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

PM Modi speaks to US president Joe Biden, discusses recent visit to war-torn Ukraine

NEW DELHI : Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to President Joe Biden in a telephonic conversation on Monday expressing gratitude for the President's dedication to fostering the partnership between India and the United States.

The prime minister also briefed the president on his recent visit to Ukraine and reiterated India's unwavering stance in support of dialogue and diplomacy, expressing full support for an early return to peace and stability. The two leaders expressed their concern about the situation in Bangladesh, stressing the importance of restoring law and order and ensuring the safety and security of minorities, particularly Hindus, in the country. Sharing a post on X, PM Modi said: "Spoke to POTUS on phone today. We had a detailed exchange of views on various regional and global issues, including



'Why mum on creamy layer in SC/ST quotas?': Mayawati flays Congress

NEW DELHI: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) supremo Mayawati stepped up her attack at the Congress over its silence on the Supreme Court's suggestion for the "creamy layer" provisions within the SC/ST quotas. Casting doubt on Congress's pitch for caste census, the ex-Uttar Pradesh CM asked if the party would be able to impart legitimate rights.

the situation in Ukraine. I reiterated India's full support for early return of peace and stability." "We also discussed the situation in Bangladesh and stressed on the need for early restoration of normalcy, and ensuring the safety and security of minorities, especially Hindus, in Bangladesh," the PM

wrote on X. PM Modi expressed his gratitude for President Biden's strong commitment to the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, which is based on shared values of democracy, rule of law, and robust people-to-people connections. The leaders assessed the substantial progress

ACB gets Centre's nod to try ex-IAS officer in Rs 100 crore 'scam'

NEW DELHI: Central government's department of personnel and training (DoPT) has granted sanction to the anti-corruption branch (ACB) to prosecute a retired IAS officer for allegedly giving pecuniary benefits to a company, which operated a passenger vehicles' inspection and certification unit in north Delhi's Burari in 2007-08. A 1984-batch IAS officer, RK Verma was posted as secretary-cum-commissioner in the transport department when Delhi govt had procured three inspection and certification lanes for passenger vehicles from a US-based company.

made in bilateral relations and emphasized that the India-US partnership aims to benefit the people of both nations and the entire world. PM Modi and Biden reaffirmed their dedication to further strengthening cooperation in multilateral forums, including the Quad. They also agreed to remain in touch.

Demystifying e-waste: Understanding the environmental impact, the need to address the issue

Have you ever stopped to think about what life would be like without a smartphone, TV, AC, or refrigerator? For most of us, it's hard to imagine such a lifestyle after being so reliant on these devices. From the moment we wake up to the time we go to sleep, electronic devices are always by our side. While these devices have become a necessity, they also come with a significant drawback of generating electronic waste, or e-waste. Every year, millions of electrical and electronic devices are discarded as they break or become obsolete. These discarded electronic items are called e-waste. According to a report by UNITAR, in 2022, e-waste hit a record 62 million tonnes and is projected to reach 82 million tonnes by 2030, driven by factors such as the widespread availability of electronic items and increased consumer spending capacity. Understanding the challenges with e-waste Most of the electronic appliances we can think of, that make an integral



Switching careers: 'Tough road for women, despite notable success stories'

Switching careers has never been easy, particularly for women. Despite the evolving workplace, women still face significant challenges when considering a change in their professional paths. However, there are success stories that highlight the possibility

of overcoming these hurdles with determination and support. A recent study reveals that over 70% of women encounter significant challenges when contemplating a career switch. Many struggle with balancing family responsibilities societal expectations.

part of our household, contribute to this e-waste.

Think of your refrigerator, smartphone, TV, flat iron, AC, charger, power bank, laptop, grinder, etc. All of these have an expiry date. Some may remain useful to you for a couple of months, and some may last for years. However, each of them

gets obsolete one day and adds to the ever-growing pool of e-waste. The major challenge with e-waste is that only a small percentage of it is recycled properly. Many countries lack the infrastructure for proper e-waste recycling, leading to hazardous substances like lead, mercury, and cadmium leaching into the soil and water.

'Bahut kuch hai': CBI on evidence in corruption case against College ex-principi-

NEW DELHI: Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has ramped up its probe into the alleged rape and murder of a postgraduate trainee doctor at RG Kar Medical College in Kolkata. On Sunday, CBI officials carried out extensive search operations at the residences and offices of former principal Sandip Ghosh, ex-MSVP Sanjay Vashisth, and 13 others across Kolkata. The agency is also investigating possible financial irregularities at the institute, particularly in the procurement of materials for patient care. As part of the investigation, Sanjay Roy, the main accused in the rape and murder case, underwent a lie detection test at Presidency Jail, Kolkata. Two other individuals are also scheduled for similar tests at the CBI office later today.

Terror attacks, abductions, disappearance...: What's happening in Balochistan

In Pakistan's troubled Balochistan province, a series of assaults by separatist fighters targeting law enforcement facilities, transportation infrastructure, and main roads resulted in the deaths of over 60 individuals, according to authorities on Monday. The attacks, which were met with countermeasures by Pakistan forces, represent the most extensive offensive by ethnic rebels in recent years.

Driving the news The assaults, which included dragging people off vehicles and shooting them, attacking a police station, and blowing up a railway bridge, were more brazen and ruthless than the typical militant attacks targeting security personnel or installations. In the Rarashim area of Musakhel district, militants blocked the highway and forced 23 passengers to disembark from their vehicles, according to Senior Superintendent of Police Ayub Khoso. The identity of the group was not disclosed. Khoso said, "The passengers were told to get down from buses and shot dead after being identified from their national ID cards." He further added, "Most of those killed belonged to southern Punjab and some are from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Data was shared': MEA on Dhaka's accusations India opened barrage gates without warning

NEW DELHI: The ministry of external affairs on Monday responded to Bangladesh's allegations of "non-cooperation" from New Delhi over the opening of gates at the Farrakka Barrage, which was done "without any prior warning." Refuting the allegations, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "We have seen media reports of the



opening of Farrakka Ganga/Padma river." "This is a normal seasonal development that takes place due to increased inflow in the Ganga river basin catchment areas upstream. It is to be understood that Farrakka is only a barrage and not a dam. Whenever, water level reaches the pond level, whatever inflow comes that passes. It is merely a structure to divert 40,000 cusecs of water into the Farrakka canal. that is carefully done using a system of gates on the main Ganga/Padma river.

administration of Bengal that, under the orders of the authorities, engaged in tampering with evidence. Hours after the BJP's social media post, Kolkata police responded to the allegations and said, "The place of occurrence that is known to us is basically the seminar hall of G Kar (Hospital) on the third floor. Social media and some news channels have shown a particular video where it is being seen.

Kolkata horror: BJP accuses admin of allowing outsiders in crime scene

NEW DELHI: The Bhartiya Janata party on Monday launched a scathing attack on Mamata Banerjee-led West Bengal government and accused the administration of allowing people to enter the place of crime which led to tampering with the evidence in the alleged rape and murder case of a trainee doctor in RG Kar Medical hospital and college in Kolkata. Taking to X, the party shared a video where a



people were allegedly seen entering the area of crime and said, "While the parents of the victim were made to wait for hours, how did outsiders manage to get into the seminar hall?" After the murder and rape, it was the

AAP to launch 'Aap ka vidhayak, aap ke dwaar' campaign from Sep 1

NEW DELHI: The AAP will launch a campaign 'Aap ka vidhayak, aap ke dwaar' from September 1 to reach out to people as the party gears up for the Delhi Assembly polls due early next year. Following a meeting of senior party leaders to chalk out the strategy for the polls, AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sandeep Pathak said the campaign will intensify in the days to come. 1x1 polls "There was a detailed discussion on various aspects related to governance, political scenario, and each assembly constituency in Delhi. Manish Sisodia's 'padyatra' has been getting a very posi-



response," Pathak, who is also the party's national general secretary (organisation), told reporters after the meeting. "Wherever he is going people are coming out and saying 'you have been faced a lot of injustice'. We will continue these padyatras," he added. The party will also be rolling out its campaign 'Aap ka vidhayak, aap ke dwaar' from September 1, wherein the MLAs will hold meetings at the 'mandal' level and booth level where there will be discussions on political scenarios and the work done by the party. "We will also expose the conspiracy being hatched by the BJP against the people of Delhi during this campaign. Slowly, the campaign will intensify," said Pathak. When asked whether there was any discussion on

alliances with Congress, the AAP leader said that there was no talk in this regard. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia recently held a meeting with senior party leaders to discuss the strategy for the polls. Sisodia, a trusted lieutenant of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, walked out of jail on bail on August 9 after spending 17 months behind bars in connection with the excise policy case. Sisodia's release from jail has come as a huge relief for the party grappling with the absence of its national convenor Kejriwal and senior leader, Satyendar Jain.

Maharashtra becomes 1st state to offer UPSC to employees

NEW DELHI: Hours after central government employees' organisations demanded that state governments implement the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), poll-bound Maharashtra on Sunday became the first state to offer a switch to its employees amid expectation that others, especially those governed by NDA, will follow suit. The decision came 24 hours after Union cabinet approved UPS to offer 50% of an employee's average salary for the last 12 months as pension, along with inflation adjustment and other sweeteners to address the demands of govt employees who joined in 2004 and later. While 23 lakh central govt employees stand to benefit from Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), the number may rise to 90 lakh if all states offer it. Urging states to implement the scheme.

Release, withdraw, re-release: Protests over J&K candidates list force rare BJP flip-flop



NEW DELHI: The BJP on Monday released the first list of 44 candidates for the upcoming J&K assembly elections, a day after the party's top brass led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting over the names. However, in a rare turn of events, the party was forced to withdraw the original list and release a new one with just 16 names for the first phase of elections. The party then released another list with just one name. The hasty retreat was triggered by protests at party's headquarters in Jammu - a rare public show of anger against

the decision of the top leadership. There have not been many instances of such open dissent within the BJP in the last 10 years. In fact, the BJP has often taken digs at opposition parties, including the Congress, for failing to enforce discipline within its ranks. However, this is the first time that the BJP has made a U-turn in the recent past. The third term of the party at the Centre has been marked by quite a few instances when the party has been forced to make a retreat. The BJP which pushed through its governance agenda.

Faheem Ahmed nominated as Sr Gen Sec of City Cong Committee

Prayagraj: Senior Congress leader and former District President of Minority, Faheem Ahmed Khan of Allahabad was nominated by the City President of City Congress Committee Prayagraj, Pradeep Kumar Mishra Anshuman ji as the Senior General Secretary of City Congress Committee. General Secretary has been nominated on whose nomination we all the workers, Irshadullah and Taslimuddin, Senior Councilor, Syed Shakeel Parvez, Rajkumar Rajju, Baba Abhay Awasthi, Abdul Kalam Azad, Vinay Pandey, Subhash Pandey, Anand Gharial Councilor, Rakesh Patel, Haleem Ansari, Vijay Yadav. , Suresh Yadav District President, Tariq Saeed Aju, Shaikat Timber, etc. congratulated him on his nomination and said that it will prove to be a milestone in strengthening the organization.



Prakriti Veda Wellness Center will open in Triveni Pushp Parmarth before Kumbh

Prayagraj: Triveni Pushp located in Arail Naini on the banks of Yamuna near Sangam, which the government has leased to Parmarth Niketan on PPP model. Prakriti Veda Wellness Center will be operated here. This wellness center will be ready before Kumbh 2025. President of the organization, Swami Chidanand

place of penance of Maharishi Bhardwaj, the father of Ayurveda. Chief Director of Wellness Center, Dr. Pushpendra Singh told that Prayagraj is a place of health. You will receive a related gift. Here, incurable diseases will be treated through Ayurveda, Panchakarma, Yoga and Naturopathy, along with this, free yoga and medita-



Saraswati said that people not only from the country but also from abroad will come here to take benefit of Yoga Meditation and Ayurveda Panchakarma Naturopathy and will also take benefit of our Indian civilization culture as well as our ancient medical system.

Due to which, along with spirituality, their mind, body and soul will be refined. Swami told that Prayagraj, where along with the confluence of holy rivers, has also been the confluence of religion, spirituality, culture and education, there is another Prayagraj here. The area has a great heritage, which very few people know. This area is also a place for living life and getting health. This is also the

tion will also be provided to the people of Prayagraj every day. This wellness center will operate throughout the year. During Kumbh, tourists and devotees coming from India and abroad will be provided facilities of Panchakarma, meditation and yoga through Ayurveda in this wellness centre. It is noteworthy that Triveni Pushp, built in a vast area on the banks of Yamuna, is also going to be a big center of charitable tourism. Along with the temples of Char Dham, the construction work of the divine grand Ram temple is also about to be completed. Along with this, many interesting things like laser light and sound so on are also being prepared here on a big water body.



Oneness with the Consciousness of Kriyayoga is the perfect celebration of Krishna Janamashtami. : Gurujii Swami Shree Yogi Satyam

Prayagraj . I exist in the "heart"... of all creation...

Experiencing oneness with me will reveal the fact that we are experiencing oneness with all creatures and creation."This state is called the state of Kaivalya..

which is a perfect "Unification". Unification means oneness with all creation. This state is known as the state of Yoga.

Lord Krishna teaches Arjuna : " Be thou, O Arjuna, a yogi!"

Anyone who practices Kriyayoga with the perfect devotion experiences the state of Yoga where there is absence of all sufferings. Oneness with the Consciousness of Kriyayoga is the perfect celebration of Krishna Janamashtami.

The concerns surrounding bridge safety in UP

Mirzapur: The news of continuous bridge collapses in Bihar has created an atmosphere of fear in certain regions of Uttar Pradesh, including the Purvanchal area. These are the very regions that face annual floods. The fear is well-founded, especially considering the alarming state of some bridges in Uttar Pradesh.

Take, for instance, the Shastri Bridge in Mirzapur district. Due to overloaded trucks and heavy vehicles, this bridge has become significantly weakened. Potholes are cropping up in various places, hinting at the possibility of a major accident. The Shastri Bridge serves as a crucial link between Mirzapur and several other districts, including Jaunpur, Varanasi, Bhadohi, Gopiganj, Allahabad, Sonbhadra, and Banaras. However, despite its importance,

the bridge has deteriorated significantly.

Recently, a portion of the footpath on the Shastri Bridge collapsed, prompting the police to barricade it. However, residents demanded that the bridge be reopened for their convenience. After repairs, the bridge is now operational again.

Just as Bihar has numerous rivers, Uttar Pradesh also boasts several rivers and many bridges. Some of these bridges have been serving for over 50 years. Among them is the Shastri Bridge in Mirzapur. Local administration and residents continue to engage in discussions about its condition. Both private companies and the Uttar Pradesh government have been involved in its construction. Given that the bridge was built in sections, its history deserves

closer examination.

The risk is evident. Overloaded vehicles pose a threat not only during normal traffic but also during heavy rainfall when potholes fill with water, making it even more dangerous—especially for pedestrians and two-wheeler riders. The administration needs to address the issue of heavy vehicle noise on the bridge and immediately implement a higher barrier to prevent overloaded vehicles from crossing. By diverting heavy vehicles at NH-19 (formerly NH-2), the pressure on the bridge can be reduced.

Some speculate that there might be a conspiracy to halt traffic on the bridge, but these discussions arise because the Shastri Bridge is vital for Mirzapur and essential for the general public.

It is the duty to make the children aware about the importance of traditional festivals - Ankita Khera

Shri Krishna Janmotsav program was celebrated with pomp and show amid colorful cultural programs at St. Peter's Educational English Medium School

Meja: The Shri Krishna Janmotsav program was celebrated with great pomp by cutting the cake by the children of the school at St. Peter's Educational English Medium School, Janwar Meja Road. The program was started by school principal Mrs. Ankita Khera by garlanding the statue of Mother Saraswati and lighting the lamp. During this, after Saraswati Vandana Vandana, a colorful cultural program and a captivating drama was also presented by the school children. In the program, school children also presented pyramid and pot breaking program highlighting the pastimes based on



the life of Lord Shri Krishna through songs and music, which was greatly appreciated by the people present. The little ones of the school gave a beautiful presentation on the song Tu Meri Radha Pyaari Main Tera Kishan Kanhaiya. Thereafter, while addressing the children, Mrs. Khera said that it is the duty of all of us to make them aware by organizing such programs to maintain the traditional importance of festivals in Sanatan Dharma. On this occasion, apart from the teachers of the school, all the staff and many other people were prominently present.

Vi Honours Indian Artisans

Varanasi: Celebrating India, leading telecom operator Vi launched its unique initiative, Artisans of India. This special initiative celebrated the craftsmanship and skills of local artisans, adding a vibrant touch across the country. Vi helped provide a platform to over 60 talented artisans across its stores in multiple States. Vi Stores in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, West Bengal, New Delhi, Karnataka, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Gujarat collaborated with local NGOs to showcase artisans' work to the public. These artisans, working with various crafts and traditions, showcased hand-painted bags, chikankari embroidery, paintings, toys, decorated diyas, and more.

Some NGOs Vi partnered with for this initiative included Universal Smile, ESSCENT, Astha Foundation's Parivartan School for Specially-Abled Children, Shwwas Samiti-Swastik Handicraft Women Welfare Association, Disha Shakti Swayam Sahayta Samooch, and RAFEC. At Kolkata's South City store, Universal Smile showcased hand-painted cloth bags made by women, with proceeds supporting an orphanage, while in Gujarat, the Astha Foundation worked with specially-abled children to create and showcase decorated Diyas.

Chehllum procession of 72-martyrs of Karbala taken out

Prayagraj: During the period of Azadari which lasted for two months and eight days, the Chehllum procession of seventy-two martyrs of Karbala was taken out in a sad atmosphere. After the speech of Maulana Amirur Rizvi in the Azakhana of Nawab Azam Hussain, Kazim Abbas, Aijaz Hussain, Ahmed Javed 'Kajjan', Zargam Haider etc. took out a procession reciting Purdard Marsiya which reached Bachaji Dharamshala. After Zohar prayers, Anjumans took out a procession reciting Nauha sequentially. First of all, Anjuman Hussainiya Qadeem Dariyabad followed by Anjuman Shabbiriya Ranimandi and Anjuman Abbasiya Ranimandi sequentially recited Nauha. And Dr. Chaddha Road Kotwali Nakhas Kohna, Khuldabad, reached Shia Karbala in Chakia via

Himmatganj. The procession that started from Azam Hussain was led by Shuja Haider, Jalal Haider, Kamal Haider, Zaheer Baqar, Zaheer Jafar, Zaheer Kazim etc. The procession was taken out with Nauhakhwan Hasan Rizvi of Anjuman Haidaria Ranimandi and friends. Nauhakhwan Arshad, Irshad Hussain etc. of Anjuman Mazlumiya also reached Karbala with a procession, raising the bar of mourning and mourning. The third procession was taken out from Imambara Hashim Raza Abdi under the leadership of Nauhakhwan Mirza Kazim Ali of Anjuman Abidaya. Anjuman Shabbiriya Anjuman Abbasiya Anjuman Anjuman The members of Mazlumiya Anjuman Haidaria and Anjuman Abidaya, from Kotwali to Nakhas Kohna, armed with sharp-edged

knives, covered themselves with chains and sharp-edged knives (Qama) and covered themselves with blood in the name of Imam Hussain (a.s.). Procession Along with the flags (alams) of all the mourners, the coffin of Hazrat Imam Hussain, the coffin of Hazrat Ali Akbar, the bed of Abide Bimar, Zuljanah, Janabe Zainab and Janabe Umm Kulsoom placed on camels were also included. Along the way, the faithful people garlanded the tabarruqat. After offering it, he presented his faith with moist eyes.

The flowers of Tabruqat included in the procession that reached Karbala late in the evening were laid to rest among the bald martyrs with tearful eyes. Maulana Rozi Haider Maulana Dr. Rizwan Haider Rizvi, Taj Rizvi, Khushnood Rizvi, Agha Mohammad Qaiser, Gauhara Qazmi, Masood

Abdi, Syed Mohammad Askari, Shahid Pradhan, Salman Mustaf, Zamin Hasan, Shajih Abbas,



former councilor Akhtar Ansari, former councilor Anees Ahmed, Councilor Fashahat Hussain etc. were included. A historic Chehllum procession was taken out from Daryaabad Imambara Salwat Ali Khan under the patronage of Tahir Malik, Shauzaf Malik, Aun Zaidi, Jaun Zaidi etc.

which passed through its traditional routes to Baluaghat, Bahadurganj, Loknath Square, Kotwali, Dr

Chadha Road, Rani Mandi Imambara Agha Mahmood. After reaching here, it again passed through Atarsuainya road and ended at the same place from where the procession was taken out. The huge white-furred alum was the center of attraction in the procession, while the coffin alum Zuljanah etc.

were also included in the procession.

Water sherbet and food camps were set up at various places on the procession route: From Rani Mandi to Karbala in Chakia, voluntary organizations kept distributing cold water, sherbet, tea, biscuits, Nand Kebab Biryani to the devotees at about fifty to sixty places. Memorable Hussaini Inter in the college, on behalf of Gauhara Kazmi, the scholars were fed dastarkhwan decorated with black lentils, cumin seeds, rice, salad and chutney. On behalf of Anjuman Guncha-e-Qasimya Bakshi Bazaar, Nazare Shohadae Karbala and Asirane Karbala were organized at Ahmedganj Tahira House in which hundreds of people participated and tasted.

Donated 55 units of blood in the name of Imam Hussain: Message of Hu-

manity Inquilabi Blood Donor Association and Naaz Blood. Under the joint aegis of the Bank, a blood donation camp was organized at Yadgar Hussaini Inter College on the occasion of Chehllum of Hazrat Imam Hussain Alaihissalam. Organizer and Founder Imda Shahid Askari, Patron Gauhara Qazmi, President Shaheen Qazmi, Secretary Captain Mohammad Mehndi, Joint Secretary Syed Mohammad Askari. About 55 units of blood were donated under the patronage. Among the warriors who donated blood, Mohammad Mehndi Naqvi, who created history by donating blood 133 times in Uttar Pradesh, also donated blood, while Zeeshan Rizvi, Ahmed Abbas, Mohammad Bazaar, Salim Akhtar, Muzaffar Anees, Ariz Ali Kazmi, Zaheer Abbas, Haider Abbas, Mohammad Naqvi, Hussain Askari,

Mohammad Shariq, Hussain Ahmed, Mohammad Abbas, Kumail Hussain, Syed Zulfeqar Haider, Ahmed Abbas, Syed Tauheed Haider and dozens of other youth voluntarily donated blood. On behalf of Rakt Sankalp Sanstha, SP Mishra and Sudhir Kesarwani also provided gifts and certificates to the blood donors as an incentive. In the camp, Managing Director of Naz Multispeciality Hospital Amit Yadav, Dr. Vishwadeep Kesarwani, Manager Arslan Khan, Akbar Khan, Wazir Khan, Muzaffar Baghi, Yusuf Askari, Parvez Rizvi, Farrukh. Abbas, Zeeshan Mehndi 'Aiman', Hasan Akhtar, Mashu Abbas, Oruj Abbas, Aijaz Naqvi etc. were included while the blood bank staff included Hanif Shaikh, Vivek Kumar Yadav, Himanshu Yadav, Rohit Maurya, Sachin Sharma etc.

North Central Railway gave info about UPS

Prayagraj: Prayagraj Divisional Office under the chairmanship of Principal Chief Personnel Officer of North Central Railway, Anurag Tripathi and Divisional Railway Manager / Prayagraj, Himanshu Badoni. A press conference was held in the "Sankalp" auditorium. In this press conference, information was given about the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) approved by the Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24.08.2024. Chief Public Relations Officer, Shashikant Tripathi, Additional Divisional Railway Manager/General, Sanjay Singh and Senior Divisional Personnel Officer, Manish Kumar Khare were present in this press conference. In the press conference, Principal

Chief Personnel Officer of North Central Railway, Anurag Tripathi said that the Government of India has come up with a wonderful plan. Indian Railways is the largest organization in the country. More than 13 lakh employees are providing their services here. All these employees will get the benefit of this scheme. This scheme will be implemented from April 01, 2025. To avail the benefits of this scheme, all employees will be given the option to choose between NPS or UPS. There is a provision to give 'assured pension' to the employees in the Integrated Pension Scheme. Under this scheme, pension of 50 percent of the average basic pay received in the last 12 months before retirement for minimum qualifying service of 25 years will be given. This



salary will be proportionate to the length of service reduced to a minimum of 10 years. In this scheme, under assured family pension, 60 percent of the employee's pension will be given to his

family just before his death. Under this scheme, the assured minimum pension on retirement after minimum 10 years of service will be Rs 10,000 per month. The employee or the employee's

family will also get the benefit of inflation index on assured pension, assured family pension and assured minimum pension.

It may be noted that a total of 69110 employees

and officers are employed in North Central Railway, out of which 55587 employees are under NPS (New Pension Scheme) and 13523 are under OPS (Old Pension Scheme). Apart from this, there are 6335 employees who are not in service due to various reasons like retirement, VRS or death. Thus, a total of 61922 employees and officers in North Central Railway are under NPS (New Pension Scheme). Those who will be given the right to choose UPS (Unified Pension Scheme) or NPS (New Pension Scheme). Thus, a total of 27518 employees and officers of Prayagraj division are under NPS (New Pension Scheme). In which a total of 26000 working, 1518 (retired, VRS and deceased) employees and officers are under NPS (New Pension Scheme).

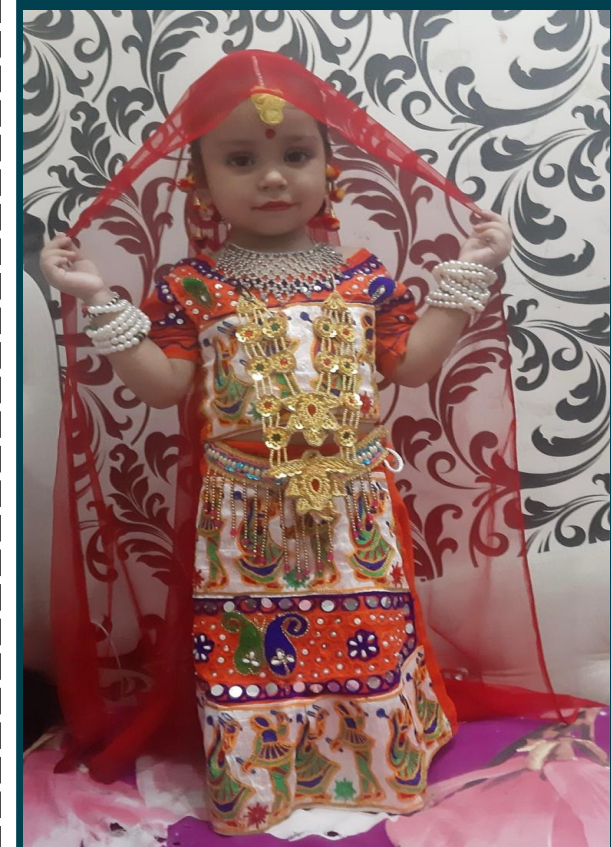


Children Dressed As Lord Krishna Participate In Dress Competition On Janmashtami

Children enjoy learning about Lord Krishna and the fun and naughty things he was up to as a child. With the initiative of Sri Krishna Temple the Krishna fancy dress competition held as part of Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations.



Bhuvika father Jai Prakash, Atarsuiya



Pakhi father Jai Prakash, Atarsuiya



Chiku Singh, father Shamsher Singh, Madhuvan Vihar Colony Pritamnagar

Kanha, Northern, Immortals in semi-finals National Sports Day Football Tournament

Prayagraj: Kanha Boys, Northern Football Academy and Immortals Football Club made it to the semi-finals by winning their respective quarterfinal matches. In the first quarterfinal match of the senior category, Kanha Boys defeated Ultimate Wonders 1-0. Utkarsh



Singh scored the winning goal. In the second quarterfinal match of the day, Northern Football Academy defeated Offside FC 3-1. Vedant Tripathi, Harshit Ojha Adarsh scored the goals of the winning team. In the third quarterfinal match, Immortals FC defeated Cheetah FC 2-0. Rishabh Singh and Shaswat Gupta scored the goals.

In the league match of Under-15 category team championship (five a side football), Youth Football Academy defeated All Star Football Club 2-0 and got full points. On behalf of the winning team, Surya Prakash scored two, Achman Yadav and Devang scored one goal each. Sahil Kumar scored the only goal for the defeated team. Today's chief guest football coach Sunil Nigam, JP Oraon introduced the players of both the teams.

AIMIM to handover memo today

Prayagraj: On behalf of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen AIMIM, a memorandum will be given on Tuesday at 11:00 am at the Municipal Commissioner's office, Municipal Corporation regarding the dilapidated roads and drains of Kareli, informed Afsar Mahmood, Mahanagar President, AIMIM Prayagraj.

In City West, organized crime taking place under garb of farmer leaders

Prayagraj: The game of organized crime is going on in the city West Prayagraj under the guise of farmer leaders. If every soldier of the apolitical Bharatiya Kisan Union Prayagraj is on the streets, the reason for this is that the so-called farmer leaders and anarchists are taking shelter under the guise of the farmers' organization and all this is being played right under the nose of the district administration officials. Criminals are now taking the help of farmers' organization to commit organized crime in Prayagraj. Under the pressure of the organization, these so-called farmer leaders illegally occupy land in the area, feed lice and do drug trade, provide shelter to those who slaughter cows, Their main work is to

support the missionaries who are trying to convert their religion, to collect extortion money by using the administration in the name

of staging dharna and indulging in other such activities with anti-national mentality. The terror of Atiq Ahmed in the western area of the city was over and it was not known in the pub-

lic mind. Fear is spreading again; false allegations like false cases against eminent people, fraud in the name of farmers, murder of public



representatives etc. are made by these so-called farmer leaders. Yesterday Sunday afternoon at 3 pm, in the District Office Bharatiya Kisan Union Apolitical Kisan Park, outpost incharge Pipalgaon

with the mechanic and cutter machine and ordered District President Shani Shukla ji that the name plate of Rakesh Tikait has been made and brought by the administration.

Dance Competition by SWS Arts on Janmashtami

Prayagraj: A dance competition program named "The Dance Day" was organized by SWS Arts on the occasion of Janmashtami at Jagriti Chowraha Kalindipuram, in which a large number of participants participated. Young children took part and won everyone's heart with their dance. First Anushka Tiwari, second Arpita Srivastava, third Arman. Guest of the program:- Dr. Sushil Kumar. Shukla, Ashok Kumar Dwivedi and Shrawan Shukla, about 100 children participated in this program. Director of "SWS Arts" said that the children have a bright future through sports and dance competition. A dance competition was organized to highlight the internal talent, in which a large number of boys



and girls participated. Chief guest Dr Sushil Kumar Shukla and special guests Sanjivani Welfare Society President Ashok Kumar Dwivedi and Shrawan Shukla participated in the programme. Chief guest Shri Shukla ji said that the dance talent of small children is praiseworthy. All the guests presented certificates to all the children who participated in the program and the little children dressed in the form of Radha Krishna were awarded. The program was conducted by Dr. Rahul Shukla and the program was presided over by Saqib Siddiqui, on this occasion Annu Vishwakarma, Mithlesh Vishwakarma, Poonam Tiwari, Samarjeet, Adeshika Mishra, Vineet Tiwari and Manoj Rajput etc. were present.

New class of virus-like entities are discovered in human body: Dr. Ajai Kumar Sonkar

Prayagraj: World famous aquaculture Indian scientist Dr Ajai Kumar Sonkar said that in recent research a new type of microbe has been found in the human intestine and mouth, which has been named "Obelisks". This is a completely new discovery for science. Dr Sonkar said that Obelisks are newly discovered microscopic entities found in the human mouth and intestine. They are small rings of genetic material. They organize themselves in rod-like shapes. Its discovery will expand scientists' research about the complexity of the human microbiome and the various genetic units present in it. Its presence and function may have implications for human health, which can potentially affect the balance of the microbiome. The scientist said that Obelisks

are an unprecedentedly discovered class of virus-like entities present in the human body.

Different types of Obelisks appear to be present in different parts of our body. It represents its own class of organisms. Although the hosts of other Obelisks are unknown, it is still likely that some of them can be found in bacteria. A class of diverse ribose nucleic acids (RNAs) that inhabit the human and global microbiome has gone largely unnoticed. RNA is a polymeric molecule that is essential for most biological functions. He said that they are genetic material and can form their own proteins which are completely new to science. The team of researchers has named this protein



"Oblins". He told that scientists are still figuring out what these proteins do and how Obelisks interact with other organisms. Padma Shri awardee Dr Sonkar told that Obelisks bridge the gap between viruses and viroids in terms of complexity, adding a new category to the existing spectrum of life forms. Using next generation sequencing technology, Obelisks were identified through a comprehensive analysis of RNA sequences from bacteria in the human gut. In response to a question, he told that understanding the Obelisks can provide new information about the dynamics of the human microbiome, which can lead to new therapeutic targets or strategies to maintain or restore the microbial balance important for

health. The research aims to elucidate the biology, evolutionary significance and potential impact of the Obelisk on the human microbiome and health. The ease of culturing the dental plaque associated bacteria Streptococcus sanguinis that host the Obelisk provides a valuable model for further study. On another question, he said that it is still a mystery where else the Obelisks are found and how they spread apart from the gut. Until now, it went unnoticed, and it may be an entirely new class of life forms. This discovery raises important questions about the impact they have on human health, whether they are harmful, beneficial or simply passive residents of our microbial ecosystem. Dr Sonkar explained that our gut contains trillions of

tiny organisms that generally keep us healthy and functional. However, if something disturbs this balance, it can affect us with physical and mental diseases. If Obelisks prove to be parasites, they may harm beneficial gut bacteria, disrupt the delicate ecosystem within the gut and potentially lead to health problems. He explained that in contrast, if they have a symbiotic relationship with their hosts, obelisks may contribute to the stability and diversity of the gut microbiome, possibly providing new avenues for therapeutic intervention. The researchers identified a potential host for the Obelisk, one found in most of our mouths. This bacterium is known as Streptococcus sanguinis, and it is commonly found in dental plaque.

Shri Krishna Janmotsav celebrated in Jagannath Dham

Shri Jagannath Ji Mahotsav Committee Trust, the ritual of Lord Shri Krishna, Lord of the world, at Prayageshwar Nath Jagannath Dham in Kashiraj. The birth program was organized as per the law. On this occasion, Committee President Durga Prasad Gupta anointed Lord Shri Krishna with milk, curd, honey, butter and Ganga water and after Aarti, Prasad was distributed. Committee's General Secretary Gagan Das Gupta said that on August 31, Chhath Mahotsav of Lord Shri Krishna will be celebrated on this occasion Jai Ram Gupta Basant Lal Azad, Rajesh Kesarwani, Dau Dayal Gupta, Kanhaiyalal Gupta, Vijay Vaishya, Amar Rastogi, Happy Kaser, Mahesh Soni, Anil Kesarwani, Arun Sahu, Triloki Kesarwani, Ramlal Garg., Triloki Tripathi, Munna Chaurasia, Shashikant Jaiswal Pappu, Umesh Jaiswal, Deepu, Kartikeya Srivastava, Babu Kumar, Lakshya Gupta etc.

Editorial

Three sides of India's nuclear security regime—and what more it needs

Three individuals were arrested in Bihar for the possession of a restricted nuclear material, californium, on 10 August. This was based on a tip-off from the local police. While arrests were made and the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre determined these samples were not radioactive, the incident underscores the pressing need to discuss nuclear security as a function of responding to threats in India. India's threat perceptions are conditioned by its decades-long experience with terrorism, which has almost entirely originated in Pakistan. The fact that anti-India terrorist organisations such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), and Hizbul Mujahideen have been nurtured by the Pakistani security establishment has remained a sore point in India-Pakistan ties. China, an all-weather ally of Pakistan, has only accentuated the complexities. It has repeatedly prevented the United Nations from taking action against terrorists based in Pakistan. The current political, economic, and social instability in our neighbouring country is an added concern, especially in the context of nuclear material safety. Threats to India emanate not just from Pakistan but from China as well—at least historically. This can be seen in China's involvement with insurgent groups in Northeast India, specifically the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak-Muivah) or NSCM-IM. Beijing has allegedly sheltered and supported insurgent leaders including Hangshi Tangkhul, NSCM-IM's arms procurer. Despite ongoing peace talks, the region's separatist movements remain unresolved, with localised violence expected to continue, particularly in Manipur and Assam. Additionally, India has concerns about Left-wing extremist groups and their propensity for violence. Although they have not yet expressed any interest in nuclear weapons, their possible collusion with other anti-India terrorist groups who may harbour nuclear inclinations cannot be ruled out. The number of terrorist incidents has gone down since India's surgical strike following the 2019 Pulwama incident, which is a positive shift compared to a decade ago, when such attacks were commonplace. However, this calm is all the more reason to keep our guard up. The recent violence in Jammu and the October 2023 Hamas attack prove that unlikely threats can become real without warning. India should be particularly wary of such threats playing out in the context of nuclear and radiological materials. India has a well-established nuclear security regime, which includes a comprehensive legal architecture centred around the Atomic Energy Act 1962 and independent institutions that have ensured the security of its nuclear installations. It has been reviewing and updating its nuclear policy and regulatory measures, with various amendments that account for contemporary challenges. Institutions like the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which was established in 2008, are critical in investigating cases related to terrorism and nuclear threats. Additionally, India's online nuclear licensing process, e-Licensing of Radiation Applications (eLORA), stipulates a comprehensive review of the security and emergency plans at radiation facilities. The process ensures that these facilities are equipped with measures to prevent unauthorised access, theft, or loss of radioactive materials. The eLORA has proven reasonably successful in ensuring safe transport and monitoring of radioactive materials, with built-in provisions for real-time reporting of any loss or theft that help mitigate security breaches immediately. But nuclear security requires constant vigilance and adaptation, especially regarding the transport of nuclear and radioactive materials.

In 2023, there were 168 illegal incidents involving such materials globally. India must improve technology to detect even small amounts of radioactive substances to eliminate such risks.



Pakistan's battle with bandits shows why it is losing all wars within

Twelve years old, weighed down by his magnificent, golden, and august regnal name, Sayyid Sibghatullah Shah Al-Rashidi II, the sixth Pir of Pagaro, ascended to the throne. Two decades later, in 1942, the Pir's anger, fanned by the spirit of the freedom movement, led his Hur clansmen to set the desert on fire. Trains were attacked, and canal dykes were bombed. The Nazim of the Khairpur police, hated for having seduced the wife of one of the Pir's men, was hacked to pieces. To crush the rebellion, historian Aftab Nabi writes, the British Indian Army sent in elite forces, backed by airpower. Like in all colonial counter-insurgency, the rage of the Raj was savage. Frontier Force soldier Alistair McKeith used traditional camel-trackers, or Paggis, to detect the location of attackers, and dynamited their entire villages. Fleeing villagers were strafed from the air. The Pir was hanged in 1943, and secretly buried on the island of Astola. This location was specially picked since there was no fresh water to draw visitors, and only scorpions and snakes to guard his bones. Earlier this week, the distant descendants of those Hur rebels—gangs of dacoits operating in the badlands between the Koh-i Sulaiman mountains, the Indus and the Cholistan desert—ambushed and killed 12 police officers. The bandits have been resurgent for more than a year, burning down crops of the rich, kidnapping the wealthy and storming entire villages. The



government has tried using military force to stamp out the bandits since at least 2016, but with little success. The persistence and power of the Indus bandits bring to light important things about the structure of Pakistan—today at risk of a profound unravelling into anarchy. Even though similar bands once ruled large swathes of India, political scientist Yugesh Kumar has written, changes in the structure of the rural economy, political life and the deepening reach of the state erased large-scale banditry. Pakistan's failure to eliminate violence from its heartlands, at the junction of Punjab, Balochistan and Sindh, reveals the nation-state's fragility. And it raises questions about its ability to fight larger threats like jihadists. Fighting for election from the key seat of Haripur, while facing a rising tide of support for the newly formed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf party, Pakistan Muslim League—Nawaz (PML-N)'s Babar Nawaz presented his winning argument to the voters: "I come from a family of

robbers and dacoits...This is not a joke, but a fact. We have been doing this for years and we will continue doing this till death." The language wasn't widely understood in urban Punjab. To his supporters, the politician was laying claim to a centuries-old tradition of resisting feudalism through the gun, and sharing wealth robbed from the rich. The decade between 1984 and 1994—the first half of which saw power consolidated under military ruler General Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq—saw the sunrise of bandit empires. These empires were unprecedented in their scale, scholar Imdad Hussain Sahito has recorded in the only thoroughgoing work on the gangs. According to Sahito, in 1986, dacoits even overran Sukkur central prison, freeing 34 bandits on death row, who went on to set up new gangs. From Sahito's work, it's clear the bandits drew on large numbers of clan groups, among them the Chandio, the Khosas, and the Jatoi. Elements of these groups had practised banditry since

the Mughal era. The historian Nazer Aziz Anjum has recorded that Mughal power proved unable to stamp out threats to trade caravans across Sindh, forcing merchants to hire private militia. The Mughals often unleashed barbaric violence to crush the bandits—the colonial traveller Peter Mundy, for one, saw over 200 minarets bearing the heads of thieves, which were covered with mortar and plaster. But it had little effect in the absence of state institutions that could engage with mutinous communities. Local officials were often fined to make up losses suffered due to bandits. It was, simply, cheaper. The easy availability of modern weapons after the jihad in Afghanistan increased the lethality of the bandits significantly, Sahito notes. In 1987, a former officer from Pakistan's elite Special Services Group, Tahir Naqash, began supplying modern military training to bandits. Factories to repair weapons and stores for ordnance, various contemporary accounts suggest, were also set up around this time. Like the Mughals and the British before them, the Zia state sought to crush the bandits. Late one night in 1983, the charismatic bandit leader Muhammad Parial Chandio was brought to Shah Panjo railway station, an inconsequential stop along the line from Karachi to Quetta, and shot through the back of the head. His gang members Ali Gauhar Chandio and Ghulam Nabi Chandio were executed soon afterwards. From just

days after the killing, though, mourners carrying handwoven Ajrak shawls began appearing at Parial's grave, to offer their respects. The slain bandit became remembered as a kind of protector-saint of the poor: There was even a hit film made about his life. From the accounts of the marauders that Sahito interviewed, the freewheeling mores of the bandits stood at some distance from the conservative, middle-class values of Pakistan. "Each dacoit vied to array his boyfriend in expensive clothes," Sahito writes, "with Rado watches, gold rings, necklaces and so on. These boys were not allowed to sit in the company of the other dacoits and sometimes became the cause of gun battles among them." In some cases, bandit commanders would ensure their lovers' names were included in police records, to ensure they could not leave them. This kind of concubinage, Jan Willem de Lind van Wijngaarden and Bushra Rani have written, was common across Pakistan and Afghanistan, and sometimes served as a means for young men from poor homes to gain some degree of economic mobility. Efforts by Islamists and the state to stamp out the practice had only marginal success. Even though pederasty was commonplace, more conventional relationships also existed. Wives would visit their husbands in the forests, while many bandits also kept mistresses. Large-scale rape routinely accompanied bandit operations.

Why are UN peacekeepers unpopular in Africa?

In recent news, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is gearing up for elections, but a significant security development is poised to make waves—the departure of a long-standing UN peacekeeping force. Stationed in the DRC since 2010, this force, known as MONUSCO (United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo), has become a subject of celebration as it concludes its mission. However, the jubilation is not due to the success of fostering peace but rather a reflection of the controversial legacy left by the peacekeeping mission. The DRC has been plagued by conflict for years, especially in its eastern regions, witnessing violent clashes between armed groups. The UN mission was expected to bring stability and peace to the region, but unfortu-

nately it fell short of expectations. Instead of being a force for good, MONUSCO became entangled in a web of criticism and controversy. The primary reason behind the lack of enthusiasm for MONUSCO's departure is its perceived ineffectiveness. Despite its decade-long presence, the mission did not succeed in quelling the ongoing conflicts in the region. Moreover, the peacekeepers themselves faced accusations of misconduct including involvement in sexual abuse scandals. The issue was not confined to the DRC alone, as similar incidents have marred UN peacekeeping missions in various parts of the world. One glaring example is the reported cases of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeeping personnel, as documented by the UN itself. The perpetrators, often repatriated to their home nations.

Minorities are safer in Bangladesh than in India

The movement that toppled Sheikh Hasina is not an Islamist revolution. The students at the forefront of the movement are committed, conscientious patriots who wish to see nothing more than a functional, fair, and free Bangladesh. They are democrats and they wish to see a truly democratic Bangladesh, as do all Bangladeshis. They are the furthest thing imaginable from Islamists or militants. Neither is Bangladesh an Islamist country nor a hotbed of militancy. Yes, it is a Muslim majority country, and yes, their religious faith is a key component of the identity of many, possibly most Muslim Bangladeshis. But that doesn't make them radicals or anything other than God-fearing, law-abiding men and women who simply want to live their lives in peace and in harmony with their neighbours. Yes, in the initial chaos following Sheikh Hasina's fleeing, there was a short period of anarchy and lawlessness, and, yes, unfortunately some of those who were targeted were members of the Hindu community. At times like this, those targeted are often the most powerless and as we all know in south Asia, minorities sadly always remain vulnerable. But the notion that Hindus were the subject of some kind of pogrom and that their targeting and dispossession was in fact an integral prong of the revolution is a fiction. Things have already calmed down considerably and as important as the reports of minorities under attack were, the accounts of Muslims and Hindus teaming up to protect temples and minority neighbourhoods were far more typical, widespread, and noteworthy. Things are far from perfect in Bangladesh when it comes to minority rights, but minorities in Bangladesh are much safer and more secure than in, say, India, just to pick a random country by way of comparison. Contrary to popular belief, Bangladesh has not descended into a

Hobbesian state of chaos and anarchy since the ouster of Sheikh Hasina. Such was the suddenness with which she decided to flee that it did initially create a complete power vacuum that resulted in a very unstable situation for some days. But with the interim government under Dr. Muhammad Yunus in place, things are becoming more stable and secure every day, even though the challenge of maintaining safety and security and law and order remains considerable. Things are not helped by the fact that a decade of AL corruption and misrule has left all institutions in a shambles and needing reconstitution from the ground up. That said, given the fragility of the situation—there were no police on the streets for over a week, forcing the students and concerned citizens to partner together to protect neighbourhoods and provide law and order—the fact that there was so little lawlessness during this time was astounding. And things are slowly but surely returning to normal. There is widespread popular support for the interim government led by Dr. Muhammad Yunus, who is a widely respected figure, with a reputation for probity, competence, and vision, both inside the country and out.

If there is one Bangladeshi who can lead us at this watershed moment in the nation's history, it is he, and this is widely recognized and acknowledged. There are of course divisions within the interim government as there are within the larger society, but he is widely seen to be the man who can bridge these divisions and bring Bangladesh together. After 15 years of deeply divisive leadership, it's like a breath of fresh air, and the difference it makes having someone of his stature at the helm of national affairs is palpable. The country is with him. While it has to be acknowledged that things are very far from perfect, that's not a very helpful.

Indian coaches are ill-equipped for modern sports. That's why we didn't shine at Olympics

It is no longer a surprise that India has the highest number of young people in the world. As per verified data by UNICEF, India has 253 million people between the ages of 10 and 19. In simpler terms, around 20 per cent of India's population are teenagers. These statistics look depressing if we take into account India's medal tally at the recently held 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. The world's most populated country failed to win a single gold medal. India's neighbour, China, with a similar demography, man-

aged a stellar tally of medals at the Olympics. It is interesting to look into the possible causes for India's woes at the Olympics and in sports in general. Field hockey is one sport in which India dominated the rest of the world for decades at the Olympics. Then suddenly, after 1980, India saw a 40-year wait to get a medal. One of the major causes for India's inability to get world-class results is that the country has not kept pace with other sporting nations in terms of techniques and training. We then need to probe as to why

this is the case. Modern techniques and training have not reached grassroots India because there is a complete lack of world-class coaches in the country. When that is the case, it is more probable that the country will lack world-class pupils. A deeper probe into the unavailability of good coaches in India would conclude many interesting and dramatic facts. Take the example of cricket here and in Pakistan. Most of the coaching slots at the highest level are taken up by ex-players who had a great career in the

game. Yet, these former great players failed miserably to produce and garner world-class pupils. This is because it is one thing having played the game at the highest level and another thing to teach one generation down the line. The world of sports moves very fast when it comes to new techniques of training. Unfortunately, Indian coaching roles are taken and given on the basis of stardom. It took a South African gentleman to coach the Indian men's hockey team to success at the 2024 Olympics.

Maharashtra govt formally launches 'Ladki Bahin' scheme

Delhi : The Mahayuti government in Maharashtra formally launched the ambitious "Majhi Ladki Bahin" scheme for eligible women, with Chief Minister Eknath Shinde hinting at doubling the monthly stipend from Rs 1,500 to Rs 3,000 if the alliance is voted to power in elections. More than 1 crore women are expected to benefit from this scheme whose launch coincided with Rakshabandhan festivities. The Shiv Sena-BJP-NCP government, facing a tough assembly polls battle against the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi in coming months, came up with the "Mukhyamantri



Majhi Ladki Bahin" scheme, months after a debacle in Lok Sabha elections in Maharashtra. The scheme, modelled on the MP government's "Ladli Behna Yojana", provides monthly Rs 1,500 assistance to the married, divorced, and destitute women in the 21-60 age group with Rs 2.5 lakh annual family income ceiling. If we receive your support, we can manage to give you more than Rs 3,000," Shinde said at the launch event marked by the display of pyrotechnics on a specially-created ramp-cum-walk way at Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Balewadi area of Pune.

Maharashtra assembly polls likely in November

Delhi : Election Commission will announce assembly polls in Maharashtra only after the J&K and Haryana election results on October 4, and is likely to tie them up with the Jharkhand polls. Chief election commissioner said assembly elections in Maharashtra and Haryana which were held together over the last few cycles were delinked this time as the existing Haryana assembly's term was ending much earlier on Nov 3, 2024.

The governor of Karnataka authorizes CM Siddaramaiah's prosecution

Delhi : Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot approved the prosecution of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in connection with the suspected site assignment fraud by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA). The event occurred a few weeks after TJ Abraham, a social activist and advocate, petitioned the governor to be allowed to charge CM Siddaramaiah in connection with land that his wife, BM Parvathi, was given. Siddaramaiah had already voiced his confidence that the governor will turn down a petition calling for his punishment. Everything is lawful; the governor ought to be persuaded. Though I'm not optimistic, I am sure he will accept (the government's statement) because everything is within the



M3M India reports Q1FY25 sales growth

Delhi : Attributing its growth to the strong financial support from the banks, M3M India announced its Q1FY25 performance, reporting sales of Rs 3,911 crore, a 37% increase from Rs 2,854 crore in Q1FY24. In the residential and

plot development segment, M3M recorded Rs 2,971 crore in sales, a 46% increase from Rs 2,028 crore in Q1FY24. In the commercial segment, the company secured Rs 940 crore in sales. Since the governor is the head of the Constitution, why won't he act in line with it when things are?

Assam bid to make registration of Muslim marriages, divorces must

Delhi : The Assam cabinet gave its approval to a proposed law that aims to make it mandatory for Muslims to register marriages and divorces with the government. This legislation, once implemented, will terminate the role of "qazis" who register Muslim marriages and divorces



The Assam Compulsory Registration of Muslim Marriage and Divorce Bill, 2024, will be tabled in the legislative assembly during the autumn. The Assam Cabinet has approved the Muslim Marriage Registration Bill 2024.

Looking to shed BJP's 'B team' label, Apni Party vows J&K's statehood in manifesto

Delhi : Hit by desertions after the dismal performance in the Lok Sabha polls, the Apni Party distanced itself from Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as it promised restoration of statehood in its manifesto for the upcoming assembly polls. Addressing the conscious effort to carve

its own identity, party general secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir said their opponents had earlier been successful in convincing the people of a certain proximity with the BJP. Our opponents were successful in painting us as the 'B-team' [of BJP] in the eyes of people.

12 houses burnt in Tripura after idol found defaced, forces deployed to quell tension

NEW DELHI: At least 12 houses and a few vehicles were set ablaze by some unidentified persons in Tripura after an idol was found defaced. The incident occurred in Ranirbazar area in

West Tripura. Following the incident, heavy security deployment has been made in the area to quell the tension. "Around 12 dwelling houses were set on fire at Ranirbazar by miscreants late on Sunday after an idol of Goddess Kali was found disfigured in Kaiturbari. Assistant Inspector General (Law and Order) Ananta Das told news agency PTI.

Vinesh Phogat makes emotional return, gets welcome fit for a champion

Delhi : Hundreds of supporters gathered outside the Indra Gandhi International (IGI) airport to show their solidarity even as Vinesh's wrestling mats Sakshi Malik and Bajrang Punia, along with khap leaders and Rohtak MP Deepender Singh Hooda, received her. Wrestler Vinesh Phogat received a rousing reception as she returned home after a stellar show at the Paris Olympics which ended in a heartbreak as she was disqualified just ahead of her gold



medal bout for weighing 100g more than the permissible limit. Hundreds of supporters gathered outside the Indra Gandhi International (IGI) airport to show their solidarity even as Vinesh's wrestling mats Sakshi Malik and Bajrang Punia, along with khap leaders and

Rohtak MP Deepender Singh Hooda, received her. Overwhelmed by the support, Vinesh told reporters, "I would like to thank the entire nation for the love and support. I am really lucky. It's not over yet, the fight will continue. "Vinesh's mother Prem Lata, who had also come to receive her, said, "People have given my daughter ore respect than a gold medal could get her. Residents of Balali (her native village) are ready to honour her.

AAP to discuss strategy for Delhi polls

NEW DELHI: The AAP will hold a meeting on Monday to discuss the strategy for the Delhi Assembly polls due early next year, the party said. The meeting will see the presence of all senior leaders of the party. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia recently held a meeting with senior leaders to discuss the strategy for the polls.



Sisodia, a trusted lieutenant of chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, walked out of jail on bail on August 9 after spending 17 months behind bars in connection with the excise policy case. Sisodia's release from jail has come as a huge relief for the party grappling with the absence of its national convener, Kejriwal, and senior leader, Satyendar Jain. The AAP is eyeing a return to power in the polls. In the 2015 and 2020 assembly polls, the party won 67 and 62 seats, respectively.

SC/ST Sub-Categorisation and Questions After the Supreme Court Judgment

Delhi : The union cabinet has sought to address speculation surrounding the introduction of a creamy layer in reservations for SC and STs (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) and announced that there are no plans to implement any such exclusion. But questions continue to remain about the implementation of the Supreme Court judgement allowing states to sub-categories for the purpose of granting separate quotas for those who are more backward among communities in the list, and whether such a sub-classification will serve the purpose of addressing discrimination, backwardness, social and moral justice. "The cabinet decision on the creamy layer doesn't come as a surprise. The ruling party (Bharatiya Janata Party) cannot go against what is a settled issue as far as SC/STs are concerned that creamy layer is not applicable because discrimination will still happen despite economic mobility." The judgement itself was not on the question of the creamy layer, but whether states can sub-classify SC and STs.

LG wants mobile app to check illegal parking promptly

Delhi : Lieutenant governor VK Saxena has directed Delhi Traffic Police, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to jointly develop a mobile application where photographs of illegally parked vehicles could be uploaded from a phone and action could be taken on a real-time basis. He also directed officials to work out a plan to incentivise parking of vehicles at multilevel spaces by offering discounts and also give a rebate in parking fees on electric vehicles.

The directions were issued at LG's third meeting to review the traffic and parking situation in the city with special commissioners of two traffic zones, the transport commissioner and MCD. Saxena said a pilot could be run in NDMC areas where gardeners could be authorised to take pictures of any wrongly parked vehicles and upload them on the mobile app. He added that the ways to incentivise the gardeners for this work should also be explored. LG also directed officials to involve the traffic police in managing parking spaces.

Cashless treatment for 20,000 retired power board staff

Delhi : Delhi power minister Atishi announced that over 20,000 retired employees of the erstwhile Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB) will now be able to avail themselves of a cashless facility at hospitals for their treatment. Speaking at a press conference, Atishi said the pensioners will not have to run around the offices for medical reimbursements. Will Karnataka governor's approval of CM Siddaramaiah's prosecution destabilise the state govt? A formal notification is likely to be issued within a day or two, she added. The medical

expenses of DVB employees who retired before 2002 will be borne by Delhi Transco Limited. The medical expenses of those who superannuated after 2002 will be paid by the transmission company, the generation company, or the discom they were associated with before retirement. tnn The Kejriwal government announced a cashless medical facility for over 20,000 retired employees of the Delhi Vidyut Board, effective from next week. The Delhi Transco Limited will manage this facility for those who retired before April 2002.

Saurabh Bhardwaj challenges LG VK Saxena for debate over tree cutting in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Delhi minister and AAP leader Saurabh Bhardwaj on Monday criticized lieutenant governor VK Saxena regarding the cutting of trees in city. Bhardwaj challenged the LG to a debate, saying, "The place is yours, the time is yours, come and debate on this issue. Don't hide behind the walls of LG House." According to Bhardwaj, the LG misled both Delhi and the court and was caught in the act. He accused the LG of knowingly ordering the trees to be cut, believing that all offi-



cers were under his authority and would comply with his orders. Bhardwaj pointed out that the chief secretary, divisional commissioner, PWD secretary, forest secretary, and DDA officers all supported the LG's decision. He claimed that none of

Delhi's top bureaucrats had the courage to inform the LG that cutting such trees is against the law. Bhardwaj also demanded that the LG should resign from his position. "I invite LG, the place is yours, the time is yours, come and

debate on this issue, don't hide behind the walls of LG House. You misled Delhi and the court and you got caught.

He got the trees cut knowingly. He thought that all the officers were under him and who would do anything. The Chief Secretary Divisional Commissioner, PWD Secretary, Forest Secretary, and DDA officers, all were with LG. No one in Delhi's top bureaucracy dared to tell LG that cutting such trees is illegal. LG should resign now," Saurabh Bhardwaj said.

Legal action will be taken against those who violate the model code of conduct - District Election Officer

DC Captain Manoj Kumar warned those who put up promotional material at public places in the district without permission

Yamunanagar: With the announcement of Haryana Assembly Elections-2024, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force in Yamunanagar district. Various teams of the



district administration are continuously active to ensure compliance with the Model Code of Conduct. Employees of Municipal Corporation, Municipal Council, Municipality and Panchayat Department are removing promotional material put up without permission from public places. Action will also be taken

against printers and their employees who put up promotional material without permission. District Election Officer and DC Captain Manoj Kumar said that if any person in the district violates the Model Code of Conduct, legal action will be taken against him. If the printers and their employees who prepare hoardings and

promotional material in the district are found violating the rules at any public place without permission, legal action will be taken against them as well. All printers will publish the name of the person publishing the hoarding, the number and information about themselves on the promotional material. Wherever promotional material is found without permission in the district, action will be taken against the concerned under the People's Representative Act, Indian Justice Code and Property Defacement Act, etc. DC Captain Manoj Kumar said that the administration is working seriously to ensure

compliance of the Model Code of Conduct in the district. For this, 36 flying squad teams have been formed. 9 teams each will keep vigil in all the four assembly constituencies of the district namely Sadhaura, Jagadhri, Yamunanagar and Radaur assembly constituencies. The District Election Officer appealed to the people of the district to cooperate with the district administration to follow the Model Code of Conduct. If any violation of rules is found anywhere in the district, immediately inform the Election Commission of India on its app C-Vigil or the District Administration's toll free number 1950.

Sri Krishna Janmashtami festival was celebrated with great pomp in S.K. Global Academy

Kaithal: Lord Krishna Janmashtami festival was celebrated with great pomp in S.K. Global Academy, Karnal Road, Kaithal. In the academy, small children dressed in beautiful clothes had taken the form of Lord Krishna and Radha, which were captivating everyone. Small children danced on the bhajans of Lord Krishna and Radha. The principal of the academy, Seema Rani, told the children in detail about the life of Lord Krishna



and inspired them to take inspiration by following his ideals and thoughts. On this occasion, Lord Krishna and Radha were worshipped and prasad

was also distributed among the children. On this occasion, teachers like Shalu, Veena, Pooja, Kumari Rajni, Kumari Komal etc. were present.

DC reviews progress of development projects

Ludhiana: Deputy Commissioner Sakshi Sawhney reviewed the progress of various development projects being carried out by several departments in the district on Friday. Presiding over a meeting with heads of departments, the Deputy Commissioner comprehensively assessed the physical and financial status of the projects in different parts of the district. The officials briefed



the Deputy Commissioner on the current situation, achievements of on-going projects, and new infrastructure developments such as roads, streets, libraries,

Anganwari centers, pond renovations, stadium repairs, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), installation of solar lights, open gyms, community halls, new drainage systems, and other infrastructure projects in city and villages. The DC urged officials to expedite the progress of on-going works to ensure timely completion and instructed them to utilize all available resources to minimize delays.

Misleading advertisements case: SC closes contempt proceedings against Ramdev

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has closed contempt proceedings against Swami Ramdev, Acharya Balakrishna, and Patanjali Ayurved Ltd. in connection with the misleading advertisements case. Ramdev and Acharya had faced criticism from the Supreme Court for Patanjali's deceptive ads that went against evidence-based medicine. The company was found to have violated their earlier commitment to refrain from broadcasting or publishing such misleading advertisements."The

court has closed the contempt proceedings based on the undertakings given by Ramdev, Balakrishna and Patanjali Ayurved Ltd," advocate Gautam Talukdar, who represented the yoga guru, Balakrishna and the firm, said. The top court was hearing a plea filed by the Indian Medical Association (IMA), which alleged that Patanjali Ayurved had engaged in a smear campaign against the Covid vaccination drive and modern medical practices.

Faridabad: JCB, the world's leading manufacturer for Material Handling equipment, today inaugurated its very first diesel Telescopic Boom Platform, the T 65D in Goa during the Aerial Platform Association of India's (APAOI) conference. The machine offers higher standards of Reliability, Efficiency, Comfort, and most importantly Safety. The machine is manufactured at JCB's state-of-the-art factory in Jaipur. JCB India's CEO and Managing Director, Mr. Deepak Shetty said "This world-class machine is designed around Safety and Productivity and



gives our customers the option to buy Made-in-India machines with full product support. Our customers can now buy new equipment with full warranty and JCB support backup and not depend on used imports. We have invested significantly in our Jaipur facility so that these machines

can be built, to one-global-quality standard" The machine has a platform height of 65 ft & 4 in and has a reach of 56 ft & 6 in with 450 kgs maximum load. The machine is powered by a JCB diesel engine and comes with two work zones. It has an 8 ft platform, and the machine maximum

Om Logistics Acquires ICD Bawal for INR 110 Crore, Sets New Logistics Benchmark

GURUGRAM : Om Logistics, a pioneer in supply chain and logistics management in India, has made a big announcement with the acquisition of Inland Container Depot (ICD) Bawal in Haryana for a staggering INR 110 crore. This significant investment marks a major milestone in Om Logistics' journey, further solidifying its position as a leader in the industry. Strategically located on the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) and within the Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) industrial estate, ICD Bawal is a state-of-the-art multimodal logistic hub built on 20 acres of land. The facility features 2 automated rail lines, a 30,000 sq. ft. custom bonded warehouse space and a capacity to handle 5,000 containers of EXIM cargo per month.



ICD Bawal boasts exceptional connectivity to major ports, including Mundra, Pipavav and JNPT, ensuring seamless cargo movement. Its proximity to Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL) and other airports also enables efficient air cargo handling. The depot is also strategically located near NH48 and NH71, providing easy access to northern and western India via road connectivity.

Further, ICD Bawal has direct connectivity to the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) and Indian Railways, facilitating swift rail cargo

movement. This acquisition enables Om Logistics to expand its PAN India operations, reduce average transit times and optimize supply chain management. "This milestone demonstrates our commitment to revolutionizing supply chain management and setting new benchmarks in the logistics industry," said Raghav Singhal, Executive Director of Om Logistics.

ICD Bawal features advanced technology, including automated container movement systems, real-time GPS tracking and app-based monitoring.

100 million Customers in India Enjoy Seamless and Rewarding Digital Payments with Amazon Pay UPI

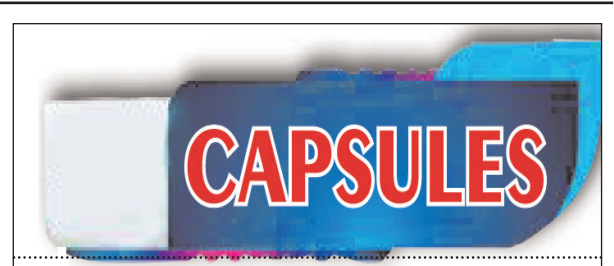


GURUGRAM: Amazon Pay UPI has witnessed widespread adoption across the country with over 100 million customers now using the service. Leading use cases include mobile recharges, utility bill payments and e-commerce transactions. This one-stop payment solution provides convenience through its lightning-fast transactions (under 3.5seconds), auto-torch for low-light scanning on iPhone, constant reminders and management of bill payments, and a rewarding experience with offers from over 10,000+ online as well as multiple offline brands, amongst others. Amazon Pay India has become a significant success, streamlining transactions both on the Amazon.in shopping app and across a wide range of external platforms. This seamless integration has enabled users to effortlessly manage their digital payments, making everyday transactions more

convenient and secure. Since its launch in 2019, Amazon Pay UPI has witnessed strong user preference from across big states of Maharashtra, UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Karnataka especially in the tier 2 & 3 expanding access for digital. Moreover, the 18-24 years age oldbracket, led the adoption of Amazon Pay UPI. Speaking about the milestone, Vikas Bansal, CEO, Amazon Pay India, said, "Amazon Pay is committed to offer a secure, fast, ubiquitous, and rewarding payment experience for its customers. UPI has revolutionized the way customers transact online and we see a vast, untapped potential within the UPI ecosystem, including opportunities in wallet-on-UPI and credit line on UPI. We are humbled and proud that 100M customers have chosen Amazon Pay UPI as their preferred choice of online payment experience.

Delhi man stabbed by son, undergoing treatment

NEW DELHI: A 54-year-old man was injured after allegedly being stabbed by his son during an argument in the Vishnu Garden Extension area of west Delhi, police said on Tuesday. The injured man, identified as Raj Kumar Rattan, suffers from a kidney ailment and requires regular dialysis, they said. "He is stable and undergoing treatment," a senior officer said. Personnel at Khayala police station received a call about an alleged stabbing incident at 11 pm on Monday. It was found that a quarrel had broken out between Rattan and his son Sachin Rattan (29), he added. Sachin Rattan stabbed his father with a kitchen knife during the argument and fled. Rattan was taken to GGS Hospital and, after first aid, shifted to Safdarjung Hospital. He is stable and undergoing treatment.



Cabinet Minister Jouramajra pays obeisance to Sant Baba Ishar Singh Ji (Rara Sahib)



Raj Kumar Sharma Ludhiana: Punjab Minister of Information and Public Relations & Horticulture, Defence Services Welfare, Freedom Fighters Chetan Singh Jouramajra on Sunday paid obeisance to Sant Baba Ishar Singh Ji (Rara Sahib). MLA Payal Manwinder Singh Gaspura was also accompanied by the Cabinet Minister. Jouramajra mentioned that Sant Baba Ishar Singh Ji Maharaj had set a spiritual path for humanity and generations of people are getting benefit. Teachings of Sant Baba Ishar Singh Ji Maharaj are more relevant in today's world than ever and that is the reason that people through this place. He also met Baba Baljinder Singh Rara Sahib and assured fulsome support of the AAP government led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann. He also listened to the 'kirtan' or hymns there. The cabinet Minister was also honoured on the occasion. The Minister urged the people to follow the teachings of Sant Baba Ishar Singh.

Vet Varsity Partners with Young Lady Entrepreneur to Launch Cattle Feed Start-ups in Punjab



Ludhiana: Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana and AS Cattle Feeds, Kotkapura, Faridkot, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on consultancy services for feed formulation. In an impressive ceremony, S. Kulter Singh Sandhwan, Speaker of Punjab Legislative Assembly, Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor and university officials witnessed the signing of the agreement by Dr. JPS Gill, Director of Research, and Mrs. Sukhpreet Kaur, young lady entrepreneur. S. Sandhwan, emphasized the importance of such collaborations in driving national development and ensuring food security. "This partnership is a testament to our commitment to fostering innovation and bridging the gap between research and industry. It is crucial for our animal sector to benefit from the latest advancements in feed formulation," he remarked.

1.8L hopefuls log in as DU Phase-II admission preferences finish



After multiple student requests, the university extended the program and college combination choice due from Aug 7-9

Delhi: Phase II of Delhi University's Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS) filing program and college preferences ended. The institution received 1,59,56,834 choices from 1,80,109 appli-

cants by evening. The first round of CSAS attracted 2,45,273 applicants for 71,000 undergraduate seats at DU. After multiple student requests, the university extended the program and college combination choice due from Aug 7-9. Students' stored selections decide the programs and universities they can attend. Next, all 1,59,56,834 preferences of 1,80,109 applicants will be auto-locked for course and college distribution.

The institution advises applicants to select the most preferences they are ready to

accept. DU dean of admissions Haneet Gandhi informed that BCom and BCom (H) are the most popular courses this year. According to the admission timetable, applicants' simulated ranks will be announced. On August 16, the first CSAS allocation list will be announced, and applicants must accept their seats by August 18. Each college will evaluate and accept online applications by August 20.

Candidate online fee payment deadline is August 21, with courses starting on August 29.

The planned modifications to the CBSE credit system for students in grades 9 through 12

Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is considering major changes to the curriculum for Classes 9, 10, 11, and 12 as part of its effort to adopt creditization in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. According to a news outlet, all principals of CBSE-affiliated schools were asked to evaluate and provide input on the plan by the end of last year. The deadline for comments was set for December 5, 2023. In accordance with the recommendations of the NEP 2020, the goal of creditization is to establish academic equality between general and vocational education, allowing for seamless transfers between the two systems. The University Grants Commission (UGC) established the National Credit Framework (NCF) in 2022 to put his plan into action.

The number of credits granted to each topic would be proportional to the time spent studying that subject.



Karnataka legislature joins Tamil Nadu, West Bengal in rejecting NEET

Delhi: The Karnataka legislature voted a resolution against NEET, joining a growing list of anti-BJP states that have requested exemption. The Mamata Bannerjee-led Trinamool Congress administration in West Bengal approved a similar resolution. The assembly also rejected the "One Nation, One Election" approach and demanded that the Union government utilize population statistics from the 1971 census to delimit Lok Sabha seats beyond 2026. Medical education minister Sharan Prakash Patil warned the house that NEET was badly harming rural poor medical education chances. The Congress minister who introduced the motion said the federal system was making school education inefficient and denying the state the authority to accept children to government medical institutes. Patil stated the government's stance as Opposition members tore up NEET resolutions. The state requested an exception to admit medical students based on CET results. NEET, a single eligibility cum admission test for MBBS and BDS courses in India, is under investigation for anomalies and paper leaks.

Forty credits, or 1,200 make up a whole school notional study hours, year.

Finalizing the development of the sixth grade textbooks, which will soon be available

The discussion took place against the backdrop of Class 6 textbooks that have been in the works since April but have not yet been finalized

Delhi: Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan of the Union met here to discuss the progress of textbooks developed in line with the New Curriculum Framework (NCF). The discussion took place against the backdrop of Class 6



textbooks that have been in the works since April but have not yet been finalized. New third and sixth grade textbooks will be available for use beginning with the 2024-25 school year, according to an earlier announcement by the National Council for

Educational Research and Training (NCERT). Classes 3 and 6 will have new, exciting texts in the 2024-25 school year.

We are currently in the last stages of textbook creation, and nine textbooks for grades 3 and 6 are accessible. A sen-

ior official from the Ministry of Education (MoE) announced that the remaining eight will be made accessible very shortly. It was originally planned that only Classes 3 and 6 would receive the new textbooks based on the NCF 2023 this year. Class 6 textbooks are behind schedule, but Class 3's are already on sale. In the midst of the current school year, the NCERT has just published new English and Hindi textbooks for Class 6. Schools have been requested to instruct Class 6 pupils from a bridge program until the textbooks for the remaining disciplines, including social science, science, and mathematics, are prepared.

Tokyo Games gold medalist, won silver at the 2024 Paris Olympics

Delhi: World track and field diamond, India's Tokyo Games gold medalist, won silver at the 2024 Paris Olympics. In Tokyo, defending Olympic javelin throw champion Neeraj Chopra won a remarkable second individual medal for India. A borderlander who authored history received the Paris gold. Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem set a new Olympic record and the sixth greatest throw in history with a second throw of 92.97m. The Indian, despite an impassioned comeback after throwing 89.45m,



couldn't catch up. Anderson Peters of Grenada won bronze in 88.54m. The highlight of the Olympics was India vs. Pakistan, thus the announcer mentioned cricket. On the sports field, Chopra would have to reach the 90m mark to defeat his opponent and close buddy. India has yet to

win a gold in these Games, but Chopra has cemented his position among India's athletic legends.

This Games' gold-silver cabinet is unparalleled, and only Sushil Kumar, PV Sindhu, and Manu Bhaker can claim two medals of any color. png

Skills university lowers 6 UG fees from 50k to 35k



No graduation fee reductions have been declared by the university. University students may also demand lower diploma course expenses

Delhi: Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University lowered six

undergraduate programs' tuition from Rs 50,000 to Rs 35,000. After a steep fee rise for most courses at the UGC-recognized university in the NCT of Delhi, student groups slammed the administration. Bachelors in banking financial services and insurance, computer applications, digital marketing and data analytics, digital media design, optometry, and medical laboratory sciences have lower tuition. After soliciting

written contributions from protesting students, the university's finance committee recommended these modifications. "It was also decided by the finance committee to provide a 60% tuition fees waiver to SC/ST & PWD students," the institution said. The institution would repay higher-fee students, according to a senior official. No graduation fee reductions have been declared by the university. University students.

Increasing creativity can be achieved by urging students to pursue PhD degrees

Delhi: A major step in the right direction, the UGC guidelines for direct admission of UGs to PhD programs were announced in 2022, and they will help us attract a competent and motivated pool of candidates to our PhD programs. Thanks to NEP 2020's wiggle room, these rules may now promote risky initiatives that can speed up India's STEM development. Regardless of their undergraduate degree, UGC now encourages undergraduates to pursue a PhD in any field of their choice. It would be a courageous step for colleges to take heed to this recommendation and inspire more students to change their majors to pursue research as their true calling. The pursuit of



novel concepts, findings, phenomena, or procedures—or a mix of these—through well-established research methodologies is what drives universities to engage and assist staff and students in expanding the boundaries of knowledge. Excellent educational institutions provide an atmosphere that encourages research motivated by curiosity as well as research driven by practical needs.

This effort relies

heavily on a PhD student. Doctoral candidates should have strong background knowledge in their chosen profession, strong intrinsic desire, a genuine interest about the world around them, a can-do attitude, the ability to bounce back from setbacks, and an eagerness to take on new challenges. Most of the time, these traits are determined by one's level of basic preparation and one's life experiences.

DU's order on guest faculty appointment leaves teachers

Delhi: The heads of various colleges and departments of Delhi University can appoint guest faculty members only in case of a leave vacancy, an official order stated.

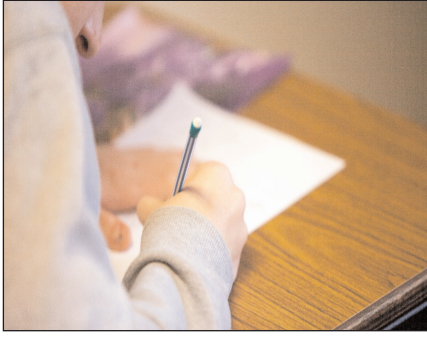
This has attracted the ire of several teachers who have written to the vice-chancellor, Yogesh Singh, demanding immediate withdrawal of the order. The university, in the official order issued by deputy registrar (colleges), instructed its to make such appointments only if a permanent faculty member is on leave, including maternity leave, child care leave, study leave, sabbatical leave, medical leave or extraordinary leave. "In so far as appointment of guest faculty in the colleges is concerned, I have been directed to categorically inform that appointment of guest faculties in colleges can only be made against the leave vacancy ie. maternity leave, child care leave, study leave, sabbatical leave, medical leave and extraordinary leave," stated the DU notification.

The notification stated that all heads of its colleges should ensure that under no circumstances, appointment of guest faculty members shall be made except against the leave vacancy.



Tech-savvy 'handlers' manage exam chaos from paper leak to student training

Delhi: Port cargo, the police dog squad, political campaigns, and even spy rings are no longer the only jobs for a "handler". The NEET-UG paper leak conspiracy investigators know how "handlers" function in the shadowy nationwide test business based in Bihar and Jharkhand. "The nine handlers arrested in the NEET-UG case so far - six in Jharkhand and three in Bihar are tech-savvy individuals who played a crucial role in orchestrating the leak of question papers, training examinees who paid for these to memorise the answers, and even escorting them to their respective centres," a top cop said. The six suspects from Jharkhand's Deoghar lived in rented housing as laborers. The task was to provide leaked papers while retaining secrecy and identity. "Once a particular exam got over, they would get to work on identifying the chinks in the system for the next one," he claimed. These handlers sought pretextual connections with coaching centers, schools, and colleges to grow their clientele. They sought out exam officials to bribe for useful information. On the morning of the NEET-UG exam, Bihar Police raided a safe house on a tip-off and found evidence of these



handlers herding roughly 30 applicants into Ram Krishna Nagar on Patna's outskirts. "Examinees memorized leaked question papers all night. Personal automobiles were used to bring them to their exam centers, with all necessary safety precautions." "Officer noted. Around 2010, online entrance exam form submission replaced mail-in applications nationwide. Fraudsters and dishonest authorities exploited old system weaknesses." "Before online forms, exam centers assigned roll numbers based on application envelope receipt. A Bihar-based IPS officer said criminals sent many application forms in one envelope using codes like 'bogie' and 'engine' to allude to candidates and their proxies. "This strategy ensured that all these candidates were allocated roll numbers for the same examination centre and hall, facilitating cheating."

NTA held UGC NET June 2024, with almost 9 lakh students

Delhi: The NTA administered the University Grants Commission's National Eligibility Test (UGC NET) 2024 June session. The national autonomous testing agency reported that 11 lakh 21 thousand students registered for the UGC NET 2024 June session, and 9.08 lakh took the exam. The NTA's next big national exam is the UGC NET June 2024 exam after the NEET UG Result fiasco. In its recent notice on successful conduct of UGC NET June 2024, the NTA noted that 11,21,225 candidates took the exam at 1205 Exam Centres in 317 locations nationwide. The National Testing Agency (NTA) administered the UGC-NET June 2024 test to 83 topics in OMR (Pen and Paper) format in two shifts. The announcement further noted that 11,21,225 individuals enrolled for the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination, including 6,35,587 females,



Bihar High Court reverses 65% job, college quota boost

Delhi: The Patna high court struck down Bihar's decision last year to raise caste-based quotas to 65%, ruling that merit could not be sacrificed for reparations. The ruling will have major political and social repercussions. After a caste survey showed that these groups made up 84% of Bihar's population, the state raised the quota for SCs, STs, EBCs, and OBCs in educational institutions and government jobs

from 50% to 65% last year. The court recognized that backward communities were properly represented in public employment and that the government had done no in-depth investigation or analysis before increasing reservation above the Supreme Court's 1992 Indra Sawhney limit. "We set aside the Bihar Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes.

NET Exam registrations in December 2023.

4,85,579 males, and 59 Third Gender candidates. This was up from 9,45,872 UGC-

CAPSULES

European Space Agency shares high-resolution 'Ram Setu' image

Between Rameswaram Island on India's southeast coast and Mannar Island on Sri Lanka's northwest coast, the Ram Setu runs 48 kilometers. The Ram Setu, or Adam's Bridge, a network of shoals connecting India and Sri Lanka, was recently photographed by the European Space Agency in great detail. Copernicus Sentinel-2 satellites captured the image. Satellites with an innovative wide-swath high-resolution multispectral imager with 13 spectral bands offer a unique view of land and vegetation. Between Rameswaram Island on India's southeast coast and Mannar Island on Sri Lanka's northwest coast, the Ram Setu runs 48 kilometers. It divides the Indian Ocean's Gulf of Mannar from the Bay of Bengal's Palk Strait. One bridge end is on Mannar Island. The 130-square-kilometer island is connected to mainland Sri Lanka by a road and railway bridge at its southern end. Pamban Island (Rameswaram Island) is the bridge's other end. The 2-km Pamban Bridge connects India to the island. Pamban on the western tip and Rameswaram 10 kilometers east are the island's principal settlements.

MEA is reducing passport police verification time

Delhi: External affairs minister S Jaishankar said that the ministry is working with state and Union territory police forces to speed up passport applicant police verification to strengthen the passport delivery ecosystem. On Passport Seva Divas, Jaishankar said his ministry is committed to ensuring that passports facilitate international trade and investment and improve worldwide mobility to boost the country's growth. The government opened 440 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras to improve passport services. This complements the 93 Passport Seva Kendras, 533 passport processing centers, and 37 regional passport offices nationwide.



The ministry integrated passport issuance systems in 187 Indian missions abroad. Jaishankar said the government is working with States/UTs police to reduce police verification time to facilitate passport delivery. He added that 9,000 police stations in 25 states and Union territories have implemented the "mPassport Police App,"

which streamlines police verification. "The Passport Seva System has also been integrated successfully with DigiLocker to facilitate paperless documentation," he said. Jaishankar told the Lok Sabha in December 2023 that police verification takes 14 days nationwide. He claimed states and Union territories that have

implemented the mPassport Police App have reduced police verification time to less than five days. A standard passport, without police verification, takes seven to 10 days to issue, whereas a Tatkaal passport takes one to three days, Jaishankar said. "Police verification of applicants' particulars plays an important role in timely passport dispatch," he stated. In his message, Jaishankar said the government is committed to ensuring that passports facilitate international trade and investment, tourism, global mobility, education and skills development, diplomatic ties, security and regulation, and legal identity.

A warning against bogus syllabuses and sample question papers is released by CBSE

Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) issued a warning alert informing parents and students to be wary of false information pertaining to the curriculum, study guides, and practice exams for the 2024-25 school year. The Board has issued a warning to pupils about the dangers of falling for online scams that spread false information. We've noticed that some websites and online portals are disseminating stale information and unreli-

able updates about curriculum, sample question papers, CBSE resources, and activities. The alert said, "These links and news erroneously assert to offer up-to-date information for the session 2024-25." "In the interest of the public, we wish to emphasize that information from unauthorized sources can be misleading and may cause unnecessary confusion among students, parents, and other stakeholders," it continued. Due to significant discrepancies

between theory and practical scores in a few courses, CBSE has recently instructed schools to assess practical exams appropriately. In a notification, the CBSE said that, based on data from prior years' results, it had used sophisticated AI techniques to identify significant disparities between theory and practical grades in specific courses among 50% or more students in about 500 CBSE-affiliated schools.

48% of 1,563 grace-marked candidates skip NEET-UG retest

Delhi: The National Testing Agency (NTA) reported that only 813 or 52% of the 1,563 candidates who were initially awarded grace marks in the National Eligibility Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG) before they were withdrawn last week took a retest.



Affected students who did not retake were allowed to keep their scores without grace marks. Two candidates from Chandigarh did not take the exam, but 219 from 602 in Chhattisgarh, one from Gujarat, 287 from 494 in Haryana, and 234 from 464 in Meghalaya took the retest. NTA released the data after the exam was held at seven centers in five states and one union territory. The 1,563 students' retest was held days after the Centre scrapped their grace marks, taking

the first step toward solving India's premier medical entrance exam's paper leak crisis, which threatens hundreds of thousands of children's futures. Candidates received grace marks for time lost on the May 5 exam. The Centre informed the Supreme Court that 1,563 students' scorecards will be withdrawn and they could take a new exam or keep their scores without grace marks. Thousands of students have protested this year's medical exam, and opposition.

In sweeping election-year move, Biden offers citizenship to American spouses

Delhi: In an election year move that contrasts with Republican competitor Donald Trump's promise for mass deportations, President Joe Biden unveiled a broad endeavor to provide hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants married to U.S. citizens a path to citizenship. At a White House event, Biden attacked Trump for splitting migrant families at the U.S.-Mexico border and calling illegal immigrants "poisoning the blood of our country." He's speaking these things out loud, which is hard to believe. Totally absurd, "Biden said. "I'm not into border or immigration politics. I want to fix things." The new Biden program will be open to an estimated 500,000 wives who have lived in the U.S. for at least 10 years as of June 17, officials announced. The program will also include

50,000 U.S.-citizen children under 21. Biden, a Democrat seeking a second term in the Nov. 5 election, promised to reverse Trump's stringent immigration policies. In response to unprecedented migrant arrests at the U.S.-Mexico border, Biden has intensified his approach. The president stopped most migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border from requesting asylum earlier this month, echoing a Trump-era asylum restriction and drawing outrage from immigration advocates and Democrats. Biden's planned legalization program for spouses of U.S. citizens might bolster his campaign narrative that he supports a more humanitarian immigration system and contrast him with Trump, who has long opposed both legal and illegal immigration. "The Statue of Liberty is not some relic of

American history," he remarked. "It still stands for who we are." The scheme may be challenged in court and ended by a future administration. Texas Governor Greg Abbott, a Republican who has sued Biden over immigration policies, called the new effort "blatantly illegal" and "pandering for votes." The U.S. allows married immigrants who entered legally on visas to become citizens. Illegal immigrants usually had to leave the U.S. for years before returning. Instead of traveling abroad, couples and their children can apply for permanent residence under the new program, saving time and family separation. Permanent residency can take months or years. They could then apply for citizenship. Disqualifying criminal past disqualifies applicants. On a call with the media,

At Paavo Nurmi Games, Neeraj Chopra beats Max Dehning easily, easing fitness concerns

Delhi: It's impressive when Neeraj Chopra combines speed, strength, and technique. As India saw at night, his prowess was elegantly displayed at Turku's Paavo Nurmi Stadium. On his third attempt at the Paavo Nurmi Games 2024, Neeraj felt that perfect synergy of speed, strength, and technique before anyone else as the reigning Olympic and world champions celebrated with a loud cheer and the index finger pointing skyward before the javelin landed. After landing, the LCD indicated 85.97m. That was enough for the Indian athlete to win the World Athletics Continental Tour Gold event. Neeraj led the field with his first javelin throw of 83.63m on his first competitive effort since 15 May. Soon after, local boy Oliver Helander threw 83.96m to lead. Only for Neeraj to repeat. Neeraj shines in huge tournaments and key times, and he answered quickly to the Turku challenge with the largest throw of the day. He failed to exceed that distance in his next two efforts, but it wasn't necessary. Toni Keranen of Finland placed second with an 84.19m throw, while Helander placed third. Neeraj may have thrown harder if challenged, but most of the contestants battled with rhythm that evening. Two-time world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada threw 82.58m, while 2012 London Olympics winner Keshorn Walcott of Trinidad and Tobago threw 81.93m. They were followed by Max Dehning, the 90m sensation. image.