "To support our tech-enabled approach, we have extensively invested in technology and data-driven operations. This combination will enable us to develop with the new Bharat." Given their size and scale, Bandhan Bank may be the largest distribution partner initially. Satishwar said it serves mass and conventional banking customers. We sell offline too,

Currently, Australia is monitoring Indian spices

Delhi: In order to determine whether a food recall is necessary, Australia's food safety regulator is gathering data on potential contamination of spice mixes produced by Indian businesses MDH and Everest. Three MDH spice blends and one Everest mix were taken off the market in Hong Kong earlier this month. The same Everest mix was recalled by Singapore as well due to excessive quantities of ethylene oxide, which is dangerous for ingestion by humans and can cause cancer if exposed to high levels.

Children under 12 must sit with parents on flights without charge



Delhi: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has ordered airlines to seat children under 12 with a parent or guardian. This change follows many complaints from consumers, particularly group travelers, who were seated separated from their children after opting out of extra seat selection expenses. Under the new rule, airlines must seat children under 12 with their parents or guardians on the same booking reference. The DGCA stressed the need of recording seating arrangements for compliance. "Airline shall ensure that children upto 12 years are allocated seats with at least one of their parents/guardians, who are travelling on the same PNR and a record of the same shall be maintained," a revised DGCA rule stated. Passengers can opt out of opt-in services including premium seating and meals. Airlines may automatically assign seats before departure if passengers do not pick seats during web check-in. "Airline 'opt-in' unbundled services are optional. Auto seat assignment is available to passengers who have not selected a seat for web check-in before departure.

Not enough to teach kids 'good touch' and 'poor touch'; teach them 'virtual touch'

Delhi: "Good touch" and "bad touch" are not adequate in today's cyber world; youngsters must be educated about "virtual touch" and its perils, the Delhi High Court has stated. Children should learn about online safety, predatory behavior, privacy settings, and online boundaries.

"This court is constrained to note that in today's virtual modern world where virtual space has also become a breeding ground of alleged virtual affections between teenagers, they are not equipped to deal with the potential dangers of human trafficking for prostitution and other side of crimes which exists in the virtual world," Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma.

Traditional child protection has concentrated on teaching children about "good touch" and "bad touch" in the physical arena.



Delhi high court orders parents to pay for school AC

Delhi: The Delhi High Court recently ruled that parents must pay for school air conditioning, just like laboratory costs. While dismissing a public interest litigation, the division bench of acting chief judge Manmohan and justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora made the comment. The petition asked the Delhi government's DoE to restrict a private school from charging for classroom air conditioning. Air conditioning is a school facility, thus parents must pay for it like lab and smart class fees. When choosing a school, parents must consider the

facilities and expenses for their children. The bench ruled on May 2 that school management cannot bear the cost of such facilities. Manish Goel filed the PIL because his child's Delhi private school charged Rs 2,000 per month for AC. The petitioner said the school management should give AC to kids with its own funds. The bench heard from the DoE that it was investigating and asking for an action-taken report after many complaints. "This petition includes respondent No. 5 school's 2023-24 fee receipt for air-conditioning charges.

JEE Advanced 2024 Exam City List Announced; IIT Madras Opens Three New International Centers

Delhi: The Joint Entrance Examination Advanced (JEE Advanced 2024) exam cities for this year have been announced by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras). The institute has declared that it will hold the entrance exam at three additional exam locations overseas in addition to the 229 exam centers in India. These testing locations include Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Kathmandu. Through the official website, jeeadv.ac.in, eligible applicants who qualified for JEE Main



2024 and placed in the top 2.5 lakhs may submit an application for JEE Advanced 2024. Candidates have till May 7 to turn in their registration forms, which the IIT Madras opened on April 27.

It should be mentioned that during the application process, candidates will be required to rank their

top eight exam cities. Correcting their center and nation selections will be an option for those who have already chosen and paid for centers in India. Furthermore, students need to be aware that there are differences in the registration fees for exam centers located in India and those located abroad.

DU Hansraj College students question, 'Are we back to school?' after PTM notification

Delhi: Delhi University's Hansraj College's announcement has garnered social media amusement. Low-attendance college students are asked to bring their parents to meet with teachers.

The college officials believe it's necessary to disclose such

important information about students with their parents, but the young guns are upset and feel like being sent back to school! "My friends and I have received the notice for low attendance and have been asked to bring our parents to meet the teachers," On condition

of anonymity, a college senior says, "Our college has only started taking serious measures against low-attendance students since last semester. Defaulters have always been around, but following last semester, many students were requested to sign a declaration to increase attendance.

Why NMC student migration regulation will prevent 'backdoor' entries

Delhi: The NMC UG Board stated in the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, published in the official Gazette, that "No student designated to a Medical Institution, notwithstanding anything stated in these regulations, shall seek migration to any other Medical Institution." This goes against earlier laws that allowed pupils to transfer between government and private schools. Candidates used to have to pass the first professional MBBS test to migrate.



Migration during clinical trial was prohibited for any reason. College migration has become more important as 150 Gujarati medical students wait to transfer to other medical schools. After the NMC barred MBBS students

from migrating, it's unclear how the mandate will affect their careers. In general, experts feel the NMC recommendations will end malpractices. An anonymous senior health ministry official said, "Some colleges

charged a lot for the obligatory No Objection Certificate (NOC) to kids who wanted to attend government colleges. Backdoor access to government colleges allowed students with over 7 lakh NEET ranks to enter better-known government colleges while pupils with 20,000-30,000 ranks were admitted. Students can transfer to government or private colleges throughout the several counselling rounds after NEET, where seats are merit-based.

Schengen visa rule to encourage Indian summer vacations in Europe

Delhi: Airlines and airports say the new Schengen visa regime, which grants regular Indian travelers multi-year permits for up to five years, will boost outbound travel from India to Europe. German carrier Lufthansa said this will speed up Indian travelers reaching Europe. "This is a positive step and a faster path to longer-term visas helps many eligible Indian nationals who travel frequently to Schengen," said Lufthansa Group senior director (South Asia)



George Ettiyil. German Lufthansa provides 64 weekly flights to five Indian destinations. Indian people can now get long-term, multi-entry Schengen visas valid for two years after having received and lawfully utilized two visas within three years under the new visa

"cascade" scheme. If the passport is valid, the two-year visa is usually followed by a five-year visa. The EU said that holders of certain visas had visa-free travel rights. Airports Council International, a global airport association, credited visa liberalization with increas-

ing India-Europe traffic. The organization wanted India and the EU to work together to simplify visa issuance for Indian citizens. The group said that simplifying the process, including expediting consular and visa services, would improve business relations and tourism between India and the EU, especially given Indians' rising disposable income, which will increase their propensity to fly. Closer collaboration would benefit Indian consumers first, with fewer impediments.

Cybercrime-led paper leaks are addressed with time-bound MCQs in NEET PG 2024

Delhi: Prof Dr Minu Bajpai, executive director, NBEMS and former dean (academics), AIIMS, New Delhi, "With over two lakh students taking NEET PG exams every year, it becomes necessary to safeguard the question papers from potential cyber frauds. A cyber-secure system enabled by government-appointed agencies with excellent IT software and significant experience conducts CBT tests. With cyber breach risk continuously present, the technology constantly protects data from phishing." The NBE stays abreast of cybersecurity advances from these agencies. We learn from worldwide disasters or cyber security potential from agency exchanges. Any cybersecurity breach risk is then addressed and preventative meas-



ures implemented. The NBE has kept the system and exams secure to stay ahead in cybersecurity. In the interest of examinees, the NBEMS has taken precautionary measures to improve the safety and security of the impending CBT-based NEET PG test based on supplier firm cybersecurity risk assessments. NBEMS says the new exam paper would have many time-bound portions. If NEET-PG 2024 has five time-bound sections (A, B, C, D, and E), each will contain 40 questions and 42 minutes. Candidates cannot move to the next sec-

tion until they finish the previous one. Candidates cannot examine questions or change their answers for a section after the given time. After the previous section's time is up, the new section's questions will start automatically. The number of time-restricted sections in a test depends on the amount of questions and their practical feasibility. This year, NEET PG 2024 has changed. The exam was moved from March 3 to July 7. Due to Puri's Rath Yatra, the NMC moved the exam to June 23.

The UGC has asked all HEIs to form an ICC and a Special/Women's Cell

Delhi: The UGC has asked all HEIs to form an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and a Special/Women's Cell to address gender-based violence and gender sensitization.

The UGC has released an advise on implementing the Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act 2013. It said all Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) must form an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and a Special/Women's Cell under their administrative supervision to address gender-based violence and gender sensitization. The University Grants Commission (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations,



2015, are available on the UGC website, www.ugc.gov.in. These regulations explicitly outline Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) responsibilities, grievance redressal sys-

tems., complaint and inquiry processes, interim redressal, penalty and compensation, repercussions of non-compliance, etc. The commission also requested that institutes display banners and posters, ICC

members' names and contacts on display boards and portals, and the Women's Helpline Number and Emergency Support Number 112 for women in difficulty.

Locked Lok Sabha election! 1.5 crore can vote in Delhi

Delhi: Since the 2019 parliamentary elections, Delhi voters have climbed by almost 6%. Delhi's chief electoral officer P Krishnamurthy said 1.52

crore people will vote for the seven Lok Sabha seats on May 25 compared to 1.43 crore five years ago. 8.85 lakh greater than 2019 He stated that

women voters increased more than men.

Delhi registered 3.4 lakh new male voters in the past five years, 4.3% higher than in

2019. Krishnamurthy reported 5.45 lakh new women voters since 2019. The Delhi chief electoral officer froze the final roll.

Soliciting support for party candidates



Rajasthan minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Union minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, and retired MoS General VK Singh attended rallies. The Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) intensified its Lok Sabha campaign in Delhi, with star campaigners, largely from Rajasthan, soliciting support for party candidates. Top leaders including Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Arjun Ram Meghwal, and MoS General (retired) VK Singh attended rallies. Meghwal canvassed west and north Delhi, while

Rathore canvassed west and south. Rajasthan deputy chief ministers Prem Chand Bairwa and Diya Kumari campaigned in Delhi. Meghwal supported BJP's northwest Delhi candidate Yogendra Chandolia, saying this election will choose the next prime minister. He stated that voting for Chandolia will support Narendra Modi as PM. "The PM must secure the country's borders and internal security. We now respond to attacks instead of sending dossiers

after Modi became PM in 2014. Only the US and Israel held this status before 2014. India is becoming the third nation to retaliate against attackers. It's the sixth largest economy in the world. Meghwal stated BJP rule would place us third in five years. Meghwal supported BJP's northwest Delhi candidate Yogendra Chandolia, saying this election will choose the next prime minister. By voting for Chandolia, people support Narendra Modi as PM.

To shift in the political climate occurring in favor of the opposition

Delhi: On several social media platforms, a video of Baba Ramdev openly complimenting Rahul Gandhi, the head of the Congress party, has been doing the rounds. Users who are sharing the video assert that it was uploaded not too long ago and relate the praise to a shift in the political climate occurring in favor of the opposition in the General Elections that are to follow. Previously, Rahul Gandhi was not given much attention in the national media, but now he is being talked

everywhere, according to Ramdev, who is featured in the film. He also lauded Rahul's physical fitness and the Gandhi family's long-standing connection to yoga, which dates back to Nehru. Ramdev, the founder of Patanjali, and Acharya Balkrishna, his associate, were recently admonished by the Supreme Court for their false ads.

As a consequence of this, they were compelled to offer a public apology in prominent newspapers for the misleading promotion of Patanjali's medicinal

products. An individual on X published the video (Archive) and said, "Sensing the situation, Baba has started to flip to the other side." This was done in order to poke fun at Ramdev's outspoken sponsorship of the BJP administration led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Verification of the Facts:

A video from the past showing Ramdev praising Rahul Gandhi Related to the Polls of 2024 The video was discovered to be from the year 2022 by NewsMeter.

Punjabis, particularly Sikhs, urging them to have a "minimum of five children

Delhi: In an effort to foster "stronger familial bonds and contribute to society's prosperity," Damdami Taksal, a well-known Sikh seminary with significant sway over the community, has made an appeal to Punjabis, particularly Sikhs, urging them to

have a "minimum of five children." When people experienced financial challenges when raising big kids, the Taksal, which was formerly led by Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, declared that it would fully mobilize its resources to sup-

port child rearing. Sikh couples "should aim to have a minimum of five children to strengthen Punjab religiously, socially, politically, and culturally," according to Baba Harnam Singh Khalsa, the 16th chief of Damdami Taksal.

CAPSULES

BJD promises 100 units of free power and two lakh jobs

Delhi: Odisha chief minister and leader of the BJD, Naveen Patnaik, unveiled the party platform, pledging two lakh government employment in five years, free electricity up to 100 units, and a distinct youth budget of Rs 1 lakh crore for ten years. A reduction from 100 to 150 units was promised. Ten percent of state families use more than 150 units, compared to 75 percent that use fewer than 100. "This will also encourage responsible use of electricity," Naveen added. Under the government's Nua 'O' scholarship program, boys would receive Rs 12,000 annually and girls Rs 14,000 for diploma and degree programs. An increase in entrepreneur loans from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh was offered.

Congress announced the Uttar Pradesh Lok Sabha Elections 2024 star campaigners

Delhi: The Congress announced the Uttar Pradesh Lok Sabha Elections 2024 star campaigners. National President Mallikarjun Kharge, Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra are campaigners. Former party Chief Ministers are also listed. Star campaigners include Ashok Gehlot, Digvijay Singh, Bhupesh Baghel, and Harish Rawat. Siddaramaiah, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, and Revanth Reddy will also campaign for the party in Uttar Pradesh. Also featured are Ajay Rai, Salman Khurshid, Sachin Pilot, Rajiv Shukla, Imran Pratapgarhi, Deepender Singh Hooda, Raj Babbar, Supriya Shrinete, and Alka Lamba. The Indian National Congress (INC) named 27 Jammu and Kashmir campaigners.

Sakshi Malik and Bajrang praised court's decision

Delhi: Star grapplers Sakshi Malik and Bajrang Punia praised Delhi court's decision to charge former WFI chairman Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh with sexual harassment, calling it a triumph for women wrestlers. Singh, a multiple Lok Sabha MP, was charged with sexual harassment and other offenses under IPC sections 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to insult her modesty), "This decision will ease the suffering of the nation's daughters. Trollers of women



should be embarrassed. Satyamev Jayate." Rio Olympic bronze medalist Malik retired when Sanjay Singh, a former WFI President's adviser, was elected president. "Thank you, honorable court. After sleeping on

the streets for several nights in the heat and rain and giving up our solid careers, we were able to take a few steps ahead in the fight for justice." "X" wrote Malik, a key protester against Singh. "Thanks to those

who showed love and blessings and may God bless those who trolled and uttered horrible things. Mother India lives!" Sakshi, Bajrang, and Vinesh Phogat led the year-long protest at Jantar Mantar in the national capital in January 2023. The Delhi Police charged Singh with assault or criminal force on a woman with purpose to outrage her modesty, sexual harassment, stalking, and criminal intimidation under sections 354-506 of the Indian Penal Code after months of protests.

Former diplomat Taranjit Singh filed his Lok Sabha candidacy

Delhi: Former diplomat Taranjit Singh Sandhu is BJP's Amritsar Lok Sabha candidate. It started with BJP MP Tejasvi Surya. Next is BJP's Amritsar candidate Taranjit Singh Sandhu. A commitment to open US consulates in Bengaluru and Amritsar. Former diplomat Taranjit Singh Sandhu filed his Lok Sabha candidacy papers. Before filing his candidacy papers, Mr. Sandhu, 61, was at a roadshow with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. India-US



relations are advancing rapidly. Our community grows there. Business is booming between the countries. So more consulates will likely open

here. S Jaishankar stated amid loud cheers, "We'll see who advocates for Amritsar. A New BJP Poll Promise: US Consulates in Indian Cities Former

diplomat Taranjit Singh Sandhu is BJP's Amritsar Lok Sabha candidate. It started with BJP MP Tejasvi Surya. Next is BJP's Amritsar candidate Taranjit Singh Sandhu. A commitment to open US consulates in Bengaluru and Amritsar. Former diplomat

Taranjit Singh Sandhu filed his Lok Sabha candidacy papers on Friday. Before filing his candidacy papers, Mr. Sandhu, 61, was at a roadshow with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

Foreigners pursue every avenue to access hot India bond trade

Overseas investors are showing such keen interest in India assets that they are taking proxy exposure to the country even if they don't have the license or physical presence to trade there. Foreign funds lacking direct access to India's \$1 trillion government debt market are increasing their exposure via instruments such as supranational bonds and swaps ahead of the nation's upcoming inclusion in global bond indexes. There's an "increased engagement from global investors, with momentum picking up this year," said Siddharth Bachawat, head for markets at Barclays Bank India. "In addition to interest from index-tracking managers ahead of the inclusion, discretionary activity from a wider investor base has also been notable." Indian sov-

ereign bonds have gained prominence after JPMorgan Chase & Co's move to add them to its global debt indexes from June. The number of issuances by sovereign, supranational and agency entities offering investors an exposure to the country rose to a record in 2023, with the value of such offerings reaching \$3.2 billion, a five-year high, data compiled by Bloomberg show. "There's been a marked increase in the sales of rupee-denominated supranational, sovereign and agency debt," said Wontae Kim, research analyst at Western Asset Management. Investors such as William Blair Investments and M&G Investments are venturing into supranational bonds. Issued by multilateral agencies like the World

Bank and denominated in Indian rupees, these triple-A rated notes give overseas investors exposure to local debt without having to secure a license to operate onshore. "Given India's disinflation trend and improved technical outlook with impending index inclusion, we favor duration in India," said Johnny Chen, fund manager at William Blair in Singapore. Also, buyers don't have to pay 20% withholding tax as these securities are settled offshore, which results in higher yields, according to Claudia Calich, head of emerging-market debt at M&G Investments in London. "Even if the pretax yield on supranational bonds tends to be lower than on India government debt, the yield is higher on an after-tax basis.

'India to be small aircraft maker ATR's biggest market in 5 years'

NEW DELHI: Franco-Italian regional aircraft major ATR sees India emerge as its biggest market in the next five years. And as that happens, the turboprop-maker says "it will be foolish not to increase our footprint here" in terms of sourcing of components, pilot training and others. "India currently has 65 ATRs - 45 with IndiGo and 20 with Alliance Air. IndiGo is to get five more. Startup carrier Fly91 (which is being launched by aviation veteran Manoj Chacko) will get its first leased ATR anytime now and the second in a week or so," Jean-Pierre Clercin, ATR's head of commercial for Asia Pacific, said. "Indonesia has about 100 ATRs and is currently our biggest market. India and



Brazil come after that. But the way Indian economy and air travel in the country is booming, within five years India will have the maximum ATRs given the government's focus on regional air transport through ude desh ka aam naagrik (UDAN) scheme," Clercin said. ATR feels India will need 50-150 such planes in the next decade. "That is the official estimation.

But given the way India is developing, the actual number could be even higher. Much higher," he said. The turboprop major is in talks with several Indian airlines for more orders. "The focus here is on regional and ATR is for that. So we are talking to all the airlines in India," he said. Asked if ATR plans to make in India, Clercin said: "We do already

have a presence in India. There are some simulators (for pilot training) operated by third parties in India. The footprint depends a lot on the size of the markets, and India is one of the most promising markets globally. We've seen the amazing resilience of the country. As the market is so big, we need to look at all options."

JJP will support the Congress-led opposition's bid

Delhi: Former deputy CM Dushyant Chautala said that BJP's estranged ally JJP will support the Congress-led opposition's bid to overthrow Haryana's Nayab Singh Saini government. He warned his MLA colleagues that defying a whip to support the BJP would result in disqualification. Chautala's announcement came a day after three Independent MLAs quit from the BJP-led coalition, lowering its strength to 43 in an 88-member legislature after ex-CM Manohar Lal Khattar and Independent MLA Ranjit Singh Chautala resigned last March. Even though the alliance is two short of a majority, Saini said his government would finish its term without a hitch. "We weren't a minority government earlier and aren't now," he declared in Sirsa. In October, Haryana will have elections. Three Independents withholding support might hurt the BJP's Lok Sabha chances, even if the government is technically safe.

Rain god is not the answer, take steps to douse wildfires: SC



DEHRADUN: Supreme Court, while hearing a plea filed by Dehradun-based advocate Rituparn Uniyal, seeking immediate action to safeguard the region's forests, wildlife, and birds from the devastating impact of wildfires, told the state govt on Wednesday that "cloud seeding or depending on rain god is not the answer" to the raging forest fires and the authorities will have to take preventive measures to tackle the problem. In response, the state govt informed apex

court about steps taken to control the forest fires and said that "only around 0.1% of the wildlife cover in the state was on fire due to such incidents." Deputy advocate general of Uttarakhand Jatinder Kumar Sethi told the bench of Justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta that since Nov last year, there have been 398 such incidents, all caused by human activities, leading to five fatalities. The applicant told the bench that the state is painting a "very rosy picture", but media

reports claim that the state machinery is pre-occupied with election duties rather than fire-fighting efforts. The petitioner called for the central and state govts, as well as the principal chief conservator of forests in the hill state, to establish pre-fire strategies and a policy framework to mitigate such disasters, underscoring the vital role forests and wildlife in maintaining the ecological balance, economic health and social fabric of the hilly regions. The court has scheduled further hearing on May 15.

Seema Setumadhavan from Faridabad won the title by making delicious 'Methi Dana curry'

FARIDABAD : Glenmark Foundation, in collaboration with Idobro Impact Solutions, announced the successful conclusion of the sixth season of the "Meri Poushtik Rasoi" cooking contest. This pan India initiative aimed at combating malnutrition through the celebration and promotion of nutrition-rich native recipes, empowering communities nationwide to embrace healthier eating habits. Over 800 entries from 24 states and four union territories, spanning 250+ towns and cities, including entries from Lakshadweep, Andaman



& Nicobar Islands and first-time participation from Jammu & Kashmir. Speaking on this initiative, Cheryl Pinto, Executive Director - Corporate Services, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd. said, "At Glenmark Foundation, we are committed to preserving and celebrating our rich food heritage, often over-

shadowed by modern lifestyles. Through 'Meri Poushtik Rasoi,' we have witnessed the profound impact of traditional cooking in addressing critical health issues like malnutrition. This initiative transcends recipes; it's a catalyst for a significant shift towards healthier eating habits, while shedding light on the nutritional challenges our communities face. By fostering dialogue and promoting sustainable food cultures, we strive for a lasting, transformative impact on individuals, families, and communities nationwide." One attachment

Candidates in Gurgaon ramp up campaigns

Delhi: Sitting BJP MP and Lok Sabha candidate for Gurgaon Rao Inderjit Singh campaigned in Sohna villages, urging voters to vote for the BJP based on Haryana's ten-year development. Singh stated that the ₹ 1,500 crore elevated Sohna Road project has reduced

the travel between Gurugram and Sohna to 20 minutes.

Improved connectivity and the Delhi-Mumbai expressway will make Sohna a residential and business hub, he said. Sohna would be connected to Nuh, Palwal, and Sonapat by the Orbital

Railway Corridor, creating job and economic prospects, the Gurugram MP added. The BJP is seeking votes based on its 10-year work. He addressed public meetings in Bhondsi ward-8, Ghamdoj, Alipur, Saanp Ki Nangli, Baluda, and Sohna to gain party.

Bengal counters Centre in SC, says CBI can't conduct probe sans state consent

NEW DELHI: Countering Centre's stand that it wields no power over CBI which is an independent agency, West Bengal govt on Wednesday told Supreme Court that Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, under which the agency was formed specifically says that its superintendence shall vest in the central govt in all cases except those related to corruption and contended CBI probe can't be ordered in the state without its



consent. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal told a bench of Justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta that Sections 4 and 5 of the Act confer the power pertaining to superintendence and jurisdiction of the agency to the Centre.

Putting forward the stand of the state govt that the central agency could not conduct a probe within its jurisdiction without its consent, Sibal said that it would destroy the federal structure if Centre forced its way into the

state and conducted a probe. "Centre has no jurisdiction to allow its investigating agency to come in my state against my consent. Such an act is unconstitutional. It would be an encroachment on the rights and jurisdiction of the state and its police. It would be constitutional overreach and exceeding of jurisdiction and would destroy the federal structure of the country," Sibal said. The lawyer referred to various sections of Delhi Special Police.

Pocket FM brings back India's love for superheroes - delivers four blockbuster superhero audio series

NEW DELHI : With the growing popularity of digital entertainment and tapping the immense potential of the superhero genre, audio series platform Pocket FM today announces a rare feat in India's superhero storytelling landscape. Four Pocket FM superhero audio series have surpassed 100 million plays. In recent years, the landscape of Indian superheroes has transcended traditional mediums, finding a new home in the digital sphere. Pocket FM has been at the forefront of this evolution, spearheading the charge with its award-



winning audio series - 'Number Zero' (140M plays), 'Shoorveer' (250M plays), 'The New Avatar' (190M plays) and 'Super Yoddha' (140M plays). Suyog Gothi, Head-India and New Markets, Pocket FM said, "As we commemorate the remarkable achievement of 100 million plays, we at Pocket FM are elated to observe the resounding

reception to our superhero audio series. 'Super Yoddha,' 'The New Avatar,' 'Shoorveer,' and 'Number Zero' have not only provided entertainment but also served as source of inspiration, sparking the imaginations of millions. These shows have struck a chord mainly with our younger generation of listeners. The superhero

and sci-fi genres are clearly amongst well performing genres with the ever-growing demand and affinity from the listeners for these stories." These audio series have not only redefined the superhero genre but have also made it more accessible to a diverse audience, including a younger generation of listeners aged 18 up to 40 years. Through the power of compelling storytelling, immersive soundscapes, and dynamic characters, Pocket FM's superhero and sci-fi series have captured the hearts and imaginations of listeners across the nation.

WB governor to show CCTV clip to 100 people, not Didi or cops

KOLKATA: West Bengal governor CV Ananda Bose, facing molestation charges from a former employee of Raj Bhavan, announced Wednesday that he would present Raj Bhavan's CCTV footage to 100 private citizens of Bengal, excluding

"Mamata Banerjee and her police." "Under the Sach Ke Samne programme, anyone who wants to see the CCTV footage can send an email to a d c r a j b h a - vankolkata@gmail.com or call the Raj Bhavan to register their names at 033-22001641. The first hundred would be allowed to see the footage inside Raj Bhavan at 11.30am on May 9," Raj Bhavan said in a statement. The programme is aimed at addressing what was described as "mischievous and fabricated allegations" by police regarding the handling of CCTV footage related to the case. In response, state finance minister Chandrima

Bhattacharya questioned governor Bose's decision, asking why he was withholding the CCTV footage from police if he was innocent. She said: "The CCTV footage should be on public display if he is such an honest and innocent person. But here he is playing with the dignity of women, so he wants to shield it from police and is even unwilling to show it to the CM. Why can't the CM see it, if there is no foul play?" CM Banerjee and Trinamool have been going after the governor since the former Raj Bhavan employee filed a police complaint against Bose last. "He is now trying to show it (footage) to his own henchmen.

Chandigarh Yog Sabha's three-days yoga camp begins at Maharishi Dayanand Public School

Chandigarh: Chandigarh Yog Sabha Sector 30 A Chandigarh has started a three-days yoga camp at Maharishi Dayanand Public School, MDAV Bhawan, Daria, Chandigarh. Under the guidance of President Suresh Sharma and General Secretary Naresh Kumar, a free yoga training camp has been organized especially for students under the leadership of Yogacharya Bhupendra Negi and his team. About 100 students are participating in this camp. This camp will conduct till May 17. In this camp, Negi made very simple yoga asanas done. To sharpen the memory of the children, he demonstrated to the children all the activities like putting



ghee in the nose, Jal Neti etc. The students also practiced it. By doing these activities, the mind becomes sharp and along with this, the spectacles on the eyes also get removed within a few days. Students said that doing yoga made them feel refreshed, energized and concentrated. Doing yoga helps in concentration. Yogacharya Bhupendra Singh Negi told the stu-

dents to make yoga an integral part of life. Doing yoga creates the ability to fight against germs. Stamina of the body increases. General Secretary Naresh Kumar, who was present on this occasion, said that Chandigarh Yog Sabha has been providing free yoga services since 1978. This work is being done with the blessings and inspiration of founder Swami

Devi Dayal Ji Maharaj. Free training camps are also organized. A large number of patients from Tri City are availing the services of Chandigarh Yog Sabha. This provides mental, physical and spiritual benefits. The aim of these camps is to provide treatment without medicine. Yoga classes are also held in NAC Manimajra, Baltana and Mohali.

CSIR: No circular issued on ironed clothes

NEW DELHI: A day after CSIR reposted the visual of a campaign 'Wrinkles Achhe Hain', posted by one of its institutes, it clarified on X Wednesday that it has not issued any order to its labs to refrain from wearing ironed clothes. On May 7, CSIR-NIScPR posted on X that "Join CSIR's #WAHMondayscampaign and say #WrinklesAccheHain. Wear your non-ironed clothes every Monday. Let's iron out climate change, not our clothes!" CSIR Wednesday said, "With regard to certain news reports, CSIR wishes to clarify that NO CIRCULAR or OFFICIAL ORDER has been issued by CSIR HQ to its labs asking staff to refrain from wearing ironed clothes."