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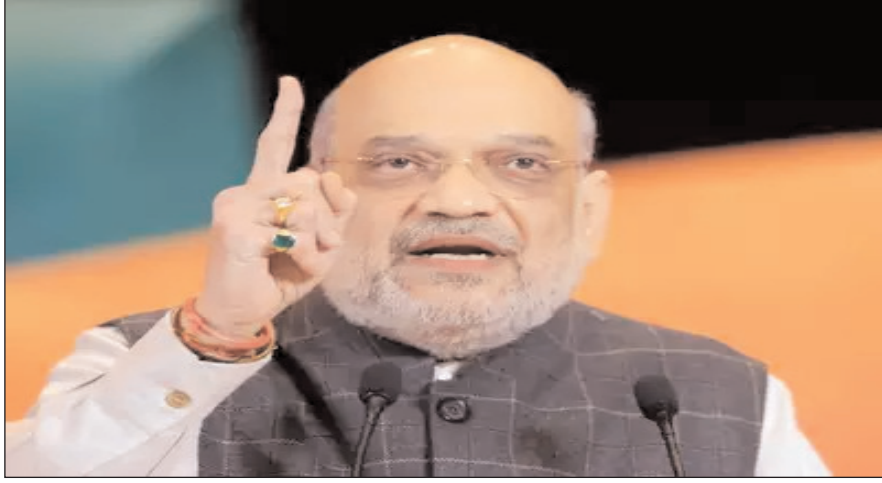
MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

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

CAA: Amit Shah leads BJP's 'Jo kaha, so kiya' celebrations

● "The fulfilment of BJP's another poll promise culminated into celebrations among its rank and file with senior party leaders"



NEW DELHI: The implementation of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) marking the fulfilment of an important poll pledge of BJP is likely to be used by the party to burnish its credentials as an upholder of the rights of Hindus and to drive home the point that it fulfils its "guarantees".

The party pushed for implementation of the controversial amendments in the citizenship law with a view to protecting Hindus, Sikhs and other minorities in predominantly Muslim countries of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan despite aggressive protests by opposition parties and activists whom it has

consistently accused of a p p e a s e m e n t. However, the delay in the notification of rules, first because of violent protests and then the pandemic, saw the issue being relegated to the backburner, with only home minister Amit Shah, who had piloted the legislation in Parliament, insisting that CAA was already the law of the land and was set to be notified. That changed on Monday after govt operationalised the law. "With this notification, PM Narendra Modi ji has delivered on another commitment and realised the promise of

the makers of our Constitution to the Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians living in those countries," Shah posted on X after the CAA rules were notified. BJP also seemed to set a section "Promises Fulfilled" to its manifesto for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls to highlight its consistent fidelity to the party's promises—something it sees as crucial to sharpen a "pro-incumbency" narrative. Soon after the notification, BJP started amplifying its "Jo Kaha, So Kiya" (delivered what was promised) message, seeking to

further solidify "Modi Ki Guarantee" plank which already has important components like construction of Ram Mandir, scrapping of special status for J&K, tough response to terrorism, welfare schemes and speedy completion of infrastructure projects among its important components. The fulfilment of BJP's another poll promise culminated into celebrations among its rank and file with senior party leaders calling the implementation of the CAA as yet another example of delivering what the party promise.

China deployed research vessel to 'keep eye' on Agni-5 test

NEW DELHI: Just weeks before India conducted the key flight-test on Monday of its 5,000-km-range Agni-5 inter-continental ballistic missile, which is believed to be capable of targeting nearly all of China, Beijing sent its second research vessel to the Indian shores, besides the first one that was already anchored off Maldives, to likely 'keep an eye' on the crucial test from the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. Till now, China and four other countries — US, Russia, France and UK — have the capability to launch a missile with multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle (MIRV) technology. These countries have this capability in either land-based or sub-based categories. According to maritime analytics provider Marine Traffic, Chinese ship 'Xiang Yang Hong 01' departed from the Chinese port of Qingdao on Feb 23. Open-source intelli-



gence expert Damien Symon showed the 4,425-tonne ship's entry into the Bay of Bengal on Sunday on social media platform X. Xian Yang Hong 01 is now less than 260 nautical miles — about 480 km — off the coast of Visakhapatnam, which is believed to have the base of India's nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. PM Modi praises Mission Divyastra, congratulates DRDO for indigenously developed Agni-5 India on March 7

issued a NOTAM — Notice To Air Mission that is mandatory before a missile or rocket test — over the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) spanning 3,550 km to alert its neighbours about the probability of a missile test. The 'spy' ship is likely to have watched the entire missile test and calculated data of its range and capability. Though China says these vessels are for research purposes only, India as well as some western countries

feel that the fleet of the Chinese 'scientific research' ships is collecting sensitive data about its rivals' naval assets in the Indian Ocean Region for military purposes, especially for submarine operations. This is not the first time that a Chinese vessel has been seen entering the IOR just ahead of a missile test. In Nov 2022 too, a Chinese research vessel 'Yuan Wang 06' entered the IOR days before a planned missile test. India later cancelled the NOTAM.

Assam on guard as Aasu revives anti-CAA stir



GUWAHATI: Commandos patrolled the streets of Guwahati and police went on high alert elsewhere in BJP-governed Assam on Monday as protests led by All Assam Students' Union (Aasu) greeted the Centre's notification on CAA, rekindling the spark of unrest triggered by Lok Sabha passing the bill over four years ago. Five people died in 2019-20 agitation.

Aasu, which spearheaded the six-year movement against illegal migration from Bangladesh that led to the 1985 Assam Accord, said it would burn copies of CAA along with 30 other organisations, take out stir and launch a "satyagraha". The law isn't applicable to tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura, as mandated by the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, and in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Nagaland under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873.

Cong's old warhorses unwilling to fight electoral battle in North

NEW DELHI: Congress push for senior leaders to take up difficult Lok Sabha challenge in North continues, with reluctance of some veterans attracting discussions in meeting of AICC panel to finalise candidates on Monday. Meanwhile, former CM Ashok Gehlot's son Vaibhav is set to contest from Jalore, away from the family's home turf of Jodhpur, while Nakul Nath, son of Kamal Nath and sole winner in MP in 2019.

India topped world's arms imports in 2019-23: SIPRI

NEW DELHI: India remains in strategically-vulnerable position of being world's largest arms importer, accounting for 9.8% of total global imports in 2019-2023, despite govt's continuing thrust on building a strong defence-industrial base that has led to some decline in direct foreign acquisitions. India's arms imports increased by 4.7% between 2014-18 and 2019-23 as per



latest data on international arms transfers released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) on Monday. The flurry of emergency procurements from Russia, France, US and Israel due to four-year-long military confrontation with China is partly responsible for this. Russia remains India's main weapons supplier, accounting for 36% of its arms imports. Russia's exports to

India decreased by 34% between 2014-18 and 2019-23. France accounts for 33% of India's imports, with US placed third with 13%. Both will gain further with mega Indian contracts to be inked later this year. They include direct acquisition of 31 armed MQ-9B Sky Guardian drones from US for \$3.9 billion and 26 Rafale-M fighters from France for an estimated \$6 billion.

SC: Judicial oversight to avoid agencies-states clash?

NEW DELHI: With the Centre and many opposition-governed states at loggerheads over probes done by CBI, ED and other central agencies, Supreme Court on Monday asked whether there could be judicial oversight to ensure that culprits do not go scot-free because of adversarial equations between the Centre and state govts. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and K V Viswanathan, which was hearing a petition filed by ED seeking transfer of the bribery case against one of its officials allegedly caught red-handed by TN police to CBI, said some mechanism has to be put in place to



ensure free & fair probe. Additional solicitor general S V Raju, appearing for ED, told the bench that the state, under the guise of a probe into the bribery case, took away crucial documents pertaining to other cases involving state ministers. But Tamil Nadu govt accused the central agency of protecting the corrupt

official. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal and Amit Anand Tiwari, appearing for the state, told the bench that nothing would happen against the corrupt official if the case was handed over to CBI, and questioned how ED could approach the apex court to protect him. They said the probe against central govt officials in such cases

TMC's Mahua expulsion beyond scope of judicial review: LS secretariat

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha secretariat on Monday asserted that Parliament had exclusive jurisdiction over its internal functioning and was not answerable to judiciary as it justified the expulsion of TMC's Mahua Moitra for sharing her exclusive LS member portal access login and one-time-password (OTP) 47 times with Dubai-based businessman Darshan Hiranandani, which



was unethical and could potentially risk national security. In a firm response, LS secretariat invoked Article 122 of the Constitution and said, "As such, proceedings of Parliament (and its constituents) cannot be called into question

alleging any irregularity of procedure and the House of the People is the sole judge of the lawfulness of proceedings before it... right to be elected to Parliament and right to continue as such is not traceable to any of the fundamental rights.

Assam on guard as Aasu revives anti-CAA stir

GUWAHATI: Commandos patrolled the streets of Guwahati and police went on high alert elsewhere in BJP-governed Assam on Monday as protests led by All Assam Students' Union (Aasu) greeted the Centre's notification on CAA, rekindling the spark of unrest triggered by Lok Sabha, passing the bill over four years ago. Five people died in 2019-20 agitation. Aasu, which spearheaded the six-year movement against illegal migration from Bangladesh that led to the 1985 Assam Accord, said it would burn copies of CAA along with 30 other organisations, take out stir and launch a "satyagraha". The law isn't to tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura, as mandated by the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

SC: Won't stay 'well-reasoned' HC verdict on Saibaba

NEW DELHI: Supreme Court on Monday said the order passed by Bombay High Court, acquitting former Delhi University Professor G N Saibaba and others for alleged Maoist links, was prima facie very well reasoned and rejected the plea to stay their acquittal. At the outset of the hearing, a bench of Justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta said there was no urgency in hearing the appeal filed by Maharashtra government and it could be heard in due course. The bench observed that it would have dismissed the appeal in normal cases as the HC judgement was well reasoned and no interference was needed but it had to hear the appeal as another bench. of the court had interfered and passed order in the case. The bench was referring to an order passed by

the apex court on October 15 last year when it had stayed the acquittal order of the HC in an unprecedented hearing which was done on Saturday and blocked the way for Saibaba and others to come out of jail. SC had later quashed the acquittal order and directed the HC to hear the case afresh. Another bench of the HC heard the case afresh and passed the order in their favour and acquitted them. "There are two orders of acquittal by two different benches. Prima facie, we find that the judgment is very well-reasoned. Since on an earlier occasion, this court had interfered, we will have to honour that. In ordinary course, we would not have entertained this appeal. The parameters of interference with acquittal orders are very limited," the bench observed.

Maharashtra: BJP may contest 34-37 seats, Sena, NCP remainder

"We've stated that Shiv Sena had 18 MPs before the split and the Shinde-led Sena has 13, thus the Sena should get at least 13"



Congress joins son of Uttarakhand's transport minister and MLA

Delhi: Yashpal Arya, the transport minister in the Pushkar Singh Dhami cabinet, resigned from his position and joined the Congress, dealing a blow to the BJP in Uttarakhand before the polls. Sanjeev Arya, his son and the

current BJP MLA, followed suit, indicating a significant political shift by a state political seasoned veteran. Harish Rawat, a powerful member of the Uttarakhand Congress, stated that more will join.

Fadnavis, state unit Bawankule, former minister Chandrakant chief Chandrashekhar state president and Patil, and Mumbai unit

president Ashish Shelar—came to Delhi to discuss candidates with the central leadership. Shambhuraje Desai stated the undivided Shiv Sena fought 22 Lok Sabha constituencies in 2019. "We are firm that we must get that many seats," he stated. Sena official: "We've stated that Shiv Sena had 18 MPs before the split and the Shinde-led Sena has 13, thus the Sena should get at least 13. After more talks with the BJP and NCP (Ajit Pawar), the decision will be made in a few days. Being partners in the Mahayuti and administration, we know the BJP will accommodate the Sena and NCP (Ajit Pawar).

BJP, TDP near seat deal

Delhi: Continuing its broad outreach, BJP came close to finalizing a Lok Sabha and assembly seat-sharing deal with TDP in Andhra Pradesh. TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu and Jana Sena party chief and Telugu cinema star Pawan Kalyan met home minister Amit Shah and BJP chief J P Nadda to discuss a possible simultaneous contest. Sources say TDP will give BJP six LS Sabha seats—Araku, Rajahmundry, Narsapuram, Eluru, Rajampet, and Tirupati—but refuse more—



Vishakhapatnam, Vijayawada, and Hindupur. At the time of reporting the article, talks at Shah's residence about who gets to contest how many of the 175 assembly seats were proceeding smoothly and a joint presser was possible. When Naidu became chief minister in 2018, TDP left the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance. Sources said that if allies from Bihar,

Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and other states are finalized, the NDA constituents will meet on Sunday to show strength and contrast with the INDIA bloc of opposition parties, which is struggling to reach consensus. Pawan Kalyan-led Jana Sena, an NDA member, first sided with TDP and then asked BJP to do so. The news comes after senior leaders of the BJP and Odisha's Biju Janata Dal held separate talks and hinted at an alliance.

Kamal Haasan joins DMK, secures Rajya Sabha seat next year

Delhi: Kamal Haasan resigned and accepted a Rajya Sabha seat for next year after DMK-MNM talks broke down. MNM sought three Lok Sabha and one Rajya Sabha seats. Kamal Haasan and MK Stalin struck a deal at DMK headquarters Anna Arivayalam at midday in front of senior leaders. Also present was sports minister Udhayanidhi Stalin. "I

won't argue. We'll back this (DMK-led) alliance. I should since it's for the country, not a position." Haasan. MNM would support the DMK-led alliance in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry for Lok Sabha elections, per the leaders' poll pact. In June 2020, N Chandrasegharan (AIADMK), Anbumani Ramadoss (PMK), M Shanmugam, Vaiko, P

Wilson, and M Mohamed Abdulla (DMK) will leave Rajya Sabha. The 2019 Lok Sabha elections saw Kamal Haasan's MNM contest 36 LS seats and one Puducherry seat. Despite drawing 0, the party placed third in 13 Parliamentary constituencies with 3.6% of the vote. The following assembly election, MNM won 2.62% in 180 seats.

Once the BJP betrays BJD, ex-mantri Jena rejoins the Congress

Delhi: Former Congress politician and Union minister Srikant Jena returned to the party, denouncing the BJP's



increasing closeness to the BJD in Odisha and asserting that the INDIA bloc will defeat the "unholy alliance" in his home state. Jena stated, "Some things were unclear before, but they are now clear. I had meetings with K C Venugopal, Ajoy Kumar, and Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge. After a lengthy conversation, everything is resolved. Despite his absence, I have been working for Congress," he declared, alluding to the circumstances that resulted in his expulsion from the party in 2019. Even though Kumar claimed that a planned alliance would just formalize their previously unofficial agreement, Jena claimed that the people of Odisha are upset with the coalition.

Rajya Sabha nominee Sudha Murty

"Rajya Sabha nominee Sudha Murty is a philanthropist and author: Prime Minister"

Delhi: Rajya Sabha nominee Sudha Murty is a philanthropist and author. Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrote on X that her participation in the Upper House is a strong tribute to "Nari Shakti" (women's power), demonstrating women's power to shape the nation's



fate. Happy to see her succeed, he stated, "I'm glad the President nominated Sudha Murty Ji to the Rajya Sabha. Sudha Ji has made significant and inspiring contributions to social work, philanthropy, and education. I welcome you to the upper house, where you will strengthen democracy." Home

Minister Amit Shah wrote on X. Sudha Murty, wife of Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy, chairs the Murty Trust and has written several books. Our inspiration comes from her social work, philanthropy, and education achievements. She represents '#NariShakti,' showing

Mamata Banerjee raises ASHA, Anganwadi wages.

Delhi: Mamata Banerjee raised ASHA and Anganwadi worker pay before the Lok Sabha elections. CM Banerjee announced a 750 monthly increase in ASHA and Anganwadi staff remunerations in a Facebook video. The ASHA and Anganwadi staff would now receive 9,000 per month, up from the previous 8,250. The monthly compensation of Anganwadi helpers will increase by 500, according to Banerjee. Previously, they received 6,000 per month, but now it will rise to 6,500. The Bengal chief minister stated the rises will start April 1. I am thrilled to inform you that our ASHA and Anganwadi staff will receive Rs. 750 per month starting in April 2024. We've also raised our Anganwadi helpers' monthly pay by Rs. 500 "West Bengal CM tweeted. The



announcement occurred during PM Narendra Modi's visit to the state to inaugurate several metro projects, including Kolkata's under-water metro. The Odisha government raised anganwadi and mini-anganwadi wages. Odisha has raised the monthly compensation of Anganwadi workers from 7,500 to 10,000, and Mini-Anganwadi workers from 5,375 to 7,250. The Kerala Government raised wages by up to 1,000 for over 60,000

Anganwadi workers and assistance in the state in January. Anganwadi Services is a centrally supported service implemented by state and UT governments. The central government declared in the Interim Budget 2024 that all ASHA and anganwadi workers and assistance will receive Ayushman Bharat healthcare. Discover endless benefits! From insightful newsletters to real-time stock tracking, breaking news, and customizable news feeds

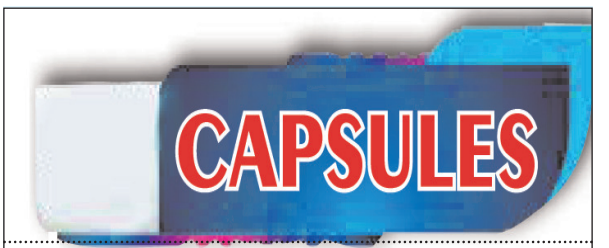
Rahul guarantees gig workers social security and youth jobs



Delhi: Rahul Gandhi pledged youth that gig workers would get a first job and social security at a rally in Rajasthan during his Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra. If elected in the Lok Sabha elections, Gandhi stated the Congress would fill 30 lakh government positions. Congress offers a one-year apprenticeship for diploma holders and college graduates under 25 years old, paying 1 lakh. Gandhi promised "the Congress will provide the right to employment." "Every young diploma and degree holder in the country will have the right to apprenticeship in the private and government sectors," stated. Gandhi stated on X that the Congress government will provide a one-year apprenticeship opportunity to graduates and diploma holders under 25 years old, with a stipend of 1 lakh per year, through the 'Right to Apprentices Act'. Gandhi also promised a bill to stop government recruitment exam leaks. The Congress would standardize and cease outsourcing government employment exams, Gandhi declared. The former Congress chief guaranteed farmers a legal minimum crop support price. He pledged social protection for gig workers and a 5,000 crore "Yuva Roshni" fund for companies. From Madhya Pradesh to Banswara, the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra entered Rajasthan.

HP renewed crisis

Delhi: In what may be a new dilemma for the Himachal government, six Congress MLAs who voted against their party nominee, Abhishek Manu Singhvi, in the Rajya Sabha elections, arrived in Uttarakhand alongside three independents. The rebel MLAs flew to Dehradun on a chartered plane and drove to their accommodation 30km from Rishikesh on Char Dham. Two Himachal BJP legislators, Vikram Thakur and Trilok Jamwal, are also reported to be "monitoring the developments and ensuring the arrangements" with the nine MLAs, according to Uttarakhand sources. Himachal assembly Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania dismissed the six MLAs for breaking the Congress whip and not voting on the state budget hours after cross-voting. Singhvi, allow-



No seat-sharing issue between INDIA bloc members in J-K

Delhi: A Congress office-bearer claimed INDIA bloc members in Jammu and Kashmir are in talks to share seats with NC and PDP for the next parliamentary elections. Every party is entitled to as many seats as possible. Monga's comments followed the National Conference (NC)'s announcement that it would contest all three Kashmir Valley seats without giving the PDP a seat. J-K has five Lok Sabha seats, including two from Jammu, and Ladakh has one. At the last election, the NC won all three valley seats and the BJP won two Jammu seats and one Ladakh seat. All six J-K and Ladakh seats are under discussion. "It's terrible that the Supreme Court ordered Jammu and Kashmir elections.



DMK and Congress agree to share 10 Tamil Nadu seats

Delhi: Before the Lok Sabha elections, the ruling DMK and Congress struck a seat-sharing pact in Tamil Nadu. The Congress will contest 9 Tamil Nadu seats and Puducherry's single seat. The seat formula repeats the DMK's 2019 formula. Nine of 10 2019 congressional seats were won by the Congress. In front of AICC leaders KC Venugopal and Ajoy Kumar, DMK president and chief minister M K Stalin and TNCC chief K Selvaperunthagai sealed the pact. According to Venugopal, the DMK-led combine will win all 40 seats in TN and Puducherry since their 'connection' is "is intact". "We are pleased to create a formal alliance with DMK in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Congress will run for 9 Tamil Nadu seats and 1 Puducherry seat. We will back DMK and allied candidates for the remaining seats. We will win all 40 Tamil Nadu seats "KC Venugopal, Congress MP. Kamal Haasan's Makkal Neethi Maaim is in the DMK-led alliance but has no Lok Sabha seats. It received one seat in the 2025 Rajya Sabha elections. To help the nation, Haasan joined the DMK-led alliance. Will not argue. He claimed he joined the DMK-led alliance for the country, not a post. MK Stalin's party gave the Communist Party of India, CPIM, and Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi two seats apiece. The Indian Union Muslim League and Kongu Desa Makkal Katchi each have one seat.



Delhi LG instructs DSIIDC to extend relocation allottees six months

Delhi: Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena ordered DSIIDC to extend relocation scheme allottees in industrial Narela, Bhorgarh, and Bawana by six months. The LG further chastised DSIIDC for failing to present the action taken report on basic services in the areas four months after his request. "LG has directed DSIIDC to grant an extension of six months to the allottees in industrial areas of Narela, Bhorgarh and Bawana in the North West Delhi under the relocation scheme for depositing the balance cost of plot and for applying for NOC for construction of factory building," a statement from the LG office.

Saxena rejected DSIIDC's four-month extension. "If allottees are not taking possession of plots or not constructing units over them despite having paid



50 acres of public land cleared during MCD drive

Delhi: As part of its monthly anti-encroachment drive, Municipal Corporation of Delhi has cleared 150 acres of public land of illegal planning. New properties have been identified for future action, a civic body official said. All 12 zonal building departments are developing specific demolition and sealing programs. "MCD enforces illegal constructions and uses its infrastructure to demolish them. To prevent unauthorized development, the locations are constantly monitored," said the officer. Over the past three months, 989 demolitions, 322 property seals, 68 prosecutions, and 68 police complaints have occurred. MCD demolished 495 buildings, sealed 137.

The amount for allotment, it is a clear indication that lack of basic services are deterring them from doing so," Saxena said in the file. For allottees, Saxena ordered DSIIDC to open a single window for handholding or clearances.

Unauthorized colonies to receive 902cr for civic infrastructure

Delhi: Delhi finance minister Atishi said the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government has improved infrastructure in the Capital's nearly 1,800 unauthorised colonies, which house an estimated 4 million people, and will continue to expand roads and drains in such areas at war speed. In keeping with the budget's Ram Rajya theme, Atishi equated the Delhi government's activities in unauthorised

colonies to Lord Ram's life when presenting the 2024-25 budget estimates in the Delhi assembly. She claimed governments used to ignore illegal colonies and leave them to fend



for themselves. These illegal communities have no drinking water, roads, sewers, or drains under prior governments, the minister claimed.

We prioritized giving all facilities to colonists in 2015. We developed 5,175 km of roads in 1,355 communities. She stated that the budget for the upcoming year includes 902 crore for the uplift-

ment of unauthorised colonies. The minister added that 99.6% of the city's unauthorised colonies have water pipelines. After 2014, the government built 2,422km of water and 3,100km of wastewater pipelines. A budget of 7,195 crore is planned for the Delhi Jal Board in 2024-25 to supply water and sewerage amenities for all households in Delhi.

New agency to improve C&D waste management for NDMC

Delhi: New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has hired an agency for five years to collect, transport, and dump construction and demolition (C&D) debris from its regions. The project has a budget of Rs 52.8 crore. In NDMC areas, 50-100 metric

tonnes of C&D trash is generated daily, and current systems are inadequate. "Being a municipal body, NDMC is responsible for the removal of C&D waste, including all materials generated as waste either during construction or repair or re-

modelling or demolition of any civil structure," stated Satish Upadhyay, NDMC vice- He continued, "we aim to engage an agency for five years, extendable by two years on the basis of performance" to organize waste collection, transportation, and dumping.

CAPSULES

SC rules MPs, MLAs have no bribing immunity

Delhi: The Supreme Court overturned the 1998 verdict, holding MPs and MLAs liable for taking bribes to vote or speak in the House. PM Modi praises clean politics. A seven-judge bench of the Supreme Court overturned its 1998 rule that allowed politicians to accept bribes for voting or giving remarks on the House floor, concluding that parliamentary privilege does not protect such conduct. The bench, led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, ruled that MPs and MLAs will be prosecuted for taking bribes to speak or vote in Parliament and state legislatures. The rule also applies to Rajya Sabha and presidential elections.



The Houses of Parliament or legislatures and committees are not islands that shelter members from ordinary laws. The court stated MPs must follow the same laws as the people they govern and represent. Corruption and bribery of legislators undermine Indian parliamentary democracy. The court overturned a five-judge bench ruling by the top court in the 1998 PV Narasimha Rao case, saying it destroys the Constitution's aspiration and deliberative principles and produces a polity that denies citizens a responsible, responsive, and representative democracy. For the bench, CJI Chandrachud wrote the 135-page judgment.

NDMC approves 12.7 crore for JJ cluster water delivery

Delhi: The New Delhi Municipal Council authorized a Rs 12.7-crore budget to improve water delivery in each Seva Basti to serve 4,500 people in 25 JJ slum clusters. Centre's AMRUT 2 program will fund the study. Individual piped water connections would be provided to JJ cluster households. With in-principle permission for a full project report under the Har Ghar Jal scheme of the ministry of jal shakti, the council gave administrative



approval and expenditure sanction on Tuesday. "NDMC member Kuljeet Chahal said. Water is currently supplied via stand posts or hydrants. One hydrant supplies 10-15 houses with water everyday, causing complications

in peak season. NDMC vice-chairman Satish Upadhyay said authorization was provided to divide the work into three divisions for proper monitoring, priority execution, and delay prevention.

"The detailed estimates will be pre-

pared accordingly, followed by a tender," stated. Division 1 would cover Raisina Road, Faridkot Lane, Peshwa Road, Shankar Market, Aditya Sadan, Janpath, Palike Dham, and Kali Bari Marg. Division 2 covers BR Camp, Arjun Das Camp, Tughlak Lane, Pandara Road, Kendriya Bhandar, Kaka Nagar, and Bharti Nagar. Division 3 covers Arjun Dass Camp, Laxmi Bai Nagar, Harijan Basti Netaji Nagar, and Shankar Camp.

Power Subsidy Program Extending Until March of Next Year

"I'd like to congratulate the people of Delhi"

Delhi: Power Minister Atishi announced that the Delhi cabinet had decided to prolong the power subsidy scheme till March 2025 during a meeting presided over by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Under the program, almost 22 lakh households receive free electricity bills. Following the meeting, Kejriwal wrote on X, saying, "I'd like to con-



gratulate the people of Delhi." Your free electricity and 24-hour power outage have been extended until March 31, 2025. Free electricity is also included for the attorneys' offices. The government of Delhi offers free power to users

who use 200 units or more every month. A 50% monthly subsidy is provided to individuals who consume 201-400 units. Speaking on behalf of the Delhi BJP, Praveen Shankar Kapoor stated that the party was not against providing free power to

households with monthly consumption of up to 200 units. "We welcome the extension of the power subsidy, but we reiterate our long-standing demand that all consumers, be it residential or commercial, should be given the first 200 units for free," he said. "On the one hand, Delhi govt claims to be giving 200 free units of power to a section of the society, but on the other, most commercial and industrial consumers are forced to buy electricity at high rates," Kapoor said.

Uddhav Thackeray following Amit Shah jibe: Yes, make Aaditya CM

Delhi: At a Dharashiv gathering, Shiv Sena (UBT) president wanted his 33-year-old son Aaditya to become Maharashtra CM. After Union home minister Amit Shah accused him of dynastic politics, he responded. I want to become an Aaditya CM. Thackeray responded you gotta elect him to that office first. On March 5, Shah accused opposition lawmakers of prioritizing family over public welfare at a rally in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar. He urged BJP and other parties to avoid using Balasaheb Thackeray photos in election campaigning.

Why are you stealing my dad's photos? He advised using parent images for campaigns if you have guts. Thackeray criticized Shah for visiting Maharashtra multiple times but avoiding volatile



Indian airports want to update their ATC towers.

Delhi: As aviation-focused UNO Technology observes strong interest from state-run and private airport operators to introduce new features to existing ATC infrastructure, Indian airports are trying to boost the efficiency of their air traffic control towers. "Three to four projects a year is our goal. Two to three significant private airport operators in India are with us. The Adani Group is already in communication with us. The company was recently named a specialist contractor for the construction of the high-vision ATC room at the Noida international airport in Jewar. They are using an inventive framing technique without mullions for the windows in the visual control room.

areas. "Why didn't he visit Manipur? He avoided visiting Arunachal Pradesh, which China

is attacking. He goes to Maharashtra only to frighten opponents," said. He claimed BJP raised

Car Impounded? You Have 3 Weeks Before Scrapping

"The application for release of vehicle along with necessary documents should be submitted within 3 weeks of impounding of vehicle, upon which enforcement agency shall give decision within one week of such submission"

Delhi: You can apply to get your vehicle back that was seized for running after its end of life within three weeks and wait a week for the enforcement agency to decide. The Delhi transport department recently issued guidelines, saying, "The application for release of vehicle along with necessary



documents should be submitted within 3 weeks of impounding of vehicle, upon which enforcement agency shall give decision within one week of such submission." This process is being streamlined online for vehicle owners, enforcement agencies, and registered vehicle scrapping facilities. The Delhi government recently established a cost of INR 10,000 for four-wheelers and INR 5,000 for two-wheelers to release

impounded vehicles. It has divided the discharge of confiscated automobiles into two categories: those leaving Delhi-NCR and those parked in private premises. Last March 29, the transport department began impounding and scrapping old vehicles. Thousands of two- and four-wheelers were arrested. In the capital, petrol and diesel vehicles over 15 and 10 years old are considered obsolete. This process is being

streamlined online for vehicle owners, enforcement agencies, and registered vehicle scrapping facilities. The Delhi government recently established a cost of INR 10,000 for four-wheelers and INR 5,000 for two-wheelers to release impounded vehicles. It has divided the discharge of confiscated automobiles into two categories: those leaving Delhi-NCR and those parked in private premises. Delhi has 79.4 lakh registered motor vehicles on March 31, up 0.3% from the previous year. 62,59,214 automobiles were deregistered till March 2023 due to their petrol and diesel expiration dates. Delhi's Statistical Handbook 2023 shows nearly 1.4 lakh over-aged automobiles demolished in 2022.

Property tax can be paid daily until March 31.

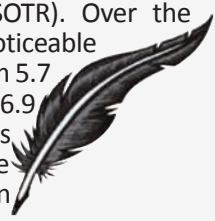
Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is working hard to surpass last year's property tax collection of Rs 2,417 crore with less than a month left in the fiscal year. Until March 31, property tax offices will be open Saturdays and Sundays, barring gazetted holidays. From roughly 11.5 lakh taxpayers, MCD has collected Rs 1,811 crore in property tax. Property tax was paid by 13.2 lakh people last year. "We are holding seminars and camps to help property taxpayers file taxes, geotag properties, and register them to produce UPIC. An MCD official advised them to claim a 2% discount on online payments up to Rs 10,000. "We have also uploaded videos on MCD's YouTube channel to help the taxpayers." tnn Over two lakh taxpayers geo-tagged their residences using the MCD mobile app. Glitches are gone, however some residents still have troubles.

Editorial

The role of state fiscal capacities in national growth

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

Moreover, fiscal capacity is essential for macro-economic stability. It allows governments to manage economic cycles more effectively, applying fiscal stimulus in downturns and restraint in booms to maintain economic stability. The Covid-19 pandemic's impact on Indian states underscored this point, as reduced fiscal capacities constrained their ability to respond effectively to the crisis and its economic repercussions. Finally, a robust fiscal capacity enables equitable social development. It allows for redistributive policies that can mitigate income inequality and fund social safety nets for the vulnerable. Studies have shown that factors such as high per capita income, education levels, and low corruption contribute to higher fiscal capacity, which in turn can be used to foster a more inclusive society. Given that state governments account for over 60 per cent of general government expenditure in India, enhancing their revenue-generating capacity is imperative for the needed investment in areas such as education, research and development, and skill development. The Reserve Bank of India recently released a report on state finances, which gives an insight into the state budgets of 2023-24. It has some important findings. First, revenue mobilisation in Indian states comprises both tax and non-tax revenues, with a significant portion coming from state's own tax revenues (SOTR). Over the years, there has been a noticeable increase in SOTR, growing from 5.7 per cent of GDP in 2003-04 to 6.9 per cent in 2022-23. This growth, particularly in the post-GST era, reflects a shift in the composition of tax revenues.



India' should not become a chasm

The India alliance, which was considered a means to defeat the NDA in the electoral fray, itself started falling apart today. India has joined the coalition in a race to defeat its own people and does not want to give space to each other to move forward under any circumstances, nor does any party have any interest in taking them along. There was a rift in Madhya Pradesh over seat distribution. In Uttar Pradesh, when Akhilesh refused to give seats to Congress, his stalwarts started going to the Congress side. After the well-known face Imran Masood, veteran Samajwadi Party leader, former MP several times, party's founder member and national general secretary Ravi Verma has now prepared to join Congress, leaving Akhilesh's side and on 6th November. Officially joined Congress. Ravi Verma, who was upset with the Samajwadi Party for a long time, suddenly joining the Congress fold is definitely going to shock Akhilesh. This is what the leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party want, but they also want that with the breakup of the India Alliance, the big leaders of the parties included in it should still join the Bharatiya Janata Party, for which they are playing many strategic games internally. However, after the assembly elections of five states, it will be worth watching each and every activity of the meeting of



all the parties included in the Indian alliance to see how much tension will increase in this meeting. Will all the 26 parties included in the India Alliance attend this meeting? This is also a big question. Because after Madhya Pradesh, now the politics of defection in Uttar Pradesh has heated up the atmosphere and Ravi Prakash Verma's resignation from Samajwadi Party is giving rise to rumors that Congress wants to break the back of Samajwadi Party and many more big leaders will be removed. She will contest the 2024 Lok Sabha elections with her. Some political experts have termed it as a political gamble

and said that Congress is not only getting the lead in all the five states having assembly elections, but is also possibly forming the government in at least three states and that is why

it is now facing the threat of alliance with India. The need for support is not as much as these small parties have understood. By bringing Ravi Verma with it, Congress has given a signal to break into the vote bank of the backward classes of Samajwadi Party. Obviously, Congress is strengthening its ground in Uttar Pradesh, because it knows that if it does not return to power in the country even in 2024, then it may face more difficulties in the future. Like Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, the Bharatiya Janata Party should do the work of breaking its governments more quickly after coming to the Center in the year 2024. However, it is also important to mention here that Ravi Verma's father is late. Bal Govind Verma was a Congress leader and he became MP thrice on Congress ticket and was also a Union

Minister. Whereas Ravi Verma was with Mulayam Singh since the establishment of Samajwadi Party. It is said that Mulayam Singh Yadav never allowed Ravi Verma's image to be diminished in front of Beni Prasad Verma. In fact, now it seems that due to SP asking its candidates to be ready for 65 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh and Congress' Ravi Verma breaking away, both the parties will not be able to stay together in the India alliance for very long. Due to this growing gap between Congress and Samajwadi Party, other parties may also try to withdraw from the India alliance. And its effect is also visible in Bihar. The displeasure of Janata Dal United (JDU) chief and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who has worked at the forefront in forming the India Alliance, is pointing in this direction. In fact, in the 'Remove BJP, Save the Country' rally of the Communist Party of India in Bihar, Nitish broke his patience with the India alliance and targeted the Congress. He said that we had united and taken forward the campaign of opposition unity by pushing Congress forward, but he is not worried about it. Now after the elections, Congress itself will call everyone.

Here, JDU MP and National Treasurer of the party Dr. Alok Kumar Suman has now openly started demanding to make Chief Minister

Nitish Kumar if the India Alliance wins in 2024. The matter did not stop here, on November 3, RJD President Lalu Prasad Yadav came to meet JDU chief and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and talks between the two leaders continued for about 40 minutes. After this, Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge also tried to give a message of reconciliation by calling Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. On this matter, political experts are saying that Nitish Kumar is angry with the attitude of Congress towards Samajwadi Party and now it is believed that after Akhilesh, Nitish can also try to withdraw his hand from the India alliance. Akhilesh Yadav is now campaigning against the Bharatiya Janata Party as well as the Congress in Madhya Pradesh. He said that if you look deeply, there is no difference between Congress and BJP, there is no difference in their principles. The Mandal Commission was implemented only after a great struggle and fight by the socialists. I remember the Congress leader who became the Chief Minister at that time said that if the Samajwadi Party supports it, it will get support from other parties too. Taking aim at Kamal Nath, who leads the Congress in Madhya Pradesh, he said that those who have lotus in their name.

Rises and falls in Lok Sabha polls of the last 20 years

The results of the 2004 Lok Sabha election, the first to be conducted entirely through EVMs, were contrary to the expectations of most political commentators, editorial writers, psephologists, proponents of the 'India Shining' campaign, and Intelligence Bureau reports. All of which probably prompted Atal Bihari Vajpayee to call for early polls. The election, held in four phases between 20 April and 10 May to elect the 543 members of the 14th Lok Sabha, yielded an outcome that not only shocked the BJP, but also surprised the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA). Although the Congress only got seven more seats than the BJP, the UPA tally reached 225 seats. In addition, the bloc received exter-

nal support from Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), Samajwadi Party (SP), Kerala Congress (KC), and the Left Front. Political scientist Philip Oldenburg argued that the Congress did not win due to a large vote-swing, anti-incumbency vote, or revolt of the rural poor who were left out of 'India Shining'; it won because it made good alliances in several states. Similarly, scholar Mahesh Rangarajan credited the victory to seat-sharing arrangements with alliance partners, while psephologist Yogendra Yadav suggested it was a victory by default.

There is also an anecdotal recall that many pensioners and senior citizens were miffed with the sharp decline in the interest rates on their deposits in post offices and

banks, which may have affected the support base of the BJP and the RSS. Facing opposition within her own party, Sonia Gandhi opted to appoint Manmohan Singh as the head of the UPA government in 2004. However, she headed the National Advisory Council, an extra-constitutional body that exercised oversight over the government, inviting criticism from many quarters. In effect, it became a parallel power centre, and many joint secretaries, including myself, were invited to make presentations on the various sectoral programmes of the government. Another fallout of this election was ample displays of coalition dharma (or adharma), a term coined by Vajpayee, across both terms of the UPA.

Voters' right to information in electoral bonds case can't be subverted till polls are over

A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court unanimously struck down the government's electoral bonds scheme on 15 February. Through the opaque device of electoral bonds, political parties could garner unlimited funds without transparency or accountability. Unholy politico-corporate nexus flourished with impunity. Until 15 February, approximately Rs 17,000 crore was collected by political parties. The name of the donors remained a closely guarded secret. Finally, the Supreme Court ruled that the right to information of a voter under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution trumps the right of a donor to not disclose their identity. The Supreme Court of India subsequently issued the following directions: Para 219 (b): "SBI shall submit details of the Electoral Bonds purchased since...12th April, 2019 till date to ECI. The details shall include the date of purchase of Each Electoral Bond, the name of the purchaser of the bond and the denomination of Electoral Bond purchased." Para 219 (c): "SBI shall submit the details of political parties which have received contributions through Electoral Bonds since...12th April, 2019 till date to the ECI. SBI must disclose details of each Electoral Bond encashed by political parties which

shall include the date of encashment and the denomination of the Electoral Bond." Para 219 (d): "SBI shall submit the above information to the ECI...by 6th March, 2024." Para 219 (e): "The ECI shall publish the information shared by the SBI on its official website...by 13th March, 2024. It must be noticed that the court's directions are unambiguous and clear; the SBI was directed to disclose to the Election Commission of India date-wise and denomination-wise: the name of the purchaser (whose account is debited by SBI while issuing bond), and; name of the political party that received the funds (whose account is credited by the SBI while encashing the bond). Since the scheme is restricted exclusively within the SBI, the debit and credit entries, as mentioned in (1) and (2) above, can be generated at the click of a button. The court has been considerate in allowing 20 days to the SBI to transmit the information to the Election Commission of India by 6 March. The deadline has expired. Is the SBI risking facing contempt of the Supreme Court? How did SBI proceed to comply with the Supreme Court's directions? Since 15 February, it waited 18 days and moved an application before the court on 4 March, seeking another 118 days' time, that is, until 30 June. The SBI

raised issues such as: "sealed cover", "re-match", "match", "matching the information", "stored digitally", "stored physically", "decoded", "compiled", "compared", etc. The issues raised by the SBI do not appear to be germane to the Supreme Court's direction. It is difficult to find a nexus between the SBI's application and the court's direction. The court's directions brook no ambiguity: furnish information from record. The SBI cannot possibly argue that records are scattered in different offices or that they are still confidential, even after the scheme has been struck down by the highest constitutional court of the country.

The SBI cannot possibly argue that some records are stored digitally and some physically. Is this the argument of India's largest, most trusted and respected institution for the nation's socio-economic development? The SBI must correct its course and forthwith comply with the Supreme Court's directions. What should the SBI do? Simply generate separate statements of accounts from 12 April 2019 to 15 February 2024, one for purchasers (donors) of bonds and another for recipients (political parties) of bonds. Each of these two separate statements must disclose name (donors or political,

Unemployment is now an election issue. Can Congress' Pehli Naukri Pakki apprenticeship swing it?

Finally, we have politics on unemployment. And it is such good news. It signals a shift from street protests to state policies, from outcry on joblessness to outlines of job creation, from utter hopelessness to a faint glimmer of hope. This happened with the announcement of "Yuva Nyay Guarantee", a bouquet of five policy proposals that the Congress promises to implement when it comes to power. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi's job guarantee promise, made at a rally in

Banswara, Rajasthan, on the route of the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, queers the pitch for the ruling BJP, which must now scramble to make a competitive offer. No matter who wins, this is good politics. Coming after the MSP guarantee for farmers, this second guarantee is an unusual combination of politically savvy and policy-wise thinking by the Congress. Any solution must begin by acknowledging the problem. The one issue that has come up everywhere in the second leg of Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi is that of jobless-

ness. This announcement, thus, is a formal political acknowledgment of the salience of the problem that has topped the charts in every opinion poll on the major problem facing the country. Acceptance must be followed by careful listening. This is evident in the announcement, as it reflects the issues raised by the protesting youth. Some of their major concerns and demands have found a place in this package. But the Yuva Nyay Guarantee isn't merely a convenient reiteration of the demands of a movement. The

Congress party think tank has moved away from some of the hackneyed ideas or magic remedies to offer a solution that attempts to be both responsible and creative. No doubt the component that would attract the highest attention would be "Bharti Bharosa", a promise of 30 lakh government sector jobs. That's a big one, if we know where the jobs would be generated and where the resources would come from. India's problem is not that we have a bloated bureaucracy or that there are no vacancies.

According to FICCI and EY, media and entertainment would reach 3 lakh crore in 2026



Delhi: According to a joint analysis from FICCI and EY, digital media could replace television as the largest media & entertainment business in 2024 with an estimated size of Rs 75,100 crore. It said that the Indian Media & Entertainment (M&E) sector increased 8.1% in 2023 to Rs 2.32 lakh crore and is predicted to reach Rs 2.55 lakh crore and Rs 3 lakh crore by 2026. "We expect the M&E sector to grow 10.2 percent to reach Rs 2.55 trillion by 2024, then grow at a CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of 10 percent to reach Rs 3.08 trillion by 2026," the study added.

Television was the largest segment in 2023 with Rs 69,600 crore, but it fell 1.83 percent from Rs 70,900 crore in 2022. Digital media exceeded Rs 65,400 crore in 2023 and is predicted to reach Rs 75,100 crore in 2024, surpassing television media's Rs 71,800 crore. The research expects digital media will be worth Rs 95,500 crore in 2026, growing 13.5% between 2023 and 2026. TV media would cost Rs 76,600 crore, 20% less than digital media. Digital media may surpass television as the leading M&E sector in 2024. Digital media will boost M&E growth to 10% annually, reach-

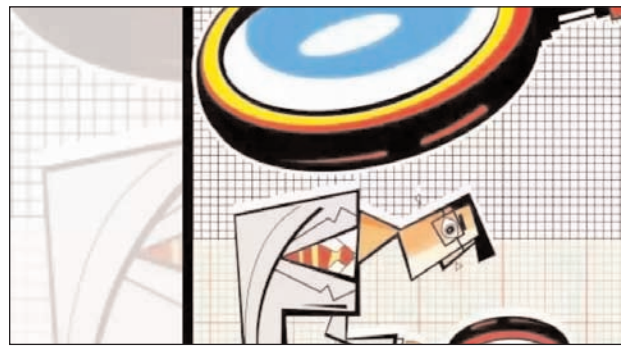
ing Rs 3 trillion (USD 37.1 billion) by 2026 "FICCI Media and Entertainment Committee Chairman Kevin Vaz stated. A strong digital infrastructure, wide-spread use of OTT platforms, gaming boom, and affordable options for consumers are driving this rise.

The survey anticipates digital advertising to expand 13.5% annually to Rs 84,200 crore due to better governance. The survey found that connected TVs (smart TVs) grew 50% as internet penetration increased. With 904 million broadband subscribers, the market is booming. Increased.

NFRA to consider ranking auditors

NFRA, which has examined and endorsed 45 ICAI proposals for new or amended standards, is working with the agency

Delhi: National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) chief Ajay Bhushan Prasad Pandey said the agency will consider evaluating auditors qualitatively and corporations governance-wise. He also said the agency that evaluates



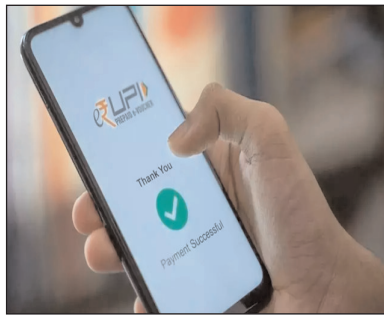
auditors for listed and large companies will work with the Institute of Chartered

Accountants of India and corporate affairs ministry on auditors' fraud responsibilities, which is a concern since the guidance has not been helpful. Pandey told a conference that NFRA, which has examined and endorsed 45 ICAI pro-

posals for new or amended standards, is working with the agency to unify standards globally. Auditors are vital to public interest entities' financial information supply chains. Independent auditors' reports are trusted by investors, from large institutional investors to retail investors and individuals.

Now in Nepal, Scan & Pay With UPI

Delhi: The introduction of UPI for cross-border transactions has been announced by Phonepe Payment Service of Nepal and NIPL, the international division of NPCI. With UPI-enabled apps, Indian customers may now make quick UPI payments at a variety of business outlets in Nepal. Indian consumers



can easily accept UPI payments from merchants connected to the

Fonepay network. The Global Fintech Fest in September 2023 in India marked the launch of the Indo-Nepal UPI payments program. The collaboration is live and enables person-to-merchant UPI transactions between India and Nepal using QR codes.

Mutual fund SIP reached Rs 19,000 crore for the first time in February

"The greatest number of SIP accounts was 820.17 lakh in February, up from 791.71 lakh in January"



Delhi: February SIP contributions set a record. February's contribution was Rs 19,186.58 crore, up from Rs 18,838.33 crore in January. The SIP AUM rose 2.49% to Rs 10.52 lakh crore in February from Rs 10.26 lakh crore in December. The greatest number of SIP accounts was 820.17 lakh in February, up from 791.71 lakh in January.

New SIPs registered in January reached a milestone. New SIPs fell in February. February saw 49.79 lakh SIPs versus 51.84 lakh in January. Mutual fund AAUM was Rs 54.52 lakh crore in February, up from Rs 52.89 lakh crore in

January. Mutual Fund folios reached a record 17,41,95,535 in February, up from 16,95,59,182 in January. In February, retail MF Folios with equity, hybrid, and solution-oriented schemes achieved an all-time high of

13,94,91,744. February retail AUM, including equity, hybrid, and solution-oriented schemes, was Rs 30.70 lakh crore with an average of 30.72 lakh crore. According to February 2024 data, SIP accounts increased to 8.20 crores with 49.79 lakhs new registrations. This shows investors' dedication to wealth accumulation. These developments suggest that investors are becoming financially educated and that collaboration is creating a smart investing landscape. Retail investor engagement nationwide shows that the mutual fund business is growing and important "said.

SBI intends to disclose information about donors of electoral bonds by June 30

Delhi: The State Bank of India (SBI) petitioned the Supreme Court on Monday, requesting until June 30 to provide the Election Commission of India (ECI) with information on electoral bonds (EBs) acquired since April 12, 2019, on the grounds that "decoding" the data and matching donors to donations would be a "complex process." If the proposal is approved, it will mean that the donors and receivers of EBs won't be disclosed until after the next Lok Sabha elections, which are anticipated to take place in April and May of this year. The bank stated that because the information about bond buyers and receivers is stored in two separate



information silos, it must decode details of 22,217 EBs. This will require decoding, combining, and comparing 44,434 (double the number of EBs issued) information sets. A five-judge bench overturned the Center's 2018 EB political funding scheme on February 15, ruling it to be "unconstitutional" because it completely anonymized contributions made to political parties. The bench further stated that restricting black money or illegal election financing, which were some of the scheme's stated goals, did not excuse disproportionately violating voters' right to information.

'Will buy arhar, urad, masur, and maize at MSP from diversifying paddy farmers for 5 years'

Delhi: To encourage water-efficient crops and protect growers, the government will guarantee minimum support price (MSP) procurement of arhar, urad, masur, and maize from farmers nationwide who diversify from paddy for five years. This is in addition to cotton, which will not require diversification. Arjun Munda, Piyush Goyal, and Nityanand Rai, Union ministers, offered guaranteed purchase for five commodities during negotiations with agricultural representatives for guaranteed procurement and a new MSP formula, but they were rejected. An official said two government cooperatives, NAFED and NCCF, will sign contracts with such farmers to buy all their produce at MSP for



five years, but wheat and rice procurement will not alter. A tripartite deal has been inked for distilleries to buy maize for ethanol production, a change from rice and sugarcane, which are water guzzlers. The assured procurement mechanism will allow farmers to register on an Aadhaar portal. Farmers should be paid well and consumers shouldn't be burdened. We import to ensure supplies while procuring their produce "explained a senior official.

Elon Musk's X to Launch Amazon and Samsung Smart TV YouTube Clone

Delhi: A social media employee told Fortune that Elon Musk's X will launch a TV app for Amazon and Samsung smart TVs next week. The insider said Musk wants to compete with YouTube by encouraging people to watch extended films on a bigger screen. One person said the new app appears "identical" to YouTube's TV app. To compete with YouTube and attract video makers.

RBI's new rule allows card network selection

Delhi: RBI has mandated card issuers to provide Visa, Mastercard, and RuPay to increase competition. It also wants banks to terminate exclusive card network partnerships. UPI integration benefits NPCI's RuPay cards. Most banks provide Visa or Mastercard flagship cards. RBI authorized cardholders to save card details in UPI apps and pay with QR codes in 2022. The circular applies to credit card networks, however only RuPay can interact with UPI. Effective in six months, the directive. Bankers said letting customers choose card networks will require big IT modifications. Online applications, bank approvals, and card printing are typical for most banks. "This supports RBI's goal of credit card portability and network flexibility. We support this as a major bank. Today, we work with all major international and RuPay networks. Ambuj Chandna, president (consumer assets), Kotak Mahindra Bank, said RuPay offers six credit cards with diverse offerings. Customers will no longer be limited to an issuer-selected card network under the new circular. At renewal, banks must offer this option to cardholders.

Investors increase Swiggy's worth to \$12 billion, or 13%

Delhi: According to US regulatory filings, American investor Baron Capital increased Swiggy's valuation to approximately \$12.1 billion as of December 31st, which is a positive development for the food delivery business. This is 13% more than the startup's \$10.7 billion highest valuation, which it last obtained in January 2022 when it secured \$700 million from investors led by Invesco. Swiggy is gearing up for its public market debut, so this valuation bump is noteworthy. It comes just two months after Invesco, Swiggy's other investor, announced in documents that it had increased the startup's valuation to \$8.3 billion. That being said, Baron Capital has increased Swiggy's valuation before. The startup's valuation was increased by the firm to \$8.5 billion last year. Swiggy chose not to respond. Baron Capital was also a part of Swiggy's last fundraising round. Zomato's competitor Swiggy has been attempting to lower its cash burn and turn a profit.

Authority finds 1,000cr GST scam

Delhi: Three people were detained by Meerut CGST Commissionerate for a scheme that falsely claimed over Rs 1,000 crore in Input Tax Credit (ITC) through 232 bogus entities. A statement said the Meerut Commissionerate's Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) anti-evasion unit began investigating a syndicate that unlawfully claimed ITC through phony billing in October 2023. The probe so far has found 232 phony organizations, with 91 established on a single mobile number, registered across the country and passing inadmissible ITC of roughly Rs 1,048 crore, it added. It stated that these enterprises supply goods worth Rs 5,842 crore. It said 'Full Fledged Money Changer Companies' (FFMCs) were used to park/route cash produced by fraudulently passed on ITC during the probe. The Nashville Fire Department responded.



Fly91 obtains a license and arranges to travel to Lakshadweep

Delhi: This week, a brand-new regional airline is scheduled to launch, connecting Lakshadweep to further destinations among its flights. The aviation veteran Manoj Chacko's "Fly91" was granted an air operator permission (AOP) or licence by the DGCA. The airline will get four additional ATR-72s by September, bringing its total number of aircraft to two. It then intends to add six turbo-props a year for the next five years. "We have five stations to start with: Goa,

JNU votes to raise student union election age limit

Delhi: The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) general body extended the age restriction for student union election candidates by two years, according to an official document. The varsity paper states that this will allow students who did not fulfill the age requirement to run in the COVID-19-stalled JNU Students' Union (JNUSU) polls. It noted that the University General Body Meeting (UGBM) overwhelmingly extended the age limit by two years. The document outlining the passed resolutions read, "The JNUSU elections have not been held after the academic session of 2019-20 for four consecutive years, depriving students who have



exceeded the age bar set by the Lyngdoh C o m m i t t e e Recommendations of their right to participate in the democratic process of the students' union According to the Lyngdoh Committee, JNUSU UG candidates must be 17-22 years old, PG candidates 25 years, and PhD candidates 30 years. This decision is made "to ensure that students deprived of their right to contest

the JNUSU elections could get an opportunity to contest the JNUSU elections 2023-24," the paper states. The assembly also approved two JNUSU office bearers to preside over school general body meetings with-out elected councillors from the school-level committee. JNUSU poll results will be declared by the election commission elected by the school GMB.

Indian student admissions to Canada declined 15%

Delhi: Indian study visa applications to Canadian higher education institutions declined by nearly 15% in 2023 compared to 2022 due to diplomatic tensions and housing affordability. Statistics from Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada show that 2023 study permit applications declined to 307,603 from 363,484, a record. Compared to 2021's 203,6075. The last quarter of 2023 had a 42% drop from 119,923 in 2022 to 69,203.

India's job market was affected by global headwinds and pandemic hiring

"It's a tough situation this year," remarked the anonymous kid. "The job market is small. Only a few consulting and IT firms recruit"



Delhi: The job market is worse this year due to global macroeconomic challenges, and freshers like him are suffering. "It's a tough situation this year," remarked the anonymous kid. "The job market is small. Only a few consulting and IT firms recruit. The campus placement drive is also delayed. Freshers aren't want-

ed by companies." Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani (BITS Pilani) made headlines after its management went out to its huge alumni network for campus recruitment. A global economic downturn like this has not occurred in decades.

Technology is heavily impacted, with 4 lakh workers put off glob-

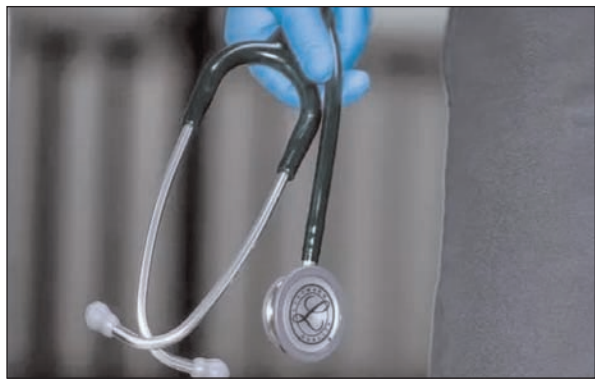
ally since January 2022. The letter stated that global uncertainty causes a funding winter, which causes cost-cutting in small and large firms and affects recruiting at all levels, including campus.

The WhatsApp appeal came after 72 students were rejected for employment this placement season.

These occur as Japan and the UK enter recession. These long-term global challenges have also harmed India. Tech companies in India fired nearly 36,000 workers in two years. These global macroeconomic variables have reduced hiring and salary even at India's best universities like BITS Pilani, the IITs, and the IIMs, analysts say. There are fewer employers recruiting this year and offering lesser compensation. The industry is in recession since they overhired during the epidemic and think they shouldn't hire more, said a BITS Pilani Hyderabad placement cell member.

NEET-UG record registration with 25 lakh applications

'Many students are registering and requesting an extension of the deadline, since some applicants were unable to submit their applications'



PAN card is an additional alternative, but not all students have access to it. More than 13 lakh female candidates have applied for around 2 lakh seats, comprising 1.09 lakh MBBS, 26,000 dental, Unani, Homeopathy, Veterinary, Ayurvedic, and nursing seats. The average yearly compensation for an MBBS doctor in India is currently between Rs 9 and 10 lakh, making it one of the highest paying specialties in the country. "Post Graduate trained doctors should antici-

pate higher pay. Higher degrees in extremely specialized fields are associated with increased income and social status. In India, the doctoring-to-patient ratio is 1:834. India still requires five lakh more physicians to fulfill World Health Organization requirements. Another growing aspect of India is medical tourism, which emphasizes the need for qualified medical professionals as patients from other nations travel to India for treatment.

Delhi: For the first time, more than 25 lakh NEET-UG registrations have been made—4.2 lakh more than the previous year. Many students are registering and requesting an extension of the deadline, since some applicants were unable to submit their applications since they did not have an Aadhaar card or a cell phone link. Because their previous number is connected to their Aadhar card, some people are unable to receive an OTP. The

Early schooling in 52 languages promotes mother tongue education

"This significant drive for mother-tongue education will give children from around the country access to their original language"



Delhi: In a significant move to encourage Indian language learning, the Centre established early childhood schooling in 52 non-scheduled Indian languages, including 17 tribal languages. This significant drive for mother-tongue education will give children from around the country access to their original language. The government will also fund 613 DIETS (District Institutes of Education and Training) of Excellence with Rs 9,000 crore over five years.

Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan unveiled sev-

eral measures to achieve Viksit Bharat by 2047 under National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The minister also introduced education in non-scheduled Indian languages, upgraded all 613 DIETs to "DIETs of Excellence", National Professional Standard for Teachers, National Mission for Mentoring, and integrated National Vidya Samiksha Kendra state and 200 TV DTH channels that have imple-

mented the NEP. For the aim to teach in Indian languages, NCERT has started generating study materials in native languages. Pradhan stated education in Indian languages will start a "culture renaissance," adding: "Today's game-changing measures, especially the 52 primers in Indian languages, have ignited a new civilizational renaissance. These activities will establish a fluid and futuristic

learning landscape, enhance Indian language learning, realize NE's goal, and improve school education. "mAccording to ministry of education officials, states/UTs will receive Rs 9,000 crore in phased financial assistance for DIETs of Excellence over the next five years, including up to Rs 15 crore per DIET under the centrally sponsored Samagra Shiksha for improving infrastruc-

Increase fire NOC speed for MCD schools

Delhi: The Delhi High Court ordered the DF department to accelerate the NOC application procedure that MCD had requested for its 92 schools. Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Manmeet PS Arora's bench ordered the MCD to move quickly on the civil and electrical work that is still outstanding in its schools and to either demolish or rebuild the two structures that are considered hazardous. The board of Smart City wants MC to move forward with ongoing projects. Four projects at the Ludhiana Smart City Mission are behind schedule.

Indian old-school excellence defeats England's Baseball 4-1

Delhi: "When we beat New Zealand 3-0, people said we couldn't do it against South Africa, Pakistan, or Australia. Time will tell if we can accomplish it against India." After last year's Ashes series, Ben Stokes was asked about Baseball, a word coined by the British media to characterize a team supposedly revitalized under captain and coach Brendon McCullum, playing in a Test series in India. To be honest, England's players haven't truly embraced that moniker, but time has shown that it doesn't work in India. Certainly not against India's world-class bowlers.



They may be optimistic about the "positives," but if they want to improve after being outplayed in Dharamsala to lose a 4-1 series, they need to get back to the drawing board and have some honest conversations about where they stand in these condi-

tions—they have won two and lost 11 of their last 14 Tests in India. This is India's time to shine. The Dharamsala win was overwhelming dominance, while subsequent encounters required their players to perform under pressure. That Virat Kohli and Mohammed Shami

were absent and KL Rahul played only the first Test was a big hindrance, forcing some fresh players to prove themselves at Test level.

This series saw five debutants for India, and all but Rajat Patidar, who should use this experience to

improve as a batter, performed well. Seniors Rohit Sharma, R Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, and Jasprit Bumrah contributed at crucial times. India will learn most from Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, and Kuldeep Yadav. Jaiswal, 22, is only nine Tests old, but his promise and appetite for runs may make him a significant element of that batting team, which is transitioning after Cheteshwar Pujara and Ajinkya Rahane's departures, for years to come. After 712 runs in five Tests at 89 and two double centuries, he was crowned player-of-the-series.

UGC asks institutions to add 5G, 6G courses

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) organized a committee to study telecom-related topics in the communications engineering curriculum to address 6G trends and difficulties and maximize 5G features. The committee identified PhD research subjects based on 6G requirements in Optical Communications, Satellite Communications, Broadcasting, RF Engineering, Telecom Standardization, IPR, and more. Higher education institutions must review the panel recommendations and improve the M.Tech and Ph.D programs. According to the University Grants Commission, future researchers and engineers must be prepared to handle emerging wireless cellular technologies and their threats. 6G communications goals require consensus on new concepts and enabling technology.

Thus, communications engineering undergraduate and graduate courses must be updated for the



pre-6G period. Active 6G research and development can make India a leader in advanced telecommunications.

We gain global competitiveness, attract investments, nurture indigenous innovation, and boost technology-led economic growth. The Commission said the central government wants 10% of global patents filed and awarded. The committee also identified additional topics for UG and MTech courses based on what IITs and top universities teach, including 5G NR and core, satellite, optical wireless communication, Millimetre wave and THz band communication, reconfigurable intelligent surfaces, and more.

Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa Winner Manisha Rani Was Rejected From Best Dance Reality Show

Delhi: Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa 11 winner Manisha Rani made history. Social media influencer turned actress turned reality TV star was the second wild card contestant to win the dance reality competition. Along with a 30 lakh cash prize, she garnered praise and supporters. But what if we tell you that winning a dance reality show was probably written in Manisha's fate? If you believe in "Itni Shiddhat Se Maine Tumhe Paane Ki Koshish Ki Hai Ki Har Zarre Ne Mujhe Tumse Milaane Ki Saazish Ki Hai," you'll believe it too. Prior to appearing on Salman Khan's Bigg Boss OTT 2, Manisha auditioned for Dance India Dance, the best dance reality show of its time. Manisha Rani auditioned for Zee TV's fifth season. Manisha's Dance India Dance audition was judged by Punit Pathak, Mudassar Aziz, and Gaiti Siddiqui. Her Jhalak fee was 5 lakh



After ignoring the jab at Nita in Jamnagar, Priyanka compliments her

Delhi: "I have had the honor and privilege of knowing the phenomenal Mrs. Nita Ambani for a few years now," Priyanka stated in reference to Nita Ambani. I appreciate and admire her for everything that she does. I've seen firsthand her enthusiasm, dedication, and meticulous attention to detail in all she does, as well as what goes on behind the scenes. I believe Nita Ma'am embodies everything Mrs. Morley attempted to instill in our impressionable brains at the time.

every week. The show earned the actress around 40 lakh in eight weeks. Greater than the show's prize. Manisha won 30 lakh in JDJ's eleventh sea-

son. She made 70 lakh from the dance reality program. She appeared with choreographer Ashutosh Pawar.

Sanjay Leela Bhansali debuts 'Heeramandi' on Miss World stage

Delhi: The makers of the new web series 'Heera Mandi: The Diamond Bazaar' starring Sonakshi Sinha, Richa Chadha, Aditi Rao Hydari, Manisha Koirala, Sharmin Segal, and Sanjeeda Shaikh will premiere 'Sakal Ban' at Miss World. The song will also be Bhansali Music's debut. 'Sakal ban' will feature all the 'Heeramandi' leading ladies in a traditional song. "Miss World will debut 'Bhansali Music's first single, 'Sakal Ban' from Bhansali's 'Heeramandi' globally. A song will debut on 'Miss World' for the first time." Sanjay Leela Bhansali, known for films like



'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam', 'Black', 'Ram-Leela', 'Bajirao Mastani', 'Padmaavat', 'Devdas', 'Saawariya', and 'Gangubai Kathiawadi', created his own music label. 'Heeramandi' takes place in Heeramandi, Lahore (now Pakistan), and undivided, pre-independence India, when anti-colonial freedom movements were growing. Netflix to stream 'Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar' Sanjay Leela Bhansali debuts OTT.

Kartik Aaryan begins filming Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3

Delhi: Bollywood enthusiasts are looking forward to the much awaited release of Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3, the much awaited third edition in the cherished horror series. For this exciting project, renowned actor Kartik Aaryan and director Anees Bazmee are



collaborating with actresses Vidya Balan and Madhuri Dixit. There

had been a lot of conjecture over the start of the shoot. Fans can now celebrate because Kartik Aaryan personally verified. The actor posted a picture of himself at a private temple in prayer, asking for blessings for the film's fortunate start.

Telugu film 'HanuMan' has 50-day theatrical run amid OTT release concerns



"Telugu cinema industry celebrates a major milestone as 'HanuMan' hits 50 days in theaters"

Delhi: In an unexpected turn of events, the Telugu cinema industry celebrates a major milestone as 'HanuMan' hits 50 days in theaters. According

to media sources, Prasanth Varma's superhero film, starring Teja Sajja, has enthralled viewers across the region and set new standards. The film's March 8 digital release on ZEE5 was eagerly anticipated by fans. Despite wide-

spread conjecture, the platform has not confirmed the rollout. A curious social media user's engagement with ZEE5 illuminated the problem. ZEE5 said they had not received any updates on the OTT release of 'HanuMan,' advising fans to wait for

official news. This surprising revelation suggests that the blockbuster's internet premiere may be delayed, leaving fans impatient to see 'HanuMan' on screen. The performances of Amritha Aiyer, Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, and Vinay Rai have touched viewers. HanuMan, produced by Niranjan Reddy under Primeshow Entertainment, has exceeded expectations, making over ₹300 crore globally, cementing its status as a box office hit.

Operation Valentine review: Varun Tej, Manushi Chhillar film gets no love

Delhi: Varun Tej has been searching for a hit for a while. Several factors contributed to the success of the F2 flicks. His last decent commercial earner is Gaddalakonda. Varun Tej's Operation Valentine is based on the Pulwama incident and the Indian Air Force's retaliation, a subject also covered in Hrithik Roshan's Fighter. The film opens with Kashmiri terrorists planning a huge operation. Manushi Chhillar plays Indian Air Force wing commander Aahana Gill, who has a troubled



past with our hero, fighter plane pilot Arjun Dev (Varun Tej). Arjun killed their pilot friend the last time they worked together owing to his hostility. The terrorist operation is developed and executed at an Indian Army camp

while the story alternates between their romance and challenges. Arjun, in the air, witnesses the carnage and attacks the Pakistani Air Force against orders to stop. Another hostile strategy emerges amid retalia-

tion. The rest of the story is about Arjun's role in stopping this attack. A realistic story with patriotic emotions is lost in translation. The relationship between Kabir (Navdeep) and Arjun is unclear, as is the separation between Arjun and Aahana. The film depicts a terrorist strike and Indian counter-attack. We watch the air activity and war room operations, but we don't see the people behind the boundaries they guard. How can we appreciate work or sacrifice without seeing the stakes?

How awesome is it that SRK and Suhana recently collaborated?

The father-daughter team will be featured on screen in Sujoy Ghosh's Bollywood flick King, but this sneak peek of them is making the wait even more agonizing.



Delhi: It's quite the sight to see Shah Rukh Khan and Suhana Khan together on TV. The father-daughter team will be featured on screen in Sujoy Ghosh's Bollywood flick King, but this sneak peek of them is making the wait even more agonizing.

Together, SRK and Suhana announced that Aryan Khan's clothing line Dyavol would be partnering with Disney. Its Bollywood masala, action, and fashion manage to keep you captivated for the entire minute and twenty-seven sec-

onds. In the marketing video, King Khan dazzles as usual, and Suhana looks like a diva as both of them look chic in Dyavol attire. The newest Dyavol collection, called X-2, will go on sale on March 17.

Shaitaan proves Ajay Devgn's stardom is built on unconventional decisions, yet one thing is lacking

"The actor often spoofed it, cementing it in pop culture. It's an entertaining action flick, but his filmography shines intellectually. Ajay Devgn has balanced stardom, acting, courage, and comfort since 1991"

Delhi: Most of Ajay Devgn's 30-year career can be traced back to Phool Aur Kaante. A college-bound man kisses, basks in attention, and splits between two motorcycles. The actor often spoofed it, cementing it in pop culture. It's an entertaining action flick, but his filmography shines intellectually. Ajay Devgn has balanced stardom, acting, courage, and

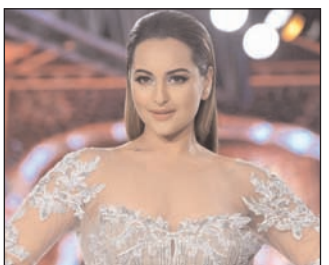


comfort since 1991. Bollywood has been his college, and he enjoys the attention. Is he always successful? The question requires defining success in the perspective of Ajay Devgn.

The actor has gained credibility over time. His penetrating gaze, brooding appearance, and discomfort with media glare and guarded seclusion make him mysterious. Many find him charming because he is quiet, educated because he knows when to speak, and wise because he knows when to

stop. Anyone who has followed the Hindi industry even briefly knows it is not curated. He finishes his task and moves on. He dances and shouts solely in movies and shows off his technical skills in movies, not seminars. Ajay Devgn films have always been unique. He is known as an actor who can play any character, not a box office star. A big-film director who doesn't follow a formula. That creates a situation that suits actors but may harm stars.

I was thrown into the deep end without film training



Delhi: Sonakshi Sinha, who appeared in Dabangg, Rowdy Rathore, and Kalank, recently discussed her career. Despite being the daughter of Shatrughan Sinha, Sonakshi said she was never trained as an actor. She said she had never been on a film set or visited her father's sets as a child in a recent interview at FICCI Frames 24. I've improved professionally. I've learned by doing. I started from scratch. I had never worked on film. When I was little, I avoided my dad's sets. I had no acting, dancing, or other training. I was unprepared and thrown into the deep end of the pool and told to swim, which is how I learnt."

Credit for Lucknow's development goes to Yogi Adityanath: Rajnath



Lucknow Crediting Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for Lucknow's development, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasised that without his cooperation, such progress would not have been achievable. During the inauguration and foundation stone laying ceremony of 206 development projects worth Rs 3666 crore at Indira Gandhi Pratishtan, the Defence Minister emphasized the collaborative effort behind the achievements, stating, "This is no miracle of ours. Being an MP, I have played the role of an ally, while whatever the public representatives here said, kept happening." Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath was also present during this event. The Defence Minister mentioned, "CM Yogi Adityanath was also asking on the stage if there is any other work left to be done." Extending congratulations to CM Yogi, the Defence Minister expressed that Lucknow is rapidly progressing towards prosperity. Enumerating projects whose foundation stone was laid, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh highlighted the underpass at the Awadh Chauraha, the four-lane rail over bridge at railway crossing number 188 special at Anupganj on Gosaiganj-Bani-Mohan road, link road between Kisan Path and

Bhatgaon Defence node, the two-lane ROB cum flyover from Pucca Bridge to Daliganj and Gomti river bridge, widening of Nishatganj Bandha for road connectivity from Hanuman Setu to Samtamulak intersection, the 100-bed Critical Care Block at Sarojininar, the 500-bed Advanced Pediatric Center (Phase-I) at SGPGI, and the bridge at Nishatganj under Green Corridor. He further emphasized that today marks a momentous occasion in the history of Lucknow city. The inauguration of an eight-lane outer ring road, valued at Rs 5500 crore and spanning 104 km around the city, signifies a significant development.

All 7 BJP MLC candidates file nominations in the presence of CM Yogi



Lucknow All seven candidates of Bharatiya Janata Party filed nominations for the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council seats on Monday. Additionally, the three candidates from allied parties also filed their nomination papers. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was present during the filing of nominations by the candidates. Prominent among those who filed nominations for the Legislative Council were

BJP candidates Vijay Bahadur Pathak, Dr. Mahendra Kumar Singh, Ashok Kataria, Mohit Beniwal, Dharmendra Singh, Ramtirath Singhal, and Santosh Singh. Ashish Patel from Apna Dal (S) also filed his nomination. It is noteworthy that Ashish Patel is a minister in the Yogi government. Furthermore, Vichhelal Rajbhar filed his nomination from SBSP (Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party), and Yogesh Chaudhary from

RLD. Bharatiya Janata Party State President Chaudhary Bhupendra Singh, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, Brajesh Pathak, Yogi government ministers Suresh Khanna, Rakesh Sachan, Ashish Patel, Omprakash Rajbhar, Anil Kumar, JPS Rathore, Arun Kumar Saxena, Baldev Singh Aulakh, etc. were present during the filing of nominations by the NDA candidates.

CM Yogi hails Centre's decision to implement CAA

Lucknow Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has hailed the Central government's decision to implement Citizenship (Amendment) Act in the country, calling it a historic decision that brings joy to humanity. In his message on his official X handle, the Chief Minister wrote: "The decision to implement the Citizenship (Amendment) Act for the welfare of the suffering humanity is historic. This has paved the way for a respectable life for the minority communities suffering from religious brutality in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and to Home Minister Amit Shahji for taking this decision, which brings joy to humanity. Hearty congratulations to all the brothers and sisters who are going to get Indian citizenship under this Act!"

Girders launched between Kalyan & Kasara till early Sunday morning

MUMBAI: The Central Railway launched a girder on the bridge between Khadavli and Vasind stations shortly till early Sunday morning and also girders for FOB between Asangaon and Atgaon. Due to the girder work and related rail blocks, passengers were inconvenienced with late night suburban train cancellations for Kasara. Six Mail and Express trains were rescheduled while ten other long distance trains were regulated due to the girder work. Girders were also launched for FOB between Shahad and Ambivali station.

Adopting technology is essential for making both ourselves and our city 'smart'

Gorakhpur Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath emphasized on Sunday the crucial need to embrace technology for the advancement of both individuals and cities, making them 'smart' in today's era. The CM was addressing the gathering after laying the foundation stone and inaugurating 253 development projects worth Rs 482 crore of Gorakhpur Municipal Corporation as a pre-Holi gift. He also inaugurated the Integrated Control and Command Centre, released the Gorakhpur News Letter, and flagged



off 34 sanitation vehicles. During this, the CM said, "By integrating technology, Gorakhpur has established an Integrated Control and Command Centre within the Municipal Corporation, monitoring cleanliness, street lighting, water supply, traffic, and security measures. This initiative propels Gorakhpur

towards the status of a 'smart city.'" He further said: "We should try to make our country and our cities appear 'smart.' Rather than seeking inspiration from elsewhere, our cities should set the benchmark for the world to follow. There is a need to make cities 'smart' for ease of living." He praised

Gorakhpur for its exemplary efforts in becoming a 'safe city,' achieved through the installation of numerous cameras across the city with the cooperation of all sections of society. With this extensive surveillance network, any untoward incident can be promptly detected and addressed. The CM noted the transformation of public behavior, citing how the presence of CCTV cameras has deterred people from littering on the streets. CM Yogi highlighted the government's commitment to constructing

Brokers handed over demand letter to BJP leader regarding market problems

Kaithal: State Co-ordinator of BJP Business Cell, Haryana, Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal visited the grain market today and met the market agents and traders. On reaching the market, the commission agents welcomed BJP leader Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal with a garland of flowers and the commission agents also handed over a demand letter regarding the problems related to the market. Along with this, Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal, in the presence of commission agents, informed the senior



officials of the concerned department over the phone about the problems. Along with this, Saurabh Chaudhary Goyal assured the market agents that all their problems will be resolved soon by

informing Chief Minister Manohar Lal. During this time, he also made the brokers aware about the broker and businessman friendly policies of Modi and Manohar government. While talking here, BJP leader Saurabh

Chaudhary Goyal said that during the Mandi tour, the brokers told about the problems of getting the pending amount of commission for the Mandi season, removing the problems related to procurement during the crop season, getting the licenses of Mandi shops renewed, etc. To resolve this, a meeting of Mandi commission agents will soon be organized with the senior officials of the concerned department, in which along with the above mentioned problems of the Mandi, other problems.

KRYSTAL INTEGRATED SERVICES LIMITED INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER

GURUGRAM : Krystal Integrated Services Limited ("KISL" or "The Company") shall open its Bid / Offer in relation to its Initial Public Offer of Equity Shares on Thursday, March 14, 2024. The Offer Size comprises of fresh issue of Equity Shares aggregating up to 1,750 million (175 crore) (The "Fresh

Issue") and Offer for Sale up to 1,750,000 Equity Shares (The "Offer for Sale"). (Together, The "Offer") The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at 680 to 715 Per Equity Share. Bids can be made for a minimum of 20 Equity Shares and in multiples of 20 Equity Shares thereafter. (The "Price Band") The Anchor Investor Offer shall be on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. The Bid/Offer will open on Thursday, March 14, 2024 for subscription and close on Monday, March 18, 2024. (The "Bid / Offer Period") The company proposes to utilize the Net Proceeds from the Fresh Issue towards funding - (i) Repayment/prepayment, in full or part, of certain borrowings availed of by the Company amounting to 100 million (10 crore); (ii) Funding

working capital requirements of the Company amounting to 1000 million (100 crore); (iii) Funding capital expenditure for purchase of new machinery amounting to 100 million (10 crore) and (iv) balance amount towards General corporate purposes. The Offer for Sale comprises of up to 1,750,000 Equity Shares by Krystal Family Holdings Private Limited. The proceeds of the Offer for Sale shall be received by the Promoter Selling Shareholder. (The "Promoter Selling Shareholders") The Equity Shares offered through this Red Herring Prospectus of the Company dated March 4, 2024 filed with Registrar of Companies, Maharashtra at Mumbai ("RoC").

Modi-Manohar and Yogi are saints of this era : Harvinder Kalyan

Karnal: Gharanda MLA Harvinder Kalyan said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath are actual saints, it is under their supervision that the country and the state are moving on the path of progress. The MLA was addressing the gathering on Monday during his stay at Suhana and Veer Rice Mill Colony Gharanda. The MLA said that now people are not going to be misled by the opposition which is giving false slogans of giving Rs 7000 pension, free electricity and loan waiver. Now every person has become aware. Earlier the opposition formed their governments on these false slogans and worked to loot the country and the state. The opposition should first answer that dur-



ing its 10 years of rule, the Congress had caused a loss of Rs 30 thousand crores to the electricity department of Haryana and at that time the people used to cry for electricity, then why the opposition could not improve the system. And why is he making big false promises now? But under the Modi-Manohar government, 24-hour electricity service is being provided to every village. During the tenure of the BJP government, poor and capable children have got jobs without going to any leader, without any slip and without any expense. MLA Kalyan said that the construction of Ram temple has proved that for the first time such a government has come in the country which has uplifted the country from the mentality of slavery and while working in the interest

of the country, work is being done for the welfare of every class. He said that in the 9.25 years of BJP government in Gharanda area, under the leadership of Chief Minister Manohar Lal. All those facilities have been provided which the people of the area were deprived of for 30 years. On this occasion, Advocate Dheeraaj, Divisional General Secretary.

Traffic rules taught to school bus drivers

Karnal: District Police Karnal is running a traffic rules awareness campaign as per the orders of Inspector General of Police Traffic and Highways and under the direction of Superintendent of Police Karnal Shashank Kumar Sawan. Under this campaign, the team has been visiting different places to create awareness among the drivers. Under the direction of DSP Traffic Shri Omprakash ji and under the leadership of Manager Police Station Traffic Shri Suresh Kumar and headed by SI Satpal Singh, the team today participated in this campaign by visiting RS Public School, Adarsh Public School and Montfort World School and other schools of the city. Necessary equipment was checked in the buses and challan was also issued by the team to those school buses in which these necessary equipment were not found as per the traffic rules.