

PEOPLE'S MAIL



How Zohran Mamdani's 'joyous' ground game helped him topple Andrew Cuomo in...



Selective data sharing: Why SEBI slapped Rs 25 lakh fine on BSE

Abhishek Bachchan wants to get back into commercial space now: 'Last out-and-out...

Rapid and measured response forced adversary to plead for ceasefire CNS on Op Sindoor

New Delhi (Agency): During Operation Sindoor, Indian naval ships, submarines and aircraft were operationally ready and deployed, projecting strength and preparedness to deter any "potential actions from our western adversary" in the maritime domain, Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi said on Friday.

"This rapid and measured response not only showcased our strategic reach and maritime dominance, but sent a clear message of resolve, forcing our adversary to plead for ceasefire, I would say, just in time," Admiral Tripathi said in his address at an investiture ceremony at the Nausena Bhawan here.

The Chief of the Naval Staff

(CNS) also made a reference to India's decision to treat any act of terror as an act of war in the wake of the April 22 Pahalgam attack.

"India's evolved approach to treat any act of terror as an act of war has added a new dimension to our operational outlook. Today, a notice to motor-ing could well be a notice to conflict and we must be prepared for this new normal," he asserted.

In technical terms, a "notice to motor-ing" means a notice to a ship to sail for an operation.

In his address, the CNS said, "As you all are well aware, during Operation Sindoor, our ships, submarines and aircraft were operationally ready and

deployed, projecting strength and preparedness to deter any potential actions from our west-



ern adversary." "This rapid and measured response not only showcased our strategic reach and maritime dominance but also sent a clear message of resolve, forcing our adversary to plead for ceasefire, I would say, just in

time," he said. Though he did not name Pakistan, the Navy chief sent out a clear message to the neighbouring country about India's resolve to combat terrorism, including cross-border terrorism.

Operation Sindoor was launched in the early hours of May 7 against several terror-infrastructure sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in retaliation for the Pahalgam attack, in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed. During a military press conference here on May 11, Director General of Naval Operations (DGNO) Vice Admiral AN Pramod had said the Indian Navy's carrier battle group, sub-

marines and aviation assets were immediately deployed at sea with full combat readiness in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack. The naval forces remained forward deployed in the northern Arabian sea in a "dissuasive and deterrent" posture, with full readiness to strike select targets at sea and on land, including Karachi, at a "time of our choosing", the DGNO had said. The vice admiral had addressed the press conference along with his counterparts from the Army and Air Force. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Monday that Operation Sindoor achieved all its objectives and succeeded in "injecting fear" in the minds of terrorists.

Sangh's mission is to bind Hindu society with sense of belonging Bhagwat

Pune (Agency): RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Friday said the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's mission is to ensure that the entire Hindu society is bound by the thread of "sense of belonging and affection." He was speaking at the release of a biography of noted Ayurveda practitioner late P Y Khadiwale, better known as 'Vaidya Khadiwale', here. "Unlike animals, human beings possess intellect. With wise use of intellect, he can become even better, but using the same intellect in the wrong way, he can become worse. The only thing that stops him from being bad is the

sense of affection and belonging," Bhagwat said. There are examples of people tilting towards evil if they become selfish. On the other hand, if a person tilts towards affection and compassion, he attains a godly form, and Khadiwale's life journey is an example of this, he added.

The Sangh also works towards reminding the society about the sense of belonging, affection and compassion which are being forgotten in the present times, Bhagwat said. "The Sangh teaches a person that if somebody is showing a sense of be-

longing towards you, you should also be reciprocal and show the same affection and compassion. The work of the Sangh is to see that the entire Hindu society is bound by the thread of sense of belonging and affection," he said. The Hindu community has also taken upon itself the task of binding the entire world by the thread of sense of belonging, the RSS chief further said. The term 'giving back' has lately become fashionable in English, but this sentiment has been in existence in India for a long time, he said.



Student 'gang-raped' at Kolkata college; police arrest alumnus, 2 others

Kolkata (UNI): A first-year student of a law college in south Kolkata was allegedly "gang-raped" inside the institution by an alumnus and two senior students of the institution, a police officer said on Friday. All three accused were arrested and produced before a court which remanded them to police custody for four days. The process of the victim's submission of a confidential statement before a judicial magistrate was also under way, police said. Taking suo motu cognizance of the incident that occurred on the evening of June 25, the National Women's Commission asked the Kolkata Police to file a detailed action taken report within three days.

The incident at the South Calcutta Law Col-

lege triggered the horrific memories of the rape and murder of an intern inside the city's RG Kar Medical College in August last year which created a major political dust-up across the state.

The prime accused in the recent incident is a former student of the institute and, ironically, a practising criminal lawyer at the Alipore Police and Sessions Court, college sources said.

The two other accused are bona fide students of the college and senior to the victim, police confirmed.

College authorities stated that the main accused was also engaged as a temporary non-teaching staff at the institution for a renewable contractual period of 45 days.

CJI Gavai breaks down while reminiscing about his parents' struggle

Nagpur (Agency): In an emotional moment, Chief Justice of India Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai on Friday candidly shared personal anecdotes, revealing a side rarely seen by the public as he recounted the struggles of his parents in raising him. With visible emotion in his eyes and voice choked, the Chief Justice shared how his father's aspirations shaped his own path. "I wanted to be an architect," he said, "but my father had different dreams for me. He always wanted me to become a lawyer, a dream he could not fulfil himself," the CJI

said. Gavai, who was sworn in as 52nd Chief Justice of India last month, was speaking at an event organised by the Nagpur district court bar association to honour his ascent to the highest judicial position in the country. However, it was his personal reflections that resonated most with the audience.

Gavai got emotional briefly while speaking about his parents and the influence they had on his life. "My father gave himself to the service of Ambedkar. He wanted to be an advocate himself, but couldn't fulfil that wish as he



was arrested for being part of the freedom movement," Gavai said. "We were a joint family with many kids, and all the responsibility

came on my mother and aunt," the CJI said. To fulfil his father's wish, he let go of his dream to be an architect, he said. "Later, when my name was recommended for the post of a judge in the high court, my father said if you remain a lawyer, you will only go after money, but if you become a judge then you will walk on the path laid down by Ambedkar and do good for society," Gavai said.

His father also thought that his son would one day become the Chief Justice of India, but he did not live to see that happen, the CJI said. "We lost him on

2015, but I am glad my mother is there," Gavai added. The chief justice was quick to sense that the audience had turned emotional and perhaps to lighten the mood, he shared the memory of another day when a cheque bounce case was lodged against actor Hema Malini in the Nagpur district court. He and former CJI Sharad Bobade were to appear for Hema Malini. "There was so much crowd in the courtroom that day to get a glimpse of Hema Malini," he said with a chuckle, "but we couldn't help but enjoy the moment amidst the flurry."

EAM: Leaders carrying Constitution copies, never apologised for Emergency

New Delhi (Agency): Marking the 50th anniversary of the Emergency imposed in 1975, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday launched a seathing attack on the Congress, accusing the party of "murdering the Constitution" but never apologising for imposing Emergency.

The EAM said the Emergency was not merely a political misstep but a direct assault on democracy, constitutional values and the very conscience of the nation.

"Some people walk around holding a copy of the Constitution, but their hearts say something else. Has the Congress ever apologised for the Emergency?" he asked.

Jaishankar and Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva jointly inaugurated the session organised to mark the 50th anni-

versary of Emergency.

The event was organised by the Delhi BJP Yuva Morcha at the NDMC Convention Centre. It included a mock parliament session that was aimed at educating young participants about the legacy and impact of the Emergency. Recalling his own experience as a young man during the Emergency, Jaishankar said, "Freedom should never be taken lightly. That period saw night raids, arrests without explanation, suppression of speech, and a general climate of fear." He emphasised that it was the duty of those who witnessed that period to educate future generations about how the Constitution and democracy were subverted.

He pointed out that between 1975 and 1977, five constitutional Amendments and 48 Ordinances were pushed through,

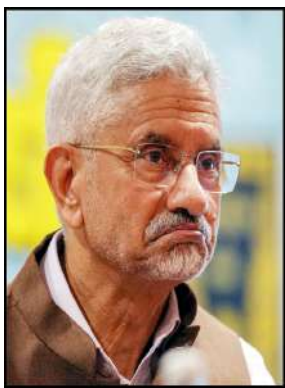
three of which had far-reaching implications.

"The 38th Amendment, which shielded Emergency proclamations from judicial scrutiny, stitution was silenced to such an extent that even if your life was in danger, the courts couldn't help you," he said.

Jaishankar said the Emergency was imposed not out of national interest, but to protect a single family's hold on power. "Even today, the Congress refuses to express regret for those two years. That silence speaks volumes," he said.

The minister further pointed out that during the Emergency, a bilateral agreement signed with Sri Lanka led to India losing its traditional fishing rights. This is an issue that continues to affect Indian fishermen, many of whom are still detained by the Sri Lankan authorities, he added.

Taking on the Opposition's allegations of an "undeclared Emergency" in current times, he hit back, saying, "If there were truly an Emergency today, Par-



liament wouldn't function and dissenters wouldn't be spared, exactly what happened back then. Today, both ruling and opposition MPs are abroad together, presenting a united stance on issues like terrorism. That's the difference."

The Delhi BJP chief also emphasised the importance of educating today's youth about the Emergency. "The Constitution was throttled and freedom of speech crushed for political power. Some were maimed, some killed. The youth must understand this dark chapter," he said.

Talking about the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting, he said India took a strong position. "When one country tried to shield terrorism, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said clearly that if terrorism is not mentioned in the statement, India will not sign it."

Over 5.5 crore devotees visited Ayodhya's Ram Temple since consecration: UP Govt

Ayodhya (Agency): Since the consecration of Lord Ram at the newly constructed Ram Temple in Ayodhya on 22 January 2024, the city has experienced an overwhelming influx of devotees from across India and abroad. Over 5.5 crore visitors have come to offer prayers and seek blessings at the temple, the Uttar Pradesh government said in a statement on Friday.

The surge in pilgrims has not been limited to the general public. Nearly 4.5 lakh VIPs, including Union ministers, governors, chief ministers from various states, and prominent figures from the entertainment, business, and sports sectors, have also paid their respects at the temple.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ensured that arrangements for darshan are efficient and convenient, directing authorities to guarantee that all visitors, whether ordinary devotees or distinguished guests, experience a smooth

visit, the statement read.

With the completion of the grand temple, Ayodhya has become a major global religious destination. In response to the growing demand, the state government has worked on enhancing public transport connectivity, facilitating easier access for both pilgrims and tourists. The inauguration ceremony of the temple, which was attended by numerous international dignitaries, marked the beginning of a new chapter in the city's transformation. Since then, the number of VIP visitors has continued to rise, with several governors making multiple visits, often accompanied by their fami-

lies, it said.

Bollywood stars such as Amitabh Bachchan and cricket legends like Sachin Tendulkar were present for the consecration ceremony. More recently, actors Govinda and Anushka Sharma, alongside cricket icon Virat Kohli, have also offered prayers at the temple.

Divisional Commissioner Gaurav Dayal stated that approximately 5.5 crore devotees have visited the temple to date, the majority being pilgrims. He assured that the administration is taking every step to ensure the safety and comfort of all visitors in line with security protocols. With Lord Ram now seated on the first floor of the temple, the number of visitors is expected to rise further in the coming days. Recently, Errol Musk, father of Elon Musk, along with his sister, travelled to Ayodhya to offer prayers at the temple. Dressed in traditional Indian attire, Musk described the experience as "wonderful."



Experts appear before Par panel amid concerns on China-Pak warming up to Bangladesh

New Delhi (Agency): Bangladesh's perceived growing proximity with Pakistan and China, and implications of India's strained ties with its eastern neighbour were discussed at a parliamentary committee meeting on Friday amid suggestions by some experts on engagement with the country, sources said.

Former foreign secretary and former national security advisor Shivshankar Menon, Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain, former high commissioner of India to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das and well-known academician Amitabh Mattoo appeared as experts and "gave us very good insights and excellent ideas", Standing Committee on Exter-

nal Affairs Chairman Shashi Tharoor said.

Replying to a question about infiltration from Bangladesh, he said a figure that has come up before the committee suggests that its number has gone down.

An MP said some members flagged concerns about the strain in ties with Bangladesh under the interim government of Muhammad Yunus after Sheikh Hasina was deposed last year.

The sources said there was a view from some experts that India needs to engage with Bangladesh at various levels, including people-to-people ties, under the new regime. A friendly India is very much in the interest of Bangladesh as well, they added. An expert said despite concerns about radicalisation of

youngsters in the country, its army is not extremist like Pakistan's.

That China is getting a foothold in the country, which is strategically important for India, was another issue for some MPs of the panel, the sources said, noting that Pakistan is also trying to strengthen its ties with Bangladesh.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Kiran Choudhry, the sources said, recalled India's role in liberating Bangladesh, noting that her father, Brigadier Atma Singh of the 17 Kumaon Regiment, played a heroic role in the 1971 war and suffered bullet injuries. Singh was called the "founding father" of the regiment and his unit received battle honours.

No need for socialism in India secularism not core of our culture: Union minister Chouhan

Varanasi (Agency): Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Friday said "there is no need for socialism in India", adding "secularism is not the core of our culture". Chouhan's remarks assume significance as the RSS on Thursday called for reviewing the words 'socialist' and 'secular' in the preamble of the Constitution, saying they were included during the Emergency and were never part of the Constitution drafted by B R Ambedkar. Addressing an event organised at New Delhi on 50 years of the Emergency, RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale said, "The preamble of the Constitution Baba Saheb Ambedkar made never had these words. During the Emergency, when fundamental rights were suspended,

Parliament did not work, the judiciary became lame, then these words were added."

Speaking at a programme held in Varanasi to mark 50 years of the Emergency, Chouhan said, "'Bharat mein samajwad ke zaroorat nahi hai... Dharmamirapeksh hamaare sanskriti ka mool nahin hai aur issliye is par zaroor vichaar hona chaahiye' (There is no need for socialism in India... 'Secular' is not the core of our culture and hence, this must be deliberated upon)," he said.

In indirect support to the RSS' call to review the words "socialist" and "secular" in the Preamble of the Constitution, Union minister Jitendra Singh on Friday also said any right-thinking citizen will endorse it because everybody knows that

these words were not part of the original Constitution written by Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

Recalling the days of the Emergency, Chouhan said in order to save her power, the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi imposed Emergency in the country.

"There was no threat to external security nor was there any threat to internal security. The



only threat was to the prime minister's chair, hence, on the night of June 25, 1975, the Emergency was declared in the country without holding a cabinet meeting," the Union minister said.

Veteran Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Rajendra Chaudhary slammed the BJP and the RSS for suggesting that the words 'socialist' and 'secular' in the Constitution's Preamble could be done away with.

"These statements merely prove that the RSS and BJP don't believe in democracy and are making attempts to weaken the Constitution," Chaudhary said.

UP Congress chief Ajay Rai said, "Such statements in fact validate what we have been saying for long that the RSS and BJP don't have any faith in the Con-

stitution. This country belongs to all. The Congress will protect the Constitution at all costs."

Chouhan said he was only 16 years old when the Emergency was promulgated and he was also arrested and taken to jail under Defence of India Rules.

"Even today, I get goosebumps remembering those dark days. During the Emergency, if there was a frenzy to demolish houses at Turkman Gate, the public was crushed by bulldozers. If anyone protested, they were riddled with bullets. It was not bullets fired on the public, it was the murder of the Constitution," Chouhan recalled.

The Union minister said there was neither any appeal, nor 'va-keel' (lawyer), nor 'daleel' (argument) and alleged that it was murder of the Constitution.

The Divisional Commissioner directed to improve the rank by reviewing the ranking/grading in the development works relative to monitoring the CM dashboard

● Law and order review done by Mandalayukta and Inspector General of Police
● In view of various festivals in the coming days, instructions were given for security system, mn repair of roads and cleanliness

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, Divisional Commissioner Vindhyachal Division Balakrishna Tripathi and Inspector General Of Police RP Singh today held a meeting with the officials of the three districts of the board in the Commissioner's Office Auditorium and reviewed the rank/category-wise developmental schemes and law and order received in Chief Minister Dashboard Monitoring. On this occasion, District Magistrate Mirzapur Priyanka Niranjan, Bhadohi Shailesh Kumar,

Sonbhadra BN Singh, Chief Forest Conservation Manish Mittal, Senior Superintendent of Police Mirzapur Somen Burma, Sonbhadra Ashok Meena, Bhadohi Abhimanyu Manglik, Chief Development Officer Sonbhadra Jagriti Awasthi and Joint Development Commissioner Ramesh Chandra, Additional Commissioner Administration Dr. Rest and all the divisional officers were present. During the review of the Koonan system, the Divisional Commissioner gave instructions to take security and check in view of the upcoming festivals like Kavan, Moharram and other festivals. The Divisional Commissioner said that the festivals should not have any problem in any way Get to be done. While identifying the routes of Kavan Yatra, repair of roads, cleanliness, cutting of bushes along the roads, all proper arrangements should be ensured in time. He said that the traffic system should be made strong and easy in this way, the case should not be disrupted as well as the

traffic system. He said that cleaning of kavanis from where water is taken, cleaning on those ghats, lighting, Divers should also be arranged. He said that a board related to "Kavan Yatra Marg" should also be installed on the Kavan Yatra routes and deploying police personnel for security arrangements. He said that it should also be monitored that there should not be any inflammatory slogans/speeches etc., social media should be monitored strictly. Gunda Act, women harassment and action taken during the review, Necessary guidelines were given after reviewing all the points including the proceedings taken against the Gangster, the FIRs lodged, the presence of land mafia, district Badar, witnesses. Progress and class-wise review of development works was done under Chief Minister Dashboard Monitoring, during the review, A category has been obtained in 49 items/schemes of the three districts of the board. Among the items/schemes in which A category is obtained, Pandit

Deendayal Upadhyay SolarStreet Light A, Solar Street Light B.K.S.S. Gram Unnati Yojana A, Drop Peacock Crop Microorigation A, Poor Transformer Complaints A, Daily Electricity Supplies



CM Dashboard development works and law and order review meeting and instruct the concerned Commissioner Balakrishna Tripathi

Hour Rural A, Daily Electricity Supplies Hours Urban A, Daily Electricity Hour Urban A, Application for improvement in electricity bill, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi A, Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme A, PM Kusum Crop Insurance Scheme A, PM Kusum Ai, PM Kusum A A, Seed DBT, Pradhan Mantri A. Rural A, MNREGA A, Ambulance 102A, Ambulance 108A,

Biomedical Equipment Maintenance Program A, Milk Price Payment Status A, Cooperative Milk Committees A, Divyang Pension A, Aadhaar Seeding A, Family ID A, SBM Phase-2, Personal toilet Aad,

Personal toilet A, Personal toilet A, Clean India Mission Rural Vanpage A. PM Nutrition School Inspector A, egg production A, of destitute bovine Protection A, Animal Vaccination A, Artificial Insemination A in Animals, Answer Acquisition A, Marriage Grants A, Fisheries Production A, Aadhaar of Busted Women Pension A, Chief Minister Kanya Sumangala Yojana A,

Sumangla Yojana A, Setu's Building A, Setu's Building, Building A, Balika and Balika Varna Shodha Yojana A, Roads, and Balika and Balika Shodha Yojana A, SetuScheme A, ODOP Financing Scheme A, Mukhyamantri Yuva Swarozgar Yojana A, National Family Benefit Scheme A, National Old Age Pension Scheme A, Aadhaar of Old Age Pension Aadhaar Seeding A, District Cooperative Bank short-term loan disbursement and recovery A category. The Divisional Commissioner said that the departments whose category is B or C should make an action plan and make progress and try to bring it to A Plus with A category so that the board Can get a good place in the state. Instructed to bring the required progress to Bhadohi and Mirzapur districts in solar street lights and PM Suryaghar. Divisional Commissioner Shri Tripathi has given special attention to the construction of new roads and special attention is given to the quality of roads and the quality is found to be poor,

then strict action will be taken against the concerned. He said in the Gauvansh Participation Scheme that from malnutrition The families of the pregnant children should be benefited from the scheme by giving milk to cows giving milk in cowsheds. The District Magistrate should review the Kanya Marriage Assistance Scheme and Family Benefits Scheme, rejected applications from his level so that more and more people nhi can be benefited. The Prime Minister directed to distribute the selected beneficiaries under the ODOP scheme in the presence of tool kit public representatives Farmer Samman Nidhi, Krishak Dwhrtna Insurance, Old Age Pension, PM Fisheries Estate, Project Alankar, Construction of Composite Schools, Inspection of Schools, attendance of teachers, Gaushalas in Gaushalas, Bhusha collection, donation and purchase campaign, nationalized horticulture, power supply, time repair, time repair, Prime Minister

Housing Rural and Urban, Medical and Health, Milk Development and Health, Milk Development, and Panchayati Raj, Namami Ganges Instructions were given to bring progress by reviewing all the schemes including water supply, treatment, women's and child development, labor and service, irrigation and water modification. Directing those directors labor, the Board Commissioner said that the schemes run for the workers should be publicized on a large scale so that people can take advantage of it. The Divisional Commissioner while directing the officials of the Public Works Department said that the roadsEnsure the plantation of the shore. On this occasion, after reviewing the survey/works done by UNICEF, the deficiencies mentioned by the representatives of Sunisef were directed to improve the improvement according to the list given to the Health Department officials and the Child Development Project Officer.

Online trading trading. Demonstration by Uttar Pradesh Industry Trade delegation Mirzapur Unit in protest, memorandum submitted to district administration

Large industrialists and Chand Pujis occupying business due to small businessman starvation: Shatrughna Keshari

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh Industry Trade delegation at District Magistrate's Office in protest against online trading tradingMirzapur unit was given a strong sit-in dharna to save the retail trade and a memorandum addressed to Finance Minister Government of India Nirmala Sitharaman was given to City Magistrate Mirzapur Vineet Upadhyay. The traders present in the demonstration expressed deep resentment over the crisis on retail traders due to online trade and demanded from the Government of India that as soon as possible Online business should be discontinued. Senior Provincial Vice President Shatrughan Kesari said that



today, crores of retail traders doing traditional business in India, a wrong law of the Government of India, has either stopped their employment or is wandering for livelihood due to the implementation of 100% FDI of the Government of India due to the occupation of the business and the business of big industrialists and Chand Pujatis. Standing on the



verge of starvation. In such a situation, we are now forced to fight the trader online business. Uttar Pradesh Industry Trade delegation warns the Government of India through this memorandum that if the government did not stop the online trading trade. If the law is not amended, then the businessman of India will be forced to agitate



till the withdrawal of this black law. Panging Prominent in the demonstration, Senior Provincial Vice President Shatrughan Kesari, District President Shiv Kumar Mundra, Senior General Secretary Durga Prasad Chaudhary, Dhruv Aggarwal, Sudhir Singhania, Sanjay Kapoor, Gopal Agarhari, Pharmaceutical

Business Organization President Pramod Kumar Dwivedi, Nagar Youth President Jayaprakash Seth, Women City President Anita Gupta, Women's City President Anita Gupta, Women District Secretary Namita Kesarwani, Ahmad Ali, Ganesh Kesarwani, Sanjay Gupta, Rajesh Singhania, Jitendra Kumar Kesari Shaheet were present.

Girl birth anniversary program was organized in District Women's Hospital under the chairmanship of Member State Women's Commission

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, The District Women's Hospital was organized in the District Women's Hospital under the chairmanship of the Member State Women's Commission Uttar Pradesh Neelam Prabhat, in which the birth celebration was celebrated by cutting the cake from the hands of the newborns and she was given a baby net bed and baby kit as a gift. Member woman The hospital visited and gave necessary guidelines to the present doctors. Parents were informed about the application process by women empowerment hub personnel to apply for immediate application of

newborns in Virgo Sumangla. District Probation Officer Shakti Tripathi to the parents



Neelam Prabhat, a member of the State Women's Commission celebrating the girl's birth anniversary in the Women's Hospital

and parents of the girls and the Kanya Sumangala Yojana,

Mukhyamantri Bal Seva Yojana, Sponsarship Yojana and other departmental

should get benefits by applying and whatever schemes are being run by the Women's Welfare Department, the Pamplet distributed Beti Bachao Beti Padhao's logo (insignia) was pasted. The member also planted a plantation of guava in the name of girls born in the hospital in the hospital premises. Women's Hospital in charge from District Women's Hospital, Dr. Ashutosh in the programGeneral public Manas should be present along with the Child Specialist, Doctor, Nurse and Women Welfare Department from Dr. Manju Yadav, Pooja Maurya, Divya Jaiswal, Shalini, Sita Singh, Monu etc.

Flipkart Enabling Seller Growth Across India

Staff Reporter
Varanasi: Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, continues to foster a growth-led platform for sellers and customers alike. From simplified onboarding support, enhanced product discovery, and simplified pricing processes, these initiatives are designed to make online business more accessible, transparent, and rewarding, especially for first-time sellers. The New Seller Success Program provides simplified tools to ensure early seller success, reinforcing Flipkart's vision to expand access to e-commerce and enable more equitable growth for sellers across India. With new seller success growing year after year, it reflects the effectiveness of these efforts for businesses and customers

across India. Kapil Thirani, Senior Director - Marketplace, Flipkart, said, "At Flipkart, we are committed to building a marketplace where every seller, regardless of scale or experience, can grow with confidence. By enhancing transparency and simplifying the selling experience, we're creating an environment where entrepreneurship can thrive across the country. As digital commerce deepens its reach into Tier 2 and 3 cities, our focus remains on enabling sustainable, faster growth for millions of businesses." Hubris Apparels, a seller on Flipkart, shared, "As a seller, we have seen firsthand how Flipkart's platform continues to evolve in ways that truly support our growth. The new Settlement Based Pricing feature has significantly improved the efficiency of

our operations. It has not only saved us valuable time but also protected us from unexpected losses by offering greater clarity on earnings. We look forward to continued support from Flipkart as we grow our business further." Kayraah Fashion, a seller on Flipkart, said, "Flipkart's seller-first approach is reflected in tools like Settlement Based Pricing that simplify complex processes and eliminate manual calculations. It has helped us adopt smarter pricing strategies while removing unexpected fees and taxes. The feature has streamlined our daily decision-making and given us more control over our operations. We look forward to continued support from Flipkart as we expand our presence and reach new milestones." Since January 2025, Flipkart

has been providing complimentary onboarding support to first-time sellers, guiding them through the platform's ecosystem during their first 60 days. Designed for first-time entrepreneurs, this program simplifies onboarding - from listing and cataloging to order fulfillment. The program has led to a 2.3X increase in the number of new sellers achieving business success within the first 60 days of onboarding on Flipkart. These changes are building early momentum for sellers across India, especially from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. To enable sellers to scale their business sustainably, Flipkart has further improved Selection Discovery for new and trending products. Thousands of sellers have recorded over 2X business growth over last year, driven by a suite of initiatives.

■ Control the applications pending within 10 days, keep a cautious vision on those who intend to play with law and order : Inspector General of Police
■ With their criminal acts, taking action against Go-smugglers under the Gangster ActGet the movable/immovable property earned : IG-R.P. Singh

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, Inspector General of Police, Vindhyachal Zone Mirzapur 'RP Singh', while reviewing the crime and law and order of the three districts of the enclosure, directed that early disposal of pending deliberations and arresting the desired/prizes declared as wanted/prizes and arresting warrantees, complaints of complaints within 10 days. Samprokenness, land disputes on the entire resolution day/resolution day, disposal in collaboration with Revenue Department, checking on the crossing/tiraha at night by checking the transmission of criminals, physical verification of criminals involved in theft, robbery, and other criminal activities in the last 10 years, taking strict action against those who keep illegal liquor and

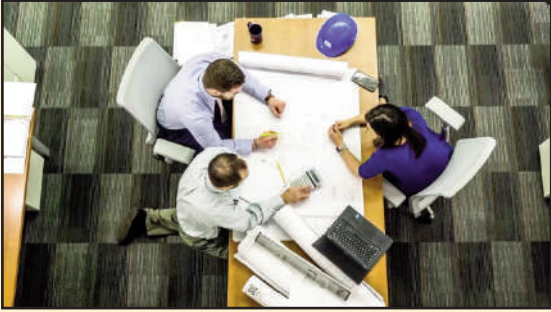


illegal weapons and illegal soon. Instructions were given to make maximum recovery while taking preventive action against the accused of drug. During this time, it was directed that women and girls by going to their-2 beat fields to stop crimes and criminals to curb crimes and criminals to curb crimes and crimes with women and girls. Make aware In view of the upcoming festival Moharram, Guru Purnima, Kavad Yatra etc., all the gazetted officers and police in -charge by the police station in-charge, meeting with all the religious leaders under the police station area and meeting the chawl, identifying the chaotic elements and identifying the chaotic statutory action against them.It was directed to ensure. In view of sensitivity to the upcoming festivals, strict instructions were given to all the jurisdictions and police in-charge to take serious action on the smallest

lobbying should be punished soon. Instructions were given to make maximum recovery while taking preventive action against the accused of drug. During this time, it was directed that women and girls by going to their-2 beat fields to stop crimes and criminals to curb crimes and criminals to curb crimes and crimes with women and girls. Make aware In view of the upcoming festival Moharram, Guru Purnima, Kavad Yatra etc., all the gazetted officers and police in -charge by the police station in-charge, meeting with all the religious leaders under the police station area and meeting the chawl, identifying the chaotic elements and identifying the chaotic statutory action against them.It was directed to ensure. In view of sensitivity to the upcoming festivals, strict instructions were given to all the jurisdictions and police in-charge to take serious action on the smallest

events. Policemen under all the police station area should be kept traveling continuously by putting duty with motorcycles and cluster mobiles. Body Protector, Helmet and Dandas essentially to Dutyrat policemen Strict instructions were given to keep riot control equipment. The information received on UP 112 was immediately instructed by PRV vehicles to reach the spot immediately. Activating the loud holler and public address system on all police vehicles, appeal to the common man to celebrate festivals in peace and amicable manner. Inspector General of Police R.P.Singh should keep a cautious vision on various social media platforms like Twitter, Whats App, Facebook, Instagram etc. Necessary action should be taken against the misleading posts by taking immediate cognizance of misleading and objectionable posts.

Family offices diversifying into global equities, private equity: Report



Mumbai (Agency): While 25 per cent of Indian family offices set up by business houses continue to prioritize wealth preservation, many are now actively diversifying beyond traditional assets into global equities, real estate, private equity, venture capital, and alternative investments, says a report on family offices Allocations are increasingly moving into global equities, real estate, private equity, venture capital, and other alternatives, says the EY-Julius Baer report. While preserving wealth remains foundational, families are actively diversifying beyond traditional assets. With over 300 family offices now operating in India, up from just 45 in 2018, the ecosystem is becoming more structured, globally focused, and purpose-driven, it said. Family offices are going global as ultra-high-net-worth individuals (UHNIs) expand across borders, with Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) remittances rising from \$18.8 billion in 2019–20 to \$31.7 billion in 2023–24. A family office is a private wealth management advisory firm established to manage the financial, investment, and personal affairs of an UHNI family. It acts like a full-service financial command centre for the family, offering customized solutions that go far beyond what traditional banks or wealth managers provide. There is a growing focus on formalising governance and succession planning among family offices, it said. “While 59 per cent of families have put wills or constitutions in place, and 19 per cent have adopted structures like trusts or LLPs, a significant number still lack a comprehensive succession plan – highlighting the need for greater preparedness,” it said. It said private markets are yet to see wider adoption among family offices. As many as 57 per cent of family offices allocate less than 10 per cent of their portfolios to private equity or venture capital, often citing limited access or as a cautious approach.

India seizes 39 containers with Pakistani-origin goods routed via UAE

New Delhi (Agency): The anti-smuggling arm of the Finance Ministry, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), has seized 39 containers carrying 1,115 metric tonnes of goods worth around Rs 9 crore, of Pakistani origin, that were being routed to India via the UAE in the backdrop of the Pahalgam terror attacks, the government said in a statement on Thursday. This came after the government had terminated direct trade with Pakistan, marked by the closure of the Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Attari on April 24, following the Pahalgam terror attack. Later, the government banned direct or indirect import or transit of goods originating in or exported from Pakistan on May 2. “DRI launched an operation codenamed Operation Deep Manifest, targeting the illegal import of Pakistani-origin goods routed through third countries, primarily via Dubai, UAE. The operation has so far led to the seizure of 39 containers carrying 1,115 metric tonnes of goods valued at approximately Rs 9 crore. One of the partners of an importing firm was

arrested on June 26,” the Ministry of Finance said in a statement.



The Ministry of Commerce had last year raised the issue of Pakistani dates and dry fruits entering India through

the UAE after the two countries signed a free trade agreement in 2022.

Despite these stringent measures, some importers have attempted to bypass the policy by “misdeclaring the

origin of goods” and manipulating related shipping documents, the statement said. “In two separate cases, these consignments were seized at Nhava Sheva Port. The consignments were falsely declared as being of UAE origin, masking their Pakistani provenance. However, investigations revealed that these goods actually originated from Pakistan and were merely transshipped via Dubai for import into India,” the Ministry said. The government stated that investigations conducted so

far had uncovered cargo movement trails from Karachi Port, Pakistan, and transshipments at Jebel Ali Port, Dubai – en route to Indian ports. Furthermore, money transfers and financial linkages with Pakistani entities were traced, raising serious concerns about illicit financial flows. “The entire modus operandi was orchestrated through a complex web of transactions involving Pakistani and UAE nationals, aimed at obscuring the true origin of the goods – namely Pakistan.”

HDB Financial Services’ IPO fully subscribed on day 2

Mumbai (Agency): HDB Financial Services’ Rs 12,500-crore initial public offering (IPO), the largest public offering by a non-banking entity in the domestic capital market, got fully subscribed on Thursday, with investors bidding for 15 crore shares as against 13.04 crore offered. The issue got 1.16 times (116 per cent) subscribed on the second day of the subscription. The retail portion got subscribed 64 per cent, as investors in the category bid for 3.6 crore shares against the total retail quota of 5.62 crore shares. The qualified institutional

buyers (QIB) portion got subscribed 90 per cent, with bids for 2.89 crore shares being received as against



3.21 crore shares offered. The non-institutional investors (NII) bid 2.29 times their quota. Employees’ and shareholders’ portions got

subscribed 2.97 times and 1.68 times.

The issue, which has a price band of Rs 700-740 per

share, will close for subscription on June 27 (Friday). The issue consists of a fresh issuance aggregating up to Rs 2,500 crore and an offer for sale of

up to Rs 10,000 crore by the parent company HDFC Bank.

After the IPO, HDFC Bank’s stake in HDB Financial Services will be reduced to 75 per cent from the current 94 per cent. The issue will close on June 27. Ahead of the IPO opening, HDB Financial Services raised Rs 3,368.99 crore from anchor investors, including Life Insurance Corporation of India, ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund (MF), Nippon Life India MF, BlackRock, Axis MF, Aditya Birla Sun Life MF, UTI MF, Schroder International Selection Fund, Goldman Sachs Funds, among others.

April net FDI inflows at 35-month high, spend on foreign studies down 21%



New Delhi (Agency): India received net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of \$3.95 billion in April, the most in 35 months and more than double from a year ago, data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday showed, while spending on foreign studies under the central bank’s Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) was down year-on-year for the ninth month in a row. The surge in foreign investments in the first month of the current fiscal came after March had seen net outflows of \$438 million, with six of the last nine months of 2024-25 seeing outflows on a net basis. On a gross basis, FDI inflows in April stood at \$8.80 billion – the highest in 39 months – and up 23 per cent year-on-year. Net FDI is calculated after adjusting for investments that are repatriated by foreign companies and overseas investments made by Indian companies. Investments in manufacturing and business services made up nearly half the gross FDI inflow figure in April, RBI economists said in the central bank’s monthly State of the Economy article, also published Wednesday. The increase in April follows a particularly difficult year for India, with 2024-25 seeing net FDI inflows of just \$2.29 billion, down 77 per cent from \$10.13 billion in 2023-24. According to RBI economists, the increase in repatriation in 2024-25 “is a sign of a mature market where foreign investors can enter and exit smoothly”. On a gross basis, FDI inflows into India in 2024-25 were up 14 per cent at \$81.04 billion, which the RBI said was indicative of India remaining an attractive investment destination. Earlier this month on June 16, the World Bank had warned that FDI into developing countries had fallen to \$435 billion in 2023 – the lowest in nearly 20 years – due to rising trade and investment barriers. According to M. Ayhan Kose, the World Bank Group’s Deputy Chief Economist, the sharp drop in FDI for developing countries “should sound alarm bells”. Reversing the trend, Kose had said, was “essential for job creation, sustained growth, and achieving broader development goals”. To be sure, foreign investors continued to repatriate money in April, although the number more than halved from a year ago to \$1.67 billion, the RBI data showed. Even compared to March, the figure was down 36 per cent.

Selective data sharing: Why SEBI slapped Rs 25 lakh fine on BSE

The action against the BSE has come at a time when the National Stock Exchange (NSE) was facing regulatory action in the co-location case.

Mumbai (Agency): The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) imposed a Rs 25 lakh fine on the BSE on Wednesday for failing to provide equal and timely access to corporate disclosures for all stakeholders and for not taking adequate action against brokers frequently modifying trade details. In its 45-page order, SEBI noted that BSE’s system architecture allowed select paid clients and members of its internal Listing

Compliance Monitoring (LCM) team to access corporate announcements before they were released on the exchange’s public website. This, the regulator said, resulted in a breach of fair disclosure norms. The penalty follows an inspection conducted between February 2021 and September 2022. The action against the BSE has come at a time when the National Stock Exchange (NSE) was facing regulatory action in the co-location case. The NSE faced allegations that it provided preferential trading access —particularly data feeds and servers—to select brokers, enabling them to gain a high-frequency trading edge over others. The regulator found that the BSE’s information-sharing process lacked mechanisms to ensure simultaneous and equal dissemination of material data, a critical

requirement for preserving market transparency and preventing any unfair information advantage. Based on these findings,



SEBI concluded that BSE violated Regulation 39(3) of the SECC (Stock Exchange and Clearing Corporations) Regulations, 2018, which requires exchanges to ensure fair, equitable, and non-discriminatory access to all market users. The regulator also flagged BSE’s failure to implement a Really Simple Syndication

(RSS) feed, which could have ensured uniform and real-time disclosure access. Although BSE later introduced a time delay to

bridge the gap, SEBI said the move was reactive and came only after regulatory intervention revealed the deficiencies. In addition, SEBI identified serious gaps in BSE’s oversight of client code modifications—changes to trade details allowed only for genuine errors. The exchange was found to have

neither initiated disciplinary measures against brokers with frequent modifications nor effectively monitored error accounts, raising concerns over compliance diligence and potential misuse. The BSE failed to take disciplinary action against brokers who frequently modified trade details and did not sufficiently monitor ‘error accounts’, raising red flags about potential misuse and a lack of due diligence in transactions between unrelated institutional clients. The exchanges are supposed to be the first level of enforcement of regulatory rules and regulations. SEBI, in its order, emphasized the critical role of stock exchanges as “the first layer of oversight” when dealing with material, price-sensitive information related to listed companies and their securities. “As a premier recognised

stock exchange, BSE is expected to maintain strong internal controls to manage and disseminate corporate announcements in a manner that fully aligns with its regulatory responsibilities,” the order stated. SEBI further noted that allowing employees of BSE’s Listing Compliance Monitoring (LCM) team and select paid subscribers to access corporate disclosures before they were made available to the general public on the exchange’s website undermined the principles of impartiality, fairness, and transparency expected from a frontline regulator. Additionally, the regulator found the exchange negligent in enforcing norms governing client code modifications. SEBI said this lax supervision further reflected a failure to uphold essential compliance standards.

Over 90 flights with more than 20,000 flyers had to be diverted: Qatar Airways CEO details how airline managed Iran missile crisis

Qatar Airways CEO Badr Mohammed Al Meer described the crisis as “an operational crisis few airlines will ever encounter, and one that “challenged the very core of what it means to run a global airline”

New Delhi (Agency): When Qatar announced a sudden closure of its airspace Monday evening, shortly before Iran launched a volley of missiles at the US military base—Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar—over 90 Qatar Airways flights with more than 20,000 passengers were on their way to its hub Doha, and had to be diverted to airports in various countries, including 15 to India, the airline’s chief executive Badr Mohammed Al Meer said in a letter to passengers,

detailing how the global airline managed the crisis over the next two days. He described the crisis as “an operational crisis few airlines will ever encounter, and one that “challenged the very core of what it means to run a global airline”. The airspace closure snowballed into a major international disruption, given Qatar Airways’ extensive network and Doha being a mega hub airport, where thousands of passengers transit daily. Iran’s missile attack—in retaliation of American airstrikes at its nuclear facilities—led to other West Asian countries including the UAE, Bahrain, and Kuwait also shutting down their airspaces for a few hours, which deepened the disruption further. “At the time (of the airspace closure), over 90 Qatar Airways flights carrying more than 20,000 passengers to Doha, were forced to divert immediately. 25 flights diverted into airports

across Saudi Arabia, 18 into Turkey, 15 into India, 13 into Oman, and 5 into the United Arab Emirates. The remaining aircraft were re-routed to major hubs including London, Barcelona, and others across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East,” wrote Al Meer, terming the Qatari airspace closure as “unexpected and unprecedented”. “At around 18:00 local time on Monday, 23 June, an unexpected and unprecedented closure of Qatari airspace forced Qatar Airways to suspend global operations with immediate effect. Shortly after, airspace was also closed in Bahrain, the UAE, and Kuwait. Hamad International Airport (Doha), one of the world’s busiest and most connected global hubs, was brought to a standstill, with almost 100 aircraft en route to Doha, several already on approach to our runways, and others lining up for departure,” he said. With all departures from

Doha suspended until past midnight (Qatar time), the airline’s “routine, seamlessly synchronised global operation” was instantly scattered into dozens and dozens of disrupted flight scenarios across continents,



“each with their own complexities and requirements”. According to Al Meer, over 10,000 passengers were already in transit at the Doha airport when the disruption began, finding themselves caught in the middle of “one of the most severe and complex operational challenges in modern aviation history”. “Around the world, some of our flight crews had timed

out of legal operating hours. Most of our fleet, including A380s carrying more than 450 passengers each, were now out of position, some grounded at airports with curfews. Several flights had to wait for clearance to re-

enter restricted regional airspace. Aircraft routing plans were rewritten in parallel with passenger itineraries. Over 151 flights were immediately disrupted. Every part of the operation had to adapt in real time — without precedent, and without pause,” Al Meer wrote in the letter. He added that the priority for Qatar Airways was clear—to care for passengers impacted

by the unprecedented situation, and to restore its global operations “as safely and swiftly as possible”. Once the Qatari airspace reopened shortly after midnight on Tuesday, the diverted aircraft began returning to Doha over the course of several hours. As a result, the number of passengers in transit at the Doha airport ballooned to over 22,000 by 5 am (Qatar time). “As an airline, our business continuity plans were activated, and our teams coordinated on hard resource planning, catering, ground transport, hotel accommodation, and real-time alignment with passenger movements, immigration, customs, and every airport stakeholder. Over 4,600 customers were provided hotel accommodation, using approximately 3,200 rooms across Doha. Many of these passengers received onward boarding passes for their rescheduled flights before even leaving the terminal—

allowing for a smoother re-entry once our operations resumed,” the Qatar Airways CEO said. Meanwhile at the Doha airport, Qatar Airways group teams got busy rebooking their journeys, and even manually rebuilding complex travel itineraries—some involving other airlines, and even expired visas. The airline also decided to increase capacity to destinations with “high volumes of displaced passengers”. “Contact centre resources were scaled up to cope with global demand. We quickly established a flexible travel policy, allowing passengers who had not yet started their journeys to make changes or refund their bookings without fees. Across our global stations, ground handlers and partners moved quickly, supported by live coordination between our airport and airline operations control centres,” Al Meer said. On Tuesday, Qatar Airways operated a total of 390 flights

as it worked to restore the integrity of its flight schedule. Around 20,000 passengers from its disrupted flights were cleared within 24 hours, with more than 11,000 resuming their journeys on the morning of June 24, while the remainder departed through the evening that day and the morning of June 25. According to Al Meer, after that, there were no passengers from diverted flights that were still stranded. “Within just 18 hours, our scheduled operations had resumed. Wave by wave, the system began to stabilise. By the end of Tuesday, more than 58,000 passengers had departed Doha—moved not by chance, but by a coordinated effort from across the Qatar Airways Group to fulfil our responsibility during this unprecedented disruption,” Al Meer said. The airline’s operations stabilised further on June 25 with the operation of 578 flights.

EDITORIAL

Uncertain Truce

When US President Donald Trump ordered strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities some days ago, the world braced for the worst. Many feared the dawn of a wider West Asia war, dragging in the United States more deeply than at any time in recent years. Yet, in a surprising and delicate turn of events, the gamble that looked so dangerous is beginning to yield results ~ for now. After initial violations, a ceasefire appears to be taking shape between Iran and Israel, bringing a sudden pause to what Mr Trump called the "12 Day War." This could mark the beginning of de-escalation in a region that seemed poised for another cycle of violence. Whether this moment signals a genuine shift towards peace or merely a temporary cooling-off period remains uncertain. Iran's retaliation for the US airstrikes ~ missiles aimed at an American base in Qatar ~ seems designed more to save face than to escalate. The attack caused no casualties or damage, and advance notice to Qatar suggests Tehran was careful not to provoke a harsher US response. On the other hand, Israel's decision to halt strikes after Iran's public ultimatum deadline quietly passed indicates that even its leadership is willing to step back from the brink, at least temporarily, not the least because a wider conflict may have drawn in other countries. Mr Trump, for his part, has declared the episode a strategic victory. By combining overwhelming military force with swift diplomatic backchannels ~ reportedly involving Qatari mediators ~ the White House hopes to frame this as a demonstration of American resolve that forced both Iran and Israel towards restraint. The President's social media posts project confidence, suggesting Iran's response was weak and predictable and that peace could now be pursued in earnest. Sceptics, however, will caution that this delicate outcome could unravel swiftly.



The ceasefire is informal, untested, and born of mutual exhaustion rather than trust. Both Iran and Israel remain deeply suspicious of one another's intentions. Any small provocation, miscommunication, or rogue action could reignite hostilities overnight. Furthermore, hardliners on both sides may yet seek to sabotage this fragile pause for their own political gain. For Mr Trump, the domestic implications are just as significant. If the ceasefire holds, he can claim to have delivered a high-risk foreign policy success ~ pressuring Iran without dragging the US into a costly new war. This would bolster his narrative as a leader who strikes hard but avoids prolonged entanglements. But if this momentary calm collapses, the backlash ~ both political and military ~ could be severe. In the end, this uneasy pause is not a peace deal. It is an improvised arrangement between bitter enemies, brokered under the shadow of overwhelming force. The days ahead will reveal whether it holds or slips into renewed conflict. For now, Mr Trump's bullying gamble stands as a precarious success. Whether it matures into a lasting diplomatic success ~ or simply delays the inevitable clash ~ remains the region's most urgent question.

CONDITIONAL CITIZENS

In his much-celebrated book *This land is our land*, Indian-American writer Suketu Mehta offers advice to the immigrants in Europe and America.

Ramvilas Sharma

In his much-celebrated book *This land is our land*, Indian-American writer Suketu Mehta offers advice to the immigrants in Europe and America. He says that when immigrants are asked "why are you here", they should respond, "we are here because you were there." Immigrants, mostly from Asia, Africa and Latin America have increasingly become what novelist Laila Lalami calls "conditional citizens." Over the years, the US has tried various policies to deal with the flood of illegal migrants, particularly from Latin America. In 2019 President Trump and Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador came to an agreement to keep non-Mexican asylum seekers remain in Mexico while their claims were adjudicated in US immigration courts.

The same year the United States signed "Safe Third Country Agreements" with Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, requiring migrants on their way to the US to apply for protections in those countries first. It effectively banned most migrants arriving at the US border from requesting asylum.

Various US administrations have sought temporary protection status 'neither documented nor undocumented' for asylum seekers and immigrants; what sociologist Cecilia Menjivar calls "liminal legality." The twilight status for the immigrants has been variously explained by experts as "precarious legality", "differential inclusion", "conditional belonging" and "earned citizenship." Conditional rights and belonging are

at the heart of what citizenship means for many minorities today in their own home countries. Are discourses around "good" and "bad" citizens, or immigrants any different from what and how colonialism and settler colonialism categorised indigenous peoples under restrictive conditions?

The colonisers saw people as "good nobles" and "bad savages". Palestinian-American



writer Edward Said has written along similar lines saying how "good Arabs" were the ones who did as they were told and bad Arabs were those who did not, and were therefore terrorists. Many see the targeting of the Mexican and Central American deportees by the Trump administration as a racial project and a gendered racial removal programme. Mexican and Central American immigrants also carry the burden of stigmatization. The stigmatization of immigrant groups is, after all, socially constructed which is based on stereotypes and which intersects with racism and MAGA politics in the US.

Structural racism is embedded in US immigration laws which have institutionalized practices and values that categorise certain immigrant groups like Mexicans, Latinos,

and Chinese, as "illegal." Menjivar explains the global expansion of what she calls "criminal migration" which finds reflection in both political discourses and media narratives today. Fortress Europe too is witnessing a large influx of immigrants and refugees who too are affected by regimes of conditional inclusion and citizenship. As Nikesh Shukla and Chimene Suleyman argue in their book, *The Good*

front their colonial past. French President Emmanuel Macron said on one occasion that France "must look history in the face" and recognise the share of suffering that it inflicted on the Rwandan people during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has extolled the contribution of migrants to Spain's economy, social system and its wealth and development. The rise of the far-right in Europe is due to its vilification campaign against migrants. Immigrants are seen as threats to European peace, to European security, and also to European civilization. Climate migrants pose added problems. Water scarcity, forest fires, soil infertility, land degradation and floods, combined with other socio-economic factors like poverty and inequality will further aggravate the situation. Exporting borders that some developed countries have resorted to will come to naught when a sizable number of people flood international borders.

The US under Trump may try to build walls and conquer others' territories, but that will be counter-productive. According to the latest survey by Pew Research, construction of a wall on the border with Mexico is still popular. Now fifty-six per cent of Americans favor expanding the wall along the Mexican border which is up from 46 per cent in 2019. Canada long sold itself as a beacon for immigrants, who were widely viewed as key to economic growth in a vast nation with a small and rapidly aging workforce. But that sentiment is changing.

English a bridge, not a wall

Ramvilas Sharma

Language is among the most profound gifts that human civilization has nurtured over millennia. It is through language that we think, remember, express, dream, and interact with the world around us. It is the invisible thread that ties together individuals into communities and civilizations. In the modern age, where humanity finds itself in an intricately interconnected world, where nations are no longer islands unto themselves but are part of a vast global system, one language has come to acquire special significance. That language is English.

Whether one likes it or not, English today occupies a preeminent place in the linguistic hierarchy of the world. It has become the key to participation in the global economy, the medium of international diplomacy, the voice of science and innovation, and the language of access to vast pools of knowledge across disciplines. In recent times, the Union Home Minister, in a speech that evoked both cultural pride and linguistic introspection, commented on the overdependence on the English language in Indian official, educational, and social domains. His observation was rooted in the idea that India's native languages ~ rich in heritage and expressive power ~ deserve greater prominence in our national discourse and identity.

He argued that English, a language imposed during colonial rule, continues to dominate even in independent India, thereby alienating a large section of the population from administrative and intellectual processes. This statement, while stirring a chorus of support from cultural nationalists, has also opened up deeper debates among linguists, educators,

economists, and common citizens alike. The question is not whether Indian languages should be promoted ~ they must be ~ but whether this promotion should come at the cost of diminishing the role of English in our lives. The answer, when viewed through the lens of modern realities, is not a simple either-or, but calls for a nuanced and inclusive approach. English, in the context of modern life, is not merely a colonial residue or a fashionable tool of the elite.

It is, for many, a practical necessity. In urban and even semi-urban India, English is the preferred medium of instruction in schools. It is the language in which national and international examinations are conducted, the language in which scientific research is published, and the medium through which the young generation connects to global narratives. For a vast majority of Indians who aspire to study in reputed foreign universities, to work in multinational corporations, or to engage with international communities, English is not a choice ~ it is a bridge. It is a bridge that connects the dreams of a village student with the lecture halls of Harvard or Oxford, a bridge that allows an Indian start-up to pitch its product to a European investor, a bridge that lets a scientist in Pune converse with a fellow researcher in Tokyo. In this sense, English has transcended its historical baggage and transformed into an enabler of opportunity.

Moreover, English performs a unique and almost irreplaceable function in a country as linguistically diverse as India. With over twenty-two officially recognized languages and hundreds of dialects spoken across its

Language is among the most profound gifts that human civilization has nurtured over millennia. It is through language that we think, remember, express, dream, and interact with the world around us.



vast geography, India is a mosaic of tongues. In such a setting, English has emerged as a neutral, non-regional language that does not belong to any one group. It helps avoid linguistic favouritism and acts as a link language for inter-state communication. It is the language in which legal documents are drafted and read, the language in which parliamentary debates are often conducted, and the medium through which government departments coordinate with each other across state boundaries.

Removing English from these spheres without a robust and uniform replacement mechanism could lead to confusion, inefficiency, and even linguistic imbalance in a multilingual democracy like ours. In the realm of education and knowledge, the significance of English is even more striking. The world of academia has, for better or worse, become increasingly Anglocentric. Most scientific journals, technical databases, research portals, and international academic forums operate in English. The terminology of medicine, engineering, law, and

economics is predominantly English-based. While efforts are being made to translate knowledge into Indian languages, the scale of this task is massive and the pace slow.

Until such infrastructure is adequately developed, English will continue to be the main window through which Indian students and researchers look out at the world of contemporary knowledge. To deny young Indians the access to this window in the name of linguistic pride is to risk confining them to intellectual isolation.

The ideal response would be to simultaneously strengthen Indian languages in academia while preserving English as a conduit of global learning. At the same time, the Home Minister's concerns cannot and should not be dismissed outright.

It is true that many Indians, especially in rural and marginalized communities, face exclusion because of their lack of access to English education. There exists an elite bubble ~ especially in urban India ~ where English has become a status symbol rather than just a language.

Poverty reduced on paper, employment increased?

Government reports say that poverty has reduced in the country. Employment opportunities have increased. If this is true, then why is this change not visible in the country's economy and social life? Despite the bright presentation of figures, the country's youth population is suffering from unemployment. Real improvement on the employment front will be seen when the central government will formulate a policy keeping in mind the small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the manufacturing sector. 95 percent of India's total consumption was met by goods produced by small and medium industries. Despite this, these sectors did not get the encouragement they should have got. Small and medium industries did not get the technical and financial support that was necessary to increase India's share in the global market, promote exports and create local employment. If there was production in these sectors, employment would also have come from here. This poverty eradication could have become the real key to employment and economic development. It is easy to reduce poverty on paper. Records are prepared as per one's wish through figures. Claims are also made on the basis of this record, but it is far from the actual reality. The real need is to transform poverty, unemployment and inflation into ground realities. This work will not be done on paper. For the actual reality, it is not enough to depend only on the service sector or campaigns like Digital India. India will have to return to a production-based economy. In the last decade, Chinese products are coming to India and selling. India's small and medium industries are getting extinct. India has become a trading hub. Goods come from outside and are sold here. Small factories, handicrafts, agriculture-based industries and innovation-based producers in rural and small towns are the backbone of the Indian economy. This very bone has been weakened in the last 1 year. If the central and state governments make rules and laws keeping in mind the small and medium industries and small employment, then it will provide relief from unemployment and inflation. The economic condition of the people will improve. Since the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi came in 2014, 100 percent foreign investment has been allowed in all sectors. After that, small and medium scale industries in India have collapsed badly. Due to the rules and regulations made by the central and state governments, lakhs of employment opportunities are being closed every year in rural and urban areas. Now even in sweet shops, packaged material is available. This material is either prepared by machines or comes from abroad. Local production has completely ended. Small scale industries have completely ended, due to which unemployment is increasing continuously. The central government has been saying for the last decade that we have provided loans from the bank for employment, due to which employment has increased. Those who took loans from the banks could not even pay the loan installments. The bank has declared them as defaulters. Banks are now collecting money strictly. This is the reality which the government is ignoring even after seeing it. Today India has a young population. There is also digital skill and domestic demand. If these three are linked to small scale industries and manufacturing sector on a local basis, then not only will employment increase, but poverty will also decrease rapidly in the true sense.

Hand on the tap

The recent declaration by India that the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) will "never be restored" in its original form marks a watershed moment in South Asia's fraught geopolitical landscape. While this decision reflects India's rightful outrage over decades of cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan, the path ahead demands not just resolve but strategic foresight. The IWT, signed in 1960, long served as a rare pillar of stability in otherwise hostile India-Pakistan relations. But its foundational assumption ~ that watersharing could be kept separate from war, terror, and conflict ~ has been shattered. The killing of 26 civilians in Kashmir by terrorists allegedly backed by Pakistan was the final blow. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's words ~ "water and blood cannot flow together" ~ encapsulate the national mood. Yet simply abrogating the treaty or unilaterally diverting river flows could invite complex international challenges. Pakistan has already signalled plans to take this matter to global fora, citing international conventions on shared watercourses. While the IWT itself contains no clear provision for unilateral withdrawal, international legal opinion often tilts against disrupting lifeline resources to downstream nations, regardless of provocation. But this does not mean India must remain shackled by an out-dated arrangement that ignores the grim reality of state-sponsored terror.



A more effective and pragmatic approach lies in transforming the treaty itself into a tool of strategic deterrence. India should now actively seek the treaty's renegotiation ~ pressing for the inclusion of explicit clauses that allow for the temporary suspension or permanent abrogation of water sharing in response to any proven acts of cross-border terrorism. Such a move would not only align with India's sovereign right to defend itself but would also stand on firm diplomatic and moral ground. Terrorism is globally recognised as a grave threat to peace; if Pakistan can sponsor or tolerate terror attacks against India, then it cannot reasonably expect guaranteed water flows in perpetuity. Making this link official through treaty revision would also blunt Pakistan's legal case in international platforms, while signalling to other nations that India stands for a rules-based, terror-free global order. Parallel to this diplomatic effort, India must accelerate its construction of dams, reservoirs, and canal networks to exercise actual control over the Indus system's waters. This infrastructure build-up will ensure that when the time comes ~ whether for negotiation or for enforcement ~ India possesses the real ability to divert or store waters as policy demands. By blending hard infrastructure with legal preparation and diplomatic clarity, India can turn the Indus Waters Treaty from a liability into an instrument of national security. This middle path serves both justice and strategy, sending Pakistan ~ and the world ~ a clear message: terror will come at a cost, and India will no longer underwrite its neighbour's water security at the expense of its own people's safety.

ture using English infused with Indian sensibilities. Code-switching between English and native languages is common in daily speech, creating a vibrant hybrid called "Indian English," which is now a recognized linguistic variant. It reflects how English is no longer a foreign tongue but one of the many voices in which India expresses itself. To pretend otherwise is to deny the dynamic evolution of our cultural expression. In conclusion, while the Home Minister's statement serves as a valuable reminder of the need to preserve and promote India's linguistic heritage, it also underlines the importance of making language policies that are practical, inclusive, and forwardlooking.

English is not the enemy of Indian languages ~ it is their companion in the modern world. Rather than being viewed as a rival to Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali, or Marathi, it should be seen as one more thread in the rich tapestry of Indian communication. The goal should not be to reduce English usage but to raise the standard, availability, and dignity of native language education.

The real question is not whether English should have a place in India ~ it already does ~ but whether all Indians should have equal access to its benefits, while still remaining rooted in their mother tongues. In the end, language should not become a battlefield of identity politics. It should remain what it was always meant to be ~ a bridge between people, not a wall. And in today's complex and connected world, English continues to be one of the strongest and most reliable of those bridges. It is our task to walk across it wisely, not burn it in haste.

How Nato summit shows Europe and US no longer have a common enemy

NEW DELHI: Mark Rutte had an unenviable task at the Hague summit this week. The Nato secretary-general had to work with diverging American and European views of current security threats. After Rutte made extraordinary efforts at highly deferential, overt flattery of Donald Trump to secure crucial outcomes for the alliance, he seems to have succeeded for now. But what this meeting and the run-up has made increasingly clear is that the US and Europe no longer perceive themselves as having a single common enemy. Nato was established in 1949 as a defensive alliance against the acknowledged threat from the USSR. This defined the alliance through the cold war until the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. Since Russia invaded Ukraine and annexed Crimea in 2014, Nato has focused on Moscow as the major threat to

international peace. But the increasingly bellicose China is demanding more attention from the US. There are some symbolic moves that signal how things are changing. Every Nato summit declaration since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has used the same form of words: “We adhere to international law and to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and are committed to upholding the rules-based international order.” The declaration published during the Hague summit on June 25 conspicuously does not mention either. Indeed, in a departure from recent declarations, the five paragraphs of the Hague summit declaration are brutally short and focused entirely on portraying the alliance solely in terms of military capability and economic investment to sustain that. No

mention of international law and order this time. This appears to be a carefully orchestrated output of a deliberately shortened summit designed to contain Trump’s



unpredictable interventions. This also seems symptomatic of a widening division between the American strategic trajectory and the security interests perceived by Canada and the European members of Nato. That this declaration was so short, and

so focused on such a narrow range of issues suggests there were unusually entrenched differences that could not be surmounted. Since the onslaught of the full

Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the Nato allies have been united in their criticism of Russia and support for Ukraine; until now. Since January, the Trump administration has not authorised any military aid to

Ukraine and significantly reduced material support to Ukraine and criticism of Russia. Trump has sought to end the war rapidly on terms effectively capitulating to Russian aggression; his proposal suggests recognising Russia’s control over Crimea and de facto control over some other occupied territories (Luhansk, parts of Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Kherson) He has also suggested Ukraine would not join Nato but might receive security guarantees and the right to join the EU. Meanwhile, European allies have sought to fund and support Ukraine’s defensive efforts, increasing aid and military support, and continuing to ramp up sanctions. Another sign of the differing priorities of Europe and Canada v the US, was the decision by Pete Hegseth, US secretary of

defense, to step back from leadership of the Ukraine defence contact group, an ad-hoc coalition of states across the world providing military support to Ukraine. Hegseth also symbolically failed to attend the group’s pre-summit meeting in June. Trump has long been adamant that Nato members should meet their 2014 commitment to spend 2% of their GDP on defence, and Rutte recognised that. In 2018, Trump suggested that this should be increased to 4 or 5% but this was dismissed as unreasonable. Now, in a decision which indicates increasing concern about both Russia as a threat and US support, Nato members (except for Spain) have agreed to increase spending to 5% of GDP on defence over the next 10 years. Nato’s article 3 requires states to maintain and develop their

capacity to resist attack. However, since 2022, it has become increasingly apparent that many Nato members are unprepared for any major military engagement. At the same time, they are increasingly feeling that Russia is more of a threat on their doorsteps. There has been recognition, particularly among the Baltic states, Germany, France and the UK that they need to increase their military spending and preparedness. For the US to focus more on China, US forces will shift a greater percentage of the US Navy to the Pacific. It will also assign its most capable new ships and aircraft to the region and increase general presence operations, training and developmental exercises, and engagement and cooperation with allied and other navies in the western Pacific.

Iran's top diplomat says talks with US 'complicated' by American strike on nuclear sites

DUBAI (Agency): Iran’s top diplomat said the possibility of new negotiations with the United States on his country’s nuclear program has been “complicated” by the American attack on three of the sites, which he conceded caused “serious damage.” The US was one of the parties to the 2015 nuclear deal in which Iran agreed to limits on its uranium enrichment program in exchange for sanctions relief and other benefits. That deal unraveled after US President Donald Trump pulled the US out unilaterally during his first term. Trump

has suggested he is interested in new talks with Iran, and said that the two sides would meet next week. In an interview on Iranian state television broadcast late Thursday, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi left open the possibility that his country would again enter talks on its nuclear program, but suggested it would not be anytime soon. “No agreement has been made for resuming the negotiations,” he said. “No time has been set, no promise has been made, and we haven’t even talked about restarting the talks.” The American decision to

intervene militarily “made it more complicated and more difficult” for talks on Iran’s nuclear program, Araghchi



said. Israel attacked Iran on June 13, targeting its nuclear sites, defense systems, high-ranking military officials and atomic scientists in relentless

attacks. In 12 days of strikes, Israel said it killed some 30 Iranian commanders and hit eight civilians, according to the Washington-based Human Rights Activists group. Iran fired more than 550 ballistic missiles at Israel, most of which were intercepted but those that got through caused damage in many areas and killed 28 people. The US stepped in on Sunday to hit Iran’s three most important strikes with a wave of cruise missiles and bunker-buster bombs dropped by B-2 bombers, designed to penetrate deep into the ground to damage the heavily-fortified targets. Iran, in retaliation, fired missiles at a US base in Qatar

on Monday but caused no known casualties. Trump said the American attacks “completely and fully obliterated” Iran’s nuclear program, though Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Thursday accused the US president of exaggerating the damage, saying the strikes did not “achieve anything significant.” There has been speculation that Iran moved much of its highly-enriched uranium before the strikes, something that it told the UN nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, that it planned to do.

How Zohran Mamdani’s ‘joyous’ ground game helped him topple Andrew Cuomo in NYC’s primary



NEW YORK (Agency): On Tuesday night, shortly before polls closed in New York’s Democratic mayoral primary, and less than an hour until the first signs of his seismic upset over Andrew Cuomo, Zohran Mamdani was in a Brooklyn park, searching for a ride. “He said he’d met some kids in the park who still hadn’t voted, so he sent his personal driver to get them to a poll site before it closed,” recalled Charlie Dulik, a campaign volunteer and tenant organizer, who said he approached Mamdani in the park to say hello. Instead, Mamdani climbed into Dulik’s 2007 Toyota Highlander, drawing cheers from passing pedestrians and cyclists as he made his last-minute pitch to voters while hanging from the car’s sunroof, according to the volunteer. “He just kept saying, ‘It’s razor thin,’” Dulik added. While the results are not yet finalized, Mamdani’s likely primary victory has jolted the Democratic establishment, leaving many astonished that a 33-year-old democratic socialist outmaneuvered the better-funded and more experienced Cuomo. Those close to the Mamdani campaign are less surprised. They credit a seemingly omnipresent candidate devoted to speaking directly to New Yorkers, along with a sprawling field operation that helped amplify his affordability-centered platform to new voters. As Mamdani prepares for the November general election, they say they intend to return to that playbook once again. “From the very beginning, he was very clear that our ground game was going to be the backbone of this entire campaign,” said

Jason Halal, a lead field canvasser for Mamdani. “There was never any lack of urgency, and we got that from the top down.” Mamdani’s approach offered a stark contrast to Cuomo’s campaign. The former governor, who resigned four years ago over a barrage of sexual harassment allegations, rarely put out a public schedule, chafed at questions from reporters and skipped most candidate forums. He received fewer individual donations than Mamdani, but more than \$25 million in super PAC funds, which were poured into ads that framed the city as beset by chaos. “He was running a Rose Garden strategy that might’ve suited him as governor, but voters expect an intimacy from the mayor of New York City,” said Basil Smikle, a Democratic political strategist and professor at Columbia University. “They want to see you at the subway stop, the local pizza shop, at church.” Even Cuomo’s backers — including several prominent labor unions — “didn’t seem that enthusiastic about him,” Smikle said, noting that with Mamdani’s campaign, “you saw both that anger toward the current party and hopefulness in the street.” A Cuomo spokesperson did not respond to inquiries about the campaign’s field operations, including how many volunteers had signed up. But some voters took notice of the candidate’s absence. As she went to vote Tuesday, Michelle Hemmings Harrington, 70, a one-time supporter of the former governor, said she felt as though Cuomo was “taking our votes for granted.” She carried a pile of Mamdani pamphlets and a water bottle, both handed to her by the group of nearly a dozen of his campaign volunteers stationed around her Brooklyn polling site. When Mamdani launched his campaign late last year, few New Yorkers had heard of the two-term assemblyman.

Hong Kong opposition party League of Social Democrats to disband amid Beijing’s crackdown

HONG KONG (Agency): Hong Kong’s League of Social Democrats, one of the city’s last remaining opposition parties after a five-year political crackdown by Beijing, said on Friday that it will disband. The party was founded in 2006 and was once considered the radical faction in Hong Kong’s pro-democracy camp. It was known for its boisterous street-level campaigning, often spearheaded by the now-jailed activist “Long Hair” Leung Kwok-hung. “Next year marks the 20th anniversary of the League of Social Democrats. However, we will not survive to see that day and will announce our disbandment,” the LSD said in a message to reporters, adding that more details will be announced Sunday. It consistently called for greater democracy in Hong Kong and advocated for grassroots causes, criticising social and economic inequalities in a city with one of the world’s largest wealth gaps. “When the system



cannot faithfully represent the people’s demands and becomes a tool for the ruling classes, we must rely on a movement of the masses outside the system to put pressure on those in power,” LSD wrote on its website. The party held three seats in Hong Kong’s legislature at its height. However, its decline began after Beijing imposed a national security law in Hong Kong in 2020 in the wake of massive and sometimes violent pro-democracy protests the year before. China and Hong Kong say

the law was needed to curb political unrest, while critics say it has quelled dissent and curbed rights. LSD figurehead Leung was arrested in 2021 and jailed last year as part of a sprawling subversion case involving 47 opposition figures. The party has held small public protests in recent years, often under heavy police surveillance. Four members, including current leader Chan Po-ying, were fined this month for displaying a black cloth and raising money “without permits” in street campaigns.

Ecuador reveals how notorious gang leader 'Fito' hid in his hometown for 18 months after jailbreak

QUITO (Agency): Ever since Ecuador’s most notorious gang leader vanished from his prison cell in January 2024, authorities have been searching the world, offering a \$1 million reward for information leading to the capture of Adolfo Macías, alias “Fito.” It turned out the country’s most wanted man was hiding out at a family member’s mansion in his own hometown. Ecuadorian security forces recaptured the kingpin Wednesday at an underground bunker beneath a marble-walled house in the

port city of Manta, some 260 kilometers (161 miles) southwest of the capital of



Quito. In a remarks to reporters on Thursday, authorities revealed further details about their efforts to

locate Macías and the hiding place where he spent his final weeks as a fugitive.

Authorities had issued an international arrest warrant for Macías, who was serving a 34-year prison sentence for

drug trafficking, organized crime and murder in a Guayaquil prison before his shock escape. Macías is also wanted by the United States on accusations of trafficking drugs and smuggling weapons. A month ago, authorities closed in on the drug trafficker’s family, arresting several of his relatives, seizing their assets and raiding their businesses. Interior Minister John Reimberg described the crackdown on Macías’ family as a “psychological operation” crucial to security

forces’ efforts to locate the notorious leader of Ecuador’s “Los Choneros” gang. “It contributes to a person’s conflict, their loss of control,” Reimberg said in a press conference Thursday. But what put Ecuadorian intelligence on his trail was the unusual behavior of a municipal transit official in Manta, who stopped showing up to work several months ago. Surveilling the official led intelligence services to Macías’ inner circle, according to Victor Ordóñez, a national police commander.

Swedish criminal who helped inspire 'Stockholm syndrome' theory dies: Report



NEW DELHI: Clark Olofsson, who is one of the two criminals involved in the kidnapping and bank robbery during the year 1973 in Swedish capital, which gave rise to the expression "Stockholm syndrome," has died at the age of 78 following a lengthy illness, the BBC reports quoting his family. During the six-day siege, Olofsson’s hostages not only began to sympathise with him and his accomplice, but defended their actions while growing hostile to the police outside. The incident lends its name to a theorised psychological condition whereby kidnap victims develop affections for their captor. According to the report, the notorious bank siege was instigated by one Jan-Erik Olsson. After seizing three women and a man hostage, he demanded Olofsson, who he had previously befriended in prison, be brought to the bank from jail. Swedish authorities agreed to his demand, and Olofsson, a repeated offender who spent much of his life in prison, entered the bank, which was surrounded by police. Years later, in an interview with the Aftonbladet newspaper, he claimed he was asked to work as an inside man to keep the captives safe in exchange for a reduced sentence, but accused officials of not honouring the agreement. Olofsson persuaded one of the hostages, Kristin Enmark, to speak to the Swedish prime minister on the phone on behalf of the robbers. She begged to be allowed to leave the bank in a getaway car with the kidnapers, telling him: "I fully trust Clark and the robber... They haven't done a thing to us." She went on: "On the contrary, they have been very nice... Believe it or not but we've had a really nice time here." Over the course of several phone calls, Enmark (23) said she feared her captors would be harmed by police and repeatedly defended their actions. The hostage situation ended after six days when police officers broke through the roof and used tear gas to subdue the pair. Sideways podcast in 2021, Enmark rubbished the concept of Stockholm syndrome, saying: "It's a way of blaming the victim. I did what I could to survive."

Sunjay Kapur wanted to ‘live 100 years’ for son, wife Priya Sachdev’s ‘opinion and advise ruled his life’, recalls Kalyani Chawla: ‘His pursuance of longevity...’



Kalyani Chawla, who appeared in the latest season of Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives, wrote a post in remembrance of the late Sunjay Kapur. The businessman died recently in a freak accident. He went into cardiac arrest after accidentally swallowing a bee while playing polo in England. Sunjay was earlier married to Bollywood actor Karisma Kapoor, with whom he has two children. He has two more children with wife Priya Sachdev. In her post, Kalyani wrote that Sunjay’s quest for a long life was ‘ironic’, as he died before his time. According to her, he wanted to live till the age of 100 for his younger son.

Sharing a carousel of their pictures together, she wrote, “Sunjay and my friendship over three decades now, have been on so many terms. One of his main grouse was me posting so much on Instagram. Though so happy to pose with that typical expression. Some of these images are from his posts, the captions say it all. He was someone I could rely on even if I didn’t speak to him for weeks. From driving through torrential rain when he had six hours in Delhi in between his travels, to come calm a distraught me, monitoring me long distance or give me guidance with my business or to endlessly lecture me about my questionable choices, he was insufferable at times and we bickered like siblings. He supported every venture of mine be it with my Art or Rezon, spurring me on always proud of my serial entrepreneurship.”

She continued, “His love for Tahira was unequivocal. The most fun person for every generation. Sunjay’s dedication and commitment to whatever he took on was borderline obsessive and competitive. He had to be the best in whatever he took on. Be it polo or taking on his father’s mantle of the business.”

Kalyani continued, “His marriage to Priya, a strong willed woman of great intelligence, whose opinion and advise ruled his life.

Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez reportedly married a month ago, signed mega-million prenup before Venice bash

Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez reportedly got married in the US weeks before their \$10M wedding bash in Venice, which kicked off on June 26 with a guest list full of Hollywood A-listers. According to Page Six, the couple, who got engaged in 2023, had already made it official before flying in for the spectacle. A source

confirmed they didn’t register for a wedding in Venice, and city officials backed that up, saying no paperwork was filed under Italian law. The celebrations began Thursday night with a welcome dinner, and the star power was hard to miss, Kim Kardashian, Oprah, Orlando Bloom, Tom Brady, and even former US President Barack Obama showed up.



“Often a marriage in a foreign country is not valid in the USA or creates other issues,

so yes, it’s likely they are already married,” a Florida-based attorney told the outlet

ahead of Bezos and Lauren’s big day. Still, Friday’s ceremony at the stunning San Giorgio Maggiore was full-blown, with golden gowns, private water taxis, and Kylie Jenner making headlines for hauling in 25 bags. A city official told The Times of London, “I can totally rule out that they will have a civil ceremony in Venice under Italian law.” Streets were

blocked off, drones were banned, and cops patrolled the canals on jet skis. While the couple’s reps haven’t confirmed anything, the outlet pointed out that when George Clooney married Amal, it was officially done at Venice town hall. Meanwhile, the Daily Mail reported Bezos and Lauren may have quietly tied the knot over a month ago.

Abhishek Bachchan wants to get back into commercial space now: ‘Last out-and-out entertainer I did before Housefull 5 was 10 years ago’

Abhishek Bachchan admits he’s not in the creative frame of mind that he was in five years ago. Back then, he wanted to do roles which were more intimate and low-key. That resulted in him headlining Shoojit Sircar’s I Want To Talk last year, based on the real-life story of a cancer survivor. He also starred in Remo D’Souza’s slice-of-life film Be Happy, in which he plays the father of a girl who wants to be a dancer. But now, Abhishek admits in an interview with SCREEN that he’s gearing up to embrace vanity yet again by returning to the commercial space. His recent whodunit comedy Housefull 5 emerged as a hit at the box office, and he’s now gearing up for even more projects in the mainstream space, after the release of

his next, Madhmita’s Kaalidas Laapata, which drops on ZEE5 on July 4. It wasn’t a big thing, it was one of the main things. Your body, how you looked, your makeup, your clothes, it was very, very important. But that’s still the case. It’s an audio-visual medium. With time and experience, you start empowering yourself and becoming more confident to do without that armour. It’s basically crutches and armour. You’re also then able to attempt different kinds of stuff. Weirdly, I shot Kaalidar Laapata before I Want To Talk. All these films came to me at a very interesting phase in my life when I wanted to delve into something far more creative,

personal, which had depth of character. I was in that mood. I wanted to do stuff that’s quieter and more intimate. So I did a couple of films like that and I thoroughly enjoyed them. With experience, you learn to say, “Okay, I don’t need to look like this to be a protagonist.” We expect so much from our actors today that we forget they’re

also artists. They may or may not want to do something at a point of time. Currently, I’m in a different mindset altogether. Right now, I’m looking forward to getting back in the commercial space and doing the song and dance and the action. Creative people go through cycles. Just around 2020, as Covid happened and soon after that, everybody was in a particular frame of mind. Things were a lot slower because we were just sitting around at home for months. So the pace of life also became that. I also felt a lot more settled so I thought this is the kind of zone I want to be in.



In an exclusive interview with SCREEN, Abhishek Bachchan talks about his new film Kaalidhar Laapata, working with child actors, and why he feels like going back to entertainers like Housefull 5 again.

Maa movie review: Kajol’s well-intentioned film keeps first half loose, second half muddled

Smashing patriarchy is a task that films need to keep taking up, and Kajol has the heft to get the job done.

Do not mess with a mother. She can go to any extent to save her family. Mixing mythology and technology, ‘Maa’ presents Kajol as a contemporary woman fighting with all her might to keep at bay the dark forces targeting her young daughter. Ambika (Kajol) and Shuvankar (Indraneil Sengupta) have succeeded in keeping his family’s troubled history from the artistically-inclined Shweta (Kherin Sharma). But the 12-year-old’s constant curiosity coupled with a tragic incident leads the mother and daughter to travel to their ancestral haveli in Chandrapur in the Bengal countryside, where time seems to have come to a stand-still. Joydev (Ronit Roy), the man holding things in place all these years, is at hand to welcome the duo in. As soon as they step in, of course, unease starts rising: what is the old family retainer (Dibyendu Bhattacharya), now unable to speak, hiding? Flashbacks tell us of the bloody doings which took place in the

past, involving the killing of newborn baby girls: now that Ambika is back, will their stories, and the ones who mysteriously go missing in the present, come out for airing? The production design with its saturated colours make ‘Maa’ a vivid experience. The forest just behind the haveli, whose gnarled trees hide old bones, the faded faces of the women who have suffered at the hands of the ‘daiya’ (demon) called Raktbeej, the miasma of fear which the village wears like a shroud, all have presence. The high-decibel bustle of the Kali Puja with the dancers in traditional white-and-red, even if familiar, never fails to rouse. This is a film which is clearly well-intentioned. Smashing patriarchy is a task that films need to keep taking up, and Kajol has the heft to get the job done. Talking up menstruation, still considered taboo in this day and age, as a matter-of-fact discussion between ma-and-beti is a stand-out thread. But the writing is bland, and there’s nothing new in the CGI (computer generated images) which is extensively used. The film itself falters in the way it keeps its first half loose, and the second half muddled.



Amid Diljit Dosanjh-Sardaar Ji 3 controversy, Neeru Bajwa deletes film’s promotional material from social media; producer declares 40% loss

The Diljit Dosanjh and Neeru Bajwa-starrer Sardaar Ji 3, has been embroiled in a controversy for featuring Pakistani actor Hania Aamir in a supporting role. Since the Pahalgam attack in April, Indian cine bodies have issued a blanket ban on Pakistani artistes working in India, and have banned the releases of their projects. Amid all this, the decision to release Sardaar Ji 3 has not gone down well with Indian cine bodies, and many



of Diljit’s fans in India. The film’s other leading star, Neeru Bajwa, who is one of the most popular actors in the Punjabi film industry, has now deleted all the promotional material of the film from her social media accounts. Diljit came under fire for promoting the film, and going ahead with its planned release in overseas markets. Neeru is a Canadian national but has been a popular actor in India since the 2000s. It was only a few days ago that Neeru was seen promoting Sardaar Ji 3 with Diljit in the UK. Hania has not been a part of the promotions of the film so far even though the film is releasing in Pakistan, and other territories, and not releasing in India.

Meanwhile, one of the producers of the film, Gunbir Singh Sidhu, and at that time, there was no such ban in place. “There was no restriction from the Government of India or any other institution,” he said and added that the film’s team decided that they would not be releasing the film in India as they “did not want to hurt the sentiments of our people in any way.” But, they decided to release it internationally anyway. “Keeping this honour in mind, we decided that the film will be released only overseas because our major investment is there. There was no restriction from any government overseas, so it was decided to release there. We did not put the trailer on YouTube in India, nor did we do any kind of promotional activities,” he said. Gunbir was asked about Hania’s reaction condemning Operation Sindoor, which was conducted in retaliation by the Indian government a few days after the Pahalgam attack. “I believe that they (Hania and Mahira Khan) should not have made such statements. But I cannot comment more than that. But I would say that those things should not have happened and she hit below the belt,” he said and added, “Now we have taken this decision with full strength that we will not work with any Pakistani artist from now on.”

‘Nothing’ to appreciate about Priyanka Chopra: Former Miss World implies PC saw her as ‘threat, competition’

Priyanka Chopra won Miss World in the year 2000 but just one year before that, Yukta Mookhey had been the winner of Miss World. This was a rare opportunity for India to win the title for the second consecutive year and in a recent interview, when Yukta was asked about Priyanka, the former actor said that Priyanka sought her advice when she was preparing for

the international pageant. When asked if there was any trait about PC that she appreciated, Yukta bluntly said, “Nothing.” Yukta was in conversation with the YouTube channel Filmymantra Media, when she was asked the aforementioned question and as the interviewer expressed her shock at Yukta’s “nothing”, she reiterated, “No (smiles). Because she is



junior to me. She was the one taking advice from me.

Because she was in the following year after me.”

She added, “I personally feel that there were things that I guided her for, and her parents were sort of wanting to talk to my parents. I don’t think she is the right person for you to ask me at this moment.” But immediately afterwards, Yukta spoke about Juhi Chawla, who won Miss India in 1984 and represented India at the international pageant, and said that Juhi was extremely

kind to her and did not see her as a competition or threat. “I remember Juhi Chawla spoke to me after I won and came back and she spoke to me very kindly. She said you are so beautiful and so tall, you carry yourself so well, think about going international,” she recalled and added, “So those are the kind of people I am talking about, who don’t look at you as competition.

Manchester City beats Juventus 5-2 to win Group G of Club World Cup

ORLANDO (Agency): Manchester City won Group G of the Club World Cup with a dominant performance on Thursday, beating Juventus 5-2 at Camping World Stadium. Man City went ahead 2-1 on an own goal in the 26th minute when defender Pierre Kalulu, attempting to intercept a pass at close range, sent the ball into the net. The rout was on from there. Erling Haaland, Phil Foden and Savinho scored in the second half to make it 5-1. Haaland's goal was the 300th of his career. Man City midfielder Rodri,



surgery in September. He left for a substitute in the 66th minute. Jeremy Doku opened the scoring for Man City in

the ninth minute, and Teun Koopmeiners equalized two minutes later. Dusan Vlahovic scored in the 84th minute for the Italian club, which finished second in the group.

Key moment Juventus showed some late life when Vlahovic brought the ball into close range and found the back of the net. **Takeaways** Manchester City will face the Group H runner-up on June 30 at Orlando. Juventus will take on the Group H winner on July 1 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. **What they said** "Manchester City are a very high-level team. It's very difficult to play against them. Today we struggled and we have to accept that." — Juventus coach Igor Tudor.

Club World Cup: Real Madrid beats Salzburg 3-0, advances to round of 16



Key moment Vinicius' backheel pass to set up Valverde inside the penalty box to score Madrid's second goal.

Takeaways Real Madrid finished atop Group H with seven points. Madrid will face Juventus, a 5-2 loser to Manchester City, on Tuesday at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida. Salzburg finished third in Group H with four points. They were eliminated as Al Hilal finished with five points, one more than the Austrian team, after defeating Pachuca 2-0 on Thursday night.

What they said "Vinicius is essential for us. He has the capacity to do a lot of things for the team without and with the ball. So, I'm really happy for him. We have to keep it up and so does he." — Real Madrid midfielder Aurélien Tchouaméni "We learned a lot. We played against the best teams in the world, competed at a high level, and that's what we take out of the tournament from the experience we got. We lost, we won, and we drew. So it's a lot to learn, but it was good for us." — Salzburg defender Frans Krätzig.

with a breakaway pass that took advantage of the wet field conditions caused by the rain. Eight minutes later, a deflected pass by Mamady Diambou left Vinicius one-on-one against Joane Gadou inside Salzburg's penalty box. Having no angle to shoot, Vinicius delivered a backheel pass to Federico Valverde that left the Uruguayan wide open to score from 10 yards out. Antonio Rüdiger suffered an apparent hamstring injury in the 60th minute after completing a long sprint down the right wing. He continued playing, but was subbed out six minutes later. His availability will be one to watch for Real Madrid's upcoming game as they are thin at the center back position due to multiple injuries and a suspension to Raúl Asencio. Gonzalo García put the game to bed in the 84th minute with a chip shot after a counterattack he initiated by stealing the ball from Gadou in midfield. With the win, Real Madrid became the ninth European team to advance to the round of 16. From the 12 European teams in the tournament, only Atlético Madrid, Porto, and Salzburg were eliminated in the group stage.

What to expect from Gautam Gambhir & Shubman Gill ahead of Edgbaston?

CHENNAI (Agency): During the journey from England's north to the midlands, the Indian management will have been deep in thought with respect to the situation surrounding Jasprit Bumrah. He's the ultimate plug and play operator in world cricket but there's also the question about his workload. The allure of a Lord's Test may see Bumrah missing out from featuring at Edgbaston in the second Test, beginning next Wednesday. Even otherwise, Edgbaston has become a very Bazball ground. Since the beginning of 2022, teams average over 35 while scoring at 4 runs per over (average below 29 and 3.72 are the corresponding Lord's numbers). So, the smart money is on the management giving their star pacer a break as they manage his workload and fitness. It's kind of understandable why they want to be extra careful with him: he's already had a couple of big injuries, with the one in Sydney coming earlier this year. "I think for us to manage Bumrah's workload is more important because there's a lot of cricket going forward and we know that what he brings to the table as well," coach Gautam Gambhir had said after the first Test.

0-1 down, India face the Jasprit Bumrah question ahead of Edgbaston Test

NEW DELHI (Agency): Will Jasprit Bumrah play in the second Test at Edgbaston? That is the biggest question facing the Indian team management as it looks to draw parity against England after losing the series opener from a commanding position at Leeds. In his media interaction post the five-wicket loss on day five, head coach Gautam Gambhir made it clear that there will be no change in the workload of injury-prone pace spearhead Bumrah, who is slated to play three out of five Tests in the English summer. With the first Test ending on June 24 and the next beginning on July 2, there is enough time for Bumrah to recover but only he knows best about his body. Bumrah, the only bowler

who consistently posed a challenge for the English batters, took a five-wicket haul in the first innings and delivered an overall 44.4 overs in the match. A pace attack without



Bumrah makes the opposition's task significantly easier and increases the Indian team's headache, over deciding which of the two remaining Tests its trump card could be a part of. The management, thus,

would have had a much easier decision to make had Shubman Gill and Co gone to Birmingham 1-0 up. "That is a tough call indeed for the team management. He should ideally play when the series is alive but the management knows best on how to manage his workload. A BCCI source added: "Bumrah has close to a week's gap between first and second Test. So the decision rests with chief selector Ajit Agarkar, Gautam Gambhir

and Shubman Gill. They might assess him a day before the Test, and take a final call." There is only a three-day gap between second and third Test, scheduled at Lord's from July 10-14, and therefore, Bumrah is certain to not feature in both the games. "We won't change the plans," said Gambhir on Tuesday when asked whether the team management will push Bumrah to play four Tests. "For us to manage his workload is more important because there's a lot of cricket going forward and we know what he brings on the table as well. Before he came on the tour, it was already decided that he's going to play three Test matches." Edgbaston or Lord's? Gambhir and Co clearly have a tough call to make.

Al Hilal advances to Club World Cup round of 16 with 2-0 win over Pachuca



NASHVILLE (Agency): Salem Aldawsari scored in the 22nd minute and Al Hilal beat Pachuca 2-0 on Thursday night to clinch a berth in the Club World Cup round of 16. Marcus Leonardo also scored for Al Hilal, the only team outside Europe and the Americas to advance out of group play. Al Hilal will next face English club Manchester City on Monday in Orlando, Florida. Aldawsari, attacking from the left, scored with the ball bouncing off his right foot and soaring over the head of

Pachuca goalie Sebastian Jurado to the right side of the goal. The game drew 14,147 to Geodis Park, which has a capacity of 30,000. **Key Moment** As Pachuca kept trying to keep the pace up, Leonardo scored his first goal of the tournament in the last minute of extra time, dribbling swiftly past Jurado and sending a left-footed shot in to secure Al Hilal's spot in the round of 16. **Takeaways** Al Hilal is the second team from Group H to move on, as Real Madrid clinched

through a 3-0 victory against RB Salzburg. Pachuca ended the tournament winless. **What They Said** "These are not easy games, and we are in the Club World Cup so every team that is here they have potential. It was a hard game...so clean sheet and the win and we are through. That's the most important." - Ruben Neves of Al Hilal "Every player wants to score, my goal was ambitious, and scoring was the cherry on top." - Salem Aldawsari of Al Hilal.

Some sniffer dogs at the Club World Cup outfitted with booties to protect their paws from the heat



PHILADELPHIA (Agency): Fans and players weren't the only ones coping with extreme heat this week at the Club World Cup. Sniffer dogs — a common addition to the security details at many large sporting events — had a job to do at the international soccer tournament despite the sweltering temperatures. And because that job includes walking on hot asphalt, it can be tough on an animal's feet. The solution? In Philadelphia, the sniffer dogs at Lincoln Financial Field were outfitted with brightly colored protective booties as temperatures soared. "Every dog team is different and there are different requirements; their precursors are different. However, we go by the seven-second rule. If us humans can't put our human backside or our hand on the concrete for longer than seven seconds without pulling it off, then we require dog booties to go on,"

said Cody Schwartz, manager of 3DK9 Detection Services, the private company providing the K9 teams at the stadium. The company also contracts with the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles. Besides wearing booties, the dogs are kept hydrated and limited to 20-minute patrols at a time in the heat. They also enjoy cooling baths in kiddie pools filled with ice. "Obviously, when we're hot, they're 10 times hotter. They're obviously carrying a big coat of fur, so it's a big thing for us. Our dogs are No. 1. We can't do our jobs without them," Schwartz said. Heat has been an issue throughout the Club World Cup, a tournament featuring 32 teams from around the world playing in several U.S. cities. Teams have had to cut back on practice, substitutes have watched from the lockerroom rather than the bench, and hydration breaks have become necessary.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi blitz powers India to six-wicket win over England, go 1-0 up in U19 ODI series

New Delhi (Agency): Fresh from their exploits in the IPL, young guns Vaibhav Suryavanshi and Ayush Mhatre blazed with the bat after a tidy bowling performance as India defeated England by six wickets in the first Youth ODI of their Under-19 tour here on Friday. India's bowling unit, led by the spin duo of Kanishk Chouhan (3/20) and Mohamed Enaan (2/37), along with seamers RS Ambrish (2/24) and Henil Patel (2/41), combined superbly to bowl England out for 174 in 42.2 overs despite a fighting fifty by Rocky Flintoff (56 from 90 balls). Chasing 175, India got off to a blazing start courtesy of Suryavanshi and Mhatre, who raced to 70 without loss in just seven overs but after their departure vice-captain Abhigyan Kundu sealed the chase with 45 not out (34 balls; 4×4, 1×6). India won the game in just 24 overs to go 1-0 up in the five match series. There will be two Youth Tests beginning July 12 after the ODI series. Donning the iconic No 18 jersey, 14-year-old Suryavanshi, who had lit up IPL 2025 with 252 runs in seven matches for Rajasthan



Royals including a record-breaking 35-ball hundred against Gujarat Titans, looked in ominous touch. He hammered three sixes off Jack Home in the sixth over, then tore into James Minto to reach 48 off just 18 balls. But his whirlwind knock ended on the next ball when he top-edged a slog sweep off left-arm spinner Ralphie Albert and was caught by Tazeem Chaudry Ali.

Skipper Mhatre, who scored 240 runs for Chennai Super Kings including a 48-ball 84 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru, shifted gears after Suryavanshi's dismissal, hitting back-to-back boundaries off AM French. But the Mumbai boy perished soon after, caught by Rocky while trying to go over extra cover. India briefly stumbled,

losing both openers within eight runs and then Maulyarajsinh Chavda (16) in the 13th over to French, but with no scoreboard pressure, the visitors coasted home comfortably. Earlier, England looked set for a big total after opener Isaac Mohammed launched a ferocious assault, smashing 42 off 28 balls with three fours and four sixes. But once Patel dismissed BJ

Dawkins (18), and Enaan removed Isaac just short of his fifty, the innings lost momentum. The hosts slid from 76/1 to 86/4 as Ambrish struck twice in quick succession to remove Ben Mayes (16) and skipper Thomas Rew (5). Rocky, the youngest son of Andrew Flintoff, battled on with a resolute fifty with three fours and as many sixes, trying to rebuild with the lower order. But wickets kept tumbling around him. Chouhan's tidy spell accounted for Joseph Moores, Ralphie Albert and James Minto, while Enaan returned to dismiss Ali. Flintoff's resistance ended when he fell to Patel trying to up the ante, bringing an end to England's innings in the 43rd over.

Brief scores:
England U-19: 174 all out in 42.2 overs (Rocky Flintoff 56, Isaac Mohammed 42; Kanishk Chouhan 3/20, Mohamed Enaan 2/37, RS Ambrish 2/24, Henil Patel 2/41) lost to **India U-19:** 178/4 in 24 overs (Vaibhav Suryavanshi 48, Abhigyan Kundu 45 not out, Ayush Mhatre 21) by six wickets.

Pia Sundhage faces her 'biggest challenge' as she prepares host nation Switzerland for Euro 2025



GENEVA (Agency): Soccer great Pia Sundhage's long international career stretches back a decade beyond the first Women's European Championship she won decisively for Sweden in 1984. Now aged 65, the two-time Olympic title-winning coach — both times for the United States — is preparing host nation Switzerland's team to kick off Euro 2025 next Wednesday. "I would say it's the biggest challenge I have ever had," said Sundhage, who has coached in a World Cup final, three Olympic gold-medal games and a Copa América final. "It is really, really interesting." Her first tournament coaching the Swiss is 41 years after the inaugural Euros was won in conditions that seem more than a lifetime ago for women's soccer. In 1984, the four-team UEFA competition was home-and-away semifinals and final, with second legs played weeks after the first in games of 70 minutes, not 90. The title was won in England with fewer than 3,000 fans in the stadium and no national television coverage. Sweden beat England in a penalty shootout after each won the home leg 1-0. At the muddy, rain-soaked home field of Luton Town, Sundhage added to her first-leg goal to score the winning spot-kick, captured in fuzzy footage of the game. The Swedish champions got home to find their victory celebrated in a rare two-page newspaper spread. "That was just unique," Sundhage recalled to reporters at a recent briefing. "Two pages, are you kidding me? Oh look, there's a picture as well." In 2025, Switzerland will play to packed stadiums in a 16-nation event that will set a tournament record of about 600,000 spectators. The venues are Switzerland's best and four of the eight also were used at the men's Euro 2008 co-hosted with Austria. Sundhage has been there for most stops on the women's soccer journey: helping Sweden win that first European title, then taking third place at the first Women's World Cup in 1991. She coached host Sweden to the Euro 2013 semifinals and now has a second chance with a home team.

Lord Shree Jagannath's grand Rath Yatra will start from ISKCON temple in Bhopal today, a confluence of devotion and spirituality

Bhopal (Agency): ISKCON temple located in Patel Nagar, Bhopal is organizing a grand Lord Shree Jagannath Rath Yatra festival on Today. This will be the thirteenth annual Rath Yatra festival organized by ISKCON Bhopal, which will be a divine confluence of tradition, devotion and spirituality. This Rath Yatra will start from Bhopal Talkies at 4:00 pm and will conclude at Platinum Plaza (near Mata Mandir) via Hamidia Road, Bharat Talkies, Roshanpura Chauraha, Rangmahal, New Market. The chariot will stop for some time at various places on the way of the journey, where the Lord will be given a grand welcome by the local devotees in a traditional manner. Vitanka Das and Dwijamani Das from Russia, who are active in the promotion of Shri Jagannath devotion at the international level, are coming to Bhopal specially to participate in the Rath Yatra. This year, International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) Zonal Secretary

ISKCON, Mahaman Das Prabhuji will be specially present in the Rath Yatra. In his presence, this festival will acquire an even more divine form. Apart from him, tradition of Rath Yatra



thousands of devotees from the country and abroad are expected to be present. Lord Jagannath, Balram and Subhadra Mata will be seated on the chariot. Devotees will pull the chariot with ropes with their hands along with Sankirtan. The atmosphere will be devotional with the Sankirtan of Hare Krishna Mahamantra, tableaux, sounds of conch, Mridang

and cymbals on the way to the Yatra. 151 special bhogs will be offered to the Lord and Aarti will be performed at various places. The festival is thousands of years old, which is described in Skanda Purana, Padma Purana and other Vedic texts. It is mentioned in the scriptures that the soul is freed from the cycle of birth and death by merely seeing Lord Jagannath seated on a chariot. This festival is the celebration of the Lord coming out to give his divine darshan to the devotees. Rath Yatra was organized for

Characteristics of the chariot
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The height of the chariot is 27 feet, width 17 feet and length 24 feet.• Its foundation is made of iron and the canopy and structure are made of teak wood.• About 2 tons of iron and 50 cubic feet of teak wood have been used in the construction of the chariot.• The chariot has huge wooden wheels of 6 feet.• The height of the chariot can be adjusted as per requirement by hydraulic lever system.• Beautiful architectural carvings and colorful cloth decorations have been done on the canopy.
Commencement and Conclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Rath Yatra will be inaugurated by Bhopal Municipal Corporation Mayor Malti Rai with Aarti.• The Rath Yatra will be concluded with Aarti and blessings by Madhya Pradesh Government's Independent Charge Minister Krishna Gaur.
Prasad distribution and Mahaprasad
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On this occasion, 500 kg of Khaja Prasad prepared by the devotees of ISKCON temple will be distributed among the general public during the Yatra.• At the Rath Yatra's concluding point (Platinum Plaza), 5000–7000 devotees will be distributed desi ghee halwa as Mahaprasad.• After the evening Aarti, a grand Mahaprasad will be organized for all the devotees, in which food has been arranged for more than 5000 devotees.

the first time in San Francisco, America by Srila Prabhupada in 1967. Today, this Rath Yatra festival is celebrated in more than 1000 cities of the world every year by ISKCON organization, which promotes the Vedic tradition and spiritual values of India globally.

First the son and daughter eloped and got married, then the in-law eloped with the in-law; shocking case of MP

Alirajpur (Agency): A strange case has come to light from Alirajpur in Madhya Pradesh, where a in-law fell in love with her in-law and a love affair began between them. The woman even went to Gujarat to live with him. After this, when the in-law came to sow in his field during the monsoon season, the in-law's family beat him up badly. Due to which he had to be admitted to the hospital. The police have now registered an FIR against 12 people in this case. On the other hand, the most special thing about this case is that the son and daughter of the in-law and in-law also eloped and got married a few days ago. After which now everyone is surprised by the matter of love affair of both their parents coming to light. Giving information about the case, the police officer said that this case is of Rajawat Gram Panchayat of Alirajpur district. Kali, daughter of Pratap Thavaliya (Samdhi) who lived there, had eloped and married a young man from Rajawat village due to a love affair. When the matter reached the society, both the families held a meeting and compromised in this matter and both the families accepted each other. After the compromise between the two families, Pratap's daughter started living happily with her in-laws. After which Samdhi Pratap used to visit Rajawat village to meet his daughter. Meanwhile, the seed of love grew between the boy's mother and the girl's father and both



became so crazy in love with each other that they were ready to live and die together. The Samdhi-Samdhan, who were mad in the madness of love, neither took care of the family nor the society and also ran away together. After which the matter once again reached the society of their community, where the people of the society called the loving couple and after giving them advice, imposed a fine of Rs 1 lakh 30 thousand. However, this restriction on love had no effect on the woman and 10 days ago, Samdhan once again went to Gujarat to live with her Samdhi without informing her family, where he had gone to work. On the other hand, with the onset of rains in the state, Samdhi Pratap Thavaliya reached Indavan village of Nanpur police station area of Alirajpur from Gujarat alone without the woman to sow in the fields, after which Samdhan's family surrounded and caught him and then kidnapped him in a filmy style and took him to Rajawat village, where he was beaten up badly.

BRIEF NEWS Indian team reaches Washington for trade talks

Delhi (Agency): A team led by Rajesh Agarwal, chief negotiator from India, has reached Washington for the next round of trade talks with the US. An official gave this information on Thursday. This visit is important because both the countries are negotiating for an interim trade agreement and trying to finalize the agreement before July 9. However, there are challenges in sectors like agriculture and dairy. The official said, "The Indian team is in Washington for two-day trade talks." Agarwal is a special secretary in the Department of Commerce.

AI is becoming the reason for layoffs in tech companies

Delhi (Agency): Despite profits, tech companies are cutting jobs. AI is being cited as the main reason for this. Companies say that now many works are being done by machines and AI, so the need for people has reduced. Big companies like Google, Microsoft, Amazon and Meta are laying off employees for this reason. However, the pandemic, changing strategies and pressure from investors are also the reason for this. 1. Impact on one in four jobs According to a study by the International Labour Organization and the National Research Institute of Poland, one in every four jobs worldwide is affected by generative AI. However, according to the World Economic Forum's 'Future of Jobs 2025 Report', 17 crore new jobs will be created in this decade, but 9.2 crore will be lost. This is the situation in big companies - Google has laid off 12,000 employees since 2023 - Meta laid off five percent of its employees in February - Microsoft, Amazon and Duolingo are also reducing the number of employees 2. Big players said, white collar jobs are in danger - Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei warns that AI can reduce white collar jobs by half and unemployment can reach 20% in five years.

Plant one thousand fruit trees; For which mistake Jabalpur HC gave a unique punishment to the police station in-charge

Jabalpur (Agency): Jabalpur High Court in Madhya Pradesh has recently given such a punishment in a case, after knowing about which everyone is praising it. Actually, the court has given this unique punishment to the police station in-charge of Satna district for ignoring a rape case and not serving the notice. During this, the court has punished the police station in-charge to plant 1 thousand fruit plants of the same category like mango, guava, jamun, mahua from his own income in Chitrakoot between July 1 and August 31, 2025 and take care of it himself. This unique punishment of planting one thousand fruit trees to

Satna district's Kotwali police station in-charge Ravindra Dwivedi has been given by the bench of Justice Vivek Agarwal and Justice Avinindra Kumar Singh of Jabalpur High Court. Along with this, the court has also asked the TI to submit a report with the photo and GPS location of the plants to the court. Along with this, the court has also directed the police station in-charge to take care of the plants for the next one year. The court has also asked the Satna Superintendent of Police to inspect the entire process and submit a report on the due date. The next hearing of the case will be held on September 16, about three months later.



The matter is such that in the year 2021, the district court sentenced the accused Ram Avtar Chaudhary in the case of rape of a minor. The accused had filed an appeal against this sentence in the Jabalpur High Court, on which the court issued a notice to the victim on 30 September 2024 and asked the police to serve the notice. But this notice was not served on time by the station in-charge. After which the court considered it as serious negligence and expressed displeasure and gave this unique punishment to the station in-charge. During the hearing of the case, Satna police station in-charge Ravindra Trivedi admitted his mistake in the High Court and

apologized and said that he was ready to pay the punishment given by the court as well as the fine of Rs 5,000 imposed by the Inspector General of Police. According to the instructions issued by Jabalpur High Court, the police station in-charge will have to plant 1000 fruit trees in Chitrakoot area. Also, these plants should also be purchased by the police station in-charge from his own income. Also, the responsibility of taking care of them will also be his own. Along with this, the court told the Satna SP that he will prepare a report about the planted trees, and submit an inspection report to the court along with an affidavit.

Bangladeshi national arrested from Delhi, was working for 15 years by making fake Indian identity papers



Delhi (Agency): The AATS team of South West District Police of Delhi has arrested a Bangladeshi national living illegally in India for the last 15 years on 24 June. The accused had kept the Aadhar card and driving license of one of his acquaintances with him to stay in India. He himself was a Bangladeshi citizen, but he had got the identity documents of India made. With the help of these documents, the accused was also working in different areas of Delhi. At present, the police has handed him over to FRRO to send him to Bangladesh. After which the process of deporting him has started. DCP Amit Goyal said that the team of AATS in-charge Inspector Ram Kumar under the leadership of ACP Operation Vijay Kumar is working to collect data of

foreign citizens living in the district. While collecting the data, the police team came to know that illegal Bangladeshi citizens are present in Vasant Kunj area. The team of ASI Vinod Kumar, Head Constable Mohit and Narendra reached the spot and arrested the accused. Accused Ohid first tried to deceive the police. He claimed to be a citizen of West Bengal and also showed the police his Aadhaar card and driving license of India. The Aadhaar card was in the name of Mohammad Rohit Sheikh, a resident of Barachand Ghar Uttar Para, District Nadia, West Bengal. The police suspected the accused and detained him and started questioning him. On strict interrogation, the accused admitted to being a Bangladeshi citizen.

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta flagged off 105 new 'Devi' buses, inaugurated Narela depot

Delhi (Agency): Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Friday gave two big gifts to the capital. The CM flagged off 105 new orange-coloured 'Devi' (Delhi EV Inter-Connector) electric buses. Along with this, inaugurated the newly built Sector A9 depot in Narela. She described it as a big step towards cleaner and more efficient public transport for the capital. Rekha Gupta said that this bus depot was completed in just 90 days and claimed that it reflects the BJP government's commitment to fulfill the promises made to Delhi residents. She also attacked the previous Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government and accused it of pushing the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) into losses and promoting a corrupt system. The CM said, "Buses are the lifeline of Delhi. But under the previous government, routes were cut, buses were reduced and corruption spread." Citing a CAG report, the CM claimed that the DTC had incurred a loss of Rs 65,000 crore during the previous government.

He alleged that the free bus travel scheme for women was also plagued with corruption and panic buttons were installed only for show. Highlighting the features of

only to curb corruption," he said. Meanwhile, Delhi Transport Minister Pankaj Singh, who was present at the event, said the previous AAP



the new nine-metre-long electric buses, the CM said they are equipped with air conditioning, panic buttons and real-time monitoring system. "When we started using cards by removing paper tickets, the AAP spread the lie that women will no longer be able to travel for free, but the move was taken

government denied people their right to better buses. "These buses should have arrived by last monsoon, but the previous government failed to do so. Today, the BJP is fulfilling that promise," he said. He said earlier the 'Devi' buses were green in colour and this is the first time a full

fleet of orange buses has been introduced. This adds more vibrancy and we will continue to increase the number of these, as we have been doing since the launch of the 'Devi' buses. Yogendra Chandolia, BJP MP from Delhi, rejected the AAP's claim that it was just a rebranding exercise. "If these were AAP government buses, they would have been on the roads months ago. These are new buses, bought and brought in during the BJP's rule. AAP never bought small electric buses - they reused old buses," he said. Chandolia said the new compact 'Devi' buses can seat 23 passengers and have 17 standing passengers. These buses are capable of plying on Delhi's narrow roads and people will benefit from them. He said this is the real Rekha Gupta model - "clean, modern and efficient public transport." Currently, around 2,000 electric buses are operating in Delhi and officials said the number will continue to grow, with a target to achieve 100 per cent electrification of the bus fleet by 2027.

MNC employee's body found hanging from a noose in Gurugram flat, death revealed after foul smell



Delhi (Agency): The body of a 29-year-old woman was found hanging from a noose in a flat in DLF Phase 3 area of Gurugram. Prima facie, it seems to be a case of suicide. The deceased woman has been identified as Pooja, a resident of Najafgarh, Delhi. She used to live alone in this flat in DLF Phase 3. The police has started investigating the incident after conducting a postmortem of the body. This incident came to light when people living in the nearby flats started smelling a strong stench from a flat. After this, the neighbors immediately informed the police about it. When the police reached the spot and opened the door of the flat, the body of the girl was found hanging from the fan. The police took the body down from the noose and took it into custody and sent it for postmortem.