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

Nation cannot wait for another rape for things to change on ground, says SC

The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed strong criticism of the West Bengal government over the delayed filing of an FIR in the horrific rape and murder case of a medical student at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. Taking suo motu cognizance of the case, the Court emphasized that this incident highlights a broader systemic issue concerning the safety of doctors across India. A bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, along with Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, stated that if women cannot work safely, it amounts to denying them equality. The Court questioned the West Bengal government on the delay in filing the FIR and criticized the hospital authorities for their handling of the situation. The bench noted that the crime was likely detected in the early hours, but the college



Calcutta HC allows BJP's demonstration for 5 days

Calcutta high court granted permission to the West Bengal BJP to hold a demonstration near Shyambazar metro station in Kolkata for five days starting from August 21. The protest is aimed at raising concerns about the alleged rape and murder of a woman doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. The state's counsel argued for limiting the demonstration to a single day, asserting that a five-day sit-in would inconvenience the public. On the other hand, the BJP's lawyer requested permission for a six-day demonstration starting from Wednesday. After considering the arguments from both sides, Justice Rajarshi Bharadwaj allowed the BJP to hold the sit-in at the proposed location, which is situated approximately half a kilometre from the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, for five days. The Court also questioned the principal initially tried to dismiss it as a

Kolkata Police on how a mob of thousands managed to enter the RG Kar Medical College. Furthermore, the Court scrutinized the decision to appoint the RG Kar Hospital's principal to another college while he was under investigation for his conduct during the incident. The bench also cautioned the West Bengal government against using its power to suppress protests, stating that this is a time for national reflection. The Supreme Court highlighted the need for a national protocol to ensure safe working conditions, particularly for young doctors who often work grueling hours, sometimes up to 36 hours at a stretch. Nationwide protests erupted, with doctors and civil societies demanding justice and increased safety for medical professionals.

Udaipur school boy stabbed by classmate succumbs to injuries

UDAIPUR/JAIPUR: The 15-year-old school boy who was stabbed by his classmate in Udaipur last week succumbed to his injuries Monday afternoon. Soon after, the suspension of internet services in Udaipur was extended till Tuesday evening. The boy's funeral will take place Tuesday morning. Udaipur school boy stabbed Minister of state for home Jawahar Singh Bedham told TOI that the boy could not be saved despite the efforts of a special team of doctors constituted to treat him. The boy's body was moved to the MB Hospital mortuary under high security and police teams were deployed to maintain law and order. The city was on edge since the stabbing incident as the two boys belonged to different religions. The victim, a Class 10 student at the Govt Higher Secondary School Bhattiyani Chauhatta in Girwa area, was stabbed by his classmate with a knife over an old enmi-



Liquor flows into 'dry' Gujarat through Maharashtra's hilly terrain

State Excise Personnel of Nashik checking a suspicious vehicle on Mumbai Agra Highway NASHIK: For bootleggers who would not mind making an arduous journey for a quick buck in 'dry' Gujarat, the hilly and dense forest terrain in northern Maharashtra offers the perfect cover from the watch-

ful eyes of law-enforcement agencies. The transport of illegal liquor happens over a 400km to 500km route that traverses the coastal line from the Union Territory of Daman to Palghar in Maharashtra, then veers through the hills of Palghar to reach Nashik city or its outskirts. and cousins had tied 'rakhi' on him around 2.15pm on Monday — after receiving the collector's approval — and offered prayers. The student's health, however, deteriorated rapidly around 3pm.

Joe Biden passes the baton to Kamala Harris: Key takeaways from DNC's day 1

Democratic National Convention (DNC) commenced on Monday (Tuesday early morning in India), with all eyes on US President Joe Biden, who endorsed and hailed his colleague Kamala Harris set to challenge Republican Donald Trump in the race for the White House. Biden took centre stage on opening night of the DNC, drawing an extended standing ovation from the party faithful, who have swiftly moved on without him. The US president spoke on a range of issues including Trump, the Gaza conflict, and his decision to pave way for Kamala. The US President's address in Chicago kicked off a four-day event infused with enthusiasm for Harris and relief that Biden abandoned.

Govt asks UPSC to cancel lateral entry advertisements

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Tuesday wrote a letter to Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and asked it to withdraw advertisement for lateral entry recruitments. "While most of the major lateral entries before 2014 were made in an ad-hoc manner, including cases of alleged favoritism, efforts of our government have been to make the process institutionally driven, transparent and open," Union minister Jitendra Singh said in his letter to UPSC chairperson Preeti Sudan. 1x1 polls In his letter minister of state for personnel Jitendra Singh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi believes that lateral entry should be in line with "principles of equity and social justice," particularly regarding "provisions of reservation." "For Prime Minister, reservation in public employment is a cornerstone of our social justice framework, aimed at addressing historical injustices and promoting inclusivity," he added. The minister also pointed out that previous governments had appointed individuals to critical positions, such as secretary in various ministries and leadership roles in UIDAI, without following any reservation process, both before and after the commissions. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

Vinesh Phogat may contest Haryana Assembly polls against cousin Babita

NEW DELHI: Ace wrestler Vinesh Phogat is probably going to run in the next Haryana Assembly polls, people close to her informed IANS on Tuesday. But Vinesh had already said that she would not enter active politics. However, some political parties are making a lot of effort to "convince" her, according to lat-



est reports. 1x1 polls Both the nation's capital and Vinesh's hometown of Balali, Sonapat, gave her a warm welcome on Saturday. At the Indira Gandhi International Airport, she received a garlands

from Congress Member of Parliament Deepender Hooda along with other family members. It is unknown, though, which party Vinesh will actually join. "Yes, why not? It's likely that in Haryana assembly you see Vinesh Phogat vs Babita Phogat and Bajrang Puniavs Yogeshwar Dutt. Some political parties.

Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita meets Sharad Pawar; AAP terms it 'courtesy meet'

NEW DELHI: As Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita's meeting Sunday with NCP-SCP chief Sharad Pawar in Pune triggered speculation in a busy election season, AAP sources said it was a "courtesy meet". Sunita was accompanied by AAP MP Sanjay Singh. They met Pawar at his office Sunday evening. Sunita refused to speak to the media before returning to Delhi the same day. AAP has not released an official statement on the visit. The meeting



gains significance as Maharashtra is gearing up for assembly polls likely in Nov. Moreover, AAP and NCP-SCP are part of the INDIA bloc and Sharad Pawar in July joined opposition members in a protest rally organised by AAP to demand the release

of Kejriwal from jail in view of his ill health. After Kejriwal went to jail, the party made Sunita its star campaigner in Lok Sabha polls and has now put her in the role in the Haryana polls scheduled for October 1. As far as preparations.

Maharashtra horror: Massive protest near Mumbai over kids' molestation at Badlapur

NEW DELHI: After two nursery students, four-year-old girls, were sexually abused by the sweeper of a reputed school in Thane district, protests erupted at Badlapur railway station on Tuesday where local trains were stopped and agitators blocked the tracks. CPRO Central Railway said, "Local trains stopped at Badlapur railway station where protesters agitated against the alleged sexual assault incident with two minor girls at a school in Badlapur." Residents in Badlapur protested against the sexual abuse of two minor girls which occurred last week. Local train movement has been affected as protests are underway at Badlapur



Station. Police have arrested a person in the case. The parents came to know about the incident on August 18 and filed an FIR. Two four-year-old nursery students were allegedly sexually abused by a newly hired sweeper at an English medium school in Thane district. The 24-year-old accused was arrested on Saturday, but the parents of the victims expressed their dissatisfaction with the police's handling of the case. They

claimed that the FIR was registered more than 12 hours after the complaint was lodged, and only after the intervention of the District Women and Child Welfare Department. The school administration on Monday suspended the principal, class teacher, and female attendant, holding them responsible for the incident. The school administration has also come allowing a male sweeper, who was hired on August 1, to

'It's a matter of...': Albie Morkel on brother Morne's primary challenge

Morne Morkel, at 39, took on the critical role of India's bowling coach. Facing the challenge of gaining the trust of seasoned players like Jasprit Bumrah, Morkel aims to leverage his experience from previous roles with Pakistan and New Zealand to bolster India's bowling unit. and address both technical and mental aspects. 'It's a matter of...': Albie Morkel on brother Morne's primary challenge as India bowling coach File Pic: Morne Morkel (Getty Images) NEW DELHI: Former South African fast bowler, Morne Morkel, at the age of 39, has taken on the significant role of India's bowling coach, succeeding renowned predecessors Bharat Arun and Paras Mhambrey.

'Valuations more expensive than Tesla': Ola Electric stock surges 107% in just 7 days!

Ola Electric stock price: The shares of Ola Electric surprised investors on Tuesday by surging an additional 8% to reach a new high of Rs 157.53 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). Reports indicate that during Tuesday's trading session, a significant transaction involving 2.3 crore shares, equivalent to 0.5% of the company's equity and valued at Rs 352.9 crore, took place at an average price of Rs 151 per share. The electric vehicle (EV) stock has seen a remarkable 107% increase from its initial public offering (IPO) price. Of Rs 76 in just seven trading sessions. According to an ET report, it is now trading at a valuation higher than that of Elon Musk's Tesla, which is

listed on Wall Street! Several long-term investors have pointed out that Ola, with a market capitalization of approximately Rs 66,000 crore as of this morning, is now more expensive than Tesla. While Tesla is currently trading at 6.8 times its current enterprise value to sales ratio (EV/sales), Ola is trading at 7.8 times. In the June quarter, Ola Electric reported a 32% year-on-year increase in revenue, although the loss for the quarter widened to Rs 347 crore from Rs 267 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The company recently entered the electric motorcycle segment with the launch of Roadster X, and Roadster Pro.

Naseema Begum honoured with Nari Samman

Prayagraj: Disabled Naseema Begum of Prayagraj was honored with Nari Samman on Rajiv Gandhi Jayanti.



Naseema Begum, a resident of Bahadurganj, Prayagraj, was awarded the Utkrishi Award by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for her excellent work in the social sector.

13 players from Kaushambi in UP team for World Modern Shotokan All India Karate Competition

Prayagraj: World Modern Shotokan All India Karate Competition will be held for two days at Chowk Stadium, Lucknow from 24 to 25 August. In this competition, Junior Janvi from Kaushambi is in the girls category. Sharma - Aarohi Mishra - 48 in 40 kg weight category, Shruti



Gautam Balak Jr. Harshit Sonkar Jr. - 52 kg weight category, Devansh Soni - Anuj Kumar in 40 kg weight category, Raunak Sonkar - 35 kg weight category, Naitik Sonkar - 30. Manav Sonkar in kg weight category - Shashwat Sharma in sub junior in 45 kg weight category - Aditya Kesharwani in senior in 40 kg weight category - All the players will have talent in 53 kg weight category. These players will leave for Chowk Stadium in the morning on 23rd August. To encourage encouragement, International Human Rights Association National Head Vijay Singh, Secretary of Tennis Academy, Rishi Sharma wore a garland and encouraged all the players to win the competition. This information was given by Atul Sonkar, Secretary of Karate Association.

Mahakumbh: Seminar held in auditorium of Fair Authority

Prayagraj: In view of the safe and smooth organization of Mahakumbh Mela-2024-25, a seminar was held today on 20-08-2024 in the auditorium of the Prayagraj Fair Authority. During the seminar, the police force (manpower) deployed on duty in the fair area and their soft skill training, security/traffic/police management/crowd



control plan were reviewed. All the officers present during the seminar were informed about all the above mentioned points. But necessary guidelines were given. Additional Director General of Police Zone Prayagraj, Commissioner of Police Prayagraj, Divisional Commissioner Prayagraj, Inspector General of Police Zone Prayagraj, Deputy Inspector General of Police Prayagraj, Deputy Inspector General of Police PAC Prayagraj, Fair Officer, Senior Superintendent of Police Fair, Commander PAC Prayagraj, Deputy Commissioner of Police City/Yamunanagar were present at the seminar. /Ganganagar and other administrative/police officers were present.

Tata Tea Agni's new campaign celebrates the Selfless Josh

Varanasi: Tata Tea Agni, a flagship brand from Tata Tea's diverse portfolio, has launched a new campaign celebrating homemakers' tireless spirit and unwavering energy, embodying the brand's proposition 'Josh Jagaye Har Roz.' The new brand communication is a powerful tribute to the determination of every homemaker, who works round the clock to nurture and support her family to maketheir dreams come alive. Speaking about the launch of the TVC, Puneet Das, President, Packaged Beverages, Tata Consumer Products, states, "Tata Tea Agni is one of the largest brands under the Tata Tea portfolio, with a national presence. This new campaign is our effort to celebrate the homemakers in India who are also our core consumers. The energy and "Josh" of a homemaker is boundless and depicts the spirit of brand Agni-the "Josh" within. This TVC is a salute to all homemakers for the special role they play in our lives."

Passion takes many forms, each ignited by one's unique spirit. It can be the bold roar of a sportswoman breaking barriers and challenging norms or the quiet, steadfast dedication of a homemaker. The new Tata Tea Agni TVC highlights the daily contributions of homemakers who are driven by boundless passion and indomitable spirit. The film portrays a homemaker who rises before dawn, fuelled by unparalleled energy, to tirelessly support her family's dreams. Her incredible dedication and fiery spirit are captured with the quote, "Itna Josh Kahan Se Laati Ho? Tabhi to tum Agni kehlati Ho." This TVC brings alive the story of every homemaker, the backbone of the family, who ignites their own energy every day. Celebrated artist and powerful orator Ashutosh Rana lends his voice to this impactful TVC.

Commissioner instructed officers to reside at their work place only

Prayagraj: Divisional Commissioner instructed the officers to reside at their work place. Sanyam Bharat Correspondent Prayagraj / Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, A divisional review meeting of the progress of CM dashboard and development works was organized on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant. In the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner, while reviewing the complaints related to the IGRS portal, has instructed all the concerned officers to compulsorily dispose of the complaints registered on the portal with quality and within the prescribed time limit. He has said that there should not be any kind of negligence or indifference in the disposal of complaints. After disposal of the complaints, he has also asked to talk to the complainant and take feedback. To resolve the land related complaints, instructions have been given to resolve the matter by making a visual map after visiting the spot, listening to both the parties. He said

that under no circumstances should complaints be resolved in the defaulter category. If defaulter is found in redressal of complaints, action will be taken against the concerned person. The Divisional Commissioner has asked the Police Department, Sub-District Magistrate, Tehsildar, Executive Officer, Nagar Panchayat and Block Development Officers to reside at their work place only. He said that if any officer is not found residing at his work place during inspection, action will be taken against him. He has given instructions to dispose of the complaints with quality by recording the complaints received during Sampurna Samadhan Diwas, Samadhan Divas and daily public hearings in the visitor register. He has directed that the problems of farmers should be resolved on top priority.

While reviewing the Health Department, the Divisional Commissioner has directed to ensure 100% institutional delivery under Janani Suraksha Yojana as well as to ensure timely payment of incentives to the



beneficiaries. He has instructed all the medical officers in-charge to hold regular meetings and resolve the problems of all the employees including ASHAs/ ANMs as well as ensure 100% payment to ASHAs. The Divisional Commissioner has directed to vaccinate 100 percent of children to prevent hepatitis B and other diseases. He has directed to run a campaign to vaccinate those children living in remote areas who have been left out of vaccination. Instructions have been given to maintain weighing machines, essential medicines and all other

arrangements at the centres. Divisional Commissioner, while reviewing the Jal Jeevan Mission and taking information about the progress of the works, has directed to complete all the works expeditiously, and he has also directed to ensure that the restoration work of the roads is compulsorily restored to the previous condition. Has been instructed. He has also asked the Chief Development Officers to get the restoration work inspected.

While reviewing the work of the Electricity Department, the Divisional Commissioner has given in-

structions to provide electricity connections immediately after the department has deposited the money for the works related to the schemes. He has said that even after the money has been deposited by the department, if negligence is found in giving electricity connection, then strict action will be taken against the concerned. Reviewing the Education Department, the Divisional Commissioner while receiving information about the number of newly registered students under the School Chalo Abhiyan said that since primary school teachers have to

teach all the subjects, such teachers should be identified who are trained in their respective subjects. Apart from this, training is required for teaching other subjects, they should be trained.

While reviewing the Fisheries Department and taking information about allotment of lease for fisheries, he has directed to get 100% lease of ponds expeditiously. The Divisional Commissioner has directed the officers of all concerned departments to ensure 100 percent recovery against the target. He has given instructions to prepare an action plan regarding increasing the revenue and recovery of RC and submit it within a week. The Divisional Commissioner has directed to resolve the issues related to consolidation by organizing camps at the local level. On this occasion, District Magistrate Fatehpur C Indumati, District Magistrate Pratapgarh Sanjeev Ranjan, District Magistrate Kaushambi Madhusudan Hulgi, Chief Development Officer and divisional officers of the concerned departments were present.

Rajesh Kumar Srivas, Asst Commandant Rapid Action Force received citation for excellent work

Prayagraj: Several commendations awarded to Rajesh Kumar Srivas, Assistant Commandant, 101 Battalion, Rapid Action Force, Shantipuram, Phaphamau, Prayagraj for his excellent performance in the discharge of his duties. It may be noted that in August-September, 2023, law and order situation had arisen due to communal violence at several places in Nuh, Mewat (Haryana). Shri Kumar made commendable efforts in handling the situation and did an excellent job. And Jasbir Singh Sandhu IGP, Central Re-



serve Police Force, North-West Sector, Chandigarh was honored with congratulations and appreciation letter. In the same sequence, Inspector General of Police South Range

Rewari, Haryana also honored him with a certificate for his good efforts in establishing law and order during 'Jalabhishek Yatra' in District Nuh, (Haryana). Before this, Mr. Kumar also honored him with a certificate from District Prayagraj. On the occasion of Magh Mela-2023 organized in 2023, he had made an excellent contribution by maintaining the law and order situation by providing easy transportation facilities to crores of devotees, saints and mahatmas who had come from India and abroad. Additional Director

General of Police, Prayagraj Zone Bhanu Bhaskar praised him and honored him with a citation for his commendable work in the discharge of duty. Last year also, Rajesh Kumar had made valuable contribution in conducting free, fair and peaceful assembly elections-2022 in Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. For this, Director General, Kuldeep Singh honored Mr. Kumar with a commendation disc and certificate. Rajesh Kumar Srivas is originally a resident of Para Ojhi Post Tikrauli in Hamirpur district.

Journalist received threat, demanded action

Prayagraj: Maulana Anas Hashmi, an associate of Mutawalli Mukarram Ullah alias Ali Mian, who was angry with the news of Dargah Mushkil Kusha's Khadim Muhammad Nafees Ansari's press conference being published impartially and running it on YouTube, asked senior Prayagraj journalist Muhammad Zia Siddiqui not to run the news on mobile. . have been threatened with defamation claims and threats. On the threat received by the journalist, many journalist organizations have demanded action against the culprits from the Senior Superintendent of Police and the local police station Khuldabad. In this context, journalist Muhammad Zia Siddiqui filed a written complaint regarding this matter and demanded action against those who threatened him, taking seriously the threats like tying him to the fourth pillar and stopping the news and demanded action from the administrative authorities. Is. While demanding action against those who threatened journalist Muhammad Zia Siddiqui and his safety, he said that the police administration should take this matter seriously and investigate the matter by taking legal action against Mutawalli and his associates.



Babu Chintamani Ghosh had strong national consciousness: Ravinandan

Prayagraj: Babu Chintamani Ghosh was synonymous with struggle and dedication. He did many things to promote Hindi. By

Singh said that editors like Babu Shyam Sunderdas, Acharya Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi, Babu Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi and Pt.



establishing the Indian Press in subjugated India, he not only showed his courageous personality but also made magazines like Saraswati and Balsakha incomparable in the Hindi world. Speakers said these things in a seminar on the birth anniversary of Babu Chintamani at the Indian Press Auditorium. Saraswati Patrika editor Ravinandan

Devidutt Shukla spoke on the birth anniversary of the founder of Indian Press. Speaker said, Babu Chintamani Ghosh served the society through Saraswati Patrika. He was rich in national consciousness. Indian Press was his far-reaching mission. Prof. Santosh Bhaduria of the Hindi Department of the University said that Balu

Chintamani and the Indian Press have played a remarkable and historical role in language development. Anupam Parihar, editor of Saraswati Patrika, said that Chintamani Ghosh was always thinking of doing something new. Organizer Vratsheel Sharma called him a Hindi lover while paying tribute to his ideal and true great Chintamani Ghosh on his birth anniversary. Before this, garlanding of Ghosh's statue and issues of Saraswati magazine and Dr. Mushtaq Ali's research booklet Indian Press Mono republished book were released. On this occasion, Indian Press administrator Supratik Ghosh, Shri katra Ramlika Committee President Sudhir Kumar Gupta, Arindam Ghosh, Raghunath Dwivedi, Vedprakash Pandey, Dharmendra Choubey, Anil Kumar Kanojia, Sunil Kumar Shukla etc. were present.

MOU inked between AU and MLN Medical College

Prayagraj: A memorandum of understanding (MOA) has been signed between Allahabad University, Prayagraj and MLN Medical College, Prayagraj on Tuesday. Under this, IVY and MLN Medical College will make joint efforts for research, education and employment. On Tuesday, Vice Chancellor Prof. Registrar Prof. in the presence of Sangeeta Srivastava, N.K. Shukla and Principal of MLN Medical College, Prof. Vatsala Mishra signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU will be valid for a period of five years from August 2024. It can be taken further with mutual consent. Vice Chancellor Prof. Sangeeta Srivastava said that under this agreement, Allahabad University and MLN Medical College will jointly start a new course. Along with this, teachers and students will also be able to go to each other's institute and study. Teachers from both the educational institutions will be able to do research together. At the same time, both the institutions will conduct education related technology sessions, international workshops and seminars etc. with mutual cooperation. Both the institutes will provide internship and employment opportunities to the students. Both the institutes together will start short term and long term certification

courses for the personnel of LMN Medical College and IVY. Along with this, workshops will be organized jointly to skill the teachers and students of both the institutions. Along with this, teachers of both the institutions will be able to work together in PAD and research projects. Public Relations Officer of Allahabad University, Prof.



Jaya Kapoor said that this achievement is due to our Vice Chancellor Prof. This has been possible due to the dedicated efforts of Sangeeta. His vision and commitment have been instrumental in making this UoA successful. Dean Research (Research and Development), Allahabad University, Prof. S.I. Rizvi said that this MoU will prove to be a milestone in creating a conducive environment for research in the university. On this occasion, Prof. of MLN Medical College. Binu was also present.

Unending ordeal of waterlogging in Lokpur Naini, Ex-MP shots off letter to PDA

Prayagraj: Ravi Pathak, a journalist and inhabitant of 63A/9A South Lokpur, is worried over Prayagraj Development Authority's Naini Kumbh activities in his neighborhood. Under the pretence of this, the entire region is flooding with water into the houses after light rain since the authority's contractor destroyed the main sewage line. When a complaint is made to the Jal Sansthan, the institution claims that it is not their responsibility, but rather the responsibility of the authority; nevertheless, when they

complain to the authority, their powerful contractors refuse to listen, therefore the situation has remained stagnant for the past 20 days. Light rain is flooding hundreds of homes.

In the same sequence, due to the rain in the morning on August 18, the Ravi Pathak's whole residence was submerged in two feet of water. Not only that, but the water accumulation is causing concern throughout the community. However, the relationship between government machinery and contractors has proven lethal to

the people. Not only that, but for the past two months, these contractors have been turning off street lights from Naini's new bridge to the whole Mirzapur Road in order to build dividers, making it dangerous to walk at night.

Meanwhile, former MP Kunwar Reoti Raman Singh after being apprised of the problem, has shot off a letter directing PDA authorities to ensure pumping out water and rectification of sewer mismanagement.

Over 900 special trains will be run for passengers during Kumbh Mela-2025

Prayagraj: Railway Board Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Jaya Verma Sinha visited Prayagraj Junction to review the preparations for Kumbh Mela-2025. Inspected Phaphamau Junction, Prayag Junction, Prayagraj Sangam stations. In the same sequence, during the inspection at Prayagraj Junction, information was also obtained about the crowd management plan from the control tower installed there. After this, a press conference was held in the counseling room of Crew and Guard Lobby of Prayagraj Junction Station. Chairperson, Railway Board also inspected Prayagraj Rambagh, Jhunsi and Ganga Bridge No. 111 in the next sequence of inspection. The inspection included Upendra Chandra Joshi, General Manager, North Central Railway; Shobhan Chaudhuri, General Manager, Northern Railway; Soumya Mathur, General Manager, North Eastern Railway; Divisional Railway Manager/Prayagraj, Himanshu Badoni; Divisional Railway Manager, Lucknow/Northern Railway, S.M. Sharma and Divisional Railway Manager, Varanasi/North Eastern Railway, Vineet Kumar Srivastava were also present. Devotees

coming during Kumbh Mela-2025 will travel from Prayagraj Junction, Prayagraj Chhivki, Naini, as many screens as possible in the control tower. And along with asking about the overall in-charge of the con-

Mela to make the journey of the devotees pleasant. Railway Board Chairperson said that the railway infra-

with this, the construction work of city side will also be completed in the next two years. With all these preparations, Railways is fully committed to make the event of Mahakumbh 2025 a success. Chairperson, Railway Board held an in-depth discussion about Kumbh Mela-2025 in the meeting held with the senior officials of the Railways at the Head Office of North Central Railway. More than 30 crore devotees are likely to come to Prayagraj during Mahakumbh. Keeping this in mind, the infrastructure of Prayagraj and surrounding railway stations is being strengthened. New underpasses and overbridges are also being constructed, so that the passengers do not face any kind of inconvenience. People from every state and every corner of the country come to the Kumbh Mela and people from hundreds of countries all over the world come here to participate in this grand event. Reach for darshan. In the meeting with the Railway Board Chairperson, Railway officials put forward plans and discussed all these possibilities. How many employees will be required for crowd management during Kumbh Mela-2025 and how the work will

be done in case of emergency was also discussed. During the inspection, Chairperson Railway Board, Jaya Verma Sinha along with General Manager of North Eastern Railway Soumya Mathur inspected the work and action plan to be done for the convenience of passengers in the upcoming Maha Kumbh-2025 fair to be held at Sangam in Prayagraj and saw the progress of the work. In this sequence, Chairman Railway Board inspected Prayagraj Rambagh and Jhunsi stations of North Eastern Railway and for the convenience of the estimated passengers coming for the upcoming Kumbh Mela, additional shelter places, traffic plan, foot over bridge, rest room, toilet center, booking counter, mine. -Inspected paan stall, water booth, electric lighting system, announcement, CCTV cameras and control room for monitoring, medical booth and security post and expressed happiness over the work done. He explained the work plan of the remaining development works through the map and directed the concerned to complete all the work with full quality within the stipulated time frame along with some necessary improvements.



Prayag Junction and Subedarganj, Prayagraj Rambagh, Jhunsi, Prayagraj Junction, Phaphamau Junction, Railway Station. During the inspection, Chairperson, Railway Board also took stock of the arrangements for security and facilities for passengers, alternative plans and ongoing construction works at all these stations and also gave necessary instructions. During this, she directed to install

control tower, he also talked about single command on bathing days. During this, the Chairperson also gave instructions for announcement with high quality equipment. During the press conference, Chairperson, Railway Board said that preparations for Kumbh Mela-2025 are being finalized. Railways is working on a plan to run more than 900 special trains during the Kumbh

structure is also being strengthened. For the safe movement of devotees during Mahakumbh, Railways has prepared a movement plan in collaboration with various departments of the state government and central government. Prayagraj Junction station is being developed. The reconstruction work of Civil Lines side is going on at a fast pace and will be completed before Mahakumbh. Along

Rajiv Gandhi was world leader: Ujjwal Raman

Prayagraj: Rich and glowing tributes were paid to former prime minister, Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi on his 80th birth anniversary observed as Sadbhavana Diwas by District and City Congress Committee. A large number of party workers garlanded the portrait of their beloved leader at Anand

concern, Singh added. He also emphasized to fight against hatred people in the society. The Sabha was presided over by City president Pradeep Anshuman while Jamuna par president Arun Tiwari conducted. DCC Gangapar President Suresh Yadav, Shekhar Bhahuguna,



Bhawan in the morning. On this occasion Lok Sabha MP, Ujjwal Raman Singh said in shridhanjali sabha that Rajivji was the world leader who takes India into the 21st century as a developed and powerful nation, he believes in value based politics. If India is enjoying the technological advancement system it all enacted by Rajivji. Vote rights to the 18 years youths, panchayati raj system and women empowerment extending to the third world was his

Mukund Tiwari, Kishore Varshney, Fuzail Hashmi, Harikesh Tripathi, Javed Urfi, Irshad Ullaq, Parvej Siddiqui, Vinay Pandey, Sudhakar Tiwari, Haseeb Ahmed, Manas Shukla, Vinay Pandey, Ram chhabele, Rajesh Rakesh, Arshad Ali, Manoj Pasi, Mohd. Shahab, Rakesh Patel, Vijay Yadav and many others were present. Later in the afternoon partymen distributed sweets and fruits among the orphan and blind children and patients in different hospitals.

Railway Board Chairperson Jaya Verma Sinha takes stock of preparations for Mahakumbh 2025

Prayagraj: Railway Board Chairperson Jaya Verma Sinha reached Prayagraj and took stock of the preparations for Mahakumbh 2025 and ordered the officials to complete all the development works of Prayagraj before Mahakumbh 2025. This should be taken so that the visiting pilgrims do not have to face any difficulties. After inspecting the re-development works of Prayagraj Junction, Sangam Junction and Phaphamau Junction, he held a meeting with the officials and gave guidelines. While addressing the journalists in a press conference, Railway Board Chairperson Jaya Verma Sinha said that preparations are being completed in



view of the 2025 Mahakumbh and these preparations will be completed before the 2025 Mahakumbh. Do not have to face any kind of trouble. Besides, complete preparations are also being made from security point of view. It also says that the number of devotees in the 2025 Mahakumbh may be quite large, keeping this in mind around 900 special training will also be conducted.

Photography exhibition on Ram Temple mesmerizes MP & MLA Harsh alike

Prayagraj: On the occasion of World Photography Day, a three-day photography exhibition based on Shri Ram Temple, Ayodhya was organized by senior photographer Jitendra Prakash at North Central Region Cultural Centre, Prayagraj under the aegis of Shri Parmeshwar Dayal Village Industries Development and Service Institute, Prayagraj. While inaugurating the programme, the chief guest Mr. Praveen Patel, MP, Phulpur said that Prayagraj has been a fertile land for various cultures and artists to flourish since ancient times and in the coming times, the field of photography will also flourish in the same manner. Prayagraj's record will be established. Special



guest of the program, Prayagraj City North MLA Shri Harshvardhan Bajpai said that the exhibition of live pictures of Shri Ram Temple, Pran Pratishtha of Ayodhya and other programs has been presented

in the form of a documentary. The chief guest of the program, Phulpur MP Mr. Praveen Patel and Prayagraj City North MLA Mr. Harshvardhan Bajpai were welcomed by Senior Photographer Jitendra Prakash

and CA Anil Gupta by giving them body clothes and mementos. On this occasion, the chief guest of the program, Phulpur MP Praveen Patel and Prayagraj City North MLA Harshvardhan Bajpai hon-

ored Mohit Pandey, Vikas Singh, Dr. Ranjan Bajpai, Vinay Kumar Sahu, Vivek Gupta, Kamal Rastogi while presiding over the program. Social worker Rajeev Kumar Mishra said that by organizing such programs in the city, the coming generations will be able to get inspiration and Prayagraj will be able to set a new record in the field of photography. While giving the vote of thanks, CA Anil Gupta expressed his gratitude towards all the guests who had come. On this occasion, Vikas Singh, Dilip Singh, Manoj Singh, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Adwadesh Kumar Mishra, Ashish Sharma, Mani Mohan Tripathi, Virendra Prakash, Rajat Sharma etc. were present.

Membership drive: Workers will go door to door to connect people with BJP

Prayagraj: BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra met Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya at his Lucknow residence and discussed the upcoming membership campaign. Devesh Singh, Ramesh Pasi, Kuldeep Mishra, Deep Dwivedi, Ravindra Jaiswal, etc. were present on this occasion. To further strengthen the organization, Bharatiya Janata Party is going to start a nationwide membership campaign to connect new people with BJP. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that Bharatiya Janata Party has organized national and state level workshops regarding the membership campaign. This has already

been done and before August 31, a workshop at area, district and divisional level will be organized in which the workers will be given information about making

will be from September 1 to 25. The second phase will run from October 1 to October 15, the third phase will run from October 16 to October 31, and from Novem-

ber, the second phase will run till September. This will be done once through missed call of mobile. Apart from this, this time QR code and Namo app have been

Namo app. Similarly, one can become a member through the official website of BJP BJP.org (BJP.org). Apart from this, this time for the people who are deprived of these new technologies, members will also be made by filling the physical form according to the old method and to make new members, the workers have been targeted to make 200 primary members at every booth and in this membership campaign, national level membership will be included. All the official workers from level to booth level will go door to door to connect people with the membership of BJP and a target has been set to make 100 new primary members to join the active membership of the workers.



new members and it was further told that Bharatiya Janata Party will run the membership campaign in three phases, the first phase

ber 1 to November 10, the register will be prepared by verifying the primary and active membership and told that to become a primary

included in the membership campaign. That means any person can become a member of BJP by scanning the QR code or by visiting

Newly married couple commits suicide, mystery shroud over extreme step

Prayagraj: A sensational case has come to light in Mungraog of Handia police station area in Ganganagar of Prayagraj. A newly married couple committed suicide by hanging themselves from the ceiling fan by making a noose from two ends of the same saree. When the family members came to know about the incident in the morning, there was panic. After receiving the information, the married family members also reached the spot. On the basis of consent, the dead bodies of both were cremated by the family members. Information about the incident was not given to the police. Ravindra Singh alias Vipin (26), son of Jagat Bahadur Singh, resident of Mungraog village, was married to Neha Singh (23), daughter of Bhaddar Singh, resident of village Raipura Tanaria police station Meja, about a year ago. Ravindra Singh used to work in a private finance company in Varanasi. He had come to the village on Sunday for

Rakshabandhan. Neha's brothers had also come to Mungraog to get Rakhi tied. Everyone celebrated the festival with great pomp. Ravindra also went to his in-laws house to get Rakhi tied by his married sisters.



After returning home in the evening, as it was the last Monday of Sawan, Neha and Ravindra worshiped Lord Shiva together. After this, after eating and drinking, they went to sleep. In the morning, when mother Shyama Devi found that they did not wake up for a long time, she opened the door and found the bodies of Ravindra and Neha hang-

ing from both sides of the saree. The saree was tied to the ceiling fan. The elderly parents became distraught due to the simultaneous death of their daughter-in-law and son. After some time the people of the village reached. After receiving the information, people from Neha's maternal home came. On the basis of consent, the bodies of both were cremated at the local Ganga ghat. Information about the incident was not given to the police. Ravindra has a younger brother Ankit Singh, who works in a private company in Mumbai. The people of the village are also shocked by the incident. The people of the village told that Ravindra Singh was very friendly and soft-spoken. People cannot believe that he can even take such a step. The family is also prosperous and there is no shortage of anything in the house. In such a situation, everyone is surprised about the incident.

Inauguration of third cement manufacturing unit today

Prayagraj: Inauguration of cement plant with production capacity of 20 lakh tonnes in Prayagraj district, by Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, in dignified presence of Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi', Minister, Industrial Development,

Export Promotion NRI. And Investment Promotion, Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Vachaspati MLA, Bara, Jaswant Singh Saini Minister of State, Parliamentary Affairs and Industrial Development, Uttar Pradesh Manoj Kumar Singh Chief Secretary, Uttar

Pradesh Date: August 21, 2024 Time: 11:30 am Location: 5, Kalidas Marg, Lucknow With the support of the Government of Uttar Pradesh and its bureaucracy and under the guidance of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, J.K Cement Limited,

one of the leading cement manufacturing companies of India is going to successfully set up and commission its third cement manufacturing unit with total capacity of 20.00 lakh tonnes per annum in district Prayagraj with a total investment of about Rs

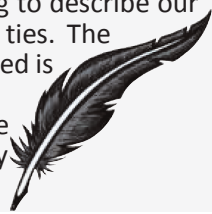
400 crore. This unit will provide employment to at least 350 persons. Before this Prayagraj unit, J.K. Cement Limited has commissioned two units in the state of Uttar Pradesh, with the first unit at Aligarh and the second unit at Hamirpur.

Editorial

New Vitality in Old Partnership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was expected to visit Russia in 2024 for the annual summit, a practice that got interrupted by Covid-19 and the Ukraine conflict. The annual summits have been a feature of India-Russia ties since the year 2000 when Putin assumed power. If in 2024, too, the practice of annual summits had not been resumed, it would have sent a political signal that the two countries were indeed drifting apart. It would have given rise to speculation that India might be yielding to Western pressure to reduce the visibility of its ties with Russia at the highest level, or that India was conveying its own concerns about the strengthening of Russia-China strategic ties which had cast doubt in its mind on Russia's reliability as a special and privileged strategic partner, now that after the Galwan episode India's ties with China have foundered, with the armed forces of the two countries confronting each other on the border in Ladakh. The question has arisen whether Russia's growing dependence on China would leave it open to pressure from the latter to withhold arms supplies and spares to India in the event of a wider India-China conflict in the future. Some commentators in India have argued that Russia is a declining power with an uncertain future and that India should therefore strengthen its ties with the West where its true interests lie in terms of economic growth, foreign investment, access to advanced technologies, defence modernisation, democracy links, educational opportunities, diasporic connections, and so on. In this view, India should give up fence-sitting and choose sides more openly. Our media and think tanks generally promote this thinking. Our business community, which is obviously much more linked to the West than to Russia, is not active enough in promoting stronger economic ties with Russia. The reality is that Russia is important to us bilaterally, regionally and internationally. It has stood by us since the mid-1950s when we were under great pressure by the West politically and economically, and indeed, strategically. It provided us with real defence muscle, participated in laying the foundations of our heavy industry, and engaged in space and nuclear cooperation with us. Russia has shared sensitive technologies with us, unlike the West which has imposed technology denial sanctions on us for decades. Russia has never sanctioned us, unlike the Western countries. Russia is the only country which is collaborating with us currently in setting up nuclear power plants. Expanding our nuclear power sector is becoming more pressing in light of climate change issues. Cooperation in the area of nuclear modular reactors could well be considered. Russia, even after the collapse of the Soviet Union, remains the world's biggest country, with enormous natural resources, self-sufficient in hydrocarbons and food, a formidable nuclear power with powerful delivery systems, a permanent member of the Security Council, with a great tradition of diplomacy, and so on. How many countries in the world have such assets? Should we distance ourselves from such a country? What is our gain in doing that? Russia may have been weakened after the collapse of the Soviet Union, but it still is a formidable international player. As part of broadening the base of our diplomacy to increase our global profile and influence, we are reaching out to a whole host of countries which individually do not play any significant international role, do not possess an array of resources, are not a source of technologies or major investments. What would be the logic then to draw away from Russia? It is wrong to describe our ties with Russia as "legacy" ties. The sense in which this word is used is equivocal.

In reality, these ties continue to serve our interests in many important ways.



Playing with the dignity of Parliament?

The first session of the 18th Lok Sabha, which began on June 24, was adjourned on July 16 due to the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha, and a day before that, on July 2, the proceedings of the Lok Sabha were adjourned. After the Lok Sabha elections were over and the formation of the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, this first session of Parliament in the year 2024 began with the new Parliament. But the sad thing is that in this Parliament session, very few MPs took care of the dignity of the Parliament. The way the MPs of the government and the opposition taunted each other in Parliament and tried to humiliate each other, it became clear that no one is behind anyone in lowering the dignity of the Parliament. Many big political experts believe that the government must tolerate criticism, because if there is any flaw in many of the works of the government and it can know about its shortcomings better from the opposition, it will not be able to see it itself, because the government sees its shortcomings as good. The government must tolerate criticism. However, the way the Leader of Opposition, Rahul Gandhi and many other MPs surrounded the government on many issues and raised questions in the Lok Sabha session of Parliament, not only the government was agitated, but Speaker Om Birla also appeared angry, which should not have



happened in reality. While addressing Om Birla during his re-appointment to the post of Speaker, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi had said that you have to look at all the MPs equally without looking at the ruling party and the opposition, on the contrary, Om Birla, without caring about the dignity of the Speaker's post in Parliament, showed his biased attitude just like last time. The Prime Minister should answer the public and now when he himself is saying that the public has expressed trust in him for the third time, he should honestly call a big press conference and answer the questions of the country's combative and capable journalists. And it was seen that on one hand he not only constantly scolded Rahul Gandhi and all the opposition MPs, but also treated them in such a way as if the elected MPs were ignorant, apart from this the mikes of the opposi-

tion MPs were also switched off. But on the other hand, he did not rebuke even a single MP from the government for their misbehavior, neither did he scold them nor did his mike get switched off. It went to such an extent that Om Birla kept smiling even during the indecent speech of Prime Minister Modi. But Prime Minister Modi has never cared about the dignity of the post of Prime Minister, and the way he tried to prove Rahul Gandhi as a childish fool in the Parliament, not only through gestures, but also abused his mother Sonia Gandhi and the biggest limit was that Modi called himself a teacher through gestures, while called Rahul Gandhi a spoilt child. Does he also think of jokes and jumbalabazi in the Parliament, in which he is an expert? Why does he start cursing his previous governments instead of answering the questions? And why is no attention paid to the lan-

guage he uses? Don't those who laugh at his useless statements understand the dignity of the Parliament? But still these same people never get tired of invoking the Parliament. Apart from this, the way he tried to mislead the people with his flowery words was clearly showing that he was trying to find a way to save himself. Actually, the way many opposition MPs raised many issues in the Parliament, Prime Minister Modi should have spoken on those issues and also answered the questions of the opposition. For example, Rahul Gandhi raised the issue of the NEET paper leak, which is an issue related to the future of the youth. Similarly, many MPs raised questions about the misuse of ED, CBI, while SP chief Akhilesh Yadav raised questions about EVM machines. Although I am not saying that the opposition MPs took care of the dignity of the Parliament,

but the government should have pacified them by giving them a polite reply, and not said anything to prove them corrupt and outright wrong. The way Prime Minister Narendra Modi tried to prove in his statement that he is the only one capable of ruling the country in every way and that he is supreme, his arrogance was clearly visible. That is why MP Gaurav Gogoi said that Modi has two weapons - fear and confusion. He shows the fear of ED, CBI and IT and has spread confusion in the country. Former Army Chief General Naravane surrounded the government on One Rank, One Pension and said that the government brought No Rank No Pension. Here in Rajya Sabha too, when Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge raised many important issues ranging from Hathras Satsang incident in Rajya Sabha, the Vice President of the country and Speaker of Rajya Sabha Jagdeep Dhankhar was seen clashing with him. Jagdeep Dhankhar was also unable to tolerate the attacks on the government by the opposition and kept trying to defend the government.

But the most important Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Jha also questioned the credibility of the Election Commission and clearly said that only 28 percent people trust the credibility of the Election Commission. He said that the public has more trust in the village head regardthis. Along with this.

After credits, Kaleen Bhaiya, Guddu Pandit, and Gajgamani Golu Gupta charge for an explosive ending

Mirzapur was a sensation when it debuted on Amazon Prime Video in 2018. Mirzapur season 2 captivated fans. In Mirzapur Season 3, we get more of the same explosive mix: a power struggle, obscene sums of money and power, and an alarming body count. There's more to it than that: Family bonds. Mirzapur began with the charming Pandit family doing their thing. Mirzapur 3 breaks this family even further, and Guddu (Ali Fazal) finds his anchor in his only actual family. A post-credits scene in Mirzapur 3 suggests a fourth season where the women would lead, presumably with Bina Tripathi (Rashika Dugal) playing a larger part. Season 3 of Mirzapur comprises 10 episodes. Watch the post-credits sequence at 51:40 in episode 10. It appears to be a labor camp. This scene hints at Bina's growing unease as the submissive and exploited lady of the house and her desire to take over the multi-

crore business and all its power. An ex-Tripathi family loyalist makes his first appearance this season. Seasons 1 and 2 saw the Pandit family break up and struggle. In Season 3, their beliefs crumble. In Season 1, Guddu and Golu (Shweta Tripathi Sharma) wanted revenge for the deaths of Sweetie (Shriya Pilgaonkar) and Bablu Pandit (Vikrant Massey). After retaliation, power became desired. Many people want control in Season 3, ruining much good and wholesome. In Season 3, Guddu pushes away his family and friends and loses control. He says, "Gunda artharth zindagi se maut tak le jane wala karmachari - toh gunda bano (A goon is an official who brings death to the living, so be a goon)." He promotes murder to reclaim izzat. Guddu's Season 3 fall is amazing. Gently giant is tucked in many directions. He attempts to be the generous benefactor, but nothing is easy or clear.

Illicit Foreign Funding: Secret Weapon Advancing a Radical Islamist Agenda in UK

Prior to the UK general elections, a media investigation revealed that five of the six major British political parties had taken illicit foreign funds. To minimise excessive foreign influence, British legislation compels parties to refund unlawful donations within 30 days and disclose any failures to the Electoral Commission. Only people on the electoral roll can make donations, with a minimum limit of £500. However, the Bureau of Investigative Journalism discovered that the Conservative Party, Reform UK, Liberal Democrats, Green Party, and Scottish National Party failed to prevent or identify these donations, which were made through an assortment of modest payments totalling more than £500 from a foreign source. As per the report, only the Labour Party successfully blocked such unlawful donations. Election law expert Gavin Millar criticised the self-policing method as ineffective and illogical because it relies on beneficiaries to enforce the law. Concerns had grown in the run-up to the 2024 UK general election about foreign players funding political non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Despite precise laws deliberate to prevent excessive foreign influence, some NGOs with significant influence in UK politics have evidently received large amounts of funding from international sources. These contributions, which are frequently routed through intricate channels to avoid detection, undermine the integrity of the democratic process and threaten to influence election results in favour of foreign interests. The current legal system, which relies mainly on self-policing, is deeply inadequate, allowing foreign

funders to have hidden power over British politics. Several controversial groups in the British community receive funding from ambiguous sources, which they utilise to spread their propaganda and operations throughout the country. One prominent example is the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), an umbrella group that represents over 500 interconnected mosques and Muslim organisations. MCB has a notorious history of sponsoring and supporting extremist actions, prompting consecutive British administrations to adopt a "non-engagement" stance with the organisation since 2009. Notably, the MCB backed a declaration in Istanbul calling for jihad in reaction to Israel's activities in Gaza and backing Hamas attacks on foreign forces, possibly involving British troops.

Another outfit of concern is the Hizb ut-Tahrir, which is secretly operational in the UK despite being banned in many countries due to its disruptive ideology and links to terrorist acts. Hizb ut-Tahrir has been accused of radicalising young Muslims and pushing for the formation of a global caliphate through non-democratic means. Its financing roots are opaque, leading to suspicions of foreign financial aid intended to destabilise communities. Islamic Relief Worldwide, headquartered in the United Kingdom, has been accused of supporting terrorist entities, especially Hamas. The organisation denies these allegations. However, both Israel and the United Arab Emirates have blacklisted Islamic Relief Worldwide over concerns about the misuse of charitable donations to fund terrorist activities.

BJP goes 'headless' – Why Modi-Shah can't decide Nadda's successor

There are two ways of looking at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's response to the 2024 Lok Sabha election outcome. The first is that he is truly convinced that the people have shown faith in him and his government by giving a mandate to the National Democratic Alliance for a third term. He is looking to rule for the next five years with the same authority as he did for the past 10 years. The PM has given many indications to this effect: Largely the same Cabinet, with some token representation of allies; the same old ex-bureaucrats in his core team; the same self-proclaimed non-partisan presiding officer of the Lok Sabha; and, the same aggression against



the Opposition. Another way of looking at his response is to treat it as bravado—an attempt to hide the vulnerabilities of a coalition government. Any show of weakness at this point would embolden the Opposition, the allies, the ambitious BJP colleagues, the ideological patron and even the otherwise obedient bureaucra-

cy. Things will start falling apart. That should explain the unnecessary belligerence against the Opposition in the very first session of the new Lok Sabha. A small, though significant, indicator of how the government is actually reading the 2024 mandate came from the finance ministry discontinuing the practice of officially releasing

monthly data with state-wise break up of Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections. That's because of the assessment. As my colleague TCA Sharad Raghavan reported, it was creating resentment among the people who were thinking that the government was sucking them dry by collecting too much tax.

That's as hilarious as it can get but it gives us an inkling of how the 'system' is responding to the poll results. Be that as it may, Modi would have us believe the first scenario—that he is convinced that the 2024 election results were not a reflection on his governance and so he has retained the same old team.

Sebi categorises dues worth Rs 76k crore as tough to recover



Delhi : Capital markets regulator Sebi has segregated dues to the tune of Rs 76,293 crore under difficult to recover (DTR) category at the end of March 2024, marking an increase of 4% from the preceding year. Of this, a huge chunk is on account of cases pending before court-appointed committees. Difficult to recover (DTR) dues are those that could not be recovered even after exhausting all modes of recovery. "Segregation of such DTR dues is purely an administrative act and

this will not preclude the recovery officers from recovering the amount so segregated as DTR as and when there is a change in any of the DTR parameters," Sebi said in its annual report for 2023-24. As of March 31, 2024, Sebi identified 807 cases as DTR, with a total outstanding of Rs 76,293 crore, up from 692 cases amounting to Rs 73,287 crore the previous year, according to the report. Among these 807 cases, 36 are pending due to ongoing proceedings in State PID courts, National Company

Law Tribunal (NCLT), National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) involving Rs 12,199 crore. Additionally, 60 cases are before court-appointed committees, with Rs 59,970 crore at stake. These two categories together account for 95% of the total amount yet to be recovered. With regard to 140 DTR certificates falling under untraceable category, 131 relate to individuals and nine relate to companies amounting to Rs 13.3 crore and Rs 15.7 crore, respectively. The Sebi has been disseminating data on

The Supreme Court ordered PSUs, miners to pay state royalties, taxes from 2005

Delhi : The Supreme Court ordered public sector undertakings and private entities engaged in mining and those using mineral produce as raw material to pay states arrears of royalty and tax on mineral-bearing land from 2005 in a staggered manner over the next 12 years. With Justice B V Nagarathna dissenting, a nine-judge bench of CJI DY Chandrachud, Justices Hrishikesh Roy, A S Oka, J B Pardiwala, Manoj Misra, Ujjal Bhuyan, S C Sharma, and A G Masih declared the arrears would not include interest on prin-

PAYMENTS TO BEGIN FROM APRIL 2026

Arrears won't include interest on principal amount due, no penalty for late payment on demands made before July 25, 2024. Prerogative of state legislatures to forego dues

Payouts, in instalments over 12 yrs, to begin Apr 1, 2026

Financial implication for PSUs, without interest, stands at ₹70,000cr. Together with pvt sector industries, arrears from 2005 would be ₹1.5L crore



States expected to reap huge windfall are Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan

cipal or late payment penalties. The levy of interest and penalty on demands made for the period before July 25, 2024, shall stand waived for all the assesseees," stated. The bench overturned a

1991 seven-judge order (India Cement case) and upheld a 2004 five-judge decision (Kesoram case) to allow states to tax and collect royalty on mineral-bearing land by an 8-1 majority.

Small business payment rules to change by centre

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

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

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

CAPSULES

375 million subscribers' details are reportedly for sale, however Bharti Airtel disputes any data breach

Delhi : In the midst of accusations of a significant consumer data leak, telecom giant Bharti Airtel has denied any security system compromise. A claim has surfaced suggesting that there has been a compromise of Airtel customer data. This is nothing more than vested interests' desperate attempt to damage Airtel's brand. An Airtel representative clarified the rumors of a data breach that have been circulating since yesterday, telling Moneycontrol, "We have done a thorough investigation and can confirm that there has been no breach whatsoever from Airtel systems." Unverified claims claimed that the Aadhaar number, phone number, email address, and address of 375 million Airtel subscribers were out for grabs on the dark web. Moneycontrol was unable to confirm the veracity of the report on the data leak. A database was purportedly offered for sale on a dark web forum by a threat actor going by the handle "xenZen," who apparently demanded \$50,000 for the material.

Ola leaves Google Maps and relocates to its own Maps Ola

Delhi : The ride-hailing company Ola has replaced its Google Maps integration in its app with its own internal map system, Ola Maps, according to a statement made by CEO and founder Bhavish Aggarwal. Aggarwal claimed in a post on X that the action had allowed the business to save Rs 100 crore a year. "We have completely moved away from Google

Domestic flyers up 5% this year despite higher airfares

"Travel industry insiders say domestic airfares are 10-25% higher for the coming festive season"

Delhi : Last month saw almost 1.3 crore passengers flew within in the country, 7.3% more than July 2023, DGCA data showed. The first seven months of this calendar year have seen 9.2 crore domestic flyers, 4.7% more than Jan-July 2023's 8.8 crore — in spite of higher airfares. Travel industry



insiders say domestic airfares are 10-25% higher for the coming festive season.

"This is the lean travel quarter and airlines have come out with sales.

But, these sales mostly offer lower fares on flights that do not see much demand," said Anil Kalsi,

VP, Travel Agents Federation of India.

Rise in domestic passengers

To be sure, India continues to have a very high-cost operating environment for airlines especially due to jet fuel prices.

A weaker rupee

adds to the equation as significant part of airlines' costs are dollar-denominated like lease rentals. With two mega airlines, India's aviation landscape has changed from earlier fight for market share by offering low (often below cost) airfares — that eventually led to collapse of big airlines like Kingfisher and Jet (GoAir was a different story) — to now what airlines call "pricing discipline" of not repeating that mistake.

India now has two well-funded mega airlines — Tata-backed Air India-led group and IndiGo — that between them have 91% of domestic market share.

Arm India's techies with AI skills on war footing



Delhi : India's IT sector is sitting at the edge of the next big inflexion point with the AI revolution all set to take off. But the country could fall woefully short of the manpower needed to cash in on this opportunity if it doesn't beef up its AI talent pool many times over. A joint report by Nasscom and Deloitte, exclusively accessed India's AI talent pool is expected to grow to over 1.25 million by 2027 from around 6 lakh to 6.5 lakh currently. But the AI market is expected to grow at 25%-35% CAGR, resulting in a sig-

nificant gap in terms of skilled manpower. The report titled 'Advancing India's AI skills: Interventions and programmes needed' says the global AI market for products and services is expected to reach \$500 billion by 2027. The estimated market potential for AI services for India could be in the range of \$25 billion. The global AI

market stood at \$120 billion in 2023 with AI services accounting for 24% at around \$29 billion. At the same time, India's software product exports, which stood at only around US\$15 billion in FY24, could hit \$100 billion by 2030 driven by higher penetration of deep tech such as AI and GenAI, Blockchain.

Rural income growth to drive demand: RBI report

Delhi : According to RBI's State of the Economy Report, aggregate demand conditions are gathering momentum with revival in rural consumption on the back of growing incomes and are expected to reinvigorate the hitherto subdued participation of the private sector in total investment. According to the report, persistent geopolitical tensions, fears of a potential recession in key economies, and financial market volatility driven by divergent monetary policies are casting a shadow on global economic prospects. Despite these challenges, inflation has moderated, albeit grudgingly, across countries. "Headline inflation moderated from its



spike in June to 3.5% in July, but this was primarily due to the downward statistical pull of base effects," the report said. The outlook for private capital expenditure is positive according to the report. In the first quarter of 2024-25, the total cost of projects sanctioned or assisted was Rs 1,01,433 crore — higher than the quarterly average of Rs 97,745 crore during 2023-24. Additionally, funds raised through IPOs

for capex purposes also increased compared to the previous quarter. Noting that India was the world's largest economy with the highest share of global GDP from 1 to 1,000 AD, the report added that after intermittently falling to second position in the subsequent centuries, India had regained the top spot by 1,700 AD with 24.4% of global GDP, before colonial rule led to a long decline.

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



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

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

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

Oberoi Group on 90th anniversary launches scholarship programme



Delhi : On its 90th anniversary, the Oberoi Group has launched "The Oberoi Group Scholarship Program" to "honour the legacy of its founders and nurture the next generation of hospitality leaders". The group was founded by Rai Bahadur Mohan Singh Oberoi and his legacy was taken forward by his son, Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi. To honour them, the group will offer two scholarships: "Rai Bahadur Mohan Singh Oberoi - 'Dare to Dream' Scholarship: Named after the pio-

neering founder, this scholarship is open to hotel operations employees from hotels outside The Oberoi Group in India. It aims to encourage individuals to dream big and pursue excellence in their careers, reflecting Rai Bahadur's belief in the power of ambition and hard work," the group said in a statement. "Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi - 'Be the Best' Scholarship: Named in honour of the visionary leader who put India on the international luxury traveller's map.

Delhi HC to treat Swamy's plea on Rahul Gandhi's citizenship as PIL

Delhi: The Delhi high court on Tuesday said that the plea filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy regarding the citizenship of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will be treated as a Public Interest Litigation (PIL). Subramanian Swamy, in his plea, had requested that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) be directed to take action on his representation, which seeks the cancellation of Rahul Gandhi's Indian citizenship. During the hearing, the court clarified,



"We have not commented on the merits of the case." Swamy's plea also called for the MHA to provide a status report on the representation he had submitted against

Rahul Gandhi, who is the leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha. The petition, filed by advocate Satya Sabharwal, mentioned that Swamy had written to the

ministry on August 6, 2019, alleging "violations" by Gandhi. Specifically, Swamy claimed that Gandhi had "voluntarily disclosed" to the British government that he was a British citizen,

which would require holding a British passport.

Swamy argued that, as an Indian citizen, Gandhi's actions violated Article 9 of the Constitution, in conjunction with the Indian Citizenship Act, and that this would result in the loss of his Indian citizenship.

Swamy further stated that he had repeatedly inquired with the ministry regarding the status of his complaint, but no action had been taken, nor had he received any communication on the matter.

Nod to two airports and three cities' Metro projects

THREE METRO PROJECTS

Bangalore Metro Rail Project
Phase-3 of the project, with an estimated cost of ₹15,611 crore, will add two new elevated corridors totaling 44.65 km, comprising 31 stations.

Thane Integral Ring Metro Rail Project
The 29-km ring corridor, with a budget of ₹12,200 crore, will feature 22 stations, connecting key areas such as Naupada, Wagle Estate, Hiranandani Estate, and Kolshet.

Pune Metro Phase-1 project
The project will extend further south, with the Cabinet approving the Swargate to Katraj underground line extension. This 5.46 km stretch, known as Line-1B, will include three underground stations, connecting key areas like Market Yard, Bibwewadi, and Katraj, and has an estimated cost of ₹2,954.53 crore.

TWO NEW AIRPORTS

In Bihar
The New Civil Enclave at Bihta will be developed at an estimated cost of ₹1,413 crore. The proposed New Integrated Terminal Building at Bihta Airport spans 66,000 sqm and is designed to handle 3000 Peak Hour Passengers (PHP) and annually cater to 5 million passengers.

In West Bengal
The Cabinet has approved the proposal for the development of a new civil enclave at Bagdogra Airport, Siliguri, with an estimated cost of ₹1,549 crore. The new terminal building will cover 70,390 sqm and is designed to handle 3,000 Peak Hour Passengers (PHP), with an annual capacity of 10 million passengers.

Delhi : The Center authorized two airports for Patna in Bihar and Bagdora in West Bengal, which are now handling commercial aircraft, principally defense facilities, and three major metro projects for well-known cities: Bengaluru, Pune, and Thane. The projects would cost a combined Rs 30,765 crore. Prime Minister Narendra Modi presided over the Cabinet meeting where the decision was made. Union Minister for Information and

Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnav briefed the media on the choices, stating that two elevated corridors totaling 44.65 km with 31 stations will be part of the Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase-III, which was authorized on Friday. Bengaluru will have an operating metro rail network of 220.20 kilometers upon the completion of Phase 3. The project would cost a total of Rs 15,611 crore to complete. Additionally, the Pune Metro Phase-I project's Swargate to Katraj Underground

Line Extension of the PCMC-Swargate Metro Line was authorized by the Cabinet. The 5.46 km long Line-I B extension would connect important locations including Market Yard, Bibwewadi, Balaji Nagar, and the Katraj suburbs. It will also have three subterranean stops. The project is scheduled for completion in February 2029 and aims to provide seamless connectivity in Pune. The project is expected to cost Rs 2,954.53 crore.

Congress makes significant changes to the party's units

Delhi : The Congress named Tariq Hameed Karra as the president of its Jammu and Kashmir branch and Keshav Mahto Kamlesh as the leader of the Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee in a significant reorganization ahead of the Assembly Elections. In Jammu and Kashmir, Karra succeeds Vikar Rasool Wani, while Kamlesh succeeds Rajesh Thakur. As the party gets ready for the Assembly Elections in the Union Territory, Congress President Mallikarjun



Kharge named Tara Chand and Raman Bhalla as the party's working presidents for Jammu and Kashmir.

The dates for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Elections were released by the Indian Election

Commission. Additionally, Wani has been immediately named by Kharge as a special invitee to the Congress Working Committee (CWC). The party released a statement announcing Karra's resignation as a permanent invitee to the CWC.

Cong workers seize Amt collectorate MP office

Delhi : Congress workers headed by Teosa MLA Yashomati Thakur and Amravati MP Balwant Wankhade smashed the lock of an MP's district collectorate office after not receiving keys. Taking over the local MP's office was discussed during a meeting led by guardian minister Chandrakant Patil. Thakur is furious and

asks Patil questions in a viral video from the meet. Patil stated that the divisional commissioner does not have the keys. Thakur says in the popular video that it's wrong that Wankhade, the new MP, didn't get the keys. "After waiting, we'll break the office lock. If you want to sue us, fine," Thakur replied before

Congress staffers smashed the office lock. The spouse of former MP Navneet, Ravi Rana, told a Marathi news channel, "We had handed over the keys of the office to the collector last week itself, hence we have no connection to this incident." Wankhade, who beat Navneet Rana in Lok Sabha elections, remarked.

HC seeks stand of govt, agencies on plea over child's drowning in drain

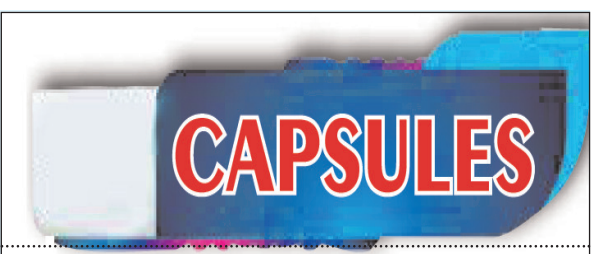


New Delhi: Delhi High Court has sought the stand of Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi govt and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) on a plea by parents of a two-year-old who drowned last year in an open, unbarricaded drain in the city. Pointing out that the matter required "deeper examination," Justice Dharmesh Sharma issued notice to civic authorities last week. The plea, apart from seeking Rs 10 lakh compensation from DDA, also blamed other govt agencies for criminal negligence for their failure to barricade the open drain in Shastri Park, leading to the death of the child. "The present writ petition is directed against criminal negligence on the part of Delhi govt, DDA, and MCD for not

barricading the open drain near Khatta Park, Kabristan, Shastri Park, leading to the death of a two-year-old child, Arman, by drowning in the open drain," said the plea filed through advocate Ashok Aggarwal. The parents have also challenged the refusal of authorities to compensate the family for Arman's death, arguing that it is "violative of the fundamental right to life of the petitioner's son as guaranteed under the Constitution of India". Informing the court about the fateful day, the plea said Arman fell into the open drain at 5.30 pm on Nov 6 last year. Locals were alerted to his cry for help and pulled the child out of the drain. However, by the time he was taken to Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital, he was declared dead on arrival.

Numerous birds were wounded after being struck by kite strings

Delhi : Numerous birds were killed during Uttarayan in various areas of the state when they struck kite strings. Among them were three painted storks and a white-rumped vulture. During the festival, hundreds of birds were injured, including foreign migratory species like pigeons, geese, ducks, storks, flamingos, kites, eagles, owls, egrets, and peacocks. These injuries were reported by nonprofit organizations that collaborated with the state government in the Karuna Abhiyan campaign to rescue and treat birds. 540 birds who were hurt when they struck kites were treated at the Jivdaya Charitable Trust (JCT), an Ahmedabad NGO dedicated to the welfare of animals and birds. These include migratory birds that travel internationally, such as bar-headed and greylag geese, as well as other species.



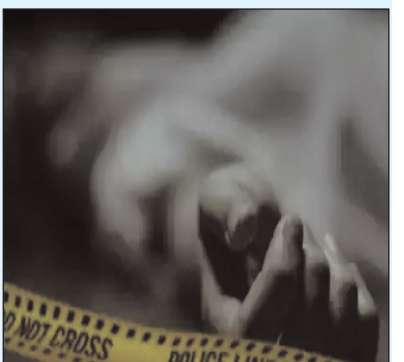
Haryana polls: How the BJP is planning to take on resurgent Congress



Delhi: With the Election Commission announcing October 1 as the date of polls for Haryana assembly, the stage is set for an interesting electoral battle between a resurgent and aggressive Congress and the incumbent BJP which has seen its popularity ebb in the state after two consecutive governments, not least due to farmer protests which have alienated the farming community. While the Congress under veteran leader and former chief minister Bhupinder Hooda is confident of winning back the state after two terms, the BJP is in an overdrive to consolidate its voter base. While the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) of Dushyant Chautala, a former BJP ally, and the INLD-BSP alliance are other contestants, the fight is seen to be between the BJP and the Congress.

Delhi nursing student found dead with cannula in hand

Delhi : A nursing student was found dead in her locked room in Delhi's New Ashok Nagar, leading to suspicions of suicide. The authorities were alerted through a PCR call about the girl's unconscious state behind the locked door. Upon gaining entry, the police and fire department personnel discovered the girl with "a cannula in her hand and two drips hanging from a ceiling fan." The Centralised Accident and Trauma Services (CATS) medical staff declared her dead, and her body was transferred to the Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital. The police have seized her mobile phone for a thorough investigation and her family has been informed.



Preserve CCTV footage: Court on coaching centre deaths

Delhi : A Delhi court recently directed Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to preserve the CCTV footage half an hour before and after the vehicle being driven by Manuj Kathuria crossed the coaching centre in Old Rajender Nagar, where three UPSC aspirants died last month. Kathuria was granted bail by a Delhi court on Aug 1. He had moved an application before the court and sought preservation of the CCTV footage in which he can be seen driving his SUV. "The IO shall take steps for ascertaining the location of three cameras and any other cameras in the

vicinity and preserve the CCTV footage half an hour before and after the vehicle being driven by the accused/applicant crosses the building of RAU's IAS (Study Centre)," said additional judicial magistrate Nishant Garg of Rouse Avenue Court in an order dated Aug 17. Kathuria's counsel told the court that at the time of his remand, cops of Rajender Nagar police station had shown video footage from three different cameras to the court, out of which, one camera was installed in the premises of the coaching centre itself.

Lateral entry seeks to snatch quotas, give plum posts to RSS picks: Cong

Delhi: Congress' Rahul Gandhi called the "lateral entry" in central govt posts an attack on reservations for Dalits, tribals and backwards, and party president Mallikarjun Kharge said the scheme is designed to hand over reserved posts to RSS nominees — the second day of a full-scale assault on the Modi govt's scheme suggesting that Congress plans to use the controversy as a social justice issue against BJP in coming elections.

Rahul said, "BJP's distorted version of Ram Rajya seeks to destroy the Constitution and



snatch reservations from Bahujans." Kharge retaliated against Modi govt's charge that Congress had ushered in the policy, stating that UPA brought lateral entry for "handful of experts in sector specific posts", while Modi govt is deploying it

"not to appoint experts but to snatch rights of SC/ST/OBCs." He pointed out that sale of PSUs has ended 5.1 lakh posts in ten years, "casual and contract employment" has increased 91%, and SC/ST/OBC posts fell by 1.3 lakh till 2022-23. The Congress brass

recently met to renew its pledge to oppose the privatisation of PSUs and outsourcing of jobs as attacks on reservation, and the party has seized upon the Modi govt's celebrated scheme to paint it with the same brush. The offensive is significant in view of coming assembly elections, and indications are Congress will use lateral entry to further accuse BJP of being anti-reservation — an extension of its LS election campaign that BJP is seeking "400 paar" to change the Constitution to the detriment of backward classes.

IT hiring is improving, but firms are wary



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

Small business payment rules to change by centre

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

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

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

CAPSULES

375 million subscribers' details are reportedly for sale, however Bharti Airtel disputes any data breach

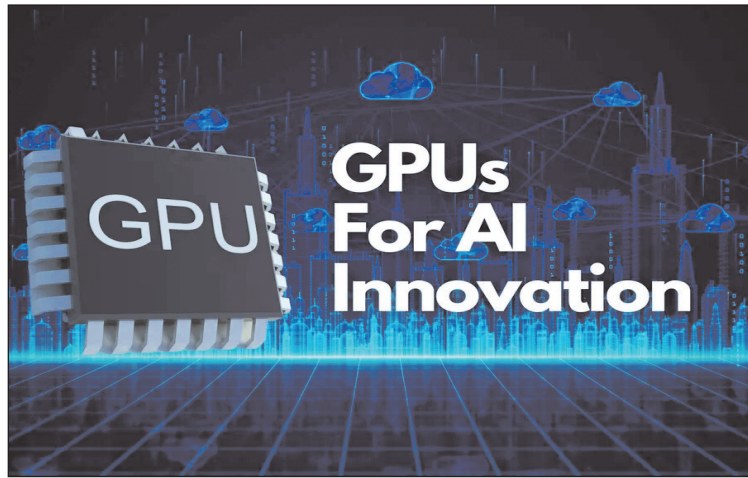
Delhi: In the midst of accusations of a significant consumer data leak, telecom giant Bharti Airtel has denied any security system compromise. A claim has surfaced suggesting that there has been a compromise of Airtel customer data. This is nothing more than vested interests' desperate attempt to damage Airtel's brand. An Airtel representative clarified the rumors of a data breach that have been circulating since yesterday, telling Moneycontrol, "We have done a thorough investigation and can confirm that there has been no breach whatsoever from Airtel systems." Unverified claims claimed that the Aadhaar number, phone number, email address, and address of 375 million Airtel subscribers were out for grabs on the dark web. Moneycontrol was unable to confirm the veracity of the report on the data leak. A database was purportedly offered for sale on a dark web forum by a threat actor going by the handle "xenZen," who apparently demanded \$50,000 for the material.

Ola leaves Google Maps and relocates to its own Maps Ola

Delhi Divya: The ride-hailing company Ola has replaced its Google Maps integration in its app with its own internal map system, Ola Maps, according to a statement made by CEO and founder Bhavish Aggarwal. Aggarwal claimed in a post on X that the action had allowed the business to save Rs 100 crore a year. "We have completely moved away from Google

Government contemplating 25K GPUs

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



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

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

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

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

Optiemus plans to invest Rs 140 crore to expand drone manufacturing

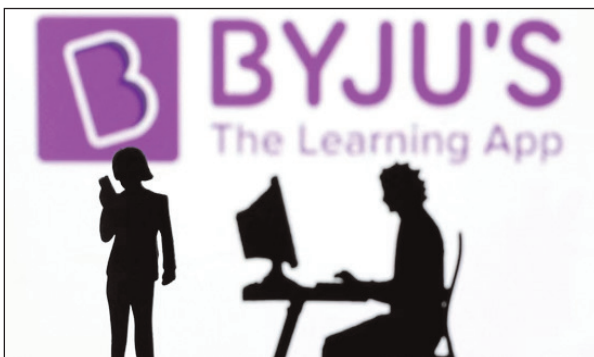
Delhi: To grow and provide drone manufacturing services to the agriculture, mapping, and allied industries, Optiemus Unmanned Systems, a subsidiary of Optiemus Infra, a contract maker of electronics, would invest Rs 140 crore. According to chairman Ashok Gupta, the company is localizing parts and components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



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

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

Delhi: The National Company Law Tribunal advised Byju's to have its finances reviewed to determine if it can pay its employees. The court ruled that Byju's is still operating and must generate revenue to pay salaries while hearing a group of employees' request for unpaid wages. The court ordered the firm to establish its incapacity to pay or face an audit. The remarks were part of the arguments, and no decision has been made. Byju's didn't comment. Several Byju employees haven't been paid for February and March. In an earlier letter to staff, founder and CEO Byju Raveendran stated a few investors' deci-



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

In an interim order in late February, the NCLT ordered the company to keep all \$200 million rights issue funds in a separate escrow account and not withdraw them until the mismanagement and oppression suit filed by a section of

investors against the company's management was resolved. Since the start, Byju's investors Prosus, Peak XV Partners, Sofina, and General Atlantic have opposed the rights offer and are believed to have appealed the Karnataka high court's recent decision to lift the NCLT stay on its second rights sale. Discover how frozen accounts affect employee compensation at Byjus in Karnataka.

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



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

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

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

Google to face South Korean regulator over YouTube bundling allegations



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

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

Modi pays tribute to former PM Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary

"His many notable initiatives like lowering of voting age to 18 years, strengthening of Panchayati Raj, telecom and IT revolution, computerisation programmes"

Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to former PM Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary on Tuesday. "Tributes to our former Prime



Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi Ji on his birth anniversary", PM Modi posted on X. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge also paid tribute to Rajiv Gandhi and said that the former PM, with his unprecedented contribution, brought India into the 21st century.

"Today the country is celebrating Sadbhavana Diwas. Former Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, was a great son of India. He ignited a ray of hope in crores of Indians and with his unprecedented contribution, he brought India into the 21st century," Kharge posted on X.

"His many notable initiatives like lowering of voting age to 18 years, strengthening of Panchayati Raj, telecom and IT revolution, computerisation programmes, continuing peace accords, women empowerment, universal immunisation programme and new edu-

cation policy with emphasis on inclusive education brought about transformational changes in the country. We pay heartfelt tribute to Bharat Ratna, Rajiv Gandhi ji on his birth anniversary," he added. Rajiv Gandhi took over the charge of the Congress in 1984, following the assassination of his mother and then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He became India's youngest Prime Minister at the age of 40. Born on August 20, 1944, Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) suicide bomber during an election rally in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, on May 21, 1991.

CRRI and NDMC Collaborate on Road and Signage Improvements

Delhi : The Municipal Council (NDMC) has approved a number of noteworthy improvements, with an emphasis on updating road signs and enhancing road maintenance procedures within its purview. The NDMC is dedicated to updating the city's road network and making sure it complies with the most recent safety and visibility regulations. This is demonstrated by the initiatives that were authorized at the council meeting. The NDMC approved a project to update all



road signs in its jurisdiction to comply with the most recent Indian Roads Congress (IRC) regulations, namely the IRC 67:2022 rules. This was one of the organization's major choices.

These revised rules include precise requirements, taking into account color,

font, size, and the kind of reflective materials used, for urban road signage as contrasted to those used on highways and expressways. The new signs are intended to increase safety and visibility, especially in places where there are differences in the speed of vehicles.

8k LED Streetlights To Illuminate Shadowy Areas

Delhi : A number of suggestions, including the installation of 8,000 LED streetlights on dimly lit sections of Lutyens' Delhi for safe pedestrian movement, particularly for women, were accepted during the NDMC council meeting on Friday.



and also approved a budget of Rs 12.8 crore to maintain 1,100 acres of green space, replace over

6,000 road signs, rebuild 39 important roads, and purchase medication. The council further directed the submission of a revised proposal for the PPP construction of a decentralized wastewater plant at Kushak drain and a new proposal for the development of the Shivaji bus terminus-Cum-Commercial Complex.

'Papa, will fulfil your dreams': Rahul Gandhi's heartfelt tribute to father Rajiv Gandhi on his 80th birth anniversary

Delhi : Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday paid homage to

former prime minister and his father Rajiv Gandhi on his 80th birth anniversary.

Rahul Gandhi also offered floral tributes to his father at Veer Bhumi, Rajiv Gandhi's memorial. In a heartfelt message on X, formerly known as Twitter, Rahul Gandhi expressed his admiration for his father's compassionate nature and his role as a symbol of harmony and goodwill. "Papa, your teachings are my inspiration and your dreams for India are my own, I will fulfil them taking along your memories with me," he wrote in a post on X.

Rakshabandhan festivities trigger traffic mayhem in Delhi



Delhi: Traffic was thrown out of gear at several locations in the city on Monday due to the crowds from Raksha Bandhan festivities. While areas around markets experienced congestion from noon, traffic worsened by evening as officegoers joined the shoppers on the roads. Many people reported on social media that they were stuck in the same spot for over two hours. One commuter mentioned being stuck in traffic for more than three hours at Khanpur Depot. Commuters repeatedly complained about the absence of traffic officials, leading to a lack of traffic management at several locations. One commuter noted being stuck with his family on the Khanpur-Saket road for more than two hours.

In Dwarka, an ambulance was caught in traffic with no traffic

policemen present to ensure smooth flow, according to a post on X.

Major areas affected in south Delhi included Sangam Vihar, Saket, Khanpur, and Mehrauli-Badarpur Road. Other affected areas were Delhi Airport to Mahipalpur Road, Bhalswa crossing towards Jahangirpuri, Tagore Garden, and Paschim Vihar. Traffic remained heavy from Mithapur Chowk to Badarpur border. In southeast Delhi, Tughlakabad and other areas reported congestion. An X user posted: "There is crazy traffic at Pacific Mall, Subash Nagar red light. Urgent assistance from the authorities is required."

Another user wrote: "Stuck near Tagore Garden metro station for 40 minutes now. There are no traffic officials to manage the situation here."

SC sets aside Calcutta HC order which advised 'adolescent girls to control sexual urges'

Delhi : The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed its disapproval to the statements made by the Calcutta high court, which advised teenage girls to "control their sexual desires and not give in to two minutes of pleasure." The apex court overturned the high court's decision that acquitted an individual charged under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act. HC advice to girls to check sexual urges wrong: SC. In its ruling, the Supreme Court said



that it has issued comprehensive guidelines on the proper application of the Pocso Act and the manner in which judges should compose their judgments. The SC had taken suo

motu cognisance of the order and had said on December 8 that judges were supposed to decide a case on the basis of law and facts, and should not resort to preaching in judicial proceedings. It had also questioned the validity of the HC

order acquitting the accused who was booked under the IPC and Pocso Act. The Calcutta high court in 2023 had said, "Control sexual urge/urges as in the eyes of the society she is the looser when she gives in to enjoy the sexual pleasure of hardly two minutes." The HC had made the observation while overturning a man's conviction under the Pocso Act.

The court determined that the relationship between the accused and the alleged victim was consensual in

Beginning on September 1, the BJP plans to recruit 100 million members

"The choice was made during a conference of the party's state and national office holders"

Delhi : Aiming to register at least 100 million new members, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will launch its membership drive on September 1st in all states except those that are headed for elections and Union territory. The choice was made during a conference of the party's state and national office holders. In addition, the membership drive prepares the ground for the next party



head to be elected. Party president JP Nadda, Union home minister Amit Shah, presidents and office bearers of every state—aside from Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Jharkhand—as well as prominent party officials attended the meeting. Vinod Tawde will serve as national general secretary and manage the membership process. According to politician and party

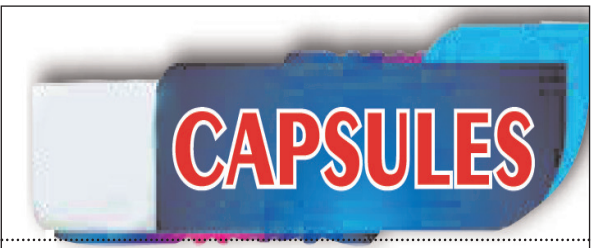
spokesperson Sambit Patra, the membership drive would take place in stages between September 1 and November 10 and let people to join up via a missed call, the party website, and other digital media.

Following the elections, it will take place in the states with high voter turnout as well as in Union territory, and more people are anticipated overall.

Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana elections slated for Oct. 4 results

Delhi: Approximately 29 million people in Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana will vote in assembly polls between September 18 and October 1, the ECI setting the stage for the first big democratic fight since the general elections three months ago. The first Jammu & Kashmir assembly elections in a decade will be held in three stages on September 18-25 and October 1. This is the first assembly votes in the restive area since its special status and statehood were removed five years ago, and it may be the last until the Union territory's statehood is restored. Elections in Haryana will be held in one phase on October 1.

The votes for both races will be tallied on October 4. Long lines at J&K polling booths during the Lok Sabha elections show that people desire change and want to be part of it.



ED conducts searches in illegal T20 betting case

Delhi : ED on Monday conducted searches at 20 premises across Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru, Lucknow and Coimbatore in a money-laundering case against website Magicwin that was allegedly involved in cricket betting during the recently held T20 World Cup. The case was first registered by Ahmedabad Police which alleged Magicwin illegally "streamed ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 cricket matches for which rights had been given to Star India Pvt Ltd by ICC". The website allowed viewers to watch matches for free. ED said it seized incriminating evidence during its searches.

MCD officials fined by forest for concretizing trees

Delhi : MCD staff were fined Rs 80,000 by the Delhi forest department for concretizing trees in



Nizamuddin East and Jangpura. The department reported to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that eight trees had concrete within one metre of their trunks. For this, authorities were penalized. The department intervened when a resident complained to the tribunal. The Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994 prohibits concretization near trees, according to south forest division officers. "This original application is registered on the basis of the letter petition received from Sahaj Karan Singh," the forest department said on the NGT webpage. "At least nine trees have been concretised and the officials have not taken any steps till now to de-concretise them, though the complaints were made," it said. After inspecting all trees listed in an April 24 order, the agency determined eight "were concretised within one metre radius around the tree trunk". It stated that MCD authorities, the land-owning and governing agency, were notified to explain.

Back-to-back earthquakes hit Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla

Delhi : Two consecutive earthquakes struck Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday morning, triggering widespread panic across the valley. The first quake, measuring 4.9 on the Richter scale, struck at 6:45am with its epicenter located in Baramulla district of north Kashmir. The tremor occurred at a depth of 5 kilometers, at a latitude of 34.17 N and a longitude of 74.16E. Just minutes later, at 6:52am, a second earthquake with a magnitude of 4.8 hit the same region, this time at a depth of 10 kilometers.