PEOPLE'S



First Copy of Indian Edition of "Admin in India "Presented to UP **CM Yogi**



UK PM Starmer says British workers not sold out in India trade deal after Opposition complains about concessions

Deepika Padukone recalls growing up with celeb dad Prakash Padukone, wants to do the same for daughter Dua:...



Leave of officers and employees of these 13 government departments in MP canceled enemies of the country. He was

Bhopal (Agency): In view of the military conflict between India and Pakistan and the current situation in the country, the Madhya Pradesh government has banned upcoming leaves in 13 departments. In the order issued on Friday night, all types of upcoming leaves of officers of 13 departments including Home and Health and Medical Education have been canceled. Leave can be granted only after taking special permission

The order issued by the General Administration Department said, "In view of the unprecedented situation, the state government has banned all types of upcoming leaves of all government staff working in 13 departments with immediate effect till further

These departments are:- Public Health and Medical Education, Home, Energy, Urban Housing, Development and Rural and Health Public Development,

Engineering, Food, Civil Supply and Consumer Protection, Public Works, Revenue, General Administration, Water Resources, Narmada Valley Development and Transport, the officers of these departments will be given leave only in exceptional cases like poor health, marriage or death in the family with the permission of the Collectors at the district level and Secretaries at the state level. This order has been implemented with immediate effect. It has been



employees of all these departments should be present at their headquarters. Earlier in the day, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav held a high-level meeting here to review the security arrangements in the state.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Friday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said that under his leadership the armed forces have acquired all the capabilities required to give a befitting reply to the speaking to the media after laying the foundation stone of a tourism development project worth Rs 10 crore at pilgrimage site Jageshwar Nath Dham in Bandakpur in Damoh district. Mohan Yadav said, "Our armed forces have acquired all the capabilities under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last 10-11 years to give a befitting reply to our enemies and for this we should thank the Prime Minister.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and CM Yogi Adityanath to inaugurate **BrahMos missile unit** in Lucknow today

(Agency): Lucknow will mark a historic milestone in India's defence journey on Sunday with the inauguration of the BrahMos supersonic Jhansi, and Chitrakoot—where of 290 to 400 km and a top speed cruise missile production unit, a part of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor.

circumstances.

Launched by Chief Yogi Minister Adityanath and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh (joining virtually from Delhi), the facility will underscore India's push for self-reliance in defence and prove to be a major boost to UP's industrial growth. It will signal a powerful stride towards strengthening India's indigenous defence manufacturing

On this occasion, CM Yogi Adityanath and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will also inaugurate the Titanium and Super ucts. Alloys Materials Plant (Strateplex). This plant will produce high-quality materials for the aerospace and defence sectors, which will be used in missions like Chandrayaan and in fighter jets. Along with this, the BrahMos Aerospace Integration and Testing Facility will also be launched. This facility will play a key role in testing and assembling missiles.

The UP Defence Industrial Corridor, announced by Prime of cost by the Yogi government. Minister Narendra Modi in 2018,

India will maintain firm

& uncompromising

position against

the stoppage of firing and mili-

tary action. He spoke to US Sec-

Pakistan with its full might."Had

a conversation with US Marco

@SecRubio this morning.

major investments are being

BRAHMOS Launched in 2019, Uttar

ing defence imports. boosting indigenous production, generating employment. stone for a Defence Testing Infrastructure System (DTIS) will also be laid at the Lucknow node. This system will help in testing and certifying defence prod-Short films will be shown and Chitrakoot—are located gic Materials Technology Com- during the inauguration cer- near major expressways like the

> ment Authority (UPEIDA). ens India's defence self-reliance and supports its role in the glo-Completed in three and a half

BrahMos unit, the foundation

emony, highlighting BrahMos Aerospace, Aero Alloy Technology, and the Defence Corridor. DRDO Secretary Dr Sameer V Kamat will deliver the welcome speech, while Sachin Agarwal, Chairman of PTC Industries, will talk about the company's contribution. Built at a cost of Rs 300 crore, the BrahMos production unit in Lucknow stands on 80 hectares of land provided free

has been a top priority for the years, the facility will manufac-Yogi government. There are six ture the world's fastest supernodes in this corridor— sonic cruise missile—a joint In-Lucknow, Kanpur, Aligarh, Agra, dia-Russia project with a range of Mach 2.8. The BrahMos can made to boost defence manufac- be launched from land, sea, or turing. In addition to the air and uses a "fire and forget"

system, making it highly precise and difficult to in-

Pradesh is the second state after Tamil Nadu to establish a Defence Industrial Corridor. Both corridors are key to the 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives, aimed at reduc-

and encouraging participation from private firms, MSMEs, and startups. The six nodes in Uttar Pradesh's corridor—Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Aligarh, Agra, Purvanchal Expressway and Ganga Expressway. This ensures smooth transport and logistics. The corridor is being developed under the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Develop-

Its strategic location offers excellent logistics for transporting raw materials, finished products, and exports. This strengthbal supply chain.

! Pakistan launches 'Operation Bunyan-un-Marsoos' against India, targets civilian, military sites

terror: Jaishankar New Delhi (Agency): Four New Delhi (Agency): Soon | days after India conducted after India and Pakistan declared strikes on terror camps in Pakia ceasefire, External Affairs Minstan and Pakistan-occupied ister S Jaishankar asserted that Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan India will continue to maintain a announced the launch of 'Opfirm and uncomproeration Bunyan-un-Marsoos' on mising position Saturday. The announcement

against terrorism. was made through Radio "India has consis-Pakistan, according to multently maintained a tiple reports. 'Bunyan-unfirm and uncompromising stance Marsoos,' which translates against terrorism in all its forms to "solid wall of lead," is a and manifestations. It will conreference to a verse from tinue to do so," he said on X. I the Quran: "Indeed, Allah Mr Jaishankar, who spoke to loves those who fight in nearly a dozen foreign ministers His cause in ranks as since hostilities erupted between though they are a solid

the two South Asian countries, structure." On Saturday, said India and Pakistan have | the Pakistani military launched worked out an understanding on aggressive operations targeting both military and civilian infrastructure at more than 26 locaretary of State Marco Tubio this tions along the western border morning during which he told | and the Line of Control.

the latter that India was not in-The attacks, which were terested in escalation but would largely neutralized by the Indian respond to any aggression from Armed Forces, stretched from Srinagar to Naliya. According to statements from the Ministry of Tubio this morning and External Affairs and the Ministry of Defence, limited damage

was reported to equipment and personnel at Indian Air Force stations in Udhampur, Pathankot, Adampur, and Bhuj.

Pakistan deployed a range of weaponry in the operation, including UCAVs, drones, longrange artillery, loitering muni-



tions, and fighter jets. Several high-speed missile attacks were also detected after 1:40 AM, targeting air bases across Punjab.

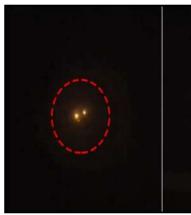
Shockingly, Pakistan also targeted medicare centres and school facilities located at the air bases in Srinagar, Awantipora, and Udhampur. In response, the Indian Armed Forces launched Operation Sindoor, executing precision strikes exclusively on identified Pakistani military targets.

Pakistan violates ceasefire, targets Pokaran; Indian air defence foils attack

Jammu (Agency): Within just three and a half hours of the ceasefire announcement, Pakistan violated the agreement and launched another air strike targeting Pokaran in Jaisalmer on Saturday night.

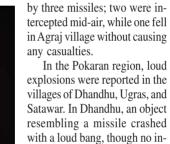
Responding swiftly, the Indian Air Defence System intercepted the drone attack, successfully shooting down one drone near the Pokaran Cantonment. Barmer District Collector Tina Dabi, sensing the imminent threat, promptly ordered a strict blackout across the district in compliance with emergency pro-

Similar advisories were issued in Sriganganagar, where the administration urged residents to remain alert but calm and to switch off lights in their homes. the escalating tensions.



Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma convened an emergency meeting with top officials to review the situation across the border districts. The state's preparedness and response were reassessed amid

Earlier in the day—before the ceasefire was declared—Pakistan had already targeted several key Indian military installations, including Phalodi and Pokaran in Jaisalmer, and Uttarlai and Jalipa in Barmer.



juries or damage were reported. Meanwhile, residents in Lathi region of Jaisalmer reported hearing three massive explosions audible up to 50 km away. A similar incident occurred in the Gida area of Balotra district, where defence personnel recovered another munition.

Debris from drones and missiles dropped during the air strike was collected from several The Phalodi air base was hit rural areas of Jaisalmer. Warning

sirens were sounded repeatedly in Barmer, Bikaner, and even at the Nal air base. Jodhpur also reported multiple siren alerts on Saturday, indicating continued threat levels.

A defence spokesperson condemned Pakistan's actions, stating: "Pakistan's blatant escalation with drone strikes and other munitions continues along our western borders. This attempt to violate India's sovereignty and endanger civilians is unacceptable. The Indian Army will thwart enemy designs."

In a tragic development, Sergeant Surendra Singh Moga, a medical assistant from Mehradasi village in Jhunjhunu, was martyred while on duty at the 30 Air Force Wing in Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir.

India warns of strong retaliation amidst | Drones spotted in Kutch; Gujarat imposes fresh ceasefire violations by Pakistan

New Delhi (Agency): Barely a few hours after a ceasefire was announced between India and Pakistan, areas near the Line of

Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) witnessed a series of ceasefire violations late Saturday night.

In a late-night briefing, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri stated that there had been repeated violations of the

understanding reached earlier that evening between the Directors General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan.

This is a breach of the understanding arrived at earlier to-

day. The armed forces are responding adequately and appropriately to these violations, and we take them very, very seriously," he said.

> "We call upon Pakistan to take appropriate steps to address these violations and to handle the situation with seriousness and responsibility. The armed forces are maintaining a strong

vigil and have been instructed to respond firmly to any further violations along the IB and the LoC," Misri added.

Earlier, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah

expressed alarm on social media platform X, tweeting, "What the hell just happened to the ceasefire? Explosions heard across Srinagar!!!"

Amid the ceasefire an-

nouncement, India warned that

its armed forces are prepared to retaliate in case of any "misadventures" by Pakistan. In another post, Abdullah shared a video, commenting,

"This is no ceasefire. The air defence units in the middle of Srinagar just opened up.'

The ceasefire came after days of heightened tensions following the Pahalgam terror attack and the subsequent launch of Operation Sindoor.

complete blackout hours after ceasefire

New Delhi (Agency): Just hours after India and Pakistan agreed to a ceasefire — an agreement US President Donald Trump claimed was brokered by



across the region.

sightings, stating, "Several drones have been spotted in the Kutch district. A complete black-



his team — reports emerged of multiple drones being spotted in Gujarat's Kutch district. In response, a complete blackout was immediately imposed

Gujarat Home Minister Harsh Sanghavi confirmed the

out will be implemented now. Please stay safe and don't

panic," he posted on X. The Kachchh Collector's Office also issued an official order. "A blackout is declared in the entire Kutch district with immediate effect, and all citizens are asked to strictly follow it," read a

statement from the District Collector. This latest development has raised fresh concerns despite the ceasefire agreement, which was announced earlier today following heightened tensions along the border and days of military escalation.

Indo-Pak conflict hits Char Dham Yatra, Uttarakhand tourism; hotel bookings and flights drop

Dehradun (Agency): The Indo-Pak conflict has started impacting the Char Dham pilgrimage and tourism in Uttarakhand, with more than half of the hotel and flight bookings cancelled in the last 2-3 days. Hoteliers in tourist destinations like Mussoorie and Nainital are not receiving new bookings. Nearly half of the advance hotel bookings by non-religious tourists and devotees on the Char Dham Yatra routes have been cancelled in the last 2-3 days.

According to hoteliers, a large

number of bookings on the

Badrinath and Kedarnath

shrine routes for May and

June have been cancelled.

This has caused concern among hoteliers in the state, particularly those along the Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, and Yamunotri routes, as their economy depends on tourism.

A significant number of hoteliers in the Uttarakhand hills are those who invest substantial amounts to acquire hotels on lease for a certain period, keeping in view the tourist season during the Char Dham Yatra. These hotel owners are now worried about their businesses as tourism often dips after June due to the monsoon season. Apart from this, tourists, mainly from Maharashtra, West Bengal, and southern states, who usually travel by air for the Char

Dham pilgrimage, have also cancelled their flights following the Government of India's decision to close several airports. This has also led to further cancella-

tions of hotel bookings.

Speaking to the media, Uttarakhand Char Dham Hotel Association President Rajesh Mehta said, "Many flights have been cancelled due to the closure of several airports across the

country amid the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan. A majority of the devotees coming for the Char Dham Yatra from South Indian states first travel to

Delhi or directly to Dehradun by air. In light of the difficulties caused by the closure of airports, devotees are now cancelling hotel bookings." Atul Shah, a hotelier on the Badrinath route in Chamoli, said that most

of his bookings from May 15 to June 10 have been cancelled. He added that he and other hoteliers have started returning the booking amounts to devotees. The Char Dham pilgrimage has been severely affected within just 2-3 days of the India-Pakistan conflict. Now, only one or two rooms are booked compared to almost 100 percent bookings earlier, claimed TP Thapliyal, a hotelier in Chamoli on the Badrinath route. The situation is similar for hotel owners in hill towns like Mussoorie and Nainital. May and June are considered the peak tourism season, but the number of visitors has significantly dropped in the last 2-3 days. While hotel bookings in Mussorie, known as the 'Oueen of Hills'. have fallen to nearly 40 percent, more than 90 percent of advance bookings from May 15 to June have been cancelled in

Moral values are the foundation of spiritual happiness



Rewa. The 6-day training of teachers from various Sandipani schools of Rewa and Shahdol divisions by the State Anand Sansthan in collaboration with the School Education Department has started at Utkrisht Vidyalaya Martand School No. 1. The inaugural session included the state's resource person Uday Jatav, resource person Abha Mishra from Delhi, State Anand Sansthan's

program officer Dr. Kamlesh Prasad Tiwari, Joint Director School Education K.P. Tiwari, Madhya Pradesh State Anand Sansthan's district

Anand Sabha residential training for school teachers begins

contact person Dr. Mukesh Yengel, District Education Officer Sudama Prasad Gupta, Principal of Utkrisht Vidyalaya J.P. Jaiswal, Principal Devraj Singh, Senior Lecturer Shivesh Srivastava, including male and female teachers of Rewa and Shahdol divisions. Addressing the teachers from various schools of Rewa and Shahdol divisions of the state on the occasion of the inauguration of the 6-day teacher training workshop based on universal values, the Joint Director Education expressed gratitude to the Anand Department and said that this training will benefit not only the teachers of the state but also lakhs of students. Anand Sansthan Bhopal's Program Officer Dr. Kamlesh Tiwari provided detailed information about Anand Sansthan. In the preparation meeting held in Rewa before the start of the training, State Anand Sansthan Anand Department Director Satya Prakash Arya informed about the various activities of the institute and said that the teacher trainees should not have the intention of merely learning moral values and then teaching them to others, first try living these values in your own daily routine. Our aim is not to teach others but to first inculcate them in our own lives. In the training sessions to be held in five batches, 100 teachers are being enrolled in each batch. In the inaugural session of the training, Dr. Kamlesh Tiwari of Anand Department from Bhopal, trained volunteer Asha Ahirwar, Shama Bano, Rewa's district contact person Dr. Mukesh Yengal, SK School Principal Dr. Mithilesh Singh Gaharwar, Anand associate Shahid Parvez, Shivanand and other teachers

Ankit Basu saved the life of Suraj, who was suffering from a serious disease like jaundice, by donating blood

Staff Reporter

Banda. Sunil Saxena, media in-charge of Savers of Life organization, said that on Saturday, President Salman Khan got information that 19-year-old Suraj, who is suffering from jaundice in the district hospital, has only 2 points of blood left and he needs blood urgently. Please help me. On getting information about the demand placed in the demand group, Municipal Council President representative Ankit Basu, who is an active BJP official, immediately came to the blood bank and donated blood to Suraj and gave him life. Let us tell you that Savers of Life organization has been helping the needy for many years with the help of its blood donors. It has saved the lives of about 3000 people with the blood donation of its colleagues. Gradually people are becoming aware and are giving their important contribution in this noble work, for which we thank all that there is no religion greater than humanity. Because service to man is service to God. Ankit said that by joining the Savers of Life organization, inspire every needy person to donate blood and I appeal to the people of the city to become witness to the works for human welfare by donating blood to every needy person. We all wish for a bright future for Ankit Basu and all appreciate him for donating blood to help the needy in the society. On the occasion of blood donation, Chairman of Savers of Life Salman Khan, Advisor/Media Incharge Sunil Saxena, Divesh Kumar Monu, Pramod Dwivedi, Pankaj Jaiswal, etc were present.

Accused of demolishing the boundary wall with JCB machine and taking away the material

Staff Reporter

Maudha. Last night in the town some people demolished the boundary with a JCB machine and took away the material in a tractor trolley. The victim has appealed for justice by giving a complaint letter to the police station. Fayyaz son of Bashir Khan, a resident of village Gusiari of Kotwali area, told in the complaint letter given to the police station that a long time ago he had bought a plot of 40×40 feet in Kapasa road from Momina wife of Abdul Hameed, a resident of Hussainia. After which he got the construction work done by registering it in the records of the municipality, but last night Farid Uddin alias Mahmood, Abdul Shakoor, Aqeel, Anjum Bano etc., residents of Hussainia, came with a JCB machine and demolished his construction and also took away the material in a tractor trolley, due to which the victim has suffered a loss of about four lakh rupees. Not only this, the said people are threatening his life and property. The victim has appealed for justice by giving a complaint letter to the Kotwali police.

Successful disclosure of the blind murder case of a young girl

■ The deceased's cousin had killed her by hitting her neck with an axe

The accused was arrested by the police, the murder weapon and the deceased's mobile phone were recovered

Staff Reporter

Banda. On the instructions of SP, in the campaign being run to control crime and criminals in the district and to arrest wanted accused. Bisanda police station successfully uncovered the murder of a girl by slitting her throat with a sharp weapon in the early hours of May 9 and arrested the accused. It is noteworthy that in village Lauli Tikamou of Bisanda police station, Priyanka daughter of Ram Pratap, aged about 25 years, was badly injured by an unknown accused in a room with a sharp weapon by attacking her neck with a sharp weapon. She was taken to the hospital by her family for treatment where she died during treatment. In this regard, a case was registered at Bisanda police station. The Superintendent of Police had deployed 03 teams under the leadership of Area Magistrate Baberu Saurabh Singh for quick disclosure of the incident and arrest of the accused. In the course of investigation and inquiry, the police collected physical and technical evidence and after analyzing the evidence, successfully disclosed the incident within 24 hours and arrested the accused. The sequence of events in the investigation was that Harishchandra, the son of the real aunt of the deceased Priyanka, was talking to her for the last few months and both were having a love affair, the family members of

about Harishchandra often came to meet Priyanka and asked her to marry him, but being a cousin, Priyanka refused to marry him. On the night of 08/09 May also, he came to meet Priyanka and started talking to her about marriage, but Priyanka refused him. Angered by this, he attacked Privanka's neck three times with an axe lying nearby and thinking her dead, ran away from there. In the morning, when the family members saw Priyanka soaked in blood, she was admitted to the hospital. Where he died during treatment. The name of the arrested accused is Harishchandra son Chunnu Verma, age 20 years, resident of Punahur police station

DM heard the problems of the complainants on the police station resolution day

The event was held in Kotwali Nagar

Staff Reporter

Saturday, Banda. On Samadhan Diwas organized in Kotwali Nagar under the chairmanship of District Magistrate J. Reebha. In Samadhan Diwas, the District Magistrate listened to the problems of the people and directed the police and revenue officials to resolve them immediately. While hearing the police cases related to land disputes and measurement and mutual department, he instructed the revenue officials along with the police to go to the spot and resolve the problems. In Samadhan Diwas, after



on the complaint of a complainant about his house being occupied, instructions were given to take action on basis of mutual agreement. In Samadhan Diwas, Superintendent of Police Palash Bansal also instructed the police officers listening to both the parties to resolve the problems Tehsildar Sadar were present.

received in Samadhan Diwas quickly and in a quality manner. He instructed that the problems should not remain pending for a long time. In Samadhan Diwas, the police station in-charge of Kotwali along with the concerned police officers and

Middle aged man hanged himself in wedding house, died

Staff Reporter

Hamirpur. After seeing off his niece, the uncle got drunk and hanged himself in the room and committed suicide. The family took him to the district hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

information, the police filled the Panchnama of the dead body and sent it for postmortem. Ramnarayan son of Brajlal Khangar (30), a resident of Bajheta of Lalpura police station area, had a wedding procession of his niece Neha from district Jalaun on Thursday. After seeing off his niece on Friday, Ramnarayan got drunk and hanged himself inside the room at around 2.30 pm. The family and relatives took him to the district hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

MP's 'Meena' is increasing the pain of UP's roads

Illegal sand extraction continues under the patronage of mining businessmen

■ The bridge situated in Girwan can collapse anytime

Rampur mine of MP started with sand from **UP**

Staff Reporter

bridge connecting two states situated on Ken river in Girwan can collapse anytime due to the activities of notorious mining businessman Meena of two states. The reason is clear that the overloaded trucks filled with sand from Madhya Pradesh are taken out in the dark of night by ignoring the orders of the former District Magistrate. The condition of

deteriorated due overloaded vehicles from Madhya Pradesh. This is the reason that people keep losing their lives in accidents on

the roads of Uttar Pradesh has

the deceased also had some



these roads every day. Let us tell you that this bridge onnecting Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh was built by Nasimuddin Siddiqui, a powerful minister of the BSP government. But the game of taking sand from the Ken river in Nikalpur, UP to Madhya Pradesh by pulling it with the help of lifter machines by the notorious

businessman Meena and his alleged associate Javed, who are notorious for looting the the night. In this alleged red gold of UP and MP, is going on openly. As if this was not enough, ever since the entry of the mining businessman named Javed in this syndicate, the theft of sand has increased manifold. A huge amount is being earned by stealing sand from UP, loading it in overloaded

trucks and then passing it through UP in the darkness of Ken river in Nihalpur, UP is falling day by day. Even after this, the game of illegal mining continues unabated under the patronage of Meena and Javed without any fear. According to sources, every day hundreds of overloaded trucks filled with sand from

Rampur mine of Madhya Pradesh are passed through the marked places under Seodha and Mataundh area under Girwan area. If sources are to be believed, since the mining businessman named Javed has entered this unethical work, this work is being done many times faster. On getting the location of Meena and Javed's trucks in the dark of the night, hundreds of overloaded trucks are passed through Girwan of Girwan police station area under Banda district of Uttar Pradesh every day. Apart from this, it is common to see overloaded trucks filled with sand from Madhya Pradesh passing through Mataundh police station area. Sources tell that mining businessman named Javed has set up the whole matter. No one has the courage to interfere in this illegal game of Javed and Meena. The bridge situated on Ken river in Girwan area is shaking due to Javed's

DM had banned overloading

with power Taking cognizance of media reports, the then District Magistrate had banned the movement of overloaded vehicles from Madhya Pradesh from the bridge built on Ken river situated under Girwan area. As long as she was posted here as District Magistrate, the movement of overloaded vehicles remained stopped. After her departure, a notorious mining businessman named Javed flouted her orders and set up the responsible persons and started illegally taking out overloaded trucks in the dark of night with the help of the location of his Which is continuing unabated even today.

oppression.

Despite the NDPS Act, drugs are being sold openly, when will strict action be taken?

■ Treatment without license, playing with the lives of patients!

Indifference of the Health Department is increasing arbitrariness

Staff Reporter

Pratapgarh. Most of the medical stores in the district are no longer just places to sell medicines. Rather, they have become notorious centers for illegal sale of drugs, treatment without license and black marketing of fake medicines. This is not only a violation of the law, but the lives of patients are also being played with. Drugs like Tramadol, Corex, Alprazolam and other narcotics are being sold

Which are causing addiction especially among youth and students. These drugs are banned under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS). But despite this, the trade of these drugs is increasing day by day. Along with this, treatment is being done without license at many medical stores in the district. The owners here are examining and treating patients by considering themselves doctors, which is a crime by law. Generic medicines are being sold at high prices by packing them in patent medicines at these illegal medical stores, due to which patients are being cheated. Commissioneering is also involved in this entire racket. Where patients are pressured by doctors and hospitals to buy medicines

openly at medical stores



from specific medical stores, and in return they get commission. This game is harming the patients both financially and health wise, violating the rights to health medicine. indifference of the Health Medicine Department has given an opportunity to these illegal activities to flourish. These activities of selling narcotic drugs and unlicensed treatment fall under the category of quackery and fraud, which is a punishable offense under the Indian Penal Code. The department officials will have to rein in these illegal medical stores. In public interest, it is necessary that strict steps be taken to stop these illegal activities as soon as possible. So that patients can get safe and effective treatment and illegal sale of narcotic drugs can be

Accused of raping a girl and making the video viral. complaint lodged

Staff Reporter Pratapgarh, Lalganj. The

victim has demanded action by giving a complaint letter to the CO on Saturday regarding the allegations of raping the girl and making the video viral. The victim of a village in the Udaipur police station area alleges that her marriage was fixed last year with the accused, a resident of a village under Deeh police station of Raebareli Meanwhile, the accused deceived her and committed the crime of rape. Not only this, the accused also made her video clip and photograph. After this, the accused refused to marry. When the victim's family fixed her marriage elsewhere, the accused with bad intentions sent the victim's video to people and made it viral. CO Ramsurat Sonkar says that the Udaipur police station in-charge has instructed to investigate the matter and take appropriate action.

LIC launches facility for 'Premium payment through WhatsApp Bot'

MUMBAI: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on Friday unveiled online facility for "Premium payment through WhatsApp bot".

This feature was launched at the hands of Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD in the presence of Managing Directors, M Jagannath, Tablesh Pandey, Sat Pal Bhanoo and R Doraiswamy and other Senior Officials of the Corporation.

This option will provide LIC customers one more alternate option to pay Premium online. Registered Customer portal users can use WhatsApp number 8976862090 to find



Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)

for payment and directly make the payment through UPI/Net banking/Cards within the WhatsApp bot. The full Customer journey of identifying policies due for premium till out the policies which are due payment and receipt genera-

PSBs refute rumours, say ATMs

well stocked & fully functional

tion happens within the What-

Speaking on this occasion, Shri Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD, LIC of India, said that this option will provide ease of operations for LIC's Customers and will be a handy tool to pay LIC premiums from anywhere, anytime through the fast growing medium of WhatsApp. This option will help to enhance efficiency and productivity ensuring better services to LIC's customers. LIC's customer portal has over 2.2 crore registered policyholders, with over 3 lakh customers logging in every day for availing various

ity utilization of 105 per cent in e March quarter. Though realisation for the

KOLKATA: Birla Corporation

Ltd concluded FY25 with robust

quarterly production and sales

by volume, which resulted in a

consolidated net profit for the

March quarter, growing 33 per

cent year-on-year (y-o-y), to Rs

This came after three chal-

lenging quarters that had

affected the entire industry. An

uptick in demand and prices

during the quarter led to better

realisation and a higher capac-

257 crore.

CLOSER LOOK

» An uptick in demand & prices in the quarter led to better

realisation & a higher capacity utilization of 105% Birla Corp & its subsidiary, RCCPL, will invest Rs 4,335

crore to scale up production capacity by 2028-29

EBITDA per ton rose to Rs 1,014—one of the highest in recent years. It represents a growth of 5 per cent year-on-year and 78 per cent sequentially

same period last year (Rs 5,178 per ton) owing to the changed geographical mix, consolidated revenue for the quarter at Rs 2,863 crore was 7 per cent

highest in recent years. It represents a growth of 5 per cent y-o-y and 78 per cent sequentially. The Cement Division's operating profit margin was 20 quarter at Rs 5,103 per ton was higher yoy. EBITDA per ton per cent for the March quarter, still marginally lower than the rose to Rs 1,014--one of the compared to 18.6 per cent in

Birla Corporation Q4 net profit rises 33% to ₹257 crore

This came after three challenging quarters that had affected the entire industry

the same period last year, and 14 per cent for the full year (15.5 per cent in FY23-24).

Capex: With stabilization of earlier expansions, mainly at Mukutban, in Maharashtra, and Chanderia, in Rajasthan, and consolidation of the Company's position in the core markets of central India, Birla Corporation Ltd is now embarking on its next phase of growth. The Board of Birla Corporation Ltd, along with its subsidiary, RCCPL Pvt Ltd, approved an investment of Rs 4,335 crore to scale up the production capacity from 20 million tons (mt) to 27.6 mt by 2028-29, by expanding an

three new grinding units. The expanded capacity includes the ongoing expansion at Kundanganj, which is progressing on

RCCPL Pvt Ltd will invest Rs 2,300 crore into its Maihar (Madhya Pradesh) unit to expand its clinker production

The clinker produced at Maihar will be fed to the three new grinding units, to be set up at Prayagraj, Gaya and Aligarh, for which Birla Corporation Ltd, and its subsidiary, RCCPL, have budgeted for an investment of Rs 2.035 crore.

State Bank, 7 other lenders to sell 20% stake in Yes Bank to Japan's SMBC for ₹13,483 crore

NEW DELHI: Dismissing rumours, public sector banks including State Bank of India (SBI) and Punjab National Bank (PNB) on Friday said their ATMs are fully functional, well-stocked, and that digital services are operating smoothly.

The announcements came against the backdrop of reports on social media that ATMs are likely to be shut in the coming days on account of rising tension between India and Pakistan. They also said that all their digital services are operating

"All our ATMs, CDMs/ ADWMs and digital services are fully operational and available for public use," India's largest bank, SBI, said in a post on X. India's largest lender also advised its customers not to in the border states to be cau-



"All our digital services too are operating smoothly, ensuring a seamless banking experience from the comfort of your home," PNB said in social media post. Similar messages have been posted by Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, Union Bank of India, Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and Puniab & Sind Bank

Union Bank of India MD and CEO A Manimekhalai has said the bank has asked its staff rely on unverified information. tious and follow all the guide-

India's largest lender SBI advised its customers not to rely on unverified information

lines issued by the local state level banking committee.

Apart from that, the bank is ensuring that adequate cash is kept at the branches and ATMs so that economic activities are not impacted, the CEO said, adding that it has also upped the cybersecurity defence.

Canara Bank in a post on X said, "all out ATMs are functioning as usual. Please don't fall prey to the rumours. Canara Bank is always at your service and your money is safe

NEW DELHI: State Bank of India (SBI) and seven other lenders on Friday announced

transaction, SMBC will become the single largest shareholder of Mumbai-based Yes Bank.

Of the 20 per cent stake, SBI would dilute 13.19 per cent stake in Yes Bank in favour of SMBC for a consideration of Rs 8,889 crore, while 6.81 per cent shareholding will be offloaded by seven other lenders -- Axis Bank, Bandhan Bank, Federal Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, IDFC First Bank and Kotak After the completion of the transaction. SMBC will become the single largest shareholder of Yes Bank

Mahindra Bank -- for about Rs 4,594 crore.

SBI and the seven investor lenders had invested in the bank as part of the YES Bank Recon-

The executive committee

Yes Bank for a consideration of Rs 8,888.97 crore, SBI said in a regulatory filing. SBI, which currently holds

24 per cent stake in Yes Bank, will be left with a little over 10 per cent stake after the dilution.

Among other lenders, HDFC Bank had 2.75 per cent, ICICI Bank 2.39 per cent, Kotak Mahindra Bank 1.21 per cent, Axis Bank 1.01 per cent, IDFC First Bank 0.92 per cent, Federal Bank 0.76 per cent and Band-han Bank 0.70 per cent as on March 31, 2025.

"This transaction is the largest cross-border investment in the Indian banking sector... the transaction is a significant milestone to drive YES Bank's next phase of growth, profitability and value creation and we expect to leverage SMBC's global expertise in this phase,"

Yes Bank said in a separate filing.

The transaction is subject

to the necessary regulatory and statutory approvals including from the Reserve Bank of India and Competition Commission of India and will be subject to customary closing conditions, it said

SMBC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc (SMFG). SMFG is the second largest banking group in Japan with total assets of USD 2 trillion as of December 2024 with strong global presence.

SMBC is among the leading foreign banks in India and SMFG's wholly-owned subsidiary SMFG India Credit Company Limited is among the largest diversified NBFCs

to stay SEBI's interim ban order on Gensol **Engineering**

SAT refuses



Mumbai (Agency): The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) on Wednesday refused to stay an interim order of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) that barred Gensol Engineering Ltd (GEL) and its promoterdirectors Anmol Singh Jaggi and Puneet Singh Jaggi from accessing the securities market amid allegations of fund diversion, forgery and misleading disclosures.

SAT directed Gensol to file its

reply to the interim order passed by SEBI and further directed the market regulator to pass a final order within four weeks of hearing Gensol. SEBI in April barred Gensol Engineering and its promoters from the securities markets till further orders in a case related to alleged fund diversion and governance lapses. The regulator has also debarred Anmol and Puneet Singh Jaggi from holding the position of a director or key managerial personnel in Gensol until further orders. Further, the watchdog directed GEL to

UK PM Starmer says British workers not sold out in India trade deal after Opposition complains about concessions

London (Agency): British Prime Minister Starmer Wednesday dismissed the idea that he had sold out British workers by giving a tax break to some Indian workers as part of a free trade agreement with India, calling the claims "incoherent nonsense".

Tuesday, which includes a range of tariff cuts on British imports to India, also exempts some short-term workers from India from paying into Britain's social security system for three years.

The trade deal announced

The exemption under the so-called Double Contributions Convention (DCC) also applies to British workers in India, but while Britain barely made mention of this element of the trade deal, India hailed it as a "huge

British opposition parties accused the government of signing up to a deal that would unfairly benefit India.

"Our India trade deal ... is good for British jobs. The criticism on the double taxation is incoherent nonsense," Starmer told parliament. "It's in the agreements that we've already got with 50 other countries."

Britain has social security agreements with the European Union and including countries Switzerland, Canada, Japan and Chile, with some deals allowing for five-year exemptions, which ensure migrant workers are not taxed in two countries at one time. India also has similar agreements with other nations.

Britain expects the DCC agreement with India to cost around 100 million



pounds (\$133 million) a

Social security, known as National Insurance in Britain, is the country's second-biggest tax, which raises over 170 billion pounds in government revenue through employee and employer contributions.

Earlier, Britain's Trade Jonathan Minister Reynolds said that the changes would affect only a "very small number" of people.

Nigel Farage, the leader of Reform UK, which is currently leading in the opinion polls, said the government had "sold out British workers".

He said that Indian workers and firms would pay 20 per cent less tax their

Indian officials have said social security exemptions would benefit Indian information technology companies operating in Britain, which often transfer employees to the country on short-term contracts.

Official data shows Britain granted more than 81,000 work visas to Indians last year, more than any other nationality, although many represent health and care or other non-temporary workers who would still be expected to pay social

security in Britain.

selling 20 per cent of their combined stakes in Yes Bank to Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) for a consideration of Rs 13,483 crore, making it the largest cross-border investment in the Indian banking sector.

Following completion of the

struction Scheme in March 2020. The share sale is proposed to take place at a price of Rs 21.50 per equity share, it said.

of the central board (ECCB) of the bank in the meeting has accorded approval to divest 413.44 crore shares or equivalent to 13.19 per cent stake in

IPO fund diversion

Why SEBI banned Synoptics Technologies, promoters from markets

SEBI said that the amount actually transferred was more than 23 times the disclosed figure (Rs 80 lakh), raising about the nature, basis, and legitimacy of these payments.

Mumbai (Agency): The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), in an interim order, has restrained Mumbai-based Synoptics Technologies Ltd (STL), a small and medium-sized information (SME) technology products and solution provider company, from trading in securities market for diversion and misutilisation of funds raised through initial public offering (IPO). Taking stern action on First Overseas Capital Ltd (FOCL), the merchant banker to the IPO, the regulator barred it from undertaking any fresh IPOrelated assignments.

STL came out with a Rs 54.04 crore IPO and got listed on the SME Platform of NSE Ltd on July 13, 2023. The IPO was a fixed-priced issue priced at Rs 237 per share. Of the Rs 54.04 crore, Rs 35.08 crore was raised through a fresh issue of shares and the remaining Rs 18.96 crore was through an offer for sale of shares made by two promoters — Jatin Shah, also the company's managing director, and Jagmohan Manilal Shah.

As per the disclosures made in the red herring prospectus (RHP) filed by STL, issuerelated expenses amounted to Rs 80 lakh, of which Rs 50 lakh was to be paid from the



proceeds of the fresh issue, while the remaining Rs 30 lakh was to be met by the selling shareholders under the offer for sale. Net of these expenses, STL was projected to receive Rs 34.58 crore from the public issue, to be utilised for repayment of borrowings (Rs 5 crore), working capital (Rs 17.58 crore), investment in strategic acquisition/ joint venture (Rs 5.3 crore) and general corporate purpose (Rs 6.7 crore).

The issue proceeds from STL's IPO were deposited into an escrow account maintained with Fort Branch, Mumbai, of HDFC Bank, the banker to the issue, on July 12, 2023.

In its investigation, SEBI found that Rs 19 crore from the issue proceeds was transferred out of the escrow account on July 12, 2023 — a day prior to the listing of the shares of the company and the grant of trading approval. The funds were transferred to ABS Tech Service (Rs 7 crore), CN IT Solutions (Rs 6 crore) and to Dev Solutions (Rs 6 crore) on an instruction issued by FOCL to HDFC

Bank. FOCL said the

pertained payments 'amounts due from the company issue management fees, underwriting and selling commissions, registrar fees, and other IPO related expenses'.

SEBI said that the amount actually transferred was more than 23 times the disclosed figure (Rs 80 lakh), raising concerns about the nature, basis, and legitimacy

of these payments. When the regulator sought an explanation from STL on this transfer of funds, the company informed that the payments were not related to issue expenses and were instead for working capital (payment made to Dev Solutions) and strategic investment/joint venture objects (payment made to CN IT Solution and ABS Tech Services), as disclosed in the RHP.

The order said that as on the date of filing the RHP (June 22, 2023), STL disclosed that the target entities for the proposed strategic investment had not yet been identified. However, within 20 days of the RHP filing and on the very day the IPO

proceeds were credited to the issue account — funds earmarked for strategic investment and general corporate purposes were transferred to CN IT Solution and ABS Tech Services toward the object of strategic acquisition.

The agreements with CN IT

Solutions and ABS Tech Services were executed on July 11, 2023 — a day prior to the credit of IPO proceeds to the escrow account maintained with HDFC Bank. Both agreements listed the same address for CN IT Solutions and ABS Tech Services. However, during a site visit conducted by NSE, it was found that neither of the entities was present/located at the stated address. With respect to the Rs 6 crore transferred to Dev Solutions — classified by STL as utilisation towards working capital — SEBI said the company failed to provide any reasonable justification for divergence in classification. A site visit to the address of Dev

Solutions revealed that no

such business existed at the

stated location, raising

serious concerns about the

SEBI's interim order

The markets regulator said that the facts brought out during the examination reveal a 'well laid out plan of the Company (STL) and the Lead Manager, FOCL, to siphon away funds raised in the IPO'.

"It, therefore, becomes necessary to restrain the promoters of the Company (STL) from alienating or encumbering shareholding during the pendency proceedings," it said. SEBI, in the order, barred Synoptics Technologies

Ltd, and its three promoters — Jatin Shah, Jagmohan Manilal Shah and Janvi Jatin Shah from "buying, selling or dealing in the securities market or associating themselves with the securities market, either directly or indirectly".

regulator also prohibited First Overseas Capital Ltd from taking up any new assignment relating to merchant banking activities in the securities market till further directions.

"Findings, taken together, lead to a strong prima facie conclusion that FOCL, acting in concert with the company (STL), siphoned off a substantial portion of the issue proceeds," the interim order said.

nature and authenticity of the payments made.

On scrutinising the bank statements of the accounts to which funds were directed to be transferred by FOCL, SEBI found that these bank accounts were not held by the entities to whom FOCL had directed the transfers and with whom STL had purportedly entered into agreements.

India's forex stocks fall \$2.065 bn to \$686.064 bn

put on hold the stock split

announced by it.



MUMBAI: India's forex reserves dropped \$2.065 billion to \$686.064 billion for the week ended May 2, the RBI said on Friday.

In the previous reporting week, the overall kitty had increased \$1,983 billion to \$688,129 billion. The forex reserves had

touched an all-time high

of \$704.885 billion in end-September 2024. For the week ended May 2, foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased \$514 million to \$581.177 billion,

the data released on Friday

showed. Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange

reserves. Gold reserves decreased \$2.545 million to \$81.82 billion during the week, the RBI said.

The special drawing rights were down \$30 million to \$18.558 billion, the apex bank said.

India's reserve position with the IMF was also down \$3 million at \$4.509 billion in the reporting week, the apex bank data showed.

EDITORIAL

In the line of fire

Ensure safety of border villagers

PAKISTAN's retaliation against Operation Sindoor has left a trail of death and destruction along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir. Heavy shelling has claimed the lives of 13 civilians in the Poonch sector, while many houses have been damaged in border villages. Following the Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistan has been riding roughshod over the ceasefire agreement that was renewed in February 2021. Its military has brazenly targeted civilian areas in recent days, unlike the Indian forces which responsibly confined their strikes to terror infrastructure sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. It is apparent that India's kinetic action has rattled Pakistan as well as the terror outfits that operate from its territory. Having delivered a powerful message to the neighbour about zero tolerance to terrorism, India must make every effort to ensure the safety of residents in Poonch and other sectors near the LoC. The evacuation and temporary resettlement of displaced families should be a top priority of the UT authorities and security personnel.

The fact that Pakistani troops have not even spared places of worship, including Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara in Poonch, shows how desperately low they have stooped. The Indian Army claims to have responded proportionately to the shelling; the larger objective should be to deter Pakistan from indulging in unprovoked firing. The nation as a whole must stand in solidarity with the border villagers, who are more vulnerable than ever before to Pakistan's nefarious activities. Amid the nationwide euphoria over Operation Sindoor, it is vital to safeguard the lives and property of these hapless people who often act as the eyes

Strikes to strategy

National resolve amidst rising tensions

IN the immediate aftermath of Operation Sindoor — India's precision strikes on terror camps across Pakistan and Pakistanoccupied Kashmir — the government on Thursday projected unity and resolve, even as tensions remain high and retaliatory hostilities continue. In response to attempted strikes by Pakistan, India pre-emptively neutralised missiles aimed at 15 major cities and destroyed a key air defence system in Lahore. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's high-level review meeting underscored the gravity of the situation. Terming this a "sensitive period", he called for institutional synergy and citizen safety as top priorities. The Whole-of-Government approach — focussing on civil defence, countering disinformation and safeguarding critical infrastructure — signals readiness beyond the battlefield. The directive to ministries to ensure emergency response protocols and operational continuity reflects a sober understanding of hybrid threats, including cyberattacks and misinformation campaigns. Lending equal weight to the day was Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's detailed briefing to an all-party meeting, where he confirmed the neutralisation of at least 100 terrorists. The Opposition, notably the Congress and the AIMIM, displayed commendable maturity, putting aside political divisions to rally behind the national interest. This rare moment of bipartisan consensus sends a strong message to both domestic and international audiences: when India's sovereignty is challenged, its

However, the larger picture remains fraught. With India stating that it has no intent to escalate but is fully prepared to retaliate, strategic restraint must continue to be balanced with credible deterrence. The emphasis must now shift from tactical victories to strategic stability. In the days ahead, civilian protection, diplomatic messaging and internal security will demand unwavering focus. India must continue briefing global partners and maintain transparency with its citizens, without compromising operational security. Even as Operation Sindoor continues, the unified political posture and institutional alertness offer a tem-

Physicists snaps first images of 'free-range' atoms: Study

Physicists captured the first images of individual atoms freely interacting in space. The pictures reveal correlations among the 'free-range' particles that until now were predicted but never directly observed. MIT physicists have captured the first images of individual atoms freely interacting in space.

Their findings, appearing in the journal Physical Review Letters, will help scientists visualize never-before-seen quantum phenomena in real space.

The images were taken using a technique developed by the team that first allows a cloud of atoms to move and interact

The researchers then turn on a lattice of light that briefly freezes the atoms in their tracks, and apply finely tuned lasers to quickly illuminate the suspended atoms, creating a picture of their positions before the atoms naturally dissipate.

technique to visualize clouds of different types of atoms, and snapped a number of imaging firsts. The researchers directly observed atoms known as "bosons," which bunched up in a quantum phenomenon to form

They also captured atoms known as "fermions" in the act of pairing up in free space -- a key mechanism that enables superconductivity. "We are able to

Washington Dc (Agency): see single atoms in these interesting clouds of atoms and what | they are doing in relation to each other, which is beautiful," says Martin Zwierlein, the Thomas A. Frank Professor of Physics at cluding a team led by Nobel laureate Wolfgang Ketterle, the John D MacArthur Professor of lations among bosons, while the other group, from Ecole Normale Superieure in Paris, led by Tarik Yefsah, a former postdoc in Zwierlein's lab, imaged a cloud of noninteracting fermions. The study by Zwierlein and

his colleagues is co-authored by MIT graduate students Ruixiao Yao, Sungjae Chi, and Mingxuan Wang, and MIT assistant professor of physics Richard I Fletcher. "These techniques allow you to see the overall shape and structure of a cloud of at-The physicists applied the oms, but not the individual atoms themselves," Zwierlein notes. "It's like seeing a cloud in the sky, but not the individual water molecules that make up the cloud." He and his colleagues took a very different approach in order to directly image atoms interacting in free space. Their technique, called "atom-resolved microscopy,"

involves first corralling a cloud

by a laser beam.

Adolescence, love and POCSO: Intimacy must not be criminalised

Ramvilas Sharma



Children Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 has its share to offer. The primary purpose of the Act is When dealing with to prevent and punish sexual alleged sexual offences arising out of adolescent love affairs, different high courts have naturally found it unconscionable in several instances not to provide relief to the children concerned by dismissing or quashing cases against them

exploitation and sexual abuse of children. But its provisions are so rigid that adolescents or teenagers consensually engaged in romantic sexual relationships are themselves not spared severe punishment. On top of criminalising such children, the law also criminalises "any person" (therefore, potentially, other children too) who knows about their "crime" and yet fails to report it to the police. Although many, including courts and experts, believe that bringing an arguably vast swathe of the population within the penal ambit could never have been the intention of lawmakers, the law on cases mandatory reporting remains unchanged. Amid concerns surrounding this status quo, the Supreme

Lunintended

from Sexual

consequences in criminal

justice go, the Protection of

Court is reportedly going to take up the matter of mandatory reporting of even voluntary sexual activity (if either or both parties are under 18) on May 8. According to reports, the Court in Nipun Saxena vs Union of India has recognised the issue as "serious and relevant" and agreed to hold a detailed hearing on it.

This raises hopes for a more progressive and principled approach to consensual POCSO cases than has been possible so far. When dealing

with alleged sexual offences arising out of adolescent love affairs, different high courts have naturally found it unconscionable in several instances not to provide relief to the children concerned by dismissing or quashing cases against them. While this shields those children from ongoing criminalisation, it can neither undo the damage already done nor protect them from future consequences of contact with the criminal iustice system.

Moreover, it can be argued as a

counterfactual that more than

the courts' liberal stance in cases that have made their way to them, many adolescents in positive intimate relationships might possibly have been saved by the law's nonenforcement against them by the police. One need only imagine how grotesquely the number of cases could soar if the police were to prioritise detecting these relationships and filing criminal cases. Similarly, a concerted campaign by the police to book a wide range of individuals including guardians and medical professionals knowledge about such relationships may come from providing vital care to the parties — for the offence of failure to report could again have brought the situation to a head. In other words, rather counterintuitively, implementation of the contentious provisions by the police might actually have prevented the issue from boiling over. That said, the problem clearly calls for a more sustainable and well-

Court's engagement with it considerable significance. Going forward, much will depend on how the problem is constructed, framed, and defined. There are at least three paths to consider. The first is to take a solutionbut hands-off oriented. approach. From perspective, consensual POCSO cases and their mandatory reporting stem from overcriminalisation the excessive use of criminal law to regulate adolescent behaviour. Considering that affairs adolescents are commonplace and criminalising appears more detrimental than beneficial, this approach favours decriminalisation and non-intervention. The second way is also solution-oriented and pro-decriminalisation, but in contrast to the first, it adopts an interventionist approach. It advocates replacing blunt criminal justice/penal responses with individualised ones that focus on education. counselling, and behaviour modification.

The third way seeks to frame the issue in terms of adolescents' development, rights, and autonomy. It is underpinned understanding that adolescence constitutes a significant critically developmental stage marking the transition from childhood to adulthood. Adolescents experience an array of physical, psychological, and emotional changes. inclination to explore, experiment, and exercise independence is regarded as integral to their developmental process. Many experts think that romantic relationships among adolescents are both natural and advantageous for their self-esteem and general well-being. In light of these considerations, the third perspective suggests respectful acknowledging sexual activity among adolescents as part and parcel of their right to healthy development.

The burden of submitting criminal past of the accused shouldn't be on individuals

he Supreme Court in a recent order (Munnesh v State of Uttar Pradesh) asserted that criminal antecedents should be disclosed compulsorily in any Special Leave Petition (SLP) seeking bail. The Court highlighted how bail applications are being filed (increasingly so) without disclosing the criminal antecedents of the person seeking bail. The order further directed that any person who is seeking bail in the apex court must mandatorily disclose, in the synopsis of the petition, if they have knowledge of their involvement in any criminal case. Another aspect that has been brought to the fore by the Court is that the SLPs, which lack these puzzle pieces, are often completed by the state through their counter-affidavits. The above order reflects how oblivious courts are to the ground reality. It can be exceptionally difficult for a person behind bars to know their criminal antecedents or the stage of their pendency. For instance, in the recent case involving Kunal Kamra, there were five FIRs registered — four of them were lodged in Khar police station, and one was in Dombivli. Now, it is easier for a public figure like Kamra to know that there are five FIRs lodged against him, but the same cannot be said for a person who doesn't have such resources at his disposal. Take, for example, cases where the bail applications are filed by the family or the pairokar of the person in jail. These family members who genuinely do not possess any information about the criminal history of their relative, pass on to their lawyers this "hollow information", resulting in a bail application having no mention of the criminal antecedents, which, as per the above order, will lead to a dismissal of the bail application. What is important for the courts to realise is that a citizen cannot be burdened with the responsibility to find out the details of all the cases registered against him while behind bars. It is also unfair to shift this responsibility upon his family members or pairokar. The courts now have the right to dismiss such applications without having to distinguish false disclosure from genuine incapacity to know one's criminal history.

This mandate of disclosing one's history is not wrong per se, but the burden for this should be cast on the state, not the other way around. It is the state that can reveal an entire list of cases, if any, against a person. The precedent being set by the Supreme Court flies in the face of the principle of "bail is the rule and jail the exception".

According to a report by the National Crime Records Bureau published in 2015, the majority of under-trial prisoners are illiterate or semi-illiterate. They require major resources and additional support to understand the court process. The new order further complicates this process for them. Lord Russell of Killowen, Chief Justice, in his address to the grand jury at Salisbury Assizes in 1899, said: "....it was the duty of the Magistrate to admit accused persons to bail, wherever practicable, unless there were strong grounds for supposing that such persons would not appear to take their trial. It was not the poorer classes who did not appear, for their circumstances were such as to tie them to the place where they carried on their work. They had not the golden wings with which to fly from justice." This unawareness cannot be put in the same box as being ignorant of the law. Interestingly, in the above-mentioned order it is apparent that the Court was apprised about the criminal history of the applicant only after the state pointed out the same in their counter

Red alert for Pak on the terror front

response.

Operation Sindoor has signalled key shifts in India's strategy for dealing with the neighbour

Ramvilas Sharma

ON the night of May 6-7, India launched Operation Sindoor, comprising a series of military strikes against terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan. Nine terror camps were hit, which in-MIT. In the same journal issue, | cluded five in Pakistan-occupied two other groups report using | Kashmir and four in the Punjab similar imaging techniques, in- province. Among the most significant targets were Muridke and Bahawalpur. Muridke, about 40 km from

Physics at MIT. Ketterle's group | Lahore, is the headquarters of visualized enhanced pair corre- | Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and its front organisation, Jamaat-ud-Dawa. The Resistance Front (TRF), which initially claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam massacre, is known to be affiliated with the LeT. Bahawalpur is home to the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), which operates from the Jamia Masjid Subhan Allah complex, also known as the Usman-o-Ali cam-

> Operation Sindoor is significantly larger in scale and scope than the cross-border strikes in 2016 and 2019. The message that it sends out is also far more powerful and unequivocal. And in this message, there are some key shifts in India's future strategy for dealing with Pakistan.

First, major terror attacks will meet with a punitive response. Since the limited strikes of 2016 and 2019 failed to deter Pakistan from using terrorism as an instruof atoms in a loose trap formed | ment of state policy, greater pain must be felt by those who are

directly controlling the terrorist movement. If the Pakistani military is unwilling to rein in the terrorist leadership, then India will do so using the military in-

India has long adopted a posture of strategic restraint. However, the shifting security environment, particularly after the gruesome Pahalgam attack, has triggered a recalibration. Targeting deeper locations like Bahawalpur and Muridke indicates that India no longer considers mere retaliation sufficient. The new approach seeks to alter cost-benefit calculations for those orchestrating terrorism from across the border.

At the government briefing after Operation Sindoor, a montage of past terror attacks (from the 2001 Parliament attack to Mumbai 2008, Uri 2016, Pulwama 2019 and the Pahalgam attack) was shown to underscore the toll of cross-border terror, after which the message "...No More" flashed. The presentation may have appeared dramatic, but it underlined India's resolve that it would no longer tolerate terrorism emanating from Pakistani

Second, there are two choices in front of the Pakistan Army. It must either dismantle the entrenched military-jihad complex it has long nurtured, or risk plunging the country into a ruinous conflict with India, one

that could push Pakistan deeper into instability and peril.

considered

For decades, the Pakistan Army has treated jihadi groups as strategic assets, using them to bleed India while maintaining plausible deniability. With Operation Sindoor, India is making it clear that there is no distinc-

across to India." This was a subtle message to Pakistan that the escalation could be controlled if it restrains from any military retaliation, and in the long run, puts a check on terrorist activities. Whether the Pakistan Army heeds this message is uncertain.



tion between the state and the proxies it sponsors. This blurring of lines is deliberate. By hitting targets in Punjab, India signals that safe havens are no longer immune, regardless of their political sensitivity.

In his briefing to the press, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said India's "actions were measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible. They focused on dismantling the terrorist infrastructure and disabling terrorists likely to be sent

Third, India is clear that space exists for a limited conventional conflict below the nuclear threshold. Pakistan flashes its nuclear card at the very first opportunity whenever there is an India-Pakistan crisis. Minister Hanif Abbasi has stated that if India were to halt water supply to Pakistan by suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, Islamabad would be prepared to strike with nuclear weapons. Muhammad Khalid Jamali, Pakistan's Ambassador

to Russia, made a similar threat. India no longer sees itself as

constrained by Pakistan's nuclear blackmail. It has gradually moved up the ladder in the use of conventional forces to target terror infrastructure in Pakistan. Operation Sindoor, with its strikes in the Punjab heartland, has set a new standard in the employment of airpower, once considered highly escalatory, in responding to terror attacks.

Fourth, the clamour from some international quarters for providing direct evidence linking Pakistan to terror attacks in India has run its course. India has been the victim of Pakistansponsored terrorism for decades and is on firm ground when it states that the fountainhead of terrorism lies in that country. The problem is not the foot soldiers who execute the attack, but the terrorist and army leadership in

Pakistan that nurtures terrorism. The demand for irrefutable proof ignores the nature of proxy warfare. Terror outfits are designed precisely to offer deniability. The consistency of terror attacks in India, the identity of the perpetrators, their training grounds, ideological narratives and sources of funding all point to an ecosystem that cannot function without

state patronage. Fifth, there is also a message for the international community.

There is a level of frustration in India over the inability of global institutions like the United Nations to hold Pakistan accountable for its support to terrorism. Pakistan's Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar admitted in the National Assembly that he had worked hard to get the reference to the terror group TRF removed from the final text of the UN Security Council resolution condemning the Pahalgam attack.

While international opinion and diplomatic support are important, they are not key factors when deciding on India's options to respond to Pakistan's terrorism. Platitudes that seek to equate both countries and call on them to exercise restraint, irrespective of the nature of the provocation, will be ignored by

Operation Sindoor sets new doctrinal benchmarks: that terror infrastructure will be struck; that nuclear deterrence will not shield proxy actors; that the global community's moral ambivalence will not override India's sovereign choices; and that the Pakistan Army must reckon with the consequences of its longstanding compact with jihadist groups. Unfortunately, this makes South Asia a less stable region. Pakistan must now confront the hard truth about the trajectory of its future if it continues down the path of using terrorism as a state policy.

BRIEFS

First Copy of Indian

Staff Reporter

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framework of governance in India. Drawing from the

implementation, public service delivery, bureaucratic

reforms, and citizen engagement. It aims to serve as a valuable resource for administrators, policymakers,

governance in India. Mr. Shailesh Shahi shared how Taylor & Francis, through this publication, continues its

mission to support impactful academic and professional

work that bridges research and real-world application, strengthens institutional dialogue, and fosters innovation

Legal Services Authority

scholars, and anyone interested in the future of

in governance at both national and global levels.

Blood donation camp

organized by District

authors' rich administrative experience, the book delves into critical areas such as institutional structures, policy

the first copy of the Indian edition of the book

Srivastav, IAS along with co-author IVA Ashish

and a commitment to innovative governance.

42558 cases disposed of in National Lok Adalat, Rs. 6.64 lakhs recovered, nod to compensation of Rs 4.10 cr

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur, District and Sessions Judge/ Chairman Arvind Kumar Mishra, under the direction of National Legal Services Authority. Supreme Court and Uttar Pradesh Legal Services Authority Lucknow. Santosh Kumar Gautam Secretary/Additional District Judge Vinay Arya and all the judicial officers inaugurated the National Lok Adalat program in the civil court complex by lighting the wreath and lamp on the statue of Maa Saraswati. District and Sessions Judge Arvind Kumar Mishra. Necessary meeting with all judicial officers and bank officials and the success of the National Lok AdalatsTo help the purpose and the poor, their cases were directed to of maximum numbers and provide

maximum convenience to the

Vindhyachal

Gave

remove

shops at

temple

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur,

Magistrate

Magistrate.

conducting

Niranjan

Ashtabhuja

Vindhyachal and received

blessings by bowing the head

at the feet of mother

Vindhyavasini. He also

distributed prasad with his

hands after philosophy. After

religious work, the District

inspection, directed to

expedite the safe house work

being constructed on the old

instructions to

encroachment

District

Priyanka

reached

terrestrial

District Judge Arvind Kumar Mishra. A total of 01 arbitration execution cases, disposal of 01 Nysselinous cases and passed the Arbitration Award 40.23 thousand rupees. Chief Sanjay Kumar ShuklaA total of 35 cases of cases were disposed of. Pestive officer Tribunal Satya Prakash disposed of 63 motor accident cases and gave 71 lakh, 28 thousand rupees to the families of the dead and the families of the deceased compensation. a Lok Permanent Adalat Chairman Brijesh Narayan

Mishra disposed of a total of

02 cases. Additional District

Vinay Arya disposed of 389

bank loan pre-litigation

casesGet it done on the basis

VIP route. After observing

the permanent shadow

management installed on

gate number two, he asked

the city magistrate Vineet

Kumar Upadhyay present on

the spot to complete the

management to be held on

Gate No. 3 Kotwali Marg as

well. Mother's blessings

after reaching Kali Khoh and

Ashtabhuja temple after

Received. On the stairs of

Ashtabhuja Temple, the

shopkeepers encroached and

made the route quite quite

quite, which the District

Magistrate expressed his

displeasure and directed to

remove the said shops.

Municipal magistrate Vineet

Kumar Upadhyay and

concerned officials were

present

permanent

Vindhvavasani

shadow

temple

Judge/Secretary

DM visited three

temples and conducted

terrestrial inspection

DM Priyanka Niranjan giving instructions to the

concerned officials after inspecting the three temples of

DLSA

Description of settled cases

compromising the defaulters Additional District Judge/Special Judge EC Act Asif Iqbal Rizvi disposed of a

disposed of a total of 478 cases and fined Rs 01 lakh 91 thousand 400 Civil Judge (Zoo D). Ms. Anima Mishra disposed of 03 Malvad and 06



District and Sessions Judge Arvind Kumar Mishra II inaugurating the National Lok Adalat by lighting the lamp

total of 75 cases of the Electricity Act. Judicial Magistrate Garima Singh disposed of a total of 1614 cases and 03 lakh 95 thousand 350/-Jurmana. Provided succession certificates. First Additional Chief Judicial

Magistrate Pallavi Singh

success promises provided succession certificates of lakhs of rupees. Civil Judge (Ju D) Chunar Gyanendra Pratap Singh disposed of 03 original promises 03 success promisesHe did and provided succession certificates of lakhs of rupees. Village Court

of 103 cases and fined Rs 1030. Ms. Zeenat Parveen Court Lalganj disposed of 120 cases and fined Rs 15,000. Mina Akhtar Additional Civil Judge (Ju D) disposed of 80 cases and recovered 800 rupees. Abhishek Singh Civil Judge (Ju D)/ FTC/ Women Demonstrated a total of 104 cases and recovered a fine of Rs 1000. Additional District Magistrate (F/R)/ Nodal Officer Ra. L.A. With the good efforts of Shiv Pratap Shukla, a total of 36775 cases were disposed of by the courts of city magistrates, sub -officers and Tehsildars and Tehsildars. Consolidation Courts. The municipal Atirad disposed of cases. Electrical department 216 pre-litigesh cases disposed of. 2973 challans of e-challan traffic

Madihan Ms. Preeti disposed

lakh 89 thousand was fined online and the Assistant Labor Commissioner disposed of 01 cases and Rs 11.83 lakh was given to the victims. The Chief Medical Officer disposed of 9042 preinduction medical cases. 2845 challans were disposed of from the RTO department and recovered 226.36 lakh mitigation fee. B.S. NLThe department disposed of 03 bills and recovered Rs 7000. National Lok Adalat, ADJ First Santosh Kumar Gautam, Special Judge Poxo Kumar District Chandragupta Computer Ranjit Kumar PLV Jai Prakash, Om Yadav, Krishna Kumar, Pradeep Shrivastava and all the judicial employees were

Surendra Additional Judge/FTC Yadav, Senior Badri Vishal, Operator/Clerk Prakash. Satish

appointment of the consultant

Consultant increased anger among electricity workers for privatization

By demanding data of all distribution corporations

Staff Reporter Mirzapur, The anger of the electricity workers has erupted due to the illegally appointed Consultant Grant Thoron demanding five years of data from the power corporations. Keep in mind that Electricity Employees Joint Conflict Committee, UP on the borderIn view of the situation of war, it was announced yesterday not to make any movement till 14 May. It was hoped that the Corporation management would also cancel the process of privatization to avoid conflict in view of the war situation. But it has become clear from the consultant asking for the data of all the distribution corporations that the power corporation management is going to privatize all the distribution power corporations. To ask for data of distribution corporations Outrage among increased due to the documents coming out. Officials of the Sangharsh Samiti said that Chandan Associate Director of the illegally appointed Transaction Consultant Grant Thorton,

Engineer Revenue Affairs Unit and said that the financial year 2024-25 should provide data of the last five years till 31 March. The Sangharsh Samiti said that

decision Corporation allElectricity distribution corporations are to privatize. Due to this revelation, there has been a lot

were disposed of and Rs 05



Engineers and employees protesting against electricity privatization and demanding cancellation of appointment

Power Corporation gave ThoronFor privatization of Purvanchal Distribution Electricity Corporation and Dakshinchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam, Illegal Transaction Consultant has been appointed to prepare RFP documents. But instead of asking for data from Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam and Dakshinchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam only by the appointed consultant, the data of all power distribution corporations has been sought.

This makes it clear that the

electricity workers. The Sangharsh Samiti said that in view of the situation of war on the border, the Sangharsh Samiti had said on the conclusion of the gradual fast, that at present, the electricity workers will not do any movement till May 14, but the Grant Thoron and the Power Corporation management management got the distribution corporations. The situation has become very serious. The Sangharsh Samiti has demanded that the

Grant Thorton, who gives false affidavits and forgery, done in

should be immediately canceled and filed an FIR against it. The Sangharsh Samiti has instructed the engineers and employees after the documents of privatization of all the distribution corporations come out that no letter or data available to the illegally appointed Consultant Grant ThortonBe Sangharsh Samiti said that it was expected that the Power Corporation management would also celebrate a healthy environment of work by canceling the process of privatization after the Sangharsh Samiti's decision not to make any movement till May 14, but it is being reverse, whose sharp reaction is natural. He said that the corporation management is responsible for deteriorating the situation during crisis on borders. Shakti Lucknow. Engineers Deepak Singh, Vinay Kumar Gupta, Prithvi Pal, Shivshankar Singh, Kumar, Dhirendra Kumar Patel, Satya Prakash Maurya etc. were present in the

Additional Judge Vinay Kumar Arya giving certificates to those who donate blood in blood donation camp

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur, On the occasion of National Lok Adalat, a blood donation program was organized in District Court Mirzapur under the direction of District Judge under the aegis of District Legal Services Authority Mirzapur and as the order of Secretary Vinay Kumar Arya Additional District Judge. In which blood donation was done by Saniay Sonkar Senior Assistant and Naveen Kumar Verma Senior Assistant Deewani Court and the certificate was also distributed to the said employee stronghold by the Secretary, Senior Assistant and Naveen Kumar Verma Senior Assistant. On this occasion, the District Legal Services Authority and the employee of Civil Court Mirzapur participated in a big way.

Student committed suicide due to unknown reasons

Staff Reporter

Hamirpur. BA student consumed poisonous substance due to unknown reasons. Family members took her to the district hospital where she died during treatment. Police reached on the information and took the body in custody and sent it for postmortem. Bardani Prajapati's 19-vearold daughter Akanksha, resident of Dhanpura Kalla of Biwar police station area, consumed poisonous substance last Friday evening due to unknown reasons. Family members rushed her to the district hospital where she was being given first aid. Late night around 02 o'clock Akanksha had pain in her stomach, on which the doctors referred her to Kanpur. But when the family members did not take her to Kanpur, she was being treated, she died during treatment. Sadar Kotwali police reached on the information and took Akanksha's body in custody and sent it for postmortem. At the same time, the deceased's Baba Moolchand told that the deceased Akanksha was the eldest of three sisters and she also has an elder brother. He told that the deceased's mother had passed away in her childhood and her father raised her. He told that the deceased was a BA final year student.

OBC youths will get free computer training

Staff Reporter

Banda. The government will provide free O Level and CCC computer training to the poor backward caste youth who have passed Inter. Applications have been sought from the youth for this. The O Level training will be for one year and CCC training will be for three months. District Backward Classes Welfare Officer Abhishek Chaudhary said that applications will be accepted online. The last date is 27th May. Apply by 27th May and after applying the hard copy will have to be submitted to the Backward Classes Welfare Department. The applicant should be a native of the district and the annual income of the family should not exceed one lakh. In many departments, Triple C has been made mandatory for the recruitment of clerical category of Group C. The government is providing free training to poor youth.

Grand events held to mark birth anniv of Maharana Pratap, Maha Samagam of Kshatriya Samaj and Sarva Samaj need to be organized and BLJ Inter College, Shyam

■ Maharana Pratap's giant statue will be installed in Mirzapur: **Shyam Narayan Singh**

■ City Člub **Auditorium** Hall will be named after Maharana Pratap: Shyamsunder Kesari

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur, Under the aegis Kshatriya Samaj Mirzapur, under the joint aegis of All India Kshatriya Mahasabha, Rashtriva Rajput Karni Sena and Pratap Sena, On 09th May 2025 from 03.00 pm, a grand ceremony of Maharana Pratap was organized in the local City Club Auditorium on the auspicious occasion of the birth anniversary of Hindu society and Kshatriya society, true patriot and Bharat Mata son Maharana Pratap ji, in which a grand ceremony of Maharana

Pratap's birth anniversary was organized in the local city club auditorium in which the entire Hindu society as well as the entire Hindu society participated. MLC Shyam Narayan Singh alias Vineet Singh as the chief guest at the program During the address, we said that we Kshatriyas need to be more aware. He made a public announcement on the demand of the Kshatriyas that a grand statue of Maharana Pratap will be unveiled in Mirzapur district soon after talking to the Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh government. During his Municipality address. President Shyam Sundar Kesari said that the announcement of paying true tribute to Maharana Pratap ji on today's occasionI will propose in my committee that the City Club Auditorium should be named Maharana Pratap Auditorium. It may be noted that the program organizer

Dilip Singh Gahwar had

proposed to name the City

Auditorium

Pratap Auditorium. The organizer people of Hindu society all convenor of the and

sent an e-mail to the Chief

whole of India. Therefore, over India gather to celebrate





Public representatives and other special people attending the program organized on the birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap

program, Thakur Dilip Singh Gaharwar, called upon the entire Hindu society and said that Maharana Pratap was not only the guide pioneer of the Kshatriya society, but alsoWas a true son of the

the birth anniversary of their nation Gaurav Maharana Pratap. He called upon the entire Hindu society. Vinay Singh, co-convenor of the program, said during his address that we Kshatriyas

united so that we can be fought unitedly with any calamity and crisis on the Distinguished country. guests State Minister of State Sohanlal Shrimali also expressed his expression on the birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap ji, not only the Kshatriyas but also the Kshatranis. Anil Singh, a philanthropist carpet business professionally on the stage, also expressed himself on the birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap ji. Atul Jaiswal, the manager of Babulal Jaiswal Inter College, also said that Maharana Pratap ji's work courage and historical qualities Keep before. Shyam Narayan Singh Singh) MLC Mirzapur-Sonbhadra), Chief Guest Sohan Lal Shrimali (State Vice President Backward Classes Uttar Pradesh), Shyam Sundar Kesari Ji President, Municipal Council, Anil Singh Ji Con Block Chief, Social, Rajya Sabha Atul Jaiswal Advocate Manager

Secretary, Kshatriva Mahasabha City Block Chief Manchseen was. Among those who expressed their views on the occasion, youth speakers Ayush Singh, Prince Singh, Kavita Singh Rajput, former BJYM leader Pramod Singh, Rajkumar Singh, Bhola Singh, Amit Srinet, Shailendra Agrahari, Dharmajit Singh Principal Bapu Upodh E. College Lalganj, Program organizer Dilip Singh Gaharwar, Vinay Singh, Dr. Shyam Singh, Sujit Singh, Dr. Rajeev Singh, Sudhir Singh, Dr. Sunil Singh, Kamal Nayan Singh, Vivek Gahar, Pushkar Singh, Singh, Devbrat Gudda Singh, Raghuraj Singh, Man Singh Singh Gaharwar, Sujit Singh, Chandan Singh, Bhole Singh, Green Guru Ji, Gulo Chaman Singh, Dr. Galu Singh, Dr. Seva Sadan Hospital, Jayaprakash Seth, Sanjay Gupta, etc. were present. Successful

operation of the program

Sujit Kumar Verma did it.

State

General

Singh,

and how that has created a blueprint for her own journey as a mother.

lmost a year after welcoming their daughter. Dua. Padukone and Ranveer Singh are fully immersed in their new roles as parents. Life has taken a dramatic turn, and for Deepika, everything else now revolves around one core priority: her daughter. In a recent interview, Deepika spoke about Dua's childhood as she will grow under the shadow of her famous parents, as Deepika too, grew up in a celebrity household. Her father Prakash Padukone is an internationally renowned badminton player.

Deepika and her sister Anisha often travelled with their father adapting to his schedule on the professional circuit. Yet, their upbringing was far from overwhelming. She hopes to give Dua a

similarly grounded childhood, something as she describes it, "free from any expectation." Deepika shared with Marie Claire, "We weren't burdened with our parents' hopes and dreams." Even though Dua is the daughter of two of India's most recognisable faces, Deepika wants her to experience the same kind of normalcy she once did. "I don't ever remember my father sitting me down and saying, 'Hey, I'm a professional badminton player and I'm a celebrity,"" she recalled. "I remember it being he was a father first and everything that we got to know of him was based on iust our own curiosity and the fact that everything was just so normal. It was, in fact, only much later on in our lives where we found out that our father was a celebrity,

when people approached him for autographs.' Protecting Dua's innocence

is a priority for Deepika. So far, Deepika has shielded Dua away from the cameras. She hasn't even shared any of her daughter's photos on social media. Navigating parenthood under the constant scrutiny of the public eye isn't easy, but Deepika is no stranger to living life in the spotlight. She's learned to shut out the external noise early on. "Whether it's what movies I want to do...how I want to live my life or the things that I'm really passionate about, and beyond that, it doesn't even matter what anyone else thinks," she said. "I am someone who has always been able to tune out and just listen to my instinct."



Lauren formed meaningful relationships and embraced different cultures

auren Gottlieb shared how she turned the pain ✓of feeling like an outsider into a source of strength and connection. By forming meaningful relationships and embracing different cultures, she's created a sense of belonging that comes from within. Asked that she has spoken

about feeling like an outsider in different phases of her life and how she transformed that feeling into strength, Lauren, an American dancer-actress, told a top news agency: "Over time, I've built such strong friendships and chosen family all over the world and that's become such a beautiful, grounding thing for me. Wherever I go now, it feels like I'm wrapped in this big, tight hug of love and support. Being in different places, immersed in different cultures, has become something I really enjoy - it excites me, inspires me and makes me feel connected rather than separate."

She said she may have felt like an outsider, but the experience helped her. "So, while I may have felt like an outsider at times in the past, I think that experience helped me find a deeper sense of belonging in myself. And now, that sense of home travels with me," said Lauren.

On the work front, Lau-



'I think that experience helped me find a deeper sense of belonging in myself,' says Lauren Gottlieb

ren choreographed and per-formed the number 'Who Rules The World' from 'The Royals'. It stars Ishaan Khatter, Bhumi Pednekar, Sakshi Tanwar, Nora Fatehi, Dino Morea, Milind Soman, Chunky Panday, Vihaan Samat, Kavya Trehan, Sumukhi Suresh, Udit Arora and Luke Kenny. AGENCIES

People liked Superboys of Malegaon in theatres'

MUMBAI: Filmmaker Reema Kagti said audiences liked her latest directorial venture 'Superboys of Malegaon' in theatres, even though the turnout was 'disappointing'.

The film, which had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2024, was released in theatres and did a paltry business of around Rs 7 crore, according to trade analysts.

"The people who are watching it are liking it. I got the same response when it came to theatres and on OTT. Obviously, the turnout in theatres was disappointing," Kagti told the top news agency.

Asked if it will impact the way she tells stories, she said, "No, not at all."



The Warrens take on their last and most dangerous case in The Conjuring: Last Rites

Tarner Bros recently released the teaser for The Conjuring: Last Rites, which will follow renowned exorcists Ed and Lorraine as they take on their final case. The horror franchise, based on the lives of real-life exorcists Ed Warren and Lorraine Warren, has spanned eight films to date. This upcoming installment is based on the last case the couple handled in their

The teaser opens with a scene inside the basement of the Warrens, and Ed warns his visitors against touching anything. You can see several artefacts that they have collected over the years, including the dangerous doll named Annabelle. As the camera pans towards different items, Ed says, "Everything you see in here is either haunted, cursed or has been used in some ritualistic practices. Nothing's a toy, not even the toys.'

As the teaser proceeds, Ed talks about dealing with over thousand cases and how all of them were different. As the new family in question is introduced, Ed says, "Anything can happen, and most likely anything will happen," as we see another possessed toy. The Warrens seem to be talking about the case to someone who is interested in the story, and the movie will most likely be in the form of memories of that particular case. This becomes

more apparent as we see a tape recorder starting up and cameras being pointed at a couple who seem to look like the Warrens, but older. There is a montage of different entities terrorising people, as Lorraine's voice is heard (presumably over the phone), and she says, "Ed, something has changed; something is different," and then we see her drop a locket into a sink filled with blood, and

quickly the blood starts filling up the entire room. As we see more horrifying visuals, a message appears on the screen which reads, "Discover why this case was their last." The Conjuring: Last Rites, which is releasing on September 5, will be helmed by Michael Chavez, who has directed films like The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It (2021), Nun 2 (2023) and The Curse of La Llorna (2019).



'It was a long casting journey'



Singer-actress Lisa Mishra talked about 'The Royals'

Lisa inger-actress Mishra, now seen in the drama series The Royals, opened up about the intense audition process she went through to bag the role of Niki.

Lisa revealed that she underwent several rounds audiof tions before finally being cast as Niki. "It was a long

casting journey. I had to really push myself out of my comfort zone. The character of Niki is layered, stylish and emotionally complex. I remember going through multiple rounds of auditions, each one different than the last. But I think the team saw something in me, a version of Niki that

felt real. It wasn't easy, but it was worth it," she shared. 'The Royals' also stars

Ishaan Khatter, Bhumi Pednekar. Sakshi Tanwar. Nora Fatehi, Dino Morea, Milind Soman, Chunky

She underwent several rounds of auditions before finally being cast as Niki

Sumukhi Suresh, Udit Arora, and Luke Kenny

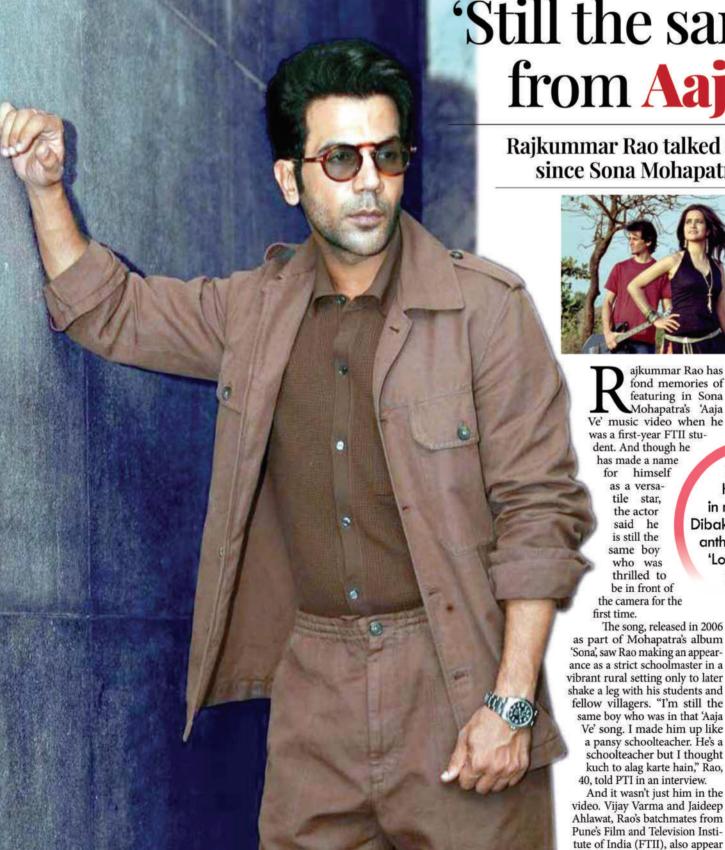
Panday,

Vihaan

Samat,

Kavya Trehan,

Directed by Priyanka Ghose and Nupur Asthana, written by Neha Veena Sharma and produced under the banner of 'Pritish Nandy Communications', will have Bhumi playing an ambitious and feisty CEO of 'Work



Still the same boy from Aaja Ve'

Rajkummar Rao talked about his journey since Sona Mohapatra's 2006 song

> mates. There's Jaideep and Vijay as aikummar Rao has fond memories of well. There are a lot of people. The featuring in Sona whole class was there because one Mohapatra's 'Aaja of our seniors, Deepti, was shooting Ve' music video when he the video. She said, 'Guys, we are making this video.

dent. And though he has made a name Rao got for himself as a versahis break tile star, in movies with the actor Dibakar Banerjee's said he is still the anthology movie same boy 'Love Sex Aur who was thrilled to

Dhokha' The song, released in 2006

as a barber and a sadhu, respec-

tively. "It has almost all my batch-

sure!" Rao recalled. The actor said it was pure fun to be working with his batchmates. "There were

Do you want to

act in it?' All of

us got excited

first-year

students.

because we

were just

We were

like. 'Yeah,

20 of us in the class and it was just fun, just being with your classmates and shooting," he added. After graduating from FTII, Rao

got his break in movies with Dibakar Banerjee's anthology movie 'Love Sex Aur Dhokha' in 2010, followed by appearances in movies such as 'Ragini MMS', 'Shaitan', 'Gangs of Wasseypur' and 'Talaash'.

People eventually took note of him with Hansal Mehta's 2012's 'Shahid', which also won him the best actor National Award. Since then, the actor has built a storied filmography of critically acclaimed and commercially successful titles such as 'Aligarh', 'Bareilly Ki Barfi' and more.

New Delhi (Agency): The

'draw' is doing a lot of the

heavy lifting here. There has

sort of been an unwritten rule

that both India and Pakistan

will face each other in the

group stages of ICC and

ACC events. Going by that,

they are scheduled to meet at

least four times before next

April. Three times in men's

events and one in a women's

meet. All of the four games,

at least on paper, are slated to

be held in India. Two in the

Asia Cup, one in the

women's World Cup and one

in the men's T20 World Cup.

But an agreement between

the two nations mean that all

four games will be held in a

neutral venue, either in Sri

Lanka or the UAE.

Officially,

single India v. Pakistan

match. These two nations

have faced other in 11 back-

to-back men's global events.

With cricket having a lot of

TV audience from this part of

world.

understandable that this one

India-Pakistan matches under spotlight

the

world body to keep the two teams in separate groups.

One ICC insider has told this

daily that there has been no

sort of communication to the

ICC. India coach, Gautam

Gambhir, in his personal

capacity, has said India

Squash World Championships: Anahat Singh and three Indians advance to round 2

New Delhi (Agency): Four advanced to the second round of the PSA Squash World Championships on Saturday. Ramit Tandon, Anahat Singh, Abhay Singh, and Veer Chotrani won their respective first round matches. Ramit Tandon faced Japan's Ryunosuke Tsukue in the first round encounter and made a comeback after losing the first game 10-12. He won the next three games with scores of 11-7, 13-11, and 11-7.

Teenage Indian star, Anahat Singh was up against Marina Stefanoni of the USA and won a thrilling 3-2 victory.

After losing the first game seen her play in the last few 10-12, she cameback to win 11-9, lost the third game 6-11, and then clinched the



World

knew today it was going to be

a battle," she told the PSA

disappointment from the

outside, then you start

burdening yourself way

more... And then you start

thinking about things, like

'I've got two or three days

left on this tour, I need to

make an impact now'. And

you start getting more

desperate. That's something

I've surely experienced in

Elaborating on that thought,

he had said, "Because I got a

good score in the first Test. I

thought, 'right, let's go'.

There's going to be another

big series for me. It doesn't

turn out that way. For me, it's

just about the acceptance of

'okay fine, this is what

happened. I'm going to be

honest with myself. Where

do I want to go? What are my

The ace batsman had already

retired from T20Is after India

won the T20 World Cup in

West Indies last year.

However, he was in supreme

form during this IPL with

505 runs in 11 matches,

including seven fifties, at a

At the RCB event, he had

also spoken about a chat he

had with former captain

Rahul Dravid that helped

him realign his mental state

about his career. "It pretty

much comes down to just the

pure joy and enjoyment and

love for the game. And as

long as that love is intact, I

will continue to play the

strike rate of 143.46.

energy levels like'."

Australia as well."

Championships

final two games 11-6, 11-6, securing a 3-2 victory. "We had really long rallies and she's a great player. I've

tournaments, she's been really happy I was able to get playing really well and she's through it. Abhay Singh also produced a

solid performance against Switzerland's Mueller. His only blip came in the second game when he lost 2-11 but convincingly won the other three games to book his berth in the next round.

and I'm exhausted and I'm

Other Indian in fray, Veer Chotrani caused an upset as he defeated former world number 15 Declan James of England in a very tight contest. Both players fought toe-to-toe in the game pushing each other to the

World Cup to expand to 48

tournament by one week.

16 more teams playing in the FIFA Women's World Cup but taking the next steps in relation to the women's game in general," FIFA president Gianni Infantino

"...more FIFA member associations have the chance to benefit from the tournament to develop their women's football structures from a holistic point of

more one-sided contests.

body differs from say, FIFA. yes. The latter goes out of its way unofficially, a lot of the to ensure warring nations murmurs. There was some don't face each other in the sort of reportage that the group stages. But the ICC do Board of Control for Cricket the opposite. One of the in India (BCCI) had written reasons why they do this is to the ICC about asking the the money on the table from a

shouldn't play Pakistan.

This is where the cricket

has been toughest in management

deal. Even if ICC sells rights deal for the entire package and not on a per match basis, broadcasters pay top dollar because of the guarantee of a single game inside that package. The ICC could lose out on a lot of revenue if that

match generates a lot of revenue in terms of TV rights Guardiola says Man City season

number. For what it's worth, it has been communicated to this daily that the ICC have not even privately put a number for this game over the course of a rights circle. But one insider broke it down like this. "Hypothetically speaking, let's assume every men's ICC event is worth 100 crore. That one guaranteed game could be worth Rs 7.5-10 cr. You remove that 7.5-10 cr from every tournament and all teams will be financially hit." It will affect all teams on a pro rata basis but the acual effect will be felt inequally. For example, the loss of that proportionate revenue will not affect BCCI, Cricket Australia and the England and Wales Cricket Board. However, almost all other full members as well as associates depend on ICC

removed. It's very hard to put

Virat Kohli tells BCCI he wants to retire from Test cricket

Kohli has told the Indian cricket board (BCCI) that he wishes to retire from Test cricket, but top officials have asked him to reconsider the decision, "He has made up his mind and has informed the board that he is moving on from Test cricket. The BCCI has urged him to rethink as the crucial England tour is coming up. He is yet to revert on the request," sources told this newspaper.

Kohli's decision comes on the back of Rohit Sharma's Test retirement a couple of days ago. India's selectors are set to meet in a few days to pick the team for the five-Test series in England next

It is learnt that Kohli has been contemplating his Test future since the Border Gavaskar Trophy in Australia earlier this year when he went through a lean run after scoring a century in the first Test.

If Kohli doesn't change his mind, and with Rohit out of the picture, it will leave India with a largely inexperienced middle-order to join forces with KL Rahul, Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal at the top, and Rishabh Pant later down the order.

Besides, the team will be left without the guiding hands of two veterans who, between them, have led the Test team for nearly 11 years till now. Kohli became India's Test captain in December 2014 followed by Rohit in February 2022

The 36-year-old Kohli has played 123 Tests for India and has scored 9,230 runs at an average of 46.85. His average dipped in the last



five years, aggregating 1,990 runs in 37 games with three

During the recent tour of Australia, he ended up with an average of 23.75 from five Tests. Out of his eight dismissals on the tour, Kohli got out to deliveries outside off stump on seven

Later, he spoke about the disappointment from that tour during an event in March for his IPL team RCB, saying, "I might not have an Australia tour again in me in four years' time."

Speaking at the event about the mental pressures after the recent Test failures, he had said, "Once you start taking

FIFA Women's teams in 2031

New Delhi (Agency): The FIFA Women's World Cup will be expanded from 32 to 48 teams, like the men's competition, starting with the 2031 edition, the global football body announced on Friday. The 48-team World Cup will adopt a 12-group format, increasing the total number of matches from 64 to 104 - the same as the expanded men's World Cup in 2026 – and extending the

Meanwhile, the next iteration, the 2027 Women's World Cup to be held in Brazil will continue to have 2027 teams like the previous edition in 2023 in Australia and New Zealand, which was the first to host 32 sides. up from 24 in 2019.

"This is not just about having said in a statement.

view."

Infantino highlighted that the success of the 2023 edition won by Spain prompted the move and brushed aside concerns of

LONDON (Agency): Pep Guardiola admits this season has been the toughest of his 16-year managerial career as Manchester City's Premier League title challenge collapsed and they exited the Champions League early.

Spaniard experienced little but success glittering spells at Barcelona, Bayern Munich and City. But after four successive Premier League triumphs, City's form nosedived from late October

onwards. They can still finish the campaign with a top-five spot and the FA Cup, while they have an additional shot at silverware at the Club World Cup.

But even if they end on a high note, it will not change Guardiola's verdict of the season as a whole.

"It's been the most difficult, that's for sure," said the 54year-old, whose team exited the Champions League at the hands of Real Madrid in the knockout phase playoffs.

"It's been more demanding much more. When you don't win it's more demanding emotionally and (in terms of) preparing and the moods and everything.

"It's been more difficult than the previous seasons when we played for the titles."

Injuries, particularly to midfielder Rodri, have been a huge factor in City's decline while a number of individuals have suffered a drop in form.

Guardiola does not absolve himself from blame.

"We had a lot of injuries, we didn't have the energy," he said. "We tried most of the time but we were not able to

"I didn't find the way to let them feel comfortable and winning the games." Guardiola, whose third-

placed side travel to relegated Southampton on Saturday, admitted City's high standards had slipped. "But, even with that, I would say, it could be worse. I was not good enough to find a way but we didn't give up,"

he said. 'We're still fighting to qualify for the Champions League -- that is a big, big prize -- and the FA Cup.

Pakistan **Cricket Board** decides to postpone PSL

New Delhi (Agency): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Friday decided to postpone the ongoing Pakistan Super League with eight matches remaining because of the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan. Earlier in the day BCCI too has suspended the ongoing Indian Premier League 2025 after the heightened tensions between the nations.

has been taken pursuant to advice received from the Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif who has kept in view the reckless aggression from India that has escalated to a point where national attention and sentiments are rightly focused on the courageous efforts of the Armed Forces of Pakistan who are vociferously upholding the sovereignty of our beloved Pakistan," PCB said in a statement said.

"The decision to postpone

"The last 24 hours have seen a worsening of the situation on the LOC, increased incursion of 78 drones, and the firing of surface to surface missiles from India," read PCB's statement.

Earlier, PCB confirmed that the last eight fixtures, which were previously scheduled in Rawalpindi, Multan and Lahore, will now be played in the UAE. 'The PCB confirms that the remaining fixtures of the HBL PSL X have been shifted to the UAE," PCB said in a media release.

However, a PTI source was quoted today "The Emirates Cricket Board has enjoyed a strong relationship with BCCI in recent years having hosted the 'India' edition of the ICC T20 World Cup 2021, editions of the IPL as well as India matches during ICC Champions Trophy 2025." Dubai is also the headquarter of the International Cricket Council, which is currently headed by former BCCI

secretary Jay Shah. The PCB said it recognises the efforts and support of its partners, franchises, participating players, broadcasters, sponsors, and organizers in having ensured the smooth conduct of the tournament thus far, however; cricket while being a unifying force and a source of joy, must take a respectful pause when the country is facing such callous

India attacked the terror infrastructure in Pakistan, two weeks after 26 civilians, including a Nepalese citizen, were gunned downed by terrorist in Pahalgam - a popular tourists destination in India.

opposition.

'Daryl Mitchell said he will never return Pakistan again, Tom Curran was crying': Rishad Hossain 'Relieved' after reaching **Dubai amid PSL postponement**

Hansi Flick says Barcelona are focussed on El Clasico against Real Madrid after **UCL** defeat to Inter Milan

'We're doing well'



(Agency): Manager Hansi Flick on Saturday said that Barcelona are ready to move on from their Champions League semifinal defeat against Inter Milan and concentrate on their upcoming clash against La liga title rivals Real Madrid. Barcelona will be keen for a win here as a victory against Real and then another win next week will ensure that they win the La Liga title for the 28th time. "We're doing well. After the defeat in Milan, everyone knows it's not easy... but we're doing things right. We've talked about what we want to do in these two weeks. There are four more games to go. El Clasico is important, we have to show how well we can play. We have to show confidence. The players are doing very well... We've been talking about what they are thinking, what they are feeling" Flick said. "We had to

talk about it as a group. Everyone knows that in a Clasico you have to give 100%. You have to be active, intense, dominant. Real Madrid is a very good team, and we need the fans," he added. Flick also addressed the criticism his side often face due to the use of a high line while defending. "When we started, I was clear about the philosophy... There have been games, especially at the beginning, where we saw doubts, but the team has adapted well. They have also been improving and are happy with the style and how we want to play. When you see the quality of the players you are happy." The German also praised defender Inigo Martinez while also adding striker Robert Lewandowski, returning from a hamstring injury, and full

back Alejandro Balde would

not start against Real.

New Delhi (Agency): leg-spinner Bangladesh Rishad Hossain said on Saturday that he and the other overseas players were relieved to reach Dubai after situations, as the overseas players were all horrified. "Foreign players like Sam Billings, Daryl Mitchell, Kushal Perera, David Wiese, Tom Curran... all of them

the Pakistan Super League (PSL) was put on hold amid the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced the postponement of PSL on Friday after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) suspended the ongoing Indian Premier League 2025 after the heightened tensions between the nations.

Rishad also said New Zealand batting all-rounder Darly Mitchell told him he would never 'return to Pakistan', especially in these

so frightened... Landing in Dubai, Mitchell told me that he would never go to Pakistan again, especially in this kind of scenario. Overall, they were all horrified," said Rishad at Dubai Airport, as quoted by

He also mentioned how difficult it was to console worried English cricketer Tom Curran, who started crying. "He (Tom Curran) went to the airport, but heard that the airport was closed. Then he started crying like a little child, that it took two or three people to handle him,"

Rishad was a part of the Lahore Qalandars team and, alongside pacer Nahid Rana (Peshawar Zalmi), were the two Bangladeshi players participating in PSL

> All foreign players in the Pakistan league were flown out to the UAE, from where they were booked on connecting flights to their final destinations.

"Alhamdulillah, we have reached Dubai after overcoming a crisis, and I am feeling well now," said Rishad. "After landing in Dubai

when we heard that a missile struck the airport 20 minutes after we took off from the airport. The news was scary as well as sorrowful and now after reaching Dubai we are feeling relieved," he said, adding that his family spent some sleepless nights," he added.According to Rishad, the PCB chairman, Mohsin Naqvi, initially wanted to hold the remaining PSL matches in Karachi. However, the decision was later changed after several players raised

concerns with him.

Sanjay Bangar analyses Rishabh Pant's batting: If you do look to score down the ground...then all those other areas open up

New Delhi (Agency): Lucknow Super Giants skipper Rishabh Pant has been going through a torrid time in the Indian Premier League 2025. The southpaw is yet to make an impactful contribution with the bat for his side. Additionally, LSG did start the tournament well, but the performances started to take a downward spiral and his form has come under sharp focus. In 11 games thus far, Pant has scored 128 runs at an average of 12.80. "We have to recognise that he's still yet to totally understand the white-

ball game - both 50-over formats. cricket as well as T20 cricket. A fabulous Test match batter, make no mistake about it, but here in this particular season, what I noticed is that he got out a number of times looking to play shots behind the



wicket," said former Indian cricketer Sanjay Bangar. "If you do look to score down the ground a lot of times, then all those other areas open up. But if you're only looking to score behind, then whatever is in front of you, you sort of are very much late and not in a great position to play." Bangar said. "Now, you pull out the best innings of Rishabh – where has he looked to score the runs? Drives through covers, step down the track and try to hit the sightscreen or go over midwicket, square.

Alert in all districts of MP amid Indo-Pak tension, Mohan Sarkar issued advisory; action will be taken immediately

which

department in Madhya Pradesh has issued advisory keeping in view national security. As per the guidelines issued late last night, in case of any emergency, all types of medicines, necessary machines should available in all hospitals. The entire staff should be present along with the doctor and sufficient quantity of blood of all groups should be available in the blood bank. with arrangements for generators should also be ensured in different hospitals and schools.

Similarly, keep complete vigil on social media and take immediate legal action on inflammatory posts or

material against the country, available in the districts in highly sensitive places in the so that the atmosphere in the state does not deteriorate. for all districts of the state For this, ensure compliance of the instructions issued



Engineering

will ensure that complete

water are available in case of

emergency. Update the list of

Department

case of emergency. People

should not unnecessarily

store food items and other

from time to time by the The Public Health and Government of India. administration should ensure that sufficient arrangements for drinking food items, petrol-diesel,

institutions Government of India should be kept updated. Information related to civil security should be given at the village and panchayat level in the districts so that people have a sense of security and confidence. Fire services should be kept active. For this, equipment should be checked etc.

information about hospitals,

power plants, oil and gas

depots, religious places,

districts,

The Home Department issued an advisory saying that communication services should be made smooth. For this, coordinate with telecom companies. Public address systems should be kept in working condition in sufficient numbers. In view

of mock drills and warnings of disaster management, arrangements for sirens should be ensured in cities. this, the local administration, district administration and police administration should ensure necessary coordination. In case of disaster, participation of NGOs, National Service Scheme and NCC and civil volunteers should be ensured so that effective cooperation can be provided in relief and rescue work.

Production in industries should continue smoothly. Ensure the safety of industries. The Public Works Department should ensure the maintenance and safety of roads and bridges. The Energy Department should ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity.

MP-Maharashtra sign agreement on Tapi Basin Project



Bhopal (Agency): An important agreement has been signed between Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. According to the official statement, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Saturday to jointly launch the Tapi Basin Mega Recharge Project. The agreement is being described as historic as the project is being described as the world's largest groundwater recharge scheme. Know

in this report how this project will become a means of prosperity for the farmers. MP Irrigation Minister Tulsi Silavat and his Maharashtra counterpart Girish Mahajan were also present on the occasion of signing the MoU. Tapi river is known as Tapi in Maharashtra. It originates from Betul district of MP. It flows through different parts of Maharashtra. The official statement said that the purpose of this project is to provide adequate water for drinking in north-eastern Maharashtra including Nagpur and for irrigation in southern Madhya Pradesh, especially Chhindwara district. Officials said that as per the agreement between the two states regarding the Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project, a total of 31.13 thousand million cubic (TMC) feet of water can be used. Out of this, 11.76 TMC water has been allocated for MP while 19.36 TMC has been

allocated for Maharashtra.

BRIEF NEWS

Delhi CM raps civic body for slow disposal of waste at landfills



Delhi (Agency): In a high-level meeting with MCD officials Chief Minister Rekha Gupta Friday issued instructions to ensure that work to clear Delhi's three landfills is done in a fast-paced manner.

According to a statement from the Chief Minister's office, Gupta expressed displeasure over the slow pace of waste disposal work and instructed the officials to carry out immediate removal of garbage from the three landfills — Okhla, Ghazipur and Bhalswa.

The Chief Minister was also briefed on the progress of wasteto-energy plants that are operational in Narela-Bawana, Ghazipur, Okhla and Tehkhand, along with plans on their

"The CM specifically instructed that the operation and expansion of these projects must be carried out with complete transparency, accountability, and strict adherence to timelines to ensure effective outcomes for the public," the statement said. The MCD and the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) have recently initiated a mega city-wide cleanliness drive. In this regard, the CM directed MCD officials to submit daily progress reports of the ongoing

The CM has directed that the officials should ensure no one throws garbage in the drains and take serious note of the issue of stray cattle. The corporation has been directed to launch a special stray cattle campaign.

She also instructed MCD to develop a comprehensive plan for better public use of reclaimed land from the landfill sites. "Every street, lane, and colony across the capital regardless of location — must have equal access to cleanliness. She emphasised that sanitation should not be limited to garbage collection alone but must be a system involving solid waste management, drain cleaning, public toilet maintenance, and active citizen participation," Gupta's office said in its statement

138 flights cancelled at **Delhi** Airport

Delhi (Agency): At least 138 flights to and from Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) were cancelled on Friday, amid escalating tension along the India-Pakistan border. Delhi Airport authorities also issued an advisory urging flyers to follow all baggage regulations and cooperate with security staff. At least 63 arriving and 66 departing domestic flights were cancelled at the airport as of 9 pm on Friday, said a source. Four international arrivals and five international departures were also cancelled during the same period, the source added.

In an advisory posted on X, the Delhi Airport stated that while airport operations remain normal, some flight schedules may be impacted "due to evolving airspace conditions and strengthened security measures". It also urged passengers to avoid spreading or relying on unverified information.

Airlines have issued advisories asking passengers to report at least three hours before their flight's departure. "In view of an order by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security on enhanced measures at airports, passengers across India are advised to arrive at their respective airports at least 3 hours prior to scheduled departure to ensure smooth check-in and boarding. Check-in closes 75 mins before departure.," Air

India posted on X. IndiGo also issued a similar appeal, stating: "We request you to allow some extra time for your journey to accommodate security checks and formalities."

India has already suspended commercial flight operations at 27 airports, mainly those close to the India-Pakistan border or housed at key Air Force bases.

Clouds will thunder heavily in 3 dozen cities including Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal (Agency): A big update has come in the weather forecast of Madhya Pradesh. Alert has been issued for rain and thunderstorm in more than three dozen cities in MP. After the warning of the Meteorological Department, the police-administration has also come on alert mode. If forecast of the Meteorological Department is to be believed, then thunderstorms and storms can occur along with rain in Tikamgarh, Vidisha, Balaghat, Narmadapuram,

Rewa, Chhindwara, Seoni, Damoh, Sagar, Panna, Betul, etc. cities including the capital Bhopal.

The mood of the weather will remain the same for the next two to three days in Madhya Pradesh. The period of rain will continue due to the activation of Western Disturbance. The period of rain will continue in many cities of the state, due to which people will get relief from the scorching heat. After the rain, the day and night temperature will also



This is the weather forecast for MP from May 10 to the next 2 days

Rain and storm will continue in many cities of Madhya Pradesh for the next two to three days. Due to the rain, the temperature will also decrease, after which people will get a lot of relief from the scorching heat.

Rain will continue in cities like MP's capital Bhopal, Mandsaur. Gwalior, Jabalpur, Vidisha, Indore, Sagar, Raisen, Ujjain, Khargone, Chhindwara, Panna, Dewas, Damoh, Tikamgarh, Ratlam, Sehore, Rewa, Neemuch, Seoni, Khandwa, Satna, Rajgarh

Administration alert after weather department's <u>warning</u>

After weather department's warning of rain and storm, the policeadministration has also come on alert mode. Strict instructions have been given to the people living on the banks of the rivers to be especially cautious. Additional police force has also been deployed.

P Jindal university shifts exams to online mode

Delhi (Agency): In light of the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan, the O P Jindal Global University (JGU) on Friday announced that all end-semester examinations for Spring 2025 will now be held entirely online. The examinations, scheduled for this week, will now commence from May 13 to give administrators time to shift to the online mode, the university added.

In an email sent on Friday by the Registrar's office, the university said the decision was taken "not due to any direct threat to campus safety, but as a proactive and JGU campus remains secure and fully functional, and we continue to function with

precautionary step". "The and may choose to appear for online exams from their hostel "Accommodation



complete preparedness and abundant care," it added. In the email, the university clarified that students are not required to vacate campus essential services remain operational," it said. However, those who feel "extremely unsettled" have "We understand that there is

return to their families.

a likelihood of Internet services getting disrupted in certain sensitive areas... the university will conduct examinations for them later as per the institutional policy," the email stated.

The announcement comes at a time when students are grappling with confusion and anxiety. "There was panic on campus until yesterday, everyone was glued to the news and trying to figure out what was going on... Many students have started booking flights to return home," said a fourthyear law student.

Delhi's Vigilance dept seeks Centre nod to probe **AAP's ex-health ministers** Jain and Bharadwaj



Delhi (Agency): The Delhi Vigilance government's Department has sought permission from the Centre to initiate an inquiry against former health ministers Saurabh Bharadwaj and Satyendar Jain for allegedly committing corruption of Rs 5,590 crore in construction of 24 hospitals, said officials.

According to officials, the department sought permission to probe these AAP leaders under the Prevention of Corruption (PoC) Act. Hitting back, the AAP accused the BJP government of not providing funds to complete the project, which led to cost escalation.

Officials said a complaint was filed by BJP MLA and Delhi Legislative Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta with the Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) alleging rampant corruption plaguing the Health Department with the connivance of Bharadwaj and Jain. Gupta alleged that in 2018-19, the 24 hospital Projects — 11 greenfield and 13 brownfield — were sanctioned for Rs 5,590 crore, but these projects have been mired in inexplicable delays and astronomical cost overruns, which indicates large-scale siphoning of funds. The ACB then conducted an inquiry which, prima facie, revealed that the consistent inflating of the aforesaid project costs;

departments; rejection of cost-effective mis-allocation of funds; and creation of idle assets are the tactics and patterns of misconduct and corrupt activities which resulted in a huge loss to the government exchequer of the health department concerned. "The allegations levelled in

deliberate delays by

the complaint are serious and require an inquiry... It is, therefore, requested that prior approval u/s 17-A of the PoC Act against Saurabh Bharadwaj and Satyendar Former Minister, GNCT of Delhi, [be granted] for conducting the enquiry," said the ACB in its report.

Officials said the ACB sent this report to the Vigilance Department in January.

Following this, the Vigilance Department recently sought permission from the Centre. Officials said the Centre has sent the file to the President. Permission is required from the President as the charges are levelled against two former ministers.

The AAP, in its response, said, "In the early days of... Covid, there projections that Delhi could possible pace.

been given the option to SC rejects plea to review Allahabad HC decision that ended toll collection on DND flyway

rejected a plea to review its decision upholding the Allahabad High Court order, which had ended toll collection by Noida Toll Bridge Company Limited (NTBCL) on the DND (Delhi-Noida Direct) flyway connecting Delhi to Noida. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh dismissed NTBCL's plea seeking review of its December 20, judgment. The company sought a relook at the decision, stating that the report of the CAG - which was relied upon by the court - had some positive remarks,

(Agency): The

Supreme Court on Friday

The origin of the flyway dates back to April 1992, when Noida and the Delhi administration entered into MoU with IL&FS,

not reflect the same.

too, about it, but the order did

intending to construct the bridge. The concession agreement was executed on November 12, 1997. The HC's October 26, 2016,

the concession agreement. It sought a direction to discontinue toll charges from those who used the DND



ruling came on a plea filed by the Federation of Noida Residents' Welfare Association, which had moved the HC nearly 15

flyway, saying NTBCL had already recovered the project

The NTBCL had then approached the SC. On

years after the execution of had dismissed the appeal, "NTBCL has saying, recovered the project costs and substantial profits, eliminating any justification for the continued imposition or collection of user fees or

> It added that there was no infirmity in the HC judgment and that it found no reason to interfere with it.

> The SC also said that the contract awarded to NTBCL through the concession agreement by authorities and New Okhla Development Authority (NOIDA) was unjust "unfair, and inconsistent Constitutional norms"

> It added that NOIDA "exceeded its authority by delegating the power to levy fees or impose tolls to NTBCL, rendering such delegation invalid".

see 5.5 lakh cases... and would require 80,000 hospital beds, especially ICU beds... The AAP government mobilised its financial resources to build these hospitals at the fastest

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