



Inspiration: Late. Dr. L.C. Wallia



Bengaluru stampede: Who gave permission for victory celebrations, ask victims' families

Vatika Times BENGALURU:

Struggling to come to terms with the tragedy that has struck them, the families of the victims of the stampede outside M Chinnaswamy Stadium have one question: "Who gave permission for the entire victory celebrations that claimed our loved ones?" Ashwini UL, mother of one of the stampede victims, asked: "My first question to the govt is who wanted this function? What was the need for arranging the felicitation function in front of Vidhana Soudha or announcing the roadshow and organising a victory celebration function in the stadium on June 4 when the entire city celebrated the victory overnight till the early hours? Why didn't the authorities make



arrangements before inviting fans?" Not just Ashwini, the families of the 10 others who died in the stampede are searching for similar answers. Though chief minister Siddaramaiah has blamed police and maintained that nothing untoward happened during the felicitation attended by him in front of Vidhana Soudha, the families aren't convinced. "How can he say this? Isn't the stadium near Vidhana Soudha and didn't he know that fans will throng the stadium, barely 800 metres

from Vidhana Soudha? How is it that no VIP or their children were caught in the stampede?" asked the family members that TOI spoke with. Ashwini said: "I was witness to the celebration throughout the night as I rode with my daughter up to MG Road. Despite lakhs of people hitting the streets on that night, there was no casualty on the roads. But it was only the next day, as my daughter was getting ready to leave for school, she saw the news about RCB's roadshow with play-

ers being carried in an open bus. I took her to the event as I didn't want to disappoint her. As we waited on the footpath at gate no. 12 along with many others, there was an announcement directing people to gate no. 15 for free entry. Everybody rushed at once, resulting in the stampede."The resident of Kattigenahalli, near Yelahanka, also criticised the govt's move to stop the buck with the suspension of police officers. "If police had warned against organising celebrations hurried.

Whole world now knows the truth': Shashi Tharoor-led delegation wraps up US visit

Vatika Times

NEW DELHI: The multi-party parliamentary delegation led by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on late Sunday concluded its high-level visit to the United States, wrapping up the final leg of a diplomatic mission aimed at building international consensus on India's counter-terrorism stance following the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, which left 26 people dead. Taking to X as he wrapped up the US visit, Tharoor wrote: "If you are born a hundred times, you will do it a hundred times. I will love my country with all my heart... A Watan. The whole world now knows the truth. We are lovers of non-violence, but only until someone tests that... Jai Hind!" On the final day of the tour, the delegation paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Washington. Tharoor later posted on X: "It



is striking how many world capitals are adorned with statues or busts of the Mahatma, the 20th century's greatest apostle of peace, nonviolence, and human freedom." The group, which arrived in Washington on June 3 after stops in Guyana, Panama, Colombia, and Brazil, met with several key American leaders including US Vice President JD Vance, Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau, senior members of Congress, policy experts, and members of the Indian-American community.

Describing the meeting with Vance as "an excellent meeting," Tharoor said the Vice President was "warm and welcoming and receptive," and "expressed complete understanding, first of all, outrage of what happened in Pahalgam and support and respect for India's restrained response in Operation Sindoor." A US State Department spokesperson said Landau "reaffirmed the United States' strong support of India in the fight against terrorism and the strategic partnership between the two countries."

Addressing the Centre on Foreign Relations, Tharoor had said India's actions were targeted at terror infrastructure, not civilians. "We're not interested in attacking Pakistani civilians, ordinary people. This is about India versus terrorism... If you're not prepared to shut down the safe havens or arrest terrorist leaders, then I'm afraid this is the only way we can deal with it," he said. Referring to Pakistan's military, he added, "In India, the state has an army. In Pakistan, the army has a state," accusing Islamabad of manipulating public opinion through conflict. Tharoor dismissed claims of Pakistani success during the brief hostilities that followed, saying, "Two videos came out on social media, both turned out to be from other conflicts in other years, nothing to do with this one."

No need of slum-dwellers' nod for Dharavi project, says CEO

Vatika Times

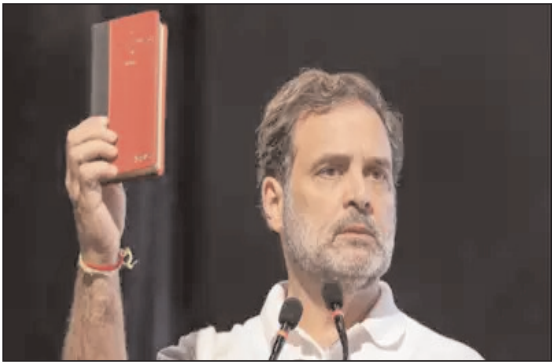
MUMBAI: Responding to queries on the resistance to the Dharavi redevelopment project from a section of slum-dwellers, its CEO, S V R Srinivas, told TOI that more than 50% of the residents have already consented to the project. But more significantly, he revealed that the project did not require public consent in the first place because the developer had been appointed by the state govt. "Under the SRA rules, the building society appoints the developer. For that, 50% consent is required. But here, the govt has appointed the developer. In this case, there is no need for consent," said Srinivas in an exclusive interview to. The project is being implemented by Nav Bharat Mega Developers Pvt Ltd, an SPV in which the Adani Group holds 80% stake and the govt 20%. The land on which Dharavi stands is owned by the govt and the BMC. Srinivas said around 1 lakh slum-dwellers had responded to the house-to-house survey and just around 20,000 remained to be surveyed. So even if the 50% consent parameter was applied, it had already been crossed, he said. Participation in the door-to-door survey on eligibility for rehabilitation translated into consent, he clarified. "They have given their documents voluntarily. There is a line in the survey which says they are willing to participate in the redevelopment. So, when they sign, it is consent," said Srinivas. Although consent is not required for the project, the govt had made multiple efforts to get residents to respond to the survey and agree to the project, he emphasised. "We don't want to ride roughshod on anybody. We have already given four opportunities. We put it in the newspaper and then we also put it on their doors," he said. Srinivas said that the survey was still ongoing but roughly 5 lakh eligible tenements would need to be given free space within Dharavi and 5 lakh ineligible tenements would have to move out to subsidised.

Formally write to us on Maharashtra 'rigging'-EC

Vatika Times

NEW DELHI:

Election Commission officials on Sunday challenged Congress' Rahul Gandhi to follow-up on his claims of "rigging" in 2024 Maharashtra assembly elections by formally writing to the poll panel, saying only then can it offer a formal, point-by-point rebuttal of his "baseless allegations". "It is very strange that even after 24 hours have passed, Rahul has neither written any letter to EC nor



sought time with it to air his grievances," said a senior EC functionary. "It is public knowledge that a constitutional body like EC cannot respond formally to allegations unless

they are raised or communicated to it directly," the functionary added. Also read: 'Maharashtra polls were match-fixed, Bihar next,' alleges Rahul Gandhi

Rahul, leader of opposition in Lok Sabha, on Saturday hit out at EC after it rejected his allegations of "rigging" in Maharashtra elections in an Op-Ed. He had said the poll was a "blueprint for rigging democracy" and alleged that this "match-fixing" would next happen in Bihar and "then anywhere BJP is losing". The EC functionary said the poll body is intrigued that Rahul, on one side, says that the issues raised .

Germany preps for a war it hopes won't come: Fearing Russian invasion,



years, according to reports. "For a long time, there was a widespread belief in Germany that war was not a scenario for which we needed to prepare. That has changed. We are concerned about the risk

of a major war of aggression in Europe," Ralph Tiesler, the head of the federal office of civil protection and disaster assistance (BBK), told news outlet Süddeutsche Zeitung, as reported by The Guardian.

Smaller centres leave metros behind in hiring pace: Report

Vatika Times

NEW DELHI:

Small cities and towns witnessed a sharp surge in hiring - more than double the pace seen in metros - driven by robust growth in the BFSI, manufacturing, retail, and IT sectors. This trend marks a significant shift towards decentralised economic growth, underscoring the rapid rise of tier-2 cities as emerging talent hubs, with opportunities now expanding beyond traditional urban centres. Job openings in tier-2 cities rose nearly 42%, compared to a 19% increase in tier-1 cities, according to the Randstad Talent Insights Report 2025 shared exclusively with TOI. The first edition of the report, drawn from data in the six-month period - Sept



2024 to Feb 2025-captures insights across six key industries: banking, financial services & insurance (BFSI), manufacturing and automotive, IT, pharma, healthcare & life sciences (PHL), retail, FMCG & FMCD, and energy and utilities. .Anjali Raghuvanshi, chief people officer & senior director (business innovation) at Randstad India, a talent company, said, " Our report indicates that tier-1 cities maintain a robust hiring outlook across all surveyed sectors. More interestingly, tier-2

and 3 cities are rapidly gaining ground, emerging as hiring hotspots, thus reflecting the vast potential and widespread distribution of talent across the country.The impressive growth trajectory of these cities can be credited to their growing economic relevance, a steady pipeline of skilled talent from quality educational institutions, and a concerted push towards infrastructure development." Among tier-1 cities, Bengaluru solidified its leadership in talent demand,

exhibiting higher hiring numbers and a greater share of demand across all experience levels and sectors. Mumbai further strengthened its dominance in the energy and utilities sector at the middle and senior levels. It also reinforces its position as a key talent hub across all levels for the BFSI, retail, FMCG, and FMCD industries. Among tier-2 cities, Chandigarh made an impactful rise to top rankings and witnessed surge in hiring across all industries at different levels.Gandhinagar and Aurangabad joined the list of tier-2 cities in this edition. During the period, Vadodara showed a big surge in hiring numbers, rankings, and share of demand at all levels in the energy & utilities, PHL.

Mercury may touch 45°C in Delhi today, says IMD

Vatika Times

NEW DELHI:

After a gap of 17 days, Delhi's maximum temperature surpassed 40 degrees Celsius on Sunday, settling at 42.1C, two notches above normal, at Safdarjung, the city's base station. The Met office has issued a 'yellow' alert for heat-wave conditions at isolated places on Monday and Tuesday as the mercury may touch 45C. The heatwave alert for the capital came as scorching temperatures swept Haryana, Punjab, and Rajasthan. In Haryana, Sirsa recorded the highest maximum temperature at 45.8C while Chandigarh recorded the season's highest maximum so far at 42.1C. In Rajasthan, maximum temperature in several areas remained above 45 degrees.

LA riots: 'They spit, we hit,' says Donald Trump; directs officials to 'liberate city from migrant invasion



Vatika Times

Los Angeles :

'US President Donald Trump on Sunday talked about his decision to deploy National Guard troops to Los Angeles in response to protests against immigration raids, framing the move as essential to restoring law and order. Speaking to reporters before boarding Air Force One, departing for Camp David, Trump claimeddemonstrators had engaged in physical provocation, justifying a tough federal response."They spit and worse, you know, what they throw at them, right?" Trump said. "And when that

happens, I have a little statement. They spit, we hit. And I told them, nobody's going to spit on our police officers, nobody's going to spit on our military. Which they do, is a common thing. They get up to them this far away and then they start spitting in their face. That happens. They get hit very hard." "I mean, if we see danger to our country and to our citizens, it will be very, very strong in terms of law and order," he continued, adding, "It's about law and order. We're going to be watching it very closely." 'Los Angeles will be set free'



Editorial

Court was also informed that third parties were unfairly benefiting commercially

Ritu Walia

The court was also informed that third parties were unfairly benefiting commercially from the sale of merchandise featuring his pictures and voice for ringtones. Most alarming was the online circulation of fake pornographic images and videos of the actor with other actresses. Notably, in its order, the Delhi High Court stated that satirical writing and genuine criticism would be safeguarded and not construed as violations of personality rights. While the word 'Jhakaas' can be used by people, they cannot exploit it commercially in the manner Anil Kapoor does. Similarly, it can be used for satire, criticism or parody, but not for monetary gains. In the Jackie Shroff case as well, the court declined to order the removal of a video titled 'Jackie Shroff is Savage, Jackie Shroff Thug Life', posted on a YouTube channel named 'Thugesh'. The court deemed the video a form of artistic expression and said imposing restrictions would have significant consequences. In the Anil Kapoor case, the court established the protection of personality rights in the realm of AI and deepfakes. However, this hasn't deterred the illegal use of celebrities' personal attributes for financial gains. Regarding the existing laws, advocate Naik says: "I feel the current laws and the jurisprudence that we got from the Delhi High Court in matters of Mr. Bachchan or Mr. Kapoor are good references. I personally feel the time has come for us to protect personality rights. like the one provided by the Copyright Act." However, the challenge lies in taking tangible action to identify infringers, notify them, and ensure compliance. Jackie Shroff's case marks the first instance of a court restraining an unlicensed Chatbot. "There is a need for updated legislation or legal interpretations to address these emerging issues and provide stronger protections for celebrities' persona in the digital age. Additionally, enforcement mechanisms may need to be strengthened to effectively combat the misuse of AI-generated content," observes Masodi. In the online world, cybercriminals exploit AI for nefarious purposes to make money while jeopardising people's reputations. Celebrities are taking the lead, and the courts are establishing principles and precedents. Being vigilant to preempt damage is crucial.

The Delhi High Court recently issued an order safeguarding the personality and publicity rights of film actor Jackie Shroff, restraining several social media accounts, AI Chatbots, and e-commerce websites from exploiting the actor's name, voice, or image for commercial purposes without his consent. Shroff petitioned the court against the unauthorised use of his name and persona, seeking protection against various individuals and entities utilising and misusing his identity without permission. The proliferation of AI-generated deepfake videos has exacerbated concerns for celebrities. Jackie Shroff's isn't the first instance of a film star resorting to legal action to protect their personality rights. Over the past two years, the Delhi High Court has issued interim orders to prevent the unauthorised use of Amitabh Bachchan and Anil Kapoor's name, image, and voice. The question arises: why are some celebrities turning to courts for the protection of their personality rights, while others refrain? "Where there is demonstrable misuse, people are approaching. Personality right is a facet of publicity right," says advocate Ameet Naik.



Issue was ‘political presents’ for the local authorities

Suman Singh

On October 7, 1950, the communist troops advanced in eastern Tibet, and after smashing the ill-trained and ill-equipped Tibetan army, Chamdo, the capital of Kham Province, fell to the invaders. On November 7, Sardar Patel, the deputy prime minister, despite his poor health, sent a long letter to the prime minister about the implications of the Chinese invasion of Tibet for India's northern border. Five days later, the dying Sardar (who passed away on December 15) constituted this committee to examine the possibility of Chinese communist troops occupying the areas south of the McMahon Line or elsewhere on the Indo-Tibet border and "to consider the feasibility or advancing outposts of the Assam Rifles in order to forestall such ingress".

esides Maj Gen Himmatsinghji, deputy minister of defense (chairman), it included Lt Gen Kulwant Singh, K Zakaria, head of the Ministry of External Affairs' historical division, SN Haksar, joint secretary also from MEA, Group Captain MS Chaturvedi from the Indian Air Force, and Waryam Singh, deputy director of the Intelligence Bureau. After discussing at great length the advisability of pushing forward a post to Tawang, it was decided to go ahead. It was also decided to send troops to Nelang (then written



Nilang) and Jadung (then Jadhung), two tiny villages south of the Tsangchok-la, the pass marking the watershed in the area, in the Chamoli district.

The Role of Jairamdas Daulatram

One man was central in the setting up of Maj Khathing's expedition to Tawang; it was Jairamdas Daulatram, the governor of Assam. It is sad that his role has been more or less forgotten today. On December 10, 1950, he managed to get the concurrence of the Ministry of External Affairs headed by Nehru; a Joint Secretary concurred with the Committee, "We cannot agree to a unilateral occupation of Tawang by the communists." The ball then started rolling, and preparations for the expedition began. Maj Khathing received detailed instructions from Nari Rustomji, the advisor to the governor, on behalf of Daulatram himself.

Precise tasks were given to the young and bold officer.

The first task was to occupy Tawang. Khathing was asked to explain to the local population and Tibetan officials that he was "doing no more than is being done by the administration in other parts of Indian territory;" in 1914, Tibet had agreed to the McMahon Line, north of Tawang being the boundary. The major was ordered to "treat any Tibetan or other officials you may meet with courtesy, but nevertheless let them understand that jurisdiction in the area vests in you and not in them." He was directed to submit detailed reports about the Tibetan 'influence' in the area and the nature of taxes collected. He was further told to abolish all existing taxes and substitute them with lighter taxes to be paid to the Political Officer, representing the Indian government: "There will be no forced labour and everything

needed will be duly paid for." An important task was to communicate to the local people that "none of their religious practices The sixth point was that in case Khathing met with armed opposition, he was to cable Shillong (the governor's office) immediately, "indicating the strength and position of opposing forces." Fortunately, due to Khathing's intelligence and diplomatic skills, this would not be necessary, and 74 years later, he was still considered by the Monpas as their liberator. Khathing was also asked to keep daily wireless telegraphic contact with Daulatram after crossing the Se-La pass. It is what Khathing did, and his dispatches and cables still make fascinating reading. Finally, Daulatram asked Khathing to "conduct [the] operation with tact, firmness, and discretion". The logistics of the expedition were not easy; for example, the question of porters and loads was difficult to coordinate. One can imagine having as many as 200 troops and 600 porters to feed.

Another issue was 'political presents' for the local authorities. On February 9, 1951, the Tsona Dzongpons met Khathing again, and the latter reported to the governor: "As regards the lay officials, like Tsona Dzongpons and Drekhangs, the salt monopolists and grain collectors, I

have not allowed them to exercise any of their powers and influence."Undoubtedly, the merit of having taken over Tawang's administration goes to Daulatram as well as to the most reliable major.

Nehru's Reaction

On March 18, 1951, the prime minister noted: "I hear constantly about the activities of the North and North-East Border Defense Committee. These activities have resulted in action being taken on the Tibetan border and in Nepal. At no stage have these matters been brought up before me for consultation, although apparently consultations have taken place with the Governor of Assam and other people far away. ...I am greatly concerned about this matter because ...the manner of our going to Tawang and taking possession of it and thus creating some international complications, has not been a happy one. I am yet not quite clear how all this was done without any reference to me." Though historically intimately linked, two separate events took place recently, nearly 1,000 miles away from each other. e central sector of the Indo-Tibet boundary in Uttarakhand, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan directed Army formations to work for the rehabilitation.

of the border villages of Nelang and Jadung, near the Line of Actual Control.

State will have to “show in each case the existence of the compelling reasons

The National Commission for Backward Castes had discovered that 118 of 179 groups in the Bengal OBC list were Muslims! In the Most Backward Class category, of 81 communities 73 are Muslim and only eight are Hindu. Of the 98 communities in Category B, 45 are Muslim and the rest Hindu. The state's Muslim population in 2011 was 27 per cent. How can one-fourth of the population snatch three-fourths of OBC benefits? Besides, NCBC chairperson Harsraj Gangaram Ahir found that illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar's Rohingya had made their way into the beneficiaries list. He said state officials initially claimed that these were Hindus

who had later converted to Islam. Asked for proof, they slinked away. Earlier, a Constitution bench of the Supreme Court under had stated that the concerned State will have to "show in each case the existence of the compelling reasons, namely, backwardness, inadequacy of representation and overall administrative efficiency before making provision for reservation...the State has to collect quantifiable data showing backwardness of the class and inadequacy of representation of that class in public employment in addition to compliance of Article 335." The Calcutta High Court has gone as far as calling the practice of arbitrarily giving Muslims a

slice of the OBC quota a fraud on the Constitution. "The State has reserved to itself. an uncanalised power of picking and choosing at its convenience as to when it would or would not consult the Commission for the purpose of identification of the backward classes for the purpose of reservation," said the judgment. The Court said that by abrogating to itself the power to ignore the NCBC "at its own sweet will whim and fancy", the state is guilty of "fraudulent legislative power and consequently a fraud on Constitutional power under Article 16 (4) of the Constitution." The biggest confirmation of the court's concerns came from Mamata Banerjee herself.

BJP has intensified its efforts to gain representation

Saariq Thiruvananthapuram. Since then, the BJP has intensified its efforts to gain representation in the Lok Sabha, steadily increasing its vote share in Kerala with each election cycle. The NDA secured approximately 20 per cent of the vote share this time in Kerala, with the BJP leading in 11 assembly segments: Kazhakkootam, Vattiyoorkavu, Nemom, Attingal, Kattakkada, Manaloor, Ollur, Thrissur, Nattika, Irinjalakuda, and Puthukkad. Furthermore, the NDA emerged as the runner-up in eight assembly constituencies: Thiruvananthapuram, Kovalam, Neyyattinkara, Kayamkulam, Haripad, Manjeshwar, Kasargod, and Palakkad. This performance signifies a notable shift in Kerala's political landscape. In addition to Suresh Gopi, who emerged as the clear victor in this election, the BJP also witnessed Sobha Surendran challenging the Marxist stronghold in Alleppey. Sobha's vote share increased from 17.24 per cent to 28.3 per cent, marking the single largest increase for any candidate in Kerala. The election season introduced many other leaders who are likely to shape the future of Kerala's politics and contribute to the state's sociopolitical landscape in the com-

ing years. In Thrissur, Hindu voters make up 63.2 per cent of the population, followed by Christian voters at 21.4 per cent and Muslim voters at 15.4 per cent (according to the 2011 Census figures). This region is also known for its religious tourism, with famous temples like Guruvayur, Vadakkunnathan, and Paramakkavu attracting visitors. Additionally, Thrissur holds the title of being the cultural capital of Kerala and hosts the magnificent Thrissur Pooram, one of the largest religious events in the state. The Thrissur Lok Sabha constituency comprises seven assembly segments: Guruvayoor, Manalur, Ollur, Thrissur, Nattika, Irinjalakuda, and Puthukkad. All seven segments have elected representatives from the Communist Party to the legislative assembly of Kerala. In the 2019 elections, the Indian National Congress received 40 per cent of the votes in this constituency, followed by the Marxist Party at 31 per cent and the BJP at 28.3 per cent. Suresh Gopi was the NDA candidate for Thrissur in 2019 and despite losing the Lok Sabha election, he continued to focus on the region and contested in the state Assembly polls of 2021. In the 2021 assembly elections, P Balachandran of the Communist

Party emerged as the winner with a vote share of 34.25 per cent, followed by Padmaja Venugopal of the INC with a 33.52 per cent vote share. Suresh Gopi finished third with a vote share of 31.30 per cent. Despite facing setbacks in two successive elections and being pushed to third position, Suresh Gopi remained steadfast. He maintained a visible presence among Thrissur's voters and continued his humanitarian work in the region. In 2023, Thrissur was confronted with a severe crisis. The cooperative banks had reached their peak, resulting in many individuals losing their hard-earned deposits to the Karuvannur bank scam. Suresh Gopi emerged as a champion for the people, mirroring his on-screen action-hero persona. His proactive involvement in this crisis established him as a real-life champion for the people. During the Nari Shakti Sammelan held in Thrissur in January 2024, party leadership indirectly endorsed Suresh Gopi's candidacy. Around the same time, Padmaja Venugopal, daughter of former Kerala Chief Minister K. Karunakaran and Suresh Gopi's former opponent in the Assembly elections, joined the BJP. Further bolstering his support, the Left-leaning independent mayor.

Education, aspiration, and 3 de-hyphenations

Radhika Singh

UPSC, NEET, JEE—all the things young people want—are sought after by all. These hoardings feature several successful student photographs. Kashmiri post-stone-throwing generation. They represent the Valley's future. I messaged my old buddy and fellow traveler Uday Shankar, previously of Star-Disney and now a great entrepreneur, to say I see so many Allen hoardings that the location should be renamed the Valley of Allen or Allenistan. He proudly told me how many young Kashmiris are passing these tests to become physicians, engineers, etc. Those nos-

talgie for militancy and secession might find it a distraction. If so, no distraction is more good. Even tripling defense funding or enacting a legislation three times as harsh as UAPA cannot change the fact that so many tens of thousands of boys and girls desire to compete with the best and choose employment elsewhere. We see what hasn't changed and the tensions within in most clearly on the walls. Gupkar Road is home to Kashmir's powerful. The principal Valley parties created the Gupkar Alliance for that reason. Reinforced concrete walls up to 18 feet and more make each 'home' a fortress. On walls, you

may discover stronger steel sheets with rolled concertina fencing. Even Sergei Bubka, a famous pole vaulter, would struggle to pass this hurdle. This won't change soon. Farooq Abdullah teaches me for about two hours under a tree. He says violence is gone, things are better. Youth are still outraged, though. They consider Delhi 'vindictive'. Too many are imprisoned in distant states. My best translation and summary of this peaceful teaching over fresh, sliced strawberries would be: Peace is fine, but what's the benefit? Things are improved, people appreciate peace, and Pakistani delusions are ended.

Take nothing for granted. He often discusses history, the numerous turns he has taken since making his public debut as a subaltern to his father. He is one of India's oldest and most vibrant and passionate politicians, approaching 87. When we revisit Article 370, that passion shines. "They say Kashmiris are now Indians after abrogation. We weren't Indians before? Like every chronic geopolitical, and emotional crisis, the past shapes the future, so I try to get him to finish the memoir he keeps talking about. Honestly, we need to learn more from him. He rejects the 1987 Rajiv Gandhi election manipulation.



Assembly Speaker Kalyan laid the foundation stone of three projects worth Rs 3 crore 36 lakh in Gharaunda constituency

DILPREET WALIA

Karnal: Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan laid the foundation stone of three projects worth Rs 3 crore 36 lakh in Gharaunda on Sunday. Apart from this, he also dedicated a sewer cleaning machine worth Rs 20 lakh to the public by flagging it off. Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan participated in different programs organized at CHC Gharaunda, old tehsil and ward-17. During this, he said that in future, Gharaunda constituency will be taken to new heights of development. Lack of funds will not be allowed to come in the way of development works. Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan laid the foundation stone for the construction of Block Public Health Unit at the Community



Health Center here. It will cost Rs 70 lakh and the construction work will be completed by the municipality in 9 months. After the unit starts, all the samples coming from the sub-health center and primary health center will be tested here. Apart from this, health services will also be strengthened under the Hospital Management Information System.

Laying the foundation stone for the construction of Children's Park and Library

Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan also laid the foundation stone for the construc-

tion of a children's park and library in Ward-4 near the BDPO office of Gharaunda. This park, which will be built on about one acre, will cost Rs 2.5 crore and will be completed in a year. He also laid the foundation stone for the recent construction work under Raghuvansh Saini Samaj Seva Samiti in Ashoka Colony of Ward-17.

A grant of Rs 17 lakh has been given by the government for this.

Children's park is a big gift for the city: Harvinder Kalyan On this occasion.

Authenticity of Experience Found in Prem Vij's Representative Poems: Dr. Manmohan Singh

Amulya

Chandigarh: The poetry collection "Prem Vij ki Pratinidhi Kavitayen" (Representative Poems of Prem Vij), edited by renowned litterateur Acharya Rajesh Kumar, was officially released today at Sector 43-A. The event was organized by Samvad Sahitya Manch and Acharya Kul Sanstha, Chandigarh.

The chief guest for the occasion was noted writer Jaswant Singh 'Zafar', Director of the Department of Languages, Punjab. The event was presided over by senior literary figure, thinker, and Chairman of the Chandigarh Sahitya Akademi, Dr. Manmohan Singh. Special guests included K.K. Sharda (President, Acharya Kul), Dr. Sarita Mehta (President, Vidya Dham, USA), and Councillor Premrata.

The event was anchored by poet Dr. Sangeeta Sharma Kundra 'Geet', and a paper on the book was presented by acclaimed poet Dr. Vinod



Kumar Sharma. The program began with a Saraswati Vandana sung by Pallavi Rampal, followed by the formal release of the book.

While presenting the paper, Dr. Vinod Sharma evaluated the poems, noting that they reflect themes of women's discourse, social, cultural, and ideological concerns, all expressed with depth in both language and emotion. K.K. Sharda remarked that Prem Vij's poems would serve as inspiration for the younger generation. Poet Dr. Sarita Mehta, who had traveled from the USA, shared that Prem Vij's poetry sheds light on the disparities within society. Poet Ashok Nadir commented

that Prem Vij's work captures what he has observed around him and reflects it sincerely in his poems.

As the chief guest, literary figure Jaswant Singh 'Zafar' said the poems cover a wide range of subjects, with vivid depictions of nature being particularly commendable.

In his presidential address, prominent poet and thinker Dr. Manmohan Singh stated that love is the central theme in Prem Vij's poetry and that the authenticity of lived experience is evident throughout the collection. He also praised the artistic use of mythological references in the poems.



The group of students at a primary school in Bastar district took a stand against a teacher

Bastar: The group of students at a primary school in Chhattisgarh's Bastar district took a stand against a teacher who arrived intoxicated. The viral video depicts the intense scene as the teacher hastily starts his motorbike amidst a barrage of slippers thrown by the students, ultimately fleeing the premises. This dramatic confrontation sheds light on the challenges faced by students in accessing quality education and the pressing need for accountability within the education system. As per the 'X' post, the incident took place at Pilibhatta Primary School, where the teacher's recurrent presence in class while under the influence of alcohol had become a growing concern. Rather than fulfilling his teaching duties, he frequently resorted to sleeping on the floor, disregarding the needs of his students. Frustrated by his behavior, the students confronted him, only to face verbal abuse in return. Matters reached a tipping point when the teacher arrived intoxicated once again last week, prompting the students to take decisive action. This incident is not isolated, as another disturbing event recently surfaced in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district. A teacher was caught on camera openly carrying alcohol onto school premises, displaying a blatant disregard for the standards of conduct expected in such settings. The footage serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for enhanced oversight and accountability measures within educational institutions.

Five-Day Arya Veer Dal Camp Begins at Gurukul Kurukshetra

Jasbir Singh Duggal

Kurukshetra: A five-day Arya Veer Yoga and Life-Building Camp was inaugurated today at Gurukul Kurukshetra, jointly organized by Gurukul Kurukshetra and the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, Haryana. The camp was formally launched by Dr. Rajendra Vidyalkar, OSD to the Hon'ble Governor of Haryana and a renowned Vedic scholar.

In his keynote address, Dr. Vidyalkar emphasized that the core objective of the Arya Veer Dal camps is to shape the character and purpose of the youth. "Today's generation is in dire need of proper guidance," he remarked. "If the energy of the youth is channelized in the right direction, they can not only achieve personal greatness



but also significantly contribute to the nation's progress."

Distinguished attendees included Gurukul President Raj Kumar Garg, Anil Arya (Principal, Shughni Devi School, Ladwa), social worker Sushil Seth, Mohit Arya

(President, Arya Samaj Yamuna Nagar), Acharya Dayashankar, Krishan Arya (Director, Arya Vidyaapeeth, Bastali), Camp Coordinator Jaipal Arya, and Training Head Sanjeev Arya, among others. Dr. Vidyalkar urged the youth to embrace discipline

and concentration as vital elements of life, asserting that individuals who cultivate these values often rise to bring pride to their family and country on a global stage.

Camp Coordinator Jaipal Arya informed that around 500 youths from districts including Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Jind, Panipat, and Karnal are participating. Under the guidance of skilled trainers, the camp offers training in yoga, dumbbells, lezium, judo-karate, stick drills, Surya Namaskar, Chandra Namaskar, and more — all grounded in Vedic principles.

Sanjeev Arya, Training Head and Chief Guardian of the Gurukul, inspired the participants through motivational songs, encouraging them to embrace noble values and positive thinking in life.

Food distribution in Civil Hospital

Jasbir Singh Duggal

Kurukshetra: Roti Bank branch Kurukshetra distributed food in Civil Hospital Kurukshetra. As usual, Kadhi rice was distributed to the patients and their families and the needy in the Civil Hospital. Roti Bank's head servant Dr. Ashok Kumar Verma, General Secretary Karam Chand and Ramesh reached the hospital after preparing food and distributed the food items. Roti Bank's head servant Dr. Ashok Kumar Verma said that the main work of Roti Bank is to distribute food, dry ration, season-



al clothes, slippers and shoes for feet, bathing soap for hygiene, brush, paste, fruits and sweets etc. Along with this, Roti Bank branch Kurukshetra is providing all possible help to the students to promote education. Dr. Ashok Kumar Verma said that Roti Bank was established in 2017 by retired

IPS officer Shri Shrikant Jadhav Saheb. Under his guidelines, Roti Bank was inaugurated in Kurukshetra in the year 2018. Roti Bank's General Secretary Karm Chand said that Roti Bank prepares food every day in Police Line Kurukshetra and distributes it at different places.

Indian Yoga Sansthan Shines at District-Level Yogasana Competition in Kurukshetra

Jasbir Singh Duggal

Kurukshetra: In celebration of the 11th International Yoga Day, the Indian Yoga Sansthan marked a proud moment by securing top positions at the district-level Yogasana competitions held in Kurukshetra. The event was organized under the joint aegis of the Haryana Government, AYUSH Department, Haryana Yoga Commission Panchkula, and the District Administration in collaboration with the AYUSH, Sports, and Education Departments of Kurukshetra. Sadhaks (practitioners) from the Indian Yoga Sansthan delivered exceptional performances, especially in the men's categories for ages 40 and above, claiming 3 out of 6 top positions. In the



40-60 years male category, Shiv Kumar secured the second place. In the 60+ years male category, Arjun Yogi and District President Maniram Saini won first place, while State Organizational Secretary Gulshan Kumar Grover achieved third place, bringing accolades to the institute.

The winners were felicitated with medals and certificates by notable dignitaries including the dynamic and dedicated Chairman of the Haryana Yoga Commission Dr. Jaideep

Arya, Vice Chairman Dr. Roshan Lal, Member Dr. Manish Kukreja, and District Yoga Coordinator Dr. Jagir Singh. Speaking on the occasion, Gulshan Kumar Grover, the State Organizational Secretary and State Press Spokesperson of the Indian Yoga Sansthan, shared that the credit for this victory goes to the Sansthan's revered founder Late Sh. Prakash Lal, and all the dedicated officers, volunteers, yoga teachers, and fellow practitioners from whom he has learned and continues to learn.

Seven-Day Summer Camp Concludes with Joy and Rain Dance at Navyug School

Jasbir Singh Duggal

Kurukshetra: The seven-day summer camp at Navyug Senior Secondary School, Mohan Nagar, Kurukshetra concluded in a truly unique and delightful manner. The closing ceremony began with vibrant dance performances by students, showcasing the skills they had learned during the camp. To recognize their active participation, the school's Director, Mr. B.D. Gaba, awarded certificates and gifts to all participants. Adding to the celebration, a fun-filled rain dance session was organized for the younger children. The kids, dancing joyfully in artificial rain with umbrellas in their tiny hands, created a heartwarming and festive scene. Their cheerful expressions reflected pure joy and



excitement.

To further elevate the fun, an ice cream party was organized for all students. The children enjoyed a variety of their favorite flavors, which doubled their happiness and added a sweet, refreshing twist to the summer celebration. Throughout the week-long camp, students were trained in various life and creative skills including self-management, self-introduction, financial literacy, needlework, computer basics, envi-

ronmental awareness, art and craft, dance, yoga, sports, and storytelling. Special sessions by the Brahma Kumari sisters taught children techniques to manage anger through inspiring stories and meditation. The camp aimed to ensure the all-round development of children by blending education with entertainment. It helped in nurturing emotional, social, and physical growth in a relaxed and engaging environment.

Despite CM's Announcement, Women Teachers Yet to Receive Additional Casual Leave

Jasbir Singh Duggal

Kurukshetra: On the occasion of International Women's Day, March 8, 2025, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Saini announced an increase in the number of casual leaves (CLs) for women employees in the state from 20 to 25. The move was widely praised as a progressive step toward women's welfare and empowerment. However, despite the announcement, no official notification has been issued by the Haryana government to date. Dr. Tarsem Kaushik, District President of the Haryana School Lecturers Association (HASLA), Kurukshetra, has urged the government to expedite the implementation of this significant decision. He called for the immediate release of the official notification so that women employees can begin to benefit from the additional leave. "This announcement is a commendable initiative toward women empowerment," said Dr. Kaushik.



"However, without formal notification, it remains nothing more than a symbolic gesture. We appeal to the Education Department and all other concerned departments to treat this matter as a priority and ensure that this rightful benefit is provided to women employees without further delay." Many women teachers have also expressed dissatisfaction over the delay and are hoping for concrete action from the government. Dr. Kaushik emphasized that a positive initiative like this should not be left incomplete or pending in bureaucratic procedures.



Dulux range of interior emulsions is now redefining the epitome of luxury

Delhi : Four decades since introducing luxury in Indian decorative paints industry with its flagship Dulux Velvet Touch range of interior emulsions, Akzo Nobel India Ltd. is now redefining the epitome of luxury with Dulux Velvet Touch Eterna – its first uber-luxury interior emulsion in India. Dulux Velvet Touch Eterna takes Dulux Velvet Touch's unparalleled legacy of innovation and superior quality to the next level. Introduced for the first time in Indian interior emulsions, the advanced PU reinforced acrylic makes paint significantly more durable and dust-resistant, ensuring that walls stay impeccably pristine and timelessly elegant. This innovation also delivers on consumers superior colour performance



expectation from luxury paint. As the first Dulux paint offering in India to come powered by the TruColour+ technology with antioxidants, Dulux Velvet Touch Eterna envelopes living spaces with rich and intense

colours that stay fresher for longer. Unpleasant odour during paint application too is a thing of the past as the added tea tree oil results in a refreshing aroma. Rohit Totla, Executive Director – Decorative Paints,

AkzoNobel India said, "As one of the Most Trusted Brands of India, Dulux is yet again pushing the boundaries of innovation and superior quality of its flagship brand Dulux Velvet Touch. Leveraging our global expertise, we

have combined the best of timeless aesthetics with technology-driven performance to ensure that each brushstroke mirrors the eternal elegance and refinement that the most discerning Dulux paint consumers aspire to achieve." Knowing that timeless spaces deserve an equally timeless touch, Dulux's colour experts have curated the exclusive 'Eternals' collection for Dulux Velvet Touch Eterna with 10 themes such as Eternal Love, Eternal Fire and Eternal Cosmos. Whether used on their own or paired with complimenting palettes, (deep tones for impact, mid tones for a softer look, pale tones for a gentle lift to the walls or selected whites that bring tranquillity), the Eterna collection

The governor of Karnataka authorizes CM Siddaramaiah's prosecution

Delhi :

Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot approved the prosecution of Chief Minister Siddaramiah in connection with the suspected site assignment fraud by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).The event occurred a few weeks after TJ Abraham, a social activist and advocate, petitioned the governor to be allowed to charge CM Siddaramaiah in connection with land that his wife, BM Parvathi, was given.Siddaramaiah had already voiced his confidence that the governor will turn down a petition calling for his punishment.Everything is lawful; the governor ought to be persuad-



M3M India reports Q1FY25 sales growth

Delhi : Attributing it's growth to the strong financial support from the banks, M3M India announced its Q1FY25 performance, reporting sales of Rs 3,911 crore, a 37% increase from Rs 2,854 crore in Q1FY24. In the residential and

plot development segment, M3M recorded Rs 2,971 crore in sales, a 46% increase from Rs 2,028 crore in Q1FY24. In the commercial segment, the company secured Rs 940 crore in sales.

ed. Though I'm not optimistic, I am sure he will accept (the government's statement) because everything is within the

law. Since the governor is the head of the Constitution, why won't he act in line with it when things are?

Assam bid to make registration of Muslim marriages, divorces must

Delhi : The Assam cabinet gave its approval to a proposed law that aims to make it mandatory for Muslims to register marriages and divorces with the government.



The Assam Compulsory Registration of Muslim Marriage and Divorce Bill, 2024, will be tabled in the leg-

islative assembly during the autumn. The Assam Cabinet has approved the Muslim Marriage Registration Bill 2024.

Looking to shed BJP's 'B team' label, Apni Party vows J&K's statehood in manifesto

Delhi : Hit by desertions after the dismal performance in the Lok Sabha polls, the Apni Party distanced itself from Bharatiya Panata Party (BJP) as it promised restoration of statehood in its manifesto for the upcoming assembly polls. Addressing the conscious effort to carve

its own identity, party general secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir said their opponents had earlier been successful in convincing the people of a certain proximity with the BJP. Our opponents were successful in painting us as the 'B-team' [of BJP] in the eyes of people.

12 houses burnt in Tripura after idol found defaced, forces deployed to quell tension

NEW DELHI: At least 12 houses and a few vehicles were set ablaze by some unidentified persons in Tripura after an idol was found defaced. The incident occurred in Ranirbazar area in

West Tripura.Following the incident, heavy security deployment has been made in the area to quell the tension. "Around 12 dwelling houses were set on fire at Ranirbazar by mis-

creants late on Sunday after an idol of Goddess Kali was found disfigured in Kaiturbari. Assistant Inspector General (Law and Order) Ananta Das told news agency PTI.

DU, Stephen's At Odds Over Allocation Of Quota Seats

Delhi : Amid the ongoing process of undergraduate admissions, the recently introduced 'single girl child' quota has become a new point of contention between St Stephen's College and Delhi University (DU). According to a university official, the college has refused to accept some of the allocations made by DU in the first round. However, a source at St Stephen's College claimed that the university had made claims that the university had made additional allocations that exceeded the college's capacity. New launch me invest kiva,



amazing ROI mila 99acres Kiya Sahi Decision Liya Of the 19 allocations made under the 'single girl child' quota this time, the college approved only

seven, the university official said.He added that another 10 students did not get a seat at the college under the unreserved category.

Due to this, 12 candidates under the 'single girl child' quota have failed to secure a seat despite having merit," said Haneet Gandhi, dean of admissions.

Lenders to indebted people IIHL are allegedly using delaying tactics

Delhi : Lenders to indebted people in New Delhi IIHL are allegedly using delaying tactics, according to Reliance Capital Ltd (RCAP), which is slowing down the implementation of the resolution plan. However, the Hinduja Group company has denied the claims, claiming it was acting in accordance with the law. IndusInd International Holdings Ltd (IIHL), based in Mauritius, emerged as the victorious bidder for Reliance Capital."All allegations

are completely false, baseless and are an attempt to malign and obstruct the resolution process," sources with the IIHL stated. "Every accusation is false and inaccurate. Given that IIHL has already paid Rs 2,750 crore with the CoC, there is simply no justification for the company to postpone the plan's implementation," the corporate sources stated.Despite claims to the contrary, IIHL stated that it is in its best interests to end the implementation.

SC/ST Sub-Categorisation and Questions After the Supreme Court Judgment

Delhi : The union cabinet has sought to address speculation surrounding the introduction of a creamy layer in reservations for SC and STs (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) and announced that there are no plans to implement any such exclusion.But questions continue to remain about the implementation of the Supreme Court judgement allowing states to sub-categories for the purpose of granting separate quotas for those who are more backward among communities in the list, and whether such a sub-classification will serve the purpose of addressing discrimination, backwardness, social and moral justice."The cabinet decision on the creamy layer doesn't come as a surprise. The ruling party (Bharatiya Janata Party) cannot go against what is a settled issue as far as SC/STs are concerned-that creamy layer is not applicable because discrimination may still happen despite economic mobility," The judgement itself was not on the question of the creamy layer, but whether states can sub-classify SC and STs.

LG wants mobile app to check illegal parking promptly

Delhi : Lieutenant governor VK Saxena has directed Delhi Traffic Police, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to jointly develop a mobile application where photographs of illegally parked vehicles could be uploaded from a phone and action could be taken on a real-time basis.He also directed officials to work out a plan to incentivise parking of vehicles at multilevel spaces by offering discounts and also give a rebate in parking fees on electric vehicles.

The directions were issued at LG's third meeting to review the traffic and parking situation in the city with special commissioners of two traffic zones, the transport commissioner and MCD .Saxena said a pilot could be run in NDMC areas where gardeners could be authorised to take pictures of any wrongly parked vehicles and upload them on the mobile app. He added that the ways to incentivise the gardeners for this work should also be explored. LG also directed officials to involve the traffic police in managing parking spaces.

DAM Capital Advisors Limited has filed its Draft

Delhi : DAM Capital Advisors Limited has filed its Draft Red Herring Prospectus ("DRHP") with capital market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"). DAM Capital is the fastest growing investment bank in India by revenue CAGR from Fiscals 2022 to 2024 with the highest profit margin in Fiscal 2024, among its peers. It also was one of the leading investment banks in India with a market share of 12.1% based on the number of IPOs and QIPs in Fiscal 2024. DAM Capital provides a wide range of financial solutions in areas of (i) invest-

ment banking comprising equity capital markets ("ECM"), mergers and acquisitions ("M&A"), private equity ("PE"), and structured finance advisory; and (ii) institutional equities comprising broking and research. The company's initial public offering comprises an offer for sale of up to 32.06 million shares by the investor selling shareholders – Multiples Alternate Asset Management, RBL Bank, Easyaccess Financial Services and Narotam Sekhsaria. Promoter Dharmesh Anil Mehta, is also selling a small part of his stake. Nuvama Wealth Management Limited is the Book .

REWA dedicated to education in rural areas, held its General House Meeting

Delhi : Rural Education Welfare Association (REWA), dedicated to education in rural areas, held its General House Meeting at the Community Center in Sector 50. This meeting was chaired by REWA's President V.B. Kapil. Future strategies were discussed in detail. He presented various issues to the school representatives. He praised the schools and said that the quality education being provided at low fees is commendable. He instructed all the schools to follow the rules of Right to Education. They should not show any



negligence in the development of children. Kapil said that the schools associated with REWA have been doing selfless work for the last several years. It is because of their hard work that many students are studying and occupying high positions today. He

said that along with education, the schools are fulfilling their duties towards the society very well. He called upon them to continue doing such work and service.

He said that all these schools have been running since the time

there was a Panchayat in the village.

The Panchayat representatives also praised the role of these schools wholeheartedly. They hoped that the administration would soon take steps for the welfare of private schools running in rural areas also. Satwant Singh, Vijay Kumar, Antarjot, Pradeep Sharma, Dr. Vinod Sharma, Pradeep Shukla, Himani Sharma also expressed their views. Most of the representatives of schools of rural areas registered their presence in the meeting.



Supreme Court on dismissed a petition by Sandip Ghosh



NEW DELHI: Supreme Court on dismissed a petition by Sandip Ghosh, arrested ex-principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, seeking to intervene in proceedings before Calcutta HC which had ordered CBI probe into an alleged scam in biomedical waste disposal in the hospital and whether it had a nexus with the rape-murder of a doctor on Aug 9. "You (Ghosh) have no locus standi to intervene in the PIL. You were the principal when the alleged offence took place. The HC is not commenting on the merit of your involvement in corruption or the offence. Both are matters for investigation. As an

accused, you have no locus standi to intervene in a PIL in which the HC has transferred the investigation to CBI and is monitoring it," a bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra said. SG: Accused can't direct how probe has to be conducted For the ex-principal, senior advocate Meenakshi Arora said her client was preju-

diced by the HC observation indicating a nexus between the offence on Aug 9 and the alleged medical scam. The CJI said, "That is itself a matter of investigation." Solicitor general Tushar Mehta and additional solicitor general S V Raju said the alleged nexus was the precise matter for investigation by CBI. Arora vociferously argued that the probe into financial

irregularity and rape-murder case should be done separately and criticised the HC for drawing a nexus between the two cases. Both Mehta and Raju said an accused could not decide or direct how the investigation was to be conducted by CBI and could never be permitted to put fetters on the probe. CJI Chandrachud agreed and said even courts could not direct a particular course of investigation. "Let us not stultify the investigation. We (SC) have also asked CBI to file status reports before us. As the highest court is looking into the matter, it will ensure that the investigation is fair. CBI will apprise us of what emerges during investi-

gation," the CJI said. Arora tried to narrate why students, who have been agitating against the rape-murder of their colleague, were inimical towards Ghosh. She said Ghosh joined as principal in 2021 and had stopped the Covid-period practice of promoting students without examination. On financial irregularities in the hospital as alleged by the PIL, Arora said the plea was filed by ex-deputy superintendent of RG Kar Hospital Akhtar Hussain as a counter to the show cause notices he was served for lapses leading to his transfer to Murshidabad. The bench said it was not giving Hussain a clean chit.

Andhra Pradesh's cyanide killers: Women behind series of gruesome murders in state



VIJAYAWADA: In a chilling case reminiscent of Kerala's notorious Koodathayi murders, three women from Tenali in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh have been arrested for a series of killings using cyanide, targeting vulnerable people over the past two years. Police have so far identified three victims but suspect there could be more. The accused, identified as Munagappa Rajani (40), Mudiya Venkateswari alias Bujji (32), and Gontu Ramanamma (60), all residents of Tenali, have so far admitted to killing three with cyanide-laced drinks and food to rob them of gold and money. Police said they would get to know if there were other victims once their interrogation is over. The group systematically targeted individuals, including family mem-

bers and neighbours, and are believed to be involved in multiple murders since 2022 besides failed attempts to kill three others. Police said the accused purchased cyanide from a man named Krishna, who works at a gold shop in Tenali, for Rs 4,000 on two occasions. Krishna is on the run. According to Guntur SP S Satish Kumar, investigation began after the decomposed body of one Shaik Nagoor Bee was found in a field near Vadlamudi village about two months ago. Police initially registered a case of suspicious death due to causes unknown.

After analysing mobile data and questioning multiple witnesses, including an auto driver identified as Mahesh, police pieced together the chilling conspiracy. Investigation revealed that the accused lured the victim to the outskirts of Vadlamudi on June 5, under the pretences of a friendly outing. They spiked her drink with cyanide-laced alcohol, causing her death, and then stole her gold ornaments. The auto driver confirmed that he had picked up the accused women and the victim. He said he also saw them purchasing alcohol that turned fatal for Nagoor Bee.

The site streamlines application processing and cooperation

Delhi: LG Saxena's unified public entertainment licensing platform, launched earlier this month, has made business easier and helped turn Delhi into a dynamic city, restaurateurs claimed. Restaurant operators may now schedule gigs without worrying about getting a license at the last minute with a long-term license. Before launching the service, they had to file a police license form before hosting singer, band, percussionist, or stand-up shows. Permissions were slow, so you couldn't book good

artists or host last-minute shows. This link lets you apply for a longer license online. Sandeep Goyle, National Restaurant Association of India Delhi chapter head, said this will help many businesses. The manager of a popular restaurant stated even a casual gig required a license and much documentation before submission. "Permission could take two weeks to a month. It could also be refused. This nearly ended live music and performance in restaurants, which mostly used DJs or recorded music "said.

An LG secretariat official said the webpage was designed to streamline, simplify, and standardize the capital's licensing process for amusement parks, auditoriums, and video game parlours. According to the source, the licensing unit of Delhi Police, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, and National Informatics Centre created the transformational portal to improve licensing operations across Delhi. The paperwork and requirements are much reduced, streamlining the application.

Agni-4 IRBM missile tested off Odisha coast



NEW DELHI: Days after commissioning its second nuclear-powered submarine, India on conducted a successful launch of the intermediate range ballistic missile Agni-4 from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur off the Odisha coast. The launch of the Agni-4 missile, which has a strike range of 4,000-km, "successfully validated all operational and technical parameters", a defence ministry official said. India on Aug 29 had inducted into the SFC its second 6,000-tonne

nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), INS Arighaat, which is armed with the over 3,000-km range K-4 missiles unlike her forerunner INS Arihant that only has the 750-km range K-15 missiles, as was earlier reported by . The third SSBN, in turn, will be commissioned as INS Aridhaman early next year. With a displacement of 7,000-tonne, she is bigger than the first two SSBNs and can carry more long range nuclear-tipped missiles.

A 54-year-old man was injured after being stabbed by his son

NEW DELHI: A 54-year-old man was injured after allegedly being stabbed by his son during an argument in the Vishnu Garden Extension area of west Delhi, police said on Tuesday. The injured man, identified as Raj Kumar Rattan, suffers from a kidney ailment and requires regular dialysis, they said. "He is stable and undergoing treat-

ment," a senior officer said. Personnel at Khayala police station received a call about an alleged stabbing incident at 11 pm on Monday. It was found that a quarrel had broken out between Rattan and his son Sachin Rattan (29), he added. Sachin Rattan stabbed his father with a kitchen knife during the argument and fled. Rattan was taken to GGS

Hospital and, after first aid, shifted to Safdarjung Hospital. He is stable and undergoing treatment. The officer said, Sachin Rattan is unemployed and an alcohol addict, leading to frequent quarrels with his father, the police said. A case is being registered and investigation is underway, the officer said.

Air conditioning system malfunctions on Delhi-Varanasi flight; Indigo issues apology

NEW DELHI: IndiGo Airlines has apologised for the discomfort caused to passengers aboard its Delhi-Varanasi flight on Thursday after a malfunctioning air conditioning system resulted in extreme heat inside the cabin. The incident led to a chaotic situation, with several passengers reportedly fainting due to the high temperatures. Flight 6E 2235, which was en-route from Delhi to Varanasi, experienced significant cabin temperature fluctuations, causing severe discomfort among passengers. A video of the incident, widely shared on social media, showed passengers fanning themselves with inflight magazines while others appeared to be struggling due to the heat. Some passengers reportedly lost consciousness.

Parents go to thana with girl's rape complaint, beaten by woman cop

CHENNAI: A couple who complained that their 10-year-old daughter had been raped repeatedly by a neighbour were beaten by an Anna Nagar all-women police inspector and made to stay at the station till the early hours of Aug 31.



The survivor, a Class VI student of a govt school, stood witness to the ill-treatment of her parents in the presence of the accused, Sathish, a water can supplier in the neighbourhood. He is yet to be arrested though the FIR was registered on Aug 31. The girl's father is a construction worker and her mother a cook. Though the incident came to light on Aug 29 and the case registered on Aug 31, the child is yet to get the mandatory counselling by a District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) or anyone from the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). On Aug 29, the girl's mother returned from work in the evening and found her writhing with pain in the stomach. She took her to a private clinic where a doctor examined said she had been raped. The girl was referred to Kilpauk Medical College and Hospital (KMCH) where doctors said she had been sexually assaulted repeatedly. Informed by KMCH authorities, an Anna Nagar all-women police team visited the hospital. Contrary to rules, inspector Raji asked the mother to bring her Aadhaar card and other particulars to the station and held 'inquiry' with the child. The inspector is heard repeatedly asking the girl why she mentioned Sathish's name and the girl saying she did it by mistake. She also tells police her cousin had sexually assaulted her in 2022. The survivor told her mother later that she didn't mention Sathish's name to police because he had threatened to orphan her by doing away with her parents and her younger sister. After the 'inquiry' with the survivor, the inspector summoned her parents to the station where they were asked to stay till the early hours of the next day. "When we entered the inspector's room around 1am, police attacked me. A male constable hit my husband repeatedly on the back," the girl's mother told. She is now being assisted by the coordinator of a service organisation AIMS, Kanya. When contacted, inspector Raji told, "You should not ask about Pooja cases to the investigation officer. It is a sensational case." then contacted Anna Nagar deputy commissioner Snehapriya who denied any such attack on the complainant at Anna Nagar all-women police station. The girl is now at KMCH and the CWC is yet to forward the case to the DCPO to assign a child counsellor to help her. CWC chairperson Rajkumar Muthukrishnam told: "I was not aware of this case. As per procedure, we will forward it to the DCPO and assign a counsellor to speak to the girl."

Jay Shah becomes ICC chairman unopposed

Delhi : Unopposed, BCCI secretary Jay Shah will succeed Greg Barclay as independent chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Shah, the sole nominee after Barclay declined a third term, will become ICC chairman on December 1, 2024. Shah promised to promote cricket worldwide after his election. He added the inclusion of T20 cricket in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics is crucial for the sport. "I will collaborate with the ICC and our member

nations to globalize cricket. At a key point, we must balance numerous formats, promote breakthrough technology, and present our premier events to new worldwide markets. He stated that cricket should be more inclusive and popular than before. Shah follows Jagmohan Dalmiya, Sharad Pawar, N Srinivasan, and Shashank Manohar as ICC leaders. Shah, who will finish his second term as BCCI secretary in October 2025, must take a three-year

India and Maldives aim to expedite defence projects

NEW DELHI: India and the Maldives on discussed expediting implementation of various ongoing defence cooperation projects in the archipelago, in a development that comes soon after external affairs minister S Jaishankar visited Male last month amid the strain in bilateral ties. The 5th defence cooperation dialogue, with Indian defence secretary Giridhar Aramane and Maldives' chief of national defence force General Ibrahim Hilmy leading the delegation-level talks here, extensively reviewed matters related to bilateral defence cooperation. "The two sides also deliberated on some



other areas of common interest such as high-level military exchanges and capability development projects. The participation in the forthcoming bilateral military exercise was also discussed," an official said. "The entire range of talks were productive, and will advance shared interests of the two nations in the near

future and bring stability and prosperity in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)," he added. During his visit, Jaishankar had also assured the top leadership of the Maldives that the country remained an important partner of India in maintaining peace and stability in the IOR. Since the pro-China

Mohamed Muizzu govt came to office in Male last November, bilateral relations with India have become strained. Apart from signing a defence cooperation pact with China, the Muizzu govt forced India to withdraw its military personnel. I operating a Dornier-228 maritime aircraft and.

Coaching tenders are issued by DDA sports complexes

"While DDA charges a fee for using the facilities at the complexes from members or non-members"

Delhi: Development Authority (DDA) has invited professional sports coaches or coaching firms to instruct interested Delhiites at its sports complexes in various disciplines. Coaching will be revenue-sharing with some restrictions. DDA runs 17



sports centers with over 53,386 members (excluding dependents) and 213,235 monthly users. Chilla Sports Complex, CWG Village Sports Complex, Saket Sports Complex, Siri Fort Complex, Dwarka Sports Complex at Sector 17, and Roshanara Club operate 158 coaching schemes with about

6,175 trainees. Coaching. The complex trains members and non-members in sports. "While DDA charges a fee for using the facilities at the complexes from members or non-members, provision for coaches is also provided after paying additional fees," a rep stated. "The DDA management will determine

coaching days and times based on facility availability. No coach or coaching agency can receive more than two sports complexes "official said. During busy hours like 6am-8am and 6pm-8pm, sports complexes rarely offer instruction. Regular members can use facilities during this period. If the complex secretary finds spare capacity, coaching can be allowed during these hours, with certain requirements "authority]. DDA will supply infrastructure and facilities; coaches or organizations will run sessions. "The coach and DDA would split outdoor coaching fees 60:40. Facilities where

DDA supplies most training aids and interior facilities share 50:50. At least 10% of economically disadvantaged trainees must receive free coaching, according to regulations "The authority invited tenders on June 23. Officials stressed that coaches or agencies who have not offered free instruction to the necessary number of trainees will not be eligible for contract extensions. "If there is a requirement to impart coaching to EWS sections by more than 10% of trainees, then DDA will pay the coaches their share of the fees over and above the mandatory 10%," a rep said.

LG unified public entertainment licensing platform

Delhi: LG Saxena's unified public entertainment licensing platform, launched earlier this month, has made business easier and helped turn Delhi into a dynamic city, restaurateurs claimed. Restaurant operators may now schedule gigs without worrying about getting a license at the last minute with a long-term license. Before launching the service, they had to file a police license form before hosting singer, band, percussionist, or stand-up shows. Permissions were slow, so you couldn't book good artists or host last-minute shows. This link lets you apply for a longer license online. Sandeep Goyle, National Restaurant Association of India Delhi chapter head, said this will help many businesses. The manager of a popular restaurant stated even a casual gig required a license and much documenta-



tion before submission. "Permission could take two weeks to a month. It could also be refused. This nearly ended live music and performance in restaurants, which mostly used DJs or recorded music "said. An LG secretariat official said the webpage was designed to streamline, simplify, and standardize the capital's licensing process for amusement parks, auditoriums, and video game parlours. According to the source, the licensing unit of Delhi Police, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, and National Informatics Centre created the transformational portal to improve

licensing operations across Delhi. The paperwork and documentation requirements are much reduced, streamlining the application processing and cooperation by combining municipal organizations, Delhi Fire Service, and Delhi Police onto a single platform." The application can be filled out online from anywhere and sent to all agencies simultaneously for quick processing. This allowed public performers, poets, and comedians to perform without having their scripts approved by police before the capital event.

736 birds of six species protected under Wildlife Act schedules

Delhi: At least 736 birds of six species protected under different Wildlife Act schedules were rescued from at least two shops at Coat market, also known as Kabootar market, in Jama Masjid in central Delhi after a raid by the department of forest and wildlife on . rds lived in metal and plastic cages of various sizes. The shopkeepers packed the cages inhumanely in confined areas. The shopkeepers fled after witnessing the raiders. The officials stated Jama Masjid police officers helped the forest and

wildlife department's raiding squad find and rescue the birds. Anamika, deputy conservator of forests (central division), said the 736 rescued birds included six kinds of Parakeets and Munias. There were 325 Scaly Breasted Munias, 190 Rose Ringed, 123 Black Headed, 39 Red, 37 Alexandrine, and 22 Plum Headed. "The abducted birds are fed and watered in the central forest section. Anamika (one name) stated, "After some observation, they will be released in Asola Bhatti Sanctuary."

After a tip regarding Jama Masjid stores illegally holding endangered species, the central forest division launched the raid, officials said. A team of wildlife inspectors, foresters, wildlife and forest guards, and animal handlers went to the Coat Market with local police. "Since our team had to conduct the raid and rescue operation in a sensitive locality, we roped in the local Jama Masjid police staff to handle any security and safety issues," stated the DCF."

PUC centers reopen



Delhi: Petroleum dealers association officials said most pollution-under-control (PUC) checking centre operators at Delhi petrol pumps resumed operations after calling off their indefinite strike to demand higher fees. After a meeting between the Delhi Petrol Dealers Association (DPDA) and Delhi transport department officials, who promised to investigate the striking dealers' requests, s e r v i c e s resumed. DPDA general secretary Bibek Banerjee said: "The principal secretary, transport, agreed to relook into rate revision based on actual costs involved in the process. The officer will get DPDA's complete reasoning for PUCC tariff increases soon. For

the greater good, DPDA has called off PUC centers' petrol pump strikes. The transport agency said PUC centre dealers put off the strike after talking with them. "They will justify raising PUC rates in detail. The transport official, who requested anonymity, said the department will review the findings and take action. The Delhi government reported 945 PUC centers, 600 of which operate from petrol pumps. Around 400 dealers went on an extended strike from 15 to demand double testing. Following a 13-year gap, the government recommended raising PUC rates by 20 to 40 last week. Petroleum traders say the raise is insufficient to cover costs while waiting for notification.

Scrap 'illegal' car, get refund for next purchase

Delhi: Scrapping your old car will get you a discount on your future one. Delhi government sent LG VK Saxena a proposal for approval. Kailash Gahlot, transport minister, said the policy encouraged the destruction of old, polluting vehicles and the adoption of newer, cleaner ones. "By offering tax concessions, we hope to make it easier for vehicle owners to transit to more environment-friendly options," said Gahlot. The government would reduce the motor vehicles (MV) tax for new transport and non-transport cars provided a certificate is submitted confirming an old vehicle was scrapped at a registered vehicle scrapping plant. To qualify for savings, one must acquire a new car in the same category as the scrapped one. New diesel cars will receive a 15% MV tax concession.

FSSAI crackdown on 'A1 or A2' milk product ads

Delhi : India's top food safety regulator has prohibited the marketing and sale of milk and milk products labelled as A1 or A2, deeming such practices "misleading". The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issued an order aimed at curbing what it sees as deceptive promotions, particularly on social media platforms, that tout A2 butter, curd or ghee as superior products, a person aware of the matter said, asking not to be named. It has come to the notice of FSSAI that several food business operators are selling/marketing milk and milk products such as ghee, butter, curd etc in the name of A1 & A2 under FSSAI licence number and/or registration certificate", the order stated. The regulator explained that the A1 and A2 distinction in milk is related to differences in protein structure, specifically beta-casein. Consequently, the FSSAI deemed A2 claims on milk fat products as misleading and not in compliance with the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006 and associated regulations.

DGCA fines Air India, 2 officials Rs 99 lakh

Delhi : DGCA has slapped a fine of Rs 99 lakh on Air India and two of its senior officials for a rostering lapse that paired a trainee pilot with a non-training captain for operating an international flight this July. The regulator has also suspended post holder approval of Air India director (training) for six months.

Zydus to buy 50% stake in Sterling Biotech

Delhi : Zydus Lifesciences and Perfect Day Inc, a Temasek portfolio company, have signed an agreement to buy the latter's 50% stake in Sterling Biotech in a Rs 550 crore deal. Post the transaction, Sterling Biotech will become a 50:50 joint venture, a company statement said. Sterling Biotech is one of the leading producers of pharmaceutical Gelatine, Di-Calcium Phosphate and some APIs.T

PMJDY marks decade of success, UP leads in the country with over 9.46 crore bank accounts

Lucknow The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, an ambitious financial inclusion initiative launched by the Central Government, completed ten years on Wednesday, with Uttar Pradesh emerging as the leading state, with over 9.46 crore Jan Dhan accounts—18 percent of the more than 53 crore opened across the country during this period. A notable achievement in Uttar Pradesh is the significant participation of women, with approximately 5 crore of these accounts belonging to female account holders. The state also leads in the distribution of Rupay cards through the Jan Dhan accounts. The success of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana in Uttar Pradesh is a testament to the Yogi government's commitment to prioritizing and effectively implementing central schemes.

Telemedicine to access specialized doctors

Delhi: State-run hospitals will provide Delhi residents telemedicine from doctors and specialists. Sources stated Delhi health minister Saurabh Bharadwaj has authorized doctors from several government hospitals to consult with patients via eSanjeevani. The Centre for Development of Advance Computing (C-DAC), which built the Sanjeevani software, agreed to Bharadwaj's request to alter it for the Delhi government. National patients can consult doctors in central government and municipal hospitals in the capital. A six-member committee led by ILBS

chancellor Dr. SK Sarin, created by Delhi High Court to improve health services in state-run and MCD hospitals and dispensaries, also advocated telemedicine. Sources said C-DAC will build a Delhi-only platform with state-run hospital doctors. "Since the government was in the process of hiring more doctors through UPSC and on contract, officials said the facility will be reviewed in due course of time and will be opened to patients from other states also," a rep said. Delhi's health department will hire general practitioners and specialists in surgery, , obstetrics and gynae-

Produced a project study for outsourcing Karol Bagh maintenance

Delhi: Senior civic officials stated that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) will pilot outsourcing municipal park management to commercial concessionaires to improve their upkeep. The 762-park Karol Bagh zone will host the pilot. A senior MCD official said the horticulture department has produced a project study for outsourcing Karol Bagh maintenance, including upkeep, pruning, rubbish collection, and vegetation. "The sanitation department manages waste in all zones through private

concessionaires. We're outsourcing Karol Bagh park maintenance to a specialist. It is estimated to cost roughly ₹5 crore annually. The official, who requested anonymity, said the idea may be expanded to other zones if successful. MCD's horticulture department administers 15,226 parks on 5,172.07 acres. Most parks—90%—are "housing area parks" (HAP) with areas under 5,000 square meters. Besides providing a green lung for Delhi, these parks allow citizens to exercise and

play. According to an MCD official, outsourcing park management to experts should save money. "We expect better park maintenance. It will expedite park maintenance concerns from citizens. The zonal officer would oversee all agency activity, the statement stated. The top MCD official stated that of 762 parks in Karol Bagh, 42 are more than 4,047sqm, 119 are 2,023.5sqm to 4,047sqm, and the rest are smaller. Reported last year that the corporation had a gardener

shortage, citing an MCD study that indicated 56% of gardener positions were vacant as of September 2023. Only 3,446 of 7,872 sanctioned gardener posts were hired, causing trouble in north and east Delhi. Karol Bagh zone managed parks with two trucks fill gardening shortages, the department hires multi-task staff (MTS), according to a second city official. "The civic body occasionally hires MTS workers for this. The official said outsourcing maintenance can improve agency accountability.

As hundreds of Chinese items lose tax exclusions, the US-China trade battle escalates



Delhi: Recently, the US has banned, restricted, or imposed high taxes on hundreds of Chinese imports to stimulate domestic production and reduce dependence on Chinese commodities. The USTR has already added tariffs to half of 429 items. The USTR excluded further duties from the "Section 301" probe of China's technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation measures in previous announcements. The current 429 product-specific exclusions (352 reinstated and 77 COVID-related) expire on May 31, 2024. The US trade agency declared a 14-day transition period for all current exclusions until June 14, 2024, and to "extend certain exclusions through May 31, 2025" in a new notice. "To allow for a transition period, the US Trade Representative is extending all currently expiring exclusions through June 14, 2024," it stated. Chinese motors and medical equipment are excluded until May 2025. The USTD ruled that "extending these exclusions will support efforts to shift sourcing out of China, or provide additional time where, despite efforts to source products from alternative sources, availability of the product outside of China remains limited". Last March, the USTR reinstated some "Section 301" tariff exceptions for Chinese goods. Former President Donald Trump began a trade war with China and imposed tariffs on nearly \$300 billion in Chinese goods, invoking Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Trump granted product tariff exclusions for select businesses

Gaming company Nazara earns Rs 17 crore in Q4, revenue falls 8%

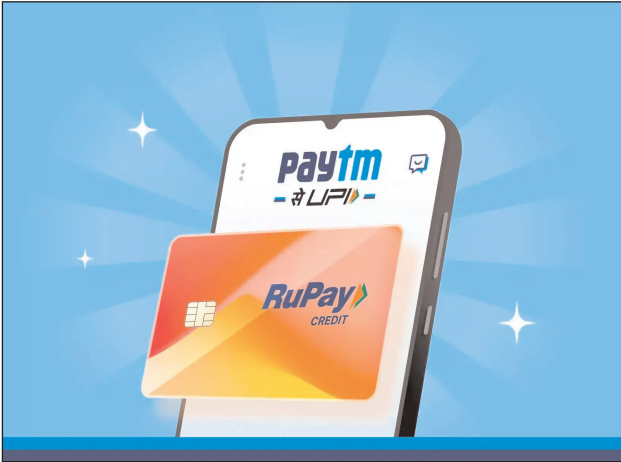
Delhi: Gaming and sports media platform Nazara Technologies reported net profit from its sustained operations at Rs 17.1 crore in the January-March quarter of FY24, up 43.6% from Rs 11.9 crore the year before. Operating revenue down 8% to Rs 266.2 crore from Rs 289.3 crore in FY23. The company reported a 21.8% increase in net profit to Rs 74.8 crore from Rs 61.4 crore in FY23. FY24 revenue rose 4.3% to Rs 1,138.3 crore from Rs 1,091 crore.



laying the groundwork for rapid scaling. Nitish Mittersain, Nazara Technologies' founder, CEO, and joint MD, reported 4.3% revenue and 16.5% EBITDA increase. The company's running cash flow

UPI connection boosts RuPay credit cards

Delhi: UPI (Unified Payments Interface) integration has boosted RuPay credit cards, with 75% of 'Credit Cards (CC) on UPI' transactions happening at small businesses, according to a Thursday report. Kiwi found that 'Credit Cards on UPI' was most popular among young folks under 40. CC on UPI is the main payment method, with consumers spending over Rs 22,000 monthly. UPI CCs average 21 transactions each month, four times more than real credit cards. "RuPay Credit Cards' market share rose from 3% in FY23 to 10% in FY24. "UPI's success is



largely responsible," stated Kiwi Co-founder Mohit Bedi. Virtual credit cards are growing rapidly. He stated that about 20% of credit cards issued in the country are virtual. The survey found that UPI CC transactions average

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine on Hero FinCorp for violating regulatory standards

Delhi: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fined Hero FinCorp Limited Rs 3,10,000 for violating the fair practices policy for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). An RBI assessment has uncovered that Hero FinCorp failed

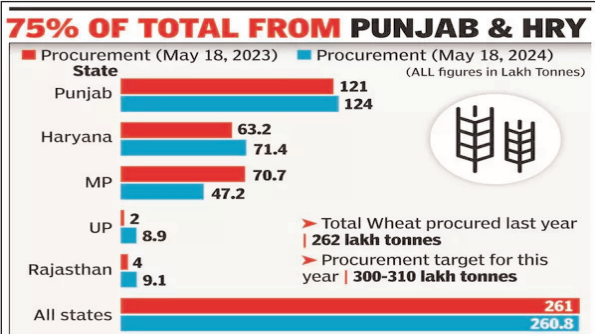


to communicate the terms and conditions of loans in written form to

borrowers in a language that they understand. RBI conducted a statutory inspection of the company, specifically focusing on its financial situation as of March 31, 2023.

Fully procured wheat by centre exceeds last year's mark

Delhi: This Rabi selling season, the Food Ministry announced that the Central government had purchased 262.48 lakh metric tonnes of wheat in various states, beating previous year's 262.02 lakh. The Rabi marketing season 2024-25 MSP outflow was Rs. 59,715 crores, benefiting 22.31 lakh farmers. Five states dominated procurement. Punjab procured 124.26 lakh metric tons (LMT), followed by Haryana with 71.49 LMT and Madhya Pradesh with 47.78 LMT. Rajasthan and



Uttar Pradesh followed with 9.66 and 9.07 LMT. According to the Ministry, 728.42 LMT paddy equivalent to 489.15 LMT of rice has been acquired directly from 98.26 lakh farmers during the Kharif marketing scheme 2023-24, with a total

Musk accuses WhatsApp of misusing user data every night



Delhi: Today, Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk accused Meta-owned WhatsApp of exporting user data every night. An X user said WhatsApp exports user data every night for "analysed and used for targeted advertising, making users the product, not the customer". Musk said "WhatsApp exports your user data every night". "Some people still think it is secure," stated the tech billionaire. Elon Musk's claim was not

addressed by Meta or WhatsApp. John Carmack, a computer programmer and video game developer, asked Elon Musk if communications are ever scanned or forwarded. "I assume usage patterns and routing metadata is collected, and if you invoke a bot in a conversation you are obviously opening it up, but I am still under the impression that the message contents are secure by default," John wrote on X. X has

also attacked Mark Zuckerberg's Meta Platform. The billionaire said Meta is greedy at grabbing credit for advertisers who execute campaigns on its platform earlier this month. Well-known rivalry between Elon Musk and Mark Zuckerberg. They were supposed to engage in a "cage fight" called the fight of the century. The tech leaders never clashed.

Google makes a minority investment of \$350 million in Flipkart

Delhi: According to reports, Google contributed roughly \$350 million to Flipkart's almost \$1 billion fundraising round, which was spearheaded by parent company Walmart. Flipkart declined to comment on the funding's details, but sources informed that the internet giant has contributed roughly \$350 million for a minority interest in the company. The investment round has concluded with Google joining, increasing Flipkart's worth to much beyond \$35 billion, according to sources. Walmart contributed approximately \$600 million to Flipkart during the investment round that concluded in December of last year. In 2021, Flipkart completed its largest funding round, raising \$3.6 billion at a valuation of \$37.6 billion from

Boost For Quick Commerce Foray

Google has been ramping up its India investments and may look at extending its partnership with Flipkart to other areas as well, according to market advisors

With Google on board, the \$1bn investment round has been closed, taking Flipkart's valuation to over \$35bn. The funding comes in handy for

Flipkart as it looks to enter the quick commerce space

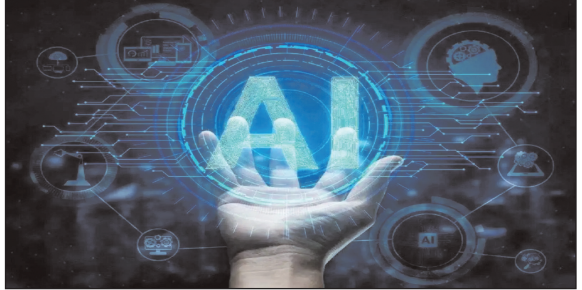
Flipkart has been in a partnership with Google Cloud since 2022

The co, which competes with players like Amazon and SoftBank-backed Meesho to cater to customers who are increasingly going digital, has been leveraging Google's cloud stack to widen tech capabilities and reach more users

investors in a deal co-led by Walmart. It is believed that the company's valuation was modified to \$33 billion following the 2022 separation of fintech PhonePe from the group. Flipkart stated that regulatory permissions are a prerequisite for the investment. "Google's proposed investment and its cloud collaboration will help Flipkart expand its business and advance the modernisation of its digital infrastructure to serve customers across the country,"

the company said in a statement. Google Cloud and Flipkart have been partnered since 2022. Flipkart has been using Google's cloud stack to expand its IT capabilities and reach more consumers. Flipkart competes with players like Amazon and Meesho, which is sponsored by SoftBank, to cater to clients who are increasingly turning digital. In a \$1.4 billion investment round in 2017, Flipkart received backing from Tencent, Microsoft, and other competitors of Google.

DD Kisan launches 50-language AI anchors Krish and Bhoomi



Delhi: Doordarshan Kisan will be the first government TV channel to introduce AI anchors, ushering in the 'Artificial Intelligence' age in agriculture. Krish and Bhoomi, the AI anchors, are advanced computer algorithms that behave and perform like humans. Once unthinkable, they can deliver news 24/7, 365 days a year without tiring or taking breaks. Farmers in all states will see AI anchors, from Kashmir to Tamil Nadu and Gujarat to Arunachal. These anchors will provide national and global agriculture research, farm market trends,

weather updates, and government scheme updates. The anchors' fluency in 50 domestic and international languages is remarkable. Only DD Kisan broadcasts nationwide. It serves farmers exclusively and was founded by the Indian government. DD Kisan Channel has met these standards for nine years. The DD Kisan channel promotes innovative farmers. To support the country's agricultural and rural populations, it promotes comprehensive education. The DD Kisan channel focuses on sustainable farming, animal husbandry, and plantation.

CM Rekha visit at Sessions House amid mansion search

Delhi: Chief minister Rekha Gupta's recent visit to Sessions House, a lovely home in north Delhi's Civil Lines neighborhood, has alarmed judicial personnel. Gupta is looking for government housing. She visited the British-era cottage at 2 North End Road. Tis Hazari Court, the chief district and sessions judge, is renovating the enormous building. "The judiciary reveres Sessions House bungalow. Treating district courts this way is wrong. "Respect and preserve this house's legacy," stated a district court senior judge. Sessions House sits on nearly two acres and features a seminar and judicial hall, six-room residence complex, servant quarters, and grounds. According to a top Delhi government official, CM Gupta has considered numerous government bungalows over the past few weeks but has not decided on her



ONLY 45% OF CAPITAL BWG COMPOST WET WASTE

Delhi: The MCD has identified Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs), which include large establishments like hospitals, hotels, and commercial buildings, as crucial in managing wet waste. A significant portion of Delhi's solid waste is wet waste, which, if properly managed through composting, can reduce the volume of landfill waste. The MCD has a responsibility to ensure the proper disposal of solid waste, including wet waste. The city generates a substantial amount of solid waste daily (around 11,000 tonnes), but only a portion of it is processed. The Supreme Court has criticized the MCD for its failure to implement the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and for not adequately managing waste.

but AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal received a huge property at 6, Flagstaff Road in Civil Lines. image.png

Court issued notices to the Enforcement Directorate

Delhi : Former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has moved a Delhi court seeking a no-objection certificate (NOC) to renew his expired passport. Kejriwal, who is currently an accused in the Delhi excise policy case, has requested a 10-year renewal. His passport expired in 2018. Special Judge Dig Vinay Singh of the Rouse Avenue Court issued notices to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), asking them to file their replies when the matter is scheduled for next hearing. At the same hearing, the CBI informed the court that it



was prepared to begin arguments on framing charges in the corruption case related to the now-defunct Delhi Excise Policy for 2021–22. The CBI is handling the corruption investigation, while the ED is probing the linked money laundering allegations under the same FIR. In a separate but related development, the Delhi High

Court granted permission to businessman Amit Arora — another accused in the same case, to travel to Dubai between June 6 and June 16. Arora, director of Gurugram-based Buddy Retail Pvt Ltd, had requested the court to allow him to travel, citing the need for medical treatment for himself and his minor son.

About 18% of Indians can report e-crimes

Delhi: Indian internet usage is reaching saturation, but only 18% of Indians know how to report cybercrimes, a government survey released found. Smartphone and mobile data use is higher among younger people. Despite frequent use (most respondents used the internet everyday), the poll found that even

young people struggle to create documents and presentations for school and work. However, the gender difference in mobile and internet use, excluding online transactions, is shrinking. The National Statistics Office's Comprehensive Modular Survey: Telecom (CMS: Telecom) of 34,950 homes in January–March 2025

produced these trends. NSO released the survey results on May 29. NSO last collected data on mobile phone and internet use in the Comprehensive Annual Modular Survey (CAMS) in July 2022–June 2023, which surveyed 3,02,086 households and posed questions about education and financial inclusion.



DMRC advises against train and station social media reels

Delhi : For a safe and seamless ride, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) warned passengers not to make social media videos on its trains. Metro is for travel, not trends. No reels or encouragement next time—a smooth, safe travel is more important than a few seconds of fame. "DMRC post on X. DMRC also posted a poster showing a man singing with a guitar at a metro stop. The poster reads 'No reels on the wheels' and 'Your performance deserves a better stage'.



DMRC posted two more theme-related posters. A girl dances with the message: "Dance like nobody's watching - just not on the metro." The other shows DMRC has posted these posters at many metro stations, advising passengers not to make reels or cause others discomfort. According to Section 59(1) of the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002, violators who cause disturbance to fellow passengers or are found inebriated can be fined up to 500. In addition, violators may lose their money or ticket and be removed from the train or station by metro personnel. dude with headphones listening to music: "Metro, ek safar hai suhana... jab na ho loud gaana bajana.

Supreme Court approves south Delhi ridge group housing project

Delhi : The Supreme Court-appointed Central Empowered Committee (CEC) has approved a group housing project in Vasant Kunj Sector B, Pocket 1 in south Delhi for final approval. CEC stated none of the 23 trees on the proposed project site are being cut, even though 85% of it—4,553 sqm out of 5,353 sqm—is in the morphological ridge, a zone with the same legal safeguards as Delhi's designated ridge areas. CEC further reported to the highest court on May 14 that the area, while part of the morphological ridge, is flat and surrounded by DDA residential development. A private developer is overseeing the project and must not cut or move any trees. CEC inspected 23 trees and found 19 healthy, three dried out, and one rehabilitated after falling. The assessment stated that the project proponent must



plant 500 indigenous trees, 250 along internal routes and 250 along the project's boundary, to compensate for tree destruction. It said a 385-metre-long green barrier must be installed around the site's boundaries.

ing the project and must not cut or move any trees. CEC inspected 23 trees and found 19 healthy, three dried out, and one rehabilitated after falling. The assessment stated that the project proponent must

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.

Over 14 lakh car drivers received traffic challans in 4.5 months

Delhi : Car drivers are the top traffic violators in Delhi this year, according to Delhi Police. Between January 1 and May 15, 14,11,801 drivers were cited for traffic violations, topping the list. In contrast, two-wheeler drivers earned 12,72,898 challans, 11% fewer than vehicle drivers. Despite the huge number of two-wheelers on Delhi's roadways, private automobile drivers broke 211.4% more traffic laws than business vans or cars. The report reached Delhi Police headquarters. A senior traffic



police officer noticed that vehicle drivers committed 54.48% more traffic offenses than two-wheelers in 2024. However, the first four-and-a-half months of 2025 show a diminishing margin. While 7,626 HGVs and 7,207 rural vehicles were penalized within the same period, they were the most disciplined

road users. Compared to 29,010 MGVS challans last year, 32,25,769 car drivers were fined in 2024. Other vehicle categories had many violations this year. Commercial vehicles and cars earned 4,53,363 challans, while auto-rickshaws got 3,10,712. LGVs received 2,17,565 challans and HTVs 21,600.

Apna Ghar Awaas Yojana ' housing program, offering 7,500 apart.

Delhi : The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) opened bookings for its 'Apna Ghar Awaas Yojana 2025' housing program, offering 7,500 apartments in Narela, Loknayakpuram, and Siraspur. The first day, May 27, saw 452 units rented in Narela, including 209 EWS, 136 LIG, 3 MIG, and 6 HIG. As well, 37 LIG and 48 MIG units were booked in Loknayakpuram and 13 in Siraspur. The program offers 564 LIG flats in Siraspur, 150 LIG and 96 MIG in Loknayakpuram, and 694 EWS, 5,384 LIG, 386 MIG, and 226 HIG in Narela. The residential flats have



15%–25% discounts across all categories. LIG flats in Loknayakpuram, Narela, and Siraspur would be 25% off, and EWS, MIG, and HIG flats in Narela and Loknayakpuram will be 15% off "officials added. All Indian citizens 18 and older can participate in the first-come, first-served policy. Registrations.

Govt allocates 12,952 crore for public transport system

The BJP government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, presented its maiden budget on Tuesday, March 25. Gupta presented 1 lakh crore budget for 2025–26, a 31.56% increase from last year. for the financial year 2025–26, the government has allocated 12,952 crore to improve.

Delhi: At Kilokari on Delhi Power Minister Ashish Sood launched South Asia's "largest" 20-MW battery energy storage system (BESS). According to BRPL, the system is India's "first commercially approved" utility-scale energy storage system and will improve electricity supply in South Delhi, which has over one lakh inhabitants. The 20-MW (40 MWh) BESS at the BRPL substation in Kilokari is South Asia's "largest" utility-scale system, it stated. It stated the energy storage system can



provide up to four hours of reliable daily power — two hours each day and night — to over one lakh inhabitants in South Delhi's densely populated Kilokari neighborhood. According to the statement, the system improves power supply, grid stability, power purchase costs, peak shaving,

network overloading, and renewable power integration. This project improves grid dependability, especially during peak demand, setting a new norm for urban energy management. The one-year project uses innovative Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) technology for

This project improves grid dependability, especially during peak demand

Capital's 3 ISBTS acquire prepaid auto booths

Delhi: Officials from the transport department indicated that the three interstate bus terminals (ISBTS) in the Capital may soon acquire prepaid auto stands and that room is being provided for a predetermined number of cars. The government is seeking bids for prepaid stand construction and operation at Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, and Kashmere Gate ISBTS. "We've noticed that cars are often parked haphazardly outside, and monitoring or assigning spots hasn't helped. The transport department official hopes the prepaid booths will assist get cars in line and reduce traffic outside the ISBTS.

safety, thermal stability, and longevity. The discom said the system's temperature-controlled

containers work well in Delhi's varied climates, making it perfect for crowded urban.

The trial run of the Dwarka Expressway-airport tunnel has begun

Delhi: There will be a brief trial run of the tunnel connecting the Dwarka Expressway to Indira Gandhi International Airport. Every day from noon to

three o'clock, the tunnel will be accessible to traffic as part of the trial. With eight lanes, the 3.6-kilometer-long tunnel is the largest and longest road tunnel

in India. The Dwarka Expressway project includes it in Package 4. Only 18.9 km of the 29 km expressway is located in Haryana, while the remaining

10.1 km is in Delhi. The Dwarka Expressway tunnel provides a speedier and more direct route to the airport, according to the Gurugram Police.