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

## Charanjit Singh Channi's remark advocating Amritpal Singh sparks row, Congress distances

**NEW DELHI:** The Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday lambasted former Punjab chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi after he accused the Union government of curbing 'free speech' of newly elected MP and radical Sikh preacher Amritpal Singh by invoking the National Security Act against him. The Congress, meanwhile, distanced itself from Channi's remark saying it does not reflect the party's position. Leading the attack on the Congress, Union minister and Giriraj Singh said, "On Channi's statement, I would only say that Indira Gandhi's assassin was a Khalistani and Congress is supporting Khalistani." "Wah re Congress, Jai Channi. This is an attack on India's sov-



**NHRC notice to Delhi govt, police chief on death of 26-year-old UPSC aspirant**

**NEW DELHI:** The National Human Rights Commission on Thursday issued notices to Delhi government, police chief and a power discom over the death of a 26-year-old UPSC aspirant due to electrocution in Delhi's Patel Nagar. In a statement, the commission said it has taken "suo motu cognisance of a media report that a young man died due to electrocution while trying to cross over a

water-logged street with the support of an iron gate leading to his paying guest accommodation in Patel Nagar area of Delhi on July 22". The 26-year-old Nilesh Rai, who hailed from Deoria, Varanasi, had come to Delhi for preparation of civil services. Reportedly, the iron gate stands right next to an electric pole with a cluster of exposed wires going to various homes in the society, it said.

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ke saath," he added. BJP MP and Union minister Prahlad Joshi also condemned Channi's remarks and said, "This issue is in court. Serious allegations are against him (Amritpal Singh). It's not right to talk about it in the Parliament. It's before the people, what Congress has done." "He (Charanjit Singh Channi) was not there during the Emergency, so he didn't know what was the condition then. Today, they keep commenting over the PM, was it possible to make such comments over Indira Gandhi, during the Emergency?" he added. Meanwhile, Congress distanced itself from controversy and claimed that the views expressed by Channi do not toe the party lined.

## Racist slurs: Under fire from MAGA, Usha Vance gets Telugu diaspora backing

**VIJAYAWADA:** The Telugu diaspora in the US has stood in support of Usha Vance, wife of JD Vance, Donald Trump's running mate from Republican Party, following racist slurs by members of Make America Great Again (MAGA) on social media platforms. "These racist comments are not acceptable and are highly condemnable," said Niranjan Srungavarapu, president of Telugu Association of North America (TANA). It has become an increasingly difficult choice for Telugu diaspora to choose between two women — Usha and Kamala Harris, who is likely to be the presidential candidate from Democratic Party. The Telugu diaspora has been a mixed house when it comes to supporting political parties. While employees and students, though not having voting rights, are closer to the Democrats because of the liberal immigration policy, those who are into businesses and obtained



**India, South Korea conduct joint air drill during 'Pitch Black' exercise**

**Korean F-15K vs Indian Su-30MKI:** India, South Korea conduct joint air drill during 'Pitch Black' exercise Indian team at Pitch Black exercise (PIB Image)

**Korean F-15K and Indian Su-30MKI fighter jets.** This edition is the largest in the 43-year-long history of exercise Pitch Black, which includes participation by 20 countries, with over 140 aircraft and 4400 military personnel of various air forces, Eurasian Times reported.

green card in the US are generally in favour of Republicans. The racist comments made by some of the far-right groups have become a concern for Telugu community. Nirajan said generally Indians are aligned with Republicans but this

time they might choose Kamala if she is announced as presidential candidate. "We stand in support of Usha when it comes to condemning racism, but there is a chance that Telugu people and for that matter Indians are likely to rally behind.

### Guidance program focused on stress management

**PUNE:** Around 50 people, including those who have successfully conceived through IVF and those undergoing IVF cycles participated in a programme organised by KEM Hospital, Pune to mark World IVF Day which is marked on 25th July. The programme focused on the importance of reducing stress in couples battling infertility and those undergoing IVF cycles. While embarking on the journey of IVF, couples naturally have a lot of anxiety and stress about whether the treatment will be successful and other issues while continuing with their daily work routine. Taking proper care of self, a healthy lifestyle and stress management is therefore very important. Stress along with many other factors like age, genetics, underlying causes, lifestyle factors etc.

## 'Pablo Escobar', 'maniac': CM Naidu's all-out attack on Jagan Mohan



**NEW DELHI:** Andhra Pradesh chief minister Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday unleashed a no-holds barred attack on his predecessor YSR Congress leader Jagan Mohan Reddy comparing the former chief minister to Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar as he alleged drug menace in the state in the last five years under the YSR Congress rule. Naidu also called Jagan Mohan Reddy a maniac who aspired to become richer than Tata, Reliance and Ambani. Releasing a white paper on law and order and ganja (marijuana) prevalence, Naidu claimed that he never saw such a situation like how it was when Reddy ruled. "Only one person can be compared to what happened in Andhra, and it is Pablo Escobar," he said in assembly, in an apparent reference to the drug menace. The CM alleged that the southern state had emerged as ganja capital between 2019 and 2024 and vowed to crack down on it. "Pablo Escobar is a Colombian drug lord, he is a Narco terrorist. He turned politician and then started his cartel to sell drugs. He earned \$30 billion at that time, now it's \$90 billion worth. He was arrested in 1976 and in 1980 he became the number one richest drug lord in the world. One can become richer by selling drugs as well. What was the aim of former Chief Minister (YS Jagan)? Tata, Reliance, Ambani have money and he aspired to become richer than them. Few have needs, few have greed and few have mania and these maniacs do these kinds of things," Naidu said in the state assembly.

## Karnataka MUDA scam: Political drama continues as BJP MLAs stage protest march

**NEW DELHI:** The Karnataka Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday intensified its attack over the alleged MUDA scam as its MLAs staged a march from Vidhana Soudha to Raj Bhavan demanding the resignation of chief minister Siddaramaiah. BJP MLA Mahesh Tenginkai said, "Siddaramaiah is involved in this scam, in MUDA as well as Valmiki issue. So, we



demand that Siddaramaiah should resign. Congress government too should be removed." "A meeting has been called by our party on 28th July, a decision will be made on 29th July. We will protest

after the opposition legislatures, including the leader of opposition R Ashok and BJP Karnataka president BY Vijayendra, protested against the government by sleeping inside the Karnataka Assembly. They alleged a political motive behind the formation of the inquiry commission to probe the alleged irregularities, and said it was aimed at denying the House.

## 'Received protest note from Bangladesh': MEA on Mamata shelter' offer

**NEW DELHI:** The ministry of external affairs on Thursday said that India has received a diplomatic note from Bangladesh registering its protest against the comments made by West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee on the Bangladeshi students' quota protest that spiralled into deadly violence claiming the lives of over 100 people. MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "I can confirm that we have

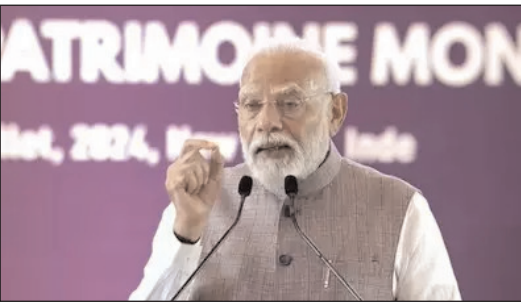


received a diplomatic note, a communication from the Bangladesh side protesting the comments made by the West Bengal CM. It is essentially on the lines described in the reports.

"I would underline that under the 7th Schedule, List 1 - Union List, Item 10, of our Constitution, the conduct of foreign affairs and all matters which bring the Union into relation with any foreign country, are the sole prerogative of the Union Govt," he added. The Bangladeshi objection comes days after the West Bengal CM directed the state administration to render all help.

## Maharashtra assembly elections: What is PM Modi's advise to BJP MPs from state

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday set the tone for upcoming assembly elections in Maharashtra as he asked party MPs from the state to strongly counter opposition propaganda against his government. The Prime Minister asked the BJP MPs to take the schemes and initiatives announced in the Union Budget to the masses and stub out the opposition attempts to spread misinformation about the government, a parliamentary source told news agency PTI. "The Prime Minister also asked us to outstrip the opposition propaganda against the government and



reach out to every voter at the booth level," a BJP MP who attended the meeting said. Maharashtra is one of the key strongholds where the BJP did not perform well in Lok Sabha elections which eventually left the saffron party 32 seats short of the majority mark in the Lower House. The BJP, which performed poorly in the just-concluded Lok Sabha elections in the state winning only 9 out of the 28 seats it contested,

their erstwhile mentors. Shinde won 7 seats against Uddhav's 9 and NCP chief got only 1 against senior Pawar's 8 Lok Sabha seats. The saffron party has faced criticised from RSS for aligning with the junior Pawar, who faced corruption charges and was even targeted by PM Modi in his rallies before the coalition was formed. , as of now the BJP plans to contest the assembly elections with Shinde and Ajit Pawar. The opposition on the other hand, knows that it has an opportunity to dislodge the NDA government in the state and will be going all out to win the assembly elections.

## Indian IT industry has a 'new' highest-paid CEO

**CEO C.Vijayakumar emerges as the top-paid Indian CEO** with a substantial remuneration increase. The annual report reveals detailed breakdown of his salary, including base pay, bonuses, and incentives. Moreover, Vijayakumar discusses company performance and the evolving workplace model in a shareholder letter. Indian IT industry has a 'new' highest-paid CEO: Here's how much he earned

HCLTech	CEO	C
Vijayakumar	CEO	C
HCLTech	CEO	C
Vijayakumar	CEO	C

Vijayakumar has become the highest paid Indian CEO. According to the company's annual report released on July 22, Vijayakumar's remuneration for the fiscal year 2024 jumped to around Rs 84.16 crore, a 190.75 per cent year-on-year increase.

## Indian-Americans boost Harris's presidential bid?

In the wake of President Joe Biden's announcement to withdraw from the 2024 presidential race, Vice President Kamala Harris has garnered sufficient backing from Democratic delegates to secure her party's nomination, as confirmed by an Associated Press survey. Top Democrats have swiftly rallied behind Harris, signaling their support in the aftermath of Biden's decision. The rapid consolidation of support for Harris reflects the Democratic Party's concerted effort to put the weeks of internal turmoil surrounding Biden's political future to rest and unite in their shared goal of defeating Republican candidate. Donald Trump, with just over three months remaining until the

election. In the 24 hours following Biden's withdrawal from the race, prominent Democratic elected officials, party leaders, and political organizations promptly aligned themselves with Harris, and her campaign achieved a new single-day record for presidential campaign donations on Monday. Why it matters Biden's withdrawal and Harris's potential nomination could significantly impact voter dynamics. Asian-Americans, traditionally Democratic supporters, have shown declining support under Biden. Harris, the first female vice-president and daughter of immigrants, might reinvigorate this key demographic, reversing trends seen in recent polls.

## BJP's Udaybhan Karwariya spending life in jail for murder released following UP Gov's pardon Governor issued an order to release him

Prayagraj: Udaybhan Karwariya, a former Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA convicted to life in jail for the 1996 murder of a Samajwadi Party legislator, was released on Thursday after being pardoned by Governor Anandiben Patel. Rang Bahadur Patel, senior superintendent of Naini Central Jail, stated that the release orders for Udaybhan Karwariya were obtained on Wednesday evening. He was released on Thursday in accordance with the ruling. After adopting the state government's request for Karwariya's premature release, the governor issued an order to release him under the authority granted on her by Article 161 of the Constitution.

Article 161 authorizes the governor to award pardons, reprieves, respites, or remissions of penalty, as well as to suspend, remit, or commute the sentence of any convict under any law relating to a matter within the scope of the state's executive power.

## BJP Yuva Morcha takes out torch procession on eve of Kargil Vijay Diwas

Prayagraj: On the eve of 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas by BJP Yuva Morcha Prayagraj Metropolitan Tribute was paid to the brave soldiers of Kargil by



taking out a torch procession. The torch procession was led by Yuva Morcha President Rohit Pappu Pandey. The torch procession was started from Katra Manmohan Park, passing through Balsan Square and ended at the statue of Azad Park. On this occasion, BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, Rajesh Kesarwani, Neeraj Tripathi, Sachin Mishra, Sonu Singh, Siddharth Pandey, Abhinav Chaudhary, Ambuj Abhishek Singh Harshit and hundreds of Yuva Morcha workers were present.

## Prayagraj Zone gets Gold medal in CISCE Regional Cricket (Girls) Tournament

Prayagraj: We are thrilled to announce that Prayagraj Zone has won the Gold Medal in the Under-19 Girls category at the CISCE Regional Cricket Tournament. This incredible achievement is a testament to the hard



work and dedication of our talented young cricketers. Special congratulations to Samiksha Yadav, a student of Class 11th TMPS International School and College, who has been selected to represent Uttar Pradesh in the National Cricket Competition in Bhopal this October. Priya Mehrotra, Chairperson of TMPS Group of Schools, and Dr. Yogesh Arora, Principal of TMPS International School and College, congratulated Samiksha for bringing laurels to our institution and making all of us Proud.

### TODAY EVENT

On July 26 at 7:00 pm, Shiv Shakti Sena will pay tribute to the brave soldiers of Kargil at Loknath intersection.

## Suraksha Diagnostic Limited files DRHP with SEBI

Varanasi: Suraksha Diagnostic Limited, the largest full-service and integrated diagnostic chain headquartered in east India, in terms of operating income as of Fiscal 2023 as per a CRISIL Report, has filed the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with capital markets regulator SEBI to float an initial public offering (IPO).

According to the draft red herring prospectus, the Initial Public Offering of the Kolkata headquartered company consists of an Offer for Sale of up to 19,189,330 Equity Shares by the Selling Shareholders.

The OFS comprises of up to 10,660,737 Equity Shares by the Investor Selling Shareholder - OrbiMed Asia II Mauritius Limited; up to 2,132,148 Equity Shares each by the Promoter Selling Shareholders - Dr. Somnath Chatterjee, Ritu Mittal and Satish Kumar Verma, and the Individual Selling Shareholders, Munna Lal Kejriwal and Santosh Kumar Kejriwal offering up to 799,556 Equity Shares and up to 1,332,593 Equity Shares, respectively.

The objects of the Offer are to carry out the Offer for Sale of up to 19,189,330 Equity Shares by the Selling Shareholders; and achieve the benefits of listing the Equity Shares on the Stock Exchanges

Dr. Somnath Chatterjee along with late Kishan Kumar Kejriwal built a fully comprehensive diagnostic centre in Kolkata, under the 'Suraksha' brand in 1992.



Public representatives of Prayagraj division met Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday and discussed development works, while suggesting ways to accelerate the process.

## Cong raises demand to sack Yogi after SC setback on Kanwar Yatra order

Prayagraj: Had BJP respected the Constitution, it would have removed Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath from the post. After the Supreme Court's ban on the Yogi government's order to install nameplates on shops on the Kanwar Yatra route, Congress has made it an issue. In this series, Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee, on the instructions of State President of Minority Department Shahnawaz Alam, has started a campaign in Prayagraj like the entire state. Minority Congress officials putting photos of the Preamble of the Constitution on fruit carts. Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee. On Thursday, the Minority Department resolved to strengthen the unity of the country by putting photos of the Preamble of the Constitution on the carts of fruit vendors on Prayagraj's Railway Station Road and Nakhaskona

Chowk Road, Nurulla Road. During this, City Chairman of Minority Department Arshad Ali said that the Yogi government's order to



reveal the religious identity of fruit vendors was anti-constitutional. At present the Supreme Court has put a stay. This is a decision establishing the supremacy of the Constitution. After this, Yogi Adityanath should resign from the post of Chief Minister or BJP should remove him. Congress came

out to put photos of the Preamble of the Constitution on fruit carts. City President Arshad Ali said that the minority Congress will put

photos of the Preamble of the Constitution on fruit carts in the entire state, especially on the route of Kanwar Yatra and will give the message that Congress will not allow any conspiracy by the BJP government to divide the society to succeed. He said that BJP is afraid of the political

unity of Dalits, backward classes and Muslims and is doing all kinds of anti-constitutional work to break it.

Arshad Ali said that in this country full of diversity, it is the Constitution that unites everyone. Our Constitution defines citizens as 'We the People of India' rather than by religious identity. Whereas BJP wants to divide 'We the people of India' on the basis of religion, caste, race and clan. Yogi government's order to make religious identity public was part of this anti-constitutional conspiracy, which has been banned by the Supreme Court. On this occasion, Backward Class City President Mohd Hasin, Talib Ahmed, Nafees Qureshi, Gopal Shastri, Haji Sartaj, Zahid leaders . Mohd. Khalid Raza, Mahfooz Ahmed, Ghulam Waris, Mukhtar Ahmed, Bilal Khan etc. were present.

## DM conducted surprise inspection of Sub Registrar Office, gave necessary guidelines

Prayagraj: District Magistrate Navneet Singh Chahal conducted surprise inspection of Sub Registrar Office I on Thursday. While inspecting the registrar office, record room and premises, he has given instructions to take special care of cleanliness. Looking at the files kept in the record room, he has directed to keep the files kept in a disorganized manner in an organized manner and to keep



the records cleaned continuously. He obtained information about the number of employees appointed in the office and the work done by them and said that apart from these, no work should be taken from any person and no unauthorized person should be allowed to enter the place where the records are kept. This should be ensured. He asked Deputy Registrar Sadar I to meet Additional District Magistrate Nazul and take action to shift the office to another place. He asked to take care of the electrical equipment along with the records. On this occasion, Additional District Magistrate Finance and Revenue Vinay Kumar Singh, Deputy Registrar Sadar Chaturbhuj Pandey and other concerned were present.

## Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd's IPO to open on July 30

Varanasi: Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited ("AKUMS" or "The Company"), shall open the Bid/Offer Period in relation to its initial public offer of the Equity Shares ("Offer") on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. The Offer comprises a fresh issue of such number of Equity Shares (face value ₹ 2 each) by the Company aggregating up to ₹ 6,800 million ("Fresh Issue") and offer for sale of up to 17,330,435 Equity Shares ("Offered Shares") by certain existing shareholders of the Company (the "Selling Shareholders"). The Offered Shares comprises up to 1,512,000 Equity Shares by Sanjeev Jain, up to 1,512,000 Equity Shares by

Sandeep Jain, (collectively, the "Promoter Selling Shareholders") and up to 14,306,435 Equity Shares by Ruby QC Investment Holdings Pte. Ltd. (The "Ruby QC" or "Investor Selling Shareholder") (such offer for sale of the Equity Shares by the Selling Shareholders, the "Offer for Sale"). Ruby QC is backed by Quadria Capital, a prominent healthcare focused private equity fund in Asia. This Offer includes a reservation of up to such number of Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 150.00 million (₹ 15.00 crore) for subscription by eligible employees. (the "Employee Reservation Portion")

The Anchor Investor

Bid/Offer Period opens and closes on Monday, July 29, 2024. The Bid/Offer Period will open on Tuesday, July 30, 2024 for subscription and close on Thursday, August 1, 2024. ("Bid Details") The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at ₹ 646 to ₹ 679 per Equity Share (the "Price Band"). Bids can be made for a minimum of 22 Equity Shares and in multiples of 22 Equity Shares thereafter. (the "Minimum Bid Lot").

The Company proposes to utilise the Net Proceeds from Fresh Issue of Equity Shares by the Company towards (i) Repayment/prepayment of indebtedness of the Company; (ii) Repayment/pre-

payment of indebtedness of its Subsidiaries namely, Maxcure Nutravedics Limited and Pure and Cure Healthcare Private Limited; (iii) Funding incremental working capital requirements of the Company; (iv) Pursuing inorganic growth initiatives through acquisitions; and (v) General corporate purposes. (the "Objects of the Offer").

This Equity Shares are being offered through the Red Herring Prospectus of the Company dated July 24, 2024 filed with the Registrar of Companies, Delhi and Haryana at New Delhi. (The "RHP")

The Equity Shares to be offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are pro-

posed 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, NSE is the Designated Stock Exchange. (the "Listing Details")

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended read with Regulation 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018, as amended ("SEBI ICDR Regulations")

and in compliance with Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not less than 75% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs") ("QIB Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price ("Anchor Investor Portion"), in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. In the event of under-subscription or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the Net QIB Portion.

## It's Raining Dealerships for Mahindra Trucks and Buses in July

Varanasi: After a strong 4 year CAGR growth of 46% in business volume in F24, Mahindra's Truck and Bus Division (MTBD) inaugurated five state-of-the-art dealerships in the month of July spread over four states in India which adds 37 service bays that can service more than 75 vehicles per day while also providing driver lodging, 24-hour breakdown assistance, and AdBlue availability.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Jalaj Gupta, Business Head - Commercial Vehicles, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, said, "MTBD has a strong presence in the Indian CV market, having already secured the No. 3 position in numerous sectors and markets. We are confident that the addition of these 5 new dealerships to our network will help expanding our reach, which will help our customers for vehicles servicing and will provide more uptime to their fleets. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to providing innovative and efficient transportation solutions to our esteemed customers."



Mr. Gupta further emphasized about their vehicle's superior technological prowess, launching the new mileage guarantee "Zyada Mileage Nahintoh Truck Wapas" for BS6 OBD II range of trucks, which promises unmatched value by increasing profitability for transporters. He further added that these state-of-art 3S facilities coupled with strong dealer partners will set high customer service standards and expand the MTB business. Mahindra BLAZO X, FURIO, OPTIMO and JAYO are the only CV truck range in India that gives double service guarantees including best in class fuel efficiency. MTBD has also guaranteed uptime on its Breakdown service by getting the truck back on road in 48 hours, else the Company will pay the customer Rs. 1000/- per day. Additionally, guaranteed turnaround of vehicle in 36 hours at the dealer workshop or company will pay 3000/- per day. Continuous product innovation and customer centricity is at the core of MTBD which has made these guarantees possible.

## "Course on Computer Concepts" started in Govt ITI

Lucknow: A new course has been launched at the Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI), Aliganj, Lucknow with the aim of skill upgradation of youth under the Skill India Program (Kaushal Bharat-Kushal Bharat) and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY-4.0) of the Government of India. Is going. Principal Government ITI Aliganj Lucknow informed that the name of this course is "Course on Computer

Concepts", which will be conducted from August 7, 2024 under ITS sector. The last date of registration in this course is 29 July 2024. Candidates willing to get training can collect the form on any working day at Government Industrial Training Institute, Aliganj along with photocopy of Aadhar Card, High School Certificate and Marksheet, and 2 passport size photographs. Can. Entry will be on first come first serve basis and is completely free.

# ABVP delegation submits suggestions to high-level committee for NTA reforms

## ABVP suggests NEET-UG Exam in Two Phases ABVP Calls for Rapid Development of High-Level Infrastructure for CBT Mode Exams

Prayagraj: Today in Delhi, a delegation of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) presented a detailed letter of suggestions to Dr. K Radhakrishnan, Chairman of the high-level committee constituted for reforming the National Testing Agency (NTA). The delegation highlighted the need for enhancements in the functioning of NTA and its examinations like JEE, NEET, UGC-NET etc. In its suggestion letter, Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad suggested administrative reforms within NTA, measures to ensure examination transparency, development of advanced infrastructure for conducting exams, adequate staffing of permanent employ-

ees at NTA, establishment of government institutions as exam centers, and adoption of a two-phase NEET-

ABVP also addressed concerns regarding internet security for computer-based exams (CBT), adop-

timely grievance resolution, and the formation of subject expert teams to curate exam question banks.

ately addressing these issues. National General Secretary of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Shri Yagywalkya Shukla said that, "Over the past two weeks, ABVP has consulted students from diverse disciplines such as humanities, medical sciences, engineering, and others, and compiled 42 suggestions for reforming the National Testing Agency (NTA). These suggestions have now been submitted to the High-Level Committee overseeing NTA reforms. It is crucial to promptly resolve the issues plaguing NTA to restore trust in its examination processes. We hope that the committee will take decisive action based on ABVP's recommendations."



UG examination format akin to JEE. Additional recommendations included the uploading of OMR sheets on the NTA website.

tion of AI-based proctoring algorithms, quality translation, strict implementation of anti-leak measures, accuracy in answer key releases,

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad emphasized the urgent need of restoring student confidence in NTA exams by immedi-

# Farmer training program organized by SHUATS



Prayagraj: Under the direction of Dr. Praveen Charan, Director of Extension, Directorate of Extension, SHUATS Prayagraj, a farmer training program was organized in village Sarai Devraj, Mandhata, Pratapgarh. While inaugurating the training program, scientist Dr. Sarvendra Kumar, while discussing the production technology of Kharif crops, told the farmers that 20-25 days old seedlings should be used for planting paddy. Use fertilizers only on the basis of soil test. Giving detailed in-

formation to the farmers on the usefulness and production technology of grain, he said that the main grain crops grown in the country are millet, ragi, kodo, kutki, sawa. Scientist Dr. Shailendra Kumar Singh said that by treating seeds, the crop can be protected from seed and soil borne diseases. He said that at present there is a need to adopt such agricultural methods which reduce the cost, get more production, get quality production and at the same time do not have any adverse effect on

human health and environment. Dr. Madan Sen Singh, present in the program, said that today greenhouse gases are increasing significantly in the atmosphere due to which there is imbalance in the climate. If trees continue to be cut in this manner, we will have to face a lot of difficulties in the future. The only way to avoid this is to plant more and more trees and maintain the natural balance, due to more trees and plants, the animal world will get pure oxygen and the environment will also remain pure and clean.

# City witnessing huge shortage of doctors at Govt hospitals

## Over 25% posts of doctors vacant

Prayagraj: Key Sangam city-based government hospitals are reeling under an acute shortage of doctors. A status check reveals that seven of these hospitals that shoulder the bulk of patient load are badly hit by the shortage with 90 posts of doctors against the sanctioned strength of 356 presently lying vacant (25% of total posts). With Mahakumbh-2025 round the corner, during which time temporary hospitals would be set up in the mela area, the shortage of doctors in the main hospitals of the city - which would also act as main referral hospitals - is cause for worry, district officials conceded. They believe that the shortage of doctors needs to be addressed on a priority. If hospital officials are to be believed, except for the TB hospital in the city, which has a sanctioned strength of eight doctors, all other government hospitals are functioning with less than sanctioned strength of doctors. More than 50% of posts are vacant in Moti Lal Nehru (Colvin) Divisional Hospital alone which has sanctioned posts of 36 doctors and 18 of these posts, including posts of four medical emergency officers, are lying vacant. Likewise, over 15% of posts at the busy SRN Hospital of MLN Medical College, too, are lying vacant. It has 181 sanctioned posts out of which around 20 are lying vacant. At

the same time, against the sanctioned strength of 41 doctors in Tej Bahadur Sapru (Beli) Hospital, 10 posts are vacant. There are 40 posts of doctors in Dufferin Hospital, but here too a mere 29 doctors are working. Even in Government Unani Hospital, 12 posts of doctors are lying vacant out of the total 40 posts. Officials of most of these hospitals claim that the process of getting the doctors is well underway. Even Dr Vatsala Mishra, acting principal of Motilal Nehru Medical College, under which the SRN Hospital functions, said that the process of appointment for vacant posts of doctors is on. Some doctors will also come on transfer. Acting chief superintendent of Colvin Hospital, Dr MM Tripathi, said that a letter has been written to the state government to fill the vacant posts of doctors. Even officials of Beli Hospital claim the same. According to the district medical and health officials, 278 posts of doctors and medical officers are sanctioned in community and primary health centres of the district besides the Central Jail, Police Hospital, High Court Dispensary functioning under the CMO's office. Out of these, 57 posts of doctors are lying vacant. Requisition of vacant posts has been sent to the government. Also, 75 posts of staff nurse are sanctioned in community health centres but out of which also 35 posts are lying vacant.

# Vidya Vachaspati Saraswat Samman Ceremony organized by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Hindi Vidyapeeth

## Mahamandaleshwar Mahant Vaishnavi Nand Giri awarded title of PhD

Prayagraj: A grand National Hindi Seminar and Vidya Vachaspati Saraswat Samman Ceremony was organized by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Hindi Vidyapeeth, dedicated to the promotion of Hindi language, at the famous Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. A grand ceremony was organized at the Constitution Club of India, the capital of the country, New Delhi. In the felicitation ceremony, scholars from different regions of the country were honored with the titles of "Vidya Vachaspati" and Vidya Varidhi. In which Mahant Vaishnavi Nand Giri of All India Kinnar Akhara was given National Hindi Seminar and Vidya Vachaspati Saraswat Award by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Hindi Vidyapeeth. The felicitation ceremony was organized under the special hospitality



of Dr. Swarnlata Panchal, Research Scientist of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, under the chairmanship of Dr. Indu Bhushan Mishra "Devendu", Vice Chancellor of the Chief Hospitality School of Padmashree Dr. Arvind Kumar, former Vice Chancellor of Rani Laxmibai

Central Agricultural University. National storyteller Ms. Deepa Mishra was present as the main speaker. National environmentalist Dr. Vishwanath Panigrahi, who came from Durg, provided special presence. The program was started by lighting the lamp along with recitation of Vedic mantras.

The guests expressed their views on the development of Hindi language and giving it the status of national language and on the call of the Prime Minister of the country, the guests distributed leaflets under the campaign "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam". Released the book and planted Shami sapling

in the club. This special honor of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Hindi Vidyapeeth is given to eminent educationists, writers, teachers, litterateurs, environmentalists and other scholars for their contribution in Hindi writing, upgradation of education, environmental awareness, medical service. Awarded on the basis of special achievements in the field of water conservation and social service. The organizers honored the guests by gifting them mementos of the Vidyapeeth and covering them with shawls. The function was mainly attended by Dr. Shivaji Rambhau Shinde of Maharashtra, Dr. Hari Bhai Aryan of Orissa, Dr. Kulwant Singh Saluja of Chhattisgarh, Dr. Raju Gajbhiye of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Jagadish Pillai of Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Prasad S. of Karnataka. Metc were present.

# UP Secondary Teachers Association staged dharna at DIOS office

Prayagraj: As per the pre-determined program by Uttar Pradesh Secondary Teachers Association Prayagraj, a dharna was organized at the District School Inspector's office today on 25th July from 12:00 noon. The dharna was presided over by Dr. Jai Prakash Sharma, Senior Vice President of the organization and Divisional Minister of Operations Anuj Kumar Pandey. More than 700 teachers from every corner of the district participated in the dharna. In his address as the chief guest in the meeting organized at the dharna site, Honorable Suresh Kumar Tripathi, State President and outgoing current MLC, said that the organization had in the past on the strength of its rock-solid unity. But achievements have been made, now the new generation has to protect those achievements and struggle to achieve new heights. The protest was also supported

by Uttar Pradesh's Primary Teachers Honor Association. District President of Uttar Pradesh Primary Teachers Association, Devendra Srivastava, District Minister. Shiv Bahadur Yadav Treasurer Manish

through District School Inspector Prayagraj Shri P N Singh. Memorandum was handed over at the protest site. After taking it, the District Headquarters said that your demand letter will be sent to the Honorable Chief

such arrangements will be made that at the time of every month NPS money should be deposited in the account of the concerned teacher employee. Regarding the remaining amount, he said that all the remaining cases will be settled in collaboration with the accounting officer and the organization. Former state minister Kunj Bihari Mishra, state vice president Manoj Mishra, Shri Ramesh were present in the protest. Shukla, District Minister Jagdish Prasad, Ravindra Tripathi, Vice President Brijendra Nath Rai, Shri Rajesh Yadav, Income Expenditure Inspector Umashankar Yad, and State Council Member Sanjeev Tiwari, Former District Minister Kaushalesh Prasad Tiwari, Mrs. Shweta Dubey, Dr. Chandramani Shukla, Shri Sudhir Mishra, Shri Chandni Ram. A large number of teachers and officials of the organization including Mr. Ravi Singh were present.



Tiwari also attended the protest along with his colleagues. After the protest, at 3:30 pm, a 23-point demand letter addressed to the Honorable Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh was handed over to the Honorable Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh

Minister immediately. Regarding local problems like residual issues and NPS, the District School Inspector said that within a day or two, the dues of NPS till January 24 will be deposited in the PARN accounts of all the teachers and soon

# Locking of mosques in Germany wrong: Fuzail

Prayagraj: UP Congress Committee Working Committee member and Muslim Forum President Fuzail Hashmi has strongly criticized the closure of the Hamburg Mosque, the largest and oldest in Germany. He termed the action as religious cruelty and appealed to Muslims around the world to unite and raise their voice against Germany. He said that it is known as Blue Mosaic Mosque. German police allege that the mosque is run by a Shia Muslim organization which is accused of being linked to the terrorist organization Hezbollah. Hashmi said that police, at the behest of the government, have also raided and closed three major mosques in Berlin, Frankfurt and Munich. Along with raiding many Muslim houses and torturing people, women were also brutally beaten and mistreated. He has termed the forceful closure of non veg hotels and dhabas by the police on Kanwar Marg via Prayagraj Varanasi route as a violation of fundamental rights.

# Shiva is form of God and Shankar is his nature: Satanandji Maharaj



Prayagraj: While presenting the story of Shiv Mahapuran on the second day at Munshi Ram Prasad's Bagiya Narayan Vatika in Mutthiganj, Puja Shri Sadanand Maharaj said that the story of Shiv Mahapuran purifies the mind and character and hence one should listen to the story so that the humanity of man does not get spoiled because the story helps the man to become

the leader of the nation. It generates devotion and frees one from birth and death and said that Shiva is the form of God and Shankar is the nature of God and Prayanakar is the influence of God who does welfare of the world. Puja Vyas ji further said that there are 24000 verses in Shiva Mahapuran, which explains the 24 letters of Gayatri Mantra. The main host of the story was Sapna Arya.

In the aarti of the story, Kumar Narayan, Satish Chandra Kesarwani, Mohit Kesarwani, Ram Ji Kesarwani Shaurya Mishra, Sadhna Chaturvedi, Urmila Kesarwani, Rajesh Kesarwani, Shailendra Gupta, Hundreds of devotees like Sai Baba, Pintu Kumar, Abhilash Kesarwani, Rajan Shukla, Asha Kesarwani, Usha Kesarwani, Dharendra Chaturvedi, etc. were present.

## Editorial

### Renewable energy has demonstrated positive growth

This year hit many records with unprecedented weather conditions, from extreme winters to heatwaves and torrential rains. Rising heat-related illnesses and deaths in India and across Asia, Europe and North America this summer have laid bare the inescapable impacts of climate change. The heatwave in India, with maximum temperatures crossing 50°C, sent power demand soaring, with peak demand touching 250 gigawatts in May 2024, an increase of 3 per cent from the peak demand across all months in financial year 2023-24 (243 GW), putting pressure on the electricity system. With government efforts to ramp up electricity generation by increasing domestic coal supply and availability of imported coal and gas, peak demand increased by 4 per cent during the same period. Such climate change-induced extreme weather events not only have an impact on electricity demand but also other macroeconomic factors like inflation and high interest rates, crippling the economic growth of a country. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Shaktikanta Das reiterated concerns about the risks posed by global warming and how frequent climate shocks drive up food prices. Addressing climate change is, therefore, a top priority for the government. India has pledged to install 500 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity, produce 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen a year, reach 30 per cent electric vehicle (EV) sales and cut CO2 emissions by one billion tonnes through greater energy efficiency, all by 2030. Later this month, when Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presents her sixth full Budget in the Lok Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government can take decisive action to honour its pledges. Last month's announcement of Rs 7,453 crore (\$892 million) in Viability Gap Funding for two large-scale offshore wind projects—India's first—totalling 1GW was a significant, albeit overdue, step toward the 2030 target. The government should extend such funding to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) so they can partner with multinational investors to develop a supply chain of locally manufactured components and skills. While renewable energy has demonstrated positive growth, it has fallen short of the 2030 target. Successful deployment and integration of renewable energy depends on a secured supply chain, smart grid infrastructure expansion, flexible generation sources and development of innovative market mechanisms. As such, the renewable energy ecosystem requires budgetary support, tax breaks, relief in import duties and tariff barriers or tax credits to expedite development and attract necessary investment. Despite increased investment and deployment of clean energy, India lags behind other nations in research and development (R&D) spending. India ranks fourth in the world in renewable energy capacity. Yet, its R&D expenditure is well below the annual average spent by member states of the International Energy Agency (IEA), which is about Rs 986 crore (\$118 million), based on the most complete data available from 2022. Last year, India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy said it had allocated Rs 228 crore (\$27.3 million) for R&D over five years from FY 2021 to 2026, which adds up to about Rs 46 crore (\$5.5 million) a year. The Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis calculated that the total government spending on renewable energy R&D in FY 2021-22 was about Rs 124 crore (\$15 million) across all sectors, including the national wind, solar and bioenergy institutes and other programmes. Last year, the government more than doubled that figure with its National Green Hydrogen Initiative (which has an R&D budget of Rs 400 crore or \$48 million). While laudable.



## Congress wants to bring its old Dalit vote bank

But after the results came out and the victory of Azad Samaj Party (Kanshiram) chief Chandrashekhar Azad in the very first attempt, it is being said about the Dalit voters that they are slipping out of Mayawati's hands. Due to this, now all the parties are mainly eyeing the Dalit votes. Actually, Mayawati, who never contested by-elections from Uttar Pradesh, is contesting by-elections this time, because she is also worried that her Dalit and Mahadalit vote bank may be snatched away by Congress and SP. On the other hand, Azad Samaj Party will also become a challenge for her now, because the attention of Dalits is suddenly being drawn towards Chandrashekhar Azad and so is that of the backward classes. BSP has not been able to win even a single Lok Sabha seat in this Lok Sabha election. Worried about this, Mayawati is now engaged in putting BSP workers to work again and is also working on a strategy to strengthen her party cadre by going from village to village, which clearly shows that BSP, which never claimed to contest by-elections, is now forced to contest by-elections this time so that Dalits who are moving away from it do not break their ties with it forever. She is not doing this only in UP, but is doing this in many other states including Haryana, so that she keeps getting the support of Dalit



vote bank and keeps winning some seats to save her reputation in future. However, while Mayawati is there, it is a far-fetched idea to separate 100% Dalits from her, rather no other party can bring the Dalit voters who go to BSP's account to their side at the present time, no matter which party it is, and some political experts believe that 50% of the total Dalit voters of UP still like Mayawati.

Anyway, this time along with Congress, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav is also pushing his backward, Dalit and minority i.e. PDA formula and a new political player Chandrashekhar Azad is also making a mark in Dalit politics. Chandrashekhar Azad's Azad Samaj Party is also preparing to contest all 10 seats of the by-election. That is, now the next biggest political battle will be seen in the 2027 assembly elections of Uttar Pradesh for the votes of Dalits and a multi-cornered struggle to take Dalits with

them. But one thing is that whoever the Dalits go with, he will sit on the throne of Lucknow in 2027.

They will try their best to bring them to their side. This time also a good number of Dalits have voted for the All India Alliance i.e. Congress and Samajwadi Party.

Congress wants to bring its old Dalit vote bank with it somehow, for which it is keeping an eye on Dalit voters and wants that the way Dalits remained with it for about four decades after independence, they should return to its side again. On the other hand, the ruling party BJP has also been seen surrounding the Dalits for a long time and a large number of Dalit voters had also joined the BJP. But this time, due to the issue of ending reservation and changing the Constitution, a large number of Dalits have parted ways with the BJP. However, to woo Dalit voters, BJP had also organized a large number of Dalit conferences before this Lok

Sabha election. But its game was spoiled by its big-mouthed leaders and all the hard work went to waste. In the midst of all these political players, every party is trying to save its branch in the by-elections to be held on 10 seats in Uttar Pradesh this time, so that the path to victory in the future can be opened or chances of more victory can be seen. In fact, if BJP loses the by-elections on these 10 seats, it will mean that its defeat in the 2027 assembly elections is also certain and BJP does not want this under any circumstances.

Due to this, from BJP cadre to Sangh and Yogi government, everyone is trying to win these 10 seats in this by-election under any circumstances. Congress is trying to establish its foothold in UP again. And it wants that now after winning six Lok Sabha seats, it can perform well in the assembly elections and win many seats, and this. After the battle of 2024

elections is over, the NDA government led by Prime Minister Modi has been formed at the center. The new government has started cursing the opposition in its old style, besieging it and K.P. Malik has started working in his old way. Now the next political battle will be waged in November-December with the assembly elections of four states, but the discussion of the assembly elections to be held in Uttar Pradesh in 2027 has already started in the political corridors. For this, all the parties have already started preparing their swords and arrows, the result of which is being discussed to be assessed from the by-elections to be held on 10 assembly seats in Uttar Pradesh after a few months. It is not yet decided when the by-elections are to be held on these 10 assembly seats, but all the major and small parties of the state including BJP, Congress have started making their own election strategies and have started efforts to win the by-elections and are trying to win as many seats as possible in these elections. But this time in this by-election, the focus of all the parties is on the Dalit vote bank. Although even before this, everyone had an eye on the Dalit vote bank, but before the results of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections came, it was believed that the Dalit vote bank belonged to Mayawati and no one else can make a dent in this vote bank except her.

### India's Olympics outfits—There's not a single detail I can appreciate in the designs

"It truly reflects the India modern vision, the evolution of Indian fashion and the fusion of traditional craftsmanship with innovative design concepts," the designer added. If this is the future of Indian fashion or modern Indian fashion, then sign me up for a trip back in time to the 'unevolved' days. On the other hand, Team Mongolia stole the show with their uniforms. It was a breathtaking blend of fashion and culture. Designed by a local label Michel & Amazonka, which is known for weaving Mongolian culture with contemporary silhouettes. Their uniforms are a blend of the Olympic symbols while being distinctly Mongolian at the same time. There was even a purse that was similar to potli bags. The Indian contingent's uniforms at other international athletic events have been on point. I particularly liked the outfits at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Australia's Gold Coast City were chic. The attire included navy blue

suits (blazers + trousers). Shirts, paisley jacquard ties and pocket squares for men, while the women wore crisp white shirts with well-fitted blazers, slim pants, and a dramatic paisley jacquard drape around the coat, evoking a sari. I'm all for women wearing saris on the global stage; we should celebrate our heritage. But it's the designer's job to make those drapes look stunning. A white saree with saffron and green prints? That's original. I'm sure my college-going cousin could come up with something more inspired. The least they could have done is simply replicate the white saree with the golden border from Shah Rukh Khan's Chak De India! Team India's outfits for the Paris Olympics 2024 opening ceremony on 26 July were unveiled last week.

And, the fashion gods are weeping. I am disappointed with Tarun Tahiliani, couturier to the stars. There's not a single detail I can appreciate in the designs.

### Xi must address key challenges first

The third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party is finally underway in Beijing. The session, taking place from 15-18 July, has 205 full members and 171 alternate members in attendance. It aims to address China's economic problems and boost the country's modernisation drive. Held once every five years, the plenum serves as a crucial platform for announcing key economic directives and reforms that attract global attention. And it assumes heightened importance against the backdrop of several challenges. These include a downturn in the real estate sector, ongoing efforts for post Covid-19 recovery, and a notable slowdown in China's second-quarter GDP growth rate of 4.7 per cent. Additionally, amid US-China trade tensions and American restrictions on technology transfers, it shows that Beijing is strategically pivoting toward greater economic self-sufficiency. In this session, President Xi Jinping, also the General Secretary of the Central Committee, delivered a work report on behalf of the Political Bureau, outlining priorities for 'comprehensively deepening reform and advancing Chinese modernisation.' Central to these policy directives are initiatives to bolster advanced manufacturing, overhaul the tax system to mitigate debt risks, navigate a substantial property market crisis, stimulate domestic consumption, and breathe new life into the private sector. State-owned media is actively supporting Xi's leadership, portraying him as guiding China through profound social and economic transformations via comprehensive reforms. The People's Daily emphasised that "the path of Chinese-style modernisation has evolved from reform to the comprehensive deepening of reform, marking a critical juncture." In strikingly

similar language, Xinhua remarked: "Standing at a new historical starting point, we [China] are embarking on another great transformation." Expressions like "the ship carries a thousand pounds, with one person at the helm" underscore the Chinese president's authority while overly emphasising his role.

The tangible impact of these policies often seems limited, resembling symbolic gestures. Such an approach avoids accountability, relying heavily on Xi's cult of personality and the support of his loyalists. Much of the media asserts that "Socialism with Chinese characteristics" originated during the reform and opening-up era, and that Xi's continuous reforms in this direction show he is committed to its success. The overwhelmingly positive tone of the plenum and Xi's leadership portray a narrative that, despite challenges, comrades should trust in his vision and leadership. It suggests that, drawing from the president's past successes in reform and opening up, he is positioned to guide the country toward even greater prosperity. Efforts are also being made to highlight how policy guidelines are capturing the attention of foreign media and investors, and to counter assertions that global leaders and businesses now perceive Beijing unfavourably. A commentary highlighted recent visits to China by Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Vanuatu Prime Minister Charlot Salwai, and Solomon Islands Prime Minister Jeremiah Manel. These visits taking place around the plenum, the commentary read, is evidence that these countries consider China an important [economic] partner. Chinese scholars and economists present a nuanced perspective on the current situation.

### NPS-Lite can streamline welfare funds & pension schemes for the poor—with 2 key reforms

It could choose a reliable pension fund to manage the contributions so that the informal sector workers are able to enjoy the same level of transparency and regulatory scrutiny of their investment as the formal sector workers. If a worker moves to another state, the pension account stays with her. This is a better strategy than starting a new scheme with a separate fund for each state. The Ministry of Finance and the PFRDA need to create an enabling framework that reduces friction for a state government to plug into

the NPS ecosystem. On the other hand, the Ministry of Labour and Employment needs to use the existing NPS infrastructure instead of starting separate welfare funds. The distinguishing feature of a pension scheme from any other savings product is the periodic payment (also known as an annuity) that a pensioner receives from retirement to death. Without this, the corpus in a pension account is not too different from the corpus in a savings account. The current NPS framework requires a member to purchase an annuity

from a licensed service provider at the time of retirement. The member has to use at least 40 per cent of the accumulated surplus to purchase an annuity plan, which continues to pay a specified amount until death. The problem with annuities is that while everyone pays the same premium at retirement, only those who live longer benefit from the payment. Essentially, those who live longer get subsidised by those who die early. This becomes an important issue in the case of informal sector workers, whose life expectancy

is likely to be lower than those in the formal sector. We don't want a situation where the poor are subsidising the rich. The PFRDA needs to invest in infrastructure that can price annuities for NPS-Lite customers more accurately. It can build life tables that reflect the appropriate mortality scenario for the informal sector. This may require a tie-up with the birth and death registration system. Another approach is to allow phased withdrawals from the pension account based on specific formulae.

## Is Jay Shah ready to chair the ICC?



**Delhi:** Sri Lanka, 220 delegates from 108 ICC member countries will attend the four-day International Cricket Council (ICC) annual conference. However, like all cricket these days, the spotlight will be on the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and its influential administrator Jay Shah, who may run for chairman. 'Capitalising on the Olympic Opportunity' and 'Cricket's victorious return at LA28' are among the gathering's topics. Before cricket moves forward in the US, the T20 World Cup's poor performance will be reviewed. A \$20 million overrun, inadequate pitches, and high ticket prices plagued the USA part of the 2024 T20 World Cup co-hosted by West Indies. ICC director Pankaj Khimji has requested a detailed budget audit from the board. Two senior ICC executives, including head of events Chris Tetley, have resigned.

The issue will likely be discussed under 'Any other business', where most major conversations occur. The ICC will consider India's 2025 ODI Champions Trophy trip to Pakistan and Pakistan Cricket Board's planned itinerary (Feb 19-March 9). Indian matches in Lahore will be meaningless until the government allows its team to travel to Pakistan. According to a BCCI official, this is unlikely.

Even if PCB seeks clarity in the ICC boardroom, progress may be slow. The BCCI wants a hybrid event with UAE or Sri Lanka as co-hosts. But that process may be delayed too. On Jay

Shah's interest in the ICC Chair, the BCCI secretary wants to go, not because it's a bigger office but because the constitution requires a cooling-off period after two three-year terms. His BCCI term ends in late 2025, while ICC elections are in November. Shah may want to act now, but he hasn't been forthcoming. Another theory is that Barclay might use the amended ICC constitution, which now allows two three-year terms for the chairman instead of three two-year terms. Shah can take over in 2025 if the ICC elections are delayed. ICC board members 'refuted' this idea for now.

## The Indian Racing Festival welcomes Kolkata Royal Tigers owner Ganguly

**Delhi:** The Kolkata Royal Tigers Racingteam will be owned by former India cricket captain and BCCI president Sourav Ganguly ahead of the 2024 season, boosting the Indian Racing Festival's third season. Racing Promotions Pvt. Ltd. launched the Indian Racing Festival to attract India's growing motorsport fanbase. The event features the Indian Racing League (IRL) and Formula 4 Indian Championship (F4IC), promising an exciting season of high-speed racing. Kolkata, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Kochi, and Ahmedabad will compete from August to November this year. Kolkata debuts this year. Sourav Ganguly, nicknamed as the 'Prince of Calcutta' and 'Dada,' is an Indian cricket icon. As Kolkata Royal Tigers owner, he brings excitement and reputation to motor racing in West Bengal and eastern India. Ganguly is expected to increase cricket's appeal and make the Kolkata Royal Tigers a force in the Indian Racing Festival. "We are happy



to announce Sourav Ganguly as Kolkata franchise owner. His creative leadership and dedication to perfection, forged by decades of cricketing success, give the Indian Racing Festival unmatched energy. "RPPL Chairman and Managing Director Akhilesh Reddy said Ganguly's legacy will ignite passion and propel future motorsport lovers in India to greatness. He stated that Ganguly's engagement is expected to raise awareness of the Indian Racing Festival (IRF) and secure its place as India's top motorsport event.

"I am thrilled to join the Kolkata team in the Indian Racing Festival. I've always loved motorsports, and this chance lets me help Kolkata's motorsport expand and

promote excellence and sportsmanship "Ganguly. "Together with the Kolkata Royal Tigers, we aim to build a strong legacy in the Indian Racing Festival and inspire a new generation of motorsport enthusiasts, making the Kolkata Royal Tigers a formidable force in the festival," he said.

The former Indian cricket captain, who played 113 Tests and 311 ODIs, is noted for developing fresh talent and winning games. His ownership of ATK Mohun Bagan and involvement in the Indian Racing Festival demonstrate his dedication to sports in India. He encouraged spectators to attend the races in big numbers and support the drivers, assuring an exciting experience.

## CAPSULES

### The Delhi government provides funding of Rs 100 crore to 12 DU colleges

**Delhi:** The Delhi government has resolved to put teacher and student welfare first, even in light of financial mismanagement issues that have revealed at 12 Delhi University campuses recently. The government has granted Rs 100 crore to these colleges under its funding. According to Minister Atishi, "Many issues of financial mismanagement have come to the fore in these colleges in the last few years, but the Kejriwal gov has decided that the teachers and students at those colleges should not suffer due to the mistakes of the management and administration." She stated: "Keeping in mind the welfare of teachers, their medical benefits and pension benefits which were struck due to financial mismanagement, Delhi gov is releasing a fund of Rs 100 crore in the second quarter for these 12 colleges." The minister went on, saying, "Kerry's government concentrated on higher education in addition to schools, opening three new universities and expanding existing ones. Delhi's higher education system is significantly influenced by the 12 Delhi University colleges that receive full government funding." The minister has authorized the release of the second quarter installment, according to the government. Additionally, the Kejriwal government has budgeted roughly Rs 400 crore for these financed universities in 2024-2025, according to a release. "Ever since the Kejriwal gov came to power in Delhi, the budget given to these colleges has been increased more than three times, which shows the government's commitment towards education," it stated.

## Hardik Pandya's Fitness, Workload Management Cost Him T20I Captaincy

**Delhi:** The BCCI named Suryakumar Yadav India's T20I captain for the three upcoming matches against Sri Lanka, bypassing Hardik Pandya. The apex board chose SKY over Pandya, who worked as Rohit Sharma's deputy at the T20 World Cup and led India in Rohit's absence. The five-match T20I series against Australia last year, directly after the ODI World Cup 2023, was captained by Suryakumar. Indian won the series 4-1, and many players reportedly wanted SKY to captain India when Rohit retired from T20I. ESPNcricinfo reported that Hardik Pandya was snubbed for replacing Rohit due to fit-



ness difficulties and workload management. This comes after new coach Gautam Gambhir suggested that a good player play all three formats. "Professional cricketers, your span is small. You desire

to play as much as possible for your country. "Play all three formats when you're in good form," Gambhir told Star Sports. Sportsmen suffer injuries. If you play all three formats, you get injured, heal,

but you should.

I don't believe in identifying players and saying, "We'll keep him for Test matches and manage his injury and workload", he said. Given Pandya's injury issues, it was a direct message. After overcoming back troubles, Hardik missed the entire ODI World Cup 2023 due to an ankle injury. BCCI may be right to favor Suryakumar Yadav over Hardik Pandya due to his injury record. While only six matches remain until the Champions Trophy 2025, Hardik Pandya has sought the BCCI for a sabbatical during the ODI portion of the Sri

## From Mumbai trouble child to India T20 leader

**Delhi:** Shams Mulani's rise to national prominence has been arduous. The left-arm spinner has taken 180 wickets in 38 first-class matches, 82 in 55 List A games, and 52 in 45 T20s in Ranji Trophy. The 27-year-old awaits his big break. Suryakumar Yadav, his club team Parsee Gymkhana, and IPL franchise Mumbai Indians' changing rooms inspire him to keep going. Mulani saw Surya's struggle to break into the Indian squad before receiving his cap at 30. Everyone saw Surya's extraordi-



which inspires me. As Mumbai players attempt to break into the national team, his late India debut inspires us. We look up to Surya, who has given many Mumbai players like Tushar Deshpande (29).

nary batting talent in juniors. He scored 73 on his Ranji debut at 18 in 2010 and 754 in nine games the following season. He worked for approximately 12 years before making his India debut in March 2021. His presence has been obvious. The No.1 T20 hitter helped India win the World Cup,

Mulani, who was the highest Ranji wicket-taker in 2021-22, second in 2022-23, and had another remarkable 35 last season, feels the hardship and grind are crucial. After a late start, Surya has risen quickly in the past three years and was selected T20I captain this week.

## Delhi Skills University "revokes" EWS, SC/ST fee concession; no clearance in place

**Delhi:** On July 9, a second-year Scheduled Caste student at Delhi Skills and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) requested a fee waiver from the academics department. The student, enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Administration (Facilities and Hygiene Management) study at the main campus in Dwarka, was advised to pay the same course fee as 2022-23 students without a waiver. "SC students paid Rs 45,140. We must pay Rs 56,700 (the 2022-23 batch's standard fee)," the youngster said. This BBA course costs this year. Students, reeling from a significant cost spike across most programs, claimed DSEU has abolished the 10% fee concession for EWS students and 20% for



SC and ST students, which the institution disputed. Students' group Aawaz protested by posting posters on 22 campuses asking: "Why does DSEU revoke aid for SC, ST and EWS students... (sic)." According to DSEU Vice-Chancellor Prof Ashok Kumar Nagawat, "SC/ST and EWS students do not currently receive fee concessions. The finance committee will decide on concessions, but until then, no action can be made because of audit objections."

The V-C declined to comment on how concessions from last year were approved. "Waivers will be discussed in the meeting," Nagawat said. Professor Gagan Dhawan, Registrar, said, "On February 14, the Board of Management discussed not charging students the recovery charge (of previously waived sums). The fee waiver previously lacked official approval, so the government is ensuring that the concession is offered after proper approval.

## Non-teaching faculty can now be HoD in government hospitals

**Delhi:** In a major change from the usual, the health ministry now allows non-teaching professors to become department heads at government hospitals and medical colleges. "Non-teaching specialists and GDMO (General Duty Medical Officer) cadre officials working in the concerned department are also eligible to become HoD (Head of Department)," the rule adds. It applies to three Delhi-based central government hospitals and medical colleges: Lady Hardinge Medical College and Sucheta Kriplani Hospital, Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital, and Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences and Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. In the event of a non-teaching/GDMO HoD, academic activities must be supervised by



POSTS AT MEDICAL COLLEGES			POSTS AT PHCS (DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH)	
CADRE	EXISTING VACANCIES	NEW POSTS		
Professor	00	51	Civil Assistant Surgeon	576
Associate Professor	00	130	Staff Nurse	716
Assistant Professor	282	187	Lab Tech	201
Staff Nurses	430	1,040	Pharmacists	190
Lab Technicians	100	00	MPHEO	176
Gr-II Pharmacists	62	00	CHO	176
Paramedical Staff	00	782	Other	886
Other Staff (DTP)	1,080	00-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>2,190</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,918</b>

POSTS AT DISTRICT HOSPITALS (APVVP)	
► Civil Assistant Surgeon (Specialist)   794	► Grade-II Pharmacists   218
► Civil Assistant Surgeon (General)   86	► Lab Technicians   199
► Dental Surgeon   16	► Junior Assistants   123
► Staff Nurses   555	► Other staff   523
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,520</b>

the senior most teaching faculty. Most medical schools and hospitals follow the National Medical Commission (NMC) guideline that a potential department

head must have at least 10 years of teaching experience as a professor or associate professor, including five years as a department professor.

## Delhi Cyber Crime DCP recommends schooling on cyber safety



**Delhi:** A top police officer said cyber crime awareness should be taught in schools since virtual frauds and thefts don't shock the public as much as street and house muggings and robberies. Cybercrime has increased in the past 1.5 years and may continue to rise. "Crime against cyber property will see a rise and a time may come when each district will have more cyber police stations than traditional crime police stations," stated. Also Read: Delhi High Court orders city chief secretary to expedite Rs 387 crore hybrid hearings sanction. Thieves are shifting online as more individuals do business online and store money on phones and PCs. However, the average person seems unaware of cyber fraud's potential. Tiwari said awareness is needed, not legislation change. Cybercrime awareness is low. "In a crowded train, you check your purse because pick pockets could steal it, but not in cyberspace," Tiwari remarked. AAP protests BJP office over 1,100 trees destroyed in Delhi's southern ridge. Tiwari added that most people don't know they may lock their Aadhaar cards. "Even I was not aware about it but when a case came in our unit, I got to know that one can lock it," remarked. Tiwari said a cheater might get an Aadhaar account and commit fraud. "Locking your Aadhaar card prevents misuse.

## Unrecognized schools are instructed to cease operations

Delhi : 163

unrecognized schools in Gurugram have received letters from the district elementary education department requiring them to close and forbidding further enrollment. The list was created as a result of the schools' failure to meet the standards necessary for recognition until March 31, according to people with knowledge of the situation. According to the agency, unrecognized schools will not be permitted to continue operating. The education administration published a list of 282 schools in the district earlier this month that did not meet the requirements for recognition. Of them, 20 have ceased business, 163 have received notices, and 99 have sought affiliations. They said that those who received notices had been asked to reply. The district elementary education officer, Muni Ram, stated that they had begun the process of bringing



"PS Baghel is in charge of enrollment, making sure that rules are followed and that, in the event that parents are not present, a legal guardian is named"

IIT-Kharagpur has announced graduated fines for fighting and alcohol misuse

Delhi:

IIT Kharagpur has proposed graded fines of Rs 5,000 for the first offense and Rs 10,000 for a repeat offense for students caught consuming alcohol on campus. In both situations, parents will be notified. A disciplinary committee will be tasked with reviewing cases involving students found guilty more than twice. The committee's recommendation will include "appropriate punishment" and a minimum penalty of Rs 50,000.

criminal charges against these institutions. They have requested that police look into and take action against schools that continue to accept new pupils in defiance of government directives. "We have intervened and notified the police in the suburbs of Manesar, Pataudi, Farrukhnagar, and the city.

## 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.

## Centre advises CBSE on biannual board logistics

Delhi: Officials said the Union ministry of education has ordered the CBSE to create a plan for twice-yearly board exams and will confer with stakeholders next month. The new national curriculum framework (NCF) unveiled last year suggested pupils take board exams twice a year. In February, union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan stated the scheme would likely start in 2025-26. A senior education ministry source said CBSE has been urged to figure out how to organize the academic calendar to allow another round of board exams without affecting undergraduate admissions. "The ministry and board will consult CBSE school principals and stakeholders on this. The person, who requested anonymity, indicated that other NEP 2020 implementation difficulties will be examined. A second official claimed scheduling is the board's biggest issue. CBSE exams are held in February-April and results are released in May. The entire process takes nearly three months. Another exam will take three months, by which time most universities have resumed classes. The board discussed the problem with Delhi CBSE school principals early this year, according to the principal. In addition to extra tests, the board offers improvement exams. Several school principals suggested making the improvement exam the second board exam at the meeting.



## 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.

## Designers Bharat and Reshma Grover Celebrated for Fashion Excellence in London

New Delhi: At a prestigious event in London, renowned Indian designers Bharat and Reshma Grover were recently honored for their remarkable achievements in the field of fashion. They received a prestigious award from Lord Barrister Ben Brennan, recognizing their outstanding contributions to design, creativity, and innovation. This accolade underscores their dedication and impact in the industry, cele-



brating their creative vision and entrepreneurial spirit that have set new standards and inspired

others in the field. Bharat and Reshma Grover are established names in the fashion world,

having carved out a niche for themselves in a very short span of time. Their influence is so significant that today's fashionistas and style icons eagerly follow in their footsteps. The Grovers are a holistic package, offering much more than just design. They embody an all-pervading sense of style that goes beyond mere fashion. Their creations appeal to a wide cross-section of society, particularly resonating with Generations Y and Z.

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

Delhi: On 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-0 scale "said a sen-



ior NTA official. The official added that 39 students were blacklisted 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 of success."

## 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.

## HMD India announces Renowned Actress Sanya Malhotra as Brand Ambassador for its Smartphones Portfolio, starting with HMD Crest

**GURUGRAM:** Get ready for a fusion of style and technology as Human Mobile Devices (HMD) partners with versatile Bollywood actress Sanya Malhotra, who will be seen as the leading face of the Brand for its upcoming smartphone line-up, starting with HMD Crest. The acclaimed performer, known for her dynamic roles, passion for dance and fashion-forward persona, will front HMD's upcoming 360-degree campaign, embodying the brand's inherent personality around fashion, style, and freedom of expression. Sanya's partnership with Human



Mobile Devices marks a pivotal moment in the company's mission to provide innovative and expressive mobile experiences to the style-conscious audience across India. Commenting on the collaboration, Ravi Kunwar, VP of HMD

India and APAC, stated, "We are delighted to welcome Sanya Malhotra to the Human Mobile Devices family. Sanya is a truly unique talent, her ability to repeatedly deliver strong performances on-screen, yet a rare

ability to express herself on various social platforms with a variety of engaging content aligns perfectly with our ways of consumer engagement. Her appeal to a diverse, style-conscious young audience mirrors our commitment to deliver mobile experiences that are not just technologically advanced but also a true expression of personal style. Equally excited with her new association, Sanya Malhotra said, "I'm thrilled to partner with Human Mobile Devices, a brand whose smartphones are at the intersection of technology and self-expression.

HMD Crest range of smartphones aren't just about staying connected; they're about making a statement and expressing your unique style. As someone who values both fashion and freedom of expression, I'm excited to be part of HMD's journey in revolutionizing the smartphone experience for style-conscious consumers across India." This announcement is a key component of Human Mobile Device's strategy to engage with its target audience and generate excitement about its range of stylish and innovative smartphones.

## Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited's Initial Public Offer to open on July 30, 2024

**GURUGRAM:** Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited ("AKUMS" or "The Company"), shall open the Bid / Offer Period in relation to its initial public offer of the Equity Shares ("Offer") on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. The Offer comprises a fresh issue of such number of Equity Shares (face value ₹ 2 each) by the Company aggregating up to ₹ 6,800 million (the "Fresh Issue") and offer for sale of up to 17,330,435 Equity Shares ("Offered Shares") by certain existing shareholders of the Company (the "Selling Shareholders"). The Offered Shares comprises up to 1,512,000 Equity Shares by Sanjeev Jain, up to 1,512,000 Equity Shares by Sandeep Jain, (collectively, the "Promoter Selling Shareholders") and up



to 14,306,435 Equity Shares by Ruby QC Investment Holdings Pte. Ltd. (The "Ruby QC" or "Investor Selling Shareholder") (such offer for sale of the Equity Shares by the Selling Shareholders, the "Offer for Sale"). Ruby QC is backed by Quadria Capital, a prominent healthcare focused private equity fund in Asia. This Offer includes a reservation of up to such number of Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 150.00 million (₹ 15.00 crore) for subscription by eligible employees. (the

"Employee Reservation Portion") The Anchor Investor Bid/Offer Period opens and closes on Monday, July 29, 2024. The Bid/Offer Period will open on Tuesday, July 30, 2024 for subscription and close on Thursday, August 1, 2024. ("Bid Details") The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at ₹ 646 to ₹ 679 per Equity Share (the "Price Band"). Bids can be made for a minimum of 22 Equity Shares and in multiples of 22 Equity Shares thereafter. (the "Minimum Bid Lot").

## Municipal corporations with over 50% revenue growth to receive grants up to Rs 100 crore

**Lucknow** The Yogi government is actively working towards the comprehensive development of cities in Uttar Pradesh and increasing revenue collection for urban local bodies. As part of these efforts, the Urban Development Department has launched the CM-VNY, expanding various schemes and missions under the 'Mission to Movement' initiative. Under this scheme, municipal corporations

that achieve at least a 25% increase in tax/non-tax revenue will receive grants ranging from Rs 2.5 crore to Rs 50 crore. Municipal councils and district headquarters with a population over one lakh that see at least a 15% increase in revenue will be eligible for grants ranging from Rs 25 lakh to Rs 20 crore. For municipal councils and district headquarters with a population under one lakh, as well as Nagar Panchayats that

achieve at least a 10% revenue increase, grants will range from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 5 crore. In special circumstances, a maximum fund of Rs 100 crore per municipal corporation can be allocated to achieve a revenue increase of over 50% and implement innovative projects, revenue-generating initiatives, and projects of national or international significance. This provision is detailed in the Standard Operating Procedure.

## Pristyn Care Makes History with World's First ACL reconstruction surgery Using Apple Vision Pro

**GURUGRAM:** Pristyn Care has made history again by performing the world's first ACL surgery using the revolutionary Apple Vision Pro, led by the renowned ACL expert Dr. Manu Bora. This groundbreaking procedure, which included ACL and PCL reconstruction and a meniscus repair on a 33-year-old male patient, highlights Pristyn Care's ongoing commitment to healthcare innovation. This historic achievement follows their earlier milestone in May, when Pristyn Care performed the first-ever Apple Vision Pro-assisted bariatric surgery. The use of Apple Vision Pro, a cutting-edge augmented reality (AR) device, showcases Pristyn Care's dedication to enhancing surgical precision and patient care. "Integrating Apple Vision Pro into orthopedic surgery marks a significant leap forward in our mission to innovate in healthcare," said Harsimbar Singh, Co-founder of Pristyn Care. "We are



proud to spearhead such crucial advancements, setting new standards and delivering top-notch care to our patients. Our unwavering focus on leveraging cutting-edge technology and fostering innovation ensures that we provide the best possible outcomes and experiences for those we serve." The Apple Vision Pro provided a detailed 3D view, allowing Dr. Bora and his team to see complex anatomical structures clearly. This technology helped them perform the surgery with great accuracy, reducing risks and improving outcomes for the patient. This surgery marks a significant advance in orthopedic care and demonstrates the potential of AR technology to improve surgical precision, shorten surgery times, and speed up patient recovery. "By using Apple Vision.

## NSSRC to help Kushinagar grow a wide variety of spices

**Kushinagar** the land where Lord Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana, will soon be known for its spices. Under the leadership of the double-engine government, efforts are being made with the help of the National Seed Spices Research Center (NSSRC) in Ajmer to cultivate a wide array of spices apart from Kushinagar's traditional produce turmeric. The centre will help farmers from Kushinagar to grow additional spices such as coriander, cumin, fennel, mangrail, and celery. These spices are expected to enhance the flavor of dishes not just locally, but also in the kitchens of every Indian around the world. With assistance from the NSSRC in Ajmer, certain spice varieties will be cultivated in a select number of farmers' fields during this year's Rabi crop season.

## Poetry recitation competition organized on the occasion of 88th birth anniversary of Dr. Dharmswaroop Gupt

**CHANDIGARH:** On the occasion of 88th birth anniversary of litterateur, journalist and educationist late Dr. Dharmswaroop Gupt, Srijan Institution organized a poetry recitation competition in Maharishi Dayanand Public School, MDAV Bhawan, Daria, Chandigarh. The program was inaugurated by Chief Guest Dr. Sarita Mehta, Founder President of Vidyadham USA, Somesh Gupta, President of Srijan and Principal Dr. Vinod Kumar Sharma. This competition was divided into two parts, junior and senior respectively. In the junior category, students recited poems like Pyaas, Aandhi, Bezubaan, Dayare, Antardrishti, Bhatkan, Mera Desh, Aye Mere Watan, Main Hindustani, Bharat Ki Santan, Pyaas, Zindagi, Halat Mein Sudhar, Mehfil etc. Students of the senior category presented poems like Dishaaheen, Aandhi, Zindagi Ek Lehar, Aye Mere Dost, Sawan Ki Kya Baat Kahun Main, Muskaan etc. In the junior category, Hamaira, Nikki, Lakshmi got first, second and third place respectively. While Raj and Ankush were awarded consolation prizes. In the senior category, Kalpana got first place, Piyush got second and Rupanshi got third place. While Nancy and Kajal were awarded with consolation prizes. Dr. Sarita Mehta while addressing the students said that Dr. Dharmswaroop Gupt was a teacher of high caliber. His creations are becoming the voice of the people today. His works are guiding people. Dr. Vinod Sharma said that Dr. Dharmswaroop Gupt was full of simple life and high thinking. He gave a new direction to the field of education as well as literature and journalism. He is the source of inspiration for everyone. Somesh Gupta expressed his gratitude to all the teachers and children present. He said that programs will be organized from time to time in the memory of Dr. Dharmswaroop Gupt. He also announced to give fans to the school. It is worth mentioning that Dr. Dharmswaroop Gupt was the Head of Hindi Department of D.A.V. College, Sector 10, Chandigarh, Principal of different colleges and Vice Chairman of Chandigarh Sahitya Akademi.



## Yogi government to establish 'Sequential Batch Reactor Technology' based sewage

**Greater Noida** July 25 The Yogi government, committed to advancing Uttar Pradesh's progress and development, has launched two major initiatives in Greater Noida. The first involves establishing a 'Sequential Batch Reactor Technology' sewerage treatment plant in Sector-1, Greater Noida, with a capacity of 45 MLD and

an investment of Rs 79.57 crore. The process for selecting agencies and allocating work for this project, which includes establishment, operation, and testing, is already underway. Additionally, efforts are underway to expedite the Ganga Jal Project, by completing electrical, mechanical, and civil works across three zonal reservoirs

with a capacity of 85 cusecs. This initiative, estimated to cost Rs 11.44 crore, is being managed by the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority, with a focus on ensuring both quality and timely completion. Under CM Yogi's vision for the integrated development of Greater Noida, a sewerage treatment.

## CM Yogi oversees extensive flood relief efforts

**Chief Minister** Yogi Adityanath is actively monitoring the flood-affected areas, leading to intensive relief operations in 26 cities hit by the disaster. Relief assistance has been provided to 9,23,134 individuals so far. In response to the damage of 2,138 houses, free housing has been offered to 1,759 beneficiaries, with the process ongoing for 379 more. The comprehensive efforts are aimed at addressing the immediate needs of those impacted by the floods. Over 9 lakh people received relief assistance. Relief Commissioner GS Naveen mentioned that

26 districts in the state are currently affected by floods. These include Lakhimpur Kheri, Balrampur, Kushinagar, Shahjahanpur, Barabanki, Sitapur, Gonda, Siddharthnagar, Ballia, Gorakhpur, Bareilly, Azamgarh, Hardoi, Ayodhya, Bahraich, Badaun, Farrukhabad, Basti, Deoria, Mau, Moradabad, Rampur, Maharajganj, Unnao, Pilibhit, and Shravasti. In these flood-affected districts, 77 tehsils, 1,809 villages, 40 wards, and 141 erosion-prone villages are impacted, with a total population of over 16 lakh.

## AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) to apply for Universal Banking license

**CHANDIGARH:** The Board of Directors of AU Small Finance Bank Limited at its meeting held today, approved the financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2024. Commenting on the performance, Mr. Sanjay Agarwal, MD & CEO, AU Small Finance Bank said, "India's economy continued to show robust growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal year. This was driven by strong private consumption and government spending, particularly in infrastructure. Overall, the Indian economy displayed

resilience and outperformed many of its peers. **Executive Summary** Q1'FY25 saw continued elevated competition among banks for deposit mobilization, while liquidity remained in deficit for most part of the quarter and inflation was rangebound. Domestic growth and inflation dynamics are expected to keep the interest rates elevated for longer. Quarter 1 has seasonally been a weak quarter which got further impacted due to some break in continuity due to general elections

and a strong heat wave in some parts of the country. Despite these challenges, Bank in this quarter delivered a consistent performance across business parameters with a steady start to the financial year. Bank has also made noticeable progress on various parameters highlighted in the AU@2027 strategy. **Performance at a glance:** Profitability The Bank's Net Interest Income (NII) grew 54% YoY to 1,921 Crore compared to 1,246 Crore during Q1'FY24

Other Income growth for Q1'FY25 grew by 73% YoY to ₹ 546 Crore, driven by fee income, third-party product distribution and credit cards. The Bank's pre-provisioning operating profit (PPoP) for Q1'FY25 grew 81% YoY to ₹ 988 Crore compared to 546 Crore in Q1'FY24. The net profit at ₹ 503 Crore in Q1'FY25 grew 30% YoY compared to ₹ 387 Crore in Q1'FY24. Net Interest Margin (NIM) for Q1'FY25 stood at 6.0%. Cost to Income declined by 509 bps YoY to 59.9% in Q1'FY25

# NCR housing rates up 49% in 5 years, unsold inventory down 50%

Delhi: The interest is broad, drawing first and second-generation buyers seeking a more luxurious lifestyle. "Latent demand has increased since the pandemic, spurring new project launches. He noted that around 3,000 pre-launch units sold out in days.

Anarock, real estate consultants, report a 49% increase in average home prices in the NCR over the past five years. This sharp increase is due to rising building costs and robust sales, according to the research. "The five-yearly jump in average residential prices between H1 2019 and H1 2024 from Rs 4,565 per sq ft to Rs 6,800 per sq ft is a clear



indicator of the market's strength," stated Anuj Puri, Anarock Group CEO. The survey also indicated that NCR residential property demand remained high despite the pandemic. After attracting consumers with offers and

incentives, developers raised average prices as demand grew. Sales have increased, reducing unsold inventories by 52% from 182,000 units in H1 2019 to 86,900 units in H1 2024. The inventory overhang dropped

from 44 months in H1 2019 to 16 months in H1 2024. "Developers have launched around 172,000 units in NCR between H1 2019 and H1 2024, and 272,000 units were sold during this period," the study said. "The market's

growth is supported by lower unsold inventory and higher absorption. This rise shows the region's real estate potential and post-pandemic economic rebound and GDP growth." "Despite the higher costs, sales continue to surge, driven by a combination of improved infrastructure, robust economic growth, and a desire for modern living spaces".

The survey noted that the NCR housing market revived before the pandemic after price stagnation from late 2016 to 2019. Covid-19 increased sales of larger homes. In prime real estate, the study shows strong demand and growth.

## Electronic papers acceptable as court evidence

Delhi: Text, voice, and video messages contain what? Post July 1, "digital documents" are admissible as primary evidence, not simply emojis, PPTs, PDFs, group conversations, forwards, or tete-a-tete. The last one is a rewrite of the 1872 Indian Evidence Act and an acknowledgment of digital information's importance today. The 2023 Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam defines and interprets evidence. It states that "an electronic or digital record" can be "admissible" in a case under certain conditions, taking into account technical

improvements and the widespread use of digital communication. Senior counsel Amit Manchanda said protections must be addressed first to prevent misuse given the uncharted field of artificial intelligence and new software to manipulate words, photos, and digital content on a recipient's device. Advocate Mohit Bhardwaj called Section 57 BSA's "singularly significant" inclusion because it makes digital data, including messages, primary evidence "without much ado," until disputed. For disputed digital

records, the new rule mandates a certificate proving authenticity from a specific computer or device.

. Thus, under Section 61 of BNS, the court cannot deny the acceptance of an electronic or digital document given specified conditions under Section 63. Any print or copy of an electronic record is admissible "without further proof" or production of the original content if the device (say, a phone) was "used regularly" by the person with "lawful control" of its usage. Texts could be evidence under the old Indian Evidence Act.

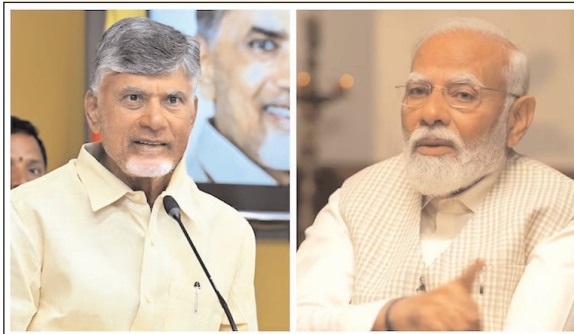
## No farm relief": Opposition leader criticizes Maharashtra's Rs 11 crore

Delhi: With the government reeling under an enormous debt of Rs 7.9 lakh crore and the state's struggling farmers taking their own lives, Mahayuti government's Rs 11 crore gift for India's T-20 championship squad has drawn criticism from Congress's Vijay Wadettiwar, the head of Maharashtra's opposition. "In just

four months, at least 1,068 farmers committed suicide, but they get no assistance." The Maharashtra government gave wealthy cricket players an unjustified gift in order to further its own agenda, according to Wadettiwar. "We should support players but within our means and must give due weightage considering

the broader picture," Wadettiwar said. The opposition MVA coalition's unity and preparedness for this year's assembly elections in October and November was reiterated by the Bramhapuri MLA. "Shiv Sena (UBT), the National Congress Party (led by Sharad Pawar), and the other three opposition.

## The Andhra government expects an 11k crore deficit this year



Delhi: Andhra Pradesh's request for Centre financial assistance, including debt restructuring, is expected to cover a projected Rs 11,000 crore deficit this year and leave a meager surplus for development next year. According to sources familiar with the discussions with the Centre, the Chandrababu Naidu government has prepared a blueprint to revisit almost two dozen direct benefit transfer schemes started by the Jaganmohan Reddy administration and start a series of steps to boost revenue, start capital works, and help the needy. Naidu met with finance, defence, and health ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Rajnath Singh, and JP Nadda. "The treasury needs

income growth and capital funding.

The previous government discontinued vital payments, causing a huge loan burden. We'll need five to six months to fix it and resume the cycle "A source said Andhra will pursue central initiatives and TDP focus areas. Through a series of initiatives, the Naidu administration hopes to raise Rs 37,000 crore by the fifth year of its term for state development. The TDP plans to develop industrial hubs in Visakhapatnam, near Odisha, and Karnataka, with the proposed port in Dugarajapatnam as a key aspect. Central aid for the port was promised a decade ago when Andhra and Telangana split, but nothing has happened.

## As Karnataka exploits SC/ST cash for "guarantees," BJP, Congress object



Delhi: The Karnataka government's intention to use SCPTSP funding for the five guarantee projects announced before the 2023 assembly elections is expected to cause a stir. Congress ally Dalit Sangharsh Samiti (DSS) will protest while BJP appeals to the judiciary. Senior government sources said "diversion" of SCPTSP funds is not new and has been done by past governments, but BJP's court case and DSS' "uprising" threat could hurt Congress in upcoming zilla and taluk panchayat elections. Last

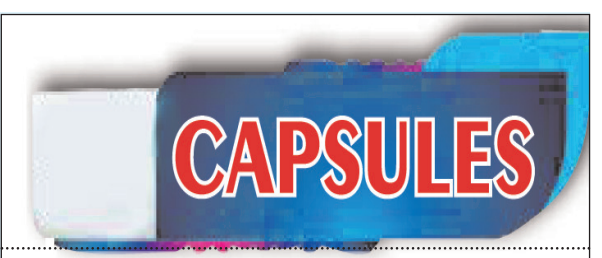
week, CM Siddaramaiah said his government has allocated Rs 39,121 crore for SCPTSP, Rs 3,900 crore more than in the previous year due to a rise in budget size and a decision to allocate 24.1% of the budget to SC and ST communities. However, using Rs 14,283 crore of the budget for the five guarantee schemes has caused political unrest. BJP calls it "misappropriation." "BJP is contemplating approaching the court since the decision to re-route SCPTSP funds meant exclusively for the welfare of these

underprivileged communities is being misappropriated," said the MLC. "Redirecting funds by claiming they're being used on SC and ST communities implies that they're getting money while other communities get extra benefits. Giving with one hand and taking with the other." DSS is upset. DSS factions that supported Congress in the assembly and Lok Sabha polls withdrew their support on Saturday, saying Congress is not working "wholeheartedly" for SC & ST populations.

## BJP gathering in Bengaluru causes political dispute over liquor

Delhi: A BJP public rally to celebrate former minister K Sudhakar's election as Chikballapur MP was criticized as footage showed booze being given. Nelamangala hosted the event. Sudhakar, Opposition Leader R Ashoka, and JD(S) leaders attended. Sideline videos showed cops giving out booze packages and bottles to people in a long line. Deputy Chief Minister and Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar criticized BJP. In Nelamangala, liquor was distributed publicly.

BJP National President JP Nadda must explain for registering a case. How could the MP distribute alcohol? "Said Shivakumar. "More than local leaders, it is important for the BJP's national leaders to tell citizens how their party is upholding culture by distributing liquor at public meetings," he said.



## Ghaziabad Residents Drink Nearly Rs 400 Crore in Beer During Heatwave

Delhi: The excise agency reports that Ghaziabad residents have consumed approximately Rs 400 crore in beer due to the past three months' scorching. Officials credit high heat and consistent prices for this record sales result. People in Ghaziabad and the National Capital Region sought ways to cool themselves due to extreme heat. In addition to lemonade, lassi, and buttermilk, many Ghaziabad inhabitants chose alcoholic beverages, especially beer, which generated large excise money. Ghaziabad beer drinkers spent Rs 397.16 crore during April to June 2024, up 106% from the previous year. Even more, beer can sales rose 116%. Over 13.3 million cans were sold this year, up from 11.5 million last year. Beer helps many cope with soaring temperatures. Due to this tendency, the excise department saw significant income growth throughout these three months. District excise inspector Rakesh Kumar said the severe heat and stable beer pricing drove record sales. said, "The data clearly shows that the intense heat and no price hike were the primary reasons for the exceptional revenue of Rs 397 crore." Beer sales during the heatwave generated significant excise department money, showing how extreme weather can affect consumer behaviour and local economies.

## Shankaracharya Backs Rahul Gandhi After "Hindus Are Violent" Row

Delhi: Swami Avimukteshwarananda, the 46th Shankaracharya of Jyotir Math, defended Rahul Gandhi days after his Lok Sabha speech. Rahul Gandhi accused BJP leaders of communally dividing people during the debate on the President's address Motion of Thanks.

Narendra Modi denounced the speech, saying Rahul Gandhi called the "entire Hindu community violent." Parliament heatedly debated this claim, and the Speaker removed some disputed statements from the records.

Hindu revered Shankaracharya provided a different view. Our attention was on Rahul Gandhi's entire address.

Shankaracharya stressed that Hinduism opposes violence. The pontiff blasted the selective spread of Mr. Gandhi's statement in a viral social media video, calling for accountability for fact-skewers. He said, "Presenting only fragments of Gandhi's statement is misleading and unethical," and those guilty should be penalized. In addition, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi has supported Rahul Gandhi against the claims. "Rahul can never criticize Hindus." He addressed BJP and its leaders," she claimed.

## Rising Drunk Driving, \$12k Fine in 6 Months

Delhi: Delhi Traffic Police reported that more than 12,000 people

were penalized for DUI from January 1 to June 30, up 27% from last year. Rajouri Garden had the most drunk driving violations in the past six months, 770. Samaypur Badli had 514 instances, Rohini 441. Traffic police released data on Saturday showing that police penalized 12,468 intoxicated drivers through June 30 compared to 9,837 last year. Punjabi Bagh (387), Mehrauli (367), Mayur Vihar (364), Narela (364), Kalkaji (344), Karol Bagh (342) and Sadar Bazar (342) also had high drunk.

## Muslim groups want India to stop exporting beef

Delhi: Minority organization Ittehad-e-Millat Council (IMC) held a seminar to condemn cow vigilante attacks and seek a ban on beef export from India and illicit slaughter to end cattle suffering. They also sought to clarify that "beef"—associated with cows—was being misused to characterize buffalo meat export, thus the government should clarify. At a full Mavalankar Hall in Constitution Club, Muslim and dalit representatives approved the memorandum to Union home minister Rajnath Singh. There were also threats that demonstrators would go to the streets and Ramlila Grounds if the adminis-



tration did not meet these demands. "We are concerned about Muslim minority atrocities, suppression, and discrimination under the guise of cow protection, beef eating, terrorism, national security, etc. The IMC said vigilante cow defender

groups had grown since a Dadri man was beaten to death for consuming meat last September. "After a long silence, our Prime Minister Narendra Modi, finally joined the fray, condemning attacks by Hindu cow protection squads and vowing to

investigate those engaged in violence," the report added. "There have been several instances of religious violence against Muslims in the recent past, frequently in the form of violent attacks on Muslims by Hindu mobs.

that form a pattern of sporadic sectarian violence between Hindu and Muslim communities," it said. IMC demands "India should abolish cow and calves slaughter. The Supreme Court of India upheld state-enacted anti-cow slaughter regulations in a landmark ruling. 24 of 29 Indian states ban cow slaughter and sale. Cow slaughter is legal in Kerala.

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