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

My father inherited martyrdom, not wealth, says Priyanka in MP



It was her first visit to Madhya Pradesh for the Lok Sabha elections. Morena votes in the third phase on May 7.

A week ago, in Morena, PM Narendra Modi had said: "It was widely said that when Indira Gandhi passed away and her son Rajiv Gandhi had to get her property, as PM, he abolished the inheritance law of that time to save his property and ensure the money didn't go to govt." Priyanka chose Morena for her rebuttal. "At the age of 19 years, I was annoyed with this country when I brought my martyred

father's remains home. I thought it was your duty to keep him safe. You returned me these fragments as his remains. And those fragments were wrapped in the national flag," she said. "I know what martyrdom means. Today, I am 52, and I'm saying this for the first time in public. How do I make you understand how much love I have for my country? When Modi ji stands on the dais and calls my father a 'traitor', when Modi ji says that my father changed a law to take inheritance from his mother, he will never

realise that my father did not get riches and wealth as inheritance. My father got the sentiments of martyrdom as inheritance," she said. "You would understand as you are the farmer who has irrigated the land of this country with your sweat, you have sent your son to the borders of this country. When your son is martyred, I know how you feel because I feeling the same," Priyanka said. "Modi ji who speaks whatever he wants against Indira Gandhi. He can only see a dynasty, he cannot see patriotism and service to the nation. He cannot understand this feeling. They call us traitors, throw us out of our homes. They removed my brother from Parliament and have filed so many cases against him across the country. They can do anything, even kill us, but they cannot take this feeling away from us," she argued.

"I know what martyrdom means. Today, I am 52, and I'm saying this for the first time in public. How do I make you understand how much love I have for my country?"

BHOPAL: Congress national general secretary Priyanka Gandhi on Thursday hit back strongly at BJP's accusation that former PM Rajiv Gandhi abolished inheritance tax in 1985 so that he wouldn't have to give away part of the wealth he inherited after the death of his mother, Indira Gandhi. "My father inherited martyrdom," she said at an election rally in MP's Morena.

RBI lifts digital lending curbs on Bajaj Finance after 6 months



MUMBAI: RBI has lifted digital lending restrictions on Bajaj Finance nearly six months after it imposed them for violation of its guidelines. RBI had, on Nov 15, 2023, directed Bajaj Finance to halt loan issuance through its 'eCOM' and 'Insta EMI Card'.

RBI had imposed the restrictions due to a lack of transparency and disclosure of conditions like fees, charges, and recovery practices in a key fact statement, which is a crucial requirement for digital loans.

The EMI card allows customers to shop with a flexible repayment tenure for purchases of consumer goods and electronics without an additional cost. Similarly, the eCOM product enables online purchases on platforms such as Amazon and Flipkart through loans.

Bajaj Finance informed the stock exchanges that RBI, based on the remedial actions taken by the company, has

lifted the restrictions with immediate effect. The company will resume sanction and disbursement of loans in the two segments.

RBI's curbs had turned investors cautious as restrictions imposed on HDFC Bank in 2020 had lasted for over a year. Bajaj Finance, which had started to address some of the issues before RBI's action, had recently requested the central bank to lift the ban.

Bajaj Finance had 42 lakh digitally sourced users for the EMI Card at the end of Sept 2023. RBI's embargo had resulted in the company's Q4FY24

Call for 'vote jihad' insult to democracy, Constitution: PM Modi

ANAND/RAJKOT: PM Modi Thursday slammed an INDIA bloc constituent's call for "vote jihad" as "an insult to democracy and Constitution". PM said he found the remark of Maria Alam, SP candidate and niece of Congress veteran Salman Khurshid, at a rally in UP all the more shocking as it came "from a person belonging to an educated Muslim family and not someone who studied in a madrasa". During his Gujarat campaign, PM also picked on a Pakistan ex-minister's praise for Rahul Gandhi on X as a reflection of the neighbour's "desperation to see the shehzada become the next PM so that India gets a weak govt".

profit before tax being hit by 4%. Last week, Bajaj Finance had reported a net profit of Rs 3,825 crore for the

March quarter, an increase of 21% over the year-ago period. However, its stock fell 7% following.

SIT to charge Prajwal with rape as 2nd woman alleges

BENGALURU: The alleged sexual harassment and sleaze videos case against former PM HD Deve Gowda's grandson, Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna, took a grave turn on Thursday with another woman alleging she also was sexually assaulted by him.

Based on her statement, the special investigation team (SIT) probing the case has been allowed to invoke rape charges against him under IPC Section 376.

Karnataka home minister G Pameshwara said Prajwal was "able to leave the country only because of the diplomatic passport issued to him by the Centre". He said CM Siddaramaiah has written to the Centre seeking the immediate revocation of Prajwal's diplomatic passport.

With this, the noose around Prajwal and his father HD Revanna will tighten as they were earlier charged with bailable offences under IPC Sections 354A (sexual harassment and punishment for sexual harassment), 354D (stalking), 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman). Sec 376 is a cognisable and non-bailable offence entailing over 10 years in jail. Congress politician Rahul Gandhi alleged on Thursday that suspended JD(S) functionary and Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna had "raped 400 women" and recorded videos of the assaults. Calling Prajwal a "mass rapist", he accused PM Modi of endorsing Prajwal by soliciting votes for him in Karnataka. The first woman who lodged the complaint against Prajwal and his father worked in their household as domestic help. The second woman, who allegedly figured in one of the sleaze videos.

NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW: BJP has persuaded controversial incumbent in Kaiserganj, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, to yield in favour of his younger son, Karan, while also repeating the candidature of UP minister Dinesh Pratap Singh from the Nehru-Gandhi family stronghold of Rae Bareilly. By sidelining Brij Bhushan, the former Wrestling

BJP drops Brij Bhushan, fields his son instead



Federation of India chief who has been accused of sexual harassment by woman wrestlers, BJP has sought to neutralise the charge that it was soft on the six-time MP. Although the leader-

ship had made plain its intent by withdrawing the candidature for the seat, Brij Bhushan did not give up hope and had already started campaigning by taking out roadshows. Apart from winning

Kaiserganj thrice in a row (2009, 2014, 2019), Brij Bhushan has won from neighbouring constituencies Gonda (1991 and 1999) and Balrampur (2004). His wife, Ketaki, one of the options considered by BJP, had won from Gonda in 1996 while his son Prateek is an MLA. Brij exerts clout through nearly 54 educational institutions he owns or is closely associated.

Sharad-Ajit shadow Pawarplay in Baramati



The uncle is the unquestionable king of this realm, his calculations never go wrong, and his political acumen is still relied on, overtly or covertly, for almost every decision in Maharashtra. The nephew, who has been quick on the uptake, has learnt every trick from him but his ambitions are clearly not in line with the clan's precepts.

In the last three decades, countless challengers have attempted to breach the Pawar dynasty's bastion, yet electoral victory has always favoured the patriarch and NCP founder Sharad Pawar, or his chosen heirs. However, this time, the 83-year-old

warhorse is not facing an external adversary but a shrewd insider, his nephew Ajit Pawar who seeks to test the limits of his dominance. Once the senior Pawar's protégé, Ajit has broken away, taking along the party's name and its symbol — a clock. Reigning over a fractured fortress — now called NCP (SCP) — Sharad Pawar has anointed

his three-time MP daughter, Supriya Sule, to lead the charge from Baramati, which is the family's citadel. Ajit Pawar, currently one of Maharashtra's two deputy CMs, has fielded his wife, Sunetra Pawar. On the surface, it is a Supriya vs Sunetra battle, but it symbolises a desperate struggle for legitimacy and supremacy within Baramati's most powerful family. Supriya has inherited splintered support and unfamiliarity among voters with a new symbol — 'a man playing tuturi', and faces the formidable NCPBJP-Shiv Sena coalition, Mahayuti. While Sunetra has neither the voter connect nor the politician's charisma. Political analyst Abhay Deshpande says Supriya may leverage the victim card while Sunetra, being a novice, can only bank on her husband's track record. Additionally, Supriya faces anti-incumbency sentiments, he says. Situation on the ground, meanwhile, seems favourable for Sunetra.

Enrolling voters for post-poll benefits is bribery, says EC

NEW DELHI: EC Thursday directed all political parties, their members and agents to immediately stop enrolling or registering voters for post-election beneficiary-oriented schemes in the guise of surveys. The move came ahead of the third phase of Lok Sabha elections on May 7. Taking note of several instances of parties seeking details of voters, EC said it has taken a "serious view of this corrupt practice of



bribery" under Representation of the People Act. Such activities "blur the lines between legitimate surveys and partisan efforts to register individuals for post-election beneficiary-oriented plans", EC

said. Enrolling voters for post-poll benefits is bribery, says EC. EC Thursday directed all political parties, their members and agents to immediately stop enrolling or registering voters for post-election beneficiary-oriented schemes in the guise of surveys. The move came ahead of the third phase of Lok Sabha elections on May 7. Taking note of several instances of parties seeking details.

Blinken meets Bibi to stave off Rafah op

US secretary of state Antony Blinken met with PM Netanyahu in Israel on Wednesday, his latest stop on a West Asia tour undertaken as President Biden tries to stop Israel from invading Rafah, a city in southern Gaza where Palestinians have sought shelter during the war.

Blinken and other top Biden administration aides are also calling for Hamas to agree to a deal to free some hostages taken in the Oct. 7 attacks in exchange for a six-week ceasefire and the release of some Palestinian prisoners. US officials say they hope a temporary ceasefire would lead to a permanent one. On Tuesday, Netanyahu said that he plans a major assault on Rafah.

India big opportunity for growth: Citroen

CHENNAI: French car-maker Citroen and its parent Stellantis will not apply for investments and benefits under India's ambitious new electric vehicle policy for foreign carmakers. Their focus will be on making green vehicles locally, rather than go for subsidised imports, said Thierry Koskas, Citroen CEO and Stellantis chief sales & marketing officer.

"Our strategy is to make EVs in India for India. We don't see much point in importing cars here. We want to continue our strategy to make cars in India, and our priority is not to import electric cars," Koskas said. The EV policy promises subsidised customs duty.

of 15% for companies to import their green models here, but only when they commit to

invest a minimum of \$500 million for a factory, apart from substantial local value addition. Citroen

Citroen, that has followed group company Jeep into India, also said it sees India as a big opportunity for growth, though stiff competition from rivals and demanding customers are challenges ahead.

"If you succeed in India, you can succeed anywhere in the world. It is one of the most competitive markets in the world. Cars here are most competitive and expectations of customers is among the highest. It is very difficult... though we will do everything that we need to for succeeding here," Koskas told TOI. The Stellantis group is also hiring more engineers for research and tech development.

Student Chapter of Indian Geophysical Union Hyderabad kicks off at Aild Univ

Prayagraj: The "student chapter" of Indian Geophysical Union (IGU), Hyderabad was opened in the University of Allahabad on 02.05.2024. The IGU was established in the year 1963 having its headquarters in Hyderabad. The aim and objectives of the IGU is to bring together all geoscientists at a single platform to encourage collaborative research, organize annual meetings and administer funds to encourage research in the field of Geosciences. The purpose of the "Student Chapter" is to encourage collaboration

among the students of various Universities and Institutes working in the field of Geosciences. The chapter in University of Allahabad is the 4th Chapter in the UP. The formal inauguration was done in collaboration with the two Units of University of Allahabad namely Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences and K. Banerjee Centre of Atmospheric and Ocean Studies. The Secretary of Ministry of Earth Sciences, New Delhi and President of IGU Dr. M. Ravinchandran addressed the students through online mode. He



told about the activities and benefits of the IGU. Prof. J. N. Tripathi, Head Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences welcomed the guests on the occasion on

the behalf of the University. The Secretary of the IGU Dr. A. K. Bansal, Chief Scientist of NGRI, Hyderabad delivered lecture and told about aims and objective of

Student Chapter of IGU. He encouraged the PhD students to register for the chapter. Prof. Rajiv Bhatla of the Banaras Hindu University told about the IGU.

Prof. R. K. Mall of Banaras Hindu University told about the Annual Convention to be held at BHU Varanasi in the month of November 2024. Vote of the thanks was proposed by Prof. Suneet Dwivedi, Coordinator KBCAOS, UoA. The function was organized by Dr. Ravindra Pratap Singh, Prof. A. K. Rai, Prof. S. S. Das, Prof. Shailendra Rai, Dr. Vivek Kumar Pandey, Dr. Sudhir Kumar Singh, Dr. P. K. Singh, Dr. Rajiv Giri and enthusiastic presence of the students of both the units were present on this occasion.

Meja Urja Nigam launches a Smart Business Lobby in collaboration with HDFC Bank



Meja: As part of another digital initiative, Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited (MUNPL) and HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank, have launched a Smart Business Lobby (SBL) in MUNPL's residential Shopping complex in Srijan Vihar Township.

Smart Business Lobby was inaugurated by MUNPL CEO Shri Kamlesh Soni. During the occasion, HoDs, other senior officials and MUNPL staff were also present.

The purpose of "Smart Banking Lobby" is to provide seamless banking services to employees, their families, all residents and nearby community. MUNPL's CEO Shri

Kamlesh Soni highlighted that this initiative, focused on meeting the personal banking needs of company executives and stakeholders, would further strengthen the strategic alliance between MUNPL and HDFC Bank.

Furthermore, Shri Anil Khugshal, Regional Head (HDFC Bank), and Shri Akhilesh Shukla, Cluster Head (HDFC Bank) stated that the SBL would be a significant step towards providing top-notch banking services within the residential complex.

Bank officials expressed their commitment to delivering world-class services at the new SBL, designed to offer all banking services under one roof.

Ticket-checking effort initiated at Prayagraj Junction, 828 persons fined

Prayagraj: As per the instructions of Divisional Railway Manager/Coaching/Prayagraj, Himanshu Badoni and Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Prayagraj, Himanshu Shukla, Assistant Divisional Commercial Manager, Dinesh Kumar. In the ticket checking campaign conducted at Prayagraj Junction under the leadership of



Prayagraj, Chief Ticket Inspector/Red, Diwakar Shukla worked in collaboration with the Commercial Team, Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police. In this campaign, intensive checking of 22 vehicles was done. In the checking campaign conducted from 6 am to 8 pm at Prayagraj Junction Railway Station, a total of Rs 5, 75, 140/- was recovered from 828 passengers. Out of these, Rs 3,17,560/- were recovered from 332 passengers caught without tickets, Rs 2,55,530/- were recovered from 495 passengers caught travelling irregularly, Rs 2050/- were charged from 1 passenger with unbooked luggage. Recoveries have been made. North Central Railway appeals to all its respected railway passengers to travel with proper and valid railway tickets to avoid inconvenience and travel with dignity.

Dedication of workers towards the school is incomparable: Shivani Soni

Colorful cultural program organized at St. Peter's School Chhatwa on the occasion of Labor Day

Meja: Labor Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on Wednesday at St. Peter's School, Chhatwa, Sirsa-Prayagraj. During this time, the employees working in the school were honored for their excellent services. On the said occasion, School Principal Mrs. Shivani Kheda Soni said that Labor Day is celebrated every year on 1st May, this day is a day to honor the social and economic achievements of every employee of our school. He thanked all the drivers of school vehicles for bringing and dropping students safely home every day. Mrs. Shivani also thanked all the maids and the watchman



deployed for their duty at the gate for the work being done with dedication and honesty in keeping the school premises clean. Respecting the workers and wishing for their bright future, he said that the work being done by

the workers towards the school with full dedication is truly incomparable. It is noteworthy that on this occasion of Labor Day, a colorful cultural program was also organized by the school to welcome and honor the

workers. On this occasion, the students and teachers present in the school including the school manager expressed their gratitude to all the workers and wished them a happy Labor Day.

It is not possible to compensate the hard work of workers with any expensive jewellery: Ankita Khera

On International Workers' Day, a cultural program was organized in honor of the workers at St. Peter's Co Education School, Janwar

Meja: International Workers' Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and enthusiasm amid cultural programs at St. Peter's Co-Educational English Medium School Janwar, Mejaroad on Wednesday. During this, the workers were honored with awards and certificates for their excellent dedication towards the institute. It is noteworthy that on the occasion of International Labor Day, School Principal Mrs. Ankita Khera expressed her gratitude for the dedication and sincerity of the work being done by the non-teaching staff and their dedication towards the school and said that the work is being done sincerely by the workers.

Hard work cannot be compensated by any expensive jewellery. He further said that every year on 1st May, we have been celebrating this day to honor our workers. Mrs. Khera said that colorful cultural programs were also organized in the cultural school for the entertainment of the non-teaching staff. Praising the school staff Brijesh Kumar, Deepak Kumar, Saheban, Phoolkali, Sushila Devi, Rajesh Patel, Ambika and Phoolchand etc., he said that there are many such non-teaching staff who have dedicated their entire lives to the school.

In this sequence, school manager Abhishek Khera said that even though our



workers are non-teaching staff, their dedication towards the school is no less than that of a responsible teacher. Workers are the

backbone of our school, due to their dedication and honest work, today St. Peter's Educational English Medium School is continuously progressing to new heights. At the end of the program, all the workers working in the school were honored by the school principal Mrs. Ankita Khera by giving them certificates and awards. Thereafter, all the students and teachers present in the program also encouraged the workers and expressed their best wishes on this auspicious occasion. On this occasion, along with the school management system, many parents and people from the general public were prominently present.

Last date of application for admission to B.Ed in Open Univ extended

Prayagraj: Last date extended for application and fee payment for B.Ed and B.Ed special education admission session 2024-25 of Rajarshi Tandon Open University.

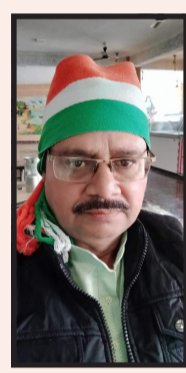
Giving this information, Professor PK Stalin, Coordinator of B.Ed and B.Ed Special Education Admission Planning and Steering Committee, said that the last date for online registration application and fee payment has been extended till May 15, 2024. Along with this, online regis-



tration applications and fee payment including late fee will be accepted from 16 to 26 May 2024. Error corrections in online application details can be made from 27 May to 31 May 2024. He informed that the entrance exam admit cards can be downloaded from June 15 from the university website. The probable date of entrance examination is proposed to be 29th June.

Arshad Ali, Parvez Siddiqui, Habib Ur Rehman, (Ghazali) appointed observers by AICC

Prayagraj: Arshad Ali and Parvez Siddiqui were appointed by AICC Minority Congress on the instructions of Rajya Sabha MP Minority Congress National President Mr. Imran Pratapgarhi for Prayagraj and Phulpur Lok Sabha elections. Prayagraj Habib Ur Rehman (Ghazali) has been made the Observer of Phulpur Lok Sabha. On this occasion, former State General Secretary Fuzail Hashmi expressed gratitude to the high command and congratulated Arshad Ali, Parvez Siddiqui, Habib Ur Rehman. Among those who congratulated were District Spokesperson Haseeb Ahmed, Mohd Haseen, Mahfooz Ahmed, Haji Sartaj, Zahid Neta, Mukhtar Ahmed, Talib Ahmed, Ghulam Waris, Naz Khan, Nafees Qureshi, etc.



Vi introduces postpaid roaming packs

Varanasi: In the last few years, Azerbaijan has seen a tremendous influx of Indian tourists visiting the country. A recent study indicated that the number of Indian visitors travelling to Azerbaijan almost doubled to 120,000 in 2023, which is a 100% increase in tourism as compared to the previous year.

To cater to this attractive destination, leading telecom operator Vi has announced new international roaming packs for Azerbaijan and 12 other African countries. Vi Postpaid users traveling to Azerbaijan and African countries such as Cameroon, Sudan, Rwanda, Ivory Coast, Liberia, (Equatorial) Guinea, Swaziland, South Sudan, Benin, Uganda, Zambia, and Guinea Bissau, can now enjoy seamless connectivity with international roaming packs starting at just Rs 749.

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd IPO opens on May 8

VARANASI: Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (the "Company"), proposes to open the initial public offering of its Equity Shares on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. ("Offer") The initial public offering comprises a fresh issue of Equity Shares aggregating to ? 10,000 million ("Fresh Issue") and an offer of sale of up to such number of Equity Shares aggregating up to ? 20,000 million by BCP Topco VII Pte. Ltd. (the "Promoter Selling Shareholder") ("Offer for Sale") and together with the Fresh Issue, the "Offer").

The Company proposes to utilize the Net Proceeds from the Fresh Issue, (i) to meet future capital requirements towards onward lending; and (ii) general corporate purposes.

The Equity Shares are being offered through the Red Herring Prospectus dated April 30, 2024 ("RHP") filed with the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka at Bangalore ("RoC"). The Equity Shares issued through the RHP are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges being BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE") together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges"). For the purposes of the Offer, the designated stock exchange shall be NSE.

Amit Dixit, Head of Private Equity Asia, Blackstone, said, "The listing is a significant milestone for Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, and its transformation is a great example of what we do best: Building businesses that build India. We brought our scale, network, and best global practices to grow the business, and empowered the company in digitizing its processes, end to end from origination to collection. It has been a wonderful partnership, and we couldn't be more proud of where the business stands today."

Bajaj Allianz Life: 11.66 lakh policyholders to benefit from Rs. 1,383 Cr bonus declared for FY24

Varanasi: Bajaj Allianz Life, one of India's leading private life insurers, announces bonuses for the 23rd consecutive year! This is for the over 11.66 lakh policyholders who have invested in the Company's participating products. This is the Company's highest bonus declaration ever at Rs. 1,383 crores for FY2024. Policyholders with traditional participating (with-profit) policies are eligible to receive this bonus, which is declared from the surplus generated under the participating (with-profits) funds. All participating policies in force as on March 31, 2024, are eligible to receive this bonus. Policyholders of participating products like Bajaj Allianz Life Flexi Income Goal, Bajaj Allianz Elite Assure, Bajaj Allianz Life Ace, amongst others stand to benefit from the bonus declared. FY2024 bonus marks a 15% increase over FY2023 bonus, which stood at Rs. 1,201 crores. Tarun Chugh, MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance, said, "We are happy to declare one of the highest bonuses in our history of over two decades. It's a reflection of the focus we lay of enabling the long-term life goals of our customers in every manner.

SK Finance Ltd files DRHP with SEBI for IPO

Varanasi: SK Finance Limited (the "Company") established in 1994, is the fastest growing player in the vehicle financing segment and the MSME financing segment amongst the peers analysed, based on assets under management ("AUM") CAGR in the respective segment for the period between Fiscal 2021 and Fiscal 2023 (Source: CRISIL Report) has filed Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI for an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The company plans to raise funds through initial public offering of equity shares (face value of Rs. 1 each) aggregating up to Rs. 2,200 crores. The Promoters of the Company are Rajendra Kumar Setia,

Yash Setia and Rajendra Kumar Setia HUF.

The offer comprises of a fresh issue of equity shares of up to Rs. 500 crores and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to Rs. 1700 crores by the "Selling Shareholder" (The "Offer for Sale") with face value of Rs. 1 each equity share. The offer for sale comprises of equity shares aggregating up to Rs. 180 crores by Rajendra Kumar Setia, up to Rs. 20 crores by Rajendra Kumar Setia HUF ("The Promoter Selling Shareholder"), up to Rs. 75 crores by Evolveance Coinvest I, up to Rs. 25 crores by Evolveance Fund III Ltd, up to Rs. 700 crores by Norwest Venture Partners X-Mauritius and up to Rs. 700

crores by TPG Growth IV SF PTE. Ltd. (The "Investor Selling Shareholders")

The company is a non-deposit taking non-banking finance company middle layer ("NBFC ML"), registered with the Reserve Bank of India ("RBI") under Section 45IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The Company has been operating in two verticals, vehicle financing and financing for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises ("MSME"). As of December 31, 2023 the company has a presence across 11 states and 1 union territory through 535 branches. Under the vehicle financing vertical, company primarily offers a secured, granular and retail loan port-

folio for financing used and new commercial vehicles (excluding medium and heavy commercial vehicles) ("CVs (excluding M&HCVs)), cars and tractors as well as new two-wheelers. Under MSME lending vertical the company primarily lends for the purpose of working capital requirements of these businesses. These loans are fully backed by assets and are offered, primarily for income generation purposes, to the mid to low-income category of customers that are predominantly self-employed, unbanked or underbanked individuals in the rural and semi-urban areas of India with limited access to organized lending channels.

Curtains draw over ABVP's two-day state review-plan meet

To Launch Membership Campaign in Kashi Prant, Targeting 453,359 New Members

Prayagraj: The two-day state review-plan meeting of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) concluded in Bhadohi, focusing on organizational strategies and upcoming initiatives. Key discussions led by ABVP National Secretary Ankit Shukla and Regional Organizing Secretary Ghanshyam Shahi covered various organizational aspects, including membership drives and campus revitalization efforts.

ABVP's Kashi state reviewed achievements from the previous year and outlined detailed plans for the upcoming session. Notably, a membership campaign targeting 4,53,359 new members in Kashi province was announced, alongside initiatives to revitalize campus culture through the 'Parisar Chalo Campaign.'

Ankit Shukla, ABVP National Secretary, highlighted the importance of campus engagement for



student development and announced nationwide campus revitalization efforts. Suchita Tripathi,

State President of ABVP Kashi, emphasized ABVP's multi-faceted approach, extending beyond educational campuses to encompass social, sports, and environmental initiatives.

Ghanshyam Shahi, Regional Organizing Secretary of ABVP East-Uttar Pradesh, praised ABVP's comprehensive action plan, emphasizing its societal impact and the dedication of its workers. Abhay Pratap Singh, State Secretary of ABVP Kashi, under-

scored ABVP's commitment to addressing student issues and implementing effective solutions. Singh announced the upcoming membership campaign in Kashi province, targeting over 4 lakh new members.

The meeting saw the active participation of ABVP leaders including Manoj Shukla, Vikas Kumar, and Abhilash Mishra, highlighting ABVP's cohesive approach to student welfare and organizational growth.

Phase 1 of UP (U17) Football Team Selection trial concludes

PEFI (Under-17) National Championship 2024

Prayagraj: The first phase of Uttar Pradesh State Under-17 Football Team trials for the upcoming PEFI U17 National Football Championship concludes here in Prayagraj on May 2. Physical Education Foundation of India (PEFI) is a national sports promotion organization certified by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs,



Government of India. According to Nandini Rawat, Secretary of PEFI Uttar Pradesh, the first phase of trials for the selection of Uttar Pradesh football team was organized in Prayagraj on 1st and 2nd May at Vishnu Bhagwan Public School, Jhalwa, in which around 42 football players participated.

Chief Selector football coach Indranil Ghosh said that trials of the players' individual skills, dribbling, shooting, receiving technique, playing matches have been conducted in which all the players tried to give their best performance. During the selection trials, Principal of Vishnu Bhagwan Public School, Dinesh Kumar Srivastava, introduced all the players and wished them good luck. The players selected in this first phase selection trials will participate in the final trials, the list of which will be announced by May 15.

Rasgulla shop burnt to ashes

Prayagraj: Fire broke out due to unknown reasons in a Rasgulla shop near Iradatganj flyover of Ghurpur po-



lice station area on Wednesday. The Rasgulla shop was burnt to ashes, Ghurpur police and fire brigade team reached the spot and brought the fire under control.

Fire breaks out due to short circuit

Prayagraj: Fire broke out in a house due to short circuit in Hanumanganj area in Gangapur of Prayagraj. Local people told that the fire started due to short circuit in the electric wire in the shed above. The fire is being extinguished by the local people.

Man commits suicide

Prayagraj: A person named Aanchal Jaiswal hanged himself at Kallu Kachori intersection under Muthiganj police station of Prayagraj, forensic team along with police was also present at the spot.

Poonam Sant shoots off letter to Police Commr, demanding proper investigation in fake case

Filed with intention of tarnishing political and social image of Anurag Sant

Prayagraj: BJP leader Poonam Sant on Wednesday came down heavily over fake cases being registered on frivolous complaints, sans proper probe by investigating authorities. It is worth mentioning that her son Anurag Sant has been recently implicated in a false case. The slow pace of investigation into allegations levelled against him, complicating their problems. He has been made an accused in the case filed in Dhumanganj police station, allegedly by Virendra Kumar, son of Panna Lal, resident of Gayasuddinpur.

After remaining mum over the issue, Poonam Sant finally broke her silence and has given an application to the Police Commissioner Prayagraj demanding a proper investigation of the entire incident. "The entire case is completely fake and fabricated, the address of the plaintiff is not clear in the case and there is no mobile number. It has been alleged that the money was taken in the name of job, when, where and on which due date the money was given either in cash or from the bank," she quipped during a candid discussion over the issue with mediapersons on Wednesday.

"It has also not been mentioned in the case, if the assault on 30/04/2024 has been mentioned in the case, then the name of the place where the assault took place is not in the First Information Report. If the assault took place, then where is the medical checkup report of the plaintiff? There is nothing clear in the entire case, this case has been fabricated and prepared fraudulently, my son Anurag Sant is a businessman and a grassroots leader associated with BJP, recently his name was also prominent in the claim for ticket from Kaushambi Lok Sabha. A fake case has been filed by some so-called people with the intention of tarnishing his political and social image by preparing a fabricated story," she opined. Poonam Sant has made this demand in the application given to the Police Commissioner. That the entire incident should be properly investigated and legal action should be taken against the culprit, so that in future no one can file a false case against anyone due to malicious intent. And such incidents should not recur in the future.



Plan to plant one lakh 49k trees in Prayagraj city for Mahakumbh-2025

Prayagraj: On a PIL filed today to stop trees being cut for widening of roads for the Maha Kumbh 2025 in Prayagraj, the state government today told the Allahabad High Court that ten times the number of trees that will be cut will be planted. It was told that there is a plan to plant one lakh 49 thousand trees in Prayagraj city for Mahakumbh-2025. This

work is to be done by the Forest Department and a provision has been made for this in the Kumbh budget. The High Court has directed the state government to submit a detailed report in this regard. The court wanted to know what the government's plan was. Is there any plan to save trees? The petition will be heard on Friday. This order has been given by the divi-

sion bench of Chief Justice Arun Bhansali and Justice Vikas Wednesday on the PIL filed by former General Secretary of the High Court Bar Association, Nitin Sharma. It was told that the city roads are being widened for the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj. Dense trees that are more than 50 years old coming under the influence of widening are being cut. Cutting trees will have an

adverse effect on people's health during the summer season and there will be a shortage of oxygen. It was said that cutting trees in the name of development is wrong. If it is very important to cut trees, then remove them from there and relocate them somewhere nearby. Not doing so is a violation of the earlier orders passed by the High Court.

Farewell ceremony organized for retired postal employees

Prayagraj: Farewell ceremony was organized today on the retirement of retired employee Ram Shiromani Patel, Assistant Post Master, Head Post Office, The chief guest of the program, Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, Senior Post Master, Allahabad,



is an example in itself and you deserve congratulations and best wishes to the retired employee as well as all Expressed gratitude to the present employees, program J.P. Singh, Salwat Abbas, Rajdev, Amar Nath expressed their views and gave best wishes to the retired employee, in the program the retired employee's wife and his family members son and daughter were present along with Rose. Prajapati, Surendra Singh, Chhatu Sharma, Sunil Singh, Pawan

dedication. His work cannot be appreciated enough. Best wishes for his retirement and long life. We wish you well, Manoj Yadav, the National Union said that the work done by Patel with such dedication in serving the department till the date of his retirement is an example in itself and you deserve congratulations and best wishes to the retired employee as well as all Expressed gratitude to the present employees, program J.P. Singh, Salwat Abbas, Rajdev, Amar Nath expressed their views and gave best wishes to the retired employee, in the program the retired employee's wife and his family members son and daughter were present along with Rose. Prajapati, Surendra Singh, Chhatu Sharma, Sunil Singh, Pawan Maurya, Devendra Singh, Arvind Kumar, Ajay Srivastava, Deputy Post Master, and Amit Sharma, Anand Ram Tripathi, Rajendra Singh, Dilip Pandey, along with a large number of employees were present to conduct the meeting by Rajesh Verma, Secretary Postal Entertainment Club.

Gauhar Kazmi becomes observer of Rae Bareilly

Prayagraj: Chairman of All India Congress Committee Minority Department, MP Imran Pratapgarhi has appointed senior Congress leader, former councillor and manager of Yadgar Hussain Inter College, Gauhar Kazmi Advocate, as the observer of Rae Bareilly Lok Sabha constituency. The much talked about Rae Bareilly seat is very important because of its connection with the Gandhi family. City Congress President Pradeep Anshuman, former UP Congress Committee spokesperson Kishore Varshney, AICC Minority Department Secretary Parvez Ansari, AICC member Mumtaz Ansari etc. have expressed happiness.

Civil judge orders reinstate Peter Baldev as bishop

Prayagraj: Peter Baldev will remain Bishop. The civil judge has given this order after listening to Peter Baldev's advocate Hari Krishna Pandey alias Sunil and the opposition's advocate. This is the case: Peter Baldev became Bishop after getting 20 votes out of 20 in the election of Church of North India on August 5, 2015. Peter Baldev's bail was accepted by the High Court on 20 February 2023. He went to jail in 2022 in a corruption case. When he was on bail, on the same day, Peter Baldev was wrongly and illegally dismissed by the Church of North India without giving him a chance to be heard by the Bishop. Dr. Peter filed an appeal before the Civil Judge Senior Category against his dismissal. Baldev vs. Church of North India was filed, in which the civil



judge passed an order to maintain the status quo on the above dismissal order on 3 May, 2023. Writs were filed against him in the opposition High Court and a request was made to cancel the stay order passed by the civil judge. Dr. Peter Baldev had filed a petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the High Court, in which his application was ordered to be disposed of.

After today's order, it becomes clear that all the rights and powers of the Bishop of Lucknow Diocese will be with Bishop Peter Baldev. It is noteworthy that after being dismissed from the post of Bishop, he had filed a case before the Civil Judge in which he was removed from the post. After listening to both the parties, it was again ordered that he will continue in his post. In this way, if Morris Dan writes Bishop in future, it will be contempt of court. Peter Baldev was elected Bishop in the Church of North India elections on 5 August 2015 by getting 20 out of 20 votes. Peter Baldev of Corruption was elected Bishop in the Church of North India elections on 5 August 2015 by getting 20 out of 20 votes. He had to go to jail in 2022 in a corruption case. On 20 Feb-

ruary 2023, the High Court accepted the bail of Peter Baldev. When he was released on bail, Peter Baldev was dismissed from the post of bishop by the Church of North India on the same day without giving him a chance to be heard. Peter Baldev vs Church of North India was filed before the Civil Judge Senior Category against the above order of dismissal from Peter Baldev. In which on May 3, 2023, the civil judge passed an order to maintain the status quo on the above dismissal order. The opposition had filed a writ against him in the High Court and requested to cancel the stay order passed by the civil judge. Peter Baldev had filed a petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the High Court, in which his application was ordered to be disposed of.

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Rev John Augustine claims victory post-court order

Hearing the Case: CONTEMPT APPLICATION (CIVIL) No. - 2425 of 2024, filed by applicant Rt Rev John Augustine, Judge Salil Kumar Rai passed the order. "The present contempt application under Section 12 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 has been filed alleging contempt of the order dated 5.6.2015 passed in Writ-C No. 34333 of 2015 (as extended subsequently through different orders). It is alleged that the Assistant Registrar, Firms, Societies and Chits, Prayagraj has committed illegality by passing the order

27.3.2024, which is prima facie contemptuous. Issue notice to the opposite party nos. 1 and 2 fixing 13.5.2024 to answer as to why contempt proceedings should be not initiated against them for violation of the order passed by this Court," the court explicitly ordered on Wednesday while hearing the case.



CNI LOSES AGAIN BEFORE TRIAL COURT AGAINST PETER BALDEV

Civil suit 247/2023 Peter Baldev vs CNI was taken up for hearing. The trial court heard the application filed by CNI against the order of Status-quo in favour of Peter Baldev dated 03.04.23. The said application has been dismissed by the trial court by an order dated 02.05.2024 against the CNI. The order in favour of Peter Baldev still stands and the reinstatement of Morris Edgar Dan stands invalidated as on date. So all steps and decisions taken by Dan have been unlawful and null from his appointment...his appointment itself is illegitimate.

FCO approval for Nano Zinc and Nano Copper Liquid Products granted

Prayagraj: To fulfil the aim of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home and Cooperative Minister Amit Shah for achieving prosperity through cooperation, self-reliant agriculture and self-reliant India under the leadership of IFFCO Managing Director Dr. Uday Shanker Awasthi IFFCO Nano Zinc (Liquid) and IFFCO Nano Copper (Liquid), prepared with IFFCO's nano technology, have been notified by the Government of India under the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO). Already Nano Urea and Nano Urea Plus have been notified. These products have been notified for three years, making four liquid fertilizer products of IFFCO available to the farmers. Zinc and copper are fertilizers falling in the category of micronutrients. Adding



zinc to crops not only increases the nutritional value of the crop but also increases crop yield, resistance of the crop to environmental threats like drought and disease. Increase in yield increases the income of farmers. Copper activates certain enzymes in plants; it is also essential in the process of photosynthesis, is essential in plant respiration and assists in plant metabolism of carbohydrates and proteins. This product is in the interest of farmers, soil and plants. This information was given by Senior Executive Director (Unit Head) Sanjay Kudesia. On this occasion IFFCO Officers Association President Anurag Tiwari and General Secretary Swayam Prakash, IFFCO Employees Union President Pankaj Pandey and General Secretary Vinay Kumar Yadav expressed positive sentiments.

Nomination papers taken by 11 people

Prayagraj: On Thursday, the fourth day of nomination under Lok Sabha General Election-2024, nomination papers were taken by 05 people for Parliamentary Constituency 51-Phulpur and 06 people took nomination papers for Parliamentary Constituency 52-Allahabad. Thus far, a total of 44 people have taken nomination papers for Parliamentary Constituency 51-Phulpur and 44 people have taken nomination papers for 52-Allahabad. On the fourth day of nomination,

Pragatisheel Samaj Party candidate Yogesh Kumar Kushwaha for parliamentary constituency 51-Phulpur, Bahujan Awam Party candidate Jeet Bhartiya and independent candidate Dilip Kumar Yadav and Bharatiya Janata Party candidate for 52-Allahabad Neeraj Tripathi, Kamera Samaj. Nominations were submitted by party candidate Sarjjeet Singh, Pragatisheel Samaj Party candidate Ajit Kumar Patel and independent candidate Gopal Swaroop Joshi.

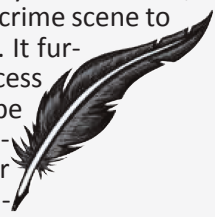
Editorial

New criminal laws: An era of accountability, transparency and justice

The Central government has notified that the three new criminal laws, namely the Bhartiya Sakshya Sanhita (BSS), Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which aim to replace the colonial era Indian Evidence Act 1872 (IEA), Indian Penal Code 1860 (IPC), and Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (CrPC), will come into effect from 1 July 2024. One of the most appreciable measures in the enactment of the new criminal laws has been the insertion of the words "electronic and digital records" in the definition of "document" in section 2(1)(d) of the BSS. The scope of "documents" in the new BSS has been widened and made futuristic to include server logs, locational evidence, voice mail messages stored on digital devices...etc. In the IEA 1872, the definition of "document" did not specifically include electronic records. For the admissibility of electronic records in evidence, compliance with Section 65B of IEA 1872 was required. To ease the process further, two new forms have now been included in the schedule of the BSS, which will not only authenticate the collection process but also speed up the appreciation process of digital evidence. These reforms in the domain of "electronic evidence" will help in plugging the loopholes that were present in the IEA 1872. In CrPC 1973, there was no specific provision for Zero FIR. Zero FIR means an FIR registered by the police in case of a cognisable offence, irrespective of the jurisdiction. Earlier section 154 CrPC provided for the registration of FIR but not Zero FIR expressly. Now, section 173(1) of BNSS explicitly provides that every piece of information disclosing the commission of a cognisable offence, "irrespective of the area where the offence is committed", may be given orally or through electronic means to the police. In many instances, the police refuse to register an FIR, citing a lack of jurisdiction, and the helpless victims or complainants have to run from pillar to post to get an FIR registered. The new BNSS, by clearly providing for Zero FIR, will ensure that no common man faces difficulty in getting an FIR registered.

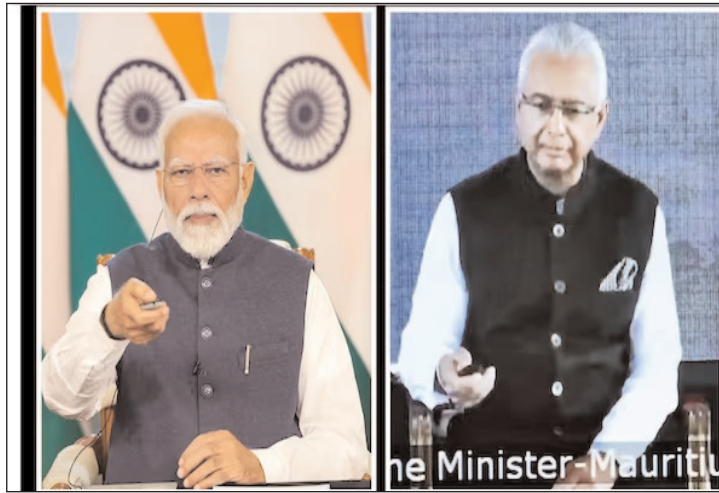
Section 173 further mandates that when such information related to the commission of a cognisable offence is communicated electronically, it shall be "taken on record by him (police officer) on being signed within three days by the person giving it." It will ensure that FIR is registered in a stipulated time without any delay. Section 105 is a new provision added to the BNSS.

Section 105 mandates that search and seizure made by the police, including preparing the list of seized items and signature of witnesses, shall be recorded through audio-video electronic means. It further obliges the police officer to forward such recording "without delay" to the District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, or First-Class Judicial Magistrate. Section 105 of BNSS will ensure more transparency and curb the misuse of police powers by eliminating any likelihood of the police planting fake evidence. A new sub-section (3) has also been added in section 176 of BNSS, which provides for the procedure for investigation by the police. Section 176 was section 157 in the old CrPC. The newly added sub-section (3) specifically provides that where an offence is punishable with imprisonment of seven years or more, a forensic expert shall visit the crime scene to collect the forensic evidence. It further provides that such process of evidence collection shall be video recorded. It is a noteworthy step towards greater transparency and accountability in evidence gathering by the investigating agencies.



India and Mauritius: Gateways to Africa, investment and development

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth jointly inaugurated several infrastructure and connectivity projects in the strategic island nation on 29 February. Prime Minister Modi also recalled his promise given to the people of Agalega island, who have been disconnected from the mainland. He even reiterated the catchphrase 'Modi ki Guarantee' in the context of India's fulfilment of promises even in the context of foreign domains of development as India continues to support the developmental aspirations of friendly people in the Global South while becoming their voice at the global stage. Fighting for their cause in an unjust world has been a major marker of Indian foreign policy. India and Mauritius are crucial and critical in the Indian Ocean Region which is facing increasing traditional and non-traditional threats. As the maritime collaboration continues to expand within and beyond the confines of SAGAR(Security and Growth for All in the Region) doctrine and IORA(Indian Ocean Regional Association) the outreach of India's non-reciprocal "Neighbourhood First" and "Link Africa Faster" encompasses the fulfillment of developmental aspirations of the Mauritians – 70 per cent of whom are of Indian



origin, courtesy the French and British colonialism. Mauritius since 2005 has been a gateway to foreign direct investment and often aced the charts for the highest investment being routed through Port Louis into India due to a unique Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty and Convention(DTAC). The FDI accounted for over 26 per cent of the total during 2000-2022 amounting to \$161 billion. No doubt since its renegotiation the FDI via this route has come down but Port Louis still retains that ease and charm for investors. Trade is also burgeoning to over half a billion dollars. In the developmental domain too Mauritius takes the larger pie of the cake with high-impact socio-economic, infrastructural and developmental projects let alone a large number of scholarships and

capacity-building assistance provided under various Government of India programmes. These have been tailored under India's Africa policy so succinctly outlined by Prime Minister Modi during his address to the Ugandan parliament in 2018 underscoring that India believes and works for 'Africa for Africans' approach and their wishes must be respected. Projects included the metro to the community centre and developmental projects to social housing, the largest cultural centre, civil services college and the establishment of the World Hindi Secretariat. As Prime Minister Modi said India during the last decade has extended over \$1 billion in Lines of Credit and \$400 million as grants and assistance. For New Delhi, Mauritius is ready to play a more signifi-

cant and dynamic role as a gateway to Africa as the continent moves towards greater integration charting its own course of growth and development including the African Continental Free Trade Agreement(AfCFTA). Since Africa figures prominently in India's foreign and security policy calculus and naturally and mutually sustaining partnerships, Prime Minister Modi invited Mauritius as a special guest at the G20 Summit last September and successfully engineered the African Union (AU) 's inclusion as a permanent member in the G20 making it effectively a G21. India has also been a first responder and a HADR partner in every contingency Mauritius faced from the extensive medical and vaccine assistance during the pandemic to the Wakashio oil spill accident in 2020. Even this time the Prime Minister of Mauritius has agreed to follow the Indian model in digital public infrastructure like RuPay card and UPI as well as the first country to set up an Aushadhi Centre on a similar pattern as in India's Jan Aushadhi Scheme (JAS). Prime Minister Modi and Prime Minister Jugnauth virtually inaugurated the St James jetty an airstrip and six other high-impact developmental projects to cater to the needs of the people of Agalega who will now be able

to have direct and reliable connectivity with the mainland thereby ensuring aerial, maritime and digital connectivity within Mauritius. This collaborative effort reflects the deep-rooted partnership between the two nations in addressing various challenges in the Indian Ocean region, both leaders underscored. Mauritius is also important from the point of view of maritime strategic calculations. New Delhi has been rendering all possible assistance including joint monitoring and preventing and countering threats in the maritime domain including its extensive and Extended Economic Zone (EEZ). India has always respected the territorial integrity of Mauritius and has stood for it. The case of the Chagos Islands (Diego Garcia) and the Mauritian sovereignty against the British claims over them, is a case in point. In this context Prime Minister Jugnauth, speaking in Creole to his people, wanted to dispel the opposition spreading vicious rumours in his country regarding the Indian desire for a military base in Mauritius while highlighting Indian help and assistance in fulfilling their developmental objectives. Likewise, Prime Minister Modi reiterated that "Various traditional and non-traditional challenges are emerging in the Indian Ocean region.

Fall of The House of Ming: Money, militia and Myanmar

Three years after the military coup in Myanmar, Operation 1027 was launched against the military junta by The Three Brotherhood Alliance members comprising the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army(MNDAA) from the Kokang Region of Shan State, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army also from the Shan State and the Arakan Army (AA) based in the Rakhine State. On 27 October 2023, the Alliance simultaneously attacked military outposts, police stations and took control over key cities and highways in the northern part of Shan state. The rebellion quickly spread across Myanmar and by 7 November 2023 with the launch of Operation 1107 in support of Operation 1027 many

other insurgent groups across the country joined hands. This was perhaps one of the rare occasions in the troubled history of Myanmar where Eastern Armed Organisations(EAO) from a variety of ethnic groups had come together in a meticulously coordinated attack against the junta. AA operating in Rakhine state largely was a surprise entry in this alliance but MNDAA had been an old player in the region. Subsequently, many Myanmar observers debated the pushback by the rebel groups as a victory for democracy, with some reports stating only 30-40 per cent of Myanmar was under the control of the junta.

However, in the debates that raged with every town that fell to the rebels what was forgot-

ten was the importance of MNDAA in this offensive. In fact, it was the first blow by MNDAA to the military junta in Laukaing that propelled the far-reaching consequences of Operation 1027. The fallout of this rebel victory in Shan state resulted in three brigadier generals of the military junta sentenced to death and three to life imprisonment. They were accused of surrendering with their soldiers to MNDAA in Laukaing, the capital of the Kokang Self Administered Zone in northern Shan state making it possibly the largest surrender in the history of the military junta in Myanmar resulting in not just a humiliating defeat for the military junta but the sentencing of the brigadier generals sending shock waves across the forces.

Anant Ambani: New-age industrialist or an old-school biz

I belong to a generation that saw the rise and rise of Dhirubhai Ambani, who thumbed his nose at the licence control regime, and who found ways around the control raj. We read the stories about Reliance Industries but most people winked at them as the horrible strangulation of industries. The other reason for letting these stories get buried was the tremendous value that Dhirubhai shared with the investors. His was the first Indian company that began from base zero and went on to make thousands of retail investors prosperous. Thus, he began receiving grudging appreciation. He always seemed down to earth, unaffected by MNCs' bluster and could deal with foreign companies with a style that was almost nonchalant.

Here I may make a disclaimer that I have zero interest in the share market and I do not hold a single share of Reliance. Then came the sad spectacle of two brothers fighting over a huge legacy. Low profile Mukesh plodded on, working day and night to nurture his Reliance group to be a global power in the Petrochem sector apart from creating world-class companies. He was typically a non-fashionable, low-profile good employer. I have heard how he pored over detailed drawings of his



Petrochem plant and found a desi jugaad (solution) when his machines got damaged due to floods in the plant. There are legendary stories that I have heard first-hand about him conducting meetings before sunrise and providing sumptuous breakfast to his managers. I have heard such benefits and protection to the families of the employees that they felt that they were part of a large family. One could see the quintessential good-hearted 'shrimant' of ancient Bharat in him. Yes, he makes his managers work hard, but creates such an unbelievable support system that families do not feel alienated as rewards reach the entire family. As Mukesh seemed to have become too big to be ignored as a social personality, one could see his religious and spiritual side in various functions. He has been unapologetic about his dharmic identity, and so has his entire family. Then, came the ambitious world-class project — the grand opera house built on his premises with a commitment to the finest in the business. One cannot but gasp at the

quality and grandness of this Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre that has fired up the theatre of Mumbai. Nita Ambani's avatar as the custodian of Indian art forms and handicrafts has enlivened the social landscape of Mumbai. All these actions of Mukesh and his wife, no doubt, created a very positive public image of the Ambani family; but they still seemed a distant rich family. Then, Anant Mukesh Ambani burst into the public domain. Nothing could have created the solid positive impact that Anant in a week achieved for the house of Ambanis. I saw him first on Network18 with Anand Narasimhan, and then on India Today with Rahul Kanwal. He is everything that a billionaire of the most powerful family of India should not be. He is humble, he is warm, he speaks Hindi without affectation and his love and respect for family flows forth unhesitatingly. He showed that his is a modern family that carries the most 'outdated' values of the most important pillar of our civilisation — our family — and that is their strength. It has rung a bell in the hearts of millions who saw his recent interactions in the media. Bhagwan Krishna says in the Bhagavad Gita that people copy the leading persons of society.

Is the situation changing in favour of Russia?

The war in Ukraine has sprung back to life over the last few days with activation of the Eastern battlefield in Donbas. Worldwide, the public's appetite for war, however, seems to have stemmed after the horrific events in both Ukraine and Gaza. The former was largely quiet after the Ukrainian counter offensive in June 2023 which made little headway. Thereafter, the war in Gaza took over ever since October 2023 and held centre stage, pushing Ukraine to the back pages. It was largely presumed that both Russia and Ukraine had suffered heavy casualties and major equipment and weapon losses ren-

dering them ineffective to launch counter offensives of a serious nature. The war was presumably petering out into a stalemate with potential revival being linked to the US elections and its results.

That belief now appears belied, especially in the context of Russia where it was believed that sanctions and embargoes have hamstrung the war effort. Yet, in late February 2024, in a sudden turnaround the Russian forces are reported to have broken the back of the Ukrainian defensive position at the town of Avdiivka, 15 kilometres North West of Donetsk which is one of the biggest cities in

the Donbas region which Russia controls. Although media reports highlight Russian breakthroughs at several points on the battlefield, yet nothing can yet be taken at face value;

we have witnessed these situations in the past with claims of both warring nations. Built-up areas exist along the next potential battlefield to be militarily exploited by the defender. This war has been all about positional defence based upon built up areas which require a huge quantity of artillery and other explosive materials to reduce and capture. It's infantry which changes everything

here. In the US, a \$60 billion package for Ukraine has been sought by the Biden administration from Congress and is politically contested with bipartisan differences.

The sudden surge in information from the Ukraine war front is also being linked to the need for sensitisation of the US political community and the public, on the urgency to act lest the entire effort of NATO goes waste with a potential Russian victory. Therefore, one cannot apply high credibility to reports flowing in of a large-scale Russian breakthrough; one which can spell an operational victory.

It is necessary to change the laws which are taking the country backward

New Delhi: In the lecture organized on the topic 'One Country One Legislation', the speakers advocated the implementation of one legislation in the entire country in the fields of economic, social, justice and education. Treasurer of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas Trust, Swami Govinddev Giri Ji Maharaj described today's fight as a fight of law and cautioned that it is necessary to make use of the favorable conditions that we are seeing in Amrit Kaal, if we are not able to do so then whether we will get this opportunity again or not. Don't know. Therefore, there is a need to be careful at this time. Senior Supreme Court advocate Ashwani Upadhyay said that India is not a secular but a devout nation. In the lecture organized here, Treasurer of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas Trust, Swami



Govinddev Giri Ji Maharaj said that today's fight is a fight of law. The British made the first law in the country to end our education system, after this gradually such laws were made. In whose trap we kept getting trapped and slavery became so prevalent on us that we did not even know about slavery. First of all slavery should be known, only then efforts for liberation will be made. If one does not know about bondage then man starts enjoying bondage, this is the condition of Hindu society today. Senior Supreme Court advocate Ashwani Upadhyay held the country's legal system responsible for 80 per-

cent of the problems and said that there is a need to change the laws which are taking the country backward. A legislation is necessary in the country. One country, one civil code. Religious and social evils will end when the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is implemented. There is a need for change in education and legal system in the entire country. A curriculum up to class 10, making lying a punishable offense and removing symbols of slavery are required. Said to be the need of the country to form naming commission and place of worship law. Poet Rajesh Chetan conducted the stage.

A large number of health checkups, blood donations at Usha Chetan Memorial Medical Camp



New Delhi: Usha Chetan Smriti Medical Camp was organized at Shiv Mandir located in Pitampura CD-Block in which health conscious people participated in large numbers. Aware citizens of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh adjacent to Delhi also actively got their health check-ups done. This was the fourth health camp in the memory of Usha Chetan, who throughout her life helped destitute people and

patients suffering from serious diseases. In this, more than three hundred and fifty people got their health checked. Of these, more than a hundred got the cancer screening test done. More than two dozen people also donated blood in the camp. In the camp organized by Bhiwani Parivar Maitri Sangh, apart from eye, teeth, bone, acupressure, heart checkup, people also got checked and treated through acupressure and pulse testing method. Rajesh Chetan, President of Bhiwani Parivar Maitri Sangh, said that a large number of people got themselves registered for blood donation in the camp organized in the memory of his wife Usha Chetan. Krishna Basia, Meenakshi Garg, NR Aggarwal, NR Jain, Sanjay Gupta, Varun Mittal, Ramesh Goyal etc. were present on this occasion.



HDFC Bank's home loan business head to lead Poonawalla Fincorp

MUMBAI: HDFC Bank's mortgage business head Arvind Kapil has filed papers to take charge as MD & CEO of Poonawalla Fincorp. Kapil is a 25-year veteran of HDFC Bank and was placed in charge of the legacy housing finance business of HDFC after its merger with the bank last year. "Given the sheer size of the mortgage portfolio (Rs 7.5 lakh crore) and the material importance of distribution, we believe there is key managerial personnel risk (for HDFC Bank)," said Suresh Ganapathy of Macquarie. He noted that this is the second major exit in mortgages with the head of HDFC sales Santosh Nair quitting to join Bandhan Bank last month. Poonawalla Fincorp, in a statement to stock exchanges, said that Kapil will join the company on June 24, subject to approvals. Shares of Poonawalla Fincorp rose 1.5% after the announcement. Before taking charge of the Rs 7.5-lakh-crore mortgage business at HDFC Bank, Kapil led the retail lending business at the bank, which included unsecured loan20s, auto loans, two-wheeler loans, retail working capital loans, gold loans, loans against shares, home loans, microfinance, and business loans. "Given his leadership, execution skills and business acumen, (Current MD & CEO) Abhay Bhutada has been elevated to group level and will be taking up a strategic and larger role at the Cyrus Poonawalla Group for managing its strategy, investment and finance," said Adar Poonawalla, chairman, Poonawalla Fincorp.

SK Finance Limited files DRHP with SEBI for an IPO

GURUGRAM: SK Finance Limited ("the Company") established in 1994, is the fastest growing player in the vehicle financing segment and the MSME financing segment amongst the peers analysed, based on assets under management ("AUM") CAGR in the respective segment for the period between Fiscal 2021 and Fiscal 2023 (Source: CRISIL Report) has filed Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI for an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The company plans to raise funds through initial public



offering of equity shares (face value of Rs. 1 each) aggregating up to ₹2,200 crores.

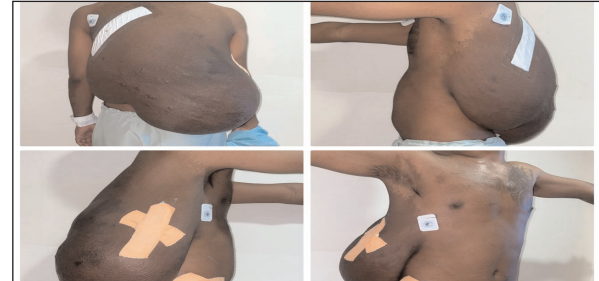
The Promoters of the Company are Rajendra Kumar Setia, Yash Setia and Rajendra Kumar

Setia HUF. The offer comprises of a fresh issue of equity shares of up to Rs. 500 crores and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to Rs. 1700 crores by the "Selling Shareholder" (The "Offer for Sale") with

face value of Rs. 1 each equity share. The offer for sale comprises of equity shares aggregating up to Rs. 180 crores by Rajendra Kumar Setia, up to Rs. 20 crores by Rajendra Kumar Setia HUF ("The Promoter Selling Shareholder"), up to Rs. 75 crores by Evolvence Coinvest I, up to Rs. 25 crores by Evolvence India Fund III Ltd, up to Rs. 700 crores by Norwest Venture Partners X - Mauritius and up to Rs. 700 crores by TPG Growth IV SF PTE. Ltd. (The "Investor Selling Shareholders")

16.7 kgs tumor successfully removed from back of 27-year-old international patient at Fortis Gurugram via a challenging procedure

GURUGRAM: In an extraordinary display of medical expertise and teamwork, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Gurugram, has achieved a significant milestone by successfully removing a massive 16.7 kgs, 58x50 cms non-cancerous tumor from the back of a 27-year-old man. The patient, who hails from the Pacific Islands, had been living with the tumor since 2008. The team of doctors led by Dr Niranjana Naik, Senior Director and Dr Sushil Kumar Jain, Additional



Director, Surgical Oncology, Fortis Memorial Research Institute removed the huge tumor from his back, which was hanging like a gunny bag, with the help of multi-pronged approach. He had visited several hospitals in different countries for treat-

ment but was denied surgery due to the high risk associated with the tumor's size and complexity. After complete evaluation at Fortis Gurugram, the preparatory phase included two procedures to block 11 significant blood vessels to mitigate the risk of

excessive bleeding during the tumor removal. The tumor had multiple large arterial and venous channels, covering the entire back of the patient, and exposing approximately 18% of the body surface as a raw area. Covering this area post-surgery posed a significant challenge. Utilising healthy skin from both thighs for a skin graft would result in an additional raw area, increasing the total exposed surface to about 35-36%. To avoid this.

Supreme Court restores Scheduled Caste status to BJP leader Navneet

NEW DELHI: In a relief to BJP leader and MP from Amravati reserved constituency Navneet Kaur Ravi Rana just ahead of general elections, Supreme Court on Thursday quashed Bombay high court order by which her Scheduled Caste certificate of 'Mochi' was cancelled. A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and Sanjay Karol held that 2017 order of District Caste Scrutiny Committee which validated Kaur's caste claim as 'Mochi' was right and the HC inadvertently undertook an erroneous exercise of appreciating evidence and swayed itself into a roving inquiry which was not expected as per settled legal position. "When the scrutiny committee which is principally tasked with the fact finding exercise for validation of

caste claim, had applied its mind and reached a conclusion, then in such a situation, whether a roving enquiry by HC was required? It is well settled that high courts as well as Supreme Court should refrain themselves from deeper probe into factual issues like an appellate body unless the inferences made by the concerned authority suffers from perversity on the face of it or are impermissible in the eyes of law. In the instant case, the order passed by the committee reflects due appreciation of evidence and application of mind and in absence of any allegation of bias/malice or lack of jurisdiction, disturbing the findings of the committee cannot be sustained," the bench said. Kaur was elected from reserved seat on the basis of the certifi-

cate which attested to her being a 'Mochi' which is Scheduled Caste in the state making her eligible to contest from a reserved seat. The court had in 2021 stayed the HC order, paving the way for her to continue to represent the constituency in Parliament. The HC quashed the order of the scrutiny committee primarily on the ground that the same was obtained fraudulently. Finding fault with the HC order, SC said, "the Scrutiny Committee duly considered the documents placed before it and after due application of mind on being satisfied, accorded reasons for accepting/validating the caste claim of the appellant herein while accepting/rejecting other certain documents. The Scrutiny Committee heard all

Vi Introduces Postpaid Roaming Packs for Azerbaijan and Select African Countries for Worry Free Travel

GURUGRAM / HISAR: In the last few years, Azerbaijan has seen a tremendous influx of Indian tourists visiting the country. A recent study indicated that the number of Indian visitors traveling to Azerbaijan almost doubled to 120,000 in 2023, which is a 100% increase in tourism as compared to the previous year. To cater to this attractive destination, leading telecom operator Vi has announced new international roaming packs for Azerbaijan and 12 other African countries. Vi Postpaid users traveling to Azerbaijan and African countries such as Cameroon,



Sudan, Rwanda, Ivory Coast, Liberia, (Equatorial) Guinea, Swaziland, South Sudan, Benin, Uganda, Zambia, and Guinea Bissau, can now enjoy seamless connectivity with international roaming packs starting at just Rs 749. Vi Postpaid users

will have a variety of options including a 24-hour pack, a 10-day pack, a 14-day pack, and a 30-day pack to stay connected while travelling abroad. Vi also has an 'ALWAYS ON' feature which protects users from high International Roaming Charges for any usage after

pack expiry. Vi is committed to providing the best international roaming packs tailored to meet the needs of every traveler. With these added countries, Vi users can avail hassle free international roaming packs at value prices in 117 countries worldwide.

New tax regime hits private sector addition to NPS

NEW DELHI: The pension scheme for the corporate and individuals, regulated by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), may have been hit by the new tax regime, which offers lower tax rates but no exemptions, such as, those for investment. Latest data released by PFRDA on Thursday estimated that the growth in overall subscriber base, comprising govt, private sector and Atal Pension Yojana, slowed to 16.3% during the last financial year, with the total number pegged at over 7.3 crore. Within National Pension System (NPS), with under 36 lakh subscribers, the share of private sector contributors, comprising the corporate scheme (where the employer and employee contribute) and individual pension accounts, was estimated at 7.5%. pvt sector In terms of growth, in the last financial year.

Congress is running nine Lok Sabha seats in Haryana but has not yet chosen a Gurgaon candidate



Delhi: The Congress's list of eight Haryana Lok Sabha candidates revealed included at least seven allies and supporters of former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda. The Congress is running nine Lok Sabha seats in Haryana but has not yet chosen a Gurgaon candidate. The opposition INDIA bloc's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has declared Sushil Gupta as their Kurukshetra candidate per the seat agreement. Hooda's son and Rajya Sabha MP Deepender Singh Hooda will again run

from Rohtak, while Kumari Selja will run from Sirsa. Selja faces former Haryana Congress president and BJP candidate Ashok Tanwar in Sirsa. Deepender will challenge BJP MP Arvind Kumar Sharma. Sharma narrowly defeated Deepender by 7,500 votes in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. The Congress unexpectedly nominated youth leader Divyanshu Budhiraja to challenge former chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Karnal Lok Sabha. Budhiraja is Punjabi like Khattar.

The Congress replaced Shrutika Choudhry (granddaughter of previous CM Bansi Lal) with Rao Dan Singh in Bhiwani - Mahendragarh Lok Sabha. Rao is Hooda-friendly. The Bansi Lal family has traditionally lived in Bhiwani - Mahendragarh. However, the party appears to have revised its tactics by standing an OBC candidate against Jat-majority BJP MP Dharambir Singh. Despite public expectation, the Congress did not field Brijendra Singh from Hisar.

NCBC calls Karnataka top babu on Muslim quota

NEW DELHI: National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) chairperson Hansraj Ahir has summoned Karnataka's chief secretary to explain the basis on which the entire Muslim community was included in the OBC category in the state even as BJP sharpened its charge of Muslim appeasement against Congress. While PM Narendra Modi accused Congress of trying to "snatch" the reservation rights of OBCs and give it to their "vote banks", Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath said it was very unfortunate and an attempt at "Islamisation

of India". "This is a part of despicable attempts at Islamisation of India and pushing it towards divisions. When the UPA govt came to power, it made such attempts at that time too. BJP had carried out a massive agitation. So, be it Justice Verma committee report or the Sachar committee report, they were all attempts by Congress to loot the reservation of OBCs, SCs and STs," Adityanath said.

NCBC has summoned the Karnataka chief secretary and sought a detailed report on what basis the Muslim community as a whole was

being treated as educationally and socially backward for the purpose of 4% reservation in education and appointments under category 2B. Moreover, the state govt is providing reservation to 17 socially and educationally backward Muslim castes under category 1 and 19 backward Muslim castes under category 2A. The commission has sought survey reports from the state to understand the basis for giving reservation to the Muslim community as a whole under category 2B. Ahir said replies received from the state were "not satisfactory" and the commission.

Centre removes 5-month onion export restriction

Delhi: To relieve onion producers, especially in Maharashtra, the Centre permitted the shipment of nearly one lakh tonnes of the kitchen staple to six neighboring countries: Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Bahrain, Mauritius, and the UAE. The Centre has also

allowed the export of 2,000 tonnes of white onions grown for Middle Eastern and European markets. For onion exports to these nations, National Exports Ltd. (NCEL) sourced domestic produce through an e-platform at L1 (lowest quoted) rates, according

to the ministry of consumer affairs. NCEL is given to the destination country's government-nominated agencies at the stipulated rate on a 100% advance payment basis. In 2023-24, kharif and rabi crops were expected to be lower and foreign demand.

CAPSULES

What ED said in SC while opposing Kejriwal's plea against arrest

NEW DELHI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has informed the Supreme Court that Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal played a central role in the excise policy case, acting as the "kingpin and key conspirator." The probe agency asserted that arresting an individual based on evidence of an offense does not undermine the principles of free and fair elections. According to the ED, Kejriwal allegedly collaborated with his ministers and AAP leaders, and was involved in "demanding kickbacks" from liquor businessmen in return for favors granted through the policy. The agency filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court in response to Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest, stating that he failed to cooperate with the ED despite being summoned multiple times in connection with the excise policy case. On April 15, the top court had sought a response from the ED by April 24 on Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest in the case. "The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is the major beneficiary of the proceeds of crime generated in the Delhi liquor scam. Part of the proceeds of crime to the tune of cash of Rs 45 cr approx. has been utilised in the election campaign of AAP in Goa Assembly elections 2022," it said.

"AAP has committed the offence of money laundering through Arvind Kejriwal and the offences thus are covered by section 70, PMLA 2002. He is also involved in demand of kickbacks which have inter-alia generated further proceeds of crime," it said. "A total of approximately 170 mobile phones were changed/destroyed by 36 persons (accused and other persons involved) during the period."

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Unveils Privé - A One-of-a-Kind Program that Provides Unparalleled Coverage and Service Excellence

GURUGRAM: Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, one of the leading private general insurers in India, today announced the launch of Privé, an exclusive customer experience program offering access to elevated and unmatched customer service excellence. Traditionally, in India, the thrive to increase insurance penetration over the last few years has largely been focused on tapping the customer base across the tier 2/tier 3 loca-



tions and rural markets, predominantly covering middle, upper middle class, and rural customers. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, in addition to its strong focus on

increasing insurance penetration across all the above-mentioned customer segments, will now also cater to a special segment of customers typically requiring insurance

solutions with enhanced coverage limits. Recognizing the multifaceted requirements and comprehensive protection that align with such discerning customers' financial and lifestyle preferences, Privé goes beyond the traditional insurance offerings. By being part of Privé, the customers gain access to an array of exclusive and prioritized insurance services, ensuring their requirements are met with precision.

Kalyan Jewellers solidifies its presence in Haryana with all-new showroom at Kurukshetra

Kurukshetra: Kalyan Jewellers, one of India's most-trusted and largest jewellery companies, today launched its brand new showroom in Kurukshetra. The new and luxurious showroom aims to strengthen company's market presence in Haryana, which features an extensive range of designs from various collections. This is the company's 8th showroom in the state of Haryana. Patrons can expect state-of-the-art facilities with world-class ambiance, providing an unparalleled



shopping experience. Talking about the new showroom, Mr. Ramesh Kalyanaraman, Executive Director of Kalyan Jewellers, said, "As a company, we have achieved huge milestones and taken major strides towards creat-

ing a holistic ecosystem to enhance the customer shopping experience. As we embark on this next phase of our growth journey, we are delighted to announce the launch of our new showroom in Kurukshetra. With this launch, we aim to con-

sistently expand our geographical footprint in the state of Haryana and are committed to continue offering best-in-class shopping experience to our customers while staying true to the company's core values of trust and transparency. "This season, customers can avail flat 25% off on making charges on all jewellery purchases*. To streamline the Akshaya Tritiya shopping experience, the jewellery brand has introduced its advance booking facility. As part of this pre-booking program.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Introduces New Grade of the Toyota Rumion

GURGAON/ROHTAK: Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM), today, officially announced the opening of bookings and the price of New Grade G-AT of the Toyota Rumion along with reopening of E-CNG bookings. The newly launched G-AT variant is expected to further boost the market acceptance of the Rumion with its unmatched space and comfort, excellent fuel efficiency, stylish and premium exterior design. The latest offering by TKM will be available at an attractive ex-showroom price of Rs. 13,00,000 with deliveries expected to commence from 5th May onwards. Customers can book the vehicle at any of the authorized dealerships or online with a booking fee of Rs 11,000/-. Toyota Rumion G-AT variant is



powered by the 1.5-litre K series petrol engine with 6-speed Automatic Transmission, featuring the Neo Drive (ISG) technology ensuring responsive performance. While the petrol grade has a power output of 75.8 kw @6000 rpm and torque of 136.8 Nm @4400 rpm for, the CNG grade boosts of 64.6 kw output @5500 rpm and torque of 121.5 Nm@4200 rpm. The Toyota Rumion is now available in seven variants of Neo drive MT: S, G and V grade. Neo Drive AT: S, G and V

grade. E-CNG: S grade offering a wide range of options for customers. The G-AT variant is enhanced with advanced technology including a 17.78 cm Smartplay Cast Touchscreen audio system with wireless Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. Equipped with Toyota i-Connect, it offers remote control for climate, lock/unlock, hazard lights and many more connected features. The Toyota Rumion also prioritizes safety for its owners with advanced safety features.

#VoteKarneKoTaiyaar Social Media campaign to Encourage Gen Z to 'Register to Vote'

GURUGRAM : Tata AIA Life Insurance Co. Ltd. (Tata AIA), Tata AIA, a leading life insurance company in India, has recently introduced an innovative social media campaign titled #VoteKarneKoTaiyaar. The campaign encourages young Indians, particularly first-time voters, to immediately register themselves to vote and then go ahead & vote on the election day, in their respective location. The campaign aims to instill a sense of national responsibility and duty among the youth, leveraging their growing consciousness towards societal issues. In a time where Gen Z is increasingly demonstrating a heightened awareness towards matters like sustainability, road safety,



and cyber awareness, Tata AIA recognizes the pivotal role they play in shaping the future of the nation. The #VoteKarneKoTaiyaar campaign taps into the digital savvy youth, who are avid consumers of online content and active on social media plat-

forms. Recognizing that over 90% of them utilize the internet and social media frequently, Tata AIA endeavors to channel this digital engagement towards fostering a culture of civic participation, starting with registering to vote. Designed to resonate

with the ethos of this generation, the campaign employs engaging content and leveraging social media channels to amplify its reach. By employing the hashtag #VoteKarneKoTaiyaar, Tata AIA aims to instill a widespread conversation amongst the youth on their active role as young citizens of India. By integrating the concept of 'taiyaari' (readiness) from Tata AIA's overarching brand theme, "Har Waqt Ke Liye Taiyaar," the campaign extends the narrative of being prepared by registering themselves to cast their important vote. It further encourages them to vote on the day of election and participate in securing their and the future of the nation.

Stretched resources for his tuition, says farmer whose son topped JEE

NAGPUR: Nilkrishna Gajare, who secured the all India rank 1 in JEE (Mains) exam Thursday, said studying computer science at IIT Bombay was his dream. The 18-year-old prepared for the exam at a coaching institute in Nagpur with a 75% scholarship. Maintaining a balance between studies and personal well-being, Nilkrishna said he exercises and meditates in his free time and stays away from social media. "I only had WhatsApp to communicate with teachers. I would wake up at 5am and hit the bed by 10pm. Apart from attending tuition classes, I would study for seven hours," he said. Supporting him every step of the way is his father Nilkumar Gajare, who had to drop out after class 12. Despite relying on farming for a livelihood, Nilkumar.

Delhi International School Edge Sparkles at the 10th SIFFCY International Children Film Festival



Children Film Festival In a spectacle of sheer talent and imagination, the students of Delhi International School Edge stole the show at the 10th SIFFCY International Children Film Festival, held from April 9th to April 11th, 2024. This renowned festival, celebrated for its global cinematic treasures, bore witness to the extraordinary prowess of DIS Edge students, both at the opening and closing ceremonies. The inaugural and concluding events, pulsating with a fusion of artistry and entertainment, were electrified by DIS Edge's enchanting performances. From spell-binding dance routines to enthralling theatrical displays, the students left an indelible impression on the audience, crafting an unforgettable festival experience. The zenith of pride for DIS Edge arrived

with six of our students ascending to the esteemed role of jury members for the festival. This exceptional feat not only underscores the caliber of talent cultivated at DIS Edge but also cements the institution's reverence and recognition within the film community. "We are immensely proud of our students for their exceptional achievements and for their selection as jury members at this prestigious event," expressed Ms. Anubha Srivastava, Principal of Delhi International School Edge. "It is a testament to their dedication, passion, and hard work." Evaluating films is a nuanced endeavor, exposing jury members to a spectrum of socio-emotional contexts, fostering their critical thinking skills. Witnessing our young jurors navigate these complexities with maturity and resilience

was a source of great pride and humility. The triumph of Delhi International School Edge at the 10th SIFFCY International Children Film Festival not only underscores the institution's commitment to holistic development but also serves as a beacon of inspiration for budding artists and filmmakers nationwide. As the curtains fall on another chapter of the festival, the radiance of DIS Edge's legacy continues to illuminate the path for future generations of creatives. With their exceptional accomplishments and stellar performances, the students of Delhi International School Edge have indelibly carved their names into the annals of cinematic excellence, promising a future brimming with boundless creativity and endless possibilities.

27 companies, 3,000 students: DU job mela resonates

Delhi: A two-day placement-cum-internship employment fair ended at Delhi University. The university central placement unit organized the career fair. The expo attracted around 3,000 kids this year. The university's placement department expects many students to be placed this year. The placement exercise included 27 companies, according to DU. The placement cell reported that 1,000 of 3,000 registered students were shortlisted by firms. "The job mela was a hit. Student involvement was high across disciplines and colleges. Around 27 companies offered placement and internships to over 3,000



students. We are certain that our students will receive good gifts and hope this trend continues in future melas and recruitment efforts." She said the institution barred registration this year to simplify placement, unlike usual. "We will know the exact packages offered during the placement and how many students actually got placed only in the coming days after the entire process is over,"

stated. Jasleen Kaur, 21, a BSc mathematics student at the employment fair, stated, "I like that the institution organizes job fairs. That way, students can find work." Subham Kumar, 20, a BSc student, said the employment fair offers students possibilities and should be held more often. Some students wanted more companies and more detailed career options at the job fair.

National Eligibility Test to replace PhD entrance exams at JNU

Delhi: JNU will use the National Eligibility Test (NET) score instead of the National Testing Agency (NTA) entrance test for PhD admission starting this academic year. JNU reported that UGC, as part of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, has decided to

allow universities/HEIs to use the score of the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by UGC and CSIR for Ph.D admission in place of an entrance test.

According to this decision, JNU will use NET scores for PhD admissions, replacing the NTA

entrance test. "Accordingly, JNU has decided to use NET score in place of the entrance test conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA) for admission to Ph.D Programmes in the University from the academic session 2024-25," said the note.

HC lets Stephen's interview minority applicants

Delhi: Delhi High Court allowed Delhi University's St Stephen's College to interview minority students applying for post-graduate courses and to give 15% of the marks to the interview and 85% to the CUET score. The high court said non-minority students would not be interviewed for PG courses in the college and would be admitted based on their CUET score, which is assessed by the National Testing Agency (NTA) for central university admis-



sion. Justice C Hari Shankar said Delhi University (DU) would keep college post-graduate (PG) seat allocations fair. The DU may

evaluate the college's facilities and the number of undergraduate (UG) students in that field of study while allocating PG seats. The

high court said these are guidelines and the DU can use any objective criterion. The court noted that universities had no standard for allocating PG seats and concluded "this is not an acceptable situation". PU regulating panel approves NEP 2020 undergraduate program extensions at associated colleges. Colleges will implement NEP for UG courses in 2024-25. Training programs for college faculty to implement new requirements.

Instead of cursing the opposition, BJP should tell what it has done in last ten years: Majra

Vikas Kumar Kaithal: INLD State President and former Chief Parliamentary Secretary Rampal Majra has made a big attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party. During a public relations campaign in the villages in support of party candidate Abhay Chautala, Majra said that the Bharatiya Janata Party is cursing the opposition even after its ten years of rule. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is still cursing the great leaders of the country including former Prime Ministers.



Whereas they should tell what has BJP done in ten years? What happened to the promise of providing jobs to two crore people every year during ten years of rule? What happened to the promise of setting up hundreds of smart cities? What happened to the promise

of bringing back black money stashed abroad? BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi should tell that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had promised that he will go among the public with his accounts of every five years. Now why are they talking

about mangalsutra, saree and such things instead of talking about their last five years' accounts? All this they are doing to divert people's attention from real issues. BJP and PM Narendra Modi have forgotten that people have now known the reality of BJP. This party did not spare any section. Government jobs were abolished. Lakhs of posts are lying vacant in government departments. BJP is also recruiting soldiers on contract. The tenure of an MLA is also five years.

JEE-Main: 56 applicants score 100 NTA, IIT cut-offs rise

Delhi: On Wednesday night, the National Testing Agency (NTA) reported that 56 applicants, including two women, scored 100 in JEE-Main. The qualifying percentile for JEE (Advanced), the entrance test for 23 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), reached a five-year high. In the JEE (Main) January session, 23 applicants obtained 100 NTA, whereas 33 in April did. The 56 winners include 40 generals, 10 OBC, and six gen-EWS. No SC or ST applicant scored 100 NTA this year. Officials say NTA score is not the same as mark %. "NTA scores are normalised across multi-session papers and based on the relative performance of all one-session exam takers. For each exam session, marks are translated into a 100-to-o scale "said a sen-



ior NTA official. The official added that 39 students were black-listed from JEE-Main for three years for cheating. According to protocol, candidates' ranks are based on the best of two NTA scores. Telangana leads state-wise for the third year with 15 top scorers. Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, with seven individuals each scoring 100 percentile, were distant second, followed by Delhi with six. About 96% of the 14.1 lakh candidates took the

undergraduate admissions test for engineering and architecture programs in centrally financed technical institutions to qualify for JEE (Advanced). Around 24,000 seats are available at NITs. The exam was given in 13 languages (Assamese, Bengali, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu) at 571 centers in 319 cities, including 22 outside India.

Despite university protests, the ambassador tells Indian students the US is safe to study



Delhi: After nearly half a dozen Indian and Indian-origin students died in the US this year, US ambassador Eric Garcetti stated the US is safe and "cares deeply" for their well-being. After President Joe Biden's decision to cut the time for Indian applicants, Garcetti said the US took on the issue of decreasing visa backlogs and is proud of the three-quarters reduction in American visa wait

times in a year. Indians favor the US for higher education, but a succession of deaths of Indian and Indian-origin students has raised concerns. Indian students in the US reached a record 268,923 in 2022-23, according to the US embassy. "We care deeply about US Indian students' well-being. When in the US, parents should realize their children are ours.

In the US, there are many mental health and distance-learning options for students, parents, and families. The US is safe and has many resources to protect students. We may not learn about occurrences until it's too late if they don't seek out, he said.

Students accepted to US universities attended a pre-departure orientation program at the American Center in New Delhi.

Before the T20 World Cup, Uganda named Abhay Sharma as their coach

Delhi: In the lead-up to the Twenty20 World Cup, the Uganda Cricket Association appointed Indian former first-class cricket player Abhay Sharma as the men's national team's new coach. Uganda has secured its spot in the competition for the first time, and starting on June 1, 20 teams from the United States and the West Indies will compete together. In a statement posted on its website, the UCA announced Sharma's hiring on a three-year working contract, citing his "wealth of knowledge and expertise to lead the Cricket Cranes into their next chapter."

Former wrestler Narsingh named WFI's seven-member athletes' panel

Delhi: former Commonwealth Games gold medalist Narsingh Panchar Yadav was chosen chairman of the Wrestling Federation of India's (WFI) Athletes' Commission, as required by the sport's world governing body. Eight people competed for seven seats. Paper ballots were used. Narsingh made news before the 2016 Olympics when two-time Olympic medalist Sushil Kumar, who missed the qualification event due to injury, demanded a match against him. After Sushil's Delhi High Court petition was dismissed, Narsingh was confirmed for the Rio Olympics. In a startling turn of events, Narsingh failed two dope tests before the Games and was banned for four years by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) despite the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) clearing him on the grounds of sabotage.

Will hoist the flag of victory in the elections with the blessings of the people of Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency: Pala Ram Saini

Kaithal: People of every section are getting huge support from various villages and cities in favor of Pala Ram Saini, an educated, hard-working, honest JJP candidate and social worker from Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency. Social worker JJP candidate Pala Ram Saini's friendly image and selfless policy of serving the needy and suffering humanity has settled in the hearts of everyone. This belief has been formed in the hearts of the people that if anyone goes to Pala Ram Saini for financial support for needy, religious or social work, then Pala Saini goes two steps ahead and applies the balm of help to the wounds of the suffering humanity. Along with this, they also come forward and offer their support in religious and social works. JJP candidate Pala Ram Saini went door to door and appealed to the people



to vote with folded hands and expressed his gratitude for the respect, cooperation, support and blessings being given by the people and said that the cooperation, support and blessings being given by the people. I will remain indebted to you for your blessings throughout my life and with the blessings of the public, by hoisting the flag of victory in the elections, no stone will be left unturned in making every village of Kurukshetra Lok Sabha the number one area in the path of development. As per the expectations of the people,

development work will be carried out with the cooperation, support and guidance of every section of the people. The work will be done sitting at the homes of the public and the work will be done jointly by everyone, taking every class along. The public will not be allowed to visit government offices to get their daily work done. By becoming a public servant, I will be available to serve the people 24 hours a day and night. On this occasion, a large number of JJP workers, villagers and dignitaries were present with him.

Netas feel superior after this class 5 passout



Delhi: Giridhari Barik (69), who has made bespoke garments for Odisha politicians for 40 years, said Biju Babu was a sharp dresser. CMs like Biju Patnaik of Janata Dal or JB Patnaik of Congress, Giridhar Gamang, Hemananda Biswal, Communist party veterans Lokanath Choudhary and Sivaji Patnaik, and today's young Turks trust Barik with their measurements. Before the 2024 LS polls, Barik, the 'Master', is

inundated with requests to stitch kurta-pyjamas for lawmakers from all parties. "You may think that I am bragging but my first client was none other than Biju Patnaik," he remarked. "On October 2, 1983, Biju Babu inaugurated Khadi Niketan in Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar, where I had a tailoring shop. Kailash Sahu, the store owner, suggested I sew Biju Babu a kurta. Biju Babu grudgingly said all his kurtas are

made in Delhi, but if he loved the fit, he would let me stitch them forever. His great height, long hands, and broad shoulders made it difficult. Barik stated I have stitched all his kurtas since then. Barik measured over 150 Odisha leaders, including CM Naveen Patnaik, for whom he stitched kurta-pyjama.

The manner of politicians has changed over time. Most choose cotton, but linen is popular now.

CAPSULES

1 in 4 Congress, 1 in 5 BJP from political families

Delhi: Given the political churn, not all political family candidates are running for the same party as their elders. Multigenerational politics is seen in the fact that one in four Congress candidates in the Lok Sabha elections are from political families, compared to one in five (of the 424 announced) Bharatiya Janata Party candidates. Thus far, 87 of the 424 BJP candidates are from political families, compared to 65 of 250 Congress candidates. For this analysis, a political family has a grandparent, parent, or elder sibling who is an elected or nominated member of Parliament or a state assembly or a key political party position. Analysts expect the BJP's list to include many political families for two reasons. First, the party has always prioritized winnability. Two, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated in Parliament that candidates who follow their elders are fine. The BJP's Andhra Pradesh candidate is D Purandeshwari, daughter of Telugu Desam Party founder NT Rama Rao. She and BJP candidate Kiran Kumar Reddy (former CM) were Congress members. His Congressman father was connected to Indira Gandhi and PV Narsimha Rao. BJP candidates come from anti-Congress political families. Its Bihar candidate is the son of former Bettiah MP Madan Kumar Jaiswal. Newada candidate Vivek Thakur is the son of former Union minister CP Thakur. In Gujarat, the BJP nominated Poonamben Madam, daughter of six-term MLA and former mayor Hemantibhai Madam. Bharatsinh Dabhi, son of two-term MLA Shankarji Okhaji Thakor, is another seasoned state candidate. BJP candidates from political families include Bansuri Swaraj, daughter of late Sushma Swaraj in New Delhi, BY Raghavendra, son of BS Yedyurappa (the sitting MP from Shimoga who was reelected), and former chief minister Basavaraj Bommai, son of SR Bommai.

Raj Cong treasurer joins BJP

Delhi: Sitaram Agarwal, Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee treasurer, joined the BJP after losing the 2023 State Assembly election to Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari. Over 300 people from all backgrounds joined the BJP at its State headquarters alongside Mr. Agarwal. Congress candidate Mr. Agarwal lost against BJP's Ms. Kumari in Vidyadhar Nagar, Jaipur. Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot knew him. His BJP membership was witnessed by Ms. Kumari and senior party officials Narayan Lal Panchariya and Onkar Singh Lakhawat.



Jannayak Janata Party leader Raghuveer Singh Tanwar, who ran in the 2023 Assembly elections, All-India Reserve Bank Employees' Union former national secretary G.N. Pareek, Vishwakarma Industries Association president

Jagdish Somani, Hanuman priest Sudarshan Maharaj, and Municipal Councillors Kesharmal Sharma, Dhapa Devi, and Mahesh Agarwal joined the BJP.

Misa and Rohini, Lalu Prasad's daughters, are listed

Delhi: Misa Bharti and Rohini Acharya, the daughters of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) president Lalu Prasad, are two of the party's 22 announced candidates for the Bihar Lok Sabha, the latter of whom is running for office for the first time. From Saran (formerly Chhapra), Rohini has been fielded, and her older sister Misa is from Patliputra.

High court confirms death to man who killed his son, sister & her family members

NAGPUR: The Nagpur bench of the Bombay high court on Thursday confirmed the death penalty for Vivek Palatkar, who was convicted of killing his son, sister, and three other family members. Palatkar's victims included his son Krishna, his sister Archana Pawankar (45), her husband Kamlakar (48), her mother-in-law Meerabai (73), and her daughter Vedanti (12). The sessions

court had sentenced him to death after recording the testimonies of 29 witnesses. The accused also had other crimes registered against him. Additional government pleader Sanjay Doifide, who argued the case on behalf of the prosecution, drew the court's attention to statements from witnesses, including the accused's daughter and sister's daughter, who miraculously survived the bloody

attack. The convict's sister, Archana Pawankar, lived with her family in Aradhana Nagar in Dighori. Her husband, Kamlakar, was a property dealer who ran his business under the name "V a i s h n a v i Electricals" from home. Previously, when Palatkar was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of his wife, Kamlakar spent Rs 5 lakh to secure his release on bail and later sought the money back. A dispute arose when Palatkar refused to return the money, despite having resources and over 10 acres of farmland in Navargaon. Palatkar then devised a plan to kill Kamlakar and his family to silence their demands. On June 11, 2018, Kamlakar's family members had lunch with him and then fell asleep.

The group of students at a primary school in Bastar district took a stand against a teacher

NEW DELHI: The group of students at a primary school in Chhattisgarh's Bastar district took a stand against a teacher who arrived intoxicated. The viral video depicts the intense scene as the teacher hastily starts his motorbike

amidst a barrage of slippers thrown by the students, ultimately fleeing the premises. This dramatic confrontation sheds light on the challenges faced by students in accessing quality education and the pressing need for accountability within the education system. As per the 'X' post, the incident took place at Pilibhatta Primary School, where the teacher's recurrent presence in class while under the influence of alcohol had become a growing concern. Rather than fulfilling his teaching duties, he frequently resorted to sleeping on the floor, disregarding the needs of his students. Frustrated by his behavior, the students confronted him, only

to face verbal abuse in return. Matters reached a tipping point when the teacher arrived intoxicated once again last week, prompting the students to take decisive action. This incident is not isolated, as another disturbing event recently surfaced in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district. A teacher was caught on camera openly carrying alcohol onto school premises, displaying a blatant disregard for the standards of conduct expected in such settings.

The footage serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for enhanced oversight and accountability measures within educational institutions.

SAD Releases First List Of Seven Names For Anandpur Sahib,



Delhi: The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) unveiled its initial slate of candidates for seven Lok Sabha seats in Punjab on Baisakhi. On the list are Gurdaspur's Dr. Daljit Singh Cheema, Anandpur Sahib's Prem Singh Chandu Majra, Patiala's N K Sharma, Amritsar's Anil Joshi, Fatehgarh Sahib's Vikramjit

Singh Khalsa, Faridkot's Rajwinder Singh, and Sangrur's Iqbal Singh Jhunda. prominent leader Daljit Singh Cheema wrote on X, "S Sukhbir Singh Badal made a list of seven prominent leaders of the party as candidates for the 2024 Parliamentary Elections. selecting "Khalsa Sirjana

Divas," a historic and holy event, as the ideal day to sound the poll bugle. With the announcement on March 26 that the BJP would stand independently for all 13 Punjabi parliamentary seats, all hopes of forming an alliance with the SAD for the next Lok Sabha elections were abruptly

dashed. Among the BJP's oldest allies was the SAD. The SAD and BJP, in spite of their alliance, did not have the expected success in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. In spite of the pro-BJP trend observed in other regions of northern and central India, the Congress managed to capture eight seats.

Girders launched between Kalyan & Kasara till early Sunday morning

MUMBAI: The Central Railway launched a girder on the bridge between Khadavli and Vasind stations shortly till early Sunday morning and also girders for FOB between Asangaon and Atgaon. Due to the girder work and related rail blocks, passengers were inconvenienced with late night suburban train cancellations for Kasara. Six Mail and Express trains were rescheduled while ten other long distance trains were regulated due to the girder work. Girders were also launched for FOB between Shahad and Ambivali station. As a result, the suburban local train for Kasara leaving CSMT at 12.15am on Sunday was short terminated at Thane.