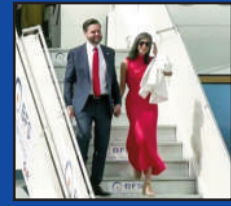




Trump's economic approval hits lowest since presidency, survey finds



As India-US trade talks gather pace, China warns countries: No deals at our expense

Here's why Mahesh Babu has been summoned by ED in money laundering case

Crucial READ

Grounds of arrest to accused: We want to strike balance, says SC

New Delhi (Agency): The Supreme Court on Tuesday called for striking a balance between the state machineries not misusing their powers and the accused not taking advantage of its observations to go free. A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Augustine George Masih was dealing with questions, including whether it would be necessary to furnish grounds of arrest to an accused either before arrest or forthwith after arrest in every case, including even those arising out of offences under the erstwhile Indian Penal Code.

ED searches 16 locations in Jharkhand and Bihar

Ranchi (Agency): The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday conducted searches at 16 locations in Jharkhand and Bihar as part of a money laundering investigation linked to an alleged forest land scam in Jharkhand's Bokaro district. The case pertains to the alleged fraudulent acquisition and illegal sale of 103 acres of protected forest land at Mauja Tetulia, Bokaro. It is alleged that the land mafia, in collusion with officials, handed over the land to a private company.

Second docking of 2 SpaDeX satellites successful: Isro

New Delhi (Agency): The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) successfully demonstrated docking of its two Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) satellites for the second time Sunday, which was carried out autonomously from a distance of 15 metre between the satellites. During the previous docking exercise, a process of bringing together two satellites in space, which took place on January 16, there was an additional hold-point at 3 metres to which the satellites SDX-01 and SDX-02 were brought manually.

26 dead, several injured in terror attack on tourists in J&K's Pahalgam

Srinagar (Agency): At least 26 people were killed and several others injured in a terrorist attack in south Kashmir's Pahalgam on Tuesday. Police sources said that at least two of the injured are in critical condition.

According to sources, terrorists opened fired at tourists in Baisaran, an off-the-road meadow in Pahalgam. The injured have been rushed to hospital. "Our reports say that two-three militants appeared and opened indiscriminate fire at the tourists at Baisaran," "The initial reports we have suggest that eight tourists were injured in the attack. A few of them are in critical condition," the officer said. Baisaran, which is accessible only by foot, is a popular tourist destination and is crowded during the tourist season.

Immediately after the incident, a police team rushed to the spot, along with Army and paramilitary forces, to evacuate the tourists and launch a search operation to trace the militants behind the attack. This is the first terrorist attack on tourists this year. The last time militants attacked tourists was in May,



last year, when two tourists were injured. That incident also took place in Pahalgam. Prime Minister Narendra Modi condemned the attack and held a telephonic conversation with Home Minister Amit Shah from Jeddah. Shah is shortly leaving for Srinagar. "I strongly condemn the terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. Condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest. All possible assistance is being provided to those affected. Those behind this heinous act will be brought to justice...they will not be spared! Their evil agenda will never succeed. Our resolve to fight terrorism is unshakable and it will get even stronger," Modi tweeted.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti and People's Conference leader Sajad Lone have condemned the attack on the tourists. "I strongly condemn the cowardly attack on tourists in Pahalgam... Such violence is unacceptable and must be denounced. Historically, Kashmir has welcomed tourists warmly, making this rare incident deeply concerning," Mufti said in a post on X. "A thorough investigation is needed to bring the perpetrators to justice and examine potential security lapses. Ensuring visitor safety is paramount, and steps must be taken to prevent future attacks. Our thoughts are with the victims and their families," she said. Terming the attackers "enemies of our future", Sajad Lone said the attack was a "dastardly and cowardly act aimed at destabilising Kashmir's tourism industry and economy".

PM Modi cuts short Saudi trip after J&K attack, to leave for India tonight



Prime Minister Narendra Modi is cutting short his visit to Saudi Arabia following the deadly terror attack on tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, sources said Tuesday.

He is expected to leave Jeddah tonight and land in India early Wednesday morning, given the 2.5-hour time difference.

The decision comes amid national mourning, with at least 26 dead and several injured in what is being called the deadliest such attack in the Valley this year. Within hours of the incident, Union Home Minister Amit Shah also left for Srinagar.



How world leaders reacted to terror attack in Kashmir's Pahalgam Baisaran valley

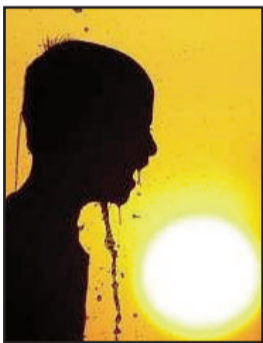
Both US President Donald Trump and Vice-President JD Vance, who is on an official visit to India, condemned the attack, while Russian President Vladimir Putin wrote to President Droupadi Murmu and PM Narendra Modi, expressing condolences for the loss of lives and committing to increasing cooperation with India in fighting terrorism.

"Deeply disturbing news out of Kashmir. The United States stands strong with India against Terrorism. We pray for the souls of those lost, and for the recovery of the injured. Prime Minister Modi, and the incredible people of India, have our full support and deepest sympathies. Our hearts are with you all!" said Trump in a post on Truth Social on Tuesday evening.

Meanwhile, the White House said that the President has been briefed by the National Security Advisor on the situation. President Trump will be speaking with Prime Minister Modi as soon as he possibly can to express his heartfelt condolences for those lost, and our prayers are with those injured, and our nation's support for our ally India, said White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt. The attack comes just days after US extradited Tahawwur Rana, accused of plotting 26/11 Mumbai attacks, to India. It was during Prime Minister Modi's visit to the US in February that Trump had confirmed the extradition of Rana to India. In a message addressed to the Indian President and PM, the

Russian President - who is slated to visit India later this year - conveyed "condolences over the tragic consequences of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam whose victims were civilians - citizens of various countries". "This brutal crime has no justification whatsoever. We expect that its organisers and perpetrators will face a deserved punishment," Putin said, adding, "I would like to reiterate our commitment to further increasing cooperation with Indian partners in fighting terrorism in all its forms and manifestations." Italian PM Georgia Meloni also shared a message of support on social media, after the "terrorist attack in India, which caused numerous victims".

Chandrapur hottest in country at 45.6 degrees Celsius; administration issues heatwave alert



Chandrapur (Agency): Chandrapur recorded a temperature of 45.6 degrees Celsius on Monday, becoming the hottest city in the country, an official said.

The district administration has issued a heatwave alert for three days, advising citizens to take precautions when they step out. As per the Regional Meteorological Centre

(RMC), Nagpur, 11 cities in Vidarbha have recorded temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius, with Chandrapur recording the highest 45.6 degrees Celsius, which was 3.6 degrees Celsius above normal.

Amravati recorded 44.6 degrees Celsius, Akola 44.1 degrees Celsius and Nagpur 43.6 degrees Celsius, the IMD said. The district has been facing intense heat waves since last week, and a heatwave alert has been issued in one or two places in Chandrapur district till April 24. Bramhapuri tehsil recorded a temperature of 45 degrees Celsius and remained the second hottest city in the region.

Teachers sit on indefinite strike in West Bengal

List of eligible candidates not released, Mamata said - return to work, your job and salary are safe

Kolkata (Agency): Thousands of teachers have sat on an indefinite strike outside the WBSSC headquarters since Monday night over the non-release of the list of eligible teachers in the West Bengal teacher recruitment scam case. In fact, state Education Minister Bratya Basu had promised to release the list of guilty and innocent candidates by 6 pm on April 21. Protesting in the scorching sun, more than 2,000 protesters have surrounded the WBSSC headquarters. Due to which the movement of officials in and out has stopped. Commission Chairman Siddharth Majumdar has been trapped inside since Monday evening. The protesting teachers are



demanding that the commission make public the list of candidates who were appointed on the basis of merit. At the same time, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee urged teachers to return to work and start teaching in schools at a program in Midnapore on Tuesday. He said- You don't

need to think who is guilty and who is not. You just have to think that your job and salary are safe. We assure you that you will get your salary. On April 3, the Supreme Court upheld the decision of the Kolkata High Court related to the scam. The High Court had cancelled the teacher and

Protesters- Now we have nothing to lose

A protesting teacher said- Now we have nothing left to lose. We will not move from here until we get justice. Another teacher said- If we have to stay hungry under the open sky, then the people sitting in AC rooms should also stay hungry. The protesters protested by banging empty bottles and raising slogans. They say that the commission is constantly lying and the assurances of Education Minister Bratya Basu are just a fraud. A teacher said- I served for seven years, and now I have been declared unfit.

Rahul Gandhi a traitor, always defames India on foreign soil: BJP



New Delhi (Agency): Hitting out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his remarks in the US on the Election Commission, the BJP Monday called him a "traitor" who, whenever he goes abroad, does not miss sharing his hateful thoughts towards India and the country's democratic systems. Describing Gandhi as a "crown prince" of the "royal family" who has seen power for decades, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan attributed his comments to "irritation" at the recognition of India's "glorious democratic traditions" globally. In a post on X, Pradhan said, "...Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has once again questioned the credibility of the Election Commission from a foreign land... whenever Rahul Gandhi is abroad, he does not miss sharing his hateful thoughts towards India and India's democratic systems. In fact, the 'crown prince' of the 'royal' family, who has been in power for decades, is irritated by the recognition India's glorious democratic traditions are getting at the global level. This is the reason why he does not miss any opportunity to insult the country and its citizens..." Pradhan added that "the frustration of continuous defeats is clearly visible on Rahul Gandhi's face."

8 Dead, 6 injured as SUV plunges off bridge in Madhya Pradesh

Damoh (Agency): Eight persons were killed, and six others sustained injuries after an SUV fell off a bridge onto a dry river bed in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh district on Tuesday, police said. The accident occurred near Simri village under the Nohata police station area around 11 am, an official said. Superintendent of Police (SP) Shrut Kirti Somwanshi said the SUV driver lost control over the wheels, and the vehicle fell off the bridge onto the dry riverbed of the Sunar River. He said eight of the occupants died, and six others sustained injuries. The official



said the victims were part of a group of residents from Jabalpur district who were travelling in two SUVs from Ghat Pipariya village in

Student pushed from moving train by thieves, dies

Bhagalpur (Agency): A 21-year-old student, Kajal, died after falling from a moving train in Sabour, Bhagalpur, on Tuesday. She was chasing a thief who had snatched her bag. The police are accused of negligence as Kajal waited for an hour for an ambulance but received no help. Kajal, a resident of Khagaria, was travelling with her family on the Gaya-Kamakhya Express. They were returning from Kamakhya Temple in Assam and had to get off at Bhagalpur to catch another train to Khagaria. The train stopped at Sabour station, where the tragic incident occurred. Kajal's father, Sunil, explained that while gathering their belongings, a thief jumped off the train with Kajal's bag, which contained important items like her mobile and ATM card. Kajal tried to chase him but was pushed from behind by the thief's accomplice, causing her to fall onto the platform.

Trainee pilot dies in a crash in Gujarat's Amreli



New Delhi (Agency): A trainee pilot lost his life when a trainer aircraft crashed in a residential area of Amreli district, Gujarat, on Tuesday afternoon. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) has despatched a team from here for a probe. The trainee pilot, 22-year-old Aniket Mahajan, was a student of the Vision Flying Training Institute. He was carrying out a solo flight at the time of the accident. The aircraft involved is a Tecnam P2008. Visuals showed rescue workers pulling out a charred body from the remains of the aircraft. The crash happened in a residential area at around 12.30 p.m. The aircraft fell on a tree before crashing into an open plot of land. The pilot was killed on the spot when the plane crashed and caught fire, Superintendent of Police, Sanjay Kharat, as saying.

"Overpowered" performance experience with power efficiency

Staff Reporter
Varanasi: OPPO India has launched the OPPO K13 5G, engineered to deliver an "Overpowered" performance experience with power efficiency and a premium user experience. Powered by the Snapdragon 6 Gen 4 Mobile Platform, the device features a 7000mAh graphite battery with 80W SuperVooC fast charger, segment-leading VC cooling, a 120Hz FHD+ AMOLED display, and intelligent network optimization—offering smooth multitasking, immersive gaming, long-lasting battery life, and reliable connectivity. The OPPO K13 5G reflects OPPO's commitment to meaningful innovation, combining advanced engineering and refined design to redefine performance in its segment. Priced at INR 17,999 for the 8GB+128GB variant and INR 19,999 for the 8GB+256GB variant, the OPPO K13 5G will be available for purchase starting 25th April 2025 on the OPPO e-store and Flipkart from 12 PM onwards, in two colour options - Icy Purple and Prism Black. Consumers purchasing the smartphone can avail an INR 1000 instant discount only on the sale day with select bank offers or with an exchange bonus of INR 1000, bringing the effective price at INR 16,999 and INR 18,999, respectively. Additional launch offers include No Cost EMI for up to six months, further enhancing the overall value proposition of the OPPO K13 5G. Savio D'Souza, Head of Product Communications at OPPO India, said, "With the OPPO K13, we're bringing an OP experience to the under ₹20,000 segment—without compromise. Whether it's the Snapdragon 6 Gen 4 chipset, one of the segments-best VC cooling, or our intelligent graphite battery technology, every aspect of the K13 is engineered to deliver performance that punches above its weight."

Congress's principle to give justice and respect to everyone: Ashfaq

Staff Reporter
PHULPUR: Under the organization creation campaign under the leadership of Congress party Gangapur district president Ashfaq Ahmed a meeting of outgoing officials and Congress workers of the Congress party took place in Alipur of Mauaima block in which Ahmed while addressing the party workers



said that the principle of the Congress party is to take all caste community religion sect together and give justice and respect to all. There is an atmosphere of chaos in the country. The public is disturbed upset due to the

inflation, unemployment. The farmer is suffering due to the prices of increased diesel petrol. The BJP government is exploiting the people by entangling the public in the fight between the Hindu Muslim Mandir Masjid Dharma sect. Kalim Altaf, Anil Kumar Saroj, Feroz Ahmed, Surendra Yadav, Mo. Zamil Ram Pujan Yadav, Vinod Kumar

Gautam, Mohammad Farooq, Harikesh Yadav, Mohammad SHKIL Mohammad Farooq, Shamshad Ahmed, Ram Mani Ojha, Antima Saroj, Mohammad Shafiq, Malti Saroj, Nirmala Saroj, Mohammad Alam, Nanki Devi, Mohammad Khalik, Mohammad Parvez, Rakesh Kumar Soni, Chedilal Patel etc. were present.

Lecture on protection of snake bite and protection of snakes



Staff Reporter
PRAYAGRAJ: World Earth Day celebrated at Kulbhaskar Ashram PG College. In Kulbhaskar Ashram PG College Prayagraj World Earth Day was celebrated by all Chhatra girls and all Kulbhaskar family under which a lecture was organized by the Department of Zoology. The theme of lecture was India's poisonous snakes, protects from snakebite and protection of snakes. The lecture was given by India's well-known reptile scientist Dr. Tej Prakash Purnanand Vyas. Dr. Vyas explained in detail about various snake species of India. He explained the identity of snakes in detail and the impact of their poison on the human body and said that the snake is an integral part of the ecosystem. They are friends of human beings and their protection is necessary for nature. He discussed in detail about many misconceptions related to snakes. The program was chaired by Professor Gitanjali Maurya Principal of the college. Professor Geetanjali Maurya insisted on the conservation and promotion of all the creatures including animal birds and motivated the students to protect them by putting artificial birds in the college. The chief guest was welcomed by Professor Prakash Department Head of Department of Jantu Sciences and Subject Admission by Dr. Anurag Tripathi cum Acharya Zanta Science Department. The program was conducted by cum Acharya Soil Chemistry Dr. Shashikant Tripathi and thanksgiving memorandum cum Acharya Chemistry, Dr. Abha Tripathi. On this occasion, the Faculty of Agriculture Department Professor Rajendra Prasad Tiwari, Professor Virendra Pandey, Professor Pawan Kumar Pachauri, Professor CS Choubey, Professor Vishwanath, Professor SP Verma, Dr. Manish Kumar Srivastava, Dr. Akhilesh Tripathi, Dr. Pramod Yadav etc. were present. On this occasion, under the direction of Principal, artificial bird houses were also established by the students in the college campus and the grain water for birds was started.

"Tariff extended to help private houses"

Protest against privatization in front of UP Energy Minister, memo submitted

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, During the meeting of Group of Ministers held in Vijayawada today, the electrical engineers of Vijayawada answer in front of the Energy Minister of Uttar Pradesh. Questioned against the privatization of the ongoing electricity in the state. Today, memorandums were given to cabinet ministers, MPs, ministers and several MLAs in the state to protest against privatization. On increasing the power tariff after 05 years in Uttar Pradesh, the Sangharsh Samiti has said that all this is being done to help private houses. The Sangharsh Samiti has warned the common consumers that if the privatization is not refunded, the common consumer in the electric tariff will be prepared for heavy growth. On the call of the Sangharsh Samiti, the order of protest meetings on all the districts and projects continued in the entire state today. The Sangharsh Samiti has demanded the withdrawal of the order for the snatching of contract workers on a large scale. Group of ministers of six provinces created in terms of privatization concluded in Vijayawada today. The meeting was chaired by Union Minister of State for Power, Shripad Yasho Nayakof. The meeting included the Energy Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and UP. During the meeting, Electricity Engineers of Andhra Pradesh discussed Uttar Pradesh Energy Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma in protest against the privatization of the ongoing electricity in Uttar Pradesh and demanded the cancellation of the decision to privatize. The Energy Minister of Uttar Pradesh did



Electrical engineers and employees protesting against the proposal for electricity privatization

not answer this. Of Andhra Pradesh Electricity engineers have informed that during the meeting of the Group of Ministers in Vijayawada, where the Energy Ministers of other states opposed the privatization of Electricity Distribution Corporations, the Energy Minister of Uttar Pradesh said that privatization is the only way to improve. The officials of the Sangharsh Samiti said in Lucknow today that it is not just a coincidence to increase the power tariff after 05 years in Uttar Pradesh. He said that all this is being done to help private houses. The Sangharsh Samiti has warned the common consumers that if the privatization of electricity is not stopped, then the power tariffs for common consumers in Uttar Pradesh will increase manifold. After privatization, domestic consumers of Uttar Pradesh, like Mumbai, Kolkata, will also have to be ready to provide electricity rates of Rs 17 to 18 per unit. Conflict The committee again said today that when the affidavits and other documents of the transaction consultant appointed for privatization have been found to be fake, then on what basis the process of privatization is being carried forward by taking a proposal from this company. The chairman and top management of Power Corporation is still pressing the file and is not canceling the appointment of the consultant appointed illegally. This information has been found that the tender for privatization of

Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam and Dakshinchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam has been prepared from this consultant, which is completely illegal. A memorandum was submitted by the Sangharsh Samiti to Cabinet Minister Anil Kumar and Minister of State Kapil Dev Aggarwal in Muzaffarnagar today in protest against the prevention. A memorandum was given to MP Daroga Prasad Saroj in Lalganj. MLA Sushil Kumar Shakya in Farrukhabad, Memorandum was submitted to MLAs Ankur Raj Tiwari and Ganesh Chauhan in Khalilabad. Apart from this, a memorandum was also submitted to many MLAs, presidents of gram panchayats and village heads. The Sangharsh Samiti has expressed resentment on the orders of 45% of contract workers, saying that all this is being done from the point of view of privatization. The Sangharsh Samiti has demanded that the order of large-scale snatch of contract workers be canceled immediately. Conflict On the call of the committee, there was still a round of protests in protest against privatization on all districts and projects of the state. Engineer Deepak Singh, Engineer Vineet Mishra, Anshu Kumar Pandey, Sumit Kumar Yadav, Rajesh Kumar Gautam, Pradeep Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Rakesh Kumar, Jitesh Kumar, Pawan Kumar, Sanjay Kumar, Vinod Kumar, Shambhu Kumar, Brijesh Kumar, Brijesh Kumar, etc.

Demand to tweak schools timings, memo handed over to City Magistrate

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur. Uttar Pradesh Secondary Teachers Association has demanded to change the time of schools in view of the scorching heat and heat. In this regard, District President Satyabhushan Singh and District Minister Dr. Ramashankar Shukla have submitted a memorandum to the District Magistrate's Representative Municipal Magistrate on Tuesday. Dr. Rama Shukla said that at this time 10 from the sky Things are going on like a fire. According to the system of governance, the



District Secretary Dr. Ramashankar Shukla, keeping his views regarding changing the time of secondary schools

the morning to half past one. After 12 noon, the heat temperature is rising to 45 degrees Celsius. At such a time, the life and health of teenagers aged 12 to 19 will be in danger. In view of this situation in primary, time was reduced from seven and a half to 12 and a half. Whereas There was no change in the time of secondary schools. For the health and safety of the students, the time of secondary schools is required to be taken from 7.5 to 12 pm. The leader has demanded a quick order to issue an order.

Div Commr reviewed land acquisition in construction projects with officials

Instructions given to pay compensation to affected tenants in proposed Chunar-Chopan Doubling Rail Project in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra

Chorpania, Tilhar Sampark Marg, Patwadh to Vasuhari, Chopan Mahalpur to Parsoi, Kargara to Alaar from Alar and Panari to the construction of forest land. 64 H Forest Land is proposed in the ash barrier project of Obra C thermal Electrical Project. Deputy District Magistrate, Obra and Ghoraval and Divisional Forest Officer Kaimur and Obra Forest Division and Renucot Forest Division were instructed to dispose of these cases on top priority. He gave payment of compensation to the affected Kastakaro in the proposed Chunar Chopan Doubling Rail Project and proposed in Sonbhadra for construction in district Mirzapur and Sonbhadra district. And to provide quick possession of the railway on the land, the Deputy Collector Mirzapur cum Special Land Education Officer Mirzapur, Sonbhadra

was instructed. The Divisional Commissioner directed all the sub-officers of Sonbhadra that for the purpose of providing the land equivalent to the land in the



Divisional Commissioner Balkrishna Tripathi conducting a review meeting regarding land acquisition and land case

projects, the details of the Land Bank of the Tehsil prepared a detail Be done On the Obra thermal power project, the report on the related points to bring progress in the work of construction of ash barrier, the Deputy Collector Obra Sub Divisional Officer, Obra

and Assistant Records Officer Obra, were instructed to send within a week. He directed the Chief Engineer Vidyut that the railway line project is done

for the construction of WTP and STP in the projects of drinking water and sewerage in Nagar Panchayat Anpara and Renucot. Instructed Executive Engineer Jalaniagam Mirzapur and Deputy District Magistrate Duddhi for effective action on it. Divisional Commissioner Shri Tripathi directed the Deputy District Magistrate Sadar to make compensation and determination of compensation to the affected Kastakars on the construction of the paved bridge at Rampur Ghat at Ganga Rampur Ghat in Rampur Ghat in the development block, on the strength number 03 near Amghat Crossing. They Ganges In the paved bridge construction work at the river Rampur Ghat, the share assessment list of the affected Kastakaro of Bhadohi district was given to

Naib Tehsildar to provide the Project Manager Setu Nigam in 03 days. 04 lane Mirzapur bypass at NH 135A and the refusal work of NH 731 B on the Mirzapur bypass and Ganga River on the Setu Project on the Setu Project on the Sadar Sadar. Instructions were given to Additional District Magistrate Judicial Bhadohi to speed up payment. In the meeting, Joint Development Commissioner Vindhyaachal Mandal Ramesh Chandra, Additional District Magistrate Judicial Bhadohi, Deputy District Magistrate Sadar, Deputy District Magistrate Obra, Duddhi, Ghoraval, Divisional Forest Officer Kaimur, Obra, Deputy Project Manager, Railway Connection, Railway Sub -Chief Project, Manager, Plan Departments, Divisional Finances and Statistics Officers and other workers were present.

BRIEFS

DM holds chaupal for effective implementation of welfare schemes



DM Priyanka Niranjan, DM Priyanka Niranjan, a certificate of Bridhavastha Pension, Ayushman Card and Foror Registry to newly selected beneficiaries

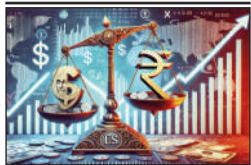
Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, In the district, people who have completed the age of 70 years of age should ensure making Ayushman cards on priority basis and Divyang brothers in every gram panchayat should be made to make family ID 100 percent. District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan today put up a public chapel on the primary school of Arjunpur Pathak, Gram Panchayat of City Development Block and listening to the problems of the villagers in the village Got information about the facilities being provided by talks with the beneficiaries of public welfare schemes provided. On this occasion, while directing the District Magistrate Deputy Director Agriculture, the people/farmers whose farmer registry has not been built in the village should be stopped in the village with the Gram Panchayat officer today. He informed that the registration of the Farmer Registry from his mobile You can be downloaded or get support by contacting the village panchayat assistant. In this sequence, while directing the district empowerment, the District Divyang Public Empowerment, he said that the family ID should be provided in every village of the district by marking 100 percent of the Divyang brothers so that they can get the benefits of the schemes. Giving information to the villagers, he informed that registration in PM Surya Ghar Scheme Take advantage of free electricity while providing. He told the project manager Neda to make public aware of the grant and its registration, objective and benefits to be given in the village so that they can take advantage of it so that they can take advantage of it. Directed the Chief Medical Officer that by sending the team of R.B.S.K. While distributing calcium tablets etc., also inform them about the rules of eating. The District Magistrate directed to repair the bad hand pumps mentioned by the villagers and to get the rebare worthy immediately. He directed the District Panchayat Raj Officer to conduct the RRC, to run the Vindhya Sanitation establishment immediately while starting the toilet. Told that there is a pond in the village The District Magistrate, while measuring the pond, directed to submit a project by making a project to fill water from the canal or other mediums. Instructions were given to the concerned Tehsildar and Village Development Officer to provide detailed projects for the Panchayat Bhawan, Gaushala and sports ground in the village. District Magistrate presented teachers and students in primary schools. Anganwadi Detailed information was taken about the information of Sam Maam children and the works of water life mission. Directing the concerned accountant and the village secretary, he said that the crop has been cut at present and the measurement of Chakrod should also ensure them. In the meeting, the contact route was found to be connected to the main road. 06 works under MNREGA have been done in 2024-25 financial year, by Block Development Officer It was told that 151 individual clean toilets in the village, 68 Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana have been benefited by the beneficiaries of the villagers, a total of 29 hand pumps in the village are in operation, while some hand pumps were stated by the villagers, which was directed to fix it. A group of 19 NRLMs is formed in primary school, hand pump, toilet boundary wall, in a total of 85 nominee students found right 42 boys are 43 girls. 112 Beneficiaries are being covered with old age pension, including 11 newly elevated beneficiaries, 32 destitute women pension and 10 beneficiaries are being covered with disabled pension. In the meeting, information about ration card and ration distribution was taken from the Kotdar, the ration was told to be distributed by the villagers. So far, 186 Farmer Registry and 14 inherited certificates have been issued against 234 targets 234Kishako Kisan Samman Nidhi is being benefited. The District Magistrate got information after talking to the beneficiaries of each scheme. On this occasion, the District Magistrate also distributed certificates to the beneficiaries of 11 newly elected old age pension, 04 Farmer Registry and the beneficiaries of 04 Ayushman Yojana. Thereafter, the Godbhara and Food Program organized by the Child Development Project were also completed. Its On reaching the east village, the District Wardhikar and Chief Development Officer garlanded the statue of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and paid tribute to him. Chief Development Officer Vishal Kumar, Chief Medical Officer Dr. CL Verma, District Development Officer Shrawan Kumar Rai, Block Development Officer City, Deputy Director Agriculture Vikesh Patel, Project Manager NEDA, District Probation Officer Shakti Tripathi, District Program Officer All the concerned officers including Vani Verma, Divyang Welfare Officer should be present.

Tata Power's EcoCrew prog - Earth Day celebration to promote renewable energy

Staff Reporter
Prayagraj : On the occasion of Earth Day, Tata Power's EcoCrew programme initiated a week-long celebration across cities in UP. The celebration is aimed towards engaging over 5,000 students across 12 schools in Mathura, Prayagraj, and Varanasi through a series of sustainability-driven activities. With this year's Earth Day theme, "Our Power, Our Planet," students reiterated their commitment to protecting the earth and embracing sustainable practices. As part of its Club Enerji initiative, India's largest energy literacy movement, the programme aimed to educate young minds on pressing environmental topics such as global warming, energy conservation, renewable energy, and solar power. With more than 430 schools impacted so far, EcoCrew continued to build a strong foundation of environmental responsibility and action among students across the region. A key highlight of the celebrations across Mathura, Prayagraj, and Varanasi is the Eco Pledge Ceremony, where school students reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable living through the engaging "Bano Nature ke BFF" activity. Adding a creative and emotional touch to the event, the vibrant "Globe Imprint Activity" saw students collaboratively craft a symbolic Earth on canvas using blue and green handprints - a heartfelt gesture pledging their dedication to protecting the planet and embracing eco-friendly habits.

BRIEFS

Rupee closed on decline



Mumbai (Agency). The rupee closed at Rs 85.20 on Tuesday, down by five paise against the US dollar. Today, the rupee was seen in a limited range in early trade. It weakened by four paise to Rs 85.19 per dollar. The support received from positive domestic stock markets was neutralized by the repurchase of dollars by investors. Foreign exchange traders said that concerns remain about economic adversities arising from tariffs and US monetary policy, which may reduce demand. The rupee opened at 85.11 per dollar in the interbank foreign exchange market and in early trade came down to 85.19 against the dollar, which is a decline of four paise from the previous close price. The rupee closed 23 paise stronger at 85.15 against the US dollar on Monday.

Rupee falls 4 paise to 85.19 against dollar

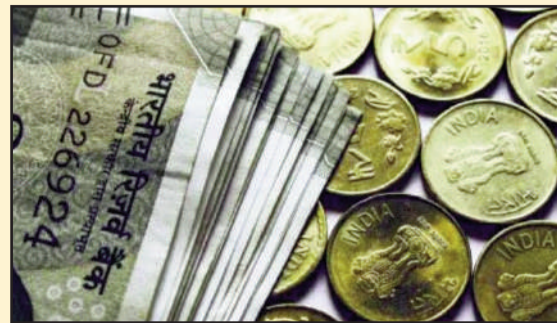


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Gold prices cross 1 lakh, silver also rises

New Delhi (Agency). Gold and silver prices are once again seeing a rise in the wedding season. These days gold prices are witnessing a record rise. Donald Trump's tariffs, falling dollar, fears of economic recession have forced gold prices to skyrocket. Let us tell you that on Monday, gold created history in the evening trade and crossed Rs 1 lakh for the first time in the physical market. The last price of 24 carat (999) gold was recorded at Rs 97,200 per 10 grams. Due to 3 percent Goods and Services Tax (GST), the price of gold increased to Rs 1,00,116. According to the data on the official website, at the beginning of trading on Tuesday, the price of gold on MCX was at 97,352 per 10 grams, which is the highest level ever with an increase of 73/10 grams. At the same time, the price of silver on MCX has also increased by 238/kg to 97,275/kg. Apart from this, according to the data of Bullion Association, the price of 24 carat gold is 97,560/10 grams.

Rupee falls 4 paise to 85.19 against US dollar in early trade



Mumbai (Agency): Rupee traded in a narrow range and depreciated 4 paise to 85.19 against the US dollar in early trade on Tuesday, as the support from positive domestic equities was negated by dollar short-covering by investors. Forex traders said concerns persisted over economic headwinds from tariffs and US monetary policy that could dampen demand.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 85.11 then fell to 85.19 against the greenback in early deals, registering a loss of 4 paise over its previous closing level. On Monday, the rupee appreciated 23 paise to settle at 85.15 against the US dollar.

"Concerns of a potential recession driven by the tariff war persist. The US president again repeated his criticism of FED chair Powell and said that the US economy will slow unless interest rates are lowered immediately.

"His comments fuelled worries about the FED's independence in setting monetary policy and about the outlook for US assets," said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. The rupee opened slightly weaker after touching a high of 85.03 on Monday which was almost a month's high with inflows pouring in debt as well as equity, Bhansali said. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading lower by 0.19 per cent at 98.09.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.53 per cent to USD 66.61 per barrel in futures trade. In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 155.28 points, or 0.20 per cent, to 79,563.78, while the Nifty advanced 37.30 points, or 0.15 per cent, to 24,162.85. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 1,970.17 crore on a net basis on Monday, according to exchange data.

As India-US trade talks gather pace, China warns countries: No deals at our expense

New Delhi (Agency): China on Monday cautioned countries against entering into trade agreements with the United States at its expense in order to get exemptions from US President Donald Trump's tariff regime, which has sparked a global trade war. Beijing's warning came days before Indian trade negotiators are due to visit the US on April 23 to advance trade deal discussions and coincided with US Vice-President JD Vance starting his four-day visit to India.



"China firmly opposes any party reaching a deal at the expense of China's interests. If this happens, China will not accept it and will resolutely take reciprocal countermeasures," the Chinese Ministry of Commerce said in a statement. "Sacrificing others' interests to obtain so-called exemptions for temporary selfish gains is akin to negotiating with a tiger; it ultimately leads to failure for both parties and harms everyone involved," it said, adding that China respects countries' efforts to resolve their trade disputes with the US, but they should also "stand on the side of fairness and justice" and "on the correct side of history".

The US is negotiating agreements with India, Japan and South Korea. China is pushing ahead with deals involving Vietnam, Malaysia and Cambodia. US National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett said earlier this month that the 90-day reciprocal tariff pause has given trade negotiations "more urgency" and that the US currently has as many as 15 trade deals on the table. President Trump has stated that progress has been made in talks with Japan, South Korea and India.

Stock market closed with slight gains

Mumbai (Agency). Indian stock market closed with gains on Tuesday. On the second trading day of the week, this rise in the market has come from buying despite weak signals from around the world. Today, ITC shares saw the best rise. Apart from this, shares of Hindustan Unilever and HDFC Bank also saw gains. After the day's trading, the BSE Sensex based on 30 shares finally closed at 79,595.59 points, up 187.09 points or about 0.24 per cent. At the same time, the NSE Nifty of 50 shares also closed at 24,167.25, up 41.70 points or about 0.17 per cent. During trading today, out of the 30 companies of Sensex, shares of 14 closed on the green mark with profit. Shares of FMCG stock ITC and Hindustan Unilever closed with the highest jump. Shares of Mahindra & Mahindra, HDFC Bank,

Eternal, SBI, Kotak Bank, Sun Pharma were the main gainers. On the other hand,



Indusind Bank's share closed down by more than 4 per cent. Apart from this, shares of Power Grid, Bharti Airtel, Infosys, Bajaj Finserv, NTPC, Adani Ports and Tata Steel also declined. In the last six trading sessions, Sensex rose by 7.8 per cent or about 5,749 points, while Nifty rose by 7.9 per cent or 1,768 points. Talking about the markets

around the world, the Dow Jones Industrial Average on Wall Street closed down by 2.48 per cent at 38,170.41 points. The S&P 500 closed down by 2.36 per cent at 5,158.20. The Nasdaq Composite closed down by 2.55 per cent at 15,870.90. Dow Jones futures were up 0.33 per cent, while S&P 500 futures and Nasdaq 100 futures gained about 0.4 per cent. Earlier this morning, the markets opened with a slight gain. Major benchmark indexes Nifty-50 and Sensex slipped into the red as soon as they opened. Sensex opened at 79,728.39 points. It witnessed fluctuations as soon as it opened. In the morning, it was trading at 79,600 with a gain of 191.71 points. Nifty-50 also opened with a slight gain today. In the morning, it was trading at 24,175.35 points with a gain of 49.80 points.

US-China trade war: India imposes 12% safeguard duty on certain steel imports amid dumping fears

New Delhi (Agency): Amid fears of dumping into India following steep US duties on Chinese goods, the government has imposed a 12 per cent safeguard duty on non-alloy and alloy steel flat products, a notification from the Ministry of Finance released on Monday showed. This follows an investigation by the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which in its findings last month said that there was a "sudden and sharp" surge in imports that could "cause serious injury to the domestic industry".

The notification in the Official Gazette and shall be payable in Indian currency," the notification stated. Notably, several specialised steel items have been excluded from the scope of the measure, including Cold Rolled Grain Oriented Electrical Steel (CRGO), tinplate, stainless steel, rubber-coated steel, brass-coated steel, and aluminium-coated steel, among others. The notification added that the safeguard duty will not apply to product categories priced above the import price on a Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) basis—set at \$675 per metric tonne (MT) for hot rolled coils, sheets and plates, and \$964 per MT for colour-coated coils and sheets, whether or not profiled. Fearing a further surge, the Ministry of Steel had last year urged the Ministry of

Commerce to impose a 25 per cent duty on steel products, citing an 80 per cent increase in steel imports from China—to 1.61 million tonnes between January and July 2024.



In its submission to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Indian Steel Association (ISA) had said that since the United States imposed a 25 per cent duty under Section 232 of its Trade Expansion Act, 1962, several countries have introduced multiple trade

remedy measures against steel imports. "The evidence indicates that 129 trade remedy measures were imposed by various countries against steel products between 2019 and 2023," ISA had said. The ISA warned that the surge in imports poses a threat to domestic manufacturing, as there is significant overcapacity far exceeding domestic consumption in China, Japan and South Korea. "To mitigate the decline in steel

consumption for long products, Chinese steel companies shifted a significant percentage of their production from long to flat products, which are now being exported to global markets," it said. The DGTR, in its findings last month, also flagged that major steel-producing economies such as Japan, South Korea and China have capacities far beyond their domestic needs. It warned that this excess capacity could push steel producers in these countries to increase exports—posing a serious threat to Indian industry. However, Engineering Export Promotion Council of India (EEPC India) Chairman, Pankaj Chadha, said that additional measures are needed to protect MSMEs and user industries from potential price hikes and supply disruptions.

RBI mandates 2.5% additional run-off factor on digital deposits

The lower run-off factor will be a relief for banks as the draft norms had proposed an additional 5 per cent run-off factor for retail deposits which are enabled with internet and mobile banking

Mumbai (Agency): The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday eased the liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) norms under which the banks will now be required to assign an additional 2.5 per cent run-off factor for digital deposits. "A bank shall assign an additional 2.5 per cent run-off factor for retail deposits which are enabled with internet and mobile banking facilities (IMB)," the RBI said final norms on LCR framework. The run-off factor refers to the percentage of deposits that could be withdrawn by depositors in a stress scenario. Internet and Mobile Banking facilities (IMB) includes all facilities such as but not limited to internet banking, mobile banking and Unified Payments Interface (UPI) which enables a customer to digitally transfer funds from their accounts. The lower run-off factor will be a relief for banks as the draft norms had proposed an additional 5 per cent run-off factor for retail deposits which are enabled with (IMB). The regulator said that the stable retail deposits enabled with IMB will have 7.5 per cent run-off

factor and less stable deposits enabled with IMB will have 12.5 per cent run-off factor (as against 5



and 10 per cent respectively, prescribed currently). RBI said that funding from non-financial entities such as trusts (educational/religious/charitable), Association of Persons (AOPs), partnerships, proprietorships, Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) and other incorporated entities will be categorised as funding from non-financial corporates and attract a run-off rate of 40 per cent as against 100

per cent currently. Unsecured wholesale funding provided by non-financial small business customers (SBCs) will be accorded the same treatment as retail deposits and so will attract an additional 2.5 per cent run-off factor. The final guidelines said that the level 1 high quality liquidity asset (HQLA) in the form of government securities will be valued at an amount not greater than their current market value, adjusted for applicable haircuts in line with the margin requirements

under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) and Marginal Standing Facility (MSF). "These amendments would help improve the liquidity resilience of banks in India and would further align the guidelines with global standards while ensuring that such an enhancement is done in a non-disruptive manner," the RBI said. The new norms will come into effect from April 1, 2026, and will be applicable to all commercial banks (excluding payments banks, regional rural banks and local area banks). According to Anil Gupta, Senior Vice President—Financial Sector Ratings, ICRA, As per RBI's estimate, the reported LCR of the banking system will improve by 6 per cent as of December 31, 2024. "With an estimated HQLA of almost Rs 45-50 lakh crore for the banking system, this could free up the lendable resources by almost Rs 2.7-3 lakh crore and support the credit growth of the banks," he said. This headroom can be equivalent to 1.4-1.5 per cent of additional credit growth potential for the banking system.

Minors can open FDs, get net banking, ATM cards, cheque book facility

Mumbai (Agency): The Reserve Bank of India on Monday permitted banks to allow minors above the age of 10 years to open and operate savings and term deposit accounts independently. The banks are free to offer additional banking facilities like internet banking, ATM/ debit cards and cheque book facility to the minor account holders on the basis of their risk management policy, product suitability and customer appropriateness, the RBI said in a circular. Earlier, while minors were allowed to open savings account only, now they can open both savings and term deposit accounts. The existing RBI rules do not mention about giving net banking, ATM/ debit card and cheque facility to minors. The RBI also said minors of any

age may be allowed to open and operate savings and term deposit accounts through his/ her natural or legal guardian. "They may also be allowed to open such accounts with mother as guardian," it said. In a circular to banks, the RBI aid, "minors above such an age limit not less than 10 years and up to such amount and such terms as may be fixed by the banks keeping in view their risk management policy, may be allowed to open and operate savings/ term deposit accounts independently, if they so desire, and such terms shall be duly conveyed to the account holder." "On attaining the age of majority, fresh operating instructions and specimen signature of the account holder should be obtained and kept on record," the RBI said.

EDITORIAL

Caste consequences

The release of the Karnataka caste census has shifted the state's political terrain, triggering reactions that stretch far beyond its borders. By revealing that Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Muslims together form over 50 per cent of the state's population, the report challenges long-held assumptions about social hierarchies ~ and with it, the distribution of power and policy. At the centre of this maelstrom is Congress Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. A long-time advocate of social justice and a leader who has built his politics around the welfare of backward classes, he now finds himself navigating a treacherous path. While the release of the report aligns with his ideological commitment to equity, it also risks alienating politically powerful communities like the Lingayats and Vokkaligas, who now find themselves statistically diminished. The report, based on a 2015 survey initiated during Mr Siddaramaiah's previous term, claims that SCs form 19.5 per cent, Muslims 16 per cent, and STs 7 percent of Karnataka's



population. Lingayats and Vokkaligas ~ historically considered dominant ~ stand at 13 per cent and 11 per cent respectively. These numbers challenge the very foundation of how political and administrative representation has been shaped in the state. The Congress, currently in power, is attempting to use the data to strengthen its pitch as the party of the marginalised. But this move comes with risks. The Vokkaligas, who have traditionally leaned towards the Janata Dal (Secular), and the Lingayats, a crucial vote bank for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), may interpret the report as a threat to their standing. BJP leaders have already accused the Congress of trying to divide society for political gains, while JD(S) has raised questions about the census's methodology.

The real test lies in whether political parties can rise above electoral arithmetic to use the data for genuine policy reform, or whether it will merely sharpen caste-based polarisation. For Siddaramaiah, the bind is clear: acknowledge the data and push for a restructured reservation framework ~ which could invite political backlash from dominant communities ~ or delay action and face accusations of abandoning the cause of backward classes, especially the numerically significant Kuruba community to which he belongs. At the national level, this has triggered fresh demands for a nationwide caste census. The Congress has endorsed this call, while the BJP-led central government has so far resisted it, wary of opening a Pandora's box of competing claims that could disrupt its broad-based Hindutva coalition. The Karnataka caste census is more than just a dataset ~ it is a mirror held up to India's social structure. Whether it leads to a fairer redistribution of opportunity or becomes a tool of political brinkmanship depends on how leaders like Mr Siddaramaiah choose to wield it. The challenge is not just electoral but ethical: can data-driven governance coexist with the compulsions of identity politics?

Few answers

The election debate of Canada's national leaders was less a clash of ideas and more a careful political dance. The candidates delivered rehearsed messages, stayed mostly civil, and avoided any real gaffes ~ but they also left viewers with little clarity on the most pressing issue of the moment: how Canada intends to navigate a renewed economic standoff with the United States. With US tariffs once again targeting Canadian goods, including steel, aluminum, and autos, voters were looking for concrete answers. Instead, they got vague assurances and strategic dodges. The historic "dollar-for-dollar" tariff response has been abandoned, but what replaces it? New Prime Minister and Liberal leader Mark Carney spoke of "targeted tariffs" that would minimise pain for Canadians while hitting back at the US ~ a nice theory, but short on specifics. His opponents weren't much better. While critical of the government's handling of trade, none offered a plan detailed enough to inspire confidence. For an issue that could dramatically reshape Canada's economy, the lack of clarity was jarring. The ambiguity didn't stop at trade. Mr Carney faced the unenviable task of defending his party's decade-long record on affordability and housing ~ a record that has left many Canadians priced out of their own cities. His go-to defense was that he is "a very different person than his predecessor Justin Trudeau" and has only been in office a month. But can a fresh face erase 10 years of rising costs and shrinking middle-class security?

Opposition leaders were quick to say no. Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre spoke repeatedly of a "lost Liberal decade," hammering home failures on housing and inflation. His message was simple: nothing will change if Mr Carney wins. It was an effective line of attack, especially in a campaign where voters are frustrated by stagnant wages and soaring rents. Mr Carney, in response, remained composed and intellectually sound ~ but whether he distanced himself from his predecessor's baggage remains uncertain. Voters aren't merely judging a candidate ~ they're judging the entire political inheritance they represent. In that sense, Mr Carney's challenge is not just to campaign, but to account for a government he did not build but now must defend. In a landscape increasingly dominated by extremes, Mr Carney's nuanced messaging may appeal to centrist voters craving balance ~ those disillusioned by ideological rigidity but sceptical of populist quick fixes. Jagmeet Singh, leading the New Democrats, offered a vision of social expansion but was largely drowned out by the main event between Mr Carney and Mr Poilievre. Mr Singh tried to paint Mr Carney as more of the same, but he too failed to outline how his policies would be funded or implemented. The Bloc Québécois leader focused on Quebec-specific concerns, offering little to the national conversation. The debate confirmed what many suspected: this election will hinge not on personalities or performance, but on trust. Voters want answers ~ especially on trade, affordability, and leadership. What they got instead were careful words, polished delivery, and an open question: is this enough?

Protests against Waqf Act: Fear and polarisation

Ramvilas Sharma



The passage of the Waqf Amendment Act, 2025, has predictably triggered protests across several districts of West Bengal ~ a state where Muslims account for over 27 per cent of the total population. In Murshidabad, a Muslim-majority district, angry protests have spilled over into violence leading to the tragic loss of lives and the deployment of central security forces following the direction of the Calcutta High Court. The sequence of events is reminiscent of violent protests against NRC and CAA in Murshidabad following the enactment of the Citizenship Amendment Act in 2019. Political violence is not uncommon in West Bengal, but the recurrence of large-scale communal violence at frequent intervals is a more recent phenomenon. This is a direct outcome of the polarisation strategies deployed both by the BJP and the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal since 2017-18, which has led to the radicalisation of significant sections within both the majority and minority communities. While this has yielded electoral dividends for both parties, it has inflicted immense harm on West Bengal's social fabric. Communalism and fundamentalism, which till a decade ago remained at the fringe of the political and social mainstream, have now assumed centerstage.

The immediate concerns of restoring peace, providing relief to victims and reasserting the rule of law in the areas disturbed by communal violence in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, should not distract us from addressing the root cause of such conflicts and violence. Since 2014, many of the legislative and

executive initiatives of the union government have drawn criticisms regarding contraventions of the secular and federal principles enshrined in India's Constitution. The abrogation of Article 370, construction of the Ram Mandir, the NRC in Assam, the enactment of the CAA 2019 and efforts to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), initiated one after another, have adversely impacted India's more than 20 crore Muslim population. The Waqf Amendment Act has added salt to those injuries. However, in West Bengal, the misunderstanding about the Waqf Act has furthered the tensions. To dispel the misconceptions, one first needs to focus on the fine print of the legislation. Many provisions of the Bill seem to contravene the fundamental rights of equality before the law, freedom of conscience and religion and the federal principle. While renaming the law as Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act, the amendment legislation actually redefines what is "waqf" and brings about a drastic overhaul of the entire management system of waqf properties ~ which are religious and charitable endowments of a permanent nature under Muslim personal law, including mosques, madrasas, orphanages, graveyards, dargahs, Idgahs etc. Before the amendments, the Waqf Act of 1995 entrusted the management of waqf assets to state-level waqf boards, composed of elected representatives as well as representatives from the government and recognised Muslim organisations in each state. While waqf boards had powers to conduct surveys and

inquiries through survey commissioners and settle waqf claims, dispute resolution was undertaken by state-level waqf tribunals, with their decisions justiciable only in the higher courts. The central waqf council played an advisory role and provided policy guidance. The previous version of the law also allowed any person to dedicate any movable or immovable property as waqf. However, the new act stipulates that a waqf endowment can only be made by a "person showing or demonstrating that he is practising Islam for at least five years, of any movable or immovable property, having ownership of such property and that there is no contrivance involved in the dedication of such property". How would a person demonstrate that she/he is practising Islam for at least five years? Who would issue or verify such certification? Moreover, how does a person demonstrate that there is no "contrivance" involved in the dedication of a property as waqf?

The new waqf law has nullified "waqf by user" and all claims of waqf boards on what is considered to be "government property". All such waqf properties declared before the commencement of the law would have to be delisted. Powers of inquiry and survey have been transferred from the survey commissioners and waqf boards to district collectors. Collectors, being civil servants, cannot be expected to be neutral players when there is a property dispute between the government and waqf boards. Taking away the powers of survey and inquiry strikes at the root of the autonomy of the waqf boards.

The new law also reconstitutes the central council and state waqf boards on the basis of nominated members replacing elected members; and allows a significant increase in the number of non-Muslim members in the central waqf council and state waqf boards, including the CEOs.

Fundamental rights of citizens are the responsibility of 10000 administrative officers

Civil Service Day is celebrated on 21 April in India. The Indian Constitution has ensured the fundamental rights of citizens. The Constitution has created the Indian Constitution on the lines of Brahma, Vishnu, Mahesh in the form of judiciary, legislature and executive. The Constitution has fixed the responsibility of everyone. Both rights and duties have been ensured by the Constitution to the judiciary, legislature and executive. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister of independent India, one of the makers of the Constitution, while giving guidance on the role of civil service officers on 10 October 1949, said, My advice is, you should work with complete freedom. If you are the head, then give your subordinate the opportunity to speak freely. Officers have the freedom to express their views without any fear or bias. If there is no freedom to express opinions, in such a situation India cannot be rebuilt. He said that even if my secretary does not agree with any of my views, he can still write his views with complete freedom. Administrative service officers do not give their clear opinion due to fear. They feel that the minister or senior officer will get angry. In such a situation, there is no reason to remain in the administrative service. In his first address, Patel had expected from the MPs that they should respect the administrative service officers and support their good work. If they are careless and do wrong, in such a situation, draw the attention of the government. Praise their good work. Sardar Patel is known as a strict administrator. After gaining independence, the work he did to merge the princely states in India is praised all over the world even today. While giving punishment to the officers of the Indian service, he had said that the administration should be made completely impartial and corruption free. The officer of the civil service should not participate in politics. He should stay away from communal disputes. It is expected from the officers of the Indian service that they will do their work without any fear or bias and without getting influenced by external temptations. In the generation of leaders associated with the freedom struggle, the officers of the Indian service were doing their work in a better manner as per the constitution. Ever since coalition governments have started coming in India. After that, a huge change is being seen in the officers of Indian Service. They are not performing their role properly due to the pressure and temptation of power. They are not able to say this. Due to which fear, intimidation, partiality and corruption in the executive of India is now visible everywhere. The legislature has started considering itself supreme even over the constitution. The legislature feels that after winning the election, it can do whatever it wants. The constitution has given the judiciary the rights to protect the fundamental rights of the citizens. The judges should perform their duties in accordance with the rules, laws and the constitution. The constitution has not given direct rights to the judiciary. The legislature and the executive have been given the right to control the administration system if it does not work according to the constitution. The constitution has entrusted the judiciary with the responsibility of keeping a check on the legislature and the executive. The pressure of the government is now clearly visible on the judiciary. The judiciary is now seen failing in that. The legislature and the executive cannot make any such law. Due to which the fundamental rights of the citizens or any community are violated. No such rule can be made. The Constitution has given special rights to the judges of the Supreme Court and High Court to control the legislature and the executive. The government is upset with the Supreme Court recently taking the right decision at the right time regarding the federal system and the Waqf law in the role of governors. The government representatives are making various allegations against the judiciary.

The RSS from the lens of a Christian layman

Ramvilas Sharma

Growing up in a small Christian-majority village in Kerala's Kannur district, my world was defined by the church bells, catechism classes, and the vibrant festivals that marked our community's cultural calendar. But amid this deeply rooted Christian environment, a unique encounter during my childhood left an impression that has only deepened over time ~ an encounter with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, better known as the RSS.

It was a man named Balakrishnan, a dedicated RSS pracharak, who first introduced me to this organization. For an impressionable child, his personality ~ calm, composed, disciplined ~ was striking. He was not a politician, nor a fiery speaker, but a man of gentle demeanor, deep conviction, and unparalleled punctuality. While the village was mostly Christian and naturally hesitant about anything remotely connected to 'Hindutva,' Balakrishnan was quietly winning hearts ~ not by words, but by example.

Years later, in college, I met Sudheesh T.T., a close friend and another admirer of the Sangh's ideals. Our conversations extended late into the night ~ not debates, but thoughtful discussions. Through him, I be-

gan to understand the ideological foundations of the RSS: a vision of cultural nationalism, of service to the nation, of a unified identity rooted in Bharat's civilizational values.

It wasn't the kind of nationalism that screamed slogans or chased media headlines ~ it was a quiet, deep commitment to the motherland. As a Christian, I found no contradiction here. In fact, it reminded me of the message of universal love and sacrifice that Jesus Christ preached. As the RSS enters its centenary year, completing 100 years since its founding in 1925, I write this as an outsider ~ not a member, not a swayamsevak ~ but a keen observer, a Christian layman who has learned to appreciate and admire the Sangh from a distance.

At a time when ideological labels are easily weaponized and narratives often polarize, the RSS remains a subject of much scrutiny, suspicion, and sadly, caricature. But what gets missed in political debates is the deeper spirit of the organization ~ its ceaseless commitment to discipline, service, and nation-building. I have seen swayamsevaks quietly help flood victims before the state machinery arrived. I have seen RSS-affiliated organizations running blood donation

camps, orphanages, relief work during the pandemic, and countless seva activities across villages and urban slums.

The Sangh is not just about ideology. It is a way of life. It is about waking up at dawn, doing physical training, engaging in intellectual discussion, and above all, offering oneself in service without expecting anything in return. That ideal ~ of selfless service ~ resonates across religions. In Christianity, it's called "agape," the unconditional love that serves without seeking reward. The RSS embodies this spirit through its countless pracharaks who live celibate lives, travel across the country with just a bag, and dedicate themselves to the cause of the nation. In my professional life, I have been fortunate to work under professors who embodied this same spirit. Prof. Jaya Prasad and Prof. Santhisri Pandit ~ both of whom were closely familiar with the RSS worldview ~ showed me that nationalism is not a slogan but a form of ethical living. Their personal integrity, their commitment to truth, and their willingness to mentor students across ideological divides reflected the best of what the Sangh seeks to cultivate ~ character. This, to me, is the core

contribution of RSS to Indian society ~ character formation. In a world increasingly driven by superficial achievements, consumerism, and identity politics, the RSS emphasizes inner strength, ethical clarity, and devotion to a higher cause. In a society that often forgets its village roots, the Sangh reminds us of the values of community, cooperation, and culture.

Some critics often argue that the RSS excludes religious minorities. As a Christian who has engaged with swayamsevaks for years, I can say with honesty that has not been my experience. Yes, the organization sees Bharat through the lens of cultural nationalism rooted in Hindu civilization. But Hinduism here is not a religion in the narrow sense; it is a civilizational identity that embraces diversity. The RSS does not ask Christians or Muslims to give up their faith. It simply asks all Indians to love their motherland, know its heritage, and live in harmony. Swami Vivekananda once said, "You will be nearer to Heaven through football than through the study of the Gita."

The RSS took that message literally. Its daily shakhas ~ physical training sessions held in open fields ~ build brotherhood, fitness, and discipline.

There is no caste, no religion, no economic distinction in a shakha. Everyone wears the same dress, follows the same drill, and chants the same patriotic songs. That egalitarian spirit is something I wish many Christian parishes would emulate. The centenary of any organization is a time to reflect. The RSS, from its humble beginnings in Nagpur in 1925 under the leadership of Dr. K.B. Hedgewar, has grown into the world's largest voluntary organization. That did not happen through money or marketing.

It happened because the idea of Bharat Mata touched millions. It happened because young men and women, inspired by a higher call, gave their lives to building the nation ~ not for fame, not for political power, but for the sheer joy of service. As a Christian layman, I cannot but admire this. I may go to church every Sunday, but I also salute those who wake up at 5 AM every day to build a better India. I may read the Bible, but I also respect the swayamsevak who reads the Gita and then serves in a tribal village for 10 years teaching poor children. I may believe in Jesus, but I also bow before the idea of Rashtra dharma ~ the duty towards one's nation.

There is a lot the Christian

community in India can learn from the Sangh. Its emphasis on character, discipline, simplicity, and service should be part of every religious upbringing. In fact, true ecumenism lies not in doctrinal debates but in shared service. The Sangh is not trying to convert anyone; it is trying to convert apathy into action, indifference into involvement. As we move into the next century, India needs more such organizations ~ rooted in culture, driven by values, and dedicated to the nation. Political parties will come and go. Governments will change. But civil society institutions like the RSS are what sustain the soul of a nation.

They form the moral backbone of democracy. Today, when I think of Balakrishnan, that simple pracharak who first taught me what RSS was, or Sudheesh, who patiently explained the idea of cultural nationalism over cups of tea, I feel a quiet sense of gratitude. They did not preach; they lived their ideals. And in doing so, they inspired others ~ like me. This is what the RSS does best. It inspires. Not by propaganda, but by personal example. And for that, as a Christian layman, I say with all honesty ~ I salute a hundred years of RSS.

BRIEFS

Khalistani slogans written on temple wall

Otaya (Agency). Pro-Khalistan slogans have been written on the walls of the iconic Lakshmi Narayan Temple in Surrey city of Canada. The incident took place at a time when the annual Nagar Kirtan was to be organized in Surrey. Khalistan Zindabad and Free Punjab along with other provocative slogans were found written with spray paint on the outer walls of the temple. Immediately after the incident, the temple administration informed the police and lodged an FIR. The police department has started an investigation considering the incident as a possible hate crime.

Pension of Rs 70 lakh seized for theft of Rs 600

Kyoto (Agency). The Supreme Court of Japan has found a bus driver guilty of stealing Rs 600. The Supreme Court has upheld the decision to seize the pension of Rs 70 lakh of the bus driver. This bus driver stole Rs 600 from the box in 2022. The incident was recorded in the dash cam of the bus. The Municipal Transport Corporation had fired the driver from the job on charges of theft. His pension was also confiscated. The Supreme Court of Japan has upheld the decision of the Municipal Corporation.

Photo of Lord Buddha's sacred tooth goes viral, police engaged in investigation

Colombo (Agency). An alleged photo of Lord Buddha's sacred tooth in Sri Lanka has gone viral on social media. After this, a controversy has arisen. Police said that they are investigating how this photo was taken, because mobile and camera are prohibited at the place where this tooth is kept. This photo is said to be of the Dental Temple of Kandy city. Here, after 16 years, the tooth of Lord Buddha was kept on display for people to see. Police have said that the investigation of the case is going on and the truth will be known after the investigation is completed. Police said that preliminary investigation is being done to find out when and how this photo was taken.

About 20 feet of land slipped due to earthquake in Myanmar

Naypyidaw (Agency). After the 7.7 magnitude earthquake in Myanmar on March 28, scientists have confirmed that an extraordinary event has occurred due to this. Nearly 20 feet of land has slipped near the Sagaing Fault. This is a major fault zone between the Indian and Eurasian plates. According to media reports, the European Space Agency Sentinel 1A and Sentinel 2B/C satellites, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Clotech Seismological Laboratory have recently found that this is the largest strike-slip in history so far. The Advanced Rapid Imaging and Analysis Team has compared the before and after pictures. This has revealed that in some places the land has slipped by about 9 feet. At many places it has slipped up to 20 feet. In the report, geologists say that land sliding or surface breaking is a common result of the earthquake in Myanmar.

Harvard sues Trump administration to stop the freeze of more than \$2 billion in grants

Harvard President Alan Garber said the university would not bend to the government's demands. Hours later, the government froze billions of dollars in federal funding.

Boston (Agency): Harvard University announced Monday that it has filed suit to halt a federal freeze on more than \$2.2 billion in grants after the institution said it would defy the Trump administration's demands to limit activism on campus. In a letter to Harvard earlier this month, the Trump administration had called for broad government and leadership reforms at the university as well as changes to its admissions policies. It also demanded that the university audit views of diversity on campus, and stop recognizing some student clubs. Harvard President Alan Garber

said the university would not bend to the government's demands. Hours later, the government froze billions of dollars in federal funding. "The Government has not — and cannot — identify any rational connection between antisemitism concerns and the medical, scientific, technological, and other research it has frozen that aims to save American lives, foster American success, preserve American security, and maintain America's position as a global leader in innovation," the university wrote in its lawsuit, filed in Boston federal court. "Nor has the Government acknowledged the significant consequences that the indefinite freeze of billions of dollars in federal research funding will have on Harvard's research programs, the beneficiaries of that research, and the national interest in furthering American innovation and progress," it added. The Trump administration did not immediately respond to an email from The Associated Press requesting comment. In its letter dated April 11, the administration told Harvard to impose tougher discipline on protesters and to screen

international students for those who are "hostile to the American values." It also called for broad leadership



reforms at the university, changes to admissions policies and the removal of college recognition for some student clubs. The government also demanded Harvard audit its faculty and student body to ensure wide viewpoints in every department and, if necessary, diversify by admitting additional students and hiring new faculty. Last Monday, Harvard said it would not comply, citing the First Amendment. The following day,

Trump took to his Truth Social platform, questioning whether the university should lose its tax-exempt status "if it keeps pushing

political, ideological, and terrorist inspired/supporting 'Sickness?'" The Trump administration also threatened to block the university from enrolling international students. The university frames the government's demands as a threat not only to the Ivy League school but to the autonomy that the Supreme Court has long granted American universities. For the Trump administration,

Harvard presents the first major hurdle in its attempt to force change at universities that Republicans say have become hotbeds of liberalism and antisemitism. The conflict is straining the longstanding relationship between the federal government and universities that use federal money to fuel scientific breakthroughs. Long seen as a benefit to the greater good, that money has become an easy source of leverage for the Trump administration. "Today, we stand for the values that have made American higher education a beacon for the world," Garber wrote Monday to the Harvard community. "We stand for the truth that colleges and universities across the country can embrace and honor their legal obligations and best fulfill their essential role in society without improper government intrusion," he wrote. "That is how we achieve academic excellence, safeguard open inquiry and freedom of speech, and conduct pioneering research—and how we advance the boundless exploration that propels our nation and its people into a better future."

NASA expressed the possibility of aliens on Mars



Washington (Agency). There may be signs of the existence of aliens on Mars. This possibility has been strengthened by the US space agency NASA. Recently, NASA has taken a picture of a mysterious crater from the orbit of Mars, which may be connected to a huge underground tunnel network. Scientists believe that there may be a possibility of aliens hiding inside this crater, as this crater is located in a place that leads to lower levels. NASA reported that circular craters are present around this crater, which indicate that this crater was probably formed by a meteorite impact. Such craters are of special interest because they may be entrances to lower levels, which perhaps open into huge underground caves. If these caves really exist, it could be a safe place for life to survive on Mars, as there are extreme fluctuations in radiation and temperature on the surface of Mars that can create difficulties for life. NASA said that this crater and other similar craters could be important targets for spacecraft, robots and even human interplanetary explorers in the future.

Trump's economic approval hits lowest since presidency, survey finds

NEW DELHI: US President Donald Trump is facing a significant dip in his economic approval ratings, with his performance on the economy registering the lowest numbers of his presidency. According to the latest CNBC All-America Economic Survey, broad discontent over issues like tariffs, inflation, and government spending has contributed to this decline. The surge of economic optimism that followed Trump's election in 2024 has all but disappeared, with more Americans now predicting that the economy will worsen, a stark shift from the hopeful outlook that marked

earlier years. The survey revealed a sharp turn towards pessimism about the stock market as well, with many feeling uncertain about future economic prospects. The survey, conducted from April 9 to 13 with a margin of error of +/- 3.1%, found that Trump's approval rating on the economy stands at 43%, while 55% of respondents disapprove. This marks the first time in any CNBC poll that Trump has had a net negative rating on the economy. For overall presidential approval, Trump stands at 44% approval versus 51% disapproval, which is slightly better than his final

approval rating when he left office in 2020. While Trump's Republican base



remains largely supportive of his economic policies, there has been a noticeable decline in support among key groups,

including independents and blue-collar workers. The survey showed a 14-point rise in

disapproval from blue-collar workers compared to their approval in his first term. A significant driver of discontent

is Trump's approach to tariffs and inflation. The survey found that 49% of Americans disapprove of across-the-board tariffs, with majorities believing they are detrimental to American workers, inflation, and the economy overall. Democrats have overwhelmingly rejected the tariffs by an 83-point margin, and even independents are critical of the policy, showing a 26-point disapproval. While tariffs have fueled negative opinions, there is greater optimism regarding trade relations with several countries. For example, Canada, Mexico, the European Union, and Japan

are viewed more favorably than during Trump's first term. However, China continues to be seen as an economic threat, with 44% of Americans holding this view, a sharp contrast from earlier polls. Trump's worst ratings came on his handling of inflation, with public disapproval reaching 60%. Notably, inflation concerns have driven 57% of the public to believe that the country is either already in a recession or will be soon. On a more positive note, Trump's handling of immigration, particularly on the southern border, continues to resonate with a segment of the public.

Attack on a Hindu minister in Pakistan, investigation ordered

Karachi (Agency): A Hindu minister was attacked in Pakistan. Minister Khel Das Kohistani in the government of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif was attacked by a mob. He was passing with a convoy. Here the protesters were protesting against the government's irrigation project. The protesters threw potatoes and tomatoes at Kohistani's convoy. However, he is completely safe. According to the report, Minister Kohistani was passing through Thatta district. Then the mob attacked his convoy. Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has condemned the attack. He has also assured an investigation in this matter.



An elderly woman in Ukraine keeps her basket properly during Easter celebrations.

Teacher had sex with 17-year-old student, court released her on bail of Rs 25,000



Texas (Agency): Former Texas Riverbank High School teacher Karah Hernandez (31) has been arrested for having sex with a minor student. The incident dates back to 2022, when Hernandez allegedly had sex with a 17-year-old student. Police arrested her from her home on February 14 after investigating the matter. She previously taught at Ronald Thornton Middle School and resigned in September 2024 after a former student filed a complaint against her. Media reports said Karah Hernandez has been charged with two criminal charges - improper relationship between student and teacher and obscenity related to sexual activity with a child. Hernandez is accused of intentionally having sex with a student around April 1, 2022, when she was teaching at a Houston-area school. Her bail amount has been set at US \$ 25,000 for each charge. Her next

appearance is on April 28. The school district said that during the investigation, the teacher resigned before being dismissed. Although according to a Facebook post on social media, Hernandez was an orchestra teacher, but this could not be independently confirmed in the media. Earlier this month, Dulce Flores (33), a Spanish teacher teaching at a high school in California, was also arrested on similar charges. Flores, who was teaching at Riverbank High School since 2016, is accused of having a sexual relationship with a 17-year-old student. She has been kept in Stanislaus County Jail where she has been kept on a bail of US \$ 20,000. These cases have once again raised serious questions about the safety of students in schools in America and the limits of teacher-student relationships.

Tension will increase in Europe, Britain deployed Typhoon aircraft in Poland

London (Agency): Britain has deployed its Typhoon aircraft in Poland to stop Russian spy planes and fighter jets in NATO region. Britain says that this decision was taken after Russian jets were seen in NATO airspace. In recent days, Russian jets and British planes have also come face to face. British fighter planes have flown two to three times last week to stop Russian planes. These developments on the Baltic Sea have taken place after Britain deployed six jets in eastern Poland to protect NATO airspace. Britain's Armed Forces Minister Luke Pollard has said that his



country stands with NATO. He said that seeing the Russian threat, they are working to keep their allies safe and for their national security. This mission

shows that they can work together with NATO's new member Sweden and protect the alliance's airspace. British Typhoon aircraft have flown to stop Russian spy planes and military jets. This tussle between British and Russian aircraft in the air can further increase tensions in the region. Typhoon aircraft are stationed at a base in Poland. These jets are at the base along with Swedish aircraft. The effort to protect Europe's borders from future Russian aggression has been called Operation Chessman. British Minister Pollard has said that seeing the increased security threat from Russian aggression, we want to reassure our allies. We are moving forward to stop the opponents and improve our national security.

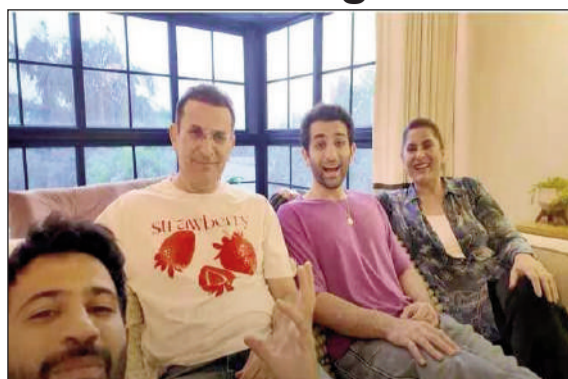
Aditya Chopra to launch Ananya Panday's brother Ahaan Panday in Mohit Suri's intense love story Saiyaara



After years of grooming under the Yash Raj Films (YRF) banner, Ahaan Panday — cousin of actress Ananya Panday — is set to make his Bollywood debut. The newcomer will headline Saiyaara, a romantic drama produced by Aditya Chopra and directed by Mohit Suri. The film also stars Anant Poddar, who was previously seen in Salaam Venky alongside Kajol and Amir Khan. This marks the first collaboration between Aditya Chopra and Mohit Suri, known for directing successful romantic thrillers such as Aashiqui 2, Ek Villain, Malang, Murder 2, and Awarapan. In a statement, YRF described the film as “an intense love story that brings YRF and Mohit Suri together for the first time.” Ananya also shared an Instagram Story, welcoming her brother to movies. Ahaan Panday, son of Chikki Panday and nephew of veteran actor Chunky Panday, has long been in the spotlight as a potential Gen-Z star. Over the years, he has been personally trained and mentored by Aditya Chopra in preparation for his big-screen debut. Before making his acting debut, he had worked as an assistant director on YRF's widely watched series The Railway Men. His entry into the industry follows a similar path to other star-kid launches, echoing the moves of Aditya Chopra's contemporary Karan Johar, who has frequently launched star kids under Dharma Productions. Earlier, Aditya Chopra also introduced Amir Khan's son, Junaid Khan, in Maharaj, a Netflix original, based on the historic Maharaj Libel Case of 1862. The film became embroiled in controversy prior to its release, with the court issuing a stay on the grounds that it might hurt religious sentiments. However, after reviewing the film, the Gujarat High Court lifted the stay, stating it found nothing objectionable, and the film was allowed to release on Netflix. YRF has announced that Saiyaara will hit theatres on July 18, 2025.

Parmmeet Sethi calls Ozempic 'Bollywood's favourite game', troll says Archana Puran Singh did little in acting but found fame 'just by laughing'

Archana Puran Singh's vlogs with her family have been a hit on YouTube. With each episode, the family tries to bring in innovative, fun, and fresh content for the audience. In her latest vlog, Archana, her husband Parmmeet Sethi, and their sons Aaryamann and Ayushmaan enjoyed a pizza party at home that quickly turned into a laugh riot. The video began with Aaryamann and Ayushmaan making homemade pizzas for their parents as Archana has been on a strict diet. While they prepared healthy wheat pizzas, Parmmeet couldn't help but crack an Ozempic joke, saying, “Do you know what is Bollywood's favourite game?” He answered

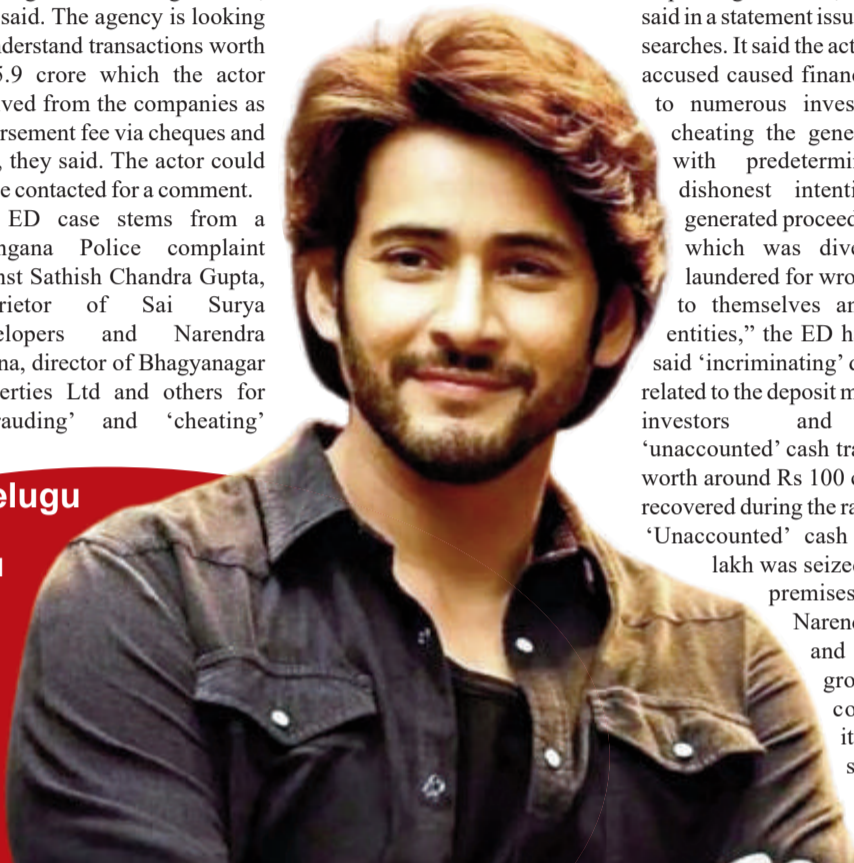


himself, “Ozempic.” The joke left Archana in shock as she reacted, “Oh my god, he went there.” A drug meant to control blood sugar levels, Ozempic also causes rapid weight loss. It is alleged that many celebs have resorted to the drug for weight transformation in the film industry. However, this was only the tip of the iceberg when it came to all the fun Archana's family had that day. Later, they decided to go through some of the hilarious comments that viewers had dropped on their videos. While many comments lauded the family for their funny vlogs, some criticised them. During this segment, Aaryamann pointed out all the different names the audience had come up with for Parmmeet.

Here's why Mahesh Babu has been summoned by ED in money laundering case

The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Telugu actor Mahesh Babu for questioning in a money laundering case linked to an alleged real estate fraud case perpetrated by some local groups, officials said Tuesday. Babu, 49, has been asked to depose on April 28 at the federal probe agency's office here and get his statement recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the sources said. The case pertains to Sai Surya Developers, a prominent real estate firm based in Vengal Rao Nagar, the Surana Group and some others. The ED had conducted searches in the case on April 16 at premises located in Secunderabad, Jubilee Hills and Bowenpally. Babu is not

being investigated as an accused at present and may not be involved in the scam. He may have endorsed the realty projects of the accused companies not knowing about the alleged fraud, they said. The agency is looking to understand transactions worth Rs 5.9 crore which the actor received from the companies as endorsement fee via cheques and cash, they said. The actor could not be contacted for a comment. The ED case stems from a Telangana Police complaint against Sathish Chandra Gupta, proprietor of Sai Surya Developers and Narendra Surana, director of Bhagyanagar Properties Ltd and others for 'defrauding' and 'cheating' gullible investors of their hard earned money in the name of advance for sale of plots involving huge amounts. The accused orchestrated 'fraudulent' schemes involving unauthorised land layouts, selling same plots to different customers, accepting payments without proper agreements, and false assurances of plot registrations, the agency said in a statement issued post the searches. It said the actions of the accused caused financial losses to numerous investors. “By cheating the general public with predetermined and dishonest intention, they generated proceeds of crime which was diverted and laundered for wrongful gain to themselves and related entities,” the ED had said. It said 'incriminating' documents related to the deposit made by the investors and about 'unaccounted' cash transactions worth around Rs 100 crore were recovered during the raids. 'Unaccounted' cash of 74.50 lakh was seized from the premises of Narendra Surana and Surana group of companies, it said in the statement.



Telugu actor Mahesh Babu has been summoned by Enforcement Directorate (ED) for questioning in a money laundering case linked to an alleged real estate fraud case.

Apoorva Mukhija aka Rebel Kid says she lost her home, show, and brand deals amid India's Got Latent row; launches new series



Just weeks after dropping a 35-minute video apologizing for her comments on the now-infamous India's Got Latent episode, digital creator Apoorva Mukhija — better known as The Rebel Kid — has returned with another emotional update. In a new Instagram reel, she reflects on the backlash that followed, the accusations of “playing the victim card,” and how she's trying to rebuild after what she calls a deeply “dehumanising” experience. The reel features Apoorva narrating parts of her journey, accompanied by a voiceover that outlines the choices she felt she had after the controversy exploded. “One was to stand up and expose everyone who was wrong,” she says, but admits that would have been futile. Another was to give up completely, be depressed and cry all day. And... she chose that one. What followed, she explains, was a personal and professional unravelling. She lost her home, her show, brand partnerships, and faced a tidal wave of public scrutiny. “I

Naagzilla: Kartik Aaryan becomes ichchhadhari naag in latest collaboration with Karan Johar

Naagzilla first look: Kartik Aaryan plays an ichchhadhari naag in the film, which promises a blend of fantasy and folklore

After werewolves howled their way through Bhediya, it's now the turn of the shape-shifting serpent to move into the spotlight. Dharma Productions, in collaboration with Mahaveer Jain Films, has announced its upcoming horror-comedy Naagzilla, headlined by Kartik Aaryan in a never-seen-before avatar. He plays Preyamvadeshwar Pyare Chand, an ichchhadhari naag (a serpent with the power to transform into a human) embarking on a wild, supernatural adventure. Directed by Fukrey fame Mrighdeep Singh Lamba, Naagzilla marks the filmmaker's second collaboration with Dharma after Tu Meri, Main Tera. But what's perhaps more headline-worthy is the fact that this also marks the second official film team-up between Kartik Aaryan and Karan Johar, following their now-famous fallout over Dostana 2. That film, co-starring Janhvi Kapoor and Lakshya, was shelved after nearly a month of shooting, sparking a wave of speculation. Now, the two appear

to have buried the hatchet — with Naagzilla being the surprising result.

The film's motion poster, shared by Karan Johar on Instagram, features Kartik in a snake-infested cave, cloaked in a serpentine green skin, gazing over a misty cityscape. The caption read: “Insanon wali picturein toh bahut dekh li, ab dekho naagon wali picture! Naagzilla – Naag Lok ka pehla kaand... Funn phailaane aa raha hai.” Expected to hit cinemas in 2026, Naagzilla is touted as a horror-comedy with a blend of fantasy and folklore. It arrives at a time when Bollywood is increasingly embracing genre-mashing supernatural comedies — much of which is credited to Dinesh Vijan's horror-comedy universe, which kicked off with Stree and expanded to Bhediya, and is now set to venture into vampire territory with Ayushmann Khurrana's Thama. Interestingly, while horror-comedies are the latest Bollywood trend, shape-shifting serpents — naags and naagins — have long been television royalty. Ekta Kapoor's various renditions of Naagin, especially with Mouni Roy, have been TRP juggernauts, and Naagzilla looks like a big-screen evolution of that mythological madness.



Anurag Kashyap issues second apology to Brahmin community, says his family is hurt: 'Derailed my own point from the issue'

A couple of days after an FIR was filed against Anurag Kashyap for his remarks against the Brahmin community on X, the filmmaker has issued an apology. It's his second apology in two days, but his apology on Tuesday comes across as more 'sincere' than his previous conditional apology on Monday. The filmmaker took to X and wrote in Hindi, translated as: “In my anger, I forgot my decorum while responding to someone and ended up speaking ill of the entire Brahmin community. That community, whose many members have been part of my life, are still there, and contribute greatly. Today, they are all hurt by me. My family is hurt by me. Many intellectuals, whom I respect, are hurt by my anger and the way I spoke.” He explained that his comment was not intentional, but a reaction in a heated exchange with an individual on X. “By saying such things, I myself derailed my own point from the issue. I sincerely apologize to this community, to whom I did not intend to say this,



but in the heat of the moment, I wrote it while responding to someone's vile comment,” said Kashyap. “I apologize to all my supportive friends, my family, and that community for my way of speaking and for using inappropriate language. Going forward, I will work to ensure this does not happen again. I will work on my anger. And if I need to address an issue, I will use the right words. I hope you will forgive me,” he added.

An FIR was registered against Kashyap in Jaipur for his remarks on Brahmins on X. The case was registered based on a complaint lodged by Anil Chaturvedi, a Barkat Nagar resident, on Saturday night. The complainant alleged that the director posted abusive words about Brahmins while replying to a social media user. Chanakya Sena leader Pandit Suresh Mishra also announced a cash reward of Rs 1 lakh for blackening Kashyap's face. Kashyap was defending Ananth Mahadevan's historical drama Phule, based on the life of social reformer couple Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule, slated to release on April 25, after it had courted controversy over its portrayal of caste. Kashyap had questioned the row surrounding the film and while replying to a social media user, the director made the contentious remark against the Brahmin community. After being widely trolled for the comment, Kashyap apologised on Saturday. In an Instagram post, he wrote, “This is my apology, not for my post but for that one line taken out of context and the brewing hatred.

Madhuri Dixit's husband Dr Nene says India is hypocritical about marijuana, recalls prescribing cannabis to cancer patients in US: 'Not a big deal'

Actor Madhuri Dixit's husband, Dr Shiram Nene, operates a YouTube channel where he conducts conversations around health and lifestyle. He also involves Madhuri and their two sons, Arin and Ryan, in some of his videos. Some months ago, he hosted YouTuber Ranveer Allahbadia on his channel, where they discussed drugs (used both medically and recreationally) and their impact. The use of cannabis

and its various forms is legally prohibited in India. He began the conversation by bringing up Ayahuasca, a hallucinogen that originates in South America. Addressing Ranveer, he said, “The first question you asked me was about Ayahuasca, and I remember thinking, ‘Wow, this guy is really deep into meditation, taking trips’. The interesting part is, I have so many friends who are artists, who are thinkers... Steve Jobs said it. He said,



“The advantage between me and Microsoft is that I used to drop LSD.” Jobs was such a free thinker that he could

almost see the future. The guy wasn't a coder; he was a master marketer.” He also said that India takes a hypocritical stance on substances such as marijuana, because ascetics have been using it for years. Dr Nene continued, “So, here's the interesting part. We think we know a lot about medicine, right? And we're learning that some things which they thought were harmful, aren't. Like LSD was originally formulated to

be used on soldiers, to make them war machines. But what we're finding now is that it may be beneficial for depression, there may be benefits for other things. Cannabis used to be a Schedule 1 drug; we would (prescribe) it to our cancer patients, because it would really help with their appetites after chemo, and also help with their nausea. Also in patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and other things, we did it.

Pujara is impressed by Ayush's fearless style of playing

Mumbai (Agency). Former Indian cricketer Cheteshwar Pujara has praised the good performance of young batsman Ayush Mhatre in his IPL debut match itself. Pujara said that the way Ayush showed fearless aggressive style in his very first match, it is not easy to bat in that way. This shows the confidence of this young batsman. Pujara said that playing a lot of cricket for Mumbai has also helped this young cricketer. Ayush, who replaced captain Ruturaj Gaikwad in the match against Mumbai Indians, played a courageous

innings of 32 runs in 15 balls with the help of four fours and two sixes. He was played as an opener. Regarding this



emerging batsman, Pujara said that it is not easy to be fearless when you are

playing your first T20 match at a high level. He said, if you are not well prepared and you are nervous

while playing your first match, then you do not get that confidence. We say that

they are fearless but when you are playing your first T20 match, that too at the highest level, it is not easy to be fearless. To do this, I trust that he had done enough preparation. I have not seen his journey so far, I do not know much about it, but the way he batted, he seemed quite confident. The youngster has played nine first-class matches and seven List-A games for Mumbai and has scored 962 runs. In nine first-class matches, he has scored 504 runs in 16 innings at an average of 31.50 which includes two centuries and a half-century

Latif will reveal three decades old match fixing case in his biography

Karachi (Agency). Former Pakistan cricket team captain Rashid Latif has said that he will make important revelations about the match fixing case that happened three decades ago in his biography. Latif said that his autobiography will give everyone an idea of the bad conditions of that time. Latif, who has been exposing the corruption in the dressing room of the Pakistan team from time to time, said that he has started working on this book. Latif said that people will be surprised by this book of mine. This is the first time

since his retirement in 2004 that Latif has said something about his autobiography.



Latif, who was among the brilliant wicketkeepers in the history of Pakistan cricket, first drew everyone's attention in 1994 regarding match fixing. Then he and Basit Ali suddenly announced their retirement

during the South Africa tour. He then insisted that he cannot play in a bad atmosphere in the dressing room. Latif then told how some players were allegedly involved in losing the match and also involved others in it. This led to a case in Pakistan cricket till 2000. When after investigating the allegations of match fixing, the Qayyum Commission imposed a lifetime ban on Salim Malik and fined Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed and others for not cooperating in the investigation.

Gillespie demanded pending salary from PCB



Karachi (Agency). Former head coach of Pakistan cricket team, Australia's Jason Gillespie has asked the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to pay his pending salary. Gillespie has said on social media that the PCB is still withholding a lot of his money. Gillespie was appointed the Test team coach by the PCB in April 2024 on a two-year contract, but he was forced to leave the post midway. Apart from him, South Africa's Gary Kirsten was made the coach for limited overs. Both of them were able to stay with the PCB after six months. After this, both of them started being neglected and their rights were also withdrawn. After which both of them resigned. Gillespie wrote on social media that I am still waiting for the remaining remuneration from the PCB. Apart from this, he wrote, Kirsten and I were sold the dream of forming a team, but everything suddenly changed after losing one match. On the other hand, the PCB has invited applications on its official website for the posts of head coach of the national team and director of its Performance Center of Excellence in Lahore, while the earlier coaches have not even received full salary.

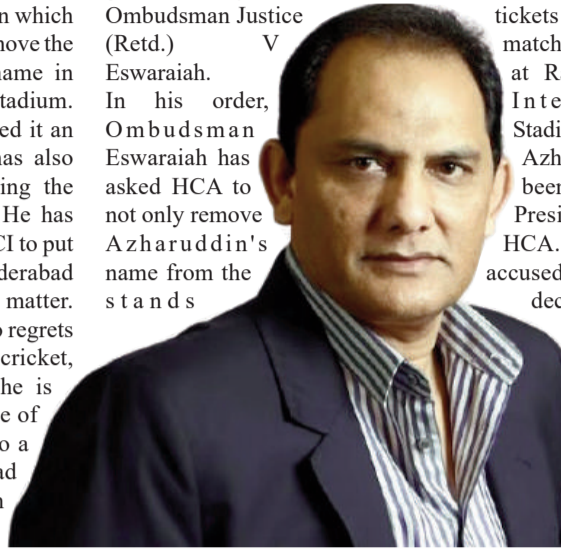
Azharuddin is upset with the decision to remove his name from the stand

Hyderabad (Agency). Former Indian cricket team captain Mohammad Azharuddin is very upset these days and the reason for this is a decision of Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) in which it has been said to remove the stand built in his name in Rajiv Gandhi Stadium. Azharuddin has called it an insult to him and has also talked about knocking the doors of the court. He has also appealed to BCCI to put pressure on Hyderabad Cricket Association in this matter. Azharuddin now also regrets why he played cricket, although whatever he is today is only because of cricket. According to a report, Hyderabad Cricket Association has ordered to

remove the name of Mohammad Azharuddin from the North Pavilion stand of Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium of the city. This order has been given by HCA's Ombudsman Justice (Retd.) V Eswaraiiah. In his order, Ombudsman Eswaraiiah has asked HCA to not only remove Azharuddin's name from the stands

but also from the stadium tickets. He has asked HCA to ensure that Azharuddin's name should not be on any ticket in future.

In such a situation, Azhar's name will not be on the tickets of IPL matches to be held at Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium. Azharuddin has been the President of HCA. He is accused of taking decisions in his favour without following the prescribed procedure during his tenure.



Justice Eswaraiiah has said in his order that this case is completely of conflict of interest. He has found the complaint against Azhar to be correct. HCA's Ombudsman had received a formal complaint from Lord's Cricket Club. A serious allegation was made in the complaint that Azhar, while being the President of HCA, took decisions in his favour by setting aside the principle of impartiality. The club has also requested to remove Azharuddin's name from the North Pavilion and name it after VVS Laxman in his honour. Azhar is also accused of removing VVS Laxman's name from the North Stand of Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad and writing his own name on it.

PSL has no competition with IPL: Akmal

Lahore (Agency). Former Pakistani cricketer Kamran Akmal has slammed the comparison of Pak Super League (PSL) with Indian Premier League (IPL). Akmal said that there is no competition between IPL and PSL. Akmal has also criticized the PCB management for organizing PSL. This former cricketer said that the performance of the players and teams playing in PSL is very poor. He also said that the mentality of PSL franchise is also not right. Comparing IPL and PSL on social media, Akmal said, what a great match is being seen in IPL and why not say that it is the

number 1 cricket league. Look at the quality of cricket, teams are achieving the biggest scores. There is no problem anywhere,



everyone is playing comfortably. This is the biggest success of IPL, it has become such a big league, where no one can even think of reaching. On the other hand, in our PSL, the players are surprised and the audience is also not getting to see exciting matches. Also

said that our players will have to learn by watching IPL. Akmal said about the match between Gujarat and Delhi that Ahmedabad is the biggest stadium in the world, where 70-80 thousand people will be sitting. How Gujarat achieved a score of more than 200 there. Delhi scored 203 runs. All the batsmen batted well. Gujarat batsmen also performed brilliantly and won the match. Our batsmen should watch their batting to know how a match is made. We should also know how to chase such a target in PSL. At the same time, foreign players have a role in the team that is winning in PSL.

Important decisions will be taken regarding all three formats

ICC's annual meeting will be held in Singapore in July

Dubai (Agency). The annual conference of the world's top cricket body (ICC) will be held in Singapore in July. In this (ICC) can take some important decisions related to the game regarding all three formats. There is also a possibility of talk about saving the future of one-day cricket. New ICC chief Jay Shah will chair this meeting for the first time. The recommendations of the



Cricket Committee will also be discussed in this meeting. The committee headed by former Indian team captain

Sourav Ganguly has also given some suggestions for one-day international cricket. In which it has been said to use only one ball from the 25th over. Currently two balls are used. In this way, the ball used in the fiftieth over is the same ball that is 25 overs old. This change will help the fast bowlers who do reverse swing, so that the collision between the ball and the bat will be equal.



Players playing in the AVC Women's Volleyball Championship in the Philippines.

Change in the race for Orange and Purple Cap in IPL, Sudarshan and Krishna reach the top



Mumbai (Agency). Almost half of the matches of the Indian Premier League (IPL) have been completed. During this, there has been a change in the race for the Orange Cap for the most runs. Sai Sudarshan of Gujarat Titans has now reached the number one position in the Orange Cap race, replacing Nicholas Pooran of Lucknow Super Giants, who was at the top from the beginning. Sudarshan has scored 417 runs in 8 matches so far this season at an average of 59.57. He is the first player to reach 400 runs. He left Puran behind by scoring a half-century against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). Sudarshan scored 52 runs in 36 balls with the help of 6 fours and a six. He has scored 368 runs in 8 matches at an average of 52.57. Now Puran has slipped to second place. Gujarat's Jos Buttler has reached the third position in the list of players who scored the most runs in the season. Buttler has scored 345 runs in

8 matches. His average is 69.00. Due to Butler, Suryakumar Yadav and Virat Kohli have slipped to fourth and fifth positions. Mumbai Indians' Suryakumar has scored 333 runs in 8 matches at an average of 55.50. RCB's Kohli has scored 322 runs in eight matches at an average of 64.40. Not only the Orange Cap, there has been a change in the race for the Purple Cap for the most wickets. In this, Gujarat Titans' fast bowler Prasidh Krishna has reached number one in the list of bowlers who took the most wickets in the season. He has taken 14 wickets so far. At the same time, Delhi Capitals' Kuldeep Yadav is second with 12 wickets and Gujarat's Sai Kishore is third with the same number of wickets. Chennai Super Kings (CSK) spinner Noor Ahmed and RCB fast bowler Josh Hazlewood have also taken 12 wickets each and are at fourth and fifth position

A contrasting night for the captains as Axar Patel stars in a thumping win for DC against Rishabh Pant's LSG

Delhi (Agency): On a night filled with narratives at the Ekana Stadium in Lucknow, it was Delhi Capitals who prevailed by 8 wickets in a run-chase of 160, reestablishing their credentials as contenders for the title this season. KL Rahul, returning to Lucknow for the first time since his less-than-friendly release from the franchise, hit a statement six to finish off the match, once again remaining unbeaten in a run-chase with a 42-ball 57. LSG and DC both lost their second wicket in the 12th over of their respective innings. When a well-set Abhishek Porel fell, Axar Patel walked in. There really wasn't any real pressure on DC at this stage but a couple of wickets, and with new batters needing time to settle in, it could have gotten tricky. After four dot balls against Avesh Khan, Axar wasted little time to make an impact, he took down Ravi Bishnoi in the very next over with two sixes over midwicket region, his favourite shot against spin. Back against Avesh in the next over, again after being beaten by a couple of deliveries, he took the risk to try and clear the fielder at mid off, and succeeded by hitting a four. A six off Shardul Thakur was the standout shot as he picked up a not-so-short ball with the weight still on his backfoot to send the ball over long on. It wasn't just with the bat. Axar hadn't bowled as much earlier in the season because of a finger injury he had picked up during the Champions

Trophy, but on Tuesday, he stepped up to bowl in the powerplay... right through. Three overs of Axar in the first six went for just 19 runs, as he



sent in Abdul Samad in at No 4, with another right-hander already in the middle in Mitch Marsh. Their captain, Rishabh Pant, eventually

batting first – despite having Mayank Yadav's raw pace available as a bowling sub option – also didn't quite make sense. Pant also had an ordinary day behind the stumps, when he gave into an overexcited LBW appeal from Digvesh Rathi against KL Rahul – the impact was so much outside the offstump that Rahul's planted front foot might as well have been in Delhi. While LSG's season is still pretty much on track for a playoff appearance, Pant is starting to appear increasingly rattled, his own poor form with the bat not helping matters. He took a nice return catch to dismiss Samad to ensure LSG's decision to promote him up the order didn't pay off. After being hit for three fours at the start of the 20th over by Ayush Badoni, he corrected his line to target the stumps and end a very useful cameo by LSG's crisis man in the middle order. And off the last ball, he got the better of an overly adventurous Pant.



But the undoubted highlight of the match was Mukesh Kumar's sensational yorker to Mitch Marsh. End of the 14th over, Mukesh nailed an inswinging yorker that zoned in on the base of the offstump like a heat-seeking missile controlled remotely. The release was from wide of the crease, starting from well outside the offstump, before tailing in. Marsh looked stunned. In a season where yorkers are making a grand comeback, that might just be the best of the lot.

came out to bat with two balls remaining in the innings and was out trying to play a reverse scoop off the last ball of the 20th over. "Idea was to capitalise on a wicket like that by sending Samad up, after that Miller came in... and we just really got stuck in that wicket. Eventually, these are the things we got to figure out and try to find our best combination going forward." Pant said later. His explanation for using Ayush Badoni as an Impact Sub for consecutive matches while

Shubman is excited with the victory against KKR

Kolkata (Agency). Gujarat Titans captain Shubman Gill has said that he is very excited with the victory against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). Gujarat has strengthened its position at the number one position by easily defeating the last season's winner by 39 runs. Shubman said that the team's morale has increased with two consecutive wins. He also said that the team has shown tremendous game this season. Shubman said that without talking about the winning formula, our effort is to keep playing till the end. We only talk about how to score runs in these conditions and how to take the game forward and get the result. He said that we made some mistakes in bowling but along with this, we also have to understand that you have to find a way to win and we are really good at it. With this match, Gujarat achieved its sixth victory in 8 matches of the season. With this, it remains at the top of the points table. Delhi Capitals is at the second position. It has won five out of seven matches.

Yuvraj said, there is nervousness when Shubman-Abhishek bat

Chandigarh (Agency). Former Indian cricketer Yuvraj Singh has said that he remains tense when Shubman Gill and Abhishek Sharma bat. The reason for this is that Yuvraj is the mentor of both of them and he has trained them, so he is apprehensive about how they perform. Shubman and Abhishek have also said many times that they have reached here because of Yuvraj. Both Shubman Gill and Abhishek play from Punjab. Yuvraj also came from here and reached Team India. In a recent interview, Yuvraj admitted that when Shubman and Abhishek bat, he is scared about their performance. Yuvraj's mother Shabnam Singh said that Yuvraj is very strict as a mentor, due to which many cricketers are afraid of him. She said that even Shubman and Abhishek are afraid of him. After the match, when Yuvraj calls them and asks, which shot did you play? They get nervous. Also said that Yuvraj always helps the players in improving their technical weaknesses and praises their progress. Yuvraj has always supported young cricketers and praised their performance in international cricket. He keeps helping players like Shubman and Abhishek from time to time by giving them technical advice.

Amendments approved for effective implementation of Mukhyamantri Kanya Vivah/Nikah Yojana

- Mass marriage/ Nikah conferences will be held division wise by making a calendar
- In-principle approval of Rs 145 crore for development of Tiger Reserve buffer areas
- Decisions of the Council of Ministers under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Dr. Yadav



Mass marriage/Nikah programs will be organized by issuing calendars division wise on an annual cyclical basis for Kanya Vivah and Nikah conferences. The minimum number of couples participating in the mass marriage conference organized in division wise districts has been fixed at 11 and the maximum at 200 couples. In the scheme, scrutiny of applications received in mass marriage/nikah conferences will be done at the body level

Bhopal (Agency): A meeting of the Council of Ministers was held in the Ministry on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav. The Council of Ministers approved amendments for effective implementation of the Chief Minister Kanya Vivah/Nikah Scheme. Under the scheme, the girl and the girl's parents should live below the poverty line, and their verification on the BPL portal will be mandatory.

as before. Aadhar e-KYC of the bride and groom will be mandatory on the eligible/ineligible and Samagra portal. While trying to make the financial benefits provided by the government for mass marriage programs meaningful, the cooperation of the rich and capable persons of the society will be obtained by ensuring the participation of public representatives and other social organizations in the event. In the Chief Minister Kanya Vivah and Nikah

Scheme, out of the amount of Rs 55 thousand per girl, an account payee cheque of Rs 49 thousand will be given to the bride and the remaining Rs 6 thousand will be provided to the concerned body for organizing the mass marriage ceremony. The assistance amount of Rs 49 thousand will be given to the bride's account through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and the remaining Rs 6 thousand will be provided for expenditure on the arrangements of the event.



In-principle approval of Rs 145 crore for development of buffer areas of Tiger Reserve

The Council of Ministers has given in-principle approval of Rs 145 crore for the development of buffer areas of Tiger Reserve under the new scheme for the financial year 2025-26 to 2027-28. In this scheme, various works will be done in sensitive areas in the buffer areas.

In this new scheme, chain link fencing will be constructed in sensitive areas in the buffer areas. Necessary steps will be taken for the safety of wild animals and fire safety. Pastures and water sources will be developed. Treatment and health check-up of wild animals will be done. Training will be provided for skill development of citizens. It is noteworthy that in the last 4 years, the number of tigers in the buffer areas adjoining 9 tiger reserves of Madhya Pradesh has increased from 526 to 785.

MP Transco's SCADA system upgraded as per Central Electricity Authority's guidelines: Energy Minister Tomar

Now along with monitoring, control of substations is also possible



Bhopal (Agency): Energy Minister Pradyuman Singh Tomar has informed that along with monitoring of Madhya Pradesh Power Transmission Company (MP Transco)'s extra high tension substations operating in the state, their remote control and operation will now be possible. For this, MP Transco has upgraded its old SCADA system as per Central Electricity Authority's guidelines and installed and made operational

a new SCADA system equipped with state-of-the-art technology. Yesterday, its operation started from the new control room located at Nayagaon, Jabalpur. Energy Minister Tomar informed that this new SCADA system, built at an estimated cost of about Rs 51.88 crore, has many new features as compared to the old SCADA system. As per the guidelines of Central Electricity Authority of Government of India, the new SCADA system has been upgraded as per the latest technologies and cyber security requirements. Now every minute's real time data of the state's extra high tension substations can be obtained and kept safe. This has increased the efficiency and reliability of the modern SCADA system. Along with this, there will be a significant improvement in security and data analysis capabilities.

Transco's local area network will be used for secure data

At present, keeping cyber security in mind, the data of SCADA system will be received from the local area network through optical fiber ground wire of Madhya Pradesh Power Transmission Company. The revised drawing-design and accurate tendering process by Superintending Engineer Manish Khare along with the skill knowledge of Assistant Engineer of SCADA, Atul Agarwal, contributed in upgrading SCADA.

This is the benefit of the upgrade

MP Transco Chief Engineer Amarkirti Saxena said that the new SCADA system includes advanced firewall and multi-layer security mechanism, which provide better protection from potential cyber threats. Its dashboard has the facility of advanced data analysis, which makes the decision making process more effective. Real-time data analytics will improve the accuracy and relevance of data, which

will help in better decision making and quick responses. Being a user-friendly interface, the new system is equipped with a modern and intuitive graphical user interface, which gives more efficiency and convenience to the operators. This upgrade of SCADA system will play an important role in meeting the changing international industrial standards and security requirements.

BRIEF NEWS

Increasing trend of filing rape cases against men of the family to put pressure on in-laws: Delhi Court

Delhi (Agency): The Special Court of Patiala House in Delhi acquitted 3 accused, including a 68-year-old man, of rape charges. The court admitted that the allegations leveled by the complainant woman against her father-in-law were false. The court said that in cases of marital disputes, the trend of filing rape cases against men of the family to put pressure on in-laws is increasing. The case was based on the allegations leveled by a daughter-in-law against her 68-year-old. Allegedly frustrated with her married life, the woman had accused her father-in-law of raping her. She also claimed that in an attempt to kill her, her father-in-law forcibly made her drink a chemical called 'All Out'. The court said in its decision that after a thorough investigation of the facts and evidence, the woman's testimony was found to be full of contradictions and inconsistencies. There were differences in her statements during the investigation and the trial, which has reduced her credibility. In the present circumstances, it would not be right to convict the accused only on the basis of the woman's uncorroborated testimony. During the trial, the accused's lawyer Ravi Dral argued in the court that the complainant woman has exaggerated the marital quarrel and turned it into a heinous crime. The lawyer said that it is beyond imagination that a physically disabled 68-year-old man could do such a thing to a woman 40 years younger than him. The lawyer also highlighted many contradictions in the woman's statements. The lawyer said that despite being educated, the complainant was unable to remember the exact date of the alleged incident. However, she gave detailed information about other incidents of the same time. This inconsistency cast doubt on the credibility of his claims.

Sensation spread in the area after a man was stabbed to death for refusing to give a bidi

Delhi (Agency): A young man was allegedly stabbed to death in Prahladpur area of south-east Delhi for refusing to give bidi to two people. Police gave this information on Tuesday. Police said that the elder brother of the young man and his friend were injured in this incident which took place on Monday night. Three people have been arrested in connection with the incident. Officials said that on Monday in a park, Soheb refused to give bidi to local residents Munna and Sunny, due to which both the youths slapped Soheb in anger. According to the police, Soheb went home and told his mother Sabukta about this. After this, Sabukta went to those two people along with Soheb and his elder brother Mohsin. Soheb also called his friend Akram to the spot. Police said the clash turned violent when Munna, 26, along with his brother Imtiaz, 30, and nephew Sunny, 20, attacked Soheb and his men with knives. Police said the injured were rushed to ESI Hospital, where doctors declared Soheb dead.

Central government and others asked to respond on illegal colonies in Sangam Vihar

Delhi (Agency): The National Green Tribunal has put the Central Government in the dock over the colonies illegally settled inside the forest area in Sangam Vihar area of South Delhi. Expressing displeasure over the open violation of environmental protection laws, NGT has asked the Center to file a detailed reply within a week. The tribunal has made it clear that it cannot give legal recognition to any construction that has been done by disregarding the Forest Protection Act and other environmental rules. According to the Delhi Jal Board, there are a total of 44 unauthorized colonies in Sangam Vihar area. Out of these, 22 colonies are located directly within the forest area, while the rest of the colonies are partially built on forest land.

Carbon cycle presented to Asha Malviya, the messenger of safe Madhya Pradesh in the country

Will continue to encourage the talents of the state in future too—Minister Shri Lodhi

Bhopal (Agency): Cyclist and mountaineer Ms. Asha Malviya, who spreads the message of 'safe Madhya Pradesh for women' across the country, was felicitated by Tourism Culture and Religious Trust and Endowments Minister Dharmendra Bhav Singh Lodhi and Secretary Tourism and Managing Director, MP State Tourism Development Corporation Dr. Ilaya Raja T. at Paryatan Bhavan and was sent off to Pachmarhi by handing over a very modern hybrid cycle, cycling kit as a gift from MP Tourism Development Corporation. This journey from Bhopal to Pachmarhi, then from Pachmarhi to Bhopal is being undertaken with the message of women empowerment, promotion of MP tourism, and adventurous lifestyle.

Ms. Asha Malviya will reach Pachmarhi from Bhopal via Bhimbetka, Bhimbetka to Madhai and after visiting the tourist places and sightseeing places of Pachmarhi, will stay at Hotel Amalats, the unit of the Corporation completely run by women, and will return to Bhopal from Pachmarhi via Tawa, Tawa to Salkanpur Temple. Minister Shri Lodhi while wishing Ms. Asha for her bright future in the program, said that the courageous work done by Ms. Asha will act as an inspiration for the other daughters of the state, and the Tourism Department will continue to encourage the talents of the state in future as well. Secretary Tourism and Managing Director, M.P. State Tourism Development



Corporation Dr. Ilaya Raja T. said that with the aim of increasing the number of women tourists in the tourist places of the state and providing them a fear-free environment, on the one hand the Tourism Department is implementing the "Safe Tourist Places Project for Women", while on the other hand, continuous efforts are being made to establish the state as a safe adventure tourism destination for women. The participation of women in adventure tourism is constantly increasing through the efforts of the department. It is worth mentioning that Ms. Asha Malviya has cycled 26 thousand kilometers in 29 states of the country with the support of Madhya Pradesh MP Tourism. Just a few

months ago, from 24 June 2024 to 26 January 2025, she covered a total distance of 17,500 km by doing a solo female bicycle journey from Kanyakumari to Kargil and Siachen - Umlingla. Ms Asha Malviya, a cyclist and mountaineer from Rajgarh district, promotes tourism at national and international level by sharing her experiences of expeditions and adventure travels and promotes tourist destinations of Madhya Pradesh more effectively through her cycle tours. Features of modern hybrid bicycles and cycling kits Advanced grade carbon frame, excellent power transfer, Shimano 105 gear system, tubeless-ready wheels and tyres, aerodynamic design – more speed, less fatigue.

Delhi High Court orders Medha Patkar in 23-year-old case

Delhi (Agency): The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked social activist Medha Patkar to approach the sessions court for permission to postpone the execution of her sentence. She was asked to deposit a fine of Rs 1 lakh in a defamation case involving Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena. Saxena had filed the case 23 years ago when he was heading an NGO in Gujarat. The sessions court, which had earlier convicted 70-year-old Medha in the defamation case, on April 8 released her on good conduct and put a condition on her to deposit a fine of Rs 1 lakh. Probation is a method of non-institutional treatment of law violators and conditional suspension of sentence, in which, after being convicted, the offender is released on a

bond of good conduct instead of being sent to jail. As Justice Shalindar Kaur was not inclined to consider

sessions court with this plea. "You first follow the trial court's order. Then I will consider your plea. Do not

bond and depositing the amount. To this, the High Court recorded the arguments of the petitioner's lawyer and said that the application should be considered by the trial court in accordance with law. The court has listed the matter for May 19, which is the already fixed date for hearing Patkar's plea challenging the April 2 verdict of the sessions court. The High Court had upheld her sentence awarded in the case by the magistrate court. On July 1, 2024, the magistrate court found the Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) leader guilty under section 500 (defamation) of the IPC and sentenced her to five months' simple imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh.



Patkar's plea seeking direction to the trial court to postpone the execution of her sentence including deposit of fine amount, her lawyer said that he will approach the

come to the court on the last day," Justice Kaur said. To this, Patkar's lawyer said that the matter is listed in the sessions court on Wednesday for submitting probation

BJP is going to cut the pension of thousands of widows, AAP's big claim

Delhi (Agency): Aam Aadmi Party has accused the Rekha Gupta government of Delhi. The party's Delhi convenor Saurabh Bhardwaj has claimed that BJP is going to cut the pension of thousands of widows in Delhi. Along with this, he has also said that widows and divorced women have not been given pension for the last two months and they are constantly visiting the government

office. Saurabh Bhardwaj said in the press conference, it has been more than 2 months since the BJP government came to power in Delhi. He said, it has been reported that the BJP government of Delhi is going to cut the pension of thousands of widows. Women were getting this pension for many years. He said, we are requesting the government that this is a very sensitive matter.

Home Ministry cuts Atishi's security

Delhi (Agency): The Home Ministry has ordered a reduction in the security of former Delhi Chief Minister Atishi. The ministry has asked the Delhi Police to reduce Atishi's security category from Z to Y. An official said that this decision has been taken after a review of Atishi's threat assessment by central security agencies, which concluded that there is no new or significant threat that requires continuation of Z category security. Police sources said that this directive was issued recently when the security unit of Delhi Police sought guidance from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) regarding Atishi's security status. Earlier, she had also spoken up on Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief Arvind Kejriwal's Z-plus category security and asked whether it should be continued? The official

said that although the ministry had initially advised not to make any changes in the security arrangements implemented for both Kejriwal and Atishi, it later directed the Delhi Police to reduce Atishi's security to Y category. Under the Y category security arrangement, Atishi will now be guarded by around 12 personnel, including two Delhi Police commandos. The reduction in security also means that some privileges, such as the pilot vehicle that used to accompany her convoy during her brief tenure as chief minister, will now be withdrawn. The official said that in March, the Delhi Police had proposed to withdraw the Y category security given to former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, AAP MLA Ajay Dutt and former Delhi Speaker Ram Niwas Goel. Security to political leaders is given or changed based on the threat assessment done from time to time by central intelligence and security agencies on the instructions of the Home Ministry. Atishi was provided Z category security after assuming office as chief minister.

