



Inspiration: Late. Dr. L.C. Wallia



Govt targeting 2034 to hold 1st 'one nation, one election'

Vatika Times

NEW DELHI: As the govt is expecting to hold the first country-wide simultaneous polls by 2034 after passage of the constitutional amendment bill for 'one nation, one election', all state assemblies to be elected after 2029 will be for a shorter duration to align their tenure with the 2034 general elections. Head of the joint parliamentary committee (JPC) on the 'one nation, one election' bill (The Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024) PP Choudhary explained to TOI that after 2027, the assembly due to be elected in 2032 may have a tenure of only two years to ensure the synchronisation of the next elections in Uttar Pradesh-India's largest state electorally -with the Lok Sabha polls which may be held in 2034. The Constitution (129th



Amendment) Bill, 2024, and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment Bill), 2024, have provisions for simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. The constitution amendment bill, the President may issue a notification on the date of the first sitting of Lok Sabha after a general election, in all probability the one to be held in 2029, to spell when the next general elections will be due. The terms of all state assemblies constituted after this date will expire with the end of that Lok Sabha's five-year term. If Lok Sabha or a state assembly is

dissolved earlier than its five-year term, an election for it will be held for a term equal to the remainder of the five-year term. This will synchronise its next election with the simultaneous elections cycle. Even in states, where polls will be due, elections for assemblies will be held only to align with the Lok Sabha polls. However, the bill states that if the Election Commission is of the opinion that election to a state assembly cannot be held along with the rest of the country, it may make a recommendation to the President in this regard. The President

may issue an order to conduct an election for that assembly at a later date. The BJP MP from Pali in Rajasthan, Choudhary, said going by the JPC's working, its tenure may be extended as there was a consensus amongst panel members to visit states and UTs before making the final recommendations. So far, JPC members have visited Maharashtra and Uttarakhand. The bills had been introduced in LS in Dec last year and were referred to the Chaudhary-led panel which has been holding consultations with stakeholders for feedback.

Honeymoon horror: 4 days after wedding, Sonam came to parents' home to plot murder

Vatika Times

LUCKNOW / SHILLONG/INDORE: First, it was a case of missing honeymooners in Meghalaya. They might have lost their way on a trek, it was thought. On June 2, as Raja Raghuvanshi's body was found in a gorge, it was suspected to be a robbery gone wrong. A 'dao' (machete) and phone lay near his body, and a blood-stained raincoat found a few kilometres away. His gold ring and chain, it turned out, were missing. As cops dug deeper, the case took a chilling turn. Also read: 'Happy to marry whoever you choose,' Sonam had told father. Police formed an SIT with SDRF, NDRF, and central and state intelligence units to crack what became a nationwide sensation. Both families demanded a CBI probe. Even after cops claimed to have cracked the case Monday and arrested Raghuvanshi's bride, Sonam, from a dhaba in UP, and four suspects, including her alleged



lover Raj Kushwaha, the stories kept coming. She initially told Ghazipur police that miscreants robbed and killed Raja near the falls, but refused to disclose where she had been or how she escaped. "I didn't kill my husband. They killed him for the jewellery," Sonam said, referring to the four arrested men. Those were Akash Rajput, 21, from Lalitpur (UP), Vishal Singh Chauhan, 22, and Kushwaha, 21, both from Indore, and Anand Kurmi, 23, from Satna in MP. Indore additional DCP Rajesh Dandotiya said Akash, Vishal and Raj were produced in court and sent on seven-day transit remand.

Anand is being brought to Indore & will be presented in court Tuesday. Raj, suspected to be the prime co-conspirator, used to live near Sonam's home and worked as an accountant in Sonam's family business. He moved away a year ago but remained employed. Police claimed Sonam's family was against her relationship with Raj. Eventually, her marriage was arranged with Raja through a Kushwaha community network. Just four days after her wedding, Sonam returned to her parental home for a post-marriage ritual. She allegedly plotted her husband's murder with Raj during that

visit. The plot, investigators alleged, was to eliminate him in the next few days so she could reunite with Raj. East Khasi Hills SP Vivek Syiem alleged Sonam had been sending her location to Raj throughout the trip. Investigators believe the killers trailed the couple after they visited Kamakhya temple in Guwahati. Raj remained in Indore, while Akash, Vishal and Anand travelled by train to Assam, police alleged. "The murder weapon was purchased in Guwahati," an officer in Indore said. Sonam reportedly pushed Raja to extend their stay in Shillong - a move now seen as part of a premeditated plan. Tourist guide Albert Pde told investigators he saw the couple with three Hindi-speaking men on May 23 as they climbed 3,000 steps from Nongriat to Mawlakhiat. That detail was key - pointing to outsiders shadowing the honeymooners. "All the dots connected to indicate that there was prior planning.

Guard at Ranthambore Fort temple loses life in tiger attack, 3rd kill in 2 months



Vatika Times

JAIPUR: A 70-year-old guard of a Jain temple inside Ranthambore Fort was killed in a tiger attack Monday, marking the third human kill in the state's most popular tiger reserve within two months. The death triggered an emergency response, with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approving a pending proposal to urgently relocate the sub-adult cubs of tigress Arrowhead (T-84), allegedly behind a series of attacks on humans in Ranthambore, including the latest one. The victim was identified as Radheshyam Mali from Sherpur village. Around 4.30am, he went out to relieve himself outside the temple premises when the tiger pounced on him and dragged him away, officials said. Tensions escalated as Mali's kin and locals staged a protest outside the forest department at the fort later in the day, demanding Rs 50 lakh compensation, a govt job for a family member, and 10 bighas of land. Negotiations between the authorities and the protesters remained inconclusive till late evening. Last month, Arrowhead's cub Kankati killed a seven-year-old boy. A week later, she killed a 40-year-old forest guard.

Vatika Times

NEW DELHI: LA protests enter fourth day: Trump deploys 700 Marines; Newsom calls move 'deranged' The showdown between California and the White House escalated late Monday as violent protests over immigration arrests gripped downtown Los Angeles. According to reports, the Trump administration is planning to deploy Marines to the riot-hit city.



Around 700 Marines have been mobilized to reinforce National Guard troops already stationed there. California Governor Gavin Newsom responded to the deployment of the

National Guard by declaring the mobilization a "serious breach of state sovereignty." He joined Attorney General Rob Bonta in announcing a lawsuit against the Trump

administration.

Trump, meanwhile, justified the use of military forces as a necessary response to what he labelled "violent, instigated riots." The president has blamed "professional agitators" and "insurrectionists" for the unrest, promising that any disrespect shown to troops would be met with a severe crackdown. "They will be hit harder than they have ever been hit before," he said.

LA protests: Trump deploys 700 Marines

Apologise publicly in 24 hours or face strike: Goa doctors to health minister

Vatika Times

PANAJI: In an unprecedented show of strength, over 600 doctors, consultants, and interns of Goa Medical College staged a protest on the campus on Monday demanding a public apology from health minister Vishwajit Rane at the same casualty department for abusing and threatening Rudresh Kuttikar and gave the minister a 24-hour ultimatum or face a strike. The doctors' ultimatum came after Rane "extended heartfelt apology to Kuttikar for the harsh words" spoken by him on Saturday. But Kuttikar and the Goa Association of Resident Doctors (GARD) rejected Rane's apology on social media and demanded a public



apology at the same place where the incident took place, and a video of the apology to be made viral in the same way the first video was. GARD said that it "cannot and will not stand by while the dignity of our profession is trampled upon". The doctors also demanded an end to VIP culture, a total ban on videography in patient care areas, and assurance from govt that no health-care professional will ever be subjected to such a "degrading and arbitrary ordeal" again.

The doctors also demanded the immediate and unconditional revocation of Kuttikar's suspension, but dean S M Bandekar said there was no suspension order issued, no note moved, and no inquiry initiated against him. GARD presented a list of five demands to the dean, who called for a meeting of all heads of departments to discuss the issue. After the meeting, Bandekar told reporters that this was the "first incident" of this scale at

GMC. "Something like this has never happened before on such a scale... and it is escalating. Somewhere we need to preserve this institution. It is one of the greatest in the country, and we cannot allow it to go for a toss," he said, adding that many OPDs were delayed due to the protest on Monday. GARD president Aayush Sharma, however, countered the dean's assertion, and said that no emergency or elective services were stopped, and that doctors attended to patients. He called for an end to VIP culture and said that on the same night following the Rane incident, four medical residents of the medicine department were verbally assaulted, threatened, and video-graphed.

Techie-lover stabs mom of two to death in Bengaluru hotel

Vatika Times

BENGALURU: A reunion of a 33-year-old married woman and her 25-year-old lover at a hotel in South Bengaluru's Poornaprajna Housing Society Layout recently ended in the murder. The youth stabbed the woman, mother of two children, 13 times after she revealed her decision to end the relationship. The accused, Yashas from Kengeri Satellite Town, informed police about the murder after stabbing himself. The deceased is Harini R, a resident of Hemmigepeura in Banashankari 6th Stage.

Yashas, a BCA graduate and employee of a private firm, attacked Harini with a knife while she was resting in the room at 9.30pm on June 6, police said.

Army to get new air defence boost with Rs 30,000 crore QR-SAM deal



designed to intercept hostile fighters, helicopters and drones at a range up to 25-30 km, later this month. The move comes soon after India's existing multi-layered air defence network played a crucial role in thwarting

multiple waves of Turkish-origin drones and Chinese missiles launched by Pakistan during Operation Sindoor - the May 7-10 hostilities. The DRDO and the Army have over the last three-four years tested.

MBBS students or they will face practise bar: NMC to colleges



Vatika Times

NEW DELHI: Cracking the whip, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has said that students who got admission in MBBS course in 2024-25 but whose names are missing from its portal may not be eligible for registration to practise medicine. The National Medical Commission - the apex body for regulating medical education in the country - issued the warning through a public notice after failing to receive the names and basic details of all students admitted to MBBS course in 2024-25 in medical colleges across

the country. India has approximately 1.18 lakh MBBS seats. According to NMC, despite issuance of several circulars and public notices over the last eight months, details of only 1,15,250 students admitted for 2024-25 academic year have been received from medical colleges and uploaded on its portal. "Some of the colleges did not upload details of students admitted to MBBS course and some colleges uploaded incomplete data," it said. In the public notice, a copy of which is with NMC stated that only students whose details have been uploaded.

Editorial

Trump’s flip-flop to China’s aggression—What’s bringing India and Australia closer

Ritu Walia

The recent visit of Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles to New Delhi has provided a significant boost to the burgeoning ties between India and Australia. This diplomatic outreach underscores Australia’s unwavering support for India in its battle against terrorism in all its manifestations. Notably, Marles’ visit comes shortly after the Albanese administration’s re-election, marking an early and decisive engagement with India at a time of heightened global uncertainty. Reflecting on the trajectory of India-Australia relations, it is remarkable how far the partnership has come in a relatively short period. Just a decade ago, Australia was not a prominent feature in India’s strategic considerations. However, shifting geopolitical dynamics have brought the two nations closer. The year 2025 marks the fifth anniversary of the elevation of the bilateral ties from a strategic partnership to a comprehensive strategic partnership, placing Australia among a select group of countries with which India maintains a 360-degree engagement framework. This enhanced partnership encompasses multiple overlapping mechanisms, including the 2+2 dialogue for high-level coordination on defence and foreign affairs, intergovernmental consultations, and a Free Trade Agreement. These initiatives reflect a shared commitment to deepening cooperation across various sectors, from security to trade and technology. At the heart of this evolving relationship lies a mutual recognition of the importance of defence and security collaboration. During Marles’ visit, both nations welcomed the signing of the Australia-India Joint Research Project and agreed to intensify and diversify defence industry collaboration. The upcoming third India-Australia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue later this year is expected to further advance defence science and technology cooperation, enhancing interoperability and addressing common security challenges. Beyond bilateral engagements, both countries are active participants in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), an informal grouping that includes the United States and Japan. The Quad aims to promote a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific, serving as a counterbalance to China’s growing influence. The inclusion of Australia in the Malabar naval exercises, alongside India, Japan, and the US, has further built interoperability and trust. The Quad stands as the most prominent example of the plurilateral cooperation linking the United States and India with two of their closest strategic partners. Yet, America’s current relationship with India has lost the sheen it was expected to have. While Washington has not formally withdrawn from key security alliances like NATO or informal groupings such as the Quad, the Trump administration’s flip-floppy foreign policy toward its allies and partners has irked all. Trump’s semi-betrayal of Europe on Ukraine has unsettled allies around the globe—including Australia and New Zealand, both formal defence partners of the US. As the US-China rivalry develops, regional states are scrambling to protect their interests. There is little clarity on how Western powers might respond to a potential Chinese military takeover of Taiwan. A direct military confrontation between the US and China remains improbable, a reality acknowledged both overtly and implicitly by voices within and outside the US government. For Indo-Pacific nations caught in the geopolitical crossfire—reliant on China for trade and the US for security—investing in their own strategic resilience appears to be the most prudent path forward. Global military spending surged by 9.4 per cent in 2024—the steepest increase since the Cold War—driven by the return of attritional warfare and China’s growing



Why is the government silent on the fake fertilizer manufacturers?

KP Malik

Till now, factories manufacturing fake food items have been caught in the country, but never before have such large numbers of fake fertilizer factories been caught as have been caught in Rajasthan. The way raids have started on fake fertilizer factories in Rajasthan and they are being sealed is commendable. One thing that has come to light from this action is that fertilizer companies are cheating farmers in many ways, which includes looting the hard-earned money of farmers by selling expensive fertilizers, along with this, a conspiracy is also being hatched to destroy their fields. The surprising thing is that 12 fake fertilizer factories have been caught in just one district of Rajasthan, then imagine how many such factories would be there in the entire state and then in the entire country, which are ruining the farmers by making fake fertilizers. It is said that there are a large number of fertilizer manufacturing factories in Madhya Pradesh too. Talking on this matter, Union Minister of State for Agriculture Bhagirath Chaudhary said that those who cheat the farmers will not be spared at all.

They will get the harshest punishment. Actually, fake DAP fertiliz-



er and many other types of fertilizers were made in these factories and the surprising thing is that they were not made from animal bones, but from marble dust i.e. ground marble, which makes the fields barren when it falls on them. It is said that along with marble dust, such dangerous chemicals were being used in these fertilizers, which makes the land barren. It is worth understanding that the farmers who feed the people of the country and do not step back from their farming dharma even after getting low MSP and neither sell their food grains by adulterating them, are being cheated openly. In Rajasthan too, farmers were being cheated in these fertilizer factories, which was caught by the farmers themselves. In fact, three trailers were being unloaded on the road

near the fields outside a fertilizer factory named Radhika Agro located in Chhidwara and Bandarsindri areas of Kishangarh district of Rajasthan, which was opposed by the villagers. Amidst this uproar, the driver and others who had brought marble dust fled. When Rajasthan Agriculture Minister Kirori Lal Meena came to know about such a large quantity of raw material recovered, he got the factories sealed and said that strict action will be taken against the accused. Similarly, fake fertilizer was also being made in Divya Agro Food Industry, where Agriculture Minister Kirori Lal Meena has raided and assured the farmers of taking strict action against the mafia making fake fertilizer. In fact, strict action must be taken against the people responsible for

this fraud with the farmers, because this is a big fraud not only with the farmers but with the entire country. But the question is who are these people who are cheating the farmers?

Because these factories have not been caught without any uproar by farmers and villagers. Why have the names of the owners of these factories, which provide lakhs of tons of fertilizers to the farmers of the country every year, not been revealed yet? Farmers allege that how can such a big fraud happen in the state without the consent of the government and administration? Actually, the apprehension of the farmers is not wrong, because when elections come, these factory owners donate money in support of some political party, after which the elected governments pro-

vide them with all kinds of benefits after forming the government. However, this is not the issue of any one government, rather this practice has become very old in India. The funds received by the parties are a part of this, which is not even disclosed now. So should it be believed that the people who give funds and election donations to the parties adulterate the money and recover it from the public, and many times more? Why are adulterators and sellers of fake products not controlled, whose biggest consumer is the common citizen of the country, which also includes farmers. Because the elite class is completely free from adulterated products. If there is even the slightest adulteration or any other minor defect in the food grains of the farmers, then their food grains are either bought at a very cheap price in the market or are returned. But not only are fake fertilizers being sold to those farmers, but fake pesticides and fake seeds are also being sold to them. Therefore, in this matter, the Modi government at the Center, which talks of doubling the income of farmers, should come forward and work to free the farmers from the clutches of these adulterators and sellers of fake products.

More subscribers but low tariffs—why India’s telecom sector is under stress

Rashmi

The Indian telecom story, seen through numbers, could dazzle anyone. But, is it a happy story, 30 years after the first mobile call was made in India in July 1995? First, the numbers. Mobile subscribers in the country are close to 1.2 billion, out of 9.1 billion globally. Internet subscribers in India are pegged at over 970 million, compared to 5.56 billion around the world. India’s broadband subscribers stand at more than 940 million, against the global figure of 5.3 billion. On the handset side, the stats are equally impressive. From importing 75 per cent of the handsets till not very long ago, the country has moved to exporting mobile phones worth ~1.8 trillion a year. And India has wowed the world with 1.8 billion digital transactions annually. However, being the cheapest data capital (a title India may get in the near future) has its own problems — something that policymakers can’t wish away. When telecom service providers don’t hike

tariffs (both calling rates and data prices) for years at a stretch, there’s a problem. When 5G data comes at the same price as 4G, there’s a problem. When the industry debt runs into trillions of dollars, there’s a problem. When leading telcos want conversion of their pending dues into government equity, there’s a problem. And when preventing a duopoly in the industry becomes a burden, there’s a problem. As Telecom Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia told this newspaper in a recent interview, the telecom growth story of India has become the envy of the globe. While that may be the case, the high subscriber numbers and the impressive digital transaction volumes are accompanied by rock-bottom tariffs. Mobile call rates have fallen to around 0.03 paise a minute, from 50 paise a minute 10 years ago. And data cost has seen a steep fall to ~ 9 per GB, from ~287 per GB 10 years ago. Against the average global data cost of \$2.49 per GB.

There's A Country India Must Take More Seriously: Kazakhstan

Radhika Singh

The Astana International Forum opened with a flourish in Astana, the Kazakhstan capital, on May 29. One may wonder why write about a Kazakh event when we are still debating whether Operation Sindoor is over or on pause. But it was exactly this that makes it so pertinent to write about Kazakhstan, Central Asia's largest country and roughly just a three-hour flight away from Delhi. Over two days, there was brainstorming and information-sharing at the highest level, encompassing a range of issues, as the forum aims to tackle global challenges by amplifying diverse voices. The plenary session was inaugurated by Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

The Guest of honour was Paul Kagame, the President of Rwanda, whose country has seen horrific violence and genocide. Other speakers were President of North Macedonia Gordana Siljanovska-Davkova, Secretary General of the Council of Europe Alain Berset, former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (now President and Chair of the Global Green Growth Institute), and Qu Dongyu, Director-

General of the Food and Agriculture Organization. But this was just the plenary session. Other sessions had speakers as diverse as Georgia Meloni, the Prime Minister of Italy, and Haji Noorudfin Azizi, the Minister of Commerce and Industry of Afghanistan.

In his opening address, President Tokayev noted that the forum was taking place at a time of great uncertainty in the world. According to last year's data, 52 countries were involved in armed conflicts.

The economic losses from violence reached \$19 trillion, approximately 13.5% of the world's gross domestic product. Kazakhstan views the modern turbulent world through the prism of constructive cooperation,” said the President. “In our foreign policy, we prioritise dialogue over division and rely on respect for sovereign rights. Disregarding national pride and the historical and cultural traditions of peoples is unacceptable. At the same time, it is essential to respect the rights of all national minorities to speak their languages and to develop their cultures. That is why we firmly uphold the ‘Unity in Diversity’ principle in Kazakhstan.” This is

what makes it imperative for India to partner with Kazakhstan. It is the ninth largest country in the world, equivalent in size to Western Europe, and the largest country in Central Asia. It is resource-rich with gas, oil, minerals, and rare earth metals. Militarily, it is also one of the strongest countries in the region. Yet, Kazakhstan voluntarily gave up its nuclear weapons. It has had border problems with a number of its neighbours, including giant China, but has been able to solve them. Solving territorial disputes goes a long way in enabling the development of a nation and society. Though India is a giant with a billion population and Kazakhstan is a nascent republic, only 34 years old with a population of about 20 million, there are many convergences in their foreign policies and positions on global issues. Like India, Kazakhstan has an autonomous multi-vector foreign policy. It has adroitly managed its relations with competing and rival powers. It shares the longest land border with Russia and continues its cooperation and relations with it, notwithstanding Western sanctions against it. The US is the largest investor in the country.

Will Nepal Really See A Return Of The Monarchy?

Sunil Sharma

A huge crowd headed towards Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli’s Baluwatar residence from downtown in Kathmandu, chanting slogans in favour of the restoration of the Hindu monarchy, which was abolished in 2008. The crowd, led by former Home Minister Kamal Thapa, tried to break the police cordon. This was on June 1. The police responded to protesters with batons. As they continued to push, the security forces fired tear gas shells to prevent the crowd from entering the premier’s residence. Subsequently, as the crowd dispersed, police arrested Thapa. Most strikingly, he was dragged to a police van

with his hands and legs tied, before being taken into custody. Hours later, Thapa and the other arrestees were released. Clashes of this kind have become the norm in Nepal of late. Thapa, a leader of the Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) Nepal, was the Home Minister during the 2006 popular uprising that flared across the country. Those protests ended the centuries-old constitutional monarchy. Back then, dismayed by the direct rule of the then King Gyanendra Shah, tens of thousands of people had taken to the streets for nearly a month demanding the abolishment of the centuries-old Hindu monarchy. The government, led

by the King’s men, had ordered the police to open fire at the protesters. More than two dozen demonstrators were killed, scores of them injured, and thousands of others were detained. Now, nearly two decades later, monarchists like Thapa have taken to the streets, followed by their supporters. The then rulers, who suppressed the people’s movement under the guidance of King Gyanendra, are now the protesters. The roles have reversed in less than two decades. Yet, protests continued. The nationwide uprising forced the King to abandon the Royal Palace, ending a 239-year-old tradition. And thus,

Nepal was declared a Republic. India, China, the US and other influential countries endorsed the political shift. The King’s residence, known as Narayanhiti Royal Palace, was subsequently converted into a museum. This time, backed by the frustrated populace, pro-royal forces are hitting the streets, vowing to bring back the King to the Narayanhiti Royal Palace. To amplify their demands, smaller parties, academicians and well-wishers have joined the movement for the restoration of a constitutional monarchy. The royal family itself has been backing the protesters, hosting lunch for leaders and defending their campaign in press state.



KU Committed to Advancing Swavalambi Bharat Abhiyan: VC

Jasbir Singh Duggal Kurukshetra : A Women's Free Tailoring and Embroidery Training Program Centre was inaugurated today at Sh. Gulzari Lal Nanda Centre of Ethics, Philosophy, Museum and Library, Kurukshetra University. The initiative is organized under the joint efforts of the Swavalambi Bharat Abhiyan, Women's Studies Research Centre at Kurukshetra University, and the Kurukshetra University Alumni Association. Speaking as the Chief Guest of this inauguration ceremony, Prof. Som Nath Sachdeva, Vice-Chancellor of Kurukshetra University, emphasized the essential role of women in India's progress toward becoming a developed nation. Prof Sachdeva highlighted the importance of skill-based training for women, particularly in areas such as sewing and embroidery, which can significantly contribute to making women self-reliant. Such initiatives not only support



women in becoming economically independent but also strengthen the foundation of a self-sustained and developed India. Prof Sachdeva added that the training also aims to connect women's skills to local markets, thereby encouraging the promotion of indigenous products and aligning with the 'Vocal for Local' movement. This approach is expected to enhance women's income opportunities and promote a culture of entrepreneurship at the grassroots level. Upendra Singhal, Honorary Secretary, Kurukshetra Vikas Board noted that the training centre is a significant step toward fulfilling the vision of

late Pandit Gulzari Lal Nanda, who dedicated his life to the cause of women's empowerment. Prof Anita Dua, Director Women's Studies Research Centre, shared that the centre has already provided vocational training to thousands of women in partnership with the alumni association. The current training program will run for six months as part of the ongoing efforts to promote self-reliance among women. Prof Suchismita, Director of the Nanda Study Centre, reported that 60 women participants have registered for the program. The training will be conducted daily by expert trainer Nargis Kirmich.

KU VC Honours Rising Sports Star, Calls for Greater Encouragement of Girls in Sports



Jasbir Singh Duggal Kurukshetra: University Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Som Nath Sachdeva, and Registrar Dr. Virender Pal, felicitated Anushka Sharma, a Class 12 student of Kurukshetra University Senior Secondary Model School, for her outstanding achievement in the Asian Boxing Championship. Anushka won the silver medal in the 81 kg weight category at the championship held in

Colombo, Sri Lanka, from May 10 to 24 organised by the Asian Boxing Confederation (ASBC). During a special ceremony held at the Vice-Chancellor's office on Monday, Prof. Sachdeva congratulated Anushka for her remarkable performance and extended his blessings. Prof Sachdeva emphasized the significance of encouraging girls to move forward and realize their full potential. Prof Sachdeva

lauded Anushka for bringing pride to her family, her school, and the university through her dedication and hard work. Registrar Dr. Virender Pal also congratulated Anushka and assured her of continued support from the school administration to help her pursue greater achievements in the future. The event was also attended by the school's Principal, Dr. Sukhvinder Singh, and Anushka's father.



Before the rains, all the drains of the city should be cleaned and there should not be any waterlogging anywhere in the city : Harvinder



DILPREET WALIA Gharaunda/Karnal: Before the rainy season, Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan has come into action mode regarding drainage of water from the city, waterlogging and other arrangements. Regarding which Harvinder Kalyan obtained detailed information from the local officials on every problem that may arise during the rainy season and gave necessary guidelines. He instructed the officials that there should be complete focus on the development work being done in the city so that the development work related to the basic needs of the people can be completed soon. Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan was speaking at a meeting of officials at the local rest house.

Industry Expresses Gratitude to Central Government for Relocation of Toll Plaza

Journalist Jatin Gurugram: The Central Government has officially approved the relocation of the Kherki Daula Toll Plaza, situated on the Delhi-Jaipur National Highway (NH-48) in Gurugram, to Panchgaon, beyond Manesar. This decision by the Central Government and Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, will enable toll-free travel for approximately 15 kilometers and ease the commute from Delhi to Manesar, offering significant relief to



thousands of office-goers. According to the sCentral Government, this project is likely to begin within the next six months. This information was shared in a statement by Vinod Bapna, Chairman of CII Gurugram Zone and

CEO of Caparo Maruti. He expressed gratitude to the Central Government, stating that this move will not only address traffic congestion but also greatly improve the convenience of thousands of daily commuters. Vinod Bapna further thanked the Central Government, emphasizing that the long-standing demand of thousands of people for the relocation of the toll plaza is now being fulfilled. He noted that relocating the toll plaza approximately 15 kilometers away from

Gurugram will allow travelers commuting between Delhi and Manesar to avoid toll charges, resulting in economic benefits. He added that NHAI (National Highways Authority of India) will adopt a multi-lane free-flow toll collection system. According to available information, the Haryana government has already provided about 28 acres of land to the highway authority for this project. Additionally, Vinod Bapna mentioned that an integrated system is also being developed to

ensure that vehicles traveling toward Jaipur via the Dwarka Expressway will not be charged a user fee at the new toll location. He highlighted that after the construction of the approximately 27-kilometer-long Delhi-Gurugram Expressway, travelers had to pay user fees at Sirhaul (Delhi-Gurugram border) and Kherki Daula Toll Plaza. In 2014, toll collection at the Delhi-Gurugram border was discontinued, providing relief to commuters traveling between Delhi's Dhaura Kuan and Kherki Daula.

Nikhil Wins Bronze Medal in 4th Haryana Junior State-Level Boxing Championship

Jasbir Singh Duggal Kurukshetra: Nikhil, a boxer from the Haryana State Sports Department's Boxing Center in Kurukshetra, has won a bronze medal in the 4th Haryana Junior State-Level Boxing Championship. The young athlete has brought pride to Kurukshetra along with his coach, Jitendra Singh. District Sports Officer (DSO) Manoj Kumar congratulated both Nikhil and coach Jitendra Singh, stating that Nikhil's achievement has brought recognition to the Kurukshetra Sports



Department and will serve as an inspiration for other athletes as well. Coach Jitender Singh informed that the 4th Haryana Junior State-Level Boxing Championship was held from June 4 to June 7, 2025, at the NVA SAI Center in Rohtak. Competing in the 63 to 66 kg weight category, Nikhil secured a bronze medal. He added that Nikhil has been regularly training at the Dronacharya Stadium and is receiving high-level coaching under the guidance of DSO Manoj Kumar.

Delay in Wheat Commission Payment Angers Commission Agents in Grain Market



Jasbir Singh Duggal Shahabad Markanda: A crucial meeting of the Grain Market Association was held at the business premises of M/s Tilak Raj Dhanpat Rai in the grain market. The meeting, presided over by market president Dhanpat Rai Agarwal, expressed strong resentment over the delay in the payment of commission for wheat procurement by the government. Sharing details after the meeting, Association President Dhanpat Rai Agarwal

and Chairman Trilochan Singh Handa informed that wheat had started arriving in the market as early as April. However, not a single rupee of commission has been released by the government to the commission agents to date. The president stated that nearly 73 crore worth of commission from wheat procurement in Shahabad grain market is still pending with the government. While the payment for labor during the wheat season was released promptly, the delay in

releasing commission payments has created an atmosphere of frustration among agents. The commission agents unanimously appealed to the government to immediately transfer the pending payments to their accounts. Addressing the issue of sunflower procurement, President Dhanpat Rai Agarwal pointed out that last year, the government had procured 25% of the sunflower crop directly through agencies and the remaining 75% through commission agents.

Woman Dies in Fire Under Suspicious Circumstances

Jasbir Singh Duggal Shahabad Markanda: A 45-year-old woman died in a fire under mysterious circumstances in the nearby village of Landi on Monday. The deceased has been identified as Sarbjit Kaur. Following the incident, both her in-laws and her maternal family have come face to face with conflicting claims. While the in-laws claim that a fire broke out due to an inverter explosion, the woman's maternal family has alleged it to be a premeditated murder and have leveled serious accusations against the in-laws. Village Sarpanch Kulbir claimed that the woman had committed suicide by pouring petrol on herself and setting herself on fire. Anil Kumar, the brother of the deceased and a resident of Barwala town in Hisar district, stated that his sister Sarbjeet Kaur had been married for about 20 years to Rakesh, a res-



ident of village Landi. The couple has three children — daughters Simran (16), Shagun (14), and a son Adarsh (12). Anil alleged that his sister had been mentally harassed for several years and was not allowed to communicate with her maternal family by her in-laws. He said he received a call on Monday morning informing him that Sarbjit Kaur had suffered burn injuries and had been admitted to the hospital. However, when he reached Adesh Medical College and Hospital in Shahabad, he found his sister's body already lying there. Her body was severely burnt. When he tried to

get information about the incident from her in-laws, they allegedly evaded the questions and failed to provide clear answers. Anil further stated that Rakesh claimed the fire was caused by an inverter blast, but questioned why only his sister was burned while no one else in the house sustained even a scratch. He suspects that his sister was deliberately set on fire as part of a conspiracy. The police have begun an investigation into the matter. Shahabad SHO Satish Kumar confirmed that the woman's body has been taken into custody and sent for post-mortem at LNJP Hospital. He stated that a thorough investigation is being conducted based on the complaint from the maternal side. The exact cause of the fire and the woman's death will be confirmed after the post-mortem report is received.

Canara Robeco AMC Launches 'Nivesh Bus Yatra' to Educate Investors

Vatika Times PATIALA: Canara Robeco AMC launches a bus yatra to create awareness about mutual funds in Punjab which will strengthen its investor education drive in the state. The bus will start its journey from Mohali. It will pass through cities of Mohali, Chandigarh, Panchkula, Patiala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar during its 24-day journey in the state. "In the world of investing, few things are as valuable as knowledge. An informed investor not only makes better decisions for themselves but also contributes to a more well-informed and dynamic financial ecosystem. At our fund house, we believe it is our responsibility to

empower individuals by educating them about the benefits and potential of mutual fund investments," said, Rajnish Narula, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Canara Robeco AMC. "As part of our continued commitment, we are bringing our Nivesh Yatra to Punjab—an initiative aimed at deepening financial understanding and nurturing a long-term investment mindset across communities." The bus will visit prominent public areas in each city, engaging with local communities. It will function as a digital experience hub, offering educational content and interactive sessions to raise awareness about mutual funds through videos and face-to-face interactions.

Despite US student visa inter-view freeze, these 5 countries offer easier processes

Delhi : Student visa applicants have been hampered by US embassies canceling interviews due to the Trump administration's social media profile screening process. Some countries simplify student visas. Five countries offer faster visa approvals and post-graduation jobs to international students: Germany is a popular destination for overseas students since its public universities forgo tuition. Student visas are also simplified. Applicants must show they can afford €11,904 per academic year to support themselves. Visas are easy to get after a German institution's admission letter. Students must show admittance, health insurance, and finances. Germany permits students to work part-time and gives



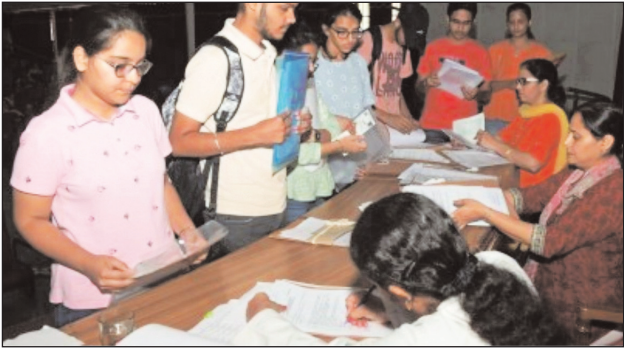
them 18 months to find work after graduation. Indian students must apply for a "D Study visa" to study in Ireland. This visa is for students studying in Ireland for longer than 90 days. The process comprises applying online through AVATS, providing papers, paying the visa fee, and maybe biometrics. Most Irish applications are handled in four to eight weeks. Part-time work is allowed, and post-graduates have two years to find work. France has a surprisingly easy non-EU student visa process.

Tejaswini's 25-meter pistol gold lets India top the medal tally

Delhi : India took first place in the shooting sport with eleven medals, thanks to Tejaswini's victory in the women's 25-meter pistol event at Monday's ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in Suhl, Germany. India took home the most medals at the junior ISSF World Cup with nine total, including three golds, four silvers, and the same number of bronzes. China came in second with three golds and one bronze.

Indian students are increasingly being drawn to medical colleges in Russia

Delhi : The fact that Russia has added 2000 more medical seats for students from India is evidence of the fruitful partnerships between Russian medical schools and their international student bodies. The number of available seats at Russian medical institutions has increased from 8,000 in 2023 to 10,000 today. A large number of Indian students study medicine in Russia, and this new program shows that the nation is prepared to accept even more overseas students. Many Indian students find that studying at a Russian medical institu-



tion is both a good fit and a good value because they adhere to the standards set out by the National Medical Commission (NMC) and the Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate (FMGL) Regulations, 2021. Russia is one of several nations that provide MBBS programs that are in line

with the NMC standards; others include Kazakhstan, Nepal, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Poland; and many Indian medical aspirants are opting to study abroad due to the increasing cost of private medical institutions and the fierce competition for the NEET.

Rules for the use of GenAI tools by students and teachers at IIT Delhi have been updated

Delhi : Officials at India's premier tech university, IIT Delhi, have issued a set of rules for the responsible application of artificial intelligence (AI), Delhi reports. The goal is to ensure that researchers can utilize the technology for their intended purposes without fear of unforeseen

repercussions. The rules are based on the suggestions of a panel that looked at data from an internal poll that showed that 77% of teachers and 80% of students have been utilizing AI tools. Thanks to their capacity to produce information that is contextually fitting in many

cases, GenAI technologies are becoming increasingly popular in academic areas, where they are welcomed by both students and staff. "Educators and administrators are rethinking how they reshape classroom teaching, design assignments, and exams, and deter-

Students can enhance their marks on the CISCE by taking improvement examinations in three subjects



Delhi : The month of July is often reserved for the improvement tests. If students in grades XI and XII are unhappy with their results on the CISCE, they have the option to write improvement papers in two topics. The final grade will be determined by which of the two marks is higher. According to Joseph Emmanuel, chief executive and secretary of CISCE "Students who are not satisfied with their board results will be able to appear for improvement exams in up to three subjects, including those with multiple components, such as science, which includes Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, within the same academic year." This includes subjects like computer science, physics, and biology. Typically, these tests take place in July. The council made the decision to help kids achieve their goals of attending college by enhancing their performance on standardized tests.

AIIMS and IIT Delhi collaborate to establish AI healthcare innovation hub

Delhi : The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Delhi and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi have collaborated to create a CoE for Healthcare AI. With the support of a ₹330 crore grant, the new institute plans to use artificial intelligence and other developing technologies to tackle some of the most serious public health issues in India.

Government Awards 12 DU Colleges a Grant of 417 Crores

Delhi : Twelve institutions at Delhi University that receive funding from the state have received a grant-in-aid of 417 crore rupees, according to Minister Ashish Sood's announcement. "Students from middle-class families study at DU, although grants were not released to the university by the previous administration. But the funds were disbursed on April 1st," Sood asserted. Acharya Narendra Dev College, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, Bhagini Nivedita College, BhaskarAcharya College, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, Indira Gandhi Institute of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, Keshav Mahavidyalaya, Maharaja Agrasen College, Maharishi



Valmiki College, Shaheed Rajguru College, and Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies are the twelve campuses that receive full funding from the Delhi government. On the occasion of the BJP-led government's 100th day in office, Sood outlined the accomplishments of the departments that were under his supervision. Sood, whose responsibilities span educa-

tion, housing, electricity, and urban development, announced at a news conference that the twelve universities had received funding totaling 417 crore rupees from the government. These universities encountered a funding crunch during the previous administration due to accusations of financial malfeasance at government-funded schools.

Irish education minister invites Indians for education, research

NEW DELHI: James Lawless, Ireland's Education Minister, on Monday said his country is "very welcoming" for students and has a supportive post-study employment visa arrangement. "Ireland is a very welcoming country. We have a very cosmopolitan culture. We have many nationalities now in Ireland, and many people have made their home, including many, many Indians," the Irish minister said, when asked whether his government is considering any changes in post-study work or immigration policies to retain skilled talents.

Maintain pre-2010 7% OBC quota

Delhi : Calcutta high court ordered the West Bengal University of Health Sciences (WBUHS), a government medical university in Kolkata, to enroll students with 7% reservation for 66 OBCs notified in the state before 2010. In its ruling, justice Kausik Chanda noted that a division bench of the high court had set down the state's reservation policy in May, which divided OBCs into A and B categories and offered 10% and 7% quota, respectively. The state must apply OBC reservations solely to the 66 backward classes recognized by



the backward class department before 2009. Justice Chanda noted that the state's OBC reservations should be 7% per November 6, 1997 notification. Caste certificates for 66 grades produced before 2010 have been preserved and 7% reservation maintained, the decision stated. The government suspended quota-based recruit-

ment and admissions after a division bench of the high court revoked OBC designation for 77 Muslim communities granted by the state since 2010. Supreme Court challenge by TMC government. West Bengal offered 17% OBC reservation in public sector jobs and state-run schools before the May ruling. It was divided into two brackets:

After the First Round, Minority Colleges Can Refuse to Accept Any Remaining Quota Seats

Delhi : An important development for the Maharashtra FYJC Admissions 2025 is that minority junior colleges can now willingly relinquish their empty reserved seats right after the first round of admissions. Until the third admission round was finished, these seats could only be forfeited. Junior colleges in several regions, including Mumbai, Pune, and Nagpur, now have more leeway to handle seat distribution efficiently thanks to this new regulation. Extra leeway is provided by the announced alterations. Registration for the Maharashtra FYJC Admissions 2025 can now be done online till 2 PM on June 5, 2025, at 11thadmission.org.in, rather than on June 3, 2025, as was origi-



nally scheduled. This extension is to allow for the smooth implementation of these new standards. This add-on lets parents and students modify their in-house quota choices and lets junior colleges update information about linked schools, junior colleges in various divisions, enabling them to manage seat distribution more efficiently, including Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, and others.

Over 54K passed IIT entrance examinations, up 12.7% from last year

Delhi : 54,378 candidates passed the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced-2025, up 12.7% from 48,248 last year. IIT Kanpur, the JEE-Advanced conducting institute this year, announced 54,378 qualifying applicants, 44,974 of whom are male and 9,404 female. IIT entrance test pass rates increased 11.6% (from 40,284 in 2024) and 18% (from 7,964 in 2024) for men and women. Delhi's Rajit Gupta placed first in JEE advanced.

Universities like IITs and DU are combating unethical AI use

Delhi : An internal survey at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-Delhi) found widespread use of AI tools among students and faculty, prompting an internal committee to issue guidelines for fair and ethical AI use. Following an internal poll that indicated 81% of students and 50% of teachers regularly used AI tools, the group was formed last year. Generative AI tools like ChatGPT, Chatbot, Claude, GitHub Copilot, and Perplexity AI are popular. The group recommended citing AI-assisted photos, tables, and significant text sections in captions, footnotes, or the main text in its



recommendations, viewed by ThePrint. Instructors should also design plagiarism policies that cover ethical generative AI use. Rangan Banerjee, IIT-Delhi director, told that these were the "first tranche" of proposals and the standards were being modified. "The goal is to create a framework that evolves over time, not just rules. AI is constantly changing, therefore education must adapt. How much AI in academic

work is appropriate remained unclear, according to Banerjee. "You can't say '30% AI is okay. The teachers must be mindful while creating assignments and question papers," he said. They must ask: Can AI simply answer this? If yes, how do I change the question? Many professors are testing AI prompts and changing their judgments. That kind of innovation is crucial because AI will stay."

Research, worldwide alternatives, JEE rankers choose MIT over IIT



Delhi : Devesh Bhaiya, All India Rank 8 in the competitive JEE Advanced, has chosen MIT over India's top engineering schools. He'll have company. In exchange for a fully funded MIT scholarship, last year's Rank 1 and high-est admission exam scorer (352/360) Ved Lahoti is winding up his Powai chapter. Trend murmurs here. Chirag Falor chose MIT over IIT in 2020. Before that, Chitraang Murdia attended IIT Bombay for a year before joining MIT. Berkeley awarded him a PhD. "It appears like MIT trusts the rigour of JEE Advanced and the potential of our Olympiad stars," said former IIT Kanpur professor Vijay Singh, who retired from the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education. Beyond the JEE rank, Jalgaon's Devesh has won three gold medals, two from the International Junior Science Olympiads in 2021 and 2022 and one from the International Chemistry Olympiad in 2024. He won Bal Shakti Puraskar 2020.



GST Council may eliminate 12% tax slab, to shift items to 5% and 18%

Delhi: The officials and experts advising the Group of Ministers (GoM) over rate rationalisation have reached a “near consensus” that the current 12 per cent tax slab does not hold much relevance now and the items falling under this could be shifted to either 5 per cent or 18 per cent slab. This could be the most plausible way to undertake a revenue neutral tax rate rationalisation exercise. However, the GST Council has to take a final call,” the report quoted a person aware of the development.

The proposal to remove the 12 per cent tax slab has been supported by most Union and state government officials, experts and GoM representatives, it said. Under the 12 per cent tax slabs goods such as such as condensed milk, caviar and caviar substitutes prepared from fish eggs, drinking water packed in 20 litre bottles, walkie



talkies, tanks and other armoured fighting vehicles, contact lenses, cheese, dates and dried fruits, frozen vegetables, sausages and similar meat products, pasta, jams and jellies, fruit juice-based drinks, namkeens including bhujia, curry paste, mayonnaise, tooth powder, feeding bottles, carpets, umbrellas, caps, bicycles, specific household utensils, furniture made of cane or wood, pencils and crayons, handbags and shopping bags made of jute or cotton, footwear priced lower than ₹1,000, diagnostic kits, and marble and granite blocks are currently included.

Ecom Express loses 150 workers before Delhivery merger

Delhi : Logistics company Ecom Express had considerable labor changes before being acquired by Delhivery. About 150 mid-level and regional operations workers quit voluntarily. These departures correspond with the company's Delhivery merger. Ecom Express CEO Ajay Chitkara and other senior executives are anticipated to leave after regulatory approval. Delhivery will buy 99.4% of Ecom Express for Rs 1,407 crore. Delhivery informed stock exchanges that the acquisition will boost its market value.

Personal loans skyrocket, boosting boom areas' credit shares

Delhi: Over time, metropolitan areas' proportion of bank deposits has increased from 50.9% in 2020 to 53.2% in March 2025, while their proportion of bank loans has decreased from 63% to 58%. Many consider this as a step in the right direction towards the policy objective of more fair distribution of bank funds among different areas. Banks' increasing inclination toward personal loans rather than corporate lending is one element propelling this change. The percentage of



loans made to individuals increased from 41.5% in 2020 to 47.8% in March 2025, according to data from the Reserve Bank of India. The percentage of women borrowers increased from 22% to 23.8% in this group. The mobilization of deposits within a dis-

trict or state for the development of that region has been a long-standing desire of local legislators. While major cities are still the most important places to bank, they aren't attracting as many depositors as they once did. Population and eco-

IndiGo to start direct flights to London, Athens, 8 other overseas cities this fiscal

Delhi: IndiGo will start direct flights to London, Athens and eight other overseas cities in the current financial year as the country's largest airline continues with international expansion and expects to have more than 600 aircraft in its fleet by FY30. There is an

enormous opportunity in Indian aviation where rising demand is supported by infrastructure expansion. There is an unmatched growth leading to doubling of passengers from 2025 to 2030 and that the rising demand is supported by infrastructure expansion,

airline CEO Pieter Elbers said at a briefing in the national capital. While flights to Manchester (UK) and Amsterdam (the Netherlands) from Mumbai will commence in July, the airline will connect eight more overseas destinations . -- London (UK), Athens

Unilever targets 20% of the infrastructure software

Delhi: The German company Nemetschek Group plans to take 20% of the \$200 million Indian market for architect-engineering software over the next three years. Nemetschek Group first arrived in the country last year to supply software solutions to the construction industry. The Nemetschek Group recognized enormous potential for real estate and infrastructure projects in India, so it joined the Indian market in July of last year. Globally, the AEC/O (architecture, engineering, construction, and operation) business relies on the software provided by this com-



pany to facilitate digital transformation. According to a statement released by Nemetschek Group , the company plans to adopt a strategy centered on local innovation, university partnerships, and ecosystem collaborations to gain 15-20% of India's expanding AEC/O

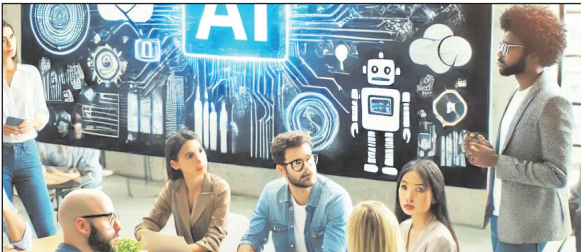
software industry in the next 2-3 years. With a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8%, the company predicts that India's AEC/O software industry would grow from \$192 million in 2024 to \$280 million in 2029, according to its most recent market research.

Hackers are using a modified Salesforce app to trick employees

Delhi: Google has found evidence that hackers are attempting to blackmail European and American businesses by tricking their staff into installing a hacked version of a Salesforce-related software. Once installed, the app would grant the hackers access to other corporate cloud services, allowing them to steal massive amounts of data. Hackers known as UNC6040 have "proven particularly effective at tricking employees" into installing a modified version of Salesforce's Data Loader, a proprietary application used to bulk import data.

Threatening to lag behind international competitors, Desi AI founders

Delhi: Prayank Swaroop and Shekhar Kirani, partners at the venture capital firm Accel, expressed worry that Indian AI businesses are falling behind international rivals, even if they possess equal technological capabilities. Concerns about a lack of global vision and an inadequate sense of urgency were highlighted by them. While there is a growing number of technically gifted, AI-focused founders in India, many of them are still quite risk-averse, which could be a problem in this dynamic

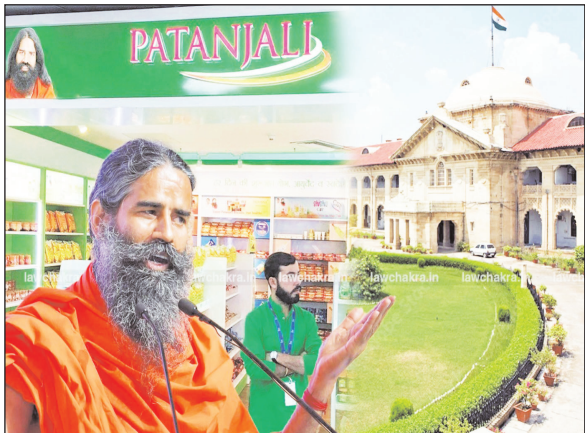


industry, they noted during a media roundtable . "The Valley is a battlefield. Kirani stated that engineers are tirelessly pursuing scale through construction, iteration, fundraising, and more. Some Indian businesses are still in the "peacetime" phase of their operations, where they focus on optimising capital efficiency, addressing

problems, and selling to five clients. You're not going to win this AI cycle by doing that. Valuations clearly show the difference. In contrast to more conventional SaaS companies, Kirani found that US-based AI-first startups with growing revenues can reach valuations of over \$500 million at \$15 million ARR.

Patanjali appeal against a Rs 273.5 crore GST fine was denied by the High Court

Delhi: Patanjali Ayurved Limited's appeal against a GST penalty of Rs 273.50 crore was denied by the Allahabad High Court. Justices Shekhar B. Saraf and Vipin Chandra Dixit, sitting as a division bench, disagreed with Patanjali that such punishments entail criminal responsibility and can be imposed only following a criminal prosecution. No criminal prosecutions were necessary for the bench to rule that tax officials can levy fines under Section 122 of the GST Act through civil processes. The court made it clear that the appropriate officials can



decide on GST penalty actions because they are civil in character. "After detailed analysis, it is clear that the proceeding under Section 122 of the CGST Act is to be adjudicated by the adjudicating officer and is not required to undergo prosecution," the court noted. Patanjali Ayurveda has three production facilities in the

Indian states of Uttarakhand (in Haridwar), Haryana (in Sonapat), and Maharashtra (in Ahmednagar) . Officials began looking into the business after receiving tips on questionable deals with companies that claimed to use the Input Tax Credit (ITC) extensively but did not have the necessary income tax documentation.

Promoters of Bajaj Finserv will sell 2% stake for Rs 5.8k crore

Delhi: Two Bajaj Finserv promoter firms would sell about 2% of the company through block sales to raise Rs 5,800 crore (\$679 million). According to the term sheet, Bajaj Holdings & Investment and Jamnalal Sons are selling 3.1 crore Bajaj Finserv shares for Rs 1,880. The Bajaj family



owns 60.6% of the NBFC. If the two firms sell the full block interest, the promoters' stake will drop to 58.7%, valued Rs 1.8 lakh crore. The base price of the shares is Rs 1,880, 3.3% below Bajaj Finserv's Thursday NSE closing of Rs 1,944. Promoters are offering 2.5 crore Bajaj

Finserv shares, or 1.6% of the firm, at the start of the deal. According to the term sheet, the promoter family will get Rs 4,750 crore (\$554 million) for this holding at the base price. They will offer a further 57 lakh shares (0.36%) of the NBFC giant if demand is high.

A satcom service provider, Starlink, is preparing to receive a license

Delhi : The Indian government has cleared Starlink's application for a Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) license, allowing the business to launch satellite services in the country. This comes weeks after the government issued a letter of intent (LOI) to Starlink. Following its agreement to new restrictions imposed by the Department of Telecom (DoT) and payment of the fees required by law, Starlink will finally



receive the license it has been waiting for for the last three to four years . According to people familiar with the matter, the business is in agreement with the new licensing requirements and other regulations that are necessary to launch services in the nation. Since this also

requires gaining permissions on security considerations from the minister of, the issuance of the license will clear one of the main hurdles for the corporation. The government thoroughly investigated Musk's satellite business and imposed stringent security measures.

Musk's Tesla "Not Interested" In Indian Manufacturing

Delhi: The comments come amid the government's push to boost local passenger car production, particularly electric automobiles. Tesla will just open showrooms. Indian manufacturing is not their goal, "the minister remarked. According to Heavy Industry Secretary Kamran Rizvi, "The real intent we'll know when we

open the application". "If the firm believes in investing. "People come and tell informally," the minister stated. The minister said Hyundai, Mercedes Benz, Skoda, and Kia are interested in building units in India under the new EV policy. Tesla was rumored to import Tesla cars into India and sell them through its shops.

Water bill waiver scheme to be launched by government

Delhi : The government is planning to launch a water bill waiver scheme shortly to address the increasing number of complaints about high water bills, according to PWD Minister Parvesh Sahib Singh, who made the announcement . Multiple complaints have been received by the Delhi Jal Board over erroneous pricing, prompting this notice. In the near future, we intend to implement a bill waiver program that will handle all domestic bills and cut them by almost 90%. A reorganization of the billing system is in the works. At a news conference, Mr. Singh explained that the necessary software is now in development and that some technical challenges are being resolved. Additionally, the Minister has promised that all of the city's unapproved colonies will be linked to the sewer system by the year 2027 and has unveiled a sewerage master plan. "The current problems of sewerage infrastructure and future needs of the city" will be addressed by the "DJB is planning a sewerage master plan," according to the



The role of farm credit societies is being advocated

Delhi : Amit Shah, minister of home and cooperation in the Union, has argued that Primary Agricultural Credit Societies' (PACS) continued financial viability and social significance depend on their increased participation in the government's foodgrain storage program. Shah ordered the food and public distribution ministry and the Food Corporation of India to

do national-level warehouse mapping in order to match infrastructure with regional demands during a review meeting of the world's largest cooperative foodgrain storage scheme. In his request, he pushed states to include more PACS in the program and asked FCI, NCCF, NAFED, and state warehousing organizations to connect PACS. with additional warehouse

erage infrastructure and future needs of the city" will be addressed by the "DJB is planning a sewerage master plan," according to the

minister. Additionally, he mentioned that a world-wide tender will be released for this matter shortly.

New taxi fleet should exclusively include CNG and EVs

Delhi : The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has declared that beginning January 1, 2026, all new fleets of taxi aggregators, delivery services, and e-commerce operators operating in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) will be required to use only compressed natural gas (CNG) and electric vehicles. In an effort to lower regional emissions, the action is a component of a larger crackdown on polluting automobiles. All N1 two-wheelers, light commercial vehicles (LCVs), and light goods vehicles (LGVs) (weighing up to 3.5 tons) are now in violation of the new



guideline, which forbids the addition of new petrol and diesel vehicles to service fleets. The current fleet of cars, nevertheless, will be permitted to keep running. One of the main causes of air pollution in cities in the NCR is emissions from vehicles, according to instruction number 94, which was issued on June 4 by the CAQM. Cities like

Gurugram, Faridabad, Sonipat, Noida, Greater Noida, and Ghaziabad—which see a lot of vehicles and commuters—are the focus of this approach. Also requested were regional policies for mobility and logistics platforms from the states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Haryana. Buses entering Delhi with other permissions.

Delhi's 25-point strategy to reduce air pollution

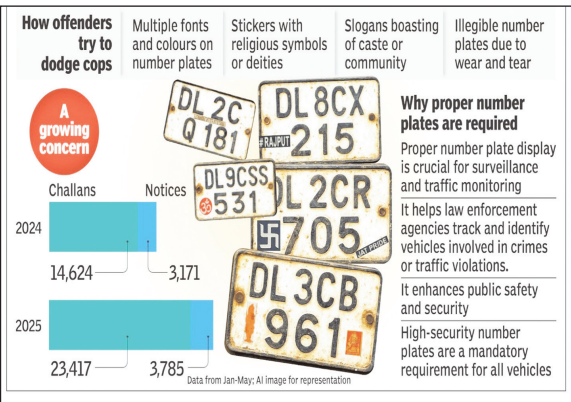
Delhi : The government of Delhi has presented a 25-point plan to reduce air pollution by the year 2025. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta made an announcement regarding the state government's plans to tackle pollution in the city when it was released. To this end, the government of Delhi will sign memorandums of

understanding (MoUs) with esteemed scientific organizations and technological institutions including the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). Thousand sprinklers, 140 anti-smog cannons, and the possibility of cloud seeding to induce precipitation are all part of the proposal. The chief minister of Delhi has announced

plans to put cameras at the city's borders to detect aging vehicles, add 5,000 electric buses to the public transportation system, and conduct audits of vehicle pollution certification centers every six months. Waste management, green space enhancement, transportation measures.



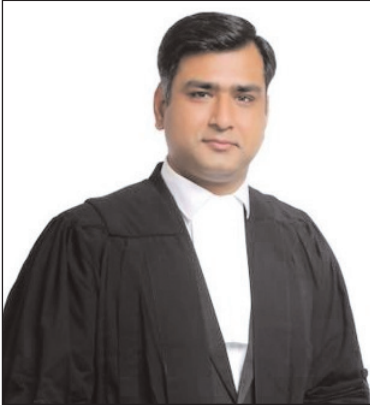
27K drivers fined for using non-standard vehicle plates



Delhi : In response to a directive from the Commissioner of Police in Delhi to crack down on vehicles having number plates that are either decorative or displayed incorrectly, the traffic police have begun a massive crackdown. The number of drivers booked for offenses has surpassed 27,000 as of May 2025. Police are cracking down on licence plates that don't follow the rules, such as those with unique typefaces, colors, religious symbols, or community or caste statements. In 2024, a total of 17,795 infractions were documented, with 3,171 notifications and 14,624 challans. May 2025 alone saw 27,202 instances, a significant increase from the previous year's total of 23,417 challans and 3,785 notifications. Criminals frequently use this loophole to avoid being caught and prosecuted, according to the police. They can make it more difficult for the authorities to follow their whereabouts by using non-standard number plates to conceal their vehicles.

The Delhi Bar Association exempts advocates from summer black jackets

Delhi : A letter from the Delhi Bar Association exempts attorneys from wearing black coats in district courts during summer. Members can appear in Delhi High Court-subordinate courts without black jackets. However, they must follow the other obligatory dress code regulations "The association's May 24 notification, signed by Members can appear in Delhi High Court-subordinate courts without black jackets. They must follow the other obligatory dress code regulations "Vikas Goyal, the association's secretary, signed the May 24 message. Advocate Sanjay Sharma said the



"They must follow the other obligatory dress code regulations "Vikas Goyal, the association's secretary, signed the May 24 message"

group provided an advisory to exempt black jackets in summer, but the dress code's other rules—white shirt, black trousers, and band—must be followed. "This dress code relaxation aims to protect advocates

from heat strokes and discomfort in non-air-conditioned courtrooms and excessive temperatures. This decision ensures advocates of all ages work efficiently "Said Mohit N Bharardwaj Senior Advocate.

Delhi Medical Council informs HC on public awareness campaign

Delhi: In response to rising fears of quack medicine and unlicensed practitioners in the nation's capital, the Delhi Medical Council (DMC) has notified the Delhi high court of various methods by which residents can confirm the legitimacy of their physicians. These include scanning QR codes on displayed certificates and making use of the online verification tools that the DMC provides on its website. In December 2023, counsel Sachin Jain petitioned the court, bringing up the issue .

Delhi Police rolls out e-Zero FIR protocol for cyber frauds



Delhi: Ten days after Union home minister Amit Shah announced the launch of an e-Zero FIR initiative to expedite action against cybercrime, Delhi Police commissioner Sanjay Arora issued a formal order detailing the protocol to be followed by field officers. The initiative, launched as a pilot in Delhi on May 17, aims to fast-track investigations, improve fund recovery, and crack down on cyber fraud. Shah had said in a May 19 post on X that financial cyber complaints lodged on the National

Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) or via helpline 1930 would automatically be converted into FIRs — initially for frauds above 10 lakh.

The system will later be expanded nationwide. In an order dated May

29, Arora instructed that investigations must begin without waiting for the complainant's signature. Officers are required to issue notices asking the complainant to sign the FIR at the local cyber police station within 72 hours.

Delhi police app to accept complaints beyond theft and burglary

Delhi : Delhi Police will release a smartphone app that allows residents to report crimes from home with a few clicks to modernize and expedite the procedure. Development is underway on the app. Police said its user-friendly interface will allow individuals to download the app, complete a one-time registration, and register complaints from serious crimes to small street offenses without visiting a police station. They promised timely follow-up and action with the feedback mechanism and status alert system. Burglary, theft, and pickpocketing complaints are filed online. They prefer the cops for other things. Aslam Khan, joint commissioner of police (vigilance), said



the app simplified complaint registration and investigation to make it more efficient and transparent. Citizens will no longer have to attend police stations or follow up on complaints. "The innovative app will streamline justice delivery," he continued. Delhi Police's plan is a major step toward using technology to improve public services and community involvement, insiders said. Many manual com-

A refurbishment around 1.84 crore is planned for Talkatora indoor stadium

Delhi : Officials announced that a ₹1.84 crore project will see the Talkatora Indoor Stadium, the oldest indoor athletic arena in the capital, undergo a complete renovation by the Municipal Council (NDMC). The project will include upgrading the audio-visual systems and replacing the seating. Built in 1974 and recently renovated in preparation for the 2010 Commonwealth Games.

Delhi : On Environment Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 200 electric buses in Delhi. The Delhi government launched the e-buses to promote sustainable growth and clean urban mobility. The PM said the program will make Delhi greener. He added that this will increase Delhi residents' "Ease of Living." The PM wrote on X, "Building a clean and green Delhi! Flagged electric buses under a Delhi government program to promote sustainable development



and clean urban mobility. Additionally, Delhi residents' 'Ease of Living' would improve." For World Environment Day, CM Rekha Gupta stated that 280 electric buses will be added to

the city's fleet by 2027 under a new electric vehicle policy. Gupta said Delhi will add 280 electric buses by 2027. Delhi will receive 280 electric buses. By 2027, all Delhi government

PM Modi launches 200 e-buses in Delhi to boost green mobility

AI Centre for Healthcare Innovation to be Launched by IIT Delhi and AIIMS

Delhi : The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi and the All India Institute of Medical Science, Delhi have joined forces to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare. The new center, which has received a grant of 330 crore, will use artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies to tackle some of the most serious public health issues in India. Cancer, TB, eye disorders, and other complicated health issues can be better detected and treated with the use of AI-based tools and solutions that the CoE will develop and implement to bolster important national health programs.

buses will be electric. A new EV policy is also coming, she said. CM Gupta called the new

buses a huge asset for Delhi, praising their comfort and security.

2.5 crore 'bogus' IDs solve IRCTC ticket disappearances

Delhi: If you're wondering why some train tickets disappear within minutes of the booking window opening even 60 days before the trip, IRCTC has found the culprits. Only in the past five months did it find 2.9 lakh dubious PNRs in general and Tatkal ticket sales made within five minutes of booking.



Top railway officials claimed

they banned 2.5 crore suspected ticket-booking user IDs and revalidated 20 lakh in a special effort between Jan and May. The national cyber crime portal has received 134 complaints and disabled over 6,800 disposal email domains. A spokesperson claimed this push will intensify. Disposable

email addressing entails utilizing a distinct email address for each contact or entity or limiting its use. Fraudsters use these methods to book tickets and charge naïve travelers extra. Sources indicated only specific routes and trains have an issue with all tickets selling quickly.



Mission Impossible 8's Tom Cruise sets the Guinness World Record

Delhi : Tom Cruise leaves as Ethan Hunt in Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning, the eighth and final installment. The franchise's star added another honor after leaving a fan favorite. He established a Guinness World Record for "most burning parachute jumps by an individual." He did all his feats alone. The three-time academy award winner jumped out of a helicopter 16 times while connected to a fuel-soaked, lit-ablaze parachute before ripping away the burnt first chute and deploying a backup. None other actor or stuntman has attempted so many death-defying drops in film. Tom Cruise thrills viewers with his daring antics. He proves his dedication by hanging from a plane or riding motorcycles over cliffs. As Cruise's signature film, Mission Impossible is worth the wait. Ethan Hunt's sequel is eagerly awaited by superfans every year. Cruise



Pawan Kalyan's 'Hari Hara Veera Mallu' delayed again

Delhi : The highly anticipated Pawan Kalyan period action drama 'Hari Hara Veera Mallu' has been postponed again. On June 6, the makers stated that the film will not be released in theaters on June 12. Since its announcement, the epic opus has been delayed nearly eleven times. In an official statement, the team thanked fans and supporters for their patience over the years. "Despite relentless efforts to meet the previously announced release date, we must inform you that the film will not be hitting theatres as scheduled," said the release. Keeping the film's scale and cinematic grandeur is their primary aim, and "Powerstar Pawan Kalyan Garu's legacy deserves nothing short of brilliance." Though the current delay was not explained, the team assured fans that the final result will be worth the wait.



makes super-spies realistic and timeless. Tom is an action hero, not just a character. remarked Guinness World Records Editor-

in-Chief Craig Glenday. Much of his success is due to his concentration on honesty and stretching the limits. of a leading man.

As Deepika joins Allu Arjun in Atlee's next in a prominent role

Delhi : Deepika Padukone's breakup with 'Spirit' actor Sandeep Reddy Vanga has made headlines in recent days. According to rumors, the actress sought an eight-hour shift after the birth of her daughter Dua, which may have prevented her from appearing in the film. Some publications cited Deepika's fee request as well. Deepika stunned fans by announcing her next after all the talk about 'Spirit'. She'll be in Atlee's forthcoming Allu Arjun film. Deepika also teased a major role in the announcement video. Netizens' reac-



tions to this announcement. Samantha After Deepika released this announcement video, Ruth Prabhu, Mrunal Thakur, Sonakshi Sinha, and others responded. In Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan', Deepika had a

long cameo with Atlee. Fans are eager to watch her with 'Pushpa' star Allu Arjun. I spent years perfecting my art, and filmmaking is everything to me. Not understood. Don't expect it.

The Akshay Kumar comedy Housefull 5's HD print leaked amid negative reviews!

Delhi : Akshay Kumar returns with Housefull 5, a comedy with murder mysteries, which opens this weekend in India. Since Thug Life was disappointing, everyone's attention is now on Housefull 5, which may disappoint weekend moviegoers. Early Housefull 5 reviews are

unimpressive. Some admirers support Housefull 5's innovative experiment with two climaxes, while most critics slam its intolerable comedy. Housefull 5's creators may have failed at comic entertainment, which is challenging. Housefull 5 could have a strong opening day, and

it remains to be seen if Akshay Kumar gets the success he's been waiting for. The producers were relieved by the bookings until they heard bad news. Recently, nationwide piracy has grown impossible to control. Especially for major celebrity films.

Shubhankar aka Hectik wins 'Hip Hop India 2'

Delhi : 'Hip Hop India 2' has crowned its second season winner. The winner was Shubhankar, aka Hectik. The season finale featured Sara Ali Khan and Aditya Roy Kapur as judges alongside Remo D'Souza and Malaika Arora. Their presence was to promote their new film, 'Metro...In Dino'. Hitesh, Rule Breakerz, Aman-Kunal, and Lil Pool were the finalists, each with their individual style. It was exciting as Shubhankar took the stage and raised the winner's belt. He aims to move from reality shows to cinema, theater, and online series to promote the genre and show his versatility. After winning, Shubhankar



remarked, "My journey at Hip Hop India S2 has been incredible and something I'll never forget. I shall always cherish Remo sir and Malaika ma'am's guidance. Judge Malaika Arora said, "From the beginning, Shubhankar had a fire you couldn't ignore. His flair,

presence, and KRUMP dedication made every performance memorable. He performed, told stories, and made you feel magical. Watching him grow as an artist has been inspiring, and I think this is just the beginning. Aditya Roy Kapur likes how

Fashion advice from Rubina Dilaik: Life is too short for boring outfits

Rachel Gupta quits Miss Grand International 2024.

Delhi: Miss Grand International 2024 Rachel Gupta resigns. Rachel posted on Instagram that being crowned was one of her greatest ambitions and that she was proud to represent India. "However, the months following my crowning have been marked by broken promises, mistreatment, and a toxic environment I can no longer endure in silence," stated. Rachel stated her resignation was not easy and vowed to broadcast a full video in the coming days outlining the incidents. She closed her speech with a touching request for support.

Delhi : Life is too short to wear monotonous clothes, according to TV actress Rubina Dilaik. The actress released photos from the "Battleground" set on Instagram. In the show, Mumbai Strikers mentor Rubina wears a spectacular floor-sweeping black gown with a voluminous cape. The bodice included off-shoulder puffy sleeves and a large embroidered bow with dazzling sequins. Open hair,



light nude appearance, and pink lips completed the actress's image. She captioned: "Life is too short for boring clothes!" Wake up, Dress, and Show. "Battleground" featured 16 candidates in a 28-day challenge

for India's fitness superstar title. Teams confront fitness challenges and seek advice from experts. Male and female winners emerge from strength and endurance tests. Chotti Bahu was Rubina's acting debut. She became famous for playing Radhika Shastri alongside Avinash Sachdev and in the sequel. She played Simran "Smiley" Gill in Saas Bina Sasural (2012).

Lisa Mishra Releases Pride Month Queer Love Ballad 'Teri Hoon'

Delhi : In honour of Pride Month, singer-songwriter and actress Lisa Mishra released a very personal new tune, Teri Hoon, a moving love ballad celebrating LGBTQ passion. After months of acting in The Royals with Ishaan Khatter and Bhumi Pednekar, Lisa co-wrote and performed the song, her musical return. Lisa sees Teri Hoon as a passionate expression of intimacy, individuality, and emotional depth, not just a song. "This song is very close to my heart," Lisa said. "After immersing myself in The Royals, which helped me grow as an actor, it felt like



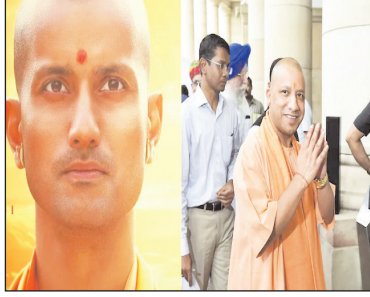
Over "Friction On Sets" After Spirit, Deepika Padukone Left Prabhas's Kalki 2

Delhi : Deepika Padukone, who recently had her first child, is apparently struggling professionally. New reports say the actress may be eliminated from Kalki 2, starring the perfect time to return to music, my first love." She remarked, "Teri Hoon is an ode to powerful, deep, and everlasting love. I

Prabhas, after being "dropped" from Spirit. need for "shorter work hours" after the baby is generating "friction on sets".The Kalki 2 producers are considering eliminating. felt music lacked true, passionate songs with actual instrumentation. This song attempts to recreate that timeless sound."

The Untold Story of a Yogi opens August 1

Delhi : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's birthday, and Samrat Cinematics made a big announcement. The makers announced the release date for Ajey: The Untold Story of a Yogi.The movie, which opens internationally on August 1, 2025, is based on a book about



a spiritual and political leader. On Yogi Adityanath's 53rd birthday, a dramatic new poster revealed Joshi as the star. The poster shows the protagonist in saffron robes, symbolizing spiritual strength, resolve, and leadership. He exudes duty and commitment with his hard stare and commanding gesture.

Shantanu Gupta's The Monk Who Became influenced the film. The film Chief Minister and Ajey follows a man who gave up worldly pleasures to become one of India's most powerful politicians.Anantvijay Joshi leads the cast, which includes Paresh Rawal, Dineshlal Yadav Nirahua, Ajay Mengi.

Thug Life Review: Mani Ratnam-Kamal Haasan Create Another Classic!

Delhi : Thug Life, Mani Ratnam and Kamal Haasan's second film after Nayakan, tells a tale in every picture. I'm not saying anything to divide or brag. While we marvel at cinematographer Ravi Chandran's work on every frame (Chandran is this film's other hero after Kamal Haasan), we also see how the individual artwork comes together to create a gangster epic on par with Kamal-Mani's Nayakan.Thug Life is great! The writing is brilliant (mostly), and



Mani Ratnam's use of humour in drama is brilliance. Reading reviewers' comments on Mani Ratnam's old territory reminds me of my pal Javed Akhtar's cinema lyrics com-

ments. Bhai, gaane th sab ek jaise hote, pyar, judaai, ehsaas, milan... It's word use. The poetry is there." Mani Ratnam's drama of family bonds and irredeemable betrayals has

the familiar pulse of the trodden. Ratnam finds poetry in violence. The shootouts, especially the climactic hand-to-hand battle, are classic Coppola with his trademark choreography, reminiscent of Bruce Lee ." Kamal Haasan's character is betrayed by his friends with a particular piquancy, a cruel poetic justice. Sakthivel has been cheating on his wife (Abhirami) with a bar dancer (Trisha, gorgeous and exquisite) without his knowledge.

Anarock, real estate consultants, report a 49% increase

Delhi: The interest is broad, drawing first and second-generation buyers seeking a more luxurious lifestyle. "Latent demand has increased since the pandemic, spurring new project launches. He noted that around 3,000 pre-launch units sold out in days. **Anarock, real estate consultants,** report a 49% increase in average home prices in the NCR over the past five years. This sharp increase is due to rising building costs and robust sales, according to the research. "The five-yearly jump in average residential prices between H1 2019 and H1 2024 from Rs 4,565 per sq ft to Rs 6,800 per sq ft is a clear



indicator of the market's strength," stated Anuj Puri, Anarock Group CEO. The survey also indicated that NCR residential property demand remained high despite the pandemic. After attracting consumers with offers and

incentives, developers raised average prices as demand grew. Sales have increased, reducing unsold inventories by 52% from 182,000 units in H1 2019 to 86,900 units in H1 2024. The inventory overhang dropped

from 44 months in H1 2019 to 16 months in H1 2024. "Developers have launched around 172,000 units in NCR between H1 2019 and H1 2024, and 272,000 units were sold during this period," the study said. "The market's

growth is supported by lower unsold inventory and higher absorption. This rise shows the region's real estate potential and post-pandemic economic rebound and GDP growth." "Despite the higher costs, sales continue to surge, driven by a combination of improved infrastructure, robust economic growth, and a desire for modern living spaces". The survey noted that the NCR housing market revived before the pandemic after price stagnation from late 2016 to 2019. Covid-19 increased sales of larger homes. In prime real estate, the study shows strong demand and growth.

As Karnataka exploits SC/ST cash for "guarantees," BJP, Congress object



Delhi: The Karnataka government's intention to use SCPTSP funding for the five guarantee projects announced before the 2023 assembly elections is expected to cause a stir. Congress ally Dalit Sangharsh Samiti (DSS) will protest while BJP appeals to the judiciary. Senior government sources said "diversion" of SCPTSP funds is not new and has been done by past governments, but BJP's court case and DSS' "uprising" threat could hurt Congress in upcoming zilla and taluk panchayat elections. Last

week, CM Siddaramaiah said his government has allocated Rs 39,121 crore for SCPTSP, Rs 3,900 crore more than in the previous year due to a rise in budget size and a decision to allocate 24.1% of the budget to SC and ST communities. However, using Rs 14,283 crore of the budget for the five guarantee schemes has caused political unrest. BJP calls it "misappropriation." "BJP is contemplating approaching the court since the decision to re-route SCPTSP funds meant exclusively for the welfare of these

underprivileged communities is being misappropriated," said the MLC. "Redirecting funds by claiming they're being used on SC and ST communities implies that they're getting money while other communities get extra benefits. Giving with one hand and taking with the other." DSS is upset. DSS factions that supported Congress in the assembly and Lok Sabha polls withdrew their support on Saturday, saying Congress is not working "wholeheartedly" for SC & ST populations.

Electronic papers acceptable as court evidence

Delhi: Text, voice, and video messages contain what? Post July 1, "digital documents" are admissible as primary evidence, not simply emojis, PPTs, PDFs, group conversations, forwards, or tete-a-tete. The last one is a rewrite of the 1872 Indian Evidence Act and an acknowledgment of digital information's importance today. The 2023 Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam defines and interprets evidence. It states that "an electronic or digital record" can be "admissible" in a case under certain conditions, taking into account technical

improvements and the widespread use of digital communication. Senior counsel Amit Manchanda said protections must be addressed first to prevent misuse given the uncharted field of artificial intelligence and new software to manipulate words, photos, and digital content on a recipient's device. Advocate Mohit Bhardwaj called Section 57 BSA's "singularly significant" inclusion because it makes digital data, including messages, primary evidence "without much ado," until disputed. For disputed digital

records, the new rule mandates a certificate proving authenticity from a specific computer or device. Thus, under Section 61 of BNS, the court cannot deny the acceptance of an electronic or digital document given specified conditions under Section 63. Any print or copy of an electronic record is admissible "without further proof" or production of the original content if the device (say, a phone) was "used regularly" by the person with "lawful control" of its usage. Texts could be evidence under the old Indian Evidence Act.

Delhi: Andhra Pradesh's request for Centre financial assistance

Delhi: Andhra Pradesh's request for Centre financial assistance, including debt restructuring, is expected to cover a projected Rs 11,000 crore deficit this year and leave a meager surplus for development next year. According to sources familiar with the discussions with the Centre, the Chandrababu Naidu government has prepared a blueprint to revisit almost two dozen direct benefit transfer schemes started by the Jagannathan Reddy administration and start a series of steps to boost revenue, start capital works, and help the needy. Naidu met with finance, defence, and health ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Rajnath Singh, and JP Nadda. "The treasury needs income growth and capital funding.

The previous government discontinued vital payments, causing a huge loan burden. We'll need five to six months to fix it and resume the cycle "A source said Andhra will pursue central initiatives and TDP focus areas. Through a series of initiatives, the Naidu administration hopes to raise Rs 37,000 crore by the fifth year of its term for state development. The TDP plans to develop industrial hubs in Visakhapatnam, near Odisha, and Karnataka, with the proposed port in Dugarajapatnam as a key aspect. Central aid for the port was promised a decade ago when Andhra and Telangana split, but nothing has happened. As promised under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, CM Chandrababu Naidu meets PM Modi and Union ministers for financial relief. cific concerns in Delhi. Read about Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu's Delhi meetings to secure state project funds. Discover the CM's priority infrastructure projects and funding requests. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh CMs Revanth Reddy and N Chandrababu Naidu brief PM Modi on their requests.

BJP gathering in Bengaluru causes political dispute over liquor

Delhi: A BJP public rally to celebrate former minister K Sudhakar's election as Chikballapur MP was criticized as footage showed booze being given. Nelamangala hosted the event. Sudhakar, Opposition Leader R Ashoka, and JD(S) leaders attended. Sideline videos showed cops giving out booze packages and bottles to people in a long line. Deputy Chief Minister and Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar criticized BJP. In Nelamangala, liquor was distributed publicly. BJP National President JP Nadda must explain for registering a case. How could the MP distribute alcohol?" Said Shivakumar. "More than local leaders, it is important for the BJP's national leaders to tell citizens how their party is upholding culture by distributing liquor at public meetings," he said.



Next round of India-Asean trade agreement review talks in November

NEW DELHI: The next round of talks for the ongoing review meeting of the India-Asean free trade agreement in goods will be held in November, an official statement said on Saturday. The third round of the negotiations was concluded on August 1 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Eight sub-committees have been constituted under the India-Asean Free Trade Agreement Joint Committee for undertaking negotiations on different areas related to the review of the pact. "The next meeting of the AITIGA (Asean-India Trade in Goods Agreement) Joint Committee will be held in India from 19-22 November 2024," the Commerce Ministry said. In September 2022, both sides tasked the AITIGA Joint Committee to undertake the review to make the agreement more trade-facilitative and mutually beneficial. During the third round of negotiations in Jakarta, Indonesia, all eight Sub-Sub-Committees dealing with national treatment and market access, rules of origin, standards, technical regulations, customs procedures and trade facilitation held substantive discussions. "The review of AITIGA, signed in 2009, will help create further opportunities for businesses on both sides to enhance the level of India-Asean trade," the ministry said. Asean is an important trade partner of India with about 11 per cent share in India's global trade. India's exports to the 10-nation bloc Asean were USD 41.2 billion in 2023-24, while imports aggregated at USD 80 billion in the last fiscal. Both sides are aiming to conclude the review in 2025. The review of the AITIGA was a long-standing demand of Indian businesses. India is asking for a review of the agreement to eliminate barriers and misuse of the trade pact.

No farm relief": Opposition leader criticizes Maharashtra's Rs 11 crore

Delhi: With the government reeling under an enormous debt of Rs 7.9 lakh crore and the state's struggling farmers taking their own lives, Mahayuti government's Rs 11 crore gift for India's T-20 champion squad has drawn criticism from Congress's Vijay Wadettiwar, the head of Maharashtra's opposition. "In just

four months, at least 1,068 farmers committed suicide, but they get no assistance." The Maharashtra government gave wealthy cricket players an unjustified gift in order to further its own agenda, according to Wadettiwar. "We should support players but within our means and must give due weightage considering

the broader picture," Wadettiwar said. The opposition MVA coalition's unity and preparedness for this year's assembly elections in October and November was reiterated by the Bramhapuri MLA. "Shiv Sena (UBT), the National Congress Party (led by Sharad Pawar), and the other three opposition.

Rising Drunk Driving, \$12k Fine in 6 Months

Delhi: Delhi Traffic Police reported that more than 12,000 people were penalized for DUI from January 1 to June 30, up 27% from last year. Rajouri Garden had the most drunk driving violations in the past six months, 770. Samaypur Badli had 514 instances, Rohini 441. Traffic police released data on Saturday showing that police penalized 12,468 intoxicated drivers through June 30 compared to 9,837 last year. Punjabi Bagh (387), Mehrauli (367),

Mayur Vihar (364), Narela (364), Kalkaji (344), Karol Bagh (342) and Sadar Bazar (342) also had high drunk driving rates in the first half of the year. The traffic police also examined the top 10 traffic circles with the most drunk driving challans. This research identifies areas with the highest traffic offenses, enabling focused enforcement to improve road safety and traffic law compliance, an officer stated. "Drunk driving endangers the driver, passengers, pedestrians.

Muslim groups want India to stop exporting beef

Delhi: Minority organization Ittehad-e-Millat Council (IMC) held a seminar to condemn cow vigilante attacks and seek a ban on beef export from India and illicit slaughter to end cattle suffering. They also sought to clarify that "beef"—associated with cows—was being misused to characterize buffalo meat export, thus the government should clarify. At a full Mavalankar Hall in Constitution Club, Muslim and dalit representatives approved the memorandum to Union home minister Rajnath Singh. There were also threats that demonstra-



tors would go to the streets and Ramlila Grounds if the administration did not meet these demands. "We are concerned about Muslim minority atrocities, suppression, and discrimination under

the guise of cow protection, beef eating, terrorism, national security, etc. The IMC said vigilante cow defender groups had grown since a Dadri man was beaten to death for consuming meat last September.

"After a long silence, our Prime Minister Narendra Modi, finally joined the fray, condemning attacks by Hindu cow protection squads and vowing to investigate those engaged in violence," the report added. "There have been several instances of religious violence against Muslims in the recent past, frequently in the form of violent attacks on Muslims by Hindu mobs that form a pattern of sporadic sectarian violence between Hindu and Muslim communities," it said. IMC demands "India should abolish cow.