

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Friday 24 May, 2024

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

At 62.2%, Phase 5 sees lowest overall turnout in this LS poll

NEW DELHI: Although Phase 5 of Lok Sabha poll, which concluded on May 20, saw the lowest overall voter turnout among the five rounds of polling completed thus far, it was also the first phase to witness a higher female voter turnout as compared to the polling percentage among men.

As per the final turnout figures for Phase 5 (based on only EVM votes) released by the Election Commission on Thursday, the overall turnout was 62.2%, way lower than the 69.2% polling recorded in Phase 4, 65.7% in Phase 3, 66.7% in Phase 2 and 66.1% in Phase 1. The 63% polling percentage among women, however, gave the Election Commission - which has been focusing on improving women's participation in elections with a slew of initiatives - a reason to cheer as it was nearly 1.5 percentage points higher than the male voter turnout. EC added that with



repolls held on Thursday in two polling stations of Kandhamal parliamentary constituency in Odisha, the turnout figures will be updated further on the voter turnout app. The turnout across all genders - male, female and third gender - was the lowest in Phase 5. Among the five phases completed so far, Phase 4 has fared best in terms of turnout with 69.6% polling among males, 68.7% among women voters and 34.2% among third gender electors. As per statewide turnout figures for Phase 5, West Bengal recorded the highest polling at 78.4%, followed by Odisha at

73.5%, Ladakh at 71.7% and Jharkhand at 63.2%. At 59.1%, Baramulla in J&K has recorded the highest polling since 1989. In fact, the turnout in Baramulla was higher than that recorded in the same phase in UP, Maharashtra and Bihar. Female voter turnout surpassed men's poll percentage in five of the eight states/UTs that went to polls on May 20; the five states/UTs being Bihar, Jharkhand, Ladakh, Odisha and UP. Women's voting percentage was also higher than men's in 11 of the 21 states/UTs covered in the Phase 1, 6 of the 13 states/UTs.

Arambagh in West Bengal saw the highest polling in Phase 5

In Phase 2, 4 of the 11 states/UTs in Phase 3 and 4 of the 10 states in Phase 4. Constituencywise, Arambagh in West Bengal saw the highest polling in Phase 5 at almost 81.4%, followed by Bangaon, also in West Bengal, at 80%. Urban apathy pulled down turnouts in Maharashtra, with Mumbai South and Kalyan witnessing the lowest turnouts of around 50% and 50.1% respectively. Kaushambi and Lucknow in UP reflected the trend with 52.8% and 52.3% polling respectively. The final voting figures for Phase 5 released by EC are based on ballots cast on EVMs and do not include data from postal ballots. "Final turnout will be available post-counting with counting of postal ballots and its addition to total vote count," said an EC spokesperson.

Delhi CM Kejriwal waits with parents for cops, who don't turn up to quiz them

NEW DELHI: Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal waited with his parents at his official Civil Lines residence for questioning them in the Swati Maliwal assault case. However, the cops did not visit the house on Thursday.

Around noon, Kejriwal released a video message saying, "I am waiting for police with my parents and wife. Yesterday, police called my parents and asked for time for interrogation. But the cops haven't given any information yet on whether they will come today." Aam Aadmi Party also released video footage depicting CM assisting his elderly parents, both of whom seemed to be walking with difficulty, to a room where the questioning was to take place. Later in the evening, Kejriwal accused PM Narendra Modi of "crossing all limits" in "targeting" his old and ailing parents to "break". At a virtual press conference the AAP national convener said, "My mother is very



Farmers gather at Shambhu, Khanauri to mark 100 days of 'Delhi Chalo' protest

AMBALA: Farmers assembled in large numbers on Wednesday at Shambhu and other border points to mark the completion of 100 days of the ongoing protest to press the Centre to accept their demands, which includes a legal guaran-

tee of MSP for crops. The farmers have camped at the Shambhu and Khanauri border points since February 13 when their 'Delhi Chalo' march was stopped by security forces. Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee leader Sarwan Singh Pandher.

sick. Modi Ji, on March 21, when you arrested me, my mother returned home that same afternoon after being in hospital for some days. My father is 85 years old. He cannot hear properly. Do you think my parents are guilty? Why are you get-

ting them interrogated by your police? Why are you torturing my old and sick parents? Your fight is with me, stop harassing my parents. God is watching everything." Kejriwal added, "PM Modi, you have tried to make me bend and break me.

IndiGo nets nearly \$1 billion annual profit, a first for Indian carriers

NEW DELHI: In a first for Indian airlines, IndiGo clocked nearly \$1 billion in annual profit last fiscal. The airline is also planning to get comfortable for premium passengers by introducing a "tailor-made" business class on "India's busiest and business" routes by the year-end - a major evolution in its 18-year-old no frills policy. The Rahul Bhatia-founded LCC on Thursday reported a profit of Rs 1,895 crore this Jan-March, up 106% from Rs 919 crore in Q4 last fiscal. It reported an annual profit of Rs 8,172.5 crore in FY24, against a loss of Rs 306 crore in the previous fiscal. The airline's scrip closed at around Rs 4,400.6 on BSE Thursday, up 0.9%. IndiGo nets nearly \$1bn annual profit, a first for Indian carriers, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said.

Boost for Indian medical students as Philippines tweaks

MUMBAI: Indian students in the Philippines have got a boost as the country has approved a legislative change, allowing international medical graduates to obtain licences and practice locally. The move also benefits those aiming to practice as doctors in India as it aligns with National Medical Council's rule that mandates possessing a valid practicing licence to appear in the Indian screening test upon return from studying abroad. The move aligns with actions taken by several other nations that attract Indian students seeking medical education abroad. Following NMC's 2021 amendment, which stipulated that individuals pursuing medical degrees overseas would be allowed to appear for the Indian screening test upon their return only if they possess a valid practicing licence from the country where they completed their studies, countries such as Russia, Belarus, and Georgia have adopted similar stances. In 2023, NMC de-recognised Bachelor of Science course in Philippines. It only allowed candidates from their four-year MD programme, which was considered equivalent to India's MBBS course. However, as it fell short of NMC's stipulated requirement of 54 months, candidates needed to complete a year of internship to make up for it before taking the screening test to practice as doctors in India. Kadwin Pillai, a foreign education agent, said all concerns are now a thing of the past. "The duration of UG medical course in Philippines has been amended and aligns with the NMC requirement. This amendment to allow foreign medical students studying in Philippines to practice medicine either locally or internationally will greatly benefit our students and strengthen Philippines's position as a leading destination for medical education in Asia-Pacific," he added. Around 2,000-odd Indian students fly to Philippines for their UG medical education each year.

PATNA: After predicting a clear win for the BJP-led NDA in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, poll strategist Prashant Kishor on Thursday blamed the BJP for "Bihar's backwardness and showing no interest in transforming its fate". Talking to media persons in Madhepura on



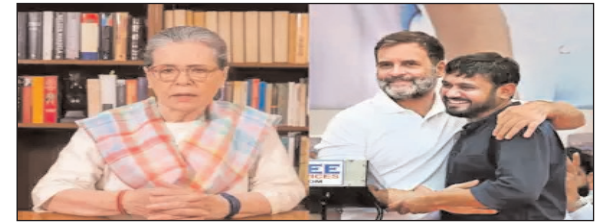
Thursday, Kishor leader Nitish Kumar took potshots at the BJP for "handing" its fate. Lalu Prasad Yadav on PM

Modi's remarks on inheritance tax Prashant Kishor's 'keep plenty of water handy' jibe at critics on his 'BJP will win over 300 seats' prediction "The BJP which formed governments in other states by breaking different parties didn't take the responsibility.

BJP 'handed over' Bihar to Nitish Kumar just to get 30-35 MPs, says poll strategist Prashant

Sonia appeals to Delhi voters: Play your part in fight to save Constitution

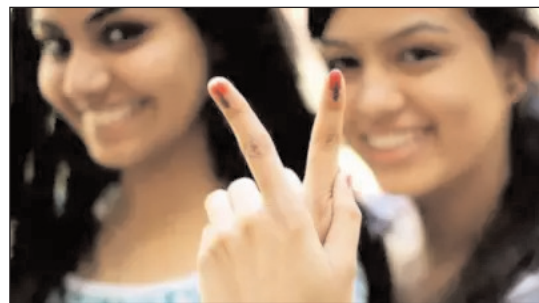
NEW DELHI: NEW DELHI: Ahead of the sixth phase of polling on Saturday, Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi in a video message urged voters in Delhi to "play your part in this fight" and make INDIA bloc candidates victorious as this is about "saving the Constitution". In the national capital, Congress and AAP are fighting the



elections together, with the former fielding candidates on three seats and the latter on four. Campaigning ended in Delhi Thursday evening. VideosTwo days before polling in Delhi, Gandhi in a video message said, "This is an election to save democracy and the Constitution... This election is being fought on issues like unemployment, inflation and attack on constitutional institutions.

Percentage of women voting more than men's in 137 seats

NEW DELHI: In nearly 32% of Lok Sabha constituencies - 137 out of the 427 seats for which voter turnout data has been released - females have accounted for higher percentage of votes cast in the first five phases of elections. According to political analysts, though higher percentage of women voters does not imply their dominance in numbers, more females coming out to vote is an encouraging trend and a signal that they are seeking more say in governance. The Election Commission's turnout data show that in Bihar, where polling has been completed in 24 of 40 seats, a higher percentage of female voters came out to



exercise their franchise in 20 constituencies in the last four phases. In the first phase, only Jamui saw higher percentage of women electors casting their votes. In Jharkhand too, where polling has been completed for eight seats in the fourth and fifth phases, a higher percentage of females turned up at polling stations across all constituencies. In the case of Odisha, five out of the nine constituencies where polling has been

Social Research, said, "We are observing a similar pattern where women are voting more in numbers in many constituencies in this election. Women have largely been the beneficiaries (lavarthis) of welfare programmes. The political aspiration among local women has also increased since 1993 when Panchayati Raj Act was passed and women became elected representatives. That's also helping women make their own decisions and

there is more political consciousness." Prasanna Mishra, a Bhubaneswar-based former bureaucrat and public policy analyst, said more women voting indicates

Stray dog attacks on Goa beaches rising: Lifesaving agency

PANAJI: A govt-appointed lifesaving agency in Goa on Thursday said several incidents of stray dogs attacking beachgoers have taken place in Goa of late, with some foreign nationals, a Bollywood actor as well as lifeguards coming under the attack by canines. In separate incidents, three lifesavers of the agency.

were attacked by packs of stray dogs on different beaches of the state, Drishti Marine Lifesavers said. These incidents happened within two weeks in May 2024 and they were given first aid, it said. On May 22, lifesaver Roshan Patil was bitten by a stray dog on Betalbatim beach in South Goa while patrolling, while on May 21, another lifesaver Sarvesh Tandial was bitten by a stray dog.

46% of cyber fraud here stems from SE Asia

New Delhi: Jamtara and Mewat have been upstaged as hotspots of financial cyber fraud in India, with 46% of defrauded money now being lost to cybercrimes originating in south-east Asian countries such as Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos. Move over Jamtara & Mewat, 46% of cyber fraud here stems from SE Asia Organised cyber-crime gangs, according to Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) CEO Rajesh Kumar, are operating "corporate style" from hubs in these countries, hiring Indian jobseekers through illegal recruitment agents and then compelling them to defraud fellow citizens in India. I4C and state law enforcement agencies have cracked

down on some of these illegal recruitment agents. The foreign ministry has so far facilitated the return of 360 Indians trapped in these cybercrime units, with 60 more due to return from Cambodia soon. According to Kumar, Rs 1,420 crore was lost to 62,587 investment scams, Rs 222 crore to 20,043 trading scams, Rs 120 crore to 4,600 digital arrest scams and Rs 13 crore to 1,725 romance/dating scams, all originating from southeast Asia between Jan and April this year. Last year, more than one lakh investment scams originating from the region were reported on Indian national cybercrime reporting portal and 10,000 FIRs registered.



Under the direction of Mr. Deputy Commissioner of Police, Yamunanagar Commissionerate Prayagraj, in order to conduct the upcoming Lok Sabha elections peacefully and safely, the Shankargarh Police Station, along with the security force personnel, conducted a flag march in various areas of Shankargarh Police Station and appealed to the public to vote without fear.

BJP workers are distributing family slips from house to house

BJP has put in all its efforts to prepare for the last round of the election



PRAYAGRAJ: In preparation for the last round of the election, the workers are going from house to house and doing public relations with people in support of the candidates of Allahabad Parliamentary and Phulpur Parliamentary constitu-

ency Neeraj Tripathi and Praveen Patel and distributing family slips and district spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani told that in the last two days of the election, BJP workers have put in all their efforts to ensure that the family slip reaches every house.

Till now, family slips have been delivered to 50% of the people by the team of Shakti Kendra and booth presidents. Apart from this, the organization has appointed polling agents at all the booths and bag heads for the polling centers.

New film going to be released on June 4, name of film is - "Naakaam, Nikamme aur Nakara Do-Do Shehzade": Nandi

Prayagraj: Angered by the Bharatiya Janata Party's use of the word 'Shehzade' for the opposition, Samajwadi Party's national president Akhilesh Yadav wrote on Twitter that a new film is being released on June 4 at 12 o'clock, the entire country will watch it together, named... One was BJP. On this post of Akhilesh Yadav, Industrial Development Minister of Uttar Pradesh Government, Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi replied in the same style as Akhilesh Yadav. Said that a new film is going to be released on June 4, the name of the film is - "Unsuccessful, useless and rejected princes." Minister Nandi, while replying to Akhilesh Yadav's post, wrote that Akhilesh ji, there is no answer to your courage! Minister Nandi said that 2014 was lost, 2019 was lost, 2022 was lost and now we are on the verge of a crushing defeat in 2024! Despite this, seeing your desperate enthusiasm for your brothers, wife and family only makes you laugh! Socialism Your hollow socialism has been exposed in front of the people of Uttar Pradesh! This character of your party has come out in front of the truth in Prayagraj and Azamgarh! No matter how many masks you wear of misunderstanding and deception, your anarchist and familyist face is not going to be hidden! Akhilesh ji, a new film is going to be released on 4th June which the entire country will watch together, the name of the film is - "Naakam." "Two worthless and rejected princes."

One arrested by Handia Police, four illegal country-made bombs recovered

Prayagraj: On 23.05.2024, 01 accused Mohd. Javed son Mohd. Channe resident of village Aswa Daudpur, Thana Handia Commissionerate Prayagraj was arrested with 04 illegal country-made bombs from near the cold store located at Aswa Daudpur under Thana Handia area. On the basis of the said arrest/recovery, FIR No.-264/24 Section-4/5 Explosive Substances Act was registered at Thana Handia and further legal action was taken as per rules.

Sarma accuses Patnaik of being controlled by Pandian; calls for probe

Sambalpur: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Thursday launched a scathing attack on Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, claiming that Patnaik is running the government under the instructions of V K Pandian, who is calling all the shots in the state and creating a hostage situation. During a poll campaign in Sambalpur, Sarma accused Patnaik of being controlled by Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader V K Pandian, suggesting that Pandian is the one actually running the state.

After the elections, only NDA will run India - Pradeep Shastri

Prayagraj: Allahabad parliamentary constituency, Arai, Chakdodi, ADA Colony, Sandwa, Ganjia, Mahewa across Yamuna, in the entire Naini area Our correspondent roamed around and took the attitude of the people regarding the elections in Naini area. Pradeep Maharaj alias Shastri ji, who has his dominance, is openly supporting BJP candidate Neeraj Tripathi and BJP. Let us tell you that Pradeep Maharaj Shastri ji's dominance extends from the Nishad settlements of the trans-Yamuna region to the villages and localities situated on the banks of Yamuna, where a large number of Our correspondent spoke to Pradeep Mehra and he said that the country needs only BJP government. Along with the development of the country, whatever development work is being done in Prayag is the contribution of Modi government. The BJP government has taken a big step for the upliftment of our Nishad brothers living on the banks of river Yamuna. The rivers have been beautified and by developing them as tourist destinations, a new direction has been given to the employment of the Nishad brothers.

Attempt to kill by locking in school

Prayagraj: Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan has been entertaining the audience with its thrilling twists since its inception. After the recent leap of seven years in the show, Radha and Mohan are now in completely different situations in its story. Whose roles are being played by Niharika Roy and Shabir Ahluwalia. These two ill-fated lovers no longer live together. Then both come face to face as each other's neighbors. Due to which Radha's husband Yug Kohli Manit Jaura becomes jealous. In the recent episodes, viewers saw how Radha and Mohan together save Manan from kidnappers. To know more watch Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan every night at 8 PM only on Zee TV. While Yug Manan tries to kill Shaurya Vijayvargiya by locking him in the school.

Rs 2,50,000/- cash recovered by the district police and administrative flying squad team Income Tax Department team is investigating

Bhadohi: With a view to ensure safe and fair conduct of Lok Sabha General Elections-2024, under the joint direction of Vishal Singh, District Election Officer Bhadohi and Dr. Meenakshi Katyayan, Superintendent of Police Bhadohi, the police team and administrative level established barrier points at the border points and main places of the district. Intensive checking of suspicious persons, objects, illegal promotional materials/narcotics and vehicles transporting cash is being done by the flying squad team formed at the spot.

A total of Rs. 2,50,000/- (two lakh fifty thousand rupees) was recovered from a four-wheeler Maruti Suzuki car by the police and administrative flying squad team today, on 22.05.2024, during election related checking near Kandhiya Barrier Varanasi border under Chauri police station area.) Cash was recovered. In case of non-satisfactory response to inquiries regarding the recovered cash and non-submission of valid documents, the said cash is being seized and necessary action is being taken by the Income Tax Department team.

Indian media will have to come out of the narrative of foreign conspiracies: Umesh Upadhyay

Journalism can be given completeness with divinity only by exploring the truth: Subhash ji

Lucknow: On the occasion of Devarshi Narad Jayanti (Jyestha Shukla Dwitiya), a national seminar was organized on the topic 'Devarshi Narad ji's Vedic policies and current Indian journalism' on Thursday evening in the AP Sen Auditorium of Lucknow University. As the keynote speaker in the program, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's area publicity head (Eastern UP region) Subhash ji said, 'There should be beauty and divinity in journalism. Beauty can be brought but for divinity it has to be perfected by exploring truth. Devarshi Narad has given this lesson. After studying the mythological stories, it is known that when he discussed with sage Valmiki, Ramayana was composed. With the tune of his veena, he has given the message of balance and coordination, which is very necessary to be accepted in journalism in the present scenario. Naradji's life is for the welfare of the people.

The seminar program started and the guests were welcomed by giving them a bouquet. Starting the intro-

duction of the seminar, Dr. Ashok Dubey, provincial publicity head of Awadh province of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, said that we know about Devarshi Narad ji through various levels of communication. Devarshi Narad always did journalism for the welfare of the people. Dr. Dubey said that the word journalism is not of India, but in India, along with material prosperity, emphasis has also been laid on spirituality. Special worship is done here while working in social works. Devarshi Narad is revered in our culture in the field of journalism. Throughout thousands of years of history, we have remained firm on our ideas through various struggles. News has a special contribution in the world of journalism.

In this national seminar organized under the joint aegis of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication of Lucknow University and Vishwa Samvad Kendra Lucknow, Subhash ji said, 'Naradji had curiosity in his mind. He was eager to know about every change happening in

the society. It is this eagerness, this curiosity that makes him a journalist. It is very important for a journalist to have curiosity in his mind. He should know how to ask questions con-



tinuously. The one who wants to know knows everything. He said that Naradji used to ask questions for the welfare of the society. They are curious people searching for ideals, religion and truth. Devarshi Narad is most suitable in this genre. Narad ji is a Maharishi who accepts the conduct of truth among the people, gives the message with sincerity and searches for the truth. Elaborating on his point, he further said that in the present times, journalism is about estab-

lishing truth by removing untruth. During the Emergency, when attempts were made to silence everyone, some journalists, following their religion, presented the truth in front of everyone.

He communicated the message with impartiality. Only what was true was written, that is why only a few news of that period which reveal the truth are discussed even today. No one takes cognizance of the remaining news. RSS Kshetra Prachar Pramukh Subhash ji said that there is a need for perfection in journalism in the present times. For this completeness, there is a need to present the news after research and truthfulness. Only this can bring balance. Subhash ji said that Naradji

is the symbol of charavaiti-charavaiti. Beauty must be accompanied by divinity only after which perfection is possible.

We must reach the perfection of journalism. Music is the basis of coordination. It has also been said that if my voice becomes yours then the voice becomes ours. It is all a form of coordination. Journalism is like a lamp whose function ultimately is to keep going. Addressing the session of the National Seminar, chief guest senior journalist Umesh Upadhyay said that there is conflict in today's journalism. Earlier journalism was a mission whereas today's journalism is hanging in the balance. Devarshi Narad's communication style is different from today's communication style. Coordination and balance have to be maintained in today's journalism. Today almost only negative news becomes lead news. There is negativity in the basic concept of lead news even in the world. Indian media needs to come out of this narrative. Human civilization develops in diversity.

At the same time, senior journalist and writer Umesh Upadhyay said that negativity is visible in newspapers today. Narad ji's thinking about public welfare is not visible. Indian media is currently based on western countries. The current media is negative. During the Corona period, many types of news were written against India to prove that the death toll figures in India are being misrepresented. Later the foreign media admitted that it had presented wrong news. There is a need to reject such media which attacks the culture of the country. He said that Indian media will have to come out of the narrative being run by foreign media. Negativity has to be given up. Questions are asked on every achievement of Indians. Accepting this mentality will have to be boycotted.

In the last session of the seminar, writer, senior journalist and President of Vishwa Samvad Kendra Narendra Bhaduria said that India's philosophy and culture is always presented in a negative light by western countries.

The new generation becomes not only consumers but also creators

Essay writing competition organized on the birth anniversary of Dr. Bhavdev Pandey

Mirzapur. On the 101st birthday of senior critic Dr. Bhavdev Pandey, decorated with Hindi pride, an essay writing program was organized to enhance the writing ability of the new generation. Teenage students participated in it. The topic of essay writing was decided as 'concentration towards the goal'. Due to the participation of some young children in this program, they were given permission to write essay on the topic 'My Parents'. Instead of making essay writing a competition, it was decided to awaken interest in writing. In this situation, more than two dozen students were given books for study and pens and pencils for writing with equal enthusiasm. The program was held at Dr. Bhavdev Pandey Research Institute located

in Tivarane Tola of the city on the occasion of his birthday, Vaishakh Purnima. See-



ing the enthusiasm among the children towards the program, it was decided that in the future programs, events related to painting, poetry and handicrafts would also be organized so that enthusiasm can be awakened in

the new generation whose future is to be built, because the age of personality build-

they should set the goal of becoming creators and not consumers of technology.

ing has passed. After this, it becomes difficult to change someone's interest, thinking and conduct. Children were told that they should be interested in thinking rather than speech and that in the new technological world

The lower the stage, the greater the chances of success. Rishabh Sharma, Nidhi Gupta, Ku Aarti, Vishnu Kumar, etc. actively participated in the program. The program was conducted by Salil Pandey.

Unacceptable to intrude into reservation and give it to Muslim community, decision of Kolkata High Court is welcome: Keshav Prasad Maurya

Prayagraj: Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Keshav Prasad Maurya has said in a statement that the Government of West Bengal By ignoring the rules, all Muslim castes were made OBCs and by giving wrongful benefits of OBC reservation, they played with the basic spirit of the Constitution. In this regard, the Calcutta High Court has put a huge ban on Mamata Banerjee's appeasement politics by rejecting all the OBC certificates issued in West Bengal since 2010. Said that the decision of Calcutta High Court is welcome. The Deputy Chief Minister has said in his statement that this decision is enough to prove that In-

dian governments do not believe in the Constitution and want to loot the reservation and give its benefits to Muslims as part of their appeasement campaign. This decision of the court is a slap on the appeasement policies of Indi alliance. After this decision, there should now be a debate on this issue across the country and wherever reservation has been looted by tampering with the Constitution due to politics of religion and appeasement, it should be reviewed. With the court canceling all OBC certificates after 2010, people from the deprived and backward communities will actually benefit in the future. This is a beginning,



now wherever it happens, there is a need to review it. BJP will not allow betrayal of the Constitution under any circumstances and will also make efforts to imple-

ment the court's decision. It has been said that all the constituent parties of Indi alliance are working on the same mentality and they want to snatch the rights of Dalits, OBCs and tribals and give them to Muslims. As long as BJP is there, it will not allow anyone to encroach on the rights of Dalits, OBCs and tribals.

The statements of the leaders of Indi Coalition after the court's decision are even more shameful. How Mamata Banerjee is saying that she will not accept the court's decision. Their language is telling that these people run the government not by the Constitution but by the policy of appeasement. The statements of

Congress leaders on this subject are also worrying. Shri Keshav Maurya said that Prime Minister Modi ji has clearly said that this way of looting of reservation should stop. The National OBC Commission, which has been given constitutional status by the Modi government, has also opposed such policies of various state governments. According to the OBC Commission, reservation on religious grounds is against the basic spirit of the Constitution. It has also issued notices in this regard to many state governments. After the formation of Modi government on June 4, more important work will be done in this direction. Shri

Maurya has appealed to the public to understand this conspiracy of the opposition and on the basis of that, boycott them with the power of their vote. These Indi parties, which are anti-social, anti-constitutional, and robbing the reservation through appeasement, do not even deserve to sit in the opposition. The Deputy Chief Minister described the decision of the Calcutta High Court as a big slap for the opposition. Claimed that this has exposed the ploy of the opposition alliance India to give reservation to Muslims under OBC sub-quota. Alleged that the opposition alliance India's passion for appeasement has crossed every limit.

Central Reserve Police Force 93 and social organizations conducted voter awareness and signature campaign

Prayagraj: Voter awareness and signature campaign was conducted under the joint aegis of Central Reserve Police Force 93 Battalion, Prime Rose Education Institute, Avenger Welfare Society and Star Welfare Society Kareli Gaus Nagar Babu Tiraha At Prayagraj, this program was started by Central Reserve Police Force Commandant Anil Shukla and Assistant Commandant Ajay Kumar. The program was conducted by Farhan Alam, Manager of Prime Rose Education Institute, Syed Farhan Ahmed, President of Avenger Welfare Society and the entire CRPF team was welcomed by garlanding Abid Chaudhary, President of

Star Welfare Society. The objective of the program was to increase the voting percentage by making voters aware. Local people also raised placards and raised slogans in which the vote is our right, don't waste it. Slogans like Shivam Dua, Wasim Ahmed, Zakir were mainly present in the program. Ali Khan, Kaleem Ahmed, Himanshu, Danish Siddiqui, Yasin Shaikh, Wasim Khan, Manoj, Faiz, Shah Nawaz, Afzal Ahmed, Asim Khan and the entire CRPF team were present along with area BLO Azra Parveen, Ruksana Begum, Parveen, Pooja Gupta, Tabassum, Tasneem etc. also helped in taking out the slips of the people.

Volunteers took out morning procession for 100 percent voting

Prayagraj: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's Vishwavidyalaya Nagar volunteers took out Prabhath Pheri in Katra area on Thursday as part of the Lokmat Parishkar campaign and motivated people for 100 percent voting.

As per the plan of the organization, a large number of workers gathered at Savarkar Park Madhav Kunj at 6:00 am. Under the leadership of city action coordinator Vibhuti Sanjay, the workers moved ahead with Om inscribed flags in their hands and raised slogans of Bharat Mata Ki Jai Vande Mataram on loudspeakers. This party under the leadership of Provincial Publicity Head Dr Murar ji Tripathi Provincial Executive Member Nagendra Part Sangh Driver Lalita Sahbhag Karyavah Ram Kumar Sudhir Kumar Imagepal Yogendra Anil Satish Kumar etc. Let's vote, let's vote

100%, and in the interest of protecting the country and religion, everyone should vote together. Let's vote first and then started moving forward shouting slogans like refreshments. The flag bearer volunteers crossed the main road of Katra and reached the streets of Hanuman Bagh, crossing Commissionerate Square and Chintamani Ghosh Road. From there, proceeding from Prayag Street, Prayag Puram via Master Jahrul Hasan Road, 14 Number Street, 12 Number Street, DP Road, Bank Road and again returned to Savarkar Park raising slogans from the streets - vote in the national interest. Today was the fifth and final round of Prabhath Pheri. Workers like Vinay Surendra Sandeep Arun Kumar Pradeep Kumar Baban Virendra Dilip Manoj Kumar Umesh etc. also participated in this campaign. The program ended after prayers in the park.

BJP took out a huge public relations journey

BJP candidate Neeraj Tripathi sought blessings from the public for victory

Prayagraj: Allahabad Lok Sabha BJP candidate Neeraj Tripathi, under the leadership of Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani, took out a huge padyatra from the Keedganj police booth intersection while doing public relations and sought blessings from the public for victory. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that the public relations padyatra was conducted at the Keedganj police booth intersection. From Arya Kanya, Muthiganj, Ram Bhawan, Bahadurganj, through Chowk near Neem tree, the public relations



were mainly attended by Honorable MP Dr. Rita Meja MLA Neelam Bahuguna Joshi, former Karwaria, Assembly in-

charge Suresh Maurya Assembly Convener Dnyaneshwar Shukla, Giri Shankar Prabhakar (Giri Baba), Pramod Jaiswal (Modi), Councilor Kiran Jaiswal, Media In-charge Rajesh Kesarwani, and Gopal Ji Malviya, Brijesh Mishra, Vivek Aggarwal Rajan Shukla, Varun Kesarwani, Ram Ji Kesarwani, BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, Padum Jaiswal, Shikha Rastogi, Shikha Khanna, Raghavendra Mishra, Manoj Mishra, Meenu Pandey, etc. were hundreds of BJP workers.

Police Commissioner and District Magistrate briefing prior to polling

Prayagraj: In order to ensure safe, fair and peaceful conduct of Lok Sabha General Elections, by the Police Commissioner and District Magistrate and the security forces from other states/other districts, Central Security Force and other gazetted and non-gazetted police officers and employees of the Commissionerate and Zonal Magistrate/Sector Magistrate after briefing the Magistrate and giving necessary guidelines, in view of the safe, fair and peaceful conduct of Lok Sabha General Election-2024, today on 23-05-2024, reserved by Police Commissioner Prayagraj and District Magistrate Prayagraj. In the police line, Additional Commissioner of Police, Chief Development Officer, Deputy Commissioner of Police City/Yamunanagar/Ganganagar/Protocol. Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police Crime/Yamunanagar and security forces from other states/other districts, Central Security Force and other gazetted and non-gazetted police of Commissionerate Prayagraj. After briefing the officers

and employees and Zonal Magistrate/Sector Magistrate and giving necessary guidelines, it was told that - 1. The guidelines issued by the Election Commission (M.C.C.) should be completely followed. 2. Only one person will go inside the polling booth at a time, no other person will accompany him and no one will carry a camera/mobile phone with him nor will anyone take a selfie inside. 3. All the employees on election duty will get ready before the mock poll, but while getting ready, they will take special care that the polling booth will not be left empty. Even at that time at least one employee will be there. (Don't leave together) 4. During polling, when long queues are formed in the morning and in the evening, attempts are made by unwanted people to do fake voting. Therefore, being prepared in advance at the said time, be especially alert and do not allow unnecessary crowd to gather; those who have already voted should be sent out from the prescribed distance.

5. Disabled/disabled voters who come to the polling station should be helped and the people who come to the polling station



to vote should be arranged and made to vote. 6. The election symbol of any party is not marked on the voting slips provided to the voters. If any such slips are taken or being distributed then it should be stopped immediately and discussion about any political party/person should not be allowed during election duty. /Comments should not be made. 7. It is our responsibility to ensure that the police force attached with the polling parties reaches the

polling places on time along with the polling parties and after the end of polling, safely transport the EVMs to the strong room in the

same vehicle. 8. If any issue arises in any EVM during mock poll or poll, then contact the concerned Zonal/Sector Magistrate/Master Trainer and get it removed/replaced immediately. For this, contact numbers have been made available to everyone. 9. 24-hour vigilance should be maintained by Flying Squad Team (FST), Static Surveillance Team (SST), Video Surveillance Team (VST). 10. Intensive checking of suspicious persons/vehicles should be

done during day and night at police check posts built on inter-state/inter-district borders. 11. Effective and continuous checking should be done by the police forces deployed in QRT, Cluster Mobile, Sector Mobile, Zonal Mobile and Reserve Mobile by being constantly mobile.

12. Liquor shops will remain completely closed from this evening till the end of elections on 25th May, its compliance should be ensured and apart from this, effective checking should be done to prevent illegal liquor etc. 13. By regularly visiting sensitive and highly sensitive areas, confidence should be created among the citizens for free and fair elections and voting. 14. After the expiry of the election campaign deadline, all such people who are not voters of that area should be immediately thrown out of the election area and ensure that appropriate action is taken in this regard from now on. 15. Checking of hotels, inns, committee halls, guest houses etc. should be ensured as per rules. 16. To

prevent illegal arms smuggling by anti-social elements, intensive checking of suspicious persons/vehicles should be done as per rules. 17. Food, any material or assistance should not be received from any person/party at the election duty/polling center, food/snacks etc. of all the personnel will be delivered to their duty place only. 18. The use of mobile phones, wireless etc. by anyone other than election/poll/ administration officials is prohibited within a radius of 100 meters from the polling stations and compliance should be ensured that selfies should be taken only at the selfie points made. 19. It is the summer season, everyone should take care of their health, keep the items of daily use and water with you. *20. All officers/employees engaged in election duty should remain disciplined, work impartially, honestly and efficiently, perform their duties with humility and firmness, with vigilance/discretion and treat everyone equally, and must keep their identity card with them.

INDI- alliance is winning the maximum number of seats in the state: Shyamlal Pal

PRAYAGRAJ: Samajwadi Party's newly appointed state president Shyamlal Pal while speaking to journalists in Prayagraj on Thursday said that the INDI- alliance is winning the maximum number of seats in the state. Especially in the sixth and seventh phase of voting, BJP will not have a single win and BJP will be completely wiped out. The SP state president said that agricultural scientist Swaminathan was given Bharat Ratna which is welcome but his report was ignored. Not only this, lathis were used on farmers who opposed the three black laws of the BJP government, nails were laid on the road.

Hundreds of agitating farmers died, farmers worried for MSP, youth worried for employment, employees and their families seeking old pension, common man worried about demonetization, every countryman ready to protect the Constitution and democracy is standing strongly with the INDI- alliance.

The state president has also accused the NDA government of conspiring to end reservation, making the youth Agniveer, Shikhsaveer, Chikitsaveer etc. and ended the permanent jobs, he said that 30 lakh youth will be recruited in government jobs immediately after the formation of the INDI government. In response to a question, he claimed victory of INDI alliance candidates on 79 seats of the state. During the press conference, District President Anil Yadav, Mahanagar President Syed Iftekhar Hussain, MLC Dr. Mansingh, Mahanagar General Secretary Ravindra Yadav, Media Incharge Dan Bahadur Madhur and others were present.



Buddha Purnima celebrated with devotion in Sangam city

PRAYAGRAJ: Buddha Purnima was celebrated with devotion in Sangam city Prayagraj in Sarvarth Siddhi Yoga here on Thursday. A large number of devotees took bath in Sangam the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and mythical Saraswati since Thursday morning on Vaishakh Shukla Paksha Purnima i.e. Buddha Purnima. Along with Sangam, the process of bathing and donation is going on since morning at other ghats of Ganga-Yamuna.

Along with this, Kurma Jayanti was also celebrated. Sarvarth Siddhi Yoga and Jayad Yoga started after 8:54 am on Purnima. Guru Purna Siddhi Yoga remained effective till 6:41 pm. On the occasion of Buddha Purnima, programmes were organized by social, cultural organizations. On Buddha



Purnima, devotees performed religious rituals along with bathing in the Ganga for salvation and liberation from sins. Hundreds of devotees who reached Sangam were engrossed in the devotion of God while observing fast. Apart from Sangam, a crowd of devotees was also seen in Naini, Jhansi, Phaphamau, Baluaghat etc. since morning.

A noted astrologer Anant Kumar Mishra said that on the day of Buddha Purnima, people take a bath in the morning and fast for the whole day. At night, the moon will be worshipped with flowers, incense, lamps, food, jaggery, etc. and water is offered. After the puja, a pot full of water and various types of dishes is donated to a Brahmin. Many beliefs are associated with Buddha Purnima.

Deadly attack on village head Sanjay Choudhary of Hashimpur Chhabilepur

Prayagraj: On receiving information from the enemy, it was told that Sanjay Choudhary, the village head of Hashimpur Chhabilepur under Purna Mukti police station, was fatally attacked by some unruly elements, the information said that on 23-06-2023 around 09:00: The lights were switched off due to rain at 30 pm, taking advantage of this, miscre-

ants attacked the village head.

Eyewitnesses told that the attackers were Aman Patel, Manish Patel etc. and also took away the camera from the head's house. The above mentioned attackers are boys who sit at adjacent's shop on the Gajanti Panchayat Bhawan and girls go to school on the same route and the same

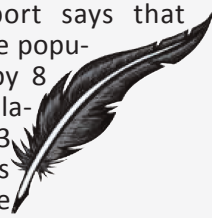
boys pass dirty comments on girls, which has already been complained by the girls on 1090 help desk when this incident happened. When Pradhan came to know that Pradhan refused to allow all of them to sit here, then the above mentioned bullies attacked Pradhan fatally and are also threatening to kill him if he complains anywhere.

Editorial

India's survival as a country of Sanatan culture

Those who are talking of the timing of the report want to mislead the nation. This is a crucial issue that affects the survival of the country in its present form. Election time is the right time to discuss how the country should be governed and what policies are needed to correct this imbalance that is sure to multiply if not addressed properly. The country has witnessed the Partition and its aftermath. The Partition happened on religious grounds. Are we in a position to afford another division of the country? Even if the Partition does not happen, the rhetoric and aggressive statements of some Islamic leaders have the potential to create social, cultural and political conflicts. Islamists in India still hold on to the dream that a day would come when India would become an Islamic country. They still feel Muslims, who were once a ruling elite, would reclaim their position with an increase in the Muslim population. Madrassas have become the breeding ground of such thoughts that are antithetical to the very idea of India being a Republic. Is it not strange that the majority in this country fear Muslim aggressiveness? The report indicates this fear is real. What took 65 years to transpire could happen in less than 25-30 years due to the unchecked population growth. The main reason for higher growth is rapid reproduction, illegal infiltration encouraged by vested interests and conversion. The issues that concern every Indian (Hindu) is whether they can survive with their civilisational and cultural values under Islamic rule. The country has witnessed untold misery because of Muslim rulers' enthusiasm to convert Hindus into Islamic faith. Entire Kashmir which was once a Hindu land of Hindu cultural renaissance has become Islamic due to this. We all know how infiltration has threatened the demographic composition of Assam and endangered the indigenous culture. The experience of Hindus in Muslim countries has not been good. They have witnessed persecution and forced conversion and there are very few countries or rights groups talking about them. The plight of Hindus in Pakistan and Bangladesh is too well known in the entire world. Luckily, they have India as their ancestral place to come and take refuge. The Modi government has made policies to give citizenship to such persecuted Hindus. However, what will Hindus do if India becomes Islamic and they are forced to flee? To which country would they go? What protection or insurance do they have that the country would not be disturbed from growing as a liberal democracy? Hindus in this country faced violence and paid jizya under the Mughals to retain their culture and ways of worship. Let's not close our eyes and lull ourselves into a make-believe world where everything will be okay, a world where we shouldn't worry about a rising population.

Despite being in the majority, Hindus have shown that they believe in democracy and have no problems with people practicing other faiths. But can the same be said about those who claim to be exclusivist and superior? The findings of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PM-EAC) are alarming with dangerous consequences for India's survival as a country of Sanatan culture. Those who would ignore this would do so at their own peril. The report says that between 1950 and 2015, the population of Hindus declined by 8 per cent whereas the population of Muslims grew by 43 per cent. In 1950, Hindus comprised 84 per cent of the total population but it came down to 78 per cent in 2015.



The Middle East is in a situation of flux

For Iran, friendship with Pakistan is strategically gainful for maintaining its hold in the Middle East against its main rival Israel -- it is aware that left to itself Pakistan did not harbour any faith-based antipathy towards Iran. The three-day visit of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi to Islamabad from April 22 in the context of the Israel-Hamas conflict -- particularly after the exchange of missile attacks between Iran and Israel -- is of great significance not only for the Middle East but also for the wider geopolitics that is marked by a clear drift towards a new Cold War between the US-led West and the China-Russia axis. It is

interesting how this political polarisation at the global level is getting bolstered by the religion-based alignments within the Muslim world in general and the Middle East in particular. Iranian President clearly wanted Pakistan's support in its confrontation with Israel even as both Iran and Pakistan were aware of the US opposition to any trade pacts between them. The prolonged military action of Israel in Gaza has revived the fundamental antagonism between the Zionist state and Islamic Palestine. The anti-US character of Shia fundamentalism and the pro-Assad stand of Iran in Syria have pushed Iran close-

Mayawati has suddenly used her power to vent out her anger

Some people are even saying that they have surrendered to the BJP. What has he got for this or what lure has he been given by BJP, only he knows? At the same time, some people are also believing that Mayawati has not removed her nephew from the post under any pressure, but has removed him to avoid allegations of nepotism. However, this type of argument cannot be considered correct, because if she wanted to be free from the allegations of nepotism, she would have freed her brother as well as her nephew from the responsibilities, and she also does not say that Akash Anand is an expert. Everyone has definitely seen it through their own eyes, but no one has a definite idea as to what is the reality behind it?

However, the reason behind this is believed to be that Akash Anand has waited for succession and removal from the post of National Coordinator until his sharp electoral maturity matures. Then he should have clearly said that BSP never promoted nepotism, hence Akash Anand is being removed from the posts and the party is searching for a worthy successor, it will be announced in future.

But he did not say anything like that, rather what he said revealed only two things, firstly, that Mayawati



is angry at her nephew's statements and not speaking as per his temperament in the rallies, or secondly, that Mayawati, somewhere or the other, she is under pressure from BJP and instead of saving the credibility of BSP, she has made an agreement to help BJP win maximum seats in Uttar Pradesh in this election by any means. In fact, Mayawati has said that Akash Anand will be removed from both the posts till he attains maturity and said that Anand Kumar (i.e. Akash's father and Mayawati's brother) will continue to fulfill his responsibilities as before in the interest of the party and the movement. In her letter written to remove Akash Anand from both the important posts, Mayawati has said that the leadership of BSP will not shy away from making every kind of sacrifice and sacrifice in the interest of the party and the movement and in taking

Dr. Ambedkar's caravan forward. Not there. This decision of the BSP supremo was compared to BJP with terrorism in the speeches of political parties and politicians, due to which not only was an FIR filed against him, but Mayawati, to save her soft image, legally removed him from the party.

Although this is not the first time that BSP supremo Mayawati has suddenly used her power to vent out her anger on an official, even before this she has done the same with many officials. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, when Mayawati was accused of nepotism in the party, she also removed her brother Anand Kumar from the post. Apart from this, he has also removed many key officials after being accused of committing mistakes and making mistakes. BSP supremo Mayawati is considered a strict administrator. On the contrary, she has

avoided using abusive language or making false allegations against any party. She has always read written speeches, and perhaps that is so that she does not say anything that could bring any stain on her or her party. She has been the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh four times and due to her strict attitude every time, people like her a lot. His vote bank is also so strong that it is not easy for anyone else to break it. In 2014, even though they could not get a single Lok Sabha seat in the Modi wave, BSP got 19.6 percent votes. Whereas in the year 2019, BSP got 10 seats, that too when Mayawati had fielded her candidates on 38 seats only in alliance with Akhilesh. Even today his vote bank is intact and both things are intact in his nature like a well-informed ruler. However, the BSP supremo's decision to remove her own young nephew Akash Anand from party post and succession has shocked everyone and has also changed all the equations of the Lok Sabha elections.

However, Akash Anand has been in politics for a long time and obviously he must have learned a lot of political tricks from his aunt and his father. As far as qualifications and maturity are concerned, Akash has completed higher education and was educated abroad. If we

talk about their language and their aggressive statements, then the rhetoric of the leaders in Uttar Pradesh is above this.

The way the BSP supremo has issued a formal letter and statement on Twitter's new name Mayawati had appointed nephew Akash Anand, who returned from London after studying MBA, as the national coordinator of BSP in the month of June 2019 itself. After this, last year i.e. in the last month of 2023 i.e. December, Mayawati declared him as her successor. According to this responsibility, Akash Anand was handling the responsibility of all the states except Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. But the succession given to Akash Anand in December itself was snatched away in the first week of May. This has not only angered a large number of BSP supporters, especially the youth, but the BSP, which was expected to rise again by its supporters and other leaders and workers, was feeling that a young Bahujan Samaj Party would be leading the party. While doing this, he has found someone who will become the voice of the Bahujan community, today he seems disappointed in himself. People are raising questions whether Mayawati has entered into an internal vote transfer agreement with BJP?

What's Xi Jinping doing in Europe?

Budapest remains the most Eurosceptic in the European bloc, maintaining close ties with Russia and China. On a strategic level, with increasing demand from Brussels to stop China's support to Russia in its unending war with Ukraine, there is also growing unease in mainland Europe due to instances involving Chinese espionage. Just a day after German Chancellor Olaf Scholz concluded his recent visit to Beijing, three Germans were arrested on the charges of spying for China. In France, too, there have been instances of how China leverages its growing influence through information ops in Europe. It was the main theme of a recently commissioned study by the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM), the official think tank of the French armed forces. In

2022, IRSEM's then-director, Jean Baptiste, had shared its findings with India's strategic community at the Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses. The report was meant to be one of the most ambitious and systematic inquiries of how China's influence ops operate in Europe and enable interference by the Chinese Communist Party. Paris understands that it has limited leverage against Beijing and must align its China policy with the larger European approach. His scintillating statements aside, Macron's collective approach in his encounters with Xi has been rather consistent, ensuring alignment with the European framework. When Xi visited Europe in 2019, Macron received him along with former EU Commission president

and German Chancellor Angela Merkel. After the event, a joint, not bilateral, statement, was released. Later that year, when Macron decided to visit Shanghai, he was accompanied by trade chiefs from the EU and Germany. In 2023, European Commission chief Ursula Von der Leyen accompanied Macron during his state visit to China, ensuring that the discussions with Xi operated in a trilateral format. This fine print reading tends to get misread in New Delhi where the majority buy Macron's strategic autonomy at face value, missing inherent pragmatism. It is Berlin that has mostly gone solo in its overtures to China. The flamboyant Macron, despite controversial statements asserting an independent view, has been consistently

Communists all over the world have failed in their deeds

Communists all over the world have failed in their deeds. The crumbling of the erstwhile Soviet Union is the best example of this failure. China, another communist power, was forced to adopt changes and has space for private capital. The East European bloc, too, has suffered immensely. But in 2024, Rahul Gandhi wants to pick up from the Communist Manifesto, a political pamphlet written by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in 1848. While releasing the party's election manifesto at a public meeting in Tukkuguda in Telangana on April 6, he stressed: "Jitni aabadi, utna haq". He said: "First, we will conduct a caste census to know the exact population and status of backward castes, SCs, STs, minorities. After that, the financial and institutional survey will begin. Then, we will take up the historic assignment to distribute the wealth, create jobs." The Congress party's manifesto and Rahul Gandhi's plan to map everyone's assets and then equally divide them have provided vital ammunition to the BJP. The BJP has called it divisive and a reflection of the Congress' appeasement politics. The Congress may believe that inheritance, redistribution,

and reservation could be its three mantras for progression. But, at the moment and as the election progresses, the grand old party seems to be only widening its gap from the masses. People like Rajni Dhar, Kamlesh, and Amit are not just a few individuals but reflect a growing sentiment. Now in 2024, the buzz about Congress promising to take away all that 'extra' wealth of a section of the population brought back memories of the pain that Dhar and many others had to endure. Kamlesh, a 47-year-old house help, whose family resides in a dwelling built with government funds in her village in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad district, is confused today. After hearing about the Congress' wealth distribution plan, she feared that her family might lose the new house as the joint family had an ancestral dwelling in the same village. She is also apprehensive since her family is worried about talks regarding the reservation rights for Backwards being snatched away and given to the Muslims by Congress. These fears have become a topic of discussion among the general populace. The fact that Congress has a history of doing such things has made people take Rahul Gandhi's

statement critically this time. In 1953, then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's government brought the inheritance tax under the Estate Duty Act as it found that there were inequalities in wealth.

The Act, also known as 'Death Tax' was imposed on the principal value of movable and immovable property, including agricultural land, which a person inherited after the death of the owner of the property. The Act was abolished in 1985 by the Rajiv Gandhi government when he became Prime Minister after the death of Indira Gandhi. The BJP has accused that he did so to escape from the said tax on inheritance. With this piece of history being resurrected, people feel that this is Rahul Gandhi's plan for a new 'INDIA'. What has given credence to this is the statement by Sam Pitroda, a close aide of the Gandhi family and Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, who highlighted the importance of wealth redistribution policies, citing the US laws. Though the Congress later distanced itself from Pitroda's comments, the cat is already out of the bag. Rahul's pledge to pursue 'jitni abadi utna haq' and his X-ray plan to detect peoples' wealth.

Precision herbicides use essential for cotton protection – Godrej Agrovet

Bhatinda/ Mansa/ Fazilka: Cotton, a cornerstone of India's agricultural landscape, plays a pivotal role in the nation's economy. Contributing significantly to agriculture and industrial development, it also aids in employment generation. However, it faces a significant threat from weeds, causing substantial yield losses ranging from 40% to 85% thereby impacting the quality and increasing production costs. "To effectively manage weeds in cotton, it is imperative use both pre and early post and emergence herbicides smartly, especially during the crucial period when the crop and weeds compete. Hence using right herbicide at the right time and in right quantity aid control the weeds effectively. and at the right time knowing when weeds can be problematic is the foundation for sustainable and resilient farming," said Rajavelu NK, CEO- Crop Protection Business, Godrej Agrovet Limited. Highlighting the techniques that can aid reduce weed competition he said that manual weeding and frequent inter-cultivation, like hand hoeing have shown effective results. Farmers practicing hand weeding twice during critical growth stages observe a significant increase in cotton yield. Mechanical methods such as power weeding offer cost-effective weed control and improved soil aeration.

However, challenges arise from labor shortages and excess soil moisture, especially during frequent irrigation or heavy rains in the kharif season, hindering timely cultural practices. To overcome these, adopting herbicides during critical periods becomes essential for effective weed control, ensuring higher yields. "Identifying the critical period of weed competition is crucial for effective weed management in cotton. As a long-duration crop, cotton faces a critical weed competition period of up to 45 Days After Sowing (DAS), during which maintaining a weed-free condition is imperative for optimal results. This makes the need to protect cotton crop during early post-emergent phase viz. 5-15 DAS extremely crucial," added Rajavelu. Due to the varied weather patterns the weed emergence and type of weeds are changing. With effective weed management becoming a critical issue due to this, it is advisable that farmers select the right herbicide. Be it solo or scientific in-can mixture herbicides, it is important for farmers to go as per the label recommendation and avoid own tank mix combinations which may not be advisable given the uncertainties of weather and weed emergence that can happen at the farmer field.

Delhi high court orders parents to pay for school AC

Delhi: The Delhi High Court recently ruled that parents must pay for school air conditioning, just like laboratory costs. While dismissing a public interest litigation, the division bench of acting chief judge Manmohan and justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora made the comment. The petition asked the Delhi government's DoE to restrict a private school from charging for classroom air conditioning. Air conditioning is a school facility, thus parents must pay for it like lab and smart class fees. When choosing a school, parents must consider the facilities and expenses for their children. The bench ruled on May 2 that school management cannot bear the cost of such facilities. Manish Goel filed the PIL because his child's Delhi private school charged Rs 2,000 per month for AC. The petitioner said the school management should give AC to kids with its own funds. The bench heard from the DoE that it was investigating and asking for an action-taken report after



UP leads 2024 JEE (Advanced) aspirants at 11%

Delhi: Uttar Pradesh will have 11% of JEE-Advanced 2024 candidates, the entryway to 23 IITs. According to JEE (Main) qualification data, over 54% of the 2.5 lakh IIT entry candidates are from six states and approximately 73% from 10. Although over 75% of enrolled applicants took both the January and April sessions of the JEE (Main), an entrance test for centrally financed technical institutes and others, just 28% improved their scores in the second sitting. One of India's toughest competitive tests, JEE (Advanced), requires students to place in the top 2.5 lakh in JEE (Main) and vie for 17,000 IIT seats.

many complaints. "This petition includes respondent No. 5 school's 2023-24 fee receipt for air-conditioner charges in annexure P-2. Thus, after informing the DoE of the fee and charge schedule, the rates were likely raised. The court said there was no impro-

priety in the school's fee because the petitioner admitted that kids have air conditioning in their classrooms. Bench ruled the plea unmaintainable. "The DoE is investigating and awaiting the action report. The judge dismissed the PIL.

CAPSULES

Canada will limit international students' job dreams to 24 hours per week.

Delhi: The Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship of Canada has announced that international students can only work 24 hours per week. Marc Miller announced on social media X. "We removed the 20-hour/week work requirement for international students to aid post-pandemic rehabilitation. I stated today that this provision would be lifted and that off-campus student employment hours will be limited to 24 hours/week starting this autumn" on his official X account. International students might work more than 20 hours per week off campus under the old rule. The rule expired April 30, 2024. Miller added that kids on academic break can work unlimited hours. According to Miller, this adjustment will let students focus on their studies instead of working lengthy hours. International students come to Canada to study first. Students can work while focusing on class with this improvement. He claimed the program will remain strong while protecting youngsters. According to the Canadian government, recent US and Canadian studies have shown that students working more than 28 hours per week perform worse academically and are more likely to drop out. Most nations that accept international students have limited their working hours while studying. Australia now allows students to work 48 hours within two weeks. US students must also meet additional standards before working off campus.

JNU VC: No faculty de-reservation

Delhi: Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University oppose UGC's draft Guidelines for Implementation of Reservation Policy in Higher Education Institutes, which propose de-reserving SC, ST, and OBC faculty jobs if adequate reserved candidates are not available. The proposed rules, presented in the last week of December, are open for comments until January 28. The rules state: "Only SC, ST, or OBC candidates can fill SC, ST, or OBC vacancies. A reserved vacancy can be de-reserved and filled by following the de-reservation method." It adds "in rare and exceptional cases when a vacancy in a Group A service cannot be



allowed to remain vacant in public interest, the university concerned may prepare a proposal for de-reservation of the vacancy giving following information." No proposed rules have been withdrawn. Jawaharlal Nehru University vice-chancellor Santishree D. Pandit wrote: "As VC, JNU, I want to assure stakeholders that no JNU

positions have been de-reserved. We have excellent reserved candidates." The Supreme Court shared her sentiment, she said. UGC chairperson M Jagadesh Kumar said there will be no de-reservation of reserved category posts in central educational institutions. The ministry of education said the 2019 Act on central insti-

tution reservation forbids de-reservation. JNU Students' Union plans to burn Kumar's effigy. Delhi University registrar Vikas Gupta told "No de-reservation. There are enough SC, ST, and OBC candidates. Thus, DU will not de-reserve any above-category posts." Teachers' groups are worried.

The idea will aid discrimination against reserved category candidates and worsen representation if promoted, teachers claimed. They wanted the draft guidelines removed immediately. Promotion criteria state that "if sufficient numbers of SC and ST candidates... are not available, such vacancies may be de-reserved.

School fee hikes under scrutiny

Delhi: The vigilance directorate wrote to the director of education concerning fee hikes in 18 schools and five private, unaided institutions and certain schools' failure to fill the 25% economically weaker sections quota. The vigilance examination found that the charge hike was allowed in contravention of guidelines, with capital expenditure fees collected despite inadequate savings. Thirteen of the 18 fee raise orders were retrospective, straining parents financially.

The rules don't allow retrospective hikes. The vigilance agency noted that such hikes are intended to benefit school management at the expense of parents. The study also found that schools violated the Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973 by using collected monies. DOE announced charge structure recommendations for 2010-2011. "If the school must raise tuition, it must first consult with parents, the main stakeholders. Since parents pay for fee hikes, the school

must present its case for a fee hike with a detailed financial statement to the committee of the duly selected parents-teachers association and get their approval before the managing committee approves it "DOE's circular read. The education department has been asked to provide a tabular analysis of price hike instances for 2019-2024 sessions and explain why the hikes were permitted despite persistent regulation infractions. Admissions to EWS were also examined.

IIT grads are earning under Rs 10 lakh this year

Delhi: High-paying jobs at top Indian Institutes of Technology have been difficult to get this recruitment season. With corporations cutting employment and paying lesser salaries, tail-end students are getting annual packages below Rs 10 lakh. Colleges must contact additional companies since companies that would normally pick six students only chose two. Many pay Rs 10-15 lakh annually. Students who have taken college employment at lesser pay rates are still searching job sites and traveling to career fairs and interviews for better opportunities. "The global economic slowdown has hurt IIT Indore 2024 campus placements. The placement season has been difficult due to fewer recruiters than last year. IIT Indore

has sought alumni support and expanded its employer base, including PSUs, to mitigate the impact. "Professor Suhas Joshi, director, IIT Indore. IIT Bombay student: "Last year, companies hired 5-8 students; this year, 1-2. Not all are hired. Some were selected for phase 2 remuneration packages of Rs 60,000 to Rs 80,000 from coaching programs and start-ups." "S p e c t r u m Technologies offered trainee engineers Rs 3.6 lakh and trainee design engineers Rs 6 lakh," stated another IIT-Kharagpur student. Gem Machinery and Startoon Labs gave Rs 5.5 lakh yearly. Skyroot bid Rs 5 lakh. Sri Chaitanya and Next Education pay Rs 4.8-6 lakh annually." "The scenario now is that many students are taking up jobs

offering the bare minimum threshold salary of Rs 6 lakh a year but are looking for other jobs," said a source. Students and placement office workers are marketing to employers, negotiating with NGOs, contacting employment portals, and advising seniors. Praveen Tyagi, owner of IITians' Pace, an entrance exam tutorial, stated, "AI has lowered jobs and multinational FANG businesses didn't come to campus, but we saw this as an opportunity to recruit talent. Our IITian hiring test had hundreds of candidates. Good communicators were chosen for simulated online lectures. We've offered 25 kids Rs 12 lakh annually." Many IIT Delhi students still use the Office of Career Services to find work.

Canada is reducing the number of start-up visas it will accept, this year

Delhi: Although Canada attempted to improve the attractiveness of its start-up visa program in July of last year, an announcement tonight will terminate the aspirations of prospective immigrant entrepreneurs. In reality, a number of them who received early investment or assistance from business incubators can wind up in a limbo. Beginning on April 30, Canada will only accept petitions for permanent residency linked to ten or fewer startups per approved organization for processing each year. The Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) released a statement stating that this action was taken to expedite application processing and minimize backlogs. To put it simply, there are currently about 82 of these



approved organizations, which include company incubators, angel investors, and venture capital funds (VCFs). It follows that, if the number of these organizations stays the same, no more than 820 applications will be approved. Furthermore, as per the release, entrepreneurs whose start-up is backed by Canadian funding or a business incubator that is affiliated with Canada's Tech Network will be eligible for priority processing. In order to be eligible for permanent residence, entrepreneurs must demonstrate that they

have sufficient means to support themselves and their family upon arrival in Canada. The Startup Visa (SUV) program does not require applicants to invest any of their funds or have a minimum net worth. It's essential to have support from one or more of the approved partners, such as venture capital funds (VCF), angel investor groups (who must invest a minimum of CAD 200,00 and 75,000, respectively), or be accepted into a program offered by a business incubator. Under this policy, the goals for immigration

Centre considering NIFT overseas campus



Delhi: Two officials said the central government is considering opening a foreign campus of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) soon, citing alliances with UK, Australia, Mauritius, Bangladesh, Finland, Sweden, and Nepal universities. Officials said NIFT may open an abroad campus in a place where the institute already has a relationship. The authorities added New Delhi is also in negotiations to collaborate with a Tashkent institute. Officials said NIFT's abroad initiatives are being coordinated by the textiles and commerce ministries under Piyush Goyal. "Textile ministry and other government ministries, especially commerce, are aiming to make NIFT an internationally recognized educational institute. It's ongoing" said one. The second official said NIFT has inked MoUs with universities in Mauritius, the UK, Bangladesh, and Nepal for semester and short-term student exchange programs. Bharat TEX 2024 in February saw NIFT sign 12 MoUs with international universities, which might lead to dual-degree arrangements. They declined to name NIFT's 19th campus in Varanasi, which will open this year. "NIFT has 13,698 students and 680 professors on 18 sites. The second official stated Varanasi campus will open this year.

Congress says EC withholding voter data; poll panel says application 'misleading'

NEW DELHI: The Congress criticised the Election Commission (EC) on Thursday for withholding voter data from the public and accused the poll panel of failing to fulfill its constitutional obligations as well as exhibiting a biased inclination. Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi accused the EC of attempting to act as the "election department" of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) by not addressing complaints of model code violations by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and home minister Amit Shah. Instead, the EC has been issuing generalized directions to political parties, which Singhvi referred to as "false equivalences." Singhvi's remarks followed the poll panel's submission of an affidavit to the Supreme Court, in which the commission stated that the "indiscriminate disclosure" of polling station-wise voter-turnout data and its publication on the EC website would lead to chaos in the ongoing Lok Sabha election machinery. Singhvi argued that the EC's actions regarding complaints against top BJP leaders and its refusal to disclose voter data are not befitting of a high-level constitutional institution. "This is against the constitutional responsibilities of the institution. This is the Election Commission, not the election agent of any party. When a constitutional institution does not follow the



Constitution and shows inclination towards power, then it should be understood that this is the end of democracy," Singhvi said. "We are not asking the EC about EVMs (electronic voting machines) but about disclosure of data. Through this stand in its ridiculous affidavit, the EC is falling into the BJP's trap to orchestrate decimation and destruction of electoral democracy," he added. Singhvi alleged that the reply filed by the EC in the apex court is just an 'escape mechanism.' "This reply of the Election Commission is just an escape mechanism. Whereas anyone can get this data by paying money to the Election Commission," Singhvi alleged. "Will cause chaos; application is misleading, false and based on mere suspicion." Earlier, EC had filed a counter affidavit in the Supreme Court, opposing the demand made by an NGO to upload polling station-wise voter turnout data on its website within 48 hours of the conclusion of polling for each phase of the Lok Sabha elections. The NGO, 'Association.

'Not giving clean chit to anyone ... CM Kejriwal was at home': Swati Maliwal

NEW DELHI: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal on Thursday recounted her ordeal of May 13, stating that she was assaulted by Bibhav Kumar, personal aide of Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal. In an exclusive interview with ANI, Maliwal described the incident in detail. "On May 13 at around 9 am in the morning, I went to meet Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal at his residence. The staff asked me to sit in the drawing room and told her that Arvind Kejriwal ji was at home and he was coming here to meet me. After that the PA of Arvind Kejriwal ji Bibhav Kumar came in a state of aggression and I asked 'Kya Hua Kejriwalji aa rahe hai. Kya hogya?' I said this much, after which he slapped me. He (Bibhav Kumar) slapped me 7 to 8 times. When I tried to push him, he held my legs and mujhe ghaset diya. Ensuring that my head bumped into the center table. I fell to the floor and he (Bibhav) started beating me with his legs. I was



screaming and begging for help but no one came there," Maliwal said. Maliwal stated that she is unsure whether the assault was carried out on someone's instructions or if Bibhav acted on his own accord, emphasizing that this is a matter of investigation. She expressed her cooperation with the Delhi Police and clarified that she is not giving anyone a clean chit, as the incident occurred while she was in the drawing room and Arvind Kejriwal was at home. "Everything is a matter of investigation. I am very cooperative with the Delhi Police. I am not giving anyone the clean chit. Because the fact is I was

in the drawing room and Arvind Kejriwal was at home and I was beaten up very badly. I was literally screaming very badly but no one came to help to out. I never thought what will happen to me and my career. What will they do with me? I just thought that 'Jo cheez maine saari mahilao ko bola hai ki hamesha sach ke saath khade raho, aap sachi sachi complain karo and jo bhi aapke sath kuch galat hua hai toh uske liye jarur ludo, toh aaj mai kaise nhi ladh sakti,' she said with tears in her eyes. Maliwal has accused Bibhav of assaulting her at the CM's residence.

CAPSULES

32-year old man killed after being hit by minor's motorcycle in Mumbai

NEW DELHI: A 32-year-old man was killed on Thursday after a 15-year-old boy allegedly hit him with a motorcycle in Mumbai. Irfan Nawab Ali Shaikh, the victim sustained severe injuries from the crash and was immediately rushed to JJ Hospital for medical attention. However, he succumbed to his injuries. In response to the incident, Mumbai Police have taken the minor into custody and sent him to a juvenile home. Additionally, the minor's father has been detained by the authorities. A case has been registered under section 304(2) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and sections 3 and 4 of the Motor Vehicle Act. This comes following a similar incident in Pune where a Porsche crash involving a minor that killed two people. The 17-year-old driver, initially granted bail within 15 hours by the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), faced lenient bail conditions that sparked widespread public anger. The bail terms, which included writing a reflective essay and working with traffic police, were perceived as too lenient given the gravity of the charges. In response to the backlash, the Juvenile Justice Board in Pune revoked the minor's bail and ordered him to be held in an observation home. Furthermore, the board is now contemplating whether to try the teenager as an adult, which could result in a more severe sentence if he is convicted. The father of the minor involved in the luxury vehicle accident has been sent to police custody until May 24.

Chhattisgarh has high number of stateless individuals

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh is the second state with the maximum estimated number of 62,890 stateless, refugee persons. In India, there are a total of 2,89,394 as per the last public statistics released in the year 2014. In the state capital Raipur, authorities have received a total of 52 applications for citizenship from January one to April 30 this year of which 23 have been forwarded to the district magistrate's office while 29 applications are under process in the police stations for fur-

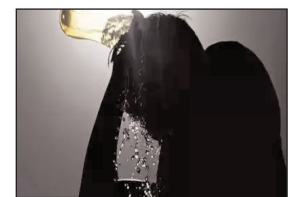


ther verification, Rapur senior superintendent of police Santosh Singh said. Between the formation of the state and December 31, 2023, 841 citizens were granted citizenship in the state capital district. This year, from the first of Jan to April 30, a total of 56 stateless people have been granted citizenship. Most of the citizenship applications are from Pakistanis while a

single applicant is from Nepal. In Bilaspur, within the last 10 years only a single applicant has been granted the naturalization certificate, said an official from administration. Raj Kumar Khetwani is a 39-year-old individual who along with a family consisting of wife, two girls children and an elderly mother for the first time applied for Indian citizenship in the year 2021. Khetwani told, it was the year 2012 when on a tourist visa my family had the privilege to visit India to my relative's place and while on the grounds of ill-treatment in the then home country Pakistan, the family finally decided to stay back in India. "When we came here, my children were 10 and 12 years old and somehow were admitted to a school. Since then, I have been striving to obtain citizenship", he said. All this while, I've been surviving on dependency. It's been 10 years but still, I live in a rented house and survive on a rented shop, which is now my source.

Urbanization led to overall 60% enhancement in warming in Indian cities: IIT study

BHUBANESWAR: Urbanization alone has led to an overall 60 percent enhancement in warming in Indian cities, with eastern tier-II cities leading the way. It was revealed through a study conducted by the researchers from IIT Bhubaneswar. This research provides a science based quantitative ranking of urbanization for Indian cities. The study titled 'Urbanization and regional climate change-linked warming of Indian Cities' published in the journal



'Nature Cities' provides insight by carefully separating regional climate change and urbanization in multiple cities. Sethi Vinoj_NatCities2 024 (1) (1) (1) The researchers investigated the contributions of local-scale urbanization and regional climate change to the warming in 141 major Indian cities over the

past two decades. They took 18 years of high-resolution land surface temperature data from NASA's Aqua satellite for the period between 2003 and 2020. They also compared urban and rural warming trends. The study found that Tier II cities in eastern India showed stronger urbanization-driven warming compared to larger metro cities like New Delhi and Mumbai. "This disparity underscores the importance of targeted urban planning.

Non-recovery of cash not prima facie proof no graft took place: HC

NEW DELHI: Non-recovery of ill-gotten money can't be prima facie proof that no corruption has taken place because a person now uses new technologies to commit offences without leaving behind any trace, Delhi high court has observed, while denying bail to AAP's Manish Sisodia in the city excise policy case. In its order pronounced Tuesday and uploaded Wednesday, HC said "recovery of cash from a person may not necessarily be a mandatory requirement in a money laundering case where allegations are part of a conspiracy comprising multiple accused." It added the liquor policy case involves commission of "serious offence" of corruption in public office and launder-

ing, which "strikes at the heart of economic and social systems, undermining the rule of law and eroding public trust in institutions." HC rejects plea of no money being recovered from Sisodia. Delhi High Court rejected the argument that no money was recovered from the former deputy chief minister while pointing out to statements of some hawala dealers and other witnesses recorded in course of the probe. "This court is of the view that the prosecution has made out a prima facie case of commission of money laundering under Section 3 of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against Manish Sisodia at this stage," high court observed. HC said the form "of corruption

which has the tendency of stealing legitimate resources of the poor ordinary people and giving it to the rich can be one of the worst." It noted that the new excise policy has "eradicated" the common and small-time businesses and gave the entire playing field in the liquor business to those who had "money, power and had created a cartel" on the basis of financial gains to those formulating a policy, which adds to the seriousness of the offence. "The courts of law may be considered as constant thorns in the way of free-flowing corruption and, even if that be so, and are termed as thorns, it scores the victory for the masses," Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma said.

Uttarakhand cops drive into AIIMS building to nab accused

DEHRADUN: Days after a junior doctor on duty at AIIMS-Rishikesh was allegedly sexually harassed by a nursing officer, a video of a police team driving into the hospital premises to nab the accused, who was admitted in the psychiatric ward of the hospital, surfaced on social media on Thursday. In the widely circulated video, a police vehicle can be seen being driven into the ward (situated on the hospital's 4th floor) with patients' stretchers being hurriedly moved away to give passage to the vehicle. Soon after the video was circulated, cops swung into damage control and proffered an explanation for the action. SSP (Dehradun), Ajai Singh termed the action as "appropriate for the serious situation which had developed inside the hospital." Was emergency



measure, none affected: AIIMS Rishikesh chief. Sources said police action had been necessitated since it was feared that those protesting against the accused's presence in the hospital may cause him bodily harm. Referring to "protest by around 250-300 people, including several junior doctors", SSP said the accused "could have been lynched". About the video, the SSP said the clip was of Tuesday, and clarified that "it was not of the emergency ward" as claimed by many on social media. "It was in

the triage area on 4th floor, where patients usually wait before being admitted. Also, the police vehicle was guided through that passage by the hospital's security guards. In a joint inspection undertaken with the AIIMS director, it was concluded that the action was necessary to tackle the tense law and order situation on that day," he added. Director of AIIMS-Rishikesh, Dr Meenu Singh, said: "Police used their vehicle to get the accused out since junior doctors who were on protest were getting restless.

Cyclone 'Remal' to impact West Bengal, adjoining Bangladesh, IMD

NEW DELHI: A low-pressure area over the southwest & adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal moved northeastwards and is likely to concentrate into a depression over central parts of the Bay of Bengal by the morning of May 24 and is expected to intensify further into a cyclonic storm over the east-central Bay of Bengal by May 25, according to India Meteorological Department. And subsequently, it would move nearly northwards and reach near Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal coasts by 26th May evening as a severe cyclonic storm. In a statement, the IMD said, "Low Pressure Area over southwest & adjoining Bay of Bengal moved north-eastwards and lay as a well-marked low pressure area over west central & adjoining south

Bay of Bengal at 0830 hrs IST of today, the 23rd May, 2024. It is very likely to continue to move northeastwards and concentrate into a Depression over central parts of Bay of Bengal by morning of 24th May, 2024." "Thereafter, it is very likely to continue to move northeastwards, intensify further into a cyclonic storm over east-central Bay of Bengal by 25th May morning. Subsequently, it would move nearly northwards and reach near Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal coasts by 26th May evening as a severe cyclonic storm," it added. If the cyclone is formed, it will be named 'Remal', and it will be the first cyclone in the Bay of Bengal this pre-monsoon season. Heavy rainfall warning According to the IMD, a light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rain

With over 40 teams, BJP expands voter outreach



Delhi: Before Lok Sabha elections, the Delhi BJP has formed over 40 voter outreach teams, especially for minorities. The teams meet regularly to prepare candidate speeches, social media campaigns, logistics, data, media, and booth work. Delhi votes on May 25 "The campaign committees for specific purposes will discharge dual functions of monitoring involvement of leaders and workers of different departments and cells of the party as well as boosting voter outreach in view of the polls," he stated. The election management committee is led by party MLA from Ghonda Assembly

constituency Ajay Mahawar and co-convened by Rajiv Babbar, Gajendra Yadav, and Yogita Singh. Niraj Tiwari, who heads the Purvanchal campaign committee, stated that in light of the elections, Purvanchal Morcha workers have been asked to reach out to voters in their Lok Sabha constituencies to promote the Modi government's welfare activities in the city.

Tiwari, co-head of the jhuggi jhopri (slum settlements) campaign team, said workers were spreading the word about the Kejriwal government's failure to implement Ayushman Bharat and PM Awas Yojana. MLA

and senior Delhi BJP leader Vijender Gupta, co-head of the manifesto committee, said the paper was being prepared for the Lok Sabha elections. Party functionaries said Delhi BJP will release a "chargesheet" against the ruling AAP in Delhi that will cover Kejriwal's nine years as chief minister. Party leaders also deputed heads and in-charges of teams for special contacts with professionals and eminent citizens, leaders' speech talking points, booth work, beneficiary contact, transport facilities, publicity material, TV, radio, FM ads, women, youth, Scheduled Caste voters, and others.

Cong complains about KCR's "threat," leading to a 48-hour campaign ban

Delhi: Former Telangana chief minister and BRS leader K Chandrashekar Rao has been prohibited by the EC from participating in processions, rallies, shows, meetings, and media interviews for 48 hours starting at 8 p.m. Telangana Congress filed a complaint, which prompted the action. During a news conference held in Sircilla on April 5, KCR made several remarks deemed offensive and disparaging by Congress. On the basis of a report submitted by Telangana's chief election officer, KCR received a notice on April 16. Congressmen had been referred to by KCR as "lath-kors" (a useless,



sluggish person). In Telugu, he also said something like, "We will bite your heads off if you don't give Rs 500 as bonus (on MSP)." Congress had claimed in their suit that KCR had made death threats. According to EC, KCR had also broken the model code in earlier polls. In

response, BRS stated, "The Telangana and Sircilla election officers are not Telugu speakers and barely know the local language. The Congress party has taken several statements from KCR's news conference out of context in order to make their complaint."

DDA golf tournament returns after a year

Delhi: After a year, Delhi Development Authority (DDA) will host a Golf Tournament (LG Cup) 2024 at Qutab Golf Course (QGC) in Sept-Oct with 1,300 golfers. DDA has begun preparations and will seek entries from members, invitees from other

states, and non-members who have played golf at the course for a long time. An official claimed this is the largest golf competition in India by number of competitors, held in Delhi since 2001. "Usually, it takes place in Feb or March, but due to

some reasons, it will be organised at the end of Sept or the beginning of Oct this year," stated a source. Over two weeks, the competition runs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On the last day, the lieutenant governor will be the principal guest.

CAPSULES

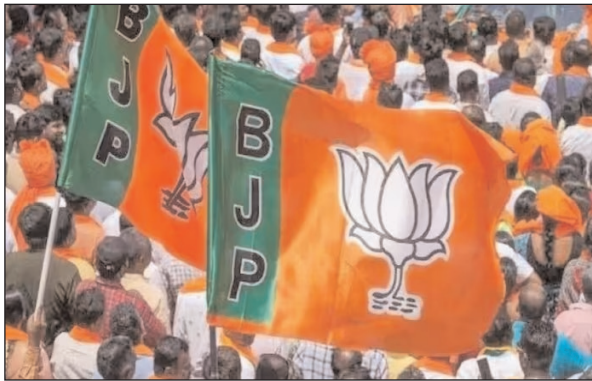
AAP group led by Pathak will communicate with Cong



Delhi: AAP has formed a coordination group, led by MLA Durgesh Pathak, to improve relations with INDIA bloc partner Congress. The party has chosen coordinators in all seven Delhi parliamentary constituencies. AAP contests four seats in the capital's remaining three East, New Delhi, South, and West, while Congress contests North East, North West, and Chandni Chowk Delhi votes on May 25 in the sixth phase of Lok Sabha elections. Pathak added, "BJP MPs didn't work in their district, thus people are dissatisfied. Delhi residents have seen AAP work, and we will assure immaculate vote transfer. INDIA bloc candidates would win all seven Delhi seats." New Delhi Lok Sabha constituency is handled by Rajesh Gupta, West Delhi by Naresh Balyan, and South Delhi by Dinesh Mohaniya. AAP member Pawan Sharma will coordinate Chandni Chowk, while MLA Mukesh Ahlawat will manage North West Delhi. North East Delhi will be represented by Sanjeev Jha and East Delhi by Dilip Pandey.

Former Delhi Cong head Lovely joins BJP again with 4 others

Delhi: Former Delhi minister Arvinder Singh Lovely, who quit as state Congress chief last week over the party's partnership with AAP, joined BJP again. At the BJP's Capital headquarters, former Delhi minister Raj Kumar Chauhan, who left Congress in May 2019 but returned within months, ex-MLAs Naseeb Singh and Neeraj Basoya, who left the grand old party a few days earlier, and former Youth Congress president Amit Malik also joined. Lovely said that the



party has abandoned its sacrifice-based doctrine and practised 'tukde-tukde' tactics. Lovely claimed the Congress abandoned its ethic of sacrifice, recalling Indira Gandhi's remarks that

every drop of her blood was for the country. "I resigned as Delhi Congress president but wanted to stay involved. I met with other resigning members and supporters and decided not to stay

home, "Lovely remarked. "PM Narendra Modi's BJP is strengthening the nation. I appreciate PM Modi, Amit Shah, and JP Nadda hosting me and my Congress colleagues," He said. Lovely said he worked hard for Congress after leaving BJP, but great old party members were criticizing him following his resignation. Former Gandhi Nagar MLA joined BJP in May 2017 after alleging bribery in MCD seat distribution, but returned to Congress in February 2018.

Phase 1 of Delhi-Dehradun highway may open in June

Delhi: Officials say the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) will open the first phase of the Delhi-Dehradun green-field access-controlled expressway from Akshardham in the Capital to Baghat in Uttar Pradesh by June. Signage, expansion joints, and other infrastructure are being installed in Phase 1 of the project, which is 90-95% complete. Also finished are the carriageways. Phase 1 should be operational by June "A senior NHAI official said on condi-



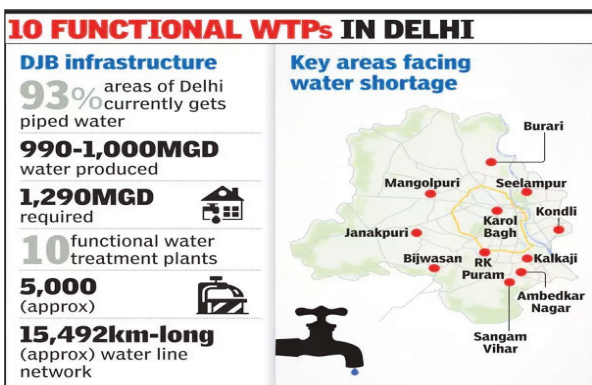
tion of anonymity. The official stated restrictions on construction operations under the graded response action plan (Grap) to manage air pollution delayed this part past March. The six-lane expressway is 212km long. NHAI indicated earlier this year that the critical roadway will be ready by mid-2025, but officials did

not provide a timeline. The ground-level and elevated high-speed line is costing 12,000 crore to build. Officials said it will connect Delhi-Dehradun commuters and cut travel time in half from 5 hours to 2.5 hours. Delhi-Dehradun commuters currently travel 250km through crowded Ghaziabad, Meerut, Muzfarnagar,

Roorkee, and Haridwar. The 31.65km Akshardham to Baghat stretch of the new expressway has two packages: from Akshardham to Khekra and from Khekra to the Mavi Kalan junction on the Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE) in Baghat. "Phase 1 includes an elevated section of about 18km, with 6km in Delhi (Geeta Colony to Khajuri Khas), and the remaining 12km (Police Chowki to Mavi village) in Uttar Pradesh,"

The DJB picks 400 water places for summer fun

Delhi: The Delhi Jal Board has identified 400 water-deficient sites in the capital that will need additional attention in summer. Water is scarce in RK Puram, Burari, Palam, and Kondli. Officials said tankers carry water in these regions since piped water is scarce and tubewells are not available. In summer, DJB's water production fluctuates between 990 and 1,000 million gallons per day (MGD), falling short of the city's 1,290 MGD needs. DJB receives over 100 water supply complaints and tanker requests daily. DJB officials say water tankers have been deployed for 16 hours in two shifts during peak summer. Water utility expects to deploy 961 tankers this year. Their permanent destinations



now include 190 tanker filling sites. Other localities have water shortages besides the 440 highlighted. "For the last two days, there has been no regular water supply from the pipeline," stated a resident of DJB-unlisted Anand Vihar. I don't have a borewell, so we borrow water from a building site. Water is also purchased from the market. DJB executives informed me the issue will be resolved quickly after I complained. Hopefully it's

resolved. Last September, the Central Ground Water Board advised DJB to find safe groundwater extraction sites to boost the city's output. The central body also identified 15 city regions overexploited by home and commercial water extraction. RO plants were designed for water ATMs. Water minister Atishi ordered chief secretary Naresh Kumar to deliver a colony-by-colony update on summer water supply and demand.

MCD launches RFID and FASTag at three parking lots

Delhi: After a lengthy wait, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has opened RFID and FASTag facilities at three parking locations in Saket, Mandawali, and South Ganesh Nagar in south and east Delhi. The goal is to digitize charge collecting and streamline parking operations. "We constructed boom barriers at three entrances and collected parking fees with FASTag. The parking lot entry sensors read the tags and deduct the charges smoothly. This strategy eliminates parking attendant charge disputes. We can also better monitor and check usage "The official said the system was automated, cashless, and easy. The system is being integrated, installed, and operationalized at



seven other sites in Dwarka and Munirka "The facility will serve four-wheelers. Other digital payment methods will be available. If FASTag fees are deducted incorrectly or the tag is damaged. Cash payments are prohibited. An MCD spokesman said two-wheelers can pay parking costs with either QR Codes, e-wallets, or UPI. The

civic authority aims to install the facilities at 21 one-entry, one-exit locations. "We even awarded tenders and expected to conclude work by the end of the month, but we extended the deadline due to outstanding electricity, tiling, and levelling. MCD officials claimed the roadway does not include multi-entry/exit roadside parking lots. Parking

at Sapna Cinema in East of Kailash, Dwarka Sector 4, 12, 13, 14 metro stations, Sector 11-Pocket 4 and Pocket 1 Market in Munirka multi-level parking, Subhash Nagar, MCD property at Ramdev Chowk, and Rajendra Place in cluster I are among the 21 sites. The cluster will contain 1,507 four-wheeler and 1,060 two-wheeler parking spots.

The irrigation department will manage 22 major city drains

Delhi: All major 22 city drains would be turned over to the Delhi government's Irrigation and Flood Control Department (I&FC) by the end of May for improved maintenance and operation, an MCD official said. Delhi's urban development department ordered on April 29 that 'all concerned departments shall hand over the 22 open drains to the I&FC department' by May 31. The Delhi High Court ordered the Delhi government to assign all open drains in the city to one agency on April 8 to streamline drainage management, prevent flooding, and improve Yamuna water quality. A Delhi official said this will be a thorough exercise. "As per the court's order, the I&FC will submit a report which will include assessment of the quantity of silt in these drains as well as an action plan for desilting," said the spokesman.

The curtains have fallen on the Forever Global Rally 2024

New Delhi: The curtains have fallen on the Forever Global Rally 2024, culminating in a dazzling display of achievement for Forever Living Products. Spanning from April 9th to 13th, this grand event unfolded amidst the vibrant energy of New Delhi, promising an unparalleled experience meticulously crafted by Forever. The event took place at Indira Gandhi National Stadium. Gathering delegates from over 160 nations, the rally showcased the expansive reach and influence of Forever across the globe. With its captivating ambiance and comprehensive itinerary, the event captured every essence, offering transformative training sessions, interactive workshops, and heartfelt recognition for unwavering dedication. As India graciously hosted this year's rally, it not only provided a platform for business but also lent a significant boost to tourism,

benefiting thousands engaged in the hospitality and tourism sectors. The event witnessed an impressive turnout of over 30,000 attendees from all corners of the country. Aidan O'Hare, President of Forever Living Products, emphasized the significance of navigating global challenges and seizing opportunities, making FGR 2024 a melting pot of innovative ideas and boundless inspiration. Gregg Maughan, CEO of Forever Living Products, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the Forever Business Owners worldwide, particularly acknowledging the exceptional audience in India. He elaborated on the compelling reasons to join the Forever family, followed by a remarkable ceremony honouring outstanding achievements. Mr. Harish Singla, CSM FLP India, remarked, "The week-long extravaganza featured a diverse lineup

of master classes, recognitions, inspiring testimonials, and lots of entertainment ensuring attendees returned home with cherished memories and invaluable insights. Forever Business Owners from over 160 countries converged to explore new products, exchange strategies, and celebrate collective triumphs.

"Amidst the backdrop of a remarkable destination, qualifying members embarked on an extraordinary journey while upholding Forever's unwavering commitment to social responsibility. Through initiatives spearheaded by the Rex Maughan Forever Giving Foundation (RMFGF), including support for Charity Water, the rally aimed to make a meaningful impact by providing access to clean drinking water and assisting communities in need. Forever Global Rally 2024.

IIT grads are earning under Rs 10 lakh this year

Delhi: High-paying jobs at top Indian Institutes of Technology have been difficult to get this recruitment season. With corporations cutting employment and paying lesser salaries, tail-end students are getting annual packages below Rs 10 lakh. Colleges must contact additional companies since companies that would normally pick six students only chose two. Many pay Rs 10-15 lakh annually. Students who have taken college employment at lesser pay rates are still searching job sites and interviews for better opportunities. "The

global economic slowdown has hurt IIT Indore 2024 campus placements. The placement season has been difficult due to fewer recruiters than last year. IIT Indore has sought alumni support and expanded its employer base, including PSUs, to mitigate the impact. "Professor Suhas Joshi, director, IIT Indore. IIT Bombay student: "Last year, companies hired 5-8 students; this year, 1-2. Not all are hired. Some were selected for phase 2 remuneration packages of Rs 60,000 to Rs 80,000 from coaching programs and start-ups." "Spectrum Technologies offered

trainee engineers Rs 3.6 lakh and trainee design engineers Rs 6 lakh," stated another IIT-Kharagpur student. Gem Machinery and Startoon Labs gave Rs 5.5 lakh yearly. Skyroot bid Rs 5 lakh. Sri Chaitanya and Next Education pay Rs 4.8-6 lakh annually. "The scenario now is that many students are taking up jobs offering the bare minimum threshold salary of Rs 6 lakh a year but are looking for other jobs," said a source. Students and placement office workers are marketing to employers, negotiating with NGOs, contacting employment.

Bournvita and Other Drinks Will No Longer Be Listed as "Health Drinks"

Delhi ; The Central Government ordered all e-commerce sites to remove all so-called drinks and beverages, including the well-known milk supplement Bournvita, from the 'healthy drinks' category, dealing a severe blow to fitness drink businesses. The National Commission

for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR) undertook an investigation and came to the conclusion that the FSS Act of 2006 did not specify a health drink, thus the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued the order. "National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR), a

statutory body constituted under Section (3) of the Commission of Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 after its inquiry under Section 14 of CRPC Act 2005 concluded that there is no 'health drink' defined under FSS Act 2006, rules and regulations submitted by FSSAI.

CAPSULES

April 26: Delhi municipal elections

Delhi: In the third year, individuals from Scheduled Caste are eligible to run for the mayor's position. According to sources within the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), three candidates are vying for the position. Sources from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) stated that they will decide quickly whether to run for office. The BJP had put up candidates for both positions last year, but they later withdrew their nomination. On April 26, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) will hold secret ballot elections for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Delhi industries department approves 21-acre e-waste facility

Delhi: Senior officials said the industries department has finalized the plan for a 21-acre facility in northwest Delhi's Holambi Kalan to house a recycling center and training facility for e-waste handling and processing. The Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC) has invited private applicants to set up the complex, which will have an integrated ecosystem for e-waste management supply chain, on a public-private partnership (PPP) basis by April 15.

According to the project report, the integrated complex will be placed at the Urban Extension-2 road and have six primary sections: disinfection, dismantling, refurbishing manufacturing and recycling, testing, and training. "We will give the private operator 21 acres to create buildings, utilities, roads, and machinery.

Delhi plans to plant 2.3 lakh trees and 3.8 lakh bushes in parks

Delhi: To reduce dust pollution and increase green cover, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi plans to plant 2.3 lakh trees and 3.8 lakh bushes in parks, schools, open spaces, and roadsides this year. In 2023-24, the city planted two lakh trees and 3.25 lakh plants. The horticulture department requested zonal office requirements to complete the assignment. "We will plant when the details are acquired. An officer stated schools, hospitals, parks, and below flyovers are used for this. He stated that the



government will continue roadside tree planting in some colonies at homeowners' request. MCD plans to carpet or repair 50 km of interior roadways by Oct. to reduce dust. Between April 2023 and February 2024, 139 km of roads were resurfaced or repaired. A civic council wants to resurface 180km of roads by Oct. Road

maintenance and resurfacing are ongoing. After winter, we started dense carpet work on damaged areas. Work is being done with MLA or Mukhyamantri Sadak Punarnirman Yojna non-plan head funding "said the official. Our 52 mechanical road sweepers are for PWD roads. He added that 195 water sprinklers, jet machines, and 30 mobile anti-smog guns are reducing dust pollution on roadways. PWD gave MCD 60 anti-smog weapons to reduce dust near construction sites.

One-year DDA flat maintenance with RWAs

Delhi: Delhi Development Authority would give residents' welfare societies maintenance work within a year of creation to ensure flat maintenance. This will also apply to Diwali Special Housing Scheme 2023 units. This conclusion followed Real Estate Regulatory Authority criteria. A maintenance fee is normally collected by DDA during allotment. It has maintained flats for 10-20 years, depending on the scheme. A DDA official stated that applicants must join the registered



agency or RWA to maintain common services. Per pocket, one RWA will be registered. All new DDA plans require upfront monthly costs for one year, depending on flat type. "DDA shall do daily maintenance from maintenance charges for one year or until

RWA is formed, whichever comes first. An RWA will get the balance maintenance fund if it is founded before one year. If a RWA is not created within a year, it will be done on actuals "said the official. "For subsequent years, the necessary arrangement will be communicated

to the residents," he said. Residents expect standard changes to speed up DDA flat maintenance, which had been delayed for a long period. The authority defined maintenance as green space maintenance, campus, colony, and housing pocket cleaning, light fitting replacement in common areas, lift maintenance and operation, and common area electrical bill payment. "After transfer, the urban authority will be responsible for common areas in many housing pockets.

DPCC issues SOP to seize, dispose of plastic

Delhi: The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has a regular operating system for seizing and disposing of unlawful plastic items sold or used in the city. According to the amended plastic waste management laws, illegal plastic will be defined and DPCC staff will investigate various



locations. It said that only a waste-to-energy plant would dispose of seized plastic products including polyethylene, earphones, silverware, etc. The DPCC seizure procedure requires a team of authorities to take samples of plastic carry bags and sheets from the unit during inspection of all producers, importers, and brand owners and include them in the report. Teams must seize, transport, and

store non-authorized plastic objects at the DPCC lab until disposal. "The unit owner/occupier must pay for seizure, loading/unloading, transportation, storage, waste-to-energy plant disposal, etc. A recent DPCC portal document indicated that the team would take geotagged photos and video of the seized samples and the full seizure procedure of banned/non-permissible stuff. It said that "all the seized non-permissible.

Leachate treatment facility, maintaining the green space

Delhi: A month after opening its first engineered landfill in Tehkhand, Municipal Corporation of Delhi assigned its operation and maintenance to an experienced agency. The civic authority noted that managing the leachate treatment facility, maintaining the green space, and most significantly, leveling ash from two waste-to-energy plants—Okhla and Tehkhand—requires competence. The site can hold 10 lakh tonnes of ash, and 12,000 tonnes have been dumped. "While the horticulture department has planted a 30-meter strip around the designed landfill, the weighing bridge, roads, and drains need a dedicated system for maintenance. Leachate treatment plant operation will



also be monitored by the agency "official. Three approach roads allow trucks to easily transfer rubbish to the landfill site. The peripheral boundary wall is 3.5 meters high. MCD will submit a maintenance plan for approval after the model code of conduct is lifted. MCD constructed a 7.5m-deep trench over 15.5 acres and covered it with 500 mm of soil and five

layers of geosynthetic material before dumping ash to prevent leachate percolation and groundwater contamination at the designated landfill. "We're dumping ash garbage in a corner and preventing vehicles from entering the pit. To prevent stacking damage, automobiles are driven carefully. Once a corner is filled, we gently scatter and layer ash "Source: official. The

landfill's operating and maintenance terms require MCD to deploy a liner every time ash is added to reduce dust pollution. "An constructed landfill cost Rs 42.3 crore and was inaugurated last month. The urban local body contributes 53.3%, the Centre 35%, and the state 11.7% to this budget. MCD gets Rs 300 per tonne for ash dumping. Here, 400 tonnes of ash are deposited everyday.

Currency circulation increases despite 2k note ban

Delhi: Despite the elimination of Rs 2,000 banknotes, the currency in circulation increased by Rs 1.3 lakh crore in FY24 from Rs 33.5 lakh crore at the end of March 2023 to Rs 34.8 lakh crore. Growth has slowed the most since 2018. In FY24, currency in circulation as a proportion of GDP fell since 4% is slower than GDP growth. CIC grew 7% last year and over 10% the year before due to a pandemic cash rush. Currency in circulation grew 0.5% to Rs 35.3 lakh crore in the week ended April 5. RBI data shows that the increased issue of Rs 500 notes has more than offset the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes. On May 19, 2023, RBI announced their withdrawal. In March 2024, Rs 2,000 notes were worth Rs 8,202 crore, down from Rs 3.6 lakh crore a year earlier. The value of Rs 500 notes rose to Rs 30.1 lakh crore from 25.8 lakh crore a year before.