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## Punjab CM Mann denied political clearance to visit Paris: Sources



### AAP holds protest at LG office, demands resignation of LG

**CHANDIGARH:** The Centre has denied political clearance to Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann for visiting to Paris to support the Indian hockey team at the ongoing Olympic Games, an official source said on Saturday. Meanwhile, Punjab Assembly Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan said he has also been denied political clearance for going to the US to participate in a conference of speakers of legislative bodies from August 4 to August 7. Mann, who holds a diplomatic passport, was scheduled to visit Paris from August 3 to August 9 for the Indian hockey team's quarter-final clash on August 4, and had sought political clearance for the same. The Centre denied him the permission, saying since Mann is a Z-Plus security protectee, it is not possible to arrange his level of

**NEW DELHI:** Aam Aadmi Party on Saturday staged a protest outside the LG Secretariat Office, demanding the resignation of LG Vinai Kumar Saxena, days after a woman and her son drowned to death in an open drain in East Delhi following heavy rains in the national capital. The pair drowned in an open drain in Mayur Vihar Phase-III on August 1. Following this incident, the AAP and the LG, sparred over whether the drain comes under the Delhi Development

Authority (DDA) or Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). AAP spokesperson, Reena Gupta during today's protest, said, "A mother and her child died after falling into a DDA drain, DDA is completely under LG. The LG and DDA are responsible for the death of mother and son." "LG will stop the work of the Delhi government and write love letters to ministers but he cannot handle the responsibility of law and order and DDA. LG Sir, please take action against the culprits. security at short notice, the source in the Punjab govern-

The Chief Minister's Office was informed of the decision on Friday evening, the source added. Political clearance for travelling abroad for senior leaders is required from the Ministry of External Affairs. Sandhwan said he has been denied permission to visit Kentucky in the United States to attend the conference. He claimed that the speakers from opposition-ruled states Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala have also been denied clearance to travel abroad but the speaker from Meghalaya has been given the go-ahead. Mann spoke to Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh on Saturday and congratulated his squad for a historic win over Australia in the ongoing Olympic Games.

## Violence erupts over proposed Nuclear plant in Rajasthan



### SC bins 'end superstitions' PIL, says we don't have antidote to all evils

**UDAIPUR:** Tension prevailed in Banswara district after residents of Chhoti Sarwan village clashed with police on Friday over the construction of a boundary wall for the proposed Mahi Nuclear Power Plant. PM Narendra Modi is expected to lay the foundation stone of the 2,800 MW plant soon. The altercation, which lasted about three hours, left three police personnel and several villagers injured. Twelve people, including a local functionary of the Bharat Adivasi Party, have been detained. The residents, who were protesting their relocation, hurled stones at police, who were there to evacuate the govt-acquired land and facilitate the building of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL). About 3,000 people from six villages — Bari, Sajwania, Rail, Kharia Dev, Aadibhit and Katumbi — are being relocated. Some protesters retreated to a nearby hill and continued hurling stones. In response,

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Friday criticised a serial PIL petitioner for seeking a direction to govt to take steps to eradicate superstitions, which he said claims hundreds of lives every year, and develop scientific temper among people, the latter being part of the directive principles of state policy. A bench led by CJI D Y Chandrachud asked petitioner-advocate Ashwini Upadhyay - "Development of scientific temper among people cannot be done by judicial

orders." "We cannot direct what the students should learn in schools. These are within the policy domain of the experts in the education department of the govt. The students are already burdened with vastly expanded courses of studies. We cannot by a judicial order add to that," the CJI said. When the petitioner said that it was a genuine PIL for social reforms, the CJI said, "One does not become a social reformer by filing PILs in constitutional courts.

police fired tear gas shells and dispersed a group of women obstructing National Highway 927-A. Banswara SP Harshvardhan Agarwala

said teargas shells were fired to control the situation at the site of the Central govt project in Chhoti Sarwan. A Quick Response Team (QRT) jawan, Kalpesh Garasiya.

**'Initially, I was ...': Father of Shubhanshu Shukla, set for space mission, on his son's career choice**

**NEW DELHI:** Indian Air Force wing commander Shubhanshu Shukla's father Shambhu Dayal Sukhla beamed with delight as he wished his son success in the upcoming space mission while also sharing that he initially wanted him to join civil services. Shubhanshu Shukla has been selected as the "prime astronaut" for the first collaborative mission with US space agency Nasa to the International Space Station (ISS). The wing commander's father said he was unaware of Shubhanshu's selection, adding that "nothing could match the moment when PM gave him the badge". "I wish this mission to be successful. I always pray to God that he (Shubhanshu) gets success.

## Mobile torches used for deliveries at health center in gloomy crisis



**RAIPUR:** The community health center in Bhopalpatnam is facing a severe crisis, with frequent power outages forcing staff to use mobile torches for deliveries. Essential equipment, including two generators, has been out of order for two years, and newly arrived generators remain uninstalled. A mostly non-functional solar panel adds to the power issues, leading to the spoilage of vaccines stored in refrigerators. The hospital's lab tests have come to a halt, with typhoid tests stopped for the past three months and a broken CBC machine making it impossible to properly treat patients. The health center sees over 150 patients a day, most of whom have fever or malaria. It is the rainy season when several patients turn up to the CHC with complaints of seasonal diseases. But due to the electricity issues, both doctors and patients suffer. Despite health minister Shyam Jaiswal's orders to improve conditions, the center remains in poor shape. Filth and overgrown plants are widespread, and two out-of-order generators have not been replaced. After the information of the suffering and woes reached the health department, it has issued orders to install new generators at the community health center. Dr. Chalapathi Rao, the BMO of the CHC, confirmed that while malaria testing continues, typhoid testing is on hold, also admitting that some equipment is out of order and that issues have been reported to higher authorities. Earlier, Dr. Rao also noted that the new generator.

## Kerala landslides: Punchirimattom has lost its smile



**MEPPADI (WAYANAD):** Punchirimattom, a picturesque hamlet in the valley beneath the towering Mundakkai hills was the first to be hit by the huge landslide, suffering the worst impact. As the name suggests, 'punchiri' (smile) in its name refers to the striking scenic beauty of the area due to the tall hills blanketed with forests and cardamom plantations.

But the smile has waned as survivors even dread at the thought of returning. Punchirimattom, which had nearly 60 houses, was flattened in a matter of seconds as the landslide obliterated everything in its path. Mundakkai, which is 2km downstream, at least has rubbles and wreckage

of a few buildings. Kallingal Unnikrishnan is a lucky survivor, whose house was among the first at Punchirimattom to be flattened, now dreads even to step foot on his native land. Unnikrishnan, a daily wage earner, lost his wife who had gone to her sister's house at Chooralmala. "I didn't want to come here but did so today after my friends insisted.

## 'I was trying my best to keep calm, but...': Manu Bhaker adm'I was trying my best to keep calm



**NEW DELHI:** Ace Indian shooter Manu Bhaker acknowledged that she felt a little 'nervous' during the 25-meter pistol final on Saturday. Bhaker finished fourth and missed out on a historic third individual medal at the Olympics in Chateauroux. The 22-year-old had earlier bagged two bronze medals, in women's 10m air pistol and 10m air pistol mixed team event partnering Sarabjot Singh. "I got like really nervous about it, but again, I was trying my best to keep calm and to just try to do my best. But that was not enough," Manu said after

the event, as per PTI. Manu was disappointed after finishing with an eight-shooter final score of 28, but she was defeated by eventual bronze medallist Veronika Major of Hungary. "It (Olympics) turned out to be very good for me, but well, there's always a next time so I'm already looking forward to the next one," she said. "I'm glad that I got two medals, but right now, I'm not very... well, fourth place is not a very good place," said Manu with tears in her eyes. Manu claimed that she had entirely turned off and wasn't side-tracked by the demands of everyone around her. "Honestly, I've been off the social media and I have not been checking my phone, so I don't know what's going on. But I just

know that I was trying my best and I was trying to deliver a good performance," she said. "In most of the events I was able to (give a good performance), and in this one, I was not able to do as good. The moment my match was over, I was like, 'okay, the next time'," said Manu, already setting her sights on the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. "There has been a lot of hard work going on backstage. Like I'm here -- what you see -- but like so many people have been working hard so that I can make it to the podium and so that India can win a medal.

## People get so fed with judicial process that they just want settlement: CJI

**NEW DELHI:** People get "so fed up" with the matters of courts that they just want a settlement, chief justice of India D Y Chandrachud said on Saturday while highlighting the role of Lok Adalats as alternative dispute redressal mechanisms. Lok Adalats are forums where disputes and cases pending in courts or at pre-litigation stage are settled or compromised amicably. No appeal against the mutually accepted settlement can be filed. "Log itna trast ho jate hain court ke mamlon se wo koi bhi settlement chahte hain...Bas court se dur kara dijiye (People are so fed up with the matters of the court that they just want a settlement).

## Himachal floods: Four Malana hydropower workers rescued after 35 hours in tunnel

**KULLU:** The four remaining Malana hydroelectricity project employees were rescued from the dam's tunnel after more than 35 hours on Friday, when two more bodies were recovered and 47 people, including schoolchildren, reported to be still missing in Himachal Pradesh. Of the 33 stranded people that included locals, staffers, and stage-1 workers, 29 were saved on Thursday. A massive flash flood on Wednesday had trapped them in the tunnel after a side wall of the dam had collapsed. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and local police on Friday crossed the rivulet with ropes. To rescue the four remaining workers - Saurabh Sharma, Vijay Kumar, Vishal, and Dola Singh.

"If Muslims are with us after we explain to them our Hindutva, then we are (according to the BJP) the Aurangzeb Fan Club. Then what you are doing is power jihad," Thackeray said while addressing party workers in Pune. Thackeray criticized the Eknath Shinde government over the 'Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin' scheme, accusing it of attempting to bribe voters by giving "revdis" (freebies).

## BJP indulging in 'power jihad': Uddhav



**NEW DELHI:** Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of engaging in "power jihad" by breaking political parties to remain in government. Thackeray's remarks came on Saturday in Pune as he countered Union minister Amit Shah's comment dubbing him the head of the "Aurangzeb Fan Club." Thackeray further accused Shah of

being the "political descendent" of Ahmad Shah Abdali, the Afghan ruler who defeated the Marathas in the battle of Panipat. Thackeray referred to the split in the Shiv Sena and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) while accusing the BJP of breaking parties.

## BJP workers welcomed Mayor

Prayagraj: On his arrival in Prayagraj from Chennai, BJP workers welcomed Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani at Bamrauli Airport. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that Mayor had gone to Chennai for about a week for his personal work. Today he has come



to Prayagraj. Among those who welcomed him were Manish Kesarwani, Robin Sahu, Rajesh Kesarwani, Sanskar Sinha, Himalaya Sonkar, Dinanath Kushwaha, Councillor Mukesh Kasera, Satish Prajapati, Himanshu Kesarwani, Ajay. Agrahari Shatrughan Jaiswal, etc.

## 21.6L youth of UP received training under PMKVY

Prayagraj/Lucknow: Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in July 2015 to enhance the skills of the youth and connect them with employment as per their qualifications. In Uttar Pradesh, under the leadership of CM Yogi Adityanath, more than 21 lakh youth have been trained under this scheme in 9 years, out of which about 17 lakh youth have also obtained their certification. It is noteworthy that under this scheme so far 1.50 crore youth have been trained in the country. Registration under the scheme is for three months, 6 months and one year. A certificate is awarded after completing the course. This certificate is valid throughout the country. State Minister of State for Vocational Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) Kapil Dev Aggarwal said that on the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, many programs are being run to improve the skills of the youth in the state. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana is also a part of it. Under this scheme, so far 21.60 lakh youth have been trained in the state, out of which 16.87 lakh have received certificates. He said that due to the efforts of the state government to connect the youth with employment through this scheme, 205 employment fairs have been organized so far, in which the selection of 64,589 candidates has been ensured. A total amount of Rs 179.91 crore has been distributed for the implementation of this scheme in the state.

Of the 8.93 lakh trainees who received certificates under the Short Term Training (STT) component under the scheme, 3.39 lakh trainees have been registered as Skill India Digital. Under the latest version of the scheme, PMKVY 4.0, Industrial Training Institutes (ITI), AICTE affiliated colleges, Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), PMKK, SSC, CBSE schools, NIELIT, SDI, Rae Bareilly, CIPET, DIAV, Haridwar Training Centers (CPSU), Central 4.61 lakh candidates have been enrolled through 1367 Skill India Centers established in Vidyalaya (KV), Cantonment Board, JNV etc. Training programs for new age job roles are seeing a rapid increase in enrolments. A total of 73,516 candidates have enrolled for Solar PV Installer (Suryamitra), Technician 5G - Active Network Installation, Solar PV Installer - Electrical, Electronics Machine Maintenance Executive, Solar LED Technicians etc.

## Admission in govt and private ITI till Aug 4

Students avoid rumours, apply on time

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh State Vocational Training Council, Aliganj, Lucknow has issued an important information regarding the dates of registration for the admission session 2024 in the state and private industrial training institutes of the state. The Council has informed that the date of registration has been fixed from July 10, 2024 to August 4, 2024, and no extension has been made in this period. Joint Director State Vocational Training Council Satyakant said that recently a fake information is being circulated on social media, especially WhatsApp, claiming that the date of registration has been extended. A newspaper cutting has also been included in this fake information. He has clarified that no such information or office memorandum has been issued by the State Vocational Training Council, Uttar Pradesh, Aliganj, Lucknow. Students and parents are urged to trust only official sources and avoid any kind of rumours. The last date for admission registration is 4th August 2024 and no changes have been made in it. Students have not been informed to ensure their registration on time and not to pay attention to any kind of misleading information.

## Campus drive organized at Govt ITI on Aug 7

Lucknow: Raj Kumar Yadav, Principal has informed that under the Chief Minister Mission Rojgar Yojana, a campus drive will be organized for unemployed youth passing ITI on 7 August 2024. Government Industrial Training Institute, Aliganj, Lucknow. This campus drive is being organized by Maruti Suzuki India Limited, Kharkhoda, Sonapat, Haryana. MA. Khan, Training Counseling and Placement Officer said that to participate in this drive, the educational qualification of the candidates should be at least 40 percent marks in high school. Apart from this, candidates can get ITI Trade Fitter, Diesel Mechanic, Machinist, Turner, Mechanic Motor Vehicle, Painter, Welder, Tractor Mechanic, Technician Auto Motive Manufacturing, Mechanic Auto Body Painting, Mechanic Auto Body Repair, PPO, Sheet Metal Worker, Tool & It is mandatory to pass in Die Maker, Automobile Manufacturing etc.

# Maize cultivation increases in UP, farmers to get grants

Prayagraj/Lucknow: Agriculture Dept's new scheme to kick off soon. Uttar Pradesh state government will next start a new scheme to promote maize cultivation. Under this scheme, the area under sugarcane will increase by two lakh hectares in the state and production of more than 11 lakh metric tonnes of maize will be achieved. Under the scheme, grant will be given to a beneficiary only to the extent of a maximum of two hectares. While giving information, Nikhil Tiwari, Kuldeep Singh and Kumari Sakshi Yadav, research students of agricultural extension of Naini Agricultural University, said that the price of desi maize is Rs

2400, hybrid maize is Rs 2400, popcorn maize is Rs 2400, baby maize is Rs 16000 and sweet maize is Rs 2400. A grant of Rs 20000 per acre will be given. This scheme will be for four years. Recently, in the state cabinet meeting, the proposal from the Agriculture Department was approved. After that, a government order was issued to operate this scheme. However, this scheme will be run in all the districts of the state. But in the 13 districts of the state - Bahraich, Kannauj, Gonda, Bulandshahr, Hardoi, Kasganj, Farrukhabad, Ballia, Unnao, Etah and Lalitpur, which have been selected for maize crop under the National Food Security Mission, the compo-

ponents of this scheme like Hybrid maize demonstration, hybrid maize seed distribution and table selling which are also permissible under the National Food Security Mission Scheme, will not be implemented. Maize is the third important crop among food crops after wheat and paddy.

At present, apart from food, maize is mainly used in the form of processed food, poultry feed, animal feed etc. Apart from this, the dependence on crude oil is also being reduced by using corn in ethanol production. In the Kharif season of 2022-23, 14.56 lakh

MT will be produced in 6.97 lakh hectares in the state. Tons of maize were pro-



duced. 0.28 m in 0.10 lakh hectares in Rabi season. tonnes and 1.42 lakh meters in 0.49 lakh hectares. Tons

of maize were produced. Maize is not only used as food but is also a raw material for industries like starch, oil, protein, medicine, cosmetic, textile, gum, paper and package. This is the reason why its demand always remains in some form or the other. Agricultural scientists have also developed high quality and high yielding varieties of maize. At the same time, many varieties have been developed for different parts keeping in mind the soil and climate there. With this, farmers get maximum yield from maize and increase their earnings. The demand for maize has increased significantly due to the Russia-

Ukraine war. It is believed that Indian farmers will benefit from this. It is used in about 165 countries of the world. Maize accounts for 39 percent of the total global grain production. Its maximum production is in America. Maize is also considered the driver of America's economy. Although maize is cultivated in India in Kharif season, but considering the different climate, a small amount of it is cultivated throughout the year in the country. After paddy and wheat, maize is the third largest cereal crop in our country. This is 10 percent of the total grain production in the country. Maize is an excellent food not only for humans but also for animals.

## Will make Open Univ, a skill hub with cooperation of industry: Vice Chancellor

### Organized workshop for coordinators of Kanpur area

Prayagraj: A one-day workshop of all the study centers of Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University under Kanpur was organized on Saturday in the regional office Kanpur. Chief guest of the workshop, Vice Chancellor of Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University, Prayagraj, Professor Satyakam said that the Open University has to be made a skill hub. For this, the university will provide skill-oriented education by connecting with the industry of Kanpur region. He said that 14 state open universities have agreed that the responsibility of providing distance education should be on the open universities only. The dual system of education is a crisis for the entire system. In

this regard, an appeal has been made to UGC to reconsider this. In distance education philosophy, access to quality education to learners can be accom-



plished through excellent self-study materials. Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University is the only university in the entire state which is providing self-study material to its stu-

dents. For this, all the teachers of the university are active in preparing self-study material. In the workshop, admission in-charge from the university, Professor JP

Yadav and Dr. Girish Kumar Dwivedi, resolved the curiosities of the coordinators by giving information about the new schemes of the university. All the 9 districts under Kanpur re-

gional centre, Kanpur, Kanpur Dehat, Auraiya, Etawah, Hamirpur, Kannauj, Unnao, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur were present. Nomination: Principals and coordinators Dr. Amit Dwivedi, Dr. Vikas Singh, Dr. Vijay Pratap Singh, Dr. Sandeep Kumar, Sameer Kumar, Jai Mangal Singh, Dr. Vandana Kumari, etc., who came to the workshop organized on the topic of dialogue, contact, and communication, nominated those coming to the centers. Gave many important suggestions pointing out various problems. Initially, the guests were welcomed by Dr. Rekha Tripathi, Coordinator of Kanpur Regional Center, the information about the program was given by Public Relations Officer Dr. Prabhat Chandra Mishra.

## DM performs surprise inspection of Tehsil Sadar, gave necessary guidelines

Prayagraj: District Magistrate Navneet Singh Chahal conducted a surprise inspection of Tehsil Sadar on Saturday. While inspecting Sub Collector Judicial Room, Sub Collector Room, Tehsildar Room, Registrar, Kanungo Room, Computer Room, E-District Room, Supply Room and Special Land Acquisition Room, he observed the maintenance of files there, including cleanliness and attendance register. He gave necessary guidelines while inspecting other records. While inspecting the Tehsil premises, he has asked Sub Collector Sadar and Tehsildar Sadar to ensure timely attendance of employees and timely disposal



of pending cases. The District Magistrate, while inspecting the Sub-District Magistrate's Judicial Chamber, Sub-District Magistrate's Chamber, Tehsildar's Chamber, took information about the progress of disposal of pending cases, took information about the cases pending for 3 years and 5 years and gave instructions to ensure the speedy disposal of the cases. The District Magistrate, while inspecting the registrar, Kanungo room and computer room, gave instructions to complete Khatauni and Amaldarmat on time, while inspecting the e-district room, taking information about income, caste and residence certificate, and issued instructions on time. He inspected the attendance register in the supply room and special land acquisition room. On this occasion, all concerned officers including Sub-Collector, Judicial, Tehsildar were present.

## Meritorious LLB student to be awarded Prof. KK Bhattacharya Medal

### Professor Uday Raj Rai provided funds to varsity for awarding medal while dedicating it to his teacher

Prayagraj: The student who scored the best marks in the three-year LLB course of Allahabad University will now be awarded the medal by Prof. Will be awarded KK Bhattacharya Medal. To award the medal every year, former professor of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Uday Raj Rai and his son Judge Salil Rai, (Allahabad High Court) have given two lakh rupees to Allahabad University. Professor Uday Raj Rai, his teacher, was Prof. Dedicating it to KK Bhattacharya, this unique initiative has been taken to award a medal to



the student securing first position in LLB (Triennial) every year. Keep in mind that while studying at Allahabad University, Prof. KK Bhattacharya Prof. Taught Uday Raj Rai. In memory of his teacher Prof. Uday Raj had expressed his desire to sponsor the medal. After this, after the approval of the university administration, Prof. Uday Raj Rai and Justice Salil Rai have provided the necessary funds for the medal to the university. University Registrar Prof. NK Shukla told Prof. Orders have been issued regarding awarding KK Bhattacharya Medal.

## Grand poet's conference organized at Hindustani Academy

### On birth anniv and poet's day of national poet Maithili Sharan Gupt

Prayagraj: Under the auspices of the Hindustani Academy, Uttar Pradesh, Prayagraj. On the birth anniversary of the national poet Maithili Sharan Gupta, on Saturday, 03 August 2024, the poet- A poet's conference was organized on the occasion of 'Day'. The Kavi Sammelan started with lighting of the lamp and garlanding the statue of Saraswati ji and the portrait of national poet Maithili

Sharan Gupt. At the beginning of the program, Academy Secretary Devendra Pratap Singh welcomed the honored poets by giving them a bouquet and emblem. Welcoming the guests at the beginning of the program, Secretary of the Academy Devendra Pratap Singh said, 'Hindustani Academy has decided to declare 3 August as Poet's Day on the occasion of the birth centenary of national poet Maithili Sharan Gupt in 1987. As a result, the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Veer Bahadur Singh, on 26 April 1987, announced to organize 3 August every year as Poet's Day in the memory of national poet Maithili Sharan Gupt and since then 'Poet's Day' is being organized every year at the Academy. Started being done by. The Kavi Sammelan was presided over by senior poet Aslam Adil Allahabadi (Prayagraj), and conducted by Dr.



is waiting for you. Dr. Indu Prakash Singh 'Indu' will remain written, body does not last, that is why Tulsi, Sur, Kabirdo do not die. Synonym Gautam: Sawan clouds kept raining on the night. Your thoughts kept stinging me. "Aslam Adil was called 'Aabadi' whom we called Ram as Rahim. They were called as Sanjar, Lahim and Shaheed. They used to say that we will not be able to live without you. Ram endured our carelessness of leaving.

## Unicommerce eSolutions Ltd IPO on Aug 6

Varanasi: Unicommerce eSolutions Limited ("UNICOMMERCE" or "The Company"), shall open its Bid/Offer in relation to its initial public offer of Equity Shares on August 06, 2024 (the "Offer"). The total Offer size of Equity Shares comprises offer for sale of up to 25,608,512 Equity Shares ("Offer for Sale") out of which 9,438,272 Equity Shares are being offered for sale by Acevector Limited (formerly known as Snapdeal Limited) ("Promoter Selling Shareholder") and 16,170,240 Equity Shares by SB Investment Holdings Pte. Ltd ("Investor Selling Shareholder", together with Promoter Selling Shareholder, the "Selling Shareholders"). IIFL Securities Limited and CLSA India Private Limited are the book running lead managers to the Offer ("BRLMs"). The objectives of the Offer are to (i) carry out the sale of up to 25,608,512 Equity Shares by the Selling Shareholders and (ii) achieve the benefits of listing the Equity Shares on BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE") together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges" (The "Objects of the Offer"). NSE is the designated Stock Exchange in respect of the Offer.

This Equity Shares are being offered through the red herring prospectus dated July 30, 2024 (the "RHP") filed by the Company with the Registrar of Companies, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Haryana at New Delhi, Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") and Stock Exchanges. The Offer is being made in terms of Rule 19(2) (b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended ("SCRR") read with Regulation 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018, as amended ("SEBI ICDR Regulations"). The Offer is being made in accordance with Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations through the book building process wherein not less than 75% of the Offer shall be allotted on a proportionate basis to qualified institutional buyers ("QIBs"), and such portion, the "QIB Portion"). Our Company in consultation with BRLMs, may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations ("Anchor Investor Portion"), out of which at least one-third shall be reserved for allocation to domestic Mutual Funds only, subject to valid bids being received from the domestic Mutual Funds at or above the anchor investor allocation price, in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. In the event of under-subscription, or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the net QIB Portion.

## Tree plantation prog & seminar held in SHUATS

Naini, Prayagraj: Publicity campaign at Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Science (SHUATS) campus under the joint aegis of Agriculture Department SHUATS, Shiv Shakti Samarpan Seva Samiti, National Service Scheme SHUATS, Department of Anthropology and Muslim National Forum by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Under the 'One Tree in Mother's Name' campaign, a tree plantation program and seminar was organized.

Under the tree plantation program, the students of the university were given a sapling each and took a

pledge to plant it in the name of their mother and Professor Jahanara Madam administered the oath to the students, all the professors



and members of other organizations present to save the environment. This program was organized by Pro-

fessor Dr. Jahanara Madam Head of Department, Department of Promotion Agriculture, SUATS, Professor Dr. D.K. Bose Coordinator,

National Service Scheme SUATS, Mrs. Babita Jaiswal Secretary, Shiv Shakti Samarpan Seva Samiti, Farid

Sabri Eastern Uttar Pradesh Co-ordinator-Muslim National Forum and done with the help of Sardar Charanjit Singh, Patron - Shiv Shakti Samarpan Seva Samiti.

In the same sequence, a seminar was organized in the Agriculture Department, Sutas, whose theme was, "Blooming threat to human life and the need for tree plantation and conservation". In the seminar, speakers like Professor Dr. Jahanara, Dr. D.K. Bose, Dr. Ram Bharose, Ravi Vishwakarma etc. encour-

aged the students with their speeches. National Service Scheme, Muslim Rashtriya Manch, Shiv Shakti Samarpan Seva Samiti and Prachar Krishi. On behalf of the team of the department, like every year, this year too, we all together will continue the campaign of tree plantation in the future also and will plant trees, and will keep our lives, the region and the country green and happy. We all take an oath. Dr. Alam Ara, Dr. Ram Bharose, Dr. Priyanka Singh, Ravi Vishwakarma, Swastik Jaiswal, Deepali, Sunil Kushwaha, Nikhil Tiwari Anugrah Sakshi, Animesh Kanojia etc. were present in the program.



On Saturday, in month of Shrawan, Chhappan bhog offered to Lord Shri Mankameshwar

### TODAY EVENT

Lions Club Allahabad Sangam District 321-E & Sharp Sight Eye Hospitals are organising camp to conduct free eye examination, dental examination, health examination, BP and sugar test on Sunday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Purusharth Vidya Mandir (Hari Mandir), Meerapur, Prayagraj. Come & join hands to make the camp successful, said President Shalu Pahwa Secretary Lion Lucky Srivastava, Treasurer Amit Mehrotra, Councilor Sahil Arora and Mayank Pandey.

### Rotary Alld Midtown holds talk on conservation of environment

Prayagraj: Rotary Allahabad Midtown organized a talk on protection of environment by Sanjeev Tripathi & Archana Tripathi on Friday 2nd August at Hotel Kasba. The speakers said that waste plastic bags are polluting



the land and water immensely. Plastics have become a threat to the life of animals living on earth as well as in water. Chemicals released by plastic bags enter the soil and make it infertile. Plastic bags are having a negative impact on human health. So, we need to avoid use of plastic bags. Club President Radha Saxena secretary, Neeraj Chugh, Ritu Kamal Agarwal, Abhishek Singh, Sanjeev Jain, Vimmi Arora were also present.

### Demand to replace national flag installed at Chandralok intersection

Prayagraj: Rajesh Kesarwani, national president of Janhit Karni Samiti, Uttar Pradesh said, "national flag installed at Rajshree Mandap intersection, Chandralok Zero Road has become discolored and has been flying torn for many days, due to which both the nation and the national flag are being insulted. In such a situation, the district administration and the municipal administration pay attention to this matter and immediately put a new national flag (tricolor) there."



Regarding this matter, state president of the committee Sushil Jain and Advocate Manoj Mishra have complained about this in Tehsil Day and demanded to immediately put a new national flag (tricolor) there.

### PADAM supports Justice Trivedi's view, sub-categorization into SCs against Constitutional values

Prayagraj: Justice Bela M Trivedi's statement is important on the issue of sub-categorization in Scheduled Castes. He has said that this is not in accordance with the Constitution, because the principles of equality and justice have been given prominence in the Constitution. Sub-classification may lead to division and discrimination, which is against the values of the Constitution. He further said that there is a provision for reservation for Scheduled Castes in the Constitution, but sub-classification will not serve its purpose. This statement is important to protect the inter-

ests of the SC/ST community and for social justice. It is clear from the statement of Justice Trivedi that it is necessary to take decisions in accordance with the Constitution. His statement also shows that sub-categorization could create divisions within the SC/ST community. Purvanchal Dalit Adhikar Manch (Padam) is to support Justice Trivedi's statement. This statement inspires to fight for social justice and equality. Justice Trivedi's statement makes it clear that it is necessary to maintain the values of the Constitution. This statement is important to protect the interests of the SC/ST community.

## Investiture ceremony conducted at MPVM Ganga Gurukulam

Prayagraj: The investiture ceremony was conducted with great pomp and ceremonial grandeur at MPVM Ganga Gurukulam on Saturday. The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of lamp by Honourable Principal Madhuri Srivastava in the accompaniment of Saraswati Vandana. The event marked the beginning of a new regime of student office bearers to be inducted to take their responsibilities and duties. It was an epic moment in the annals of school. The presentation of melodious rendition by school choir group filled in the air the spirit of dedication to achieve excellence. The outgoing student council members' presence was very inspiring to the students impressing the marks of excellence on the minds of these incumbents to follow and prosecute their duty to the best.

The former Head Girl Riddhima Mishra consigned the school flag to

Madam Principal symbolizing a legacy of honor, duty, dedication and commitment yielding place to the beginning of a new time bound era of responsibility.

The new Head Boy and Head Girl were inducted



with a badge and a sash symbolizing their new roles and responsibilities. After the Induction of the Head Boy and head girl the set of newly elected office bearers of all the five Houses named after the great rishis of our nation were inducted with receiving their badges by the distinguished teaching faculty members of the school. Each member of the

newly inducted office bearers reflected the spirit of working tirelessly for the betterment of the school by their well configured files.

After this ceremony of the endowment of badges and sashes, The newly in-

ducted head girl administered the oath of office to the new student office bearers who pledged to uphold the values and traditions of the school. The principal of the institution inspired the new office bearers and the gathering of students with her words of wisdom and appreciated them for their efforts to show their best.

The ceremony was at-

tended by parents, teachers and students who witnessed the Induction of new leaders. The event showcased the school's commitment to nurturing leadership skills and promoting student participation with the philosophy of holistic education aimed at producing talented socially useful and responsible citizens with Indian values. Oath taking ceremony was highlighted with a motivational song "Tum Zara Apne Qadam to Barhao, Manzil to Mil Jayegi" that charged the whole environment with the spirit of a never seen before enthusiasm

raring to take the school flag to a greater height. The investiture ceremony remained a resounding success marking the beginning of a new era of school leadership at MPVM Ganga Gurukulam. The event reinforced the importance of team work, responsibility and leadership inspiring the students to strive for excellence.

tion related to electricity supply. The responsible officers and line men, who have been posted for a long time in the sub-divisions of the city and rural areas, should be informed without any delay, or be transferred to other areas. In Prayagraj, for a long time, there is a lot of trouble due to the continuous power supply cut and crumbling system of the Jail Road Sub Center due to which the citizens, businessmen, youth and students of educational institutions associated with the Jail Road Sub Center are very troubled. Sub-Divisional Officer and Junior Engineer should be removed without any delay.

## Congmen protest at office of Chief Engineer over unscheduled power cuts

Prayagraj: According to the pre-determined program on the call of Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee, under the leadership of City Congress Committee, Prayagraj City President Pradeep Kumar Mishra Anshuman, a protest and demonstration program was concluded at the office of the Chief Engineer of Purvanchal Vidut Vitran Nigam in the urban area of Prayagraj. Regarding the perspective, City Congress President Pradeep Mishra Anshuman said in his statement that today the electricity supply system not only in Prayagraj city but also in the entire rural areas has reached a completely pathetic condition. And the

electricity supply is being continuously disrupted. Due to the power cut, the general public has become extremely troubled and shocked. Due to the deteriorating of electricity supply system, today businessmen, students, youth and farmers in Prayagraj are completely troubled and shocked and are unable to earn their living. Due to continuous cut in electricity supply, the problem of drinking water supply also arises in the affected areas.

When regional Congress people or citizens try to reach sub-divisional officers on their CUG mobile numbers regarding power supply cut, most of the time the mobile numbers of the

responsible officers are found switched off or the mobile phones of the responsible regional officers are not available, which is completely contrary to the interest of the public and by the occurrence of such activities it clearly appears that the responsible officers deliberately harassing the public. While submitting the memorandum, Congmen said that an order should be issued without any delay to raise all types of departmental CUG mobile numbers at all times, including the officers posted in the sub-divisions of the city and rural areas. Also, at all the sub-stations under the command of the sub-division officers, an order

should be issued immediately. Also, CUG mobile



number should also be made public, so that the general public can also get their problems and informa-

tion related to electricity supply. The responsible officers and line men, who have been posted for a long time in the sub-divisions of the city and rural areas, should be informed without any delay, or be transferred to other areas.

In Prayagraj, for a long time, there is a lot of trouble due to the continuous power supply cut and crumbling system of the Jail Road Sub Center due to which the citizens, businessmen, youth and students of educational institutions associated with the Jail Road Sub Center are very troubled. Sub-Divisional Officer and Junior Engineer should be removed without any delay.

A public demand has also been made to replace the hanging departmental cables of electricity supply in the areas. In this protest demonstration program, mainly Pradeep Mishra Anshuman, Lallan Patel, Diwakar Bharatiya, Praveen Singh Bhole, Ishrat Ali Chand, Vinay Pandey, Vinay Pandey, Nayan Kushwaha, Vivek Pandey, Ajendra Gaur, Istiaq Ahmed, Jitendra Nayak, Anil Kushwaha, Javed Urfi, Anjum Naz, Irshad Ullah, Abdul Kalam Azad, Haseen, Rakesh Srivastava, Ramesh Jaiswal, Ramesh Yadav, Poonam Yadav, Rachna Pandey, Nafees Qureshi, Vishal Sonkar, Altamash, Zeeshan Ahmed etc. were present.

## Large Tree Plantation and Environment Awareness Campaign held

Prayagraj: Large Tree Plantation and Environment Awareness Campaign "One Tree in the Name of Mother" program was held in Kudar Secondary School and District Panchayat Inter College Kudar in which the chief guest was Kaushalya Nandan Giri Tina Ma (Mahamandaleshwar Kinnar Akhara, Minister of State, Government of Uttar Pradesh) said that the tree should be planted not just for taking photographs but to keep it alive and protect it so that the tree can grow and give us pure air, shade and fruits, as a special guest. Raja Diwakar Singh (social worker, Dhaiya Raj family) said that after planting a plant, it dries up due to not taking care of it, this is also a kind of sin, just like feticide is a sin, if a plant is planted in the same way and it dries



up, then it is a sin. Guest Dr. Ritu Kapoor - Scientist and Professor, Allahabad University said that the meaning of the name of a tree mother is that one can get emotionally attached to the plant and serve and protect that plant as one's own so that we can provide a better environment to the coming generations. The program was coordinated by Ankit Tiwari. The program was coordinated by Satyam Singh, research student, former Metropolitan Minister Prayagraj, State State University Convener, AIIMS.

## RPF's strong attack against those doing illegal vending in trains

Prayagraj: Principal Chief Security Commissioner cum Inspector General/Railway Protection Force/North Central Railway, Amiya Nandan Sinha had taken charge in North Central Railway in September-2023. And from the same time, along with curbing other crimes in trains, he had given directions to all his officers in the three divisions of North Central Railway to take strict action against the criminals doing illegal vending in trains and stations. Under his guidance, effective action has been going on since then to completely eliminate illegal vending from North Central Railway. While in the year 2023, action was taken against only 4618 illegal vendors from January to July, in the year 2024, action was taken against 6547 illegal vendors and a fine of about Rs 55 lakh was recovered from them. It is being ensured that strict action will be

taken against people who commit such crimes in future also. Inspector General RPF, North Central Railway has also appealed to the passengers that if they find any person selling food items without uniform and

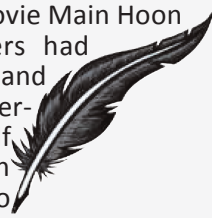


ID card at any place in the trains and at the stations. If you meet someone, please do not take any food or drink from that person and also give information about such person to the RPF present in trains and stations or by calling toll free number 139.

## Editorial

### Heavy metals found in dark chocolate. Is it a cause of concern?

The court was also informed that third parties were unfairly benefiting commercially from the sale of merchandise featuring his pictures and voice for ringtones. Most alarming was the online circulation of fake pornographic images and videos of the actor with other actresses. Notably, in its order, the Delhi High Court stated that satirical writing and genuine criticism would be safeguarded and not construed as violations of personality rights. While the word 'Jhakaas' can be used by people, they cannot exploit it commercially in the manner Anil Kapoor does. Similarly, it can be used for satire, criticism or parody, but not for monetary gains. In the Jackie Shroff case as well, the court declined to order the removal of a video titled 'Jackie Shroff is Savage, Jackie Shroff Thug Life', posted on a YouTube channel named 'Thugesh'. The court deemed the video a form of artistic expression and said imposing restrictions would have significant consequences. In the Anil Kapoor case, the court established the protection of personality rights in the realm of AI and deepfakes. However, this hasn't deterred the illegal use of celebrities' personal attributes for financial gains. Regarding the existing laws, advocate Naik says: "I feel the current laws and the jurisprudence that we got from the Delhi High Court in matters of Mr. Bachchan or Mr. Kapoor are good references. I personally feel the time has come for us to protect personality rights. Like the one provided by the Copyright Act." However, the challenge lies in taking tangible action to identify infringers, notify them, and ensure compliance. Jackie Shroff's case marks the first instance of a court restraining an unlicensed Chatbot. "There is a need for updated legislation or legal interpretations to address these emerging issues and provide stronger protections for celebrities' persona in the digital age. Additionally, enforcement mechanisms may need to be strengthened to effectively combat the misuse of AI-generated content," observes Masodi. In the online world, cybercriminals exploit AI for nefarious purposes to make money while jeopardising people's reputations. Celebrities are taking the lead, and the courts are establishing principles and precedents. Being vigilant to preempt damage is crucial. "A few celebrities may choose not to pursue legal action due to various reasons such as the perceived insignificance of unauthorised use, the costs involved in litigation, or a desire to avoid negative publicity," says Shoeb Masodi, Partner, M&P IP PROTECTORS. Personality rights, as the name implies, pertain to the rights associated with the personality of a well-known individual, primarily applicable to celebrities whose names, images or voices are prone to misuse for profit. The concept dictates that only the owner or creator of these attributes has the right to derive monetary benefits from them. Personality rights have gained importance alongside the right to privacy given the kind of fame celebrities enjoy today. In 1995, the Supreme Court recognised a person's right to control the commercial use of one's identity in the R Rajagopal vs. State of Tamil Nadu case, commonly known as the Auto Shankar case. In 2015, the Madras High Court intervened to protect actor Rajinikanth's personality rights, halting the release of the movie Main Hoon Rajinikanth. The filmmakers had utilised the actor's name and style without his express permission, with the title itself serving as a clear indication of its connection to Rajinikanth. In yet another case involving actor Amitabh Bachchan.



## Iran-Israel: Conundrum of targeted killings and Netanyahu's quest to escape humiliation

The age of quick wars is over; in an asymmetric war between the state and non-state actors, definitive outcome and speed of victory are hardly assured. Iran and Israel: Conundrum of targeted killings and Netanyahu's quest to escape humiliation.

The assassination of Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh has sparked fears of an all-out war in West Asia. In the photo, clerics offer condolences to Haniyeh. (Photo: Reuters)

The killing of Hamas Polit Bureau Head Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran (July 31), apparently by a covert IED hidden two months ago and remotely detonated, does not portend well for peace in the region and Gaza. It also very clearly exposed the holes, moles, and vulnerabilities in the Iranian security outfits and became a blot for the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), which was in charge of the Guest House, where Haniyeh was staying. He was one of the major interlocutors even as the militant wing chief Yahya Sinwar did not agree with Haniyeh's pragmatism approach and yielding to Israeli demands in the course of ceasefire negotiations during the past nine months. Haniyeh was on top of the elimination list of Mossad and other agencies as Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to destroy Hamas in the wake of the October 7 terror attacks, which had an



unprecedented success for Hamas—when not only nearly 1,200 Israelis were killed but 250 of them taken hostage. These became the key going forward, as their release remains a priority due to months-long domestic protests by distraught families and friends. The Israeli response, as expected, has been severe, with carpet bombing across the narrow strip of Gaza killing nearly 40,000, with 100,000 injured Gazans living under inhumane conditions, let alone repeated displacements of millions. This disproportionate response and defiance of global appeals, international law, and UN Security Council Resolutions eroded the sympathy for Israeli leadership, who are facing the genocide charges and warrant of arrest by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and International Criminal Court (ICC), respectively, let alone increasing recognition of the State of Palestine by several

European and Latin American countries. The Israeli objective of destroying Hamas has met with limited success despite them following the Hanibal doctrine (i.e. the kidnapping must be stopped by all means, even at the price of striking and harming our own forces). But they have taken out several key leaders and persons in strikes, countering the accusation that Israeli Defence Forces and Mossad were no longer invincible—a message conveyed by Hamas on October 7. The fact that Hamas is very much there negotiating a deal, with over 120 hostages still in their captivity and war nowhere near the end, between a state and non-state actors proves its survivability and a fear that the strategy pursued should not lead to strategic defeat and further diplomatic isolation gaps at the Israeli establishment. For now, Israel is not in a relenting mood. Ever since

October 7, the international community has been besieged with the fear that the Israel-Hamas War should not escalate beyond its immediate periphery. Half-baked efforts have been made to rein in the warring parties. Consequently, Hamas could muster moral and material support from Hezbollah (Lebanon, Syria) and Houthis (Yemen and the Red Sea), Kataib Hezbollah, and other Shia militias (Iraq against US bases) even as others kept the escalation under the threshold, presumably with the connivance of their benefactor in Iran. On the other hand, Netanyahu continued to exploit the strategic weakness of his ironclad support from Washington DC. His last week's oration and address to the US Congress and repeated standing ovations could only confirm that Palestinians were expendable. The financial assistance, weapons, and political support were once again assured to Bibi by Biden, Harris, and Trump, even as they urged him to close the ceasefire deal quickly. Some say, hoping for Trump's victory, Netanyahu is free to do as he pleases until November. Although denied by Hezbollah, the Majdal Shams football field attack killed 12 young Druze boys and over 40 injured in occupied Golan Heights, which evoked immediate Israeli missile strikes in southern Lebanon,

killing a senior Hezbollah commander, Fouad Shukur. So, Hezbollah has a reason to escalate and gets a pretext with the killing of Hamas Leader Haniyeh in Tehran in concert with Hamas and Palestinian causes. Hezbollah is no cakewalk for Israel. Houthis are also waiting to expand their political legitimacy even as the Yemen officially recognised leadership has urged them not to drag the country into an undesirable war. Although Houthi attacks on merchant shipping have forced the insolvency of the Eilat Red Sea port of Israel, the counterattack on Hodeida port by Israeli bombers was a hard response and reminder to them to desist from adventurism. But Houthis are not the ones to be deterred after tasting success in their 8-year-old war against Sunni forces led by Saudi Arabia. This shows that in the asymmetric wars between the state and non-state actors, a definitive outcome and speed of victory are hardly assured.

The age of quick wars is over. That's what Biden tried to tell Netanyahu, referring to the Afghan and Iraq fiasco on October 9 and 23, when he dashed down to sympathise with Israelis in the wake of terror attacks. They have been trying for some ceasefire ever since while maintaining support for Israel's right to defend itself.

### Who is Capt Subhanshu Shukla, the second Indian to travel to space?

**Group** Captain Shubhanshu Shukla has been named as the 'prime astronaut' for ISRO's first collaborative mission with NASA to the International Space Station (ISS) this year. He will be part of the Axiom-4 mission that aims to conduct scientific research, space outreach activities, and technology demonstration experiments on the ISS. He will only be the second Indian to travel to space 40 years after Rakesh Sharma. Who is Capt Subhanshu Shukla, the second Indian to travel to space? What is the ISRO-NASA mission? **Image** Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla will be part of Axiom-4 space mission that is slated to take off for the ISS sometime in October this year.

**Image** Courtesy: X/Indian Air Force. In a significant leap for India's space exploration ambitions, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has selected Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla as the 'prime astronaut' for its first collaborative mission with NASA to the International Space Station (ISS) later this year. The high-stakes mission will also include Group Captain Prashanth Balakrishnan Nair, who has been designated as Shukla's backup. Both 'gaganyatris' are members of the Indian Air Force, and are poised to represent India on the space mission scheduled for any time after October this year, marking a historic moment nearly 40 years after Wing Commander Rakesh

Sharma's iconic space journey on a Soviet spacecraft in 1984. This development came following ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC) closing a Space Flight Agreement with US-based space infrastructure developer Axiom Space Inc for the much-awaited Axiom-4 mission. **Who is Shubhanshu Shukla?** Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, recently promoted from Wing Commander, hails from Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, where he was born on October 10, 1985. According to, his journey to becoming an astronaut is deeply influenced by the tales of bravery from the Kargil War in 1999, which happened when he was just 14.

### India must focus on inclusive growth to escape 'middle-income trap'

India may be a lower-middle-income economy, but quality development of human resources, proper skilling of youth, and support for research and development can help India ensure a better life for its people. World Development Report 2024: India must focus on inclusive growth to escape 'middle-income trap'. The report released on August 1 suggests that at the current pace, China could take 10 years, Indonesia could take 70 years, and India could take as many as 75 years just to reach a quarter of the per capita income of the United States. ANI. The World Development Report 2024 focuses on the issue of the 'middle-income trap'. Published by the World Bank annually since 1978, the report chooses a specific aspect of economic development each year. This time the report expressed its concerns about the potential challenges faced by India and China, along with 106 other countries, towards becoming high-income developed countries. The report released on August 1 suggests that at the current pace, China could take 10 years, Indonesia could take 70 years, and India could take as many as 75 years just to reach a quarter of the per capita income of the United States. The report suggests 108 middle-income countries pos-

sessing 75 per cent of the world's population, generating 40 per cent of global GDP, and contributing to 60 per cent of global carbon emissions face several challenges, even more severe than their predecessors, in escaping the 'middle-income trap'. Drawing lessons from 50 years, the World Bank concludes that as the countries grow wealthier and reach 10 per cent of the annual US GDP per capita, they hit a trap whereby their growth becomes stunted, restraining the economy from reaching the status of a high-income country. By the end of 2023, 108 such countries were identified, which were labelled as middle income countries with annual GDP per capita between \$1,136 and \$13,845, and now the World Bank warns that these countries risk falling into the 'middle income trap'. However, the report suggests "a sequenced and progressively more sophisticated mix of policies" to help countries avoid the trap. Proposing a '3i' strategy of investments, infusion, and innovation, the report advises countries to use them as per their development levels. The low income countries should first focus on investments, while the lower-middle income countries should focus on investments and the infusion of technology. The upper middle-

income countries should focus on all these three 'i's, and investments and infusion of technology should go hand in hand with innovation, i.e., these countries should not just borrow ideas from developed ones but also should push their boundaries. The World Bank also highlights that rapidly ageing populations, rising protectionism in advanced economies, and the need to speed up the energy transition could be a challenge in the strive of the middle income economies to upgrade themselves to the high-income levels. **Prescription for India** Talking about India, a lower-middle-income economy with a per capita income of \$2,390 in 2022, the suggestion to focus on the '2i's' of investments and infusion of technology is not enough. Considering India's demographic dividend, it is the time bracket that India can hardly afford to lose. It should focus on innovations, research and development; it has good institutions and an able human capital to begin with. However, it has to be admitted that institutions should be upgraded to meet world standards, and robust human resource development is imminent in India. But Indian youth is aspirational, and public-private-academia trilateral convergence as was prescribed by this year's economic survey.

### Why Cambodia's PM is talking about accepting dirty, torn and old US banknotes

**Recently**, Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Manet suggested that the country might soon permit accepting old, dirty, or slightly torn US dollar banknotes more widely without any charges or penalties to facilitate the spending of them by tourists. His comments come at a time when the government is making efforts to phase out small US dollar denominations such as \$1 and \$5 bills while promoting the use of its own currency riel for day-to-day transactions. Why Cambodia's PM is talking about accepting dirty, torn and

old US banknotes. While the American currency remains important for international trade, calls for Cambodia to move towards using its currency have been increasing over the years, while reducing dependence on dollars. **Image** for Representation. Reuters. Cambodia's Prime Minister, Hun Manet, recently suggested that the country might soon start accepting old, dirty, or slightly torn US dollar bills more widely, after running a successful pilot project in one of the provinces. Earlier this month, Siem Reap province began accepting worn-

out US dollar banknotes after the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) mandated that all commercial banks accept them without charging any fees. Hinting at a green light for broader adoption, Manet was quoted as saying by local media, "The implementation in Siem Reap is a pilot step for the NBC to evaluate and develop a specific plan before announcing this new policy across the country in the near future." According to "This issue looks small, but it can affect tourism as a whole," Manet was quoted as saying by Cambodian news outlet Khmer

Times. "At the same time, we need to be careful so that Cambodia will not become a place just for exchanging dirty, torn and old US dollar banknotes," he added. So, why is Cambodia considering the use of worn-out US dollars? And what could this mean for the Cambodian currency, the Riel? Let's explore these questions to understand the broader implications. Cambodia's use of the US dollar can be traced back to the aftermath of the Khmer Rouge regime (1975-1979), which left the country's economy in ruins.

## Nitish Kumar launched a tirade in the state legislative assembly

A day after apologizing for his controversial birth control remarks, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar launched a tirade in the state legislative assembly against former ally Jitan Ram Manjhi, whom he had appointed to lead the state after the Janata Dal (United)'s poor 2014 Lok Sabha performance.

Nitish's heated interruption occurred during Manjhi's talk on the Bihar Reservation Amendment Bill, which would increase SC, ST, OBC, and OBC quotas in government positions and state-run schools from 50% to 65%. Inko idea? Ye galati hai jo iss aadmi ko humnein bana diya mukhya mantri. No sense, iska.



Aise bolted. Nitish: Nahi matlab. Has he any idea?

It was my fault for making him chief minister. His words make no sense. After repeating that he chose Manjhi to lead the state out of "murkhta" (stupidity), the chief minister said

that when he dissolved his 17-year coalition with the BJP in June 2013, he wanted him to stay with the party. "I started getting complaints two months after appointing him chief minister. However, he joined us in 2023. Send him to you

(BJP). JD(U) chief: Even his relatives are not with him. Nitish replied: "He (Manjhi) joined you (BJP) to become a governor" when BJP MLAs accused him of "insulting" a Dalit leader by calling him "tum" (you). Make him governor." "Chup raho (keep quiet)," Nitish

told Manjhi, who remained talking after his mike was off. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Vijay Kumar Choudhary then tried to soothe Nitish. As he left the Vidhan Sabha, Manjhi said that Nitish chose him as his successor because he dreaded resignation calls after the party's abysmal 2014 Lok Sabha performance. "But Nitish underestimated me.

He expected a rubber-stamp CM. Nitish Kumar and his followers had problems when I started making my own decisions, said Manjhi, the founder of the BJP-led NDA's Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM).

## Mahayuti will not field a chief minister in Maharashtra



Delhi: A top BJP official claims that the Mahayuti will not field a chief minister in Maharashtra in the assembly elections and will claim at least 160 of 288 seats. Shiv Sena and NCP are furious with BJP's CM and seat count stance. After careful consideration, the BJP functionary decided not to nominate Mahayuti netas Eknath Shinde, Devendra Fadnis, or Ajit Pawar for CM. The functionary said the new CM will be chosen following the assembly elections. "BJP did not field a neta as CM in MP,

Rajasthan, or Chhattisgarh assembly elections. We want to follow the same method in Maharashtra," said the official. The BJP functionary stated the party will claim 160 seats under the seat-sharing system. We won't compromise on 160 seats. We will want this figure during discussions. Only after winning more than 100 seats can we seize the CM's post. "BJP recently said that its nominee would become CM if it wins the most seats. Shiv Sena, on the other hand, argued that Eknath Shinde will be

CM regardless of how many seats the Sena gets because the Mahayuti government was constituted under the banner of insurrection. "There will be no compromise on the post of CM, Shinde will continue as CM," Siddiqui stated. An NCP member claimed his party will seek 100 seats and Shiv Sena equal seats. In New Delhi, Union home minister Amit Shah will decide the seat-sharing formula. "NCP and Shiv Sena are demanding 100 seats each, we expect to settle for 80 seats each," the functionary added.

## Uttarakhand to ban Char Dham name misuse

Delhi: In light of the recent controversy over the proposed construction of a Kedarnath temple replica in Delhi, CM Pushkar Singh Dhami's cabinet introduced a strict law to prevent the misuse of Char Dham shrines and other prominent Uttarakhand temple names, reports Kautilya Singh. The law prohibits organizations and trusts from using the name of Uttarakhand's leading temple committee "as it may cause confusion among the



public." Some people or organizations are using the names of Gangotri, Yamunotri, Kedarnath, Badrinath, and other top Uttarakhand temples. Names that are similar cause confusion, local hostility, and religious offense.

"The proposed law will prevent temple managers from misusing Char Dham or other prominent temple names," said CM secretary Shailesh Bagauli. Dhami lay the foundation stone for a Delhi Kedarnath temple, sparking controversy.

## Yogi govt to facilitate export of Kalanamak Rice to England after seven decades and for first time to USA

Lucknow Under the leadership of the Yogi government, England and United States of America will now experience the unique taste of Kalanamak rice. After nearly seven decades, this renowned rice variety will be exported to England and, for the first time, to US. The popularity of Kalanamak rice has surged since it was declared an ODOP by the state government. This year marks a significant milestone as 5 quintals of Kalanamak rice will be exported to England. In a similar vein, another 5 quintals will be exported to America for the first time. Prior to this, Kalanamak rice had already made its way to Nepal, Singapore, Germany, Dubai, and other countries. England has a historical fondness for the taste and aroma of Kalanamak rice. This tradition dates back about seven decades,

when British colonials had large farm houses across India. These farms were so prominent that they became landmarks, such as Birdghat and Campierganj. Siddharthnagar was also part of this trend, where the British cultivated Kalanamak rice extensively. They appreciated its unique flavor and fragrance, which commanded high prices in England. During that era, shiploads of Kalanamak rice were sent to England. However, following the abolition of the zamindari system about seven decades ago, this trade gradually declined and ultimately ceased after India gained independence. ODOP initiative boosts popularity of Kalanamak Rice. The popularity of Kalanamak rice has surged ever since the Yogi government declared it the One District One Product (ODOP).

## Udhayanidhi Stalin may become Deputy Chief Minister

Delhi: Sources told India that Tamil Nadu's DMK administration may make Sports Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin Deputy Chief Minister. Like his father, MK Stalin, who became Deputy CM following the 2009 Lok Sabha elections. Udhayanidhi, DMK's youth wing leader and Chepauk-Thiruvallikeni MLA, became a minister in December 2022. Sources say Udhayanidhi was slated to be Deputy CM twice this year. DMK's intentions failed due to controversies. Due to the Sanatana Dharma issue and Kallakurichi hooch catastrophe, his appointment as Deputy CM was canceled in January. The Sanatana Dharma debate began in January when Udhayanidhi compared it to "malaria" and "dengue" and called for its eradication.



## CM-VNY to be monitored at state and local levels, aiming to boost urban contribution to a \$1 Trillion economy

Lucknow The Yogi government is optimistic about the 'Mukhyamantri Vaishwik Nagaroday Yojana' (CM-VNY), launched to boost the income of urban local bodies and enhance infrastructure. The government aims to integrate urban bodies into its vision for a \$1 trillion economy. To ensure transparency and timely completion, all projects and proposals within these bodies will be evaluated and monitored from the local to the state level. The Urban Development Department has initiated this scheme as a 'Mission to Movement,' expanding various existing schemes and missions across all urban local bodies in Uttar Pradesh, promoting comprehensive city development and increased revenue collection. The scheme will be overseen at the highest level by the Urban Development Minister, who will not only supervise but also guide its overall implementation. The State Level Governing Body will be chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary of the Urban Development Department, with the Director of Local Bodies serving as the Member Secretary. The committee will include secretaries from the Housing, Health, Energy, Basic Education, Finance, Women and Child Development, and PWD departments as well as the Director of C&DS. The Director of NIC will also participate in relevant projects, and special invitees may be included at the Chairperson's discretion. The State Program Monitoring Unit will operate under this body. The Technical Appraisal Committee will be chaired by the Director of Local Bodies, including the Chief Engineer, AD Accounts, Director C&DS, and PMU Representatives. This committee will also incorporate the State Program Monitoring Unit. In committees formed for Municipal Corporations, the Mayor will act as Chairperson, while the Municipal Commissioner will serve as Member Secretary and Convener. The DM, VC of the Development Authority, and an SE of PWD appointed by the Divisional Commissioner will be members. Projects will be approved by committees established at the civic body level under the 15th Finance Commission. For Nagar Palika Parishad and Nagar Panchayats, the DM will chair the committee, which will include the Executive Engineer, Executive Officer, Accounts Officer of the relevant body, and a nominee of the DM. The scheme aims to standardize urban infrastructure across the state while enhancing the contribution of urban local bodies toward achieving a \$1 trillion economy. Expected outcomes include increased revenue sources for urban local bodies, improved liveability indices in urban areas, and better infrastructure integration with master plans.

## "Haryana maange hisaab" asserts the state has the greatest unemployment

Delhi: After fighting the Lok Sabha election over price hikes and unemployment, the Congress is preparing to run in Haryana on similar issues. The party's slogan "Haryana maange hisaab" asserts the state has the greatest unemployment, price rise, and crime rates. "Unemployment, price hikes, and law and order will dominate our

campaign. Over two lakh government department seats are unfilled. Former Haryana chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda says more than 30 test papers have been leaked and unemployment is 37.4%. Haryana has the third-highest kidnapping rate in the country despite having the greatest law and order issues,

according to the Social Progress Index. Following Rahul Gandhi's two marches, Lok Sabha MP Deepender Hooda began a "Haryana maange hisaab" padyatra (foot march) on Sunday as a prelude to Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and Gandhi's main campaign closer to the elections.

## Joshimath's derailed hydropower facility obtains NDMA approval

Delhi: The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), under the Union ministry of home affairs, said "it has no objection to Uttarakhand govt permitting NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation) to restart construction at Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project site" after subsidence in Joshimath town in January 2023. The Uttarakhand government halted all activities at NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad project after soil subsidence in Joshimath made hundreds of homes uninhabitable and forced 1,000 people to flee

owing to enlarged fractures. After this, NDMA formed a group of multi-institutional expert organizations to immediately assess the hazard and damage, study the causes and contributory factors, and conduct a comprehensive, in-depth multi-disciplinary investigation into subsidence and its causes. NDMA reported to HC that specialists have given numerous reasons for the soil subsidence. The most prevalent being that unregulated construction in the town impeded natural water flow from Auli to Joshimath.

## The world recognized the unwavering valour and bravery of Indian soldiers during the Kargil War: CM Yogi

Lucknow Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath stated on Friday that the world recognized the indomitable valour and courage of Indian soldiers during the Kargil War. Speaking at the 'Silver Jubilee Celebration' marking the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas at Surya Auditorium, Central Command, Cantt, Yogi remarked that the Kargil War was imposed on India. "Pakistan had covertly infiltrated Kashmir, imposing war on India. However, the outcome of the war

was determined by our brave soldiers. Despite facing adverse circumstances, no enemy could stand against the valour of our soldiers." The CM further stated, "I take immense pride in honouring the courageous women and families who have lost their loved ones in the Kargil War." He emphasized that India's global identity is not that of a country that forcefully monopolizes. CM Yogi highlighted that Indian tradition holds, "Shastrena Rakshite Rashtre Shastra Chinta Pravartate," meaning

that contemplation of 'shaashtra' (scriptures) is possible only in a nation safeguarded by arms. He remarked, "Even when India was a global leader in strength, intelligence, and knowledge, we never initiated aggression. However, when invaders dared to disrupt our peace and goodwill, our brave soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the motherland." CM Yogi stated that the state government consistently supports the brave soldiers who defend the country's borders.

He mentioned that if a soldier is martyred in battle or while safeguarding the border, the state government provides Rs 50 lakh in assistance. to their family. Additionally, employment is guaranteed for one family member. Since 2017, the government has also committed to honouring the memory of martyred soldiers by naming a grand memorial, institute, or road after them in their village, city, or town. CM Yogi remarked that Prime Minister Narendra Modi .

# Centre, Congress, and AAP set to fight in Delhi

Delhi: Congress is preparing to begin a full-scale onslaught on Aam Aadmi Party, accusing the Kejriwal government of many failures and liquor scam-related corruption. The leadership has stated that there is "not much scope" for the two parties to forge an alliance for the Delhi and Haryana elections, but state unit sources indicated they will emphasize the city's "deterioration and widespread sleaze" in a significant way. Congress general secretary in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh that the INDIA alliance had no state election formula. He said the organization will fight



together in states where Congress and alliance partners agree. When asked about a Delhi-Haryana coalition, Ramesh remarked, "There does not appear to be much scope (for alliance)." Sources in the Delhi unit denied that their attack on Kejriwal changed their position. "We first reported the

liquor scam and other corruption. We even filed a police report to start an inquiry. We merely objected to his arrest's timing and intent." A senior official commented on condition of anonymity. Last month, AAP city convenor Gopal Rai said they would run alone in the Delhi assembly elections early next

year. Delhi Congress president Devender Yadav underlined that the party had formed a national alliance to safeguard the Constitution when asked about the future. "We have not made any alliance over corruption," Yadav told TOI on Friday to emphasize that Congress in Delhi

would fight corruption in all areas. Delhi Congress president Anil Chaudhary filed a liquor policy fraud complaint in June 2022. AAP and Congress may clash over this issue in the Capital. Despite the lack of an assembly poll coalition, Congress and AAP are still part of the INDIA bloc and have protested central agency abuse of opposition politicians, including the incarceration of Kejriwal and former deputy CM Manish Sisodia. However, several Congress leaders claimed they were opposing the arrest's timing and agency mismanagement, not the issue.

## MCD mopup from property tax increased by 252cr until June after last year's decline

Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) improved property tax collection this year after being criticized for low recovery last year. MCD has collected Rs 1,400 crore in advance tax by June 30, up from Rs 1,148 crore last year. Taxpayers climbed from 7,24,319 to 8,79,521 between April and June. MCD geo-tagged 3.9 lakh properties out of 13.3 lakh given UPICS by June-end to boost efficiency. While geo-tagging was once required for advance tax payment, it is now optional. MCD still urges property owners to geo-tag. "Over 800 camps helped thousands of citizens pay their taxes to enhance collection. Property owners might pay with UPI, wallets, demand drafts, or online pay-



ment gateways "official MCD handed 8.7 lakh taxpayers who paid last year advance preliminary bills for the current year. "People who paid taxes using a UPIC number last year were sent an SMS with a link to a receipt, which is reflecting the tentative amount due for this year," he said. MCD's property tax collection dropped 11.5% in 2023-24. In 2023-24, Rs 2,137 crore was collected, Rs 280 crore less than in 2022-23. Taxpayers

fell from 13.3 lakh in 2022-23 to 12.6 lakh in 2023-24. Officials attributed the higher 2022-23 tax collection to the Samridhi initiative, which raised Rs 400 crore. This scheme was not duplicated. Section 114 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation (DMC) Act 2003 (amended) requires property tax on all MCD structures and unoccupied land. Rule 22 of DMC (property taxes) bye-laws 2004 requires property taxes to be paid on April 1 each year.

## Delhi civic body renovates Ambedkar Stadium

Delhi: The peeling plaster, exposed rebars, damaged windows, staircase railings, and overflowing toilets. The Ambedkar Stadium at Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg in downtown Delhi has hosted no national-level football events for three years. It once hosted international football matches and the Durand Cup. However, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), which manages the 25,000-capacity stadium, has begun renovating the arena, including adding dressing rooms, a cafeteria, spectator stands,



and a media center. The 5 crore project will be completed in many parts, with the civic body focusing on the facade, spectator stands, and public amenities in the first phase by December, according to officials. Ambedkar Stadium last had major restoration in 2007 to add floodlights for the 2010 Commonwealth

Games, and more work was needed. The stadium is MCD's largest, but we aim to refurbish and repair five smaller arenas across the city. "A senior MCD official said on condition of anonymity. The Delhi Soccer Association (DSA) president, Anuj Gupta, stated Ambedkar Stadium is the Capital's football home.

## Health plan for 70+ may cost govt Rs 5k crore

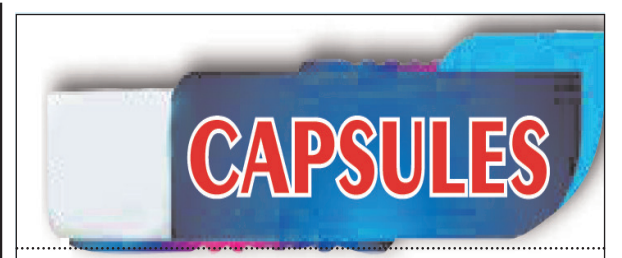


Delhi: Indian estimates imply that providing health coverage to persons 70 and older, regardless of income, will cost the central exchequer Rs 4,000 crore or Rs 5,000 crore more. The government budgeted Rs 7500 for the Ayushman Bharat-PM Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), which covers 12 crore poor and vulnerable families for Rs 5 lakhs in 2023-24. Expanding the policy to include those over 70 will likely add 3.5 to 4 crore beneficiaries, sources added. Between 5.5 and 6 crore persons in the country are 70 or older. Poor and vulnerable households make up 2 crore of them covered by AB-PMJAY. So, it's estimated that the actual number of beneficiaries to be included in the new plan, a poll promise made by the BJP and mentioned in the

President's address to parliament, will be around 3.5 to 4 crores. "The source added that the government was committed to fulfilling its promise and that the union budget 2024-25 may include the expansion of AB-PMJAY to include all senior citizens aged 70 and older. The National Health Authority (NHA), which implements AB-PMJAY, is preparing the scheme's growth mechanisms and budgetary ramifications. "Including persons 70 and older, regardless of income, is crucial to universal health coverage. An official claimed it will also evaluate the inclusion of the missing middle class. AB-PMJAY is supported 60:40 by the state and the centre. Some states are paying more because they expanded the system to include seniors.

## Kirari to get 4.5km drain to reduce waterlogging

Delhi: Kejriwal's government would build a 4.5 km drain between Najafgarh Supplementary Drain and Mundka Haat Railway Station to alleviate waterlogging in northwest Delhi's Kirari neighborhood. Officials said the drain will relieve rainwater logging. It will drain water fast even during severe rains, helping numerous Kirari assembly settlements. "During heavy rains, due to the overflow of drains in many parts of Kirari assembly, it usually takes time for the rainwater to drain out and the severe problem of waterlogging arises," said Gov. People worried about this. It said that the Delhi government will build a major drain between Najafgarh Supplementary Drain and Mundka Haat Railway Station. Allowing water to drain quickly during the rainy season. Note that the drain will go down the railway.



## LG promotes 12 vice-principals

Delhi: Raj Niwas said that Lieutenant governor V K Saxena promoted 12 vice-principals to principal in the Delhi Directorate of Education. According to DoE's DPC recommendations, the LG authorized the promotions. A DPC spokesman stated the topic was discussed on June 25. The official said the promotions will be level-12 in the 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC) and Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2017 pay matrix with immediate effect, with normal allowances. The release stated Saxena, who has advocated for better government employee service conditions, promoted 411 vice-principals to principals and 51 principals to deputy directors of education in the last two years. PTI Principal and staff secretary K P Ramesh complained, and police charged 15 students in the evening.

## HC says surrogate moms get maternity leave

The Orissa High Court ordered the state government to give a surrogate mother Orissa Finance Service (OFS) official 180 days of maternity leave. Court stated maternity leave shouldn't depend on how a woman becomes a mother. Surrogacy to treat and support all new mothers, regardless of how they became parents. Justice Panigrahi said the government should give surrogate mothers maternity leave if it could give adoptive mothers. "The mother's caregiving and nurturing during the first few months of a child's life are vital to their growth. He said Article 21 of the Constitution guarantees the right to life, which includes motherhood and complete development for all children. Panigrahi added: "It is directed to the concerned department of the state to incorporate this aspect in the relevant provisions of the rules to treat a child born out of surrogacy in the similar manner as a child born out of the natural process and provide the commissioning mother with all the benefits provided thereto." The court noted that maternity leave gives surrogate mothers time to raise their children in a stable and loving setting. "Additionally, international conventions to which India is a signatory, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, mandate equal treatment and non-discrimination in matters related to employment and maternity," Justice Panigrahi said.

## Kirari to get 4.5km drain to reduce waterlogging

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## Courts can't have defendants divulge Google location for bail

The goal of bail cannot be defeated by conditions. The police cannot track the accused's movements

Court ruled that police cannot ask an accused to divulge their Google location to track their activities as a bail condition because it violates their privacy rights. While setting aside a 2022 Delhi High Court order to reveal his mobile device's Google Maps PIN with the investigating officer for temporary bail, the

Supreme Court said thus. The goal of bail cannot be defeated by conditions. The police cannot track the accused's movements and virtually invade their privacy under a bail term, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan said. His previous tenure as Jharkhand CM began on December 29, 2019, with 'Sankalp Diwas.

## Government may intervene if tomato prices rise

Delhi: Officials stated they are closely observing the pattern as tomato prices grow as a result of a shortage in key cities including Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata. Although the essential kitchen commodity cost between Rs 80 and Rs 90 per kg in each of the three major cities, officials expressed hope that the costs will drop within the following seven to ten days. They went on to say that the government might step into the retail market if the price increase persisted for a longer time. Government organizations had subsidized the price of tomatoes in retail markets the previous year. Due to rain and a sharp

decline in supply, traders claimed that price increases for tomatoes are typical in July and August. In Himachal Pradesh, heavy rains have disrupted the supply system, raising prices. Vegetable costs frequently rise during monsoon seasons as a result of crop loss and transportation problems. Keep up with the most recent predictions for areas that grow tomatoes. Find out how adaptable tomato ketchup is outside of the kitchen! This condiment is a useful household tool that may be used for anything from rust removal to jewelry restoration and cleaning metal cutlery.

## 18 MCD locations to prevent unauthorized parking

Delhi: At least eighteen new surface parking places will soon be available at various sites throughout the city, according to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). After the local authority obtained approval from Delhi Police to operate these parking lots, the process of choosing organizations to oversee and maintain these areas began, according to officials. For the allotment of 70 authorized surface parking spaces on a monthly license fee basis, we have requested proposals in total. The three-year contract has the option to be extended for an additional two years if satisfactory performance is main-



tained. Two clusters and eighteen additional parking spaces were among the seventy parking lots, an official stated. MCD officials claim that people were already using these 18 locations for unauthorized parking. Additionally, it was acknowledged that the establishment of organized parking places in these regions was critically needed. Ramesh

Nagar, Mayapuri Chowk, Shastrri Marg, Mohammadpur Village, Naraina Part-II, near EDM Mall in Ghazipur, IP Extension, behind Cross River Mall, A-Block DDA Market in Surajmal Vihar, Durgapuri Market, Chetak Complex in Dilshad Garden, Patparganj Industrial Area, Laxmi Nagar, and other locations will all have authorized parking

lots established. According to the official, more parking space for at least 2,000 cars would be generated after all 32 facilities are completely functioning. In a related project, it will likely take an extra month or two to finish the three multi-level parking facilities at Church Mission Road, Punjabi Bagh, and Nigam Bodh Ghat. MCD officials said that the intense heat of last month's weather slowed down construction work, which is why these projects have taken longer to complete. "We have constructed the facility on a 3,496 square meter area made up of three blocks at NigamBodh parking.

## Utkarsh Small Finance Bank continues to expand its presence!



**HISAR :** Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (Utkarsh SFBL) proudly announces the inauguration of 900th outlet of the Bank at Khunti, Ranchi, Jharkhand. This milestone is part of a broader expansion, which includes 7 new outlets launched today across Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. With this, the Bank now operates 81 banking outlets in Jharkhand and a total of 903 outlets nationwide. Customers in Khunti, Ranchi will now have access to a wide range of the Bank's products

and services. These include savings accounts, current accounts, fixed deposits, recurring deposits, and various loan products such as housing loans, business loans, loans against property, credit, insurance, and investment products. The Bank's extensive infrastructure, digital banking capabilities, and ATM network aim to provide integrated customer service. Commenting on the expansion, Mr. Govind Singh, MD & CEO of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited, "Today is a landmark day for

us as we inaugurate our 900th banking outlet of the Bank at Khunti, Ranchi, Jharkhand. Jharkhand is a significant state for us, and the inauguration of our 7 new banking outlets across Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh further reinforces our commitment to these regions. Our new banking outlets will not only foster local entrepreneurship but would also provide essential resources to strengthen the financial resilience to enhance the livelihoods of these entrepreneurs.

## Durex TBBT celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community with a special issue of Outlook magazine

**GURUGRAM :** Durex, globally renowned for its dedication to promoting sexual health and wellness, is thrilled to announce a special collaboration with Outlook Magazine for an exclusive Pride Month edition. Curated under Durex's flagship initiative, The Birds and Bees Talk (TBBT), this issue is designed to celebrate and support the LGBTQIA+ community, in alignment with this year's Pride Month theme, 'Reflect. Empower. Unite.' This special edition of Outlook Magazine, in partnership with Durex TBBT, is more than just a publication. It is a testament to the

power of storytelling, education, and community support in fostering a more inclusive and understanding society. By celebrating the achievements and addressing the challenges of the LGBTQIA+ community, this initiative truly embodies the Pride Month theme of 'Reflect. Empower. Unite.' This initiative stands out as a significant contribution to the community, aiming to foster inclusivity and drive important conversations about sexual and reproductive health. Guest edited by Ravi Bhatnagar, Director of External Affairs and Partnerships, SOA, Reckitt and recipient of Trans Allyship award by

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the special edition features a range of inspiring stories, expert insights, and educational content tailored to resonate with a broad audience. Empowering Voices: This edition provides a powerful platform for influential LGBTQIA+ figures such as Sushant Divgikar, Alok Verma, Dutee Chand, and Trinetra Haldar Gummaraju. Their stories of overcoming societal barriers and fostering inclusivity are truly inspiring and aim to empower readers by showcasing the resilience and achievements of the LGBTQIA+ community.

## The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine on Hero FinCorp for violating regulatory standards

**Delhi:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fined Hero FinCorp Limited Rs 3,10,000 for violating the fair practices policy for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). An RBI assessment has uncovered that Hero FinCorp failed



to communicate the terms and conditions of loans in written form to

borrowers in a language that they understand. RBI conducted a statutory inspection of the company, specifically focusing on its financial situation as of March 31, 2023.

## Davangere Sugar Company Ltd. Announces Capacity Expansion by 45 KLPD, Targets Additional Sugar Cane Growing Area by 15000 Acres

**CHANDIGARH:** Davangere Sugar Company Ltd. (DSCL) (BSE: 543267, NSE: DAVANGERE), a leading player in Sugar, Sustainable Power and Ethanol Solutions, proudly announces the expansion of its distillery and operations.

### Additional capacity expansion of Grain distillery by 45 KLPD

By adding another 45 KLPD grain-based unit at a cost of project of Rs.54.00 crores. The financial tie-up with banks is completed and about Rs. 2.00 crores is invested in civil works. Negotiations completed with machinery suppliers. It is marking a significant milestone for the company and the local agricultural



community. Its intention to expand the distillery will allow the company to now operate independently for 330 days of the year, ensuring a steady and robust production cycle. "We are thrilled to deepen and further strengthen our collaboration with local farmers," said Mr. Ganesh, MD of DSCL. "Their quality crops are the cornerstone of this expansion allows us to create more jobs, boost

local income, and maintain our high standards year-round. "The expansion not only enhances the distillery's production capabilities but also offers farmers a reliable market for their produce. This mutually beneficial relationship promises to enhance the region's agricultural landscape, providing stability and growth opportunities for all involved.

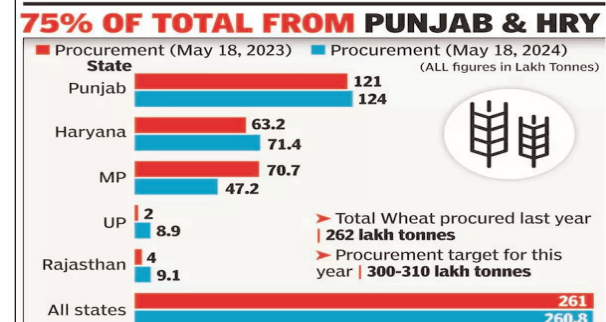
### Target of achieving additional Sugar Cane growing area by 15,000 acres:

DSCL is committed to not just cultivating sugarcane, but to revolutionize its growth and practices. One of our key initiatives involves promoting and developing sugarcane crops

up to 15000 acres in existing cane cultivation areas and regions traditionally not associated with cane cultivation. By expanding into this non-cane growing areas and ensuring sufficient raw material for the company, we not only secure a sustainable raw material supply for our company but also usher in a wave of socio-economic benefits for local farmers. The company further added, "Our primary aim is to provide farmers in these regions with assured and timely returns on their produce. We understand the challenges they face and strive to alleviate them through various means, including financial assis-

## Fully procured wheat by centre exceeds last year's mark

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



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

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

## Standard Capital Markets Ltd. Reports Stellar Earnings for FY24, PAT Jumps 380% YoY

**CHANDIGARH :** Standard Capital Markets Ltd., a leading player in the financial services sector, has announced its earnings for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2024. For the quarter ended 31 March 2024, the company reported Revenue from operations at Rs. 1069.67 Lakhs, a growth of 200.31% YoY. The EBITDA jumped 273.94% YoY, from Rs. 218 Lakhs (Q4FY23) to Rs. 817 Lakhs (Q4FY24). PAT grew 57.39% YoY, from Rs. 159.99 Lakhs (Q4FY23), to Rs. 251.81 Lakhs (Q4FY24). For the year ended 31 March 2024, the company saw a 142.72% growth in its revenue from operations, growing from Rs. 1128.77 Lakhs (FY23) to Rs. 2739.76 Lakhs (FY24). EBITDA grew 146.50% YoY, from Rs. 938.17 Lakhs (FY23), to

Rs. 2312.63 Lakhs (FY24). PAT grew by a staggering 380.69% YoY, from Rs. 222.81 Lakhs (FY23), to Rs. 1071.02 Lakhs (FY24). Earlier, the company announced that its has partnered with a leading fintech company to provide educational loans to individuals seeking higher education. This collaboration aims to make education more accessible and affordable for students, empowering them to pursue their academic goals. Through this strategic partnership, Standard Capital Markets Limited will leverage the fintech company's innovative platform and expertise in student financing to offer competitive loan options tailored to the needs of students. The loans will cover tuition fees, living expenses, and other educational

costs, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder students from receiving a quality education. Standard Capital Markets Limited is a leading player in the financial services sector. Embracing the uniqueness of each client, the company consistently strives to deliver personalized, professional services. It upholds an unwavering commitment to every client, while adhering rigorously to the best professional norms and practices, exuding dynamism in every interaction. The company offers a diverse range of Personal Loans, ensuring not only competitiveness but also flexible repayment terms. With their support, clients can confidently pursue their goals without confusion or worry.

## Google makes a minority investment of \$350 million in Flipkart

**Delhi:** According to reports, Google contributed roughly \$350 million to Flipkart's almost \$1 billion fundraising round, which was spearheaded by parent company Walmart. Flipkart declined to comment on the funding's details, but sources informed that the internet giant has contributed roughly \$350 million for a minority interest in the company. The investment round has concluded with Google joining, increasing Flipkart's worth to much beyond \$35 billion, according to sources. Walmart contributed approximately \$600 million to Flipkart during the investment round that concluded in December of last year. In 2021, Flipkart completed its largest funding round, raising \$3.6 billion at a valuation of \$37.6 billion from

### Boost For Quick Commerce Foray

Google has been ramping up its India investments and may look at extending its partnership with Flipkart to other areas as well, according to market advisors

With Google on board, the \$1bn investment round has been closed, taking Flipkart's valuation to over \$35bn. The funding comes in handy for

Flipkart as it looks to enter the quick commerce space

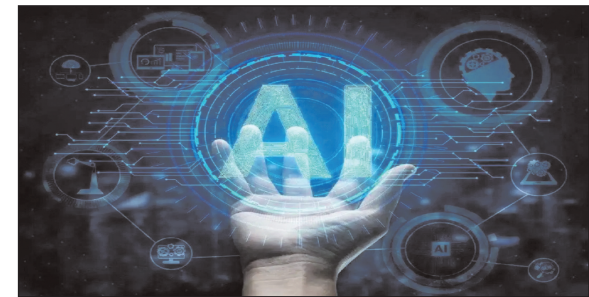
Flipkart has been in a partnership with Google Cloud since 2022

The co, which competes with players like Amazon and SoftBank-backed Meesho to cater to customers who are increasingly going digital, has been leveraging Google's cloud stack to widen tech capabilities and reach more users

investors in a deal co-led by Walmart. It is believed that the company's valuation was modified to \$33 billion following the 2022 separation of fintech PhonePe from the group. Flipkart stated that regulatory permissions are a prerequisite for the investment. "Google's proposed investment and its cloud collaboration will help Flipkart expand its business and advance the modernisation of its digital infrastructure to serve customers across the country,"

the company said in a statement. Google Cloud and Flipkart have been partnered since 2022. Flipkart has been using Google's cloud stack to expand its IT capabilities and reach more. Flipkart competes with players like Amazon and Meesho, which is sponsored by SoftBank, to cater to clients who are increasingly turning digital. In a \$1.4 billion investment round in 2017, Flipkart received backing from Tencent, Microsoft.

## DD Kisan launches 50-language AI anchors Krish and Bhoomi



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

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

## IT hiring is improving, but firms are wary



**Delhi:** LinkedIn and other leading job sites said that top IT services companies' active hiring rose to 82,000 in March from 50,000 in January, the first growth in 20 months. However, due to declining attrition, the top IT services businesses' collective gross hiring declined 4-6% QoQ in the quarter ending March, according to Xpheno's study for ET based on talent movement patterns in January-March. Wipro, Infosys, TCS, HCL, LTI Mindtree, L&T Technology Services, Tech Mahindra, and Cognizant were exam-

ined. "While gross hiring (attrition refills and fresh hiring) has been low and declining for eight quarters, the current rise in active demand denotes a return of hiring for capacity in the ITS cohort," Anil Ethanur, co-founder of X Gross hiring volume for the quarter ending March 2024 may be the lowest in over two years due to the 4-6% reduction.

Despite the drop in gross hiring, fewer exits will result in a lower headcount degrowth than last quarter "and IT sector consultants said FY25

discussions are still focused on bench dilution, automation, efficiency, and targeted hiring in niche areas like AI and GenAI due to macroeconomic uncertainty and few signs of demand recovery.

"IT services bellwethers will be cautious in FY25 talent acquisition as they focus on profits. Even if some regions are showing signs of improvement, overall demand signals are poor and do not indicate a spending comeback in the next two quarters.

## Will invest if EV GST stays 5% for 10 years: Mercedes-Benz

**Delhi:** Mercedes-Benz, one of the first major carmakers to show interest in the government's new EV policy, said it would invest \$500 million "provided it gets an assurance that the current 5% GST regime for electrics will continue for a decade." "We must determine its logic. The tax advantage of 5% GST on EVs must last ten years for investments to be made "Mercedes India MD & CEO Santosh Iyer. "We'll start with a business case.

No commercial case exists today." Mercedes was one of the first multinational automakers to invest in electric



mobility in India and is developing six green automobiles. The company's electric lineup comprises the EQS limousine, EQB MPV, and EQE SUV. Cars are made in its plant outside Pune. The company is introducing its smallest electric SUV, the EQA, and planning the EQS Maybach and electric G Class green SUVs. Iyer said the company

hopes the government would use tax incentives to promote green mobility in India. "On our part, we will do everything possible to accelerate the transition to EVs through our six models." Iyer said firms and service providers must work together to build a dense EV charging network. In addition, like the telecom industry and cell tower sharing, electric charger infrastructure may be common and pooled.

Iyer said the government should encourage EVs as India goes toward carbon neutrality.

## Small business payment rules to change by centre

**Delhi:** An exporter in Chennai with multiple units was forced to deregister one of its entities on Udyam, the portal for micro, small, and medium enterprises, because some large buyers did not want to be caught in a government mandate requiring actual payment of

all dues to MSMEs within 45 days to claim tax deduction for expenditure. Several small businesses across the country are protesting that the government's well-intentioned attempt to ensure prompt payments is being used against them since they have little leverage in

negotiating with large enterprises that set pricing and payment terms. Others argued the standards were against business practices in particular sectors or in specific parts of the country where 60-90-day payments are common.

## Government contemplating 25K GPUs

**Delhi:** According to media reports, the Indian government is considering a public-private partnership (PPP) to set up a cluster of 25,000 GPUs (graphic processing units) for Indian companies working on AI and other emerging technologies that require high computing capacity. The Ministry of Electronics and IT is debating the INR 8,000-10,000 crore plan at the highest levels. Indian AI startups, corporations, and CEOs have urged the government to invest in scarce and expensive processing resources. Experts say the proposal will keep Indian data sovereign. They added many in the business have been using foreign clouds because GPUs are scarce in



India. One of Meity's seven AI working groups recommended a 25,000 GPU cluster, reports said. Data and people capital are abundant in India due to many digital changes, according to experts. India needs at least 25,000 GPUs for supercom-

puting to compete in the global AI race. The 75th fastest supercomputer in the world, India's 'Airawat' at C-DAC in Pune, has 640 GPUs. Worldwide, the fastest supercomputers have over 30,000 GPUs. The official said the government

will invite private companies to set up GPUs here through the usual tendering process after finalizing the project.

If they had a 1,000 GPU cluster instantly, AI businesses in the country may attract more funding, experts claimed. While the government considers this suggestion, recent agreements between Nvidia, Reliance Jio, and Tata Sons may provide entrepreneurs with computing infrastructure. Experts also said India needs fast supercomputers, and companies are looking at government programs to develop gigantic supercomputers and enterprises to train large language models (LLMs) in numerous Indian languages.

## Optiemus plans to invest Rs 140 crore to expand drone manufacturing

**Delhi:** To grow and provide drone manufacturing services to the agriculture, mapping, and allied industries, Optiemus Unmanned Systems, a subsidiary of Optiemus Infra, a contract maker of electronics, would invest Rs 140 crore. According to chairman Ashok Gupta, the company is localizing parts and components in order to reach 75% indigenization by the end of the fiscal year. If interest rates



were high right now, would you invest your money in a long-term fixed deposit? "We are set to leverage our expertise in drone technology to offer a cost-effective and efficient solution for agricultural and defence needs," Gupta stated.

## NCLT tells Byju's: Show lack of funds or face audit

**Delhi:** The National Company Law Tribunal advised Byju's to have its finances reviewed to determine if it can pay its employees. The court ruled that Byju's is still operating and must generate revenue to pay



salaries while hearing a group of employees' request for unpaid wages. The court ordered the firm to establish its incapacity to pay or face an audit. The remarks were part of the arguments, and no decision has been made. Byju's didn't comment. Several Byju employees haven't been paid for February and March. In an earlier letter to staff, founder and CEO

Byju Raveendran stated a few investors' decision to prevent the company from using rights issue funds had delayed salary payments. Byju's laid off 500 workers and closed most of its offices in April.

In an interim order in late February, the NCLT ordered the company to keep all \$200 million rights issue funds in a separate escrow account and not withdraw.

## Air cargo from India increases amid Red Sea crisis, aiming for 10 mn tonnes by 2030



**Delhi:** Air freight from India has more than doubled since the Red Sea crisis, allowing the country to reach its 2030-31 goal of transporting 10 million tonnes (MT) of air cargo. India's air freight peaked at above 3.5 MT in 2017-18 and has recovered from COVID-19. President of the Air Cargo Forum of India (ACFI) Yashpal Sharma stressed the significance of minimizing trans-shipment carriage times and allow-

ing foreign freighter aircraft to reach numerous Indian destinations. Air transport accounts for less than 2% of worldwide freight. A half-percent adjustment will improve aviation cargo volumes after the Red Sea crisis. India has a huge chance but must address the hurdles, especially speeding up trans-shipment, which takes 2-2.5 days "Sharma stated Thursday at the ACFI Annual Conclave 2024 in New Delhi. India's

air freight sector is unique, with foreign imports, exports, and domestic cargo each accounting for one-third of volume. Less than 15% of aviation cargo is carried by freighters; most is in passenger planes' bellies. Freighter aircraft numbers fluctuated, according to aviation ministry senior economic advisor Piyush Srivastava. Before COVID, India had six freighters. This number grew to 28 during the pandemic.

## Google to face South Korean regulator over YouTube bundling allegations



**Delhi:** South Korea's antitrust regulator is poised to punish Google (NASDAQ:GOOGL) for improperly bundling YouTube's music service with its premium membership program, authorities. Since February last year, the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) has conducted an on-site investigation into whether the tech giant violated fair transaction rules by offering YouTube Music to Ad-free YouTube premium members without further charges. After a

months-long inquiry, the FTC presented a review report calling for Google's punishment before a plenary meeting, Yonhap News Agency reports. Officials said the examination focused on whether Google abused its market dominance by deploying such a technique and limited fair competition in the industry. Some argue that bundling has increased YouTube subscribers but limited consumers' choices and unfairly hurt other music streamers.

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