The Sikh Times www.thesikhtimes.in

VISIT: Email:sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

National Daily

Vol. 16 No. 9

RNI NO. DELENG/2008/25465

3 die as fire breaks out at residential building in East Delhi's Krishna Nagar

Sanjay Kumar

least seven newborns died in a massive fire at a chil-New Delhi, May 26: dren's hospital in east Three people died and Delhi's Vivek Vihar on another was seriously Saturday night. injured after a fire broke Meanwhile, police said out at a four-storey resianother fire incident was dential building in Krishna reported in the area at Nagar area of East Delhi Krishna Nagar police staon Sunday, officials of the tion on Sunday. Chief of Delhi Fire Services said. Delhi Fire Services Atul Officials said the charred Garg said a call regarding body of a 66-year-old a blaze at a house near the woman, identified as Bank of India, Krishna Promila Shad, was recov-Nagar was received at 2.35 ered from the first floor of am. "The flames were the building, while two doused by 7.20 am and it others, identified as 18was found that the fire year-old Keshav Sharma began in 11 two-wheelers and 39-year-old Anju in the stilt parking of the Sharma, were declared house and spread to the brought dead by doctors. first floor. The building Five fire tenders were comprises ground (stilt) rushed to the spot, they plus four floors," he said said, adding 14 vehicles Officials said the second, and two bicylces at the third and fourth floors spot were reduced to were affected by heat and ashes. This is the second smoke. One charred body major fire incident in the was found on the first floor, City in as many days. At

Garg said. Sanjay Raut claims Fadnavis, Shah worked against Gadkari

in Lok Sabha election

Mumbai/Nagpur, May 26: Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Amit Shah and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis worked for Nitin Gadkari's defeat in the Lok Sabha elections. Raut's claims have drawn sharp reac tions from the BJP, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Congress's candidate from Nagpur. Raut alleged that Fadnavis had unwillingly campaigned for Gadkari, who contested from the Nagpur Lok Sabha seat, when he realised the Union minister couldn't be defeated. Nagpur is the hometown of both BJP leaders. 'Modi, Shah and Fadnavis worked for Gadkari's defeat in Nagpur. Fadnavis unwillingly joined the campaign for Gadkari when he realised he couldn't be defeated.



helped the opposition to get Gadkari defeated," he wrote in an article in his party's mouthpiece "Saamna" The Sena (UBT) leader alleged that Chief Minister Eknath Shinde had distributed Rs 25-30 crore in every constituency, and his machinery worked to defeat candidates of the NCP led by Ajit Pawar. Taking a potshot at Yogi Adityanath, he said the Uttar Pradesh chief minister will be replaced if the Modi-Shah government returns to power after the Lok Sabha elections. Elections to the 48 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra were held in five phases from April 19 to May 20. State BJP chief Chandrasekhar Bawankule said Raut had become "delusional". "The BJP is not a party but a family. People who have always played politics of factionalism will never understand family bonds. Modi, Shah Yogi Adityanath, Gadkari and Fadnavis are part of the BJP's family. We always work on the principle of nation first, then party and last self," he said. For Raut, NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar always comes first, his interests and Uddhav Thackeray come last, he said. "If Raut has the courage, he should write a column about how he tried to become the chief minister in 2019 (when the undivided Shiv Sena joined hands with the NCP and Congress)," Bawankule said. Congress candidate from Nagpur seat Vikas Thakre said Raut had praised Gadkari in the past and has, in his article, claimed that the BJP leader would win the Lok Sabha polls and hence, Fadnavis campaigned for him.

New Delhi, Monday, 27 May 2024

No progress taking place under BJP government, unemployment highest in 45 years: Priyanka Gandhi

Simmi Kaur Babbar

Fatehgarh Sahib/Patiala, May 26: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday lashed out at the BJP-led Centre, asking why there is no prosperity in the lives of people if the country's economy is growing at a rapid pace. Addressing her first poll rally in Punjab in favour of party candidate from Fatehgarh Sahib seat Amar Singh, she also accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "speaking lies and making hollow promises with the public only to capture power". Attacking the Modi government, she said 70 crore youth are unemployed in the country and unemployment is the highest in 45 years. She said 30 lakh posts are vacant in the government sector under the Modi regime. "At stages, he (Modi) makes big claims that the economy is growing at a rapid pace. I want to ask if it is growing so fast and if there is progress in the country then why there is no progress in your (people) lives. Why did your children not get employment?" the

Congress general secretary asked. "And

Supreme Court to hear today

BJP's plea against Calcutta

High Court order on ads

during Lok Sabha election

will take up on Monday the BJP's petition

challenging a Calcutta High Court order

restraining the saffron party from publishing alleged derogatory advertisements against

the TMC and its leaders during the ongoing

Lok Sabha polls as they violated the Model

Code of Conduct. The BJP's petition is listed

before a Vacation Bench of Justice JK

Maheshwari and Justice KV Viswanathan on

May 27. The top court had on Friday agreed

to consider the BJP's petition after it was

mentioned before a Vacation Bench led by

Justice Bela M Trivedi for urgent listing. A

Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court

had on May 22 refused to interfere with a sin-

gle-judge order restraining the BJP from pub-

lishing 'derogatory' advertisements against

the TMC and its leaders, saying "Laxman

Rekha" should not be crossed and there

should not be any personal attacks. Refusing

to interfere with the May 20 single judge

order, the Division Bench had said the BJP

could move the single judge, seeking a

review or recall of its order. "You (BJP) are a

New Delhi, May 26: The Supreme Court

country is progressing fast then why are

steel factories here shutting down. Why the

industry is being weakened by imposing

GST? There is not even a single scheme for the middle class and for your relief. Progress is only being seen on TV, but no progress is taking place in your lives," she told the gathering. The Congress leader accused the BJP of not respecting the public at all. "They do not speak about your problems. They do not

tell what they are doing to contain inflation why inflation has gone up too much. If the and bring down unemployment," she said. "They do not tell why women are feeling unsafe in Punjab. They do not tell why the

drug problem has increased so much in Punjab," she added. The Congress general secretary asserted it is only her party which speaks about the public. "Modi ji can do anything for power," she said and added that the PM removed the "black" farm laws, referring to the now-repealed farm laws, because of elections and votes. "Whatever lies he puts before you and makes hollow promises only to capture power," she said. She also alleged that the BJP tried to topple state governments. She further alleged that the BJP took donations from companies, which were raided by the CBI, ED and Income Tax department. Without naming anyone, she referred

to the registration of an FIR against the managing editor of Ajit Group of Newspapers Barjinder Singh Hamdard. "You have seen here (Punjab) what happened to Ajit Newspaper," she said. The Punjab Vigilance bureau has registered a case against teachings of Bhagavad Gita.

Hamdard and 25 others in connection with alleged misappropriation of funds in the construction of Rs 315 crore Jang-e-Azadi memorial at Kartarpur in Jalandhar. "You need to understand what is happening at the Centre and what is happening in your state and how you are being misled at every level," she told the gathering. In Patiala, the Congress general secretary addressed an all-women rally where she hit out at the BJP on the issues of inflation and unemployment. Today, the biggest problem of women is inflation. You (women) go to shops and you cannot buy many things. Everything has turned costly," she said. Attacking Prime Minister Modi, she said that he was saying, "If you have buffaloes, the Congress will steal." "In order to create an illusion among the women, he would say that the Congress will conduct an X-ray and will steal your 'mangalsutra'," she said. "He would say they (Congress) are anti-Hindu and it is written in our manifesto that it will take your jewellery and give it to others," she said. "Whereas our party is a party which is of Mahatma Gandhi. His entire freedom movement was based on

7 newborns die in fire at children's hospital in East Delhi's Vivek Vihar

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, May 26: A massive fire broke out at a private children's hospital in east Delhi's Vivek Vihar, leaving seven newborns dead, officials said on Sunday.

The officials of the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) said the blaze broke out at the Baby Care New Born Hospital at around 11:30 pm on Saturday and soon spread to two other adjacent buildings. Sixteen fire tenders were pressed into service to douse the blaze, Divisional Fire Officer Rajendra Atwal said. Oxygen cylinders kept in the two-storey building exploded due to which the adjacent buildings were damaged, he said. Another fire official said two boutiques, a portion of

IndusInd Bank operating from an adjacent building and a shop on the ground floor were also damaged besides an ambulance and a scooty parked outside the building. Condoling the death of children, President Droupadi Murmu prayed for strength to the bereaved parents. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said

those responsible for negligence will not be spared. Health Minister Saurabh

Bharadwaj also said strictest punishment will be given to those found negligent or involved in any wrongdoing. In a post on X, Kejriwal said the government stood with those who lost their children in the fire incident, and added the administration was ensuring proper treatment to the injured. He said the reasons behind the fire were being probed and those found negligent will not be spared. DFS chief Atul Garg said 12 newborns were

escued from the medical facility but seven of them died. Five babies are undergoing treatment at another hospital, he said, adding some of them have received minor burn injuries. The bodies have been shifted to the GTB Hospital for postmortem, police Meanwhile, police arrested the owner of the children's hospital, officials said on Sunday. Dr Naveen Kichi had been on the run since the fire outbreak late on Saturday, they said. Delhi

Police have booked him under Sections 336 (act endangering life of personal safety of others) and 304A (causing death by negligence) of the IPC at Vivek Vihar police station

Army Chief General Manoj Pande gets one-month extension

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, May 26: The government on Sunday announced that a month-long extension in service has been given to Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande, who was to superannuate on May 31. This is first time that an Army Chief has been given an extension in service, since the Indira Gandhi-led government gave an extension to Gen SHFJ Manekshaw in the euphoria of the post 1971 India-Pak war. The Ministry of Defence on Sunday issued a statement saying "the Appointments Committee of Cabinet, met on May 26, 2024, approved the extension in service of Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj C Pande for a period of one month, beyond his normal age of superannuation (May 31, 2024), up to June 30, 2024". The MoD cited Rule 16 A (4) of the Army Rules 1954 for the extension. Chiefs of all the three services retire at age of 62. Lt General rank officers and their equivalent in the IAF and

the Navy retire at 60 years of age. The last time the rule was exercised was for General Manekshaw. And in turn his successor General GG Bewoor was also given a year's extension while Gen Manekshaw



Gen Bewoor went on to become Army Chief. The move of the Modi government has thrown up many possibilities. A senior functionary questioned "if the Appointments committee of Cabinet can

meet and extend the service of Chief, it could have very well appointed a new one. unless they fear a political controversy". The ongoing elections cannot be the excuse as the Navy Chief Admiral DK Tripathi who took over May 1, was

appointed after the model code of conduct was enforced. This one month extension means the next two seniormost – Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, the Vice Chief and Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh, the Southern Army Commander also retire on June 30. But going by past records, Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria took over as IAF Chief on the last day of service, September 30, 2019 and served for two years. Going by the case of Air Chief Marshal Bhadauria, Lt Gen Dwivedi and Lt Gen Singh

cannot be ruled out. Lt General Dwivedi and Lt General Singh are batchmates but the former is senior as per the commissioning seniority, that is when they passed out from the military academy.

Valmiki community members protest illegal construction

Hoshiarpur, May 26: There was an uproar in the Valmiki Ashram located on the local Hariana Road when members of the Valmiki community started protesting over the alleged illegal construction being done on the premises by some persons. On the occasion, Valmiki Samaj leader Kamal Bhatti said there is a huge statue of Bhagwan Valmiki in the ashram, which is very old and every year the birth anniversary of Valmiki is celebrated here with great pomp. He said for the last few days, some people were claiming this place as theirs with the intention of taking over the ashram land. In this regard, leaders and members of the Valmiki Samaj in Hoshiarpur had asked them to present documents related to the land, but they did not do so. Now, other party people had started illegal construction by building a wall in the ashram at night. Sant Girdhari Lal, Gaddi Nashin Pawan Valmiki Teerth, Amritsar, Om Prakash Gabbar, Vinod Kumar Billa, Surinder Kumar and Ajay Khosla, who reached the occasion, warned the police administration that if they did not take strict action against the rival party, the Valmiki community would hold protests across Punjab.

Cannot be a more attractive scheme, agniveers guaranteed government jobs: Amit Shah

New Delhi, May 26: Union Home Minister Amit Shah has stoutly defended the 'Agnipath' scheme, saying there cannot be a more attractive scheme for the youth as it offers guarantee of a full-term government job for 'agniveers' who retire following a fourvear tenure in the armed forces. In an interview with PTI, Shah said he felt pity for Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who has promised to scrap the shortterm recruitment scheme if his party's alliance comes to power, as he speaks without understanding the issue. While 25 per cent of 'agniveers' will be absorbed in the armed forces to serve a full-term, Shah claimed the job opportunities created for those retiring after the four-year tenure will be 7.5 times their number because of reservations for them in different state police forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF). "There cannot

very well thought-out scheme, he asserted. The short-term recruitment scheme will also bring down the average age of armed forces personnel, Shah said, adding a comparative study of defence forces globally would highlight that the average age is very high in India. "Not only reservation, they (agniveers) have also received age and physical fitness test relaxations. Their training period has also been done away with as they would be already trained on joining. So the 75 per cent, who will retire in four years, will have 7.5 times more reserved space (employment)," he

said. Asked if it was a guarantee, Shah

said, "It is a guarantee if they want to

join. There is no compulsion. I will

speak to you with facts and figures. So

be a more attractive scheme for the 25 per cent will be absorbed there asserted. The Congress has been criti-

country's youth than Agniveer. It is a (armed forces) and the rest if they cising the scheme, saying it harms the

want government services can join the CAPF, state police. They will get fullterm jobs with all due benefits like gratuity and pension. Now tell me where is the harm?" "This is a guarantee of government job till 58 years," he

future of youngsters aspiring to join the armed forces by retiring them after a short tenure. The party has promised to scrap it. In this context, the Home Minister also made light of the Congress's several promises, including a uniform Goods and Services Tax (GST) rate. Attacking Gandhi, who has been vocal on the issue, Shah said, "He (Gandhi) calls it a loot. You call the law of the country which was passed in Parliament where you yourself sit Gabbar Singh Tax. I

feel pity for him. No one in the Congress party even advises him." He questioned as to how luxury items consumed by the rich and things useful for the poor can be taxed at the same rate.

PM Modi's 'mujra' remark an insult to Bihar

Sasaram (Bihar), May 26: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his 'mujra' remark against Opposition leaders and said that he "insulted Bihar" by making such a comment. Addressing an election rally in favour of Manoj Kumar, Congress leader and Mahagathbandhan nominee for Sasaram Lok Sabha seat, Kharge said, "Modi ji insulted Bihar by using this word... it means mujra happens here. This is an insult to Bihar and its people. This is not how a PM should talk. He should be talking in a statesman-like manner." The Congress president's attack came after Modi vowed to thwart alleged attempts to rob Dalits and backward classes of reservation by INDIA bloc, which he accused of being "enslaved" and performing "mujra" for its Muslim vote bank. "Bihar is the land that has given a new direction to the fight for

from this soil that I will foil the plans of the INDIA bloc to rob the SCs, STs and OBC of their rights and divert those to Muslims. They may remain enslaved and perform 'mujra' to please their vote bank," the PM had said while addressing a poll rally in the state on Saturday. Kharge further said, "PM Modi considers himself as a 'Tees Maar Khan' (a person who glorifies himself). He is under the wrong impression. It is the people who are real 'Tees Maar Khan'. He (Modi) is like a dictator. If he returns to power for a third term, people will not be allowed to speak freely." He alleged that the BJP was spreading communal hatred to divert the attention of the people from issues that matter. "Neither the PM nor other BJP leaders will talk about issues such as growing unemployment or price rise. They are spreading communal

social justice. I wish to declare

Shaina, Hardik, Aditi clinch double crowns at state meet

Bengaluru: Shaina Manimuthu scored a fine double, clinching the girls singles titles in the U-15 and U-17 categories at the State subjunior ranking badminton tournament in Davanagere on Saturday. Shaina won the U-15 title after top seed Aikya Shetty retired from the final when Shaina was leading 21-18, 11-5. The champion was in her element in the U-17 final as she secured a 21-19, 21-14 w i n o v e r t o p s e e d D i y a Bheemaiah.Meanwhile, Mysuru's Hardik Divyansh beat third seed Ishan Naik 21-17, 21-19 to win the U-17 crown. His second crown came in boys doubles, where he partnered Amith Raj Natraj to down K Yadunandan and Vamshi A 17-21, 21-9, 21-14 to emerge victorious. Aditi Deepak Raj also clinched a double with triumphs in U-17 girls doubles and mixed doubles final. Boys: U-17: Final: Hardik Divyansh bt 3-Ishan Naik 21-17, 21-19. Semis: Ishan bt 9-Rishon Jerrin K 21-18, 21-14. Divyansh bt 11-Shyam Bindiganavile 21-16, 18-21, 21-6. Doubles final: 9-Amith Raj Natraj / Hardik Divyansh bt K Yadunandan / Vamshi A 17-21, 21-9, 21-14. U-15: Final: Sai Pushkar bt 1-Shyam Bindiganavile 21-11, 21-23, 21-18. Semis: Shyam bt Mehul Manav Arulmurugan 21-18, 21-9; Pushkar bt 4-Peeyush Tripathy 21-14, 21-19. Doubles final: 3-Peeyush Tripathy / Shyam Bindiganavile bt Harshavardhan S / Niketan Hari ND 21-11, 21-14. Girls: U-17: Final: Shaina Manimuthu bt 1-Diya Bheemaiah 21-19, 21-14. Semis: Diva bt Lakshya Rajesh 21-15, 21-17; Shaina bt 4-Aikya Shetty 21-19, 21-18. Doubles final: Aditi Deepak Raj / Vriddhi Ponnamma BV bt Ishika Baruah / Lakshya Rajesh 11-21, 21-16, 21-15.

10 patients abandoned per month at Kovai GH, lack of ward adds to woes

Sources said that recently a hospital staff rescued an elderly abandoned man near the casualty ward and sent him for treatment.

COIMBATORE: As the number of abandoned sick elderly people at Coimbatore Medical College Hospital (CMCH) is increasing, the hospital staff

and NGOs are finding it hard to help them after the closure of the 'unknown patients ward'. Most of the destitute people are forced to take treatment without caretakers and survive within the hospital premises. Some of them even die.A nurse said, "If there is a ward to handle unknown sick patients, many NGOs come forward to serve them. Unavailability of the ward forces us to take care of such patients in regular wards and it is difficult to manage them without caretakers.'

Another staff nurse said, "Mostly the family members of sick elderly people abandon them within the hospital premises at night or they are rescued and sent to the hospital by the public and as there is a shortage of staff, we are not able to give them special attention. Every patient needs a caretaker to take them for medical tests and bring them food, medicines, etc. It is practically impossible for the staff to care for every patient."Sources said that recently a hospital staff rescued an elderly



abandoned man near the casualty ward and sent him for treatment. Before that, he was left for around two days without care and the private security guards thought he had a caretaker. As he does not remember anything except his name, the case was referred to the poice. However, he died soon after.M Ganesh founder of Helping Hearts NGO said, "Most of the elderly people are abandoned by their family

members as they feel that they will be treated if left on the hospital premises. In the last one year alone we rescued 176 destitute people and the the previous year

186 people were rescued. Out of which 5 to 10 are rescued monthly from the CMCH campus. We reunite 80% of them with their families and a few die of sickness. Of the rest, those who are willing, we take them to our home and others remain in the hospital. We are trying to tackle this issue as much as possible but if the hospital reopens the unknown patients ward again, it will be easier.'

Sources said that the ward existed till pre-pandemic and NGOs-Helping Hearts and Change Trust took care of such patients.

However, with the closure of the ward, abandoned patients have to be treated along with other patients and that is difficult for volunteers to visit every ward and serve them. When asked, CMCH Dean A Nirmala told TNIE that they closed the ward due to space constraints and are planning to open the ward after they get space in the new super specialty

Hosp docs use novel method to save life

Mumbai: A novel procedure performed by neurologists in a public hospital saved a 59-yearold woman, who was critical after an aneurysm in her brain burst open and caused a bleed. The BMC-run Cooper Hospital, Juhu, is now among 11 centres across India to have used the new Trenza embolization device, said dan Dr Shailesh Mohite. The patient came to hospital with a headache and vomiting. Diagnostic scans revealed a ruptured aneurysm—when an artery's wall bulges out so much that it becomes thin enough to burst open. Neurologist Dr Pradyumna Oak said coil implant devices are increasingly used to handle aneurysms with good outcomes.

The device is inserted via a catheter to fill in a brain aneurysm. A coil stops the ruptured aneurysm from continuing to bleed," he said. The procedure would cost over Rs 10 lakh in private hospitals, but Cooper Hospital only charged a nominal sum from the family for the device. The device alone costs Rs 2.5 lakh, but Rs 1.5 lakh came from the state insurance scheme and some more from private donors.

'Trenza's advantage is that the patient doesn't need to take aspirin or similar drugs to prevent blood clots.

Other types of surgery would need the patient to take medications that could lead to re-bleeding," said Dr Oak.BMC's additional commissioner D Sudhakar Shinde said modern services are being provided to Mumbaikars.

"This successful procedure proves that complex surgeries are done in municipal hospitals at very reasonable rates and can benefit the common man," said Dr MohiteNeuralinks first brain implant patient shares his fears about the deviceNoland Arbaugh, the first recipient of Neuralink chip, improved performance with Seo's help. Elon Musk and team founded Neuralink in 2016 to create a brain interface for medical needs.

Several injured passengers on turbulence-hit Singapore flight need spinal surgery, hospital saysSeveral seriously injured individuals from the Singapore Airlines flight that encountered severe turbulence will require spinal surgery at a Bangkok hospital following the incident earlier this week.

Two enthusiastic patients leave hospital for a few hours to vote in Mumbai86-year-old Vasant Savarkar voted in hospital pyjamas after being allowed to leave the hospital for two hours due to low oxygen levels. He is not interested in politics. In Ghatkopar (West), 74-year-old Kusum Gaikwad voted despite hospitalization for low haemoglobin levels. Her daughter Sujata Sonawane mentioned her stay at Nulife Hospital for restless feet.

Sr doctor arrested for crushing woman under car at Mumbai's Sion hospital

MUMBAI: A senior doctor, who was in the forefront of BMC's Covid response, was arrested late Saturday evening after the death of a 60-year-old Mumbra woman whom he ran over in his car on the premises of Sion hospital the previous evening, police said. Dr Rajesh Dere, head of the hospital's forensics department who was dean of the BKC Covid centre during the pandemic, was at the wheel, police said. Sources close to the doctor told TOI Police said they received an emergency that the woman had collapsed in front of his car barely a couple of minutes after he started it.

Police have not only registered a case of causing death by negligence, and rash driving, they have also invoked sections pertaining to furnishing false information. Police said doctors treating the patient, Rubaida Shaikh, did not disclose the accident until officials became suspicious

and accessed CCTV footage that showed

a vehicle running her over.Dr Dere

declined to comment, but sources close to him said it wasn't a "hit and run" case. "The patient collapsed in front of his car, resulting in a minor dash," said a source. "The car must have had a speed of 5km/hr at best," said the source. After the patient collapsed, Dr Derehelped carry her to the emergency, the source said. The cause of death is reportedly "cardiogenic shock".

police report message from the hospital around 11 pm Friday of a woman found unconscious near gate 7 with injury to the body and was admitted for treatment. A police team reached the hospital and found her on ventilator, unable to speak. Police informed the Shaikh's son, Shahnawaz.Police officers said they didn't get correct information from the hospital about how the woman was injured. During the probe and study of CCTV footage, the accident



angle emerged.A police source said the doctor ran over Shaikh and immediately stopped the car. Security staff and others ran to help. The woman was admitted to

the hospital. Police said the accident took place at 7.45 pm. Police said that on Saturday afternoon the hospital informed them the woman died during treatment.

Shaikh's son, Shahnawaz (30), said his mother had gone to Sion Hospital for treatment of her hand injury. Due to an infection, she had been admitted to Sion hospital and was discharged on May 16 after nearly a month, he said.

Shahnawaz, who works as a delivery boy, said he slept around 1.30 am last night and his phone was in silent mode. "In the morning, I saw several missed calls and a message from the police. I spoke to them and they said my mother had met with an

accident," said Shahnawaz.The police said that Shaikh's body would be sent to JJ Hospital, Byculla, for a post

Mayiladuthurai police resume wellness checks on elderly citizens

MAYILADUTHURAI: Senior citizens across the district have welcomed the Mayiladuthurai police resuming their initiative to conduct voluntary wellness checks at their residences. In the wake of burglary reports across the state where miscreants target houses of elders staying alone, the district police began conducting wellness checks wherein a team led by inspectors, sub-inspectors and constables visited their houses and assessed safety."Our objective is to ensure the security of the elderly, especially those whose children are working away. We directed our officers to do the checks regularly at houses in their station limits," Mayiladuthurai SP K Meena told TNIE.Pointing out that the initiative is already in place across the state, the SP stated



that it was resumed in Mayiladuthurai after a gap. "Through wellness checks, we will also reach out to reclusive and introverted elders who do not often connect with the outside There are eight police stations in the

world. We are also inquiring about their requirements and assure legal support," the SP added.

Mayiladuthurai sub-division and eight in Sirkazhi sub-division. The SP directed the officers to maintain proper registers for the elderly at each station. The police are also issuing handbooks to houses of elderly people and sign them during the wellness checks. Inspector S Supriya from Mayiladuthurai station said, "We are also sensitising the elders to necessary precautions and to alert us if they are facing troubles."The police also advised them to instal CCTV cameras at their houses for additional security and noted down their contact details. The initiative has elicited positive response from residents. Backing this, Selvakumari (72) who stays with her husband Gandhi in Thirumanjana Veethi said, "Both my children are away working.

THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published Owned by Simmi Babbar N - 31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi-110009 Printed at Qaumi Patrika Printing

Press, A-4/A-144, Tronica City (Loni) Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) Corporate Office: 5, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,

Press Area, ITO, New Delhi Editor-in-Chief Gurcharan Singh Babbar Mob: 9654077232, 9971359517 Website: www.thesikhtimes.in

Email: sikhtimesindia@gmail.com RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

Legal Advisors:

Advocate Mohd. Sajid Advocate Dr. A.P.Singh Advocate Manish Sharma Advocate Pooja Bhaskar Sharma

The information spread like wildfire, and people started gathering in large numbers to see the leopard.

Leopard enters abandoned house near Gudalur in Tamil Nadu

NILGIRIS: Tension prevailed at Semundi people started gathering in large numbers village in Srimadurai Panchayat near Gudalur in the district after a leopard took shelter in an abandoned house there on Monday afternoon. The animal was tranquilised before it was captured and released by the Gudalur forest division personnel inside the reserve forest within the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve.The leopard was found by a man who approached the house to take agricultural equipment. Labourers stock their equipment in the vacant house, aid forest sources. Shocked to see the big cat "We laid a net in the surrounding area of the moving inside the house, the man locked the entrance door and also fastened it with a rope. He subsequently informed the Gudalr forest officials at 12 p.m. The information spread like wildfire, and

to see the leopard. However, over 50 forest staff from O-Valley, Gudalur, Cherambadi, Pandalur, Naadukani, and Bitharkadu along with members from the Flying Squad and Rapid Response Team (RRT) managed the crowd and placed barricades 600 metres from the house to prevent people from entering the house. Ten members of RRT wore safety clothing to protect them from leopard attacks if the animal came out of the house.

house to prevent the leopard from escaping. Trapping the big cat using the net is not a viable solution since the animal may bounce back, and it would create unwanted tension for the local people as they have gathered in large numbers to see the animal. Tranquilising is the only option in such a case, but it got delayed as the only Assistant Veterinary Surgeon K Rajesh Kumar could reach Semundi on Saturday at 7 p.m. after completing two elephant post-mortems at Theppakkadu and Thengumarahada. Both are different areas within the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR)," said a senior forest official

After tranquilisation, the animal was taken inside the cage which was kept ready. The animal was subsequently released in the reserve forest in MTR. "Though the animal took shelter inside the abandoned house at 12pm, we set up generators and lit up lights to carry out the operation during the night," the official added.



NEWS BOX

Asked to leave shop, man whips out knife

Noida: A video of a man brandishing a knife and threatening to kill a shopkeeper in the city has been widely shared on social media. The accused is on the run, said a senior officer.Following a complaint lodged by the shopkeeper, Narender Kumar, an FIR was registered under relevant sections of the IPC at Sector 24 police station. The accused, Arun alias Dagi, can be seen standing in front of Kumar's shop in Morna village, allegedly making inappropriate comments and gestures towards customers outside the shop.

According to Manish Mishra, additional DCP of Noida, Arun was intoxicated."Kumar, who also lived in the same area, had requested Arun to leave as he was misbehaving with the customers, which led to a verbal spat between them," said ADCP Mishra, adding that after a few minutes, Arun returned with a kitchen knife from his house to threaten Kumar. The video that shows Arun wielding a kitchen knife at Kumar was recorded by a neighbour. During the inquiry, it was discovered that Arun had been arrested for alleged involvement in another altercation in the area.

"Arun was out on bail. He is currently absconding," said the senior officer. We also published the following articles recentlyKnife attack in Central China leaves eight deadA man killed eight people and wounded one more in central China. The stabbing occurred in Xiaogan, Hubei province, by a 53-year-old attacker named Lu.

Nobody killed Rashmi Bhave: Her throat was slashed using surgical knifeThe closure report for the unsolved murder case of Rashmi Bhave, wife of a doctor from Gandhinagar, was accepted by a special CBI court after 11 years of investigation involving 157 witnesses and 255 pieces of evidence.

Gulshan Grover shares anecdotes from Khiladiyon Ka Khiladi: Unfriendly Undertaker walked up to Akshay Kumar, gestured with his finger at his face and said, PangaActor Gulshan Grover discussed his collaboration with wrestler Brian Lee in the film Khiladiyon Ka Khiladi, starring Rekha and Akshay

Bank frauds: Cops answer queries from senior citizens

Noida: Amid a surge in banking fraud cases, Noida police, in partnership with the Noida Federation of Apartment Owners Associations (NOFAA), held a workshop called 'Protecting Yourself from Digital and Banking Frauds' for senior citizens. The event took place on Saturday at Exotica Fresco ClubHouse in Sector 137."The aim of the workshop was to educate and empower senior citizens with the knowledge to safeguard their personal and financial information in today's digital age," said ACP Shavya Goyal.Nearly 100 senior citizens from Exotica Fresco and neighbouring housing societies attended the programme, which was conducted by Baljeet Singh, head of cyber crime cell in Noida, and ACP Goyal. The workshop covered topics like types of digital and banking frauds, common tactics used by fraudsters, tips for protecting digital identity, and safe online banking practices."The awareness session concluded with a question-and-answer round with the experts," said Singh.Emphasising the importance of banking safely and preventing cybercrime, Rajiva Singh, president of NOFAA, expressed gratitude to the police officials for their support. He said, "The authority will plan more such sessions in different condominiums.'

The workshop has enhanced the residents' awareness about cybercrime and fraud prevention, ensuring they are well-equipped to protect themselves in the digital world, said Surojit Dasgupta, president of Exotica

Speeding car kills senior citizen inside Mumbai's Sion hospital: PoliceAn elderly woman lost her life at Lokmanya Tilak Municipal General Hospital, also known as Sion hospital, in central Mumbai. The victim's identity is unknown; she was struck by a car on the hospital premises. Investigations are ongoing.

Senior citizens step out to vote despite availability of vote-from-home facilityDespite the Election Commission of India offering the vote-from-home facility through postal ballot for elderly and PwD voters in Mumbai, many seniors still preferred to vote in person due to the hot weather conditions. Drunken driving: Senior citizens plea pending in court since 2016Anjan Chatterjee filed an intervention in the Nagpur bench of Bombay high court in 2016, addressing the issue of drunken driving. He expressed disappointment over the lack of action, emphasizing the need for stringent measures.

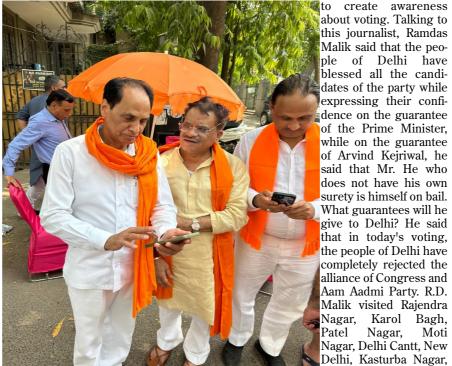
Woman electrocuted, family alleges dowry death

Noida: A 22-year-old woman was allegedly electrocuted at her husband's uncle's house in Dadri on Saturday. The husband has been taken into police custody, according to an officer.Her family has accused him of killing her over dowry, alleging he had taken several loans in her name and wanted them to be forgiven upon her death. The deceased, Samreen, had been married to Shoaib (25) for two years. They were living in BB Nagar, Bulandshahr.Based on a complaint lodged by Samreen's father, Shahid (47), an FIR was registered against Shoaib, his father Nazakat, uncle Saqir, and aunt Rubina at Dadri police tation under charges of dowry death. Shahid said in his complaint that Shoaib had taken Samreen to his uncle's house in the Nayi Abadi Madrasa locality of Dadri on Friday evening.

"On Saturday morning, the relatives told me that my daughter had died due to electrocution," said Shahid, who lives in Usman Colony in Dasna, Ghaziabad.Police were informed around 8am on Saturday. A team took the body into custody and sent it for postmortem."The deceased's family suspects that Shoaib and his family intentionally electrocuted her. They alleged that Shoaib had taken several loans in her name and intended to have them forgiven by causing her death," said Ashok Kumar, additional deputy commissioner of police in Greater Noida.Shahid further told the police that Shoaib had visited his house on Friday afternoon, demanding Rs 2 lakh.

A large number of votes were cast in support of Bansuri Swaraj: Ramdas Malik

New Delhi Ramdas Malik, senior leader of Bharatiya Janata Party, Delhi Pradesh and co-head of the resource department of the Election Management Committee and a prominent social worker, woke up early in the morning to cast his second vote in the Lok Sabha elections. Rajendra Nagar urged everyone to go and cast their vote early for public interest. After this, it was seen in the New Delhi Lok Sabha constituency that the people of Delhi participated in the Lok Sabha elections with great enthusiasm and enthusiasm. Long queues of voters, including the elderly, senior citizens, women and first-time voters, were seen at various polling stations in the city since morning. All the voters conveyed the message that voting is an important right and duty of every citizen. After casting their vote, many proudly displayed the ink mark on their finger and encouraged their friends and family members to vote as well. Various social organizations and local groups also launched various campaigns to educate voters about the importance of voting. By the said journalists, R.D. Malik said that the convenience of voters has been taken care of and all



means of communication have been used

Puram, Greater Kailash Lok Sabha cise. This time BJP has crossed 400.

the people of Delhi have completely rejected the alliance of Congress and Aam Aadmi Party. R.D. Malik visited Rajendra Nagar, Karol Bagh, Moti Patel Nagar, Nagar, Delhi Cantt, New Delhi, Kasturba Nagar, Nagar,

Constituencies of New Delhi Lok Sabha Constituency and inquired about booths. Met the voters and provided drinking water to the voters and solved many problems. R.D. Malik said that the voters of New Delhi Lok Sabha constituency wished BJP candidate Basuri Swaraj and hoped that Basuri Swaraj would win and work for the development of the city and the welfare of the people. People also said that they are contributing to strengthening democracy by participating in the elections. Overall, the enthusiasm and participation of the people of Delhi shows that they are aware of their rights and duties and are determined for a better future. Ramdas Malik, his colleagues, friends and BJP workers, the sugarcane residents of Rajinder Nagar area have expressed their happiness and enthusiasm for the New Delhi Lok Sabha seat candidate Basuri Swaraj by voting for the first time in the Lok Sabha elections. He gave the message that every person should use his vote, regardless of which candidate he votes for. Voting is an important right that every citizen should exer-

Urban women talk jobs, inflation stings in rural areas

Gurgaon: Urban women voters weighed the pros and cons of the BJP's 10-year rule at the Centre, including instances of paper leaks and failed recruitment exams, while rural women prioritised curbing inflation. In rural Gurgaon, they spoke of their struggles to manage households due to the soaring prices of LPG, rations, and vegetables.Despite these concerns, both urban and rural women favoured a stable central govt led by a single large party rather than a coalition. They acknowledged that the past decade has demonstrated equality. However, many rural women still relied on the decisions of their male family members when choosing which button to press on the EVM.Sarah Bedi, a 45-year-old entrepreneur, said, "Rao Inderjit has done nothing for Gurgaon. This place is not liveable. Women cannot walk or be out on the streets after dusk; we always have to be in alert mode," she told TOI. "But, I'm a hardcore BJP supporter and despite Inderjit being in the BJP and my strong stance against him, I needed to play my

part in bringing a leader in the govt who has done better than others by far."Krishna Chowdhary, 82, came out firmly against dynasty politics. "I voted for the development of the country, employment for people, security for women and young girls, which are needed very badly in our country," said this resident of Ardee City, who also stressed on the need for improvements in her locality.But retired govt teacher Swati Dangi, 70, voiced her concerns about the lack of govt jobs and increasing number of cases of faulty recruitment practices and paper leaks. "It's not necessary to have a govt job; the youth just need a secure job. 'Made in India' is a good initiative as it will generate employment," she told us, adding, "Nevertheless, the path towards securing a govt job has become rocky. Paper leaks and postponement of exams are becoming bottlenecks towards smooth recruitment process. While expressing pride at India's growing stature abroad, and increasing recognition for the

country's efforts at international level, Priyansha Puri, 28, feels there is room for improvement. "There should be more employment opportunities and most importantly, focus should be on the safety and security of women. Women's safety is lacking, especially in cities like Delhi and Gurgaon, and the government must work to improve on that," maintains Puri, a resident of Jalvayu Towers.For Praniti, a lawyer, equality of opportunity is a priority. "I have seen people who don't even have any qualification, work experience or skills required for the job, getting selected in govt jobs through backdoor entry. Women anyway have lesser opportunities - they first have to work and behave as per their parents or brothers, then as per their husbands. We need to create equal opportunities regardless of gender," insisted the 31year-old.Most rural women, however, were focused on rising prices and inequality in society and at home. "Inflation has made it impossible to run a household, both for housewives and working women.

City bus rams into Merc in Shankar Chk underpass, no injuries

Gurgaon: A city-run Gurugaman bus rammed into a Mercedes parked on Shankar Chowk underpass around 2.30pm on Saturday, damaging both vehicles. According to the police, the bus had around 15 to 20 passengers on board

and the driver of the Mercedes was also in it when the incident happened."My parking lights were on as I had to pull over to the side of the underpass because my car was overheating. The bus driver was speeding and nearly caused a collision, but my car is a Mercedes, which prevented a potentially fatal outcome. Despite this, the car hit the wall twice before coming to a standstill. The impact also jolted the passengers on the bus," said Arun Mutgal, the Mercedes driver who runs a business in the city. The

police stated that his car d been severely damaged at both ends."I was checking the passengers' tickets when the crash happened. The driver lost control of the car. No passengers were harmed but the front side of the bus is completely damaged," the bus conductor told KTC sustained injuries in a collision



they arrived at the scene immediately."We are examining the situation. It is a case of an accident, and a complaint has been submitted. Further investigation is underway,"

following articles recently Speeding tomato truck rams bus, KTC driver hurtAn electric bus driver of

with a speeding tomato-laden truck

near the Matol junction at the Verna-Pirni bypass. Tomatoes scattered on the road caused traffic hindrance.Fallen tree branches damage car at VascoA car was damaged at Headland-Sada after huge tree branches collapsed on it near the officers club on Sunday evening. Vasco fire and emergency services received an emergency call around 7pm regarding the incident. No casualties were reported2 dead as speeding bus hits auto on Meerut highwayTwo people, including

an 8-year-old boy, died in a road accident near Karua bridge on the Meerut Highway in Bareilly while returning from a dip in the Ganga river on Buddha Purnima.

NAME CHANGE

Monika w/o Deepak Goyal r/o 1780

sec 9 faridabad haryana have change my name to Monika goya

NAME CHANGE

SURJIT SINGH residing at 21/36 3RD FLOOR WEST PATEL NAGAR DELHI -110008 have changed my name to RIPDAMAN SINGH for all future purposes

RIPDAMAN SINGH VOHRA S/C

or all purposes

Date: 25.05.2024

Weather Blows Hot, **Turnout Turns Cold**

Gurgaon: Long queues in the morning that got progressively thinner as heat and humidity peaked on a a scorching midsummer day meant the city recorded one its lowest turnouts in Lok Sabha elections as it voted in the sixth phase along with the rest of Haryana (nine more seats) and Delhi (seven seats). At 9pm, Gurgaon parliamentary constituency's overall polling percentage was 60.7%, the lowest in 15 years and almost seven percentage points lower than 2019 (67.33%). The lowest turnouts before this the constituency, through its voting history, has seen were in 2009 when it also recorded 60.7% and in 1991 (60.8%). Weather Blows Hot, Turnout Turns ColdThe 9pm turnout number is a provisional one, with data still being added. Haryana's overall turnout was 65% on Saturday. Deputy commissioner Nishant Yadav told TOI that 15.6 lakh of 25.7 lakh voters in the electoral list cast their ballot on Saturday. This figure, he said, will go up as Saturday's count does not include postal ballots. As has been the trend for much of the country, voters in rural belts turned up in booths in higher numbers. At 65.9%, Bawal saw the highest polling percentage among all nine assembly segments of Gurgaon. It was closely followed by Nuh, at 65.4%. Still, both these rural areas saw a dip of 6-7 percentage points in turnouts compared to 2019.

Voting in the two large urban segments of Gurgaon and Badshapur was sluggish despite polling booths being set up at condominiums, and votefrom-home facilities being made availaTill 9pm, the Gurgaon assembly segment's turnout was 53.6%, 7.5 percentage points lower than 2019's turnout of 61.08%.Badshapur saw the highest drop in turnout among assembly segments. Its polling percentage was 55.6%, a difference of 8.3 percentage points from 63.9% in 2019.

Asked about lower turnout despite attempts made by EC to counter what it called "urban apathy", a polling official said that though Gurgaon's voting percentage hadn't increased from the last Lok Sabha election, it remained "above 60%, which was still higher than the figures in other NCR cities". Faridabad's turnout was 60% on Saturday. Noida and Ghaziabad, the UP NCR cities which voted in Phase 2, registered a turnout of 53.6% and 49.8%, respectively. Delhi's overall turnout at 10pm on Saturday was 57%. North East Delhi saw the highest turnout at 60.8%. New Delhi was the lowest at 52%. Historically, Gurgaon parliamentary constituency has recorded turnout over 70% three times in Lok Sabha elections since 1952. The highest was in the 1977 polls - at

NAME CHANGE

, Dinesh Kumar Sharma s/o Saty Prakash Sharma R/o F-12/75 Second Floor, Ganesh Nagar No-2 Shakarpur, Delhi-110092 hav changed my name to Dines Sharma for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

t is for general information that SEEMA RANI W/o MANJEE KUMAR DAGAR, R/o C-263, VPC ssapur, South West Delhi, Delhi 10073, declare that name of min and my husband have been wrong written as SEEMA and MANJEE SINGH DAGAR in my minor son namely RAGHAV DAGAR aged 1 years in his School Records. The actual name of mine and my husband are SEEMA RANI and MAN-JEET KUMAR DAGAR

"Form No. INC-26"

Pursuant to rule 30 the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014] Before the Regional Director (Central Government) Northern Region, Delh n the matter of sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Companies Act, 2013 nd sub-rule (1) of rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014 AND

M/S BETHARIA TRANSPORT PRIVATE LIMITED Having Its Registered Office A

RZ-199 A C Raj Nagar-II New Delhi South Delhi, Delhi 110077

lotice is hereby given to the General Public that the above mentioned petitions company proposes to make application to the Regional Director (Centra covernment) under section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra ordinary general meeting held on 30th ovember 2022 to enable the company to change its Registered Office fron National Capital Territory of Delhi" to "State of Uttar pradesh".

only person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the egistered office of the company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal ww.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or nd by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the ature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director at the ddress Regional Director, (Northern Region), B2 Wing, 2nd Floor, Paryavara awan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003 with the copy to petition er Company's registered office- RZ-199 A C RAJ NAGAR-II NEW DELHI South Delhi, Delhi 110077 within fourteen days from date of publication of notice, by an ffidavit, the nature of interest and grounds of opposition to petition

For and on behalf of M/S Betharia Transport Private Limited Sd/- (SURESH KUMAR) Managing Directo DIN: 09337881

NAME CHANGE SABANA KHATOON W/O AL AHMAD R/O H.NO-307A, GALI NO-

HARYANA-121013 HAVE CHANGI

NAME CHANGE Amar Nath Khokhar s/o Ranb

Singh R/o VPO Shamri Lochab Bairan, Sonipat-131306, Haryana nave changed my name to Amarnath Khokhar for all future purposes.

GAYATRI DEVI PANT W/O Late GANESH DUTT PANT R/O 271,BLOCK-B -5, SOM BAZAR ROAD

PUBLIC NOTICE

SECTOR -5, ROHINI ,RAJA PUR KALAN, ROHINI SECTOR-7, NORTH WEST DELHI DELHI-110085 declare nat name of mine has been wrongly ritten as GAYATRI DEVI in m Hasband ppo no 20077030190020.Th actual name of mine is GAYATRI DEVI PANT, respectively which may be amended accordingly.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

र्वसाधारण को सचित किया जाता है त्रक्किलगण सर्तेंदर प्रसाद पुत्र श्री झुमान लात ज्ञाह पर्ता"-331 गली नंबर-12 नियर ष्टरस्रूस्कू नारायण विहार प्रेम नगर-3 किराड़ी सुलेमा सर्तेदर प्रसाद ने अपने पुत्र पंकज गुप्ता को उसके दुर्वव्यवहार एवं दुराचार व गैर कानूनी गितिविधिया करने तथा मेरे मुवक्किलगण के . नियंत्रण में न होने के कारण अपनी समस्त चल व् अचल सम्पति/संपत्तियों से बेदखल कर रहे है भी पारिवारिक सम्बन्ध विच्छेद कर लिए हैं यदि कोई उससे किसी प्रकार का लेन देन य व्यवहार करता है या सम्बन्ध रखता है तो वह

इसमें कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं होगी । इसम काइ जिम्मदारा नहीं होगा । **शोएब अधिवक्ता** OFF: A-29, GALI NO. 02, SURAT VIHAR MUBARAKPUR DABAS NEW DELHI-110081

an official said. We also published the Buckwheat flour seized after food poisoning cases fails quality test

Noida.A forensic report of buckwheat flour samples collected from Noida and Greater Noida, following a series of food poisoning cases reported on the night of March 8, indicated substandard quality, officials said on Wednesday. The food department collected buckwheat flour samples on March 9 after nearly 100 people were hospitalised in two separate incidents of food poisoning, 25km apart — a private hostel in Greater Noida and Barola village - after consuming puris and pakodas made from buckwheat flour (kuttu ka aata) on Shivratri.Administrative officias said that legal action would be taken against Vivek Industries, the manufacturing company of Abhi Pure buckwheat flour, and a Ghaziabad-based company, Dev Trading Company, which sold the grains in the market. "The report revealed the presence of a high amount of moisture and alcoholic acidity in the flour, leading to bacterial and fungal growth. A case will be filed against both Vivek Industries and Dev Trading Company in the ADM court in Gautam Budh Nagar," said Archana Dheeran, assistant commissioner (food) II, GB Nagar, adding that Abhi Pure buckwheat flour was being milled in the Shalu flour mill in Barola, while the company was operating under the name of Vivek Industries in Sector 73. "As per procedure, the manufacturing company whose samples have been found substandard will be served notice. If they are not satisfied with the results, the manufacturer can appeal for further testing of the sample in Centre's laboratory. If the reports from the Centre also fail, the manufacturer will be imposed a financial penalty by the ADM court," said Nitin Madan, the additional district magistrate. Over 100 sick after eating 'kuttu' flour in Punjab's JalalabadOver 100 people in Fazilka fell ill from consuming adulterated 'kuttu ka atta' during Navratri fasting. They were treated and discharged by Dr Ankit Midha. Investigation ongoing to take action against the adulterator.109211032 Primary School in UP Under Fire for Insect-contaminated Flour in Mid-day MealsIn Shahjahanpur, Ganeshpur Primary School faced a notice for insects in meal flour. Ranvijay Singh discovered insects due to fireplace cooking despite gas provision, warning of strict action. Digital attendance issues are also being addressed.109298574 Drone rushes tissue sample from Karkala to KMC ManipalICMR used drones to transport tissue samples for cancer testing, reducing transport time significantly. The initiative aims to improve healthcare accessibility by transporting samples from secondary to tertiary facilities using aerial systems

NEWS BOX

British Climber And Nepali Guide Feared Dead After Reaching Mount **Everest Summit**

WORLD. A British man and his Nepali guide are believed to be dead after reaching the summit of Mount Everest on Tuesday. According to the BBC, Daniel Paterson, 39, from Wakefield, and guide Pastenji Sherpa, 23, did reach the top of the mountain but later "fell towards the Tibet side through a very vertical steep."

The area that the two men fell from is known as the "death zone." As per Fox News, the "death zone" is the area on the mountain above 26,000 feet, where low oxygen levels can cause impaired judgment, severe altitude sickness and death after an extended period. The duo were part of a group of 15 who reached the summit of the world's highest mountain at 29,032 feet.

Mount Everest adventure company 8K Expeditions, which organized the expedition, said they were "caught by a sudden snow cornice collapse that affected the climbing group.""Despite exhaustive search efforts, we regret to confirm that Daniel and Pastenji were unable to be recovered from the following incident" the company be recovered from the following incident", the company wrote in an Instagram post. The company said retrieving their bodies was difficult because rescuers could not access that side of the mountain and helicopters could not be flown there."On May 21st, at 4:40 AM, Daniel Paterson successfully reached the summit of Mount Everest — a monumental achievement and a testament to his strength and determination. Tragically, during his descent, Daniel went missing, and there has been no contact or sighting of him since," his partner, Becks Woodhead, wrote on a crowdfunding page this week.

Donald Trump's Historic Hush Money Trial Ends, Verdict Out Soon

New York: The historic trial of Donald Trump enters its final act Tuesday, with closing arguments to the jury who must then decide whether to hand down the firstever criminal conviction of a former US president.

Less than six months before American voters choose whether to return Trump to the White House, the stakes riding on the verdict are hard to overstate -- for the 77year-old personally, but also for the country as a whole.

Trump is accused of falsifying business records to buy the silence of porn star Stormy Daniels about a 2006 sexual encounter between them that could have damaged his 2016 presidential bid. If convicted, he faces up to four years in prison on each of 34 counts, but legal experts say that as a first-time offender he is unlikely to get jail

Crucially, a coniction would not bar Trump from appearing on the ballot in November as the Republican presidential challenger to Democrat Joe Biden.It has taken nearly five weeks, the testimony of more than 20 witnesses and a few courtroom fireworks to reach closing arguments -- the last chance for the prosecution and defense to impress their case on the anonymous, 12-member jury. As expected, Trump chose not to testify in his defense -- a move that would have exposed him to unnecessary legal jeopardy and forensic crossexamination. For a man who has always prided himself on being in charge and in control, the role of silent, passive defendant did not come easily. At times it has been downright excruciating, especially when Trump was forced to sit and listen while Daniels recounted their alleged encounter in sometimes graphic detail.

Speaking to reporters before and after each day in court, Trump launched regular tirades against Judge Juan Merchan -- calling him "corrupt" and a "tyrant" -- and condemned the whole trial as "election interference" by Democrats intent on keeping him off the campaign trail. The politics of the case were in full view in the final days when a coterie of leading Republicans -- including several vice-presidential hopefuls -- came to the court and stood behind Trump in a gesture of support as he

Rapper Nicki Minaj briefly detained at Amsterdam airport for 'carrying drugs'

WORLD. Rapper and singer-songwriter Nicki Minaj, who was detained by police in the Netherlands on suspicion of exporting "soft drugs", has been released. She has been fined and allowed to proceed on her journey, the Dutch Police said."Following consultation with the Public Prosecutor's Office, the suspect received a monetary fine and is now permitted to continue her journey," the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee said in a statement.

She was detained while she was travelling to Manchester, England, for a concert on her 'Pink Friday 2 World Tour'. The entire incident was live-streamed on her Instagram account. In the viral video, police officers can be seen surrounding Minaj and asking her

Robert van Kapel, a spokesman for the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, told NBC News that the Dutch police arrested a 41-year-old American woman at Schiphol Airport because of possession of soft drugs, adding it was prohibited to take such substances out of the Netherlands. Police did not confirm the suspect's name, but said she was still in custody pending an investigation. Multiple reports suggested that marijuana was found in one of Nicki Minaj's bags upon her arrival in Amsterdam. However, the rapper claims that the pre-rolls discovered in her bag actually belonged to her security team. In the Instagram Live video now viral on social media, the Grammynominated rapper can be heard asking an officer, "Oh, so I'm under arrest?", to which he says, "Yes ma'am, you have to go inside". In the video, the rapper refuses to go to the police precinct without her lawyer.

Nicki Minaj live-streamed the entire incident on Instagram and kept her fans updated on X, describing it as an attempt to 'sabotage' her tour. The incident occurred at the airport as the 'Super Freaky Girl' rapper was preparing to board her flight to Manchester.

They've been trying to stop me from coming to every show. They took my bags before I could see them. Put it on the plane. Now saying they're waiting on

This is what it looks like when people are paid big money to try to sabotage a tour after all else failed. Everything they've done is illegal," the singer can be heard in one of her videos. The rapper also said during her Instagram Live stream that she was asked to board a police van "and go into the precinct withno lawyer present". "They've been trying everything they possibly can to TRY to stop this tour," she said in a post

"They're being paid big money to try to sabotage my tour b/c soooooo many ppl are mad that it's this successful & they can't eat off me. They got caught stealing money from my travel/jets. Got fired. Got mad. Etc," another post of hers read.

Israeli protesters demanding Benjamin Netanyahu's resignation clash with police

and protesters erupted in Tel Aviv on Saturday after thousands gathered to demonstrate against the government and demand that it bring back the hostages being held by Hamas in Gaza. Meanwhile, a small US military vessel and what appeared to be a strip of docking area washed up on a beach near the southern Israeli city of Ashdod, not far from the US-built pier on which the Israeli military said humanitarian aid is moving into the Palestinian territory.

Some protesters in Tel Aviv carried photos of the female soldiers who appeared in a video earlier in the week showing them soon after they were abducted during the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, which started the war between Israel and Hamas.Some held banners reading "Stop the war" and "Help". They called on the government to reach a deal to release the dozens of hostages still in captivity. The protesters also called for the resignation of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and demanded new elections."We all saw the video, we could not stay at home after the government abandoned all these people," said Hilit Sagi, from the group "Women Protest for among Israelis have deepened over how Netanyahu has handled the war against Hamas after the attack that killed about 1,200 people and saw 250 others taken hostage. Israel says around 100 hostages are still being held in Gaza, along with the bodies of around 30 more."Basically

they are not doing enough in order for the hostages to come back, either with military force, with (a) hostages' deal, negotiating. Nothing is being done," said Snir Dahan, uncle of hostage Carmel Gat, still in captivity in Gaza. arlier in the week, the bodies of three

hostages killed were recovered from Gaza, Israel's army said Friday.he army said they were killed on the day of the attack and their bodies were taken to Gaza. The announcement came less than a week after the army said it found the bodies of three other Israeli hostages killed on October 7.round half of the 250 hostages taken by Hamas and other militants have been freed, most in swaps for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel during a weeklong cease-fire in November.

Netanyahu's government has faced increasing pressure, both at home and

abroad, to stop the war and allow humanitarian aid into the enclave that is home to 2.3 million Palestinians, almost 80 per cent of whom have been displaced. Also, this week, three European countries

announced they would recognise a Palestinian state, and the chief prosecutor



for the International Criminal Court requested arrest warrants for Israeli leaders, along with Hamas officials.On Friday, the International Court of Justice ordered Israel to end its military offensive in the southern Gaza city of Rafah and to open the nearby border crossing for court also said Israel must give war crimes investigators access to Gaza. However, the judges stopped short of ordering a full cease-fire across the entire Palestinian territory, and Israel is unlikely to comply with the court's ruling.

South Africa accuses Israel of committing genocide against the Palestinians during the war in Gaza, which Israel vehemently denies. "We were hoping the war would end," said Islam Abu Kamar, who moved from Gaza City to Rafah following the ground operation launched by Israel after the Hamas attack in October.

In the past two weeks, more than a million Palestinians have fled Rafah as Israeli forces pressed deeper into the city. Israel's takeover this month of the Rafah border crossing, a key transit point for fuel and supplies for Gaza, has contributed to bringing aid operations to near collapse, the UN and relief groups say. Israel says it needs to invade Rafah to destroy Hamas' last stronghold. Egypt said it agreed to send UN humanitarian aid trucks through the Kerem Shalom border crossing, Israel's main entry point into southern Gaza.

Israel rejects Hamas's claim of capturing its soldiers in northern Gaza

Cairo. A spokesman for Hamas's armed wing said on Sunday its fighters had captured Israeli soldiers during fighting in Jabalia in northern Gaza on Saturday, though the Israeli military denied the claim. The Hamas armed wing spokesman did not say how many

soldiers had been abducted and showed no proof of the claim."Our fighters lured a Zionist force into an ambush inside a tunnel. The fighters withdrew after they left all members of the force dead, wounded, and captured," Abu Ubaida, the spokesman for Al Qassam Brigades, said in a recorded message broadcast by Al Jazeera early on Sunday. The Israeli military on Sunday

denied the claim by Hamas's armed wing."The IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) clarifies that there is no incident in which a soldier was abducted," the military said in a statement.amas released a video that appeared to show a bloodied person being dragged along the ground in a tunnel and photos of military fatigue and a rifle. Reuters could not independently verify the identity of the person shown in the video nor his or her condition. The comments by Abu Ubaida came hours after prospects for a resumption of mediated Gaza



ceasefire talks grew on Saturday.An official with knowledge of the matter said a decision had been taken to resume the talks next week after the chief of Israel's Mossad intelligence agency met the head of the CIA and the Qatari Prime Minister. The source, who

declined to be identified by name or nationality, said it had been decided that "in the coming week negotiations will open based on new proposals led by the mediators, Egypt and Qatar and with active US involvement"

A Hamas official later denied Israeli media reports the talks would resume in Cairo on Tuesday, and told Reuters, "There is no date."After more than seven months of war in Gaza, the mediators have struggled to

secure a breakthrough, with Israel seeking the release of hostages held by Hamas and Hamas seeking an end to the war and the release of Palestinian prisoners in Israel.

Nearly 36,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's offensive, Gaza's health ministry says. Israel began the operation in response to Hamas-led fighters attacking southern Israeli communities on October 7, 2023, killing around 1,200 people and seizing more than 250 hostages, according to Israeli tallies.

Tesla shareholders asked to reject Elon Musk's 'excessive' 56 billion pay

Austin. Proxy advisory firm Glass Lewis said on Saturday it has urged Tesla shareholders to reject a \$56 billion pay package for Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk, which if passed would be the largest pay package for a CEO in corporate America. The report cited reasons like the "excessive size" of the pay deal, the dilutive effect upon exercise and the concentration of ownership. It also mentioned Musk's "slate of extraordinarily time-consuming projects" which have expanded with his high-profile purchase of Twitter, now known as X.

The pay package was proposed by Tesla's board of directors, which has repeatedly come under fire for its close ties with the billionaire. The package has no salary or cash bonus and sets rewards based on Tesla's market value rising to as much as \$650 billion over the 10 years from 2018. The company is currently valued at about \$571.6 billion, according to LSEG data.

In January, Judge Kathaleen McCormick of



with little or no time gap

said in a statement published by KCNA.

Those activities seriously infringe on North Korea's national sovereignty and security, and will not be met with "offensive" countermeasures, he said.

throughout the day, carrying

out aerial reconnaissance

activities at a level comparable

to wartime situations," Kim

"We will act immediately when the nation's sovereignty and security interests are violated," Kim added.e also accused South Korea's navy and coast guard of stoking military tension by stepping up patrol activities and increasingly breaching the maritime Delaware's Court of Chancery voided the original pay package. Musk then sought to move Tesla's state of incorporation to Texas from Delaware.Glass Lewis also criticised the proposed move to Texas as offering "uncertain benefits and additional risk" to shareholders.

Tesla has urged shareholders to reaffirm their approval of the compensation. In an interview this month, Tesla's board chair Robyn Denholm told the Financial Times that Musk deserves the pay package because the company hit ambitious targets for revenue and its stock price.usk became Tesla CEO in 2008. In recent years, he has helped improve results, taking the company to a \$15 billion profit from a \$2.2 billion loss in 2018 and seven times more vehicles have been produced, according to an online campaign website, Vote Tesla. The proxy advisor also recommended shareholders vote against the reelection of board member Kimbal Musk, the billionaire's brother, while former 21st Century Fox CEO James Murdoch's re-election was

North Korea accuses US, South Korea of flying spy planes, ships

defence ministry accused the United States and South Korea of ramping up reconnaissance activities around the inter-Korean border, warning that it will act if its sovereignty and security is violated, state media K C N A s a i d o n Sunday.North Korea's vice defence minister Kim Gang II said the US had flown at least 16 of its

RC-135 and U-2S strategic reconnaissance planes and RQ-4B drones over the Korean peninsula between May 13 and 24.Kim also criticised propaganda leaflets sent in balloons from South Korea, calling it a "Even now, the US and South Korean "dangerous provocation."



North Korean defectors and activists in South Korea regularly send balloons containing anti-Pyongyang leaflets, alongside food, medicine, money, mini radios and USB sticks loaded with South Korean news and dramas.

puppet air forces are continuously

6 killed, dozens injured as Russia strikes hardware store in Ukraine's Kharkiv

crowded DIY hardware store and a residential area in the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv on Saturday killed at least six people and injured dozens, local officials said.Six people were killed after two guided bombs hit the DIY hypermarket in a residential area of the city, Regional Governor Oleh Syniehubov said on national television.

At least two of the dead were store employees. Forty people were injured, with at least three in serious condition. Sixteen people were still unaccounted for, Syniehubov said."The attack targeted the shopping centre, where there were many people - this is clearly terrorism," Terekhov said. The past week has seen an uptick in strikes on the city after Russian troops stormed across the border, opening a new front north of the city.Russia has bombarded Kharkiv, which lies about 30 kilometres (20 miles) from its border, throughout the war, having reached its outskirts in a failed bid to capture it in 2022. Just over the border, in Russia's Belgorod region, the regional governor said four residents died in Ukrainian attacks on Saturday. President Volodymyr

Western allies to help boost air defences to keep the country's cities safe. French President Emmanuel Macron, writing on

attack on the store as "unacceptable." separate early evening missile strike hit a residential building in the centre of the city of 1.3 million, injuring 18 peple, Syniehubov said. The missile left a crater several metres deep in the pavement at the foot of the building, which also housed a post office, a beauty salon and a cafe.Emergency workers ushered away residents of nearby apartment buildings. Some of the injured had blood on their faces. Andriy Kudinov, director of the suburban shopping centre, told local media the hardware store

was full of shoppers buying items for their summer cottages. Huge clouds of dark smoke billowed into the sky over the shopping centre. Firefighters battled many small blazes. Within 90 minutes, most were brought under control.Rescuers, medics and journalists strikes and lay on their stomachs, fearing a second strike, as has occurred during several recent Russian attacks.

social media platform X, denounced the "I was at my workplace. I heard the first hit



and ... with my colleague, we fell to the ground. There was the second hit and we were covered with debris. Then we started to crawl to the higher ground," said Dmytro Syrotenko, 26, who had a large gash on his face.

Syrotenko told Reuters he was taken to safety by a rescue worker who helped him,

shoppers.Zelenskiy, in his nightly video address, denounced the strike as "yet another example of Russian madness. There is no other way to describe it."

When we tell world leaders that Ukraine needs sufficient air defences, when we say we need real decisive measures to enable us to protect our people, so that Russian terrorists cannot even approach our border, we are talking about not allowing strikes like this to happen," he said.

Writing later on Telegram, Zelenskiy noted air raid alerts had been in effect in Kharkiv for more than

12 hours and 200 emergency workers and 400 policemen remained at the scene dealing with the aftermath of the attacks.Moscow denies deliberately targeting civilians, but thousands have been killed and injured during its 27month invasion of Ukraine.

Repolling peaceful at Etah booth where teenager 'voted' 8 times

Agra: After the Election Commission ordered a repoll at the booth under the Farrukhabad Lok Sabha constituency, where a minor boy allegedly voted multiple times, and a video of the incident went viral on social media, the repoll was conducted peacefully at booth number 343 in village Khiriya Pamaran, within the Aliganj assembly of Etah district.

Additional district magistrate of Etah, Ayush Chaudhary, said, "Sufficient police forces were deployed across the polling station during the voting process. Officials were also present, ensuring the peaceful conduct of the polling."He added, "The voter turnout was recorded at 73.9%, with 1215 votes cast by 6 pm."During the fourth phase of voting for Farrukhabad's constituency, a minor was found to have cast votes eight times at a booth in Aliganj assembly constituency in Etah.

After SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and Congress president Rahul Gandhi shared the video on their social media handles, highlighting the issue, the accused youth was booked under IPC sections 171-F (Punishment for undue influence or personation at an election), 419 (Punishment for cheating by personation), section 66 of the IT Act, and sections 128, 132, and 136 of the Representation of People Act and was arrested. The original polling was held on May 13. Mohd Dilshad.

EC orders repolling at Farrukhabad booth where 17-year-old 'voted multiple times'Election Commission orders repolling in Farrukhabad after a 17-year-old allegedly voted multiple times on May 13. Repolling on May 25, voters' left hand middle finger marked with indelible ink by Navdeep Rinwa. All political parties and candidates

Bombay HC tells man to go to mental hospital for wife's discharge

MUMBAI: Observing that it is tragic that a patient who is healthy cannot be discharged because the person who admitted the patient is absent, the Bombay high court directed a man to remain present for the discharge of his wife from the Thane Mental Hospital where he had admitted her earlier this month."You can check in but you cannot check out. Unless you go there (hospital), how will she be discharged?" asked Justices Nitin Borkar and Somasekhar Sundaresan of the HC on Friday. The wife's sister filed a habeas corpus petition in the court to produce her sister who she said is "illegally detained" by the hospital. The couple, who are from Navi Mumbai, have a son (13), who is a special needs child. Initially relationship of husband and wife was cordial, but the wife eventually noticed behavioural changes in her husband. He was rude and initiated fights for trivial reasons. On May 5, when the woman visited her sister and her father in Mahim, "she was perfectly fine and left happily to return" to her Navi Mumbai residence. The petition filed by the woman's sister said that on May 9, the brother-in-law informed her that he had admitted his wife to the hospital on May 7. The next day, the sister and father were told that as per hospital policy, they can meet the patient only 10 days after admission. When she finally met her sister on May 15, she revealed that her husband said that they were going to the Thane hospital for their son's CT scan. He got her admitted telling the doctor that she has



mental issues. The sister's advocate Deepa Mani said the doctors said the patient can be discharged. But as the husband went and created a scene, she was not discharged. The husband said "she has OCD and schizophrenia" and passed it to their son. "I don't want her to be near my son," he added. Mani said the son was looked after by his mother. Also, as the husband is reluctant to have his wife back, her sister is ready to take custody of her and the son. Prosecutor Prajakta Shinde said as he admitted her to hospital, the

doctors will give discharge only if he is present

"It is tragic if a person is healed and cannot be discharged merely because the person who checked in is not present," Justice Sundaresan remarked. After perusing the patient's mental health report, the vacation judges of the HC directed the husband and the sister to remain present at the Thane Mental Hospital on Saturday for discharge. They allowed the sister "to take the patient to her residence for further

Al-morphed nude pics of Bengaluru school girl go viral

BENGALURU: Parent of a class 9 student from an upscale CBSE school in the city has filed a complaint with the police cybercell, alleging that artificial intelligence (AI)-generated nude photos of her daughter were being circulated on social media.

Photos of one other student from the same class were also morphed, though no complaint was filed on her behalf. The photos were first posted in a group chat on Instagram. Around 20 classmates of the student, whose parent filed the complaint on Friday, were part of that group. Though the student herself was not part of it, she was alerted by the others.Student suspects inside job, says there'll be consequencesThe student had posted two photos on her Instagram account, one of which was used for morphing. Given that her account status is private, she is suspecting an inside job, with one of her friends being the likely culprit.

AI-morphed nude pics of city schoolgirl go viralAn anonymous Instagram handle was used to post the morphed photos. However, when some of the other students questioned the account holder's whereabouts, the person went offline and did not post anything

am very happy that a complaint has been filed and that there will be consequences," the student said. "The school is closed for vacation. The parent went to the cybercell, which is the right thing to do. We will consider this as a discipline issue and the school will be supportive at every step," said the principal.Dr Manoj Sharma, a professor at the department of clinical psychology in Nimhans, who also heads the SHUT clinic, said such instances are under-reported.

Do not share personal details, exercise caution while building a friends circle and while uploading photos. Social media users must understand that even when they exercise caution, they are still at risk," Dr Sharma said.

Meet 'human GPS' guiding people to right addresses since 2012

AHMEDABAD: In the age of Google Maps, Rohit Patel still rules the roost when it comes to Science City area of Ahmedabad. Enter the area from any side, and chances are good that you may encounter 'May I Help You?' board installed by the septuagenarian social worker with his mobile number, offering his help to find you a location in the area spread over 4.5 sq km."I started helping people in 2012 when the area was developing, and there were more than 50 queries when I formalized the help and put up the board. Today due to online maps it has come down to 3-4 calls a day, but still people seek directions when they come across the board," says Patel.It was 2000 and Rohit Patel, then a real estate investor with a few other friends, had gone to Mumbai on a professional visit. "We were in an area and asked someone for directions. When the person asked for Rs 10 for the same, I was shocked as I had not experienced something like that anywhere. For me, guiding people was the least a human can do for another. I used to guide many people when they asked me for directions when I lived in Naranpura," recounts Patel.

So it was a resolve to help people in most basic of thing - finding the right direction to an address that motivated Patel, who shifted to Science City after selling his property in Naranpura in around 2010, to put up the board on both sides of the arterial road after permission from Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority.

This week, the initiative completed 12 years as Patel estimates that he has provided direction to about 14,000 persons at the average of 38 calls a day. "I have details of 335 bungalows and flats, 48 commercial buildings, 30 banks, and over 100 restaurants, party plots and other places of interest. There are about 85 places with similar names - such as Sahajanand Apartment, Avenue, Enclave, etc. I keep on updating myself about new developments, and it keeps me busy," says Patel. Ask Rohit Patel about his experience, and he has many of directing people from other states to some bungalows in the area, to truck drivers calling him after midnight to deliver goods. "Even today, when the roads are dug-up, I correct online maps of the callers and tell them to take specific routes to avoid blockages or waterlogging during the monsoon - something which they don't find online," says Patel.It's often not about addresses alone - people ask for the numbers of snake catchers, plumbers, electricians, shops for specific goods. He chuckles while saying that a few times people even asked where they could find liquor.Patel says he has not come across any such initiative during his travels. What keeps him going? "I have my loving wife and two well-settled sons. With this activity, I get connected to so many people. Some call periodically or even thank me after reaching their destination.

Lake levels fall: 5% water cut from May 30, more in June

MUMBAI: With stocks in lakes supplying water to Mumbai dropping below 10%, the BMC on Saturday announced a 5% water cut for the city from May 30 and a 10% water cut from June 5.he BMC also made an appeal to citizens to conserve water as much as possible. The water cut will remain in force till satisfactory rainfall is received and the useful stock in the water bodies improves, said the civic body.

On Saturday the total water stocks in the lakes stood at 9.69% or 1.40 lakh million litres. On the same day last

year the water stocks were at 2.18 lakh million litres or 15.10% while in the year 2022 the water stocks stood at 2.88 lakh million litres or 19.95% double of the current

"In the years 2021 and 2022, the monsoon was active till 15 October. However, in 2023, there was relatively very less rainfall in the month of October. As a result, the water stock is about 5.64% less this year as compared to last year. The BMC administration is keeping a close watch on the water stock and is supplying water in a planned manner every day. The India Meteorological Department

has predicted the timely arrival of the monsoon this year, which is also a positive

thing," said the civic body in a statement, official onset date of monsoon over Mumbai is June 11. The 5% and 10% reduction will also be applicable to the water supply given to Thane, Bhiwandi-Nizampur Municipal Corporation, and other villages by the BMC.

he BMC also listed out water-saving habits to use water judiciously daily and avoid wasting it. These include drinking water as much as necessary in the glass, bathing with water in a bucket without using the shower, avoiding the brushing of teeth and shaving by keeping the tap on.

Govt will go all out to make Hyd a global hub, says Uttam Kumar

Hyderabad: Irrigation minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday made a strong pitch for Hyderabad as a global investment hub, claiming that the govt will leave no stone unturned to turn it into one of the best cities across the world. Speaking at the inaugural of the Times West Hyderabad Property Expo-2024, the minister said the govt was making continuous efforts to attract investors from around the world, with the aim of making Hyderabad the most sought-after

investment destination. "Hyderabad as a city isbooming with infrastructure of global standards, moderate climate, cosmopolitan culture and a large pool of talent. I can assure the real estate builders and buyers that we will continue to do everything possible to help the construction industry grow," he said.Uttam

said the govt's plans to expand the metro rail network, develop a landmark riverfront along Musi Road were expected to enhance Hyderabad's accessibility, transportation and overall image. He said the govt will prioritise ease of doing business and robust law and order system.He emphasised the govt's commitment to transparency and accessibility, with CM A Revanth Reddy and ministers being available round-the-clock to address people's concerns. The Times Property Expo showcased 50 projects from 20 developers, highlighting the diverse range of properties in western parts.Sunrisers Hyderabad will continue to play aggressive cricket: Simon HelmotDespite a loss to Kolkata Knight Riders, Sunrisers Hyderabad remains committed to their aggressive cricket style to qualify for the IPL

river and construct Regional Ring Govt seeks report from depts on properties outside MPCongress in MP criticizes the government's move to gather data on assets outside the state, calling for transparency on economic status and loan details in the midst of an economic crisis.FoB fiasco: Elevator errors leave pedestrians stranded in Hyderabad cityMalfunctioning elevators and escalators at several Foot over Bridges in Hyderabad are causing public inconvenience due to neglect in maintenance by GHMC and private agencies.He emphasised the govt's commitment to transparency and accessibility, with CM A Revanth Reddy and ministers being available round-the-clock to address people's concerns.



of urban development's guidance. The newlyelected MPs from Greater Hyderabad should advocate for this in the upcoming Parliament sessions," stated BT Srinivas, secretary of the United Federation of RWAs, to STOI. He also emphasised that the central govt should develop a detailed plan to prevent flooding in Hyderabad, aiming to elevate it to a world-class city.Recent unseasonal rains have illustrated the city's vulnerability, with stormwater drains in Greater Hyderabad overflowing and low-lying areas experiencing severe

flooding. Despite the state govt's strategic nala development programme (SNDP) providing some relief, old stormwater drains continue to flood due to inadequate desilting, noted a member of the United Federation of RWAs, which represent 4,200 RWAs. The members demand that the state govt include RWAs in the study of urban flooding

Hyd RWAs push for 'mission monsoon'

management and its preventive measures, and subsequently pass legislation in the assembly to provide a permanent and long-term solution. hief minister A Revanth Reddy, who also oversees

the municipal administration and urban development portfolio, should send a team of experts to other metro cities to study effective urban flooding management systems and adopt the best practices for Hyderabad,

some RWA members told STOI.Meanwhile, on Saturday, Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB) authorities reviewed rain-related issues and planned actions at Khairatabad.

At heart of capital, urban flooding wades into intense poll debateBhubaneswar Central assembly constituency faces a tough contest between BJD, BJP, and Congress for the upcoming polls on May 25.

Urban jungle: How Hyderabad became a biodiversity havenHyderabad's CBI. developed by ICLEI South Asia and GHMC, records 53 reptile species including mugger crocodile, Bengal monitor lizard, and Indian rock python. Diverting to quarries can also avert floodsChembarambakkam reservoir releases surplus water into Adyar River, causing floods.

Mob vandalises police station in Davanagere after 'custodial death'

Davanagere: At least 11 police personnel sustained injuries when a mob vandalised the Channagiri police station, about 260km from Bengaluru, in Davanagere district on Friday night after a 30-year-old carpenter, who had been detained earlier in the day for alleged involvement in gambling activities, died while in police custody. Eight police vehicles were also destroyed in the rampage.

Soon after the incident, CM Siddaramaiah ordered the suspension of Channagiri sub-division DvSP Prashanth Munnolli and Channagiri CPI Niranjan for detaining Adil without filing an FIR. Additional police forces have been

deployed in Channagiri.Inquiry to be done under judicial supervision; cams will help: CopsAdil, a carpenter, was detained for playing matka, a form of betting and lottery popular in North Karnataka. Within six to seven minutes of his arrival at the police station, he reportedly fell ill. He was rushed to the hospital, where he was declared brought dead. As news of Adil's death spread, a crowd gathered at the police station and resorted to vandalism. The mob placed Adil's body before the station and demanded accountability for his death. When attempts to disperse the crowd through appeals failed, police resorted to lathicharge and tear gas.

Davangere SP Uma Prashanth said, "We detained Adil under suspicion of involvement in matka gambling, but he collapsed within 6-7 minutes of his arrival at the station. He was rushed to the hospital. The family alleged it was a lockup death. Footage from CCTV cameras at the police station will aid in this inquiry, which will be conducted under judicial supervision. A complaint from Adil's father has been received." Khalim Ulla, Adil's father, has accused police of beating his son to death. "He worked as a carpenter and was not involved in gambling. Police tortured him, leading to his death," he

alarmed the RWAs, who

fear the city may face

serious flooding in the

coming months. They have

increased pressure on govt

preventive measures.uring

elections, RWAs highlighted

manifestos. They also raised

urban flooding as a critical

authorities to implement

the recent Lok Sabha

issue in their people's

this concern during the

elections"Although the

civic body and related govt

departments are managing

the flooding situation, a

comprehensive standard

operating procedure (SoP)

is needed under the ministry

2023 assembly



Global headwinds bring India, US closer

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin's recent visit to China underlines the depth of the gradually developing close relationship between Moscow and Beijing. This embrace has geopolitical ramifications both at the regional and global levels. From the Indian perspective, in view of the ongoing Chinese expansionism in the Himalayas, any Russian support to this adventurism would be detrimental to India's security interests. Against this backdrop, there is a need to examine the possible trajectory of Indo-US defence cooperation after the elections in both countries. As far as the Indian elections are concerned, the indications are that the present dispensation is likely to retain power. In such an eventuality, it would be fair to assume that the current stance of New Delhi on India-US ties would continue, leading to a steady growth in the relationship.In the US elections — polling is due in November — it is too early to hazard a guess as to whether Joe Biden or Donald Trump will win, especially amid the latter's legal troubles. In case of a Biden victory, the current set of US policies is likely to be followed through in relations with India. However, if Trump wins, some changes can be expected. The quid-pro-quo approach vis-à-vis European members of NATO that Trump followed during his presidency could well be adopted by him while dealing with India.

Irrespective of who becomes the US President, the competitiveness between an aggressive and expansionist China and the US is likely to grow, accentuating the geopolitical divide at the global level.n the regional sphere, the Indian growth story and Chinese aggressiveness have resulted in a confrontational situation, which has defied resolution despite 21 rounds of military-level talks. At the political level, too, no headway appears to have been made.

India is the only nation in the region which has physically resisted Chinese attempts at grabbing territory along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). In the Ladakh sector, China has steadfastly refused to withdraw from several areas in occupied, resulting in an eyeball-to-eyeball deployment. Further, Sino-Pakistan collusion has raised the possibility of a two-front threat to India in the sensitive J&K region. The commonality of perceived threats is a driver of closer Indo-US ties. It has taken the US considerable time to grudgingly accept the Indian stance of 'strategic autonomy' in view of the coinciding national interests. The grant of Tier-1 status to India in 2018. 2018, the signing of four key foundational agreements (the Communications Interoperability and Security Memorandum of Agreement, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement, the General Security of Military Information Agreement and the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement) and the commencement of the 2+2 dialogue between Quad partners is indicative of the growing Indo-US convergence. Over the past 25 years, China's defence budget has officially been 3-4 times larger than that of India. Unofficially, its budget could roughly be one-and-a-half times the official figures. This has created a huge military capability gap between the two, which is partially offset by excellent and superior fighting ability of our soldiers. So, India has to tread carefully while dealing with the Chinese. Thus, in the Quad deliberations, India has steered clear of security issues in view of the Chinese sensitivities. This aspect has been well understood by India's Quad partners. Defence trade between the US and India has increased substantially in the past 15 years. In 2020, the US Congress authorised \$25 billion worth of defence sales to India up to 2025-26. New Delhi is keen on joint research and production with transfer of technology (TOT) in defence equipment. However, an agreement on this issue is yet to materialise. It needs to be appreciated that technologically, the US is far ahead of India in advanced defence weaponry. Hence, any agreement in this field will entail the US sharing high-end technology details with

Uttarakhand beset by Char Dham Yatra chaos, forest fires

EDITORIAL

The hill state is facing the double whammy of environmental disasters and climate change.

THE Uttarakhand Government led by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami is responsible for plunging the state into one disaster after another. The most recent example is the gross mishandling of the highprofile Char Dham Yatra, considered a big moneyspinner. It was inaugurated on May 10, and within its first 14 days has left over 45 pilgrims dead and many The yatra was preceded by forest fires, which burnt injured.In 2023, the yatra resulted in the death of over 200 pilgrims due to high-altitude sickness, landslides, etc. The administration had a good six months to prepare for the 2024 event since the doors of the four shrines were closed in early November. They could have used this time to introduce basic

safety measures such as widening the pathways leading up to the shrines, ensuring basic health facilities and preparing a roadmap for the smooth flow of traffic.Instead, on the first day itself at the Yamunotri shrine, with a carrying capacity of around 4,500 people, there were about 45,000 tourists awaiting their turn on a narrow, unsafe pathway, holding on for dear life to a rickety bamboo railing where one false step would have seen them plunging down a deep crevice. The traffic jam to get to Yamunotri was 45 km long and yatris complained that they had to wait 10-12 hours for darshan. The picture was no different in Kedarnath, which on the first day saw a crowd of nearly 80,000 yatris making their way up to the shrine,

only to be met by heavy snow and rain; hotels were charging astronomical amounts, which the majority could ill afford. The story in Badrinath was equally chaotic. Pilgrims braved the cold to stand in long queues from 2 am, and when the temple door's finally opened, priority was given to VIP darshan. This so incensed the yatris that they broke into protests and anti-government sloganeering. With social media flooded with videos of serpentine queues and angry devotees, the state government threatened to take legal action against those spreading fake news or videos to defame the yatra.Local residents have taken to social media, demanding that the administration regulate the flow

of pilgrims and vehicles entering Uttarakhand as the present revenue-driven model was creating fresh environmental challenges. Garbage disposal has of this waste ends up polluting the rivers that originate from the higher Himalayas.

down vast tracts of deciduous and oak forests. Forest fires had started simmering across the state in November 2023. Lack of winter rain and the dry summer spell have seen them spread to practically every forest-covered district from Pauri Garhwal to



the Kedarnath and Badrinath valleys to the Kumaon hills, including Nainital, Bhowali and Haldwani, across Bhimtal and Sattal right up to Munsiyari, which lies on the Nepal border. The fire-induced haze was so thick that it led to the cancellation of n February last year, the CM went to New Delhi to flights to the Naini-Saini airport in Pithoragarh.

ccording to satellite pictures, and confirmed by the Forest Survey of India, 40 per cent of Uttarakhand's once-dense forests have been burnt to cinders and yet we have a state government informing the Supreme Court that only 0.1 per cent of the forest cover has been affected. It was only when these fires reached Nainital that the Indian Air Force was asked to step in and assist in putting out these fires. Dhami and Forest Minister Subodh Uniyal returned to the state after election campaigning in Telangana and Karnataka when senior bureaucrats received a rap on their knuckles from the Supreme Court.

emerged as one of the biggest challenges since most These fires have dried up thousands of springs, which are the only source of drinking water for the local people and have converted this once-beautiful state into a veritable gas chamber, which is impacting the health of its people. The young and elderly are complaining of irritation in the eyes and are being admitted to hospital because they are facing difficulty in breathing.ut the most shocking part of this saga is that the entire burden of controlling these

fires has fallen on the shoulders of the understaffed and ill-equipped foresters, who are working 10 to 12 hours at a stretch, armed with little more than garden rakes and tree branches to control these fires that are racing across the mountain slopes, devouring everything in their path. In a clear violation of an apex court order, the state government managed to secure permission from the Environment Ministry to do mining in its rivers as well as earn enormous profits from the sale of dug-up minerals, sands and stones. The rivers are drying up due to deforestation, excessive mining and pollution. During the summer months, they are

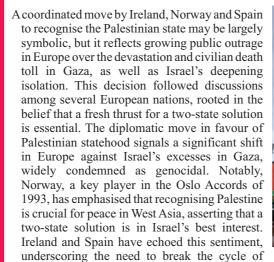
little more than glorified nullahs. But the mining pits dug in these rivers are so deep that several people have drowned in them.

meet Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav in order to get permission to continue mining in four rivers (Kosi, Gaula, Sarda and Nandaur) for 10 years. After his meeting with Yadav, he wrote on social media: "Under the leadership of the doubleengine government, we are always working towards the development and prosperity of the region.'

Unfortunately, Uttarakhand is facing the double whammy of climate change and unprecedented environmental disasters.

Two-state advocacy

Three European countries recognise Palestine



violence that has worsened since the October 7 attack by Hamas and the subsequent Israeli counter-assaults.



Hopefully, it will inspire other Western countries to follow suit and step up international pressure for a ceasefire and meaningful negotiations. Salman Rushdie

has also pitched into the already muddied debate.

India has maintained a consistent policy, advocating for direct negotiations to establish a sovereign, independent Palestine coexisting peacefully with Israel. It has reiterated its long-standing support for a two-state solution, though Prime Minister Modi's tweet condemning the initial Hamas attack was interpreted by some observers as a shift in its stance.

Meanwhile, the International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants against the Israeli PM and Defence Minister and three Hamas leaders for alleged war crimes. With the International Court of Justice hearing South Africa's appeal to

stop Israel's attacks in Rafah, the global clamour for accountability and justice is growing

The rise of gold and the fall of dollar

The fetish for gold will vanish if the global community were to fully grasp the shocking level of environmental degradation caused by gold mining.

THE trend of rising gold prices in the last few months does not reflect the usual market fluctuations of supply and demand conditions for this 'precious' metal. But it signifies not only the uncertain global economic conditions but also, even more importantly, the changing geo-political world order afflicted by conflicts. The spot gold prices hit a record of \$2,431.29 per ounce on April 12. The rise in gold prices has become linked to three other global changes: the rise in demand for gold reserves by Central banks, the Russia-Ukraine war and the declining reserves of dollar in the foreign currency reserves by Central banks.

When Russia invaded Ukraine over two years ago, the USled NATO military bloc did not want to participate in a direct military confrontation with Russia because of the potentially dangerous implications for Europe, and most importantly, for Germany, the largest European economy that was critically dependent on Russian gas supplies for its energy needs. This strategy of avoidance of direct military intervention by the US is also the product of the military and political failures of past US interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Biden administration, in consultation with its key European allies, decided to use the economic weapon of sanctions to cripple Russia economically and, through that, militarily. The US froze Russia's dollar reserves in the hope that — since dollar was the most accepted foreign currency in global trade — Russia will be isolated economically and that this isolation would create adverse domestic economic conditions in Russia and possible domestic unrest, forcing Putin to halt Russian aggression and eventually to surrender to a ceasefire acceptable to the US.

American economic and security strategists could not have imagined that weaponising the dollar would backfire. This weaponisation of currency alerted the policy strategists in all countries that had tense relations of one kind or another with the US that they could one day be subjected to dollar sanctions. This fear led the Central banks of several important countries to go on a gold-



buying spree and reduce dependence on dollar reserves in their foreign currency reserves. The World Gold Council's latest report, published in April, points out that in the first quarter of 2024, the demand by Central banks to buy gold reached record highs. Four countries that were especially noted to have led the high demand were: China, India, Turkey and Kazakhstan. No official announcement from any of these countries would suggest that they are buying gold because of their concerns about possible dollar sanctions in future, but it is obvious that substantial gold reserves in an uncertain world ensure not only safety but also a sound investment. Given the very tense relations between the US and China especially because of their clashing strategic interests in

Taiwan, the Dragon has been the most aggressive buyer

of gold of late. China's Central bank (The People's Bank

of China) was the largest official sector buyer of gold in 2023. According to the World Gold Council, China's net purchases of gold were 7.23 million ounces, or 224.9 metric tonnes, the highest ever purchase in a single year since at least 1977. China's continuous 18-month goldbuying spree led to the accumulation of its gold reserves equal to 72.8 million ounces of gold by the end of April. Its value is equal to a staggering \$167.96 billion. That it's the demand by Central banks to increase their gold holdings - which has been the prime mover behind gold price rise — is also demonstrated by the fact that the demand for gold for jewellery during this period had decreased as a result of high prices.

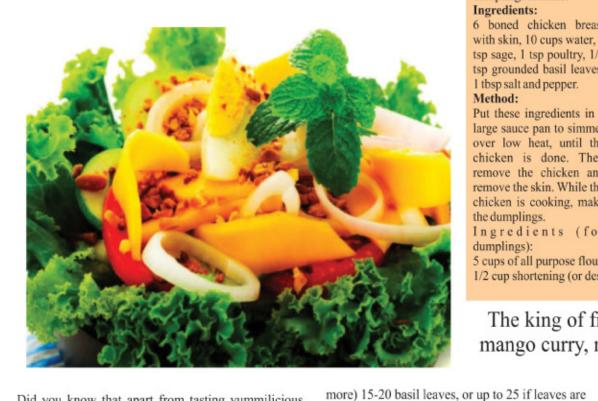
The increasing demand for gold reserves by Central banks was accompanied by a decrease in dollar reserves. The dollar had an overwhelming dominance in global currency reserves for several decades after the Second World War. The dollar was considered the safest currency to hold. Even till the 1990s, the share of dollar in official foreign exchange reserves was 70 per cent, according to the International Monetary Fund data. This has now come down to 58 per cent of the global reserves. The attempt by US strategists to weaponise the dollar through sanctions against Russia has certainly created difficulties for some Russian citizens at home or abroad in their foreign exchange transactions, but it has failed to subdue the Russian state, which has managed to bypass these sanctions. The India-Russia trade in rupees and roubles for the purchase of oil by India from Russia along with some aspects of Russia-China and Russia-Iran trades are some examples of bypassing the dollar. The global confidence in the dollar has been eroded, which, in turn, has diminished one key aspect of America's source of power in the global political economy. Though the dollar remains a strong currency, global trust in it as a reserve currency has suffered a decline. The narratives of de-dollarisation or the alternative BRICS currency floated by President Lula of Brazil — and supported enthusiastically by Russia, silently by China and hesitantly by India — along with the trend of increasing gold reserves are reflections of the declining importance of dollar as a global reserve currency and America as the most dominant global economic power.

Such epochal changes do not take place suddenly. There may even be reversals or — if Trump returns to power in the US — an acceleration of decline in America's influence because of his blinkered vision of American isolationism couched as American nationalism.

t is not difficult to imagine that if there were to be peace in the world, gold would lose the importance it has acquired in the commodified world we live in because, as Karl Marx theorised, gold had no use value, it only had exchange value. The fetish for gold will vanish if the global community were to fully grasp the shocking level of environmental degradation caused by gold mining.

Recipe: Thai mango basil salad

with olive oil



Recipe: Chicken Dumplings

Here is a recipe to make the ghee), 1/4 tsp salt, 1 beaten most delicious chicken egg and some water. dumplings at home. Ingredients:

6 boned chicken breast with skin, 10 cups water, 1 1 tbsp salt and pepper. Method:

remove the chicken and remove the skin. While the the dumplings.

dumplings): 1/2 cup shortening (or desi squares into the chicken

Method (for dumplings):

Put flour into a mixing bowl and stir in salt. Work in shortening as you would tsp sage, 1 tsp poultry, 1/8 when making pie crust, tsp grounded basil leaves, using two knives or a pastry cutter. Add egg, working it into the dough. Then stir in Put these ingredients in a cold water 1/2 cup at a time, large sauce pan to simmer until the dough comes over low heat, until the together and is at a stage chicken is done. Then where you will be able to roll it out. Lightly flour a surface and roll out the chicken is cooking, make dough to a pie shell thickness (about 1/8 inch). Ingredients (for Using a pizza cutter, cut the dough into 1/2 to 1 inch 5 cups of all purpose flour, squares. Finally, put the



broth and cook until done (about 30 minutes). Return the chicken to the soup

with the dumplings to cook another 15 minutes or until you have a gravy texture.

After you get a gravy texture, it's ready to serve.

The king of fruits tastes great in any form. Be it mango curry, mango rice, mango chutney or even

a salad.

either side of the stone and scoop out the fruit. Slice fruit

up into cubes. Add mango cubes to the salad. To make the dressing, place all basil dressing ingredients in a mini chopper, food processor or blender. Process to a coarse paste. Drizzle dressing over salad. Add nuts and toss again. Variations of this Salad

> Add cooked prawns, simply boiled or grilled Add fried tofu, cut into cubes Add grilled chicken HMU Tip: Boiled eggs help in

muscle gain, improved eye sight, brain function and stronger bones. Add boiled eggs as a variation to this salad to increase your healthy quotient.



Did you know that apart from tasting yummilicious, mango is rich in health benefits? It lowers cholesterols, fights cancer and clears skin too! So today Godrej Nature's Basket food consultant, Rushina Munshaw Ghildiyal gives us a easy to whip up and healthy mango basil salad recipe.

Thai Mango Basil Salad with Olive Oil

Prep Time: 15 minutes Total Time: 15 minutes Serves 2-3 as a Side Dish

Ingredients 1 medium bowl fresh lettuce, or a combination of mixed greens (1 semi-ripe to ripe mango) 1/2 to 1 cup cucumber, sliced 1/4 cup dryroasted cashew nuts 1 tbsp Thai chillies, sliced fine Basil Dressing: (serves 2 people; double recipe for 3 or

virgin olive oil 2 tsp. brown sugar or palm

sugar 1 chilli

Method Rinse fresh greens and use salad spinner to dry. Place in a salad bowl. Add all the other vegetables.

3 tbsp. fresh lime juice

1 tsp salt 1 tbsp extra

small 1 green onion, sliced (including green stem)

spices and later fruits," said she as the

server greeted us with tall glasses of 'First

Flush Tea with Lavender Flowers and Lemon Grass'

ice-tea along with a colourful, summer salad, an ideal

opening to the delightful tea tasting session

which was to follow. "The first flush",

Anamika explained, "is the prime time to

pluck tea leaves. It begins in February

and goes on till the month of April

and mid of May." Between sips of

fresh tea and bites of the salad, tiny

porcelain saucers containing

fragrant tea leaves were passed

around the table for us to get to

Before long it was time for act

two. Anamika infused for us

'Autumn Tea with Rose Petals and

Lemon Balm' in a glass kettle

containing warm water. Just sight of

tea leaves and flowers dancing and

swirling in the water was enough to

make us crave a cup. Shot glasses were laid

out and Anamika did the honours of pouring

accompanied with cheese sandwiches and nachos.

careful portions for everyone. This tea came

know the tea better.

Slice the mango on

The heavy on chai patti, heavy on milk, boiled to milky-brown perfection liquid that we dunk our biscuits in every morning is a regular accompaniment with the morning paper for most of us, Indians.



That's how we like our tea - a cup full of flavoursome goodness that unofficially kickstarts the day. Of

course, we have had our share of experiments tea bags containing myriad herbal and fruit-infused flavours, but the customary chai, needless to say, remains an unrivalled favourite. And so, it took a very splendid, not to mention, equally enlightening tea-tasting session when I got introduced to "tea" and not chai.

An animated bunch of 15 tea-enthusiasts gathered in Gurgaon's Star Mall at Mridu Gupta's The Tea Room Co., where sommelier Anamika Singh waited in anticipation to unveil seven handpicked blends of Anandini Himalaya Tea, her own brand which was launched in the summer of 2012. Anamika spent her childhood amidst the tea estates of Darjeeling where she grew up to acquire the affinity and taste for tea from her father, Abhai Singh, a renowned tea specialist. She trained under him as an apprentice for several years to be able to master the nuances of different kinds of tea. Then, in 2000, she and her father decided to extend their love for producing tea to the quaint town of Dharamsala in Himachal Pradesh. And thus came into being the Manjhee Valley tea estate of which Anamika is a proud owner in the present day. Having spent 20 years in the tea industry, her expertise goes beyond tea manufacturing, blending and drinking to food

Wisdom in a perfect cup of

An animated conversation of what makes green tea different from black tea ensued. "Both the teas come from same plant. The difference lies in the way they're manufactured. Green tea is semi-fermented where as black tea has no trace of fermentation", explained Anamika while she infused yet another blend into the kettle. This was 'Green Tea with Pomegranate Flowers and Himalayan Tulsi'; an intense and citric flavour that refreshed our palates evenly for the delectable cupcakes that came along with it.

"Tea is a palate cleanser," Anamika had said sometime in between the session but what lingered as a sweet aftertaste in the end were the energy, effervescence and wisdom infused in

Anamika Singh's Anandini Himalaya Tea bouquet comprises 7

- 1. First Flush Tea with Lavender Flowers and Lemon Grass 2. Green Tea with Rose Petals and Mint
- Green Tea with Rhododendron and Himalayan Tulsi
- 4. Autumn Tea with Rose Petals and Lemon Balm 5. Green Tea with Chamomile and Rose Hip
- 6. Green Tea with Fire-Flame Bush and Mint
- 7. Green Tea with Pomegranate Flowers and Himalayan Tulsi Anamika's secret of making a perfect cup of tea!

Before you begin, know the difference between "tea" and "chai". Tea is an "infusion" of tea leaves into warm water. Chai, on the other hand, is brewed or boiled along with milk and

You need: A wide-bottomed tea pot/pan. A

wide and spacious pan allows the tea leaves to swirl effortlessly into the water. Try picking a borosil, glass or ceramic pan and avoid one made of steel, aluminium or iron. Pour in 2 full cups of water.

Temperature of water: The water should be boiled at 90 degrees heat. Tiny bubbles appearing on the sides indicate the water is ready. Take it off the fire and add two teaspoons of tea leaves. Cover it immediately with a tea cosy to keep the temperature of the water

Keep a tea timer handy and let the infusion begin. Once ready, pour out the tea into the cups through a tea strainer.



Fish fingers are oh-so- - Take one plate and spread of fish fingers to go with a one. host of roasted appetizers.

But it can be quite monotonous the way fish fingers are typically served thin strips of fried fish with the ubiquitous mint chutney. Simply break free of the old recipe and try out our new one that gives an interesting spin to the orthodox fish fingers making it more crispy and savoury.

Executive chef Deepak Dhanwariya of My Way or The Highway, a Mediterranean cuisine restaurant in Noida's Centre Stage Mall, tells us how to get this innovative fish

popular; every wedding or sesame seed on it.

- Roll fish into sesame one by

 Heat oil in fryer, deep fry fish finger till golden brown. - Serve with tartar sauce and

You may want to substitute tartar sauce or salad with a bowl of hummus, and give a

touch of the Middle East to your cooking. Here is a very simple way of making hummus, the perfect dip for many an appetizer, at home.

Hummus Ingredients: Chickpeas Garlic Green chilli

Lemon juice



preparation right. Sesame fish finger (One portion) Ingredients: Fish (sole/ Basa) 150 gms

Egg 1 Mustard powder 10 gms Paprika powder 10 gms Sesame seeds to coat Lime juice 20 ml Salt as per taste White pepper a pinch

Oil for frying

Method: - Clean and cut fish in 6cm long finger shapes and keep aside.

Make a marination in a bowl, mix egg, mustard powder, lime juice, salt, paprika powder, white powder, and whisk well till emulsion is formed. Put fish in the marination and let it stay for 20-30 Yoghurt Method: - Soak chickpeas in water overnight. Boil it and allow it

Coriander or parsley

Olive oil

Salt to taste

to cool.

- Chop two cloves of garlic and green chillies, and together with lemon juice, 2 thsp yogurt and salt as per taste add to the boiled chickpeas while retaining a bit of the stock. Then, put it in the mixer.

- Make sure the mix turns smooth with no chickpea granule sticking out.

- Pour out the mix in a bowl and add to it a tbsp of olive oil. Blend well.

Sprinkle fresh coriander or parsley from the top. ..and the world's best fish finger dip is ready to be served.

Severe Cyclone Remal to hit Bengal coast tonight, flights suspended in Kolkata

New Delhi: A low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal intensified into severe cyclonic storm Remal and is expected to make landfall between the coasts of West Bengal and Bangladesh at midnight on Sunday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.Remal, which means sand in Arabic, is the first premonsoon cyclone in the Bay of Bengal this season. The name was provided by Oman, following the regional naming system for cyclones in the north Indian Ocean. According to the weather department, extremely heavy rainfall has been predicted in the coastal districts of West Bengal and north Odisha on May 26 and 27. Parts of northeast India may also witness extremely heavy rainfall due to the impact of Remal on May 27 and 28.In its latest bulletin on Sunday morning, the IMD said Remal moved nearly northwards at a speed of six km per hour and intensified into a severe cyclonic storm. It lay centred about 290 km south-southwest of

Khepupara (Bangladesh), 330 km south of Mongla (Bangladesh), 270 km southsoutheast of Sagar Islands (West Bengal), 390 km south-southeast of Digha (West Bengal) and 310 km south-southeast of Canning (West Bengal) as of 5:30 am today. With a wind speed of 110-120 km per hour, gusting to 135 kmph, Remal is expected to cross the West Bengal and adjoining Bangladesh coasts between Sagar Island and Khepupara on Sunday midnight, the Met Department said. At the time of the landfall, a storm surge of up to 1.5 metres is expected to inundate lowlying areas of coastal West Bengal and Bangladesh.In view of the cyclone, the coastal districts of North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas in West Bengal are under red alert on May 26 and 27 as extremely heavy rainfall is predicted in some areas. An orange alert was issued for Kolkata, Howrah, Nadia, and Purba Medinipur districts, with the weather office warning of wind speeds touching between



80 and 90 kilometres per hour, gusting to 100 kilometres per hour. Heavy to very heavy rainfall was predicted in a few places on May 26 and 27.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has deployed 12 teams and five additional teams have been kept on standby in West Bengal ahead of the cyclone's landfall. The rescue and relief teams of the Indian Army and the Indian Navy have been kept in readiness. The IMD has warned of localised flooding and

significant damage to vulnerable structures, power and communication lines, unpaved roads, crops, and orchards in South and North 24 Parganas districts. People have been asked to remain indoors and not venture outside, particularly near the sea.On the other hand, the coastal districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, and Kendrapara in north Odisha could receive heavy rainfall on May 26-27, while heavy rainfall was likely in Mayurbhanj on May 27. The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) said nine

disaster relief teams were kept on standby at Haldia and Fraserganj in West Bengal, and Paradip and Gopalpur in Odisha. It said all pre-emptive measures were taken to ensure there was no loss of life or property at sea. In a statement, the ICG said that its remote operating stations at Haldia and Paradwip have been alerting fishing vessels and merchant ships about the cyclone through VHF (very high frequency) broadcasts. All its ships and aircraft were kept on standby for search and rescue operations. Meanwhile, the authorities of Kolkata's Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport have decided to suspend flight operations for 21 hours from Sunday noon as the state braces for Cyclone Remal. All cargo and container handling operations at the city's Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port will be suspended for 12 hours from 6 pm on Sunday till 6 am on Monday due to the cyclone. Fishermen have been warned to stay out of the north Bay of Bengal until the morning of May 27.

Leh-bound SpiceJet flight makes emergency landing in Delhi after bird-hit

New Delhi: A Leh-bound SpiceJet flight made an emergency landing in Delhi shortly after take-off after one of the aircraft's engine was hit by a bird, an airline spokesperson said. Flight SG123 took off at 10.29 am before making an air turn back and landing safely at around 11am.An airline spokesperson said, "SpiceJet B737 aircraft operating SG-123 from Delhi to Leh returned to Delhi after suffering a bird hit on engine 2. The aircraft landed safely in Delhi and passengers deplaned normally."Last week, two flights -- Air India



and Air India Express -- were forced to make emergency landings due to technical errors.

On May 19, the Air India Express flight, travelling from Bengaluru to Kochi with 179 passengers and six crew members on board, made an emergency landing at the Bengaluru airport after a fire was reported in the right engine. Just two days earlier, on May 17, the Air India flight, which took off from Delhi with 175 passengers, turned back and landed in the national capital after a fire in its air conditioning unit.n May 1, a New Delhi-bound Vistara flight from Bhubaneswar returned minutes after takeoff and made an emergency landing after the aircraft was caught in a hailstorm and suffered damage.

Food Safety Body Cracks Down On Commercial Sale Of Human Milk

New Delhi: The country's food regulator has warned against the unauthorized commercialization of human milk, stating that its rules do not permit the sale of such products.n an advisory dated May 24, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has advised all activities related to human milk sales to be stopped."FSSAI has not permitted the processing and/or selling of human milk under FSS Act, 2006 and rules/regulations made there under. Therefore, it is advised that all such activities related to the commercialization of human milk and its products should be immediately stopped," read the advisory.

Any violation of the rules will lead to action against the food business operators (FBOs), the FSSAI said in its advisory. The FSSAI, which regulates the



manufacturing and sale of food items in the country, has also called on state and central licensing authorities to ensure licenses are not given to food businesses involved in processing or selling human milk.

he online sale of human milk has boomed with milk banks set up as non-profits collecting milk from lactating mothers and selling them at a profit. A simple Google search shows the numerous options one has to buy such products online, including Instagram handles and milk

Milk banks usually process the milk collected from healthy donors (lactating mothers) and check contamination and nutrient contents before freezing and storing them. Most milk banks, which are attached to government hospitals, usually provide it for free, according to The Times of India.

"Grew Up Washing Cups And Plates As A Child": PM Modi At Mirzapur Rally

Mirzapur: Prime Minister Narendra Slamming the SP chief Akhilesh Modi said on Sunday that he grew up washing cup plates and serving tea, adding that the relationship between Modi and tea is very deep."I grew up washing cups and plates as a child. I have grown up serving tea. The relationship between Modi and tea is also very deep," PM Modi said while addressing a rally in Mirzapur today. "No one wants to waste their vote on Samajwadi Party. No one will vote for someone who is drowning. The common man will vote only for the one whose government is certain to be formed. The country has come to know the people of the INDI alliance very well. These people are deeply communal. These people are extreme casteists. These people are extreme familyists. Whenever their government is formed, these people

Yaday, the Prime Minister said that there are so many promising people in the Yadav community but he (Akhilesh) gave tickets only to his family members."These SP people used to release even those terrorists who were caught. The SP government used to suspend any police officer who was reluctant in this. They had made the entire UP and Purvanchal a haven for the mafia. Be it life or land, no one knew when it would be snatched away and in the SP government, the mafia was also seen as a vote bank," PM Modi said.He further asserted that CM Yogi is carrying forward the 'Swachhta Abhiyan' very bravely. The public was at the mercy of the SP government but now the mafia is trembling in the BJP government.

take decisions on this basis," he "The sacred Constitution of our country is also on their (INDI alliance) target. They want to loot the reservation of SC-ST-OBC. Our Constitution clearly says that there cannot be reservation based on religion.

Samajwadi Party had released its manifesto during the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections in 2012. Then SP had said in its manifesto, just as Dalits and backward classes have got the reservation, similarly, Muslims will also be given rservation," he added.

"SP had said that it would even change the Constitution for this. SP had announced that 15 per cent reservation will be given to Muslims in police and PAC also. How these people were bent on snatching away the rights of SC-ST-OBC to please their vote bank," the Prime Minister said in Mirzapur.PM Modi also emphasized that he is dedicated to the poor, Dalits and backward people.

J&K Lok Sabha Election Over, Next Step Assembly **Election: Amit Shah**

New Delhi:Union Home Minister Amit Shah has said that the Modi government's Kashmir policy has been vindicated by the successful polling in Jammu and Kashmir, where even separatists have voted "overwhelmingly", as he assured that the assembly elections in the region will be held before September 30. Once the elections are over, the government will start the process of restoring statehood to the Union Territory, Amit Shah said in an interview to PTI late Saturday.

"I have said in Parliament that we will give the statehood after the assembly elections," he said, adding that everything is going according to plan, such as the surveys of the backward classes and delimitation exercise of the Assembly and Lok Sabha constituencies."We have completed the delimitation process. Because the reservation can be given only after the delimitation process is completed. Because we have to know about the status of various castes (to give reservation). That has been done. Lok Sabha election is also over (in Jammu and Kashmir). Next is the assembly election which will also be held. We will complete the process before the Supreme Court deadline," he said. On December 11, 2023, the Supreme Court had directed the Election Commission of India to conduct elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30, 2024.

Commenting on the relatively high polling percentage in the Kashmir valley in the Lok Sabha elections, Amit Shah said he believed that there has been a big change in attitudes there."Voting percentage has increased. Some people used to say that people of the valley do not believe in the Indian Constitution. But this election was held under the Indian Constitution because Kashmir's Constitution is no longer there. It was scrapped. Election was held under Indian Constitution. People who sought a separate country, those who want to go with Pakistan -- even they cast their votes overwhelmingly, both at the organisation level as well as individual people," he said

Amit Shah said "it was a very big victory for the democracy and a big success of the Narendra Modi government's Kashmir policy, which it has been pursuing for the last 10 years." The three seats in the Kashmir valley -- Srinagar (38.49 per cent), Baramulla (59.1 per cent) and Anantnag-Rajouri (53 per cent) -- have recorded the highest voter turnout "in many decades", the Election Commission said on Saturday When asked why the BJP did not field any candidate in the Lok Sabha elections in the Kashmir valley, he said the party was still working on strengthening its organisation in the valley.

'Saw death up close': Assistant engineer with PWD department is first Goan to summit Everest

New Delhi: When Pankaj Narvekar, an assistant engineer with the Goa government's Public Works Department, was descending after summiting Mount Everest, an icy ridge collapsed near The Hillary Step in the "death zone", considered the most technically difficult part of the climb. Within seconds, two climbers were dragged down the side of the mountain."I was standing on the edge of the cliff when a cornice collapsed. It happened right in front of me. Two of those climbers are now presumed dead. At that moment, my only thought was whether I would be able to reach home safely. The oxygen supply was also limited," he recalled.Narvekar, 41, scripted history

when he summited Mount Everest

around 5.30 am on May 21 and unfurled the Tricolour, becoming the first Goan to scale the world's tallest peak at an altitude of 8,848 metres."Mountain climbing is my



passion," Narvekar told The Indian Express over the phone from Kathmandu.Hailing from Porvorim near state capital Panaji, he describes himself as an explorer and traveller. He has successfully climbed Mount

Kamet (7,756 metres) in Uttarakhand, Mount Kun (7,077 metres) in Ladakh and Mount Kang Yatze (6,400 metres) in Ladakh. For Everest, Narvekar's first summit above 8,000 metres, he trained for the past two years. Last year, his daughter Gunjan, aged

12, had successfully climbed three peaks above 6,000 metres in the Markha Valley in Ladakh."Climbing is about endurance. While summiting, you have to often walk for 18 hours in a day where oxygen levels are low. Typically one has to train daily for five-six hours. I have travelled half of the country. I started with trekking first and gradually got into mountaineering in 2012. This year, I climbed with supplemental oxygen. In the future, my plan is to scale Everest without any oxygen.

Culprits Will Not Be Spared": Delhi Minister On Children Hospital Fire

According to the officials, 12 children were rescued from the incident site where one was already dead before the fire call was made.

New Delhi: After seven newborns lost their lives in a tragic fire incident at a New Born Baby Care Hospital in Delhi's Vivek Vihar, Delhi Health Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj assured of strict action in the case. According to the officials, 12 children were rescued from the incident site where one was already dead before the fire call was made.Six newborn babies lost their lives after the fire broke out and five others have been admitted to the hospital," Delhi Police

Saurabh Bharadwaj, in a post on X, said, "Very unfortunate incident reported. I have asked the Secretary (Health) to update me about the current situation. Culprits will not be spared. Strictest punishment will be ensured for those found negligent or involved in any wrongdoing.' Appropriate legal action is being

taken against the owner of the hospital namely Naveen Kichi.Atul Garg, Director of Delhi Fire Department told ANI that the operation was very tough as there was a blast of cylinders."It was a very tough operation. We made two teams. One team started firefighting because there was a blast of cylinders, we can say the chain of blast of cylinders. So we had to

save ourselves also. We started rescue

operations for babies as well.

Unfortunately, we could not save all the

children. We removed all the twelve babies from the hospital. But after arrival, they declared that 6 were dead. That is a regrettable incident," Mr Garg said. A relative of a newborn who died in the incident said that strict action should be taken in the matter.

My brother's child was admitted here on May 20. We went to the police station and asked them for information, they asked us to go to the hospital for information. We were not allowed to

stay here. Strict action should be taken in this matter," Sumit, a relative of a newborn baby admitted at the hospital said.he rescued newborns were shifted to East Delhi Advance NICU hospital.

All of them are on oxygen suport and treatment is underway. While speaking to ANI, East Delhi Advance NICU Director Ramji Bhardwaj said that after the accident last night, 12 children

came to them, out of which seven were dead

"The police took the children to GTB Hospital for post-mortem. The remaining five are admitted to us. Out of the five children, one child is very weak whose weight is around 800 grams. He has been kept on a ventilator and his condition is critical. Rest four are stable and their treatment is underway," he

There might be a surfeit of food shows on TV but they will never replace the good old cookbooks, says chef Milind Sovani, who has, in his threedecade-long career, served Bollywood stars like Amitabh Bachchan, Madhuri Dixit and Sanjay Dutt - and created awareness about Indian cuisine in Singapore where he worked for 13 years.

"In the time of internet and TV, printed cookery books are facing a challenge of existence...but, no, things are not all that bad yet. We have to accept the forces of change, but still there are many positives in owning and using cookery books - and of course writing them too," Sovani told us in an e-mail interview.

"Cooking with the help of a cookery book in the kitchen is always the best help around. You can keep it on your table, you do not require electric connections, or WiFi and the like. You can always mark some points on them, make earfolds for important pages, make small notes on them for your future reference and pass them down to the next generation or even share them easily with friends," added Sovani, who has worked with establishments like New Delhi's Hotel Samrat and Hotel Jaipur Ashok.

Then, books are always handy to keep, loan and borrow and have good mobility.

This apart, "in a country like India, where internet or TV signals are not widely or easily available, books can be of great help in any place and location. The visual charm of using a cookery book, which is attractively and artistically printed with appetizing photos, is always a delight. Coffee table books also look good on your book shelves," Sovani maintained. Elaborating on the theme, Sovani said: "While cooking using a cookery book, your imagination is also at work and you tend to draw from the experience and skill of the writer. Books can be handed over from one generation to another, especially books rich in traditional and regional cooking for newly-wed brides. Books are a rich source of history tradition and

"Lastly, but most importantly, I feel cookery books are more trusted than the cookery shows on TV or internet recipes. As these books are written by experts or chefs, they are also considered more authentic and

TV shows will never replace LOOKBOOKS



accurate too," Sovani explained.

Now, he is penning an autobiography to inspire others with his journey. Writing a book on his life has been on the mind of the 52-year-old for the last five years, but it was in 2012 when he returned to India from Singapore that he gave it a serious thought.

"I have been working on it for a year and half now. I want to share with readers, especially youngsters, about the journey of a chef, the hardships faced and the sweet success moments. I wish to do this to inspire people and also spread awareness among the masses. Recipes... anyone can write, but the experiences I have and can share are unique," Sovani said.

To be available on stands after six months, the book "will be a very good read for everyone".

"It covers stories of my celebrity interactions, glorious moments, mega banquets, international experiences, my cookery tips, guidance to aspiring chefs and more," he said. The chef often travels to Singapore as he has his own consultancy firm, Hospitality Innovations Pvt Ltd, which works for innovations in restaurants and cuisines. He was even honored with the 'Culinary Trail Blazer of Singapore' award by 'Michelin Star Guide' for his work of transforming the image of Indian cuisine from a mundane, ordinary five-to-seven-dollar-cuisine to a modern high-end

Asked how one can popularize Indian food in other

countries, he said: "Firstly, you need to be honest with your roots and have in-depth knowledge of Indian cuisine

"Secondly, understand the market need of that country, the current perceived image of Indian cuisine and how you can develop the taste buds of the local population towards Indian cuisine. Open Indian restaurants which can offer good, healthy and modern food."

But, as of now, he has plans of increasing the number of branches of his restaurant April Rain, which has two outlets in Pune." I plan to take this brand pan-India and the next outlet would surely be in Mumbai," said the Mumbai-based chef.

Two quick ways to cook corn



Hot corn tastes great in the monsoon. Here's how to cook with it in these two easy ways...

CORNSALAD

Ingredients: Corn kernels - 1 cup Red bell peppers - 1 tbsp Onions and spring onions chopped - 1 tbsp each Chopped Kairi- 3/4 tbsp Celery stalk, diced - 1 tbsp Cherry tomatoes - 5 Pineapple diced - 1 tbsp Parsley - 1 tsp Cilantro leaves - 1 tsp Basil - 3 leaves Avocado, diced - 1/2 each Olive oil - 1 tbsp Lemon juice - 2 tsp Black salt - to taste Tacos - 3 shells

Method: Blanch the corn in hot water with salt. Do not overcook it. Drain and set aside. Now, cut the onions,

peppers, pineapple, kairi (raw mango), celery and avocado. Also dice the cherry tomatoes and add the herbs like basil, parsley and cilantro basil to the

vegetables. Season this. Add the lemon juice and olive oil. Toss it well and serve it in the shells with herb buttered rice on the side.

Corn broth Yield:

Ingredients: Onions, chopped - 1 Leeks, chopped - 1/2 cup Celery, chopped - 1/2 cup Potatoes, diced -1 cup Corn kernels - 2 cups Yellow peppers, chopped - 1/2 cup Garlic, chopped - 1 tbsp Vegetable stock -1 litre Milk - a cup Parlsey - 1 tsp Chives - 1 tsp Cream - 3/4 cup Olive oil - 1 tbsp Butter - to taste Method: Heat a pan and drizzle the butter into it. When it melts add some of the oil and the onions, chopped potatoes, leeks, celery plus the yellow bell peppers and corn kernels, taking care not to over cook it. Add the garlic and

saute too. Add the milk and vegetable stock. Cook till the vegetables turn soft. Blend this and add cream plus the seasoning, as well as the chopped herbs. Serve hot with garlic bread.

Don't be scared by the word Gourmet. Here we list some fancy ingredients along with easy ways to use them at your next party at home. Vanilla Beans

The sweet aroma of vanilla can live up the most bland dish and that hold true even more for toothy desserts. You might have tasted vanilla in the form of artificial essences and now its turn to upgrade and treat yourself to the real deal. Even though a bit expensive vanilla beans can be used in desserts such as ice cream or waffle syrup and they will make you feel like you've seen heaven! Look for whole vanilla beans that are about 6 to 8 inches in length for best results. Glossy dark brown in colour and ever so slightly moist are the best ones.

Fish Sauce

Just the mention of fish sauce makes people rethink altogether. They probably imagine their dish soaked in fish liquid. The truth being much different, first fish sauce should be used in mild quantities. It is tangy in nature that adds zest to the preparations. Here are a few ways to include fish sauce in your food:

You can use a spoon of fish sauce in the marinade of a large chicken waiting to be grilled. Use a drop or two in pastas and salads. Be careful not to use more than required

as it may ruin your dish. For all Thai food lovers, a pinch of fish sauce can add a punch to your gravy. Exotic Salts

You cannot even imagine any dish without salt. If

normal salt can add such value to your food imagine what different gourmet salt can take the level of your food onto. Gourmet salt is mostly used to finish the dish and therefore sprinkled just before serving the dish. Some of the top gourmet salts are Black salt, Himalayan Pink salt, Sea Salt, Kosher Salt and Fleur de sel. Here are a few useful tips:

Gourmet products you must use in your

kitchen

Flake salts do wonders to salads.

Japanese salts are ideal for fish preparations.

Hawaiian Black Salt makes meat even more delectable.

Flavored Vinegars

Well, this ingredient may not be considered as gourmet but can definitely add X factor that will turn an ordinary dish to extraordinary.

Balsamic Vinegar is best for Italian preparations. You can also whip it along with salad dressings and you're

good to go.

Wine Vinegar is also a result of fermented wine and does wonders to prep up a dish. Use it in sweet and sour dishes, pickles and even chutneys.



AUM of smaller towns rises to Rs 10L cr in Apr

MUMBAI: The massive inflows into mutual funds, which have grown over 37% in April to cross the Rs 57 trillion (Rs 57 lakh cr) mark, have also spawned an unsung hero — the B30 cities, which are those small cities and towns beyond the top 30 — whose collective AUM has surpassed the Rs 10-trillion-mark for the first time in April, gaining 44%.

The assets under management (AUM) of the 45-player mutual fund industry have seen an annual growth of 37% and a monthly growth of 3.6% in April, to Rs 57.3 trillion. In FY24, the industry clipped at over 37 % to scale past Rs 55.01 trillion mark. The total assets of B30 cities, the next 30 growth drivers beyond the top 30 (T30) cities, rose 3.43% to Rs 10.16 trillion, to cross the 10 trillion for the first time, in April 2024 from Rs 9.83 trillion in the past month, as per an analysis by Icra Ratings.On an annulaised basis, this was a full 44 percent growth over April 2023, while the total assets of T30 centres grew 36%. Of the total AUM as much as 41% still come from Maharashtra and Delhi is a pale 8.4%, and 28 which are collectively known as the T30 cities saw total assets rising 3.69% month-on-month to Rs 46.85 trillion in April from Rs 45.18 trillion in

How RBI's record Rs 2.1 lakh crore dividend payout to government may help improve India's credit rating

NEW DELHI: The record Rs 2.1 lakh crore dividend that the government will receive from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is a positive development, as it is nearly double the amount budgeted from all financial institutions combined. Several factors could have contributed to the record profit, including the significant increase in interest rates in the United States, where the RBI invests a substantial portion of its \$644 billion foreign exchange reserves (Rs 54 lakh crore), says says a TOI analysis by Mayur Shetty.

Additionally, the RBI has been actively buying and selling dollars this year compared to the previous year, as foreign institutional investors (FIIs) have been selling equities. Furthermore, the RBI's money market operations have played a role in its earnings. To combat inflation, the RBI has maintained liquidity in a deficit mode, providing opportunities to lend to banks.

RBI serves as both a regulatory body and a monetary authority, responsible for managing the money supply and overseeing foreign exchange markets. To stabilize the rupee against speculative inflows, RBI accumulates foreign currency reserves.

Also Read | Explained: How RBI managed to give the highest ever Rs 2.1 lakh crore dividend payout to governmentDuring challenging times, such as the global financial crisis or the pandemic, central banks expanded their balance sheets through quantitative easing, which involves injecting money into the economy by purchasing bonds from banks.

As a result, RBI earns profits from interest on domestic and foreign bonds, as well as from market operations. In its forex operations, RBI sells dollars it purchased during times of surplus when there is a scarcity, making a substantial profit as these sales are at prevailing market prices. However, generating profits is not the primary goal for RBI. The surpluses are a byproduct of RBI working towards its objectives of maintaining financial and market stability. It is often observed that RBI generates more profits during difficult times because it is during crises that the central bank's intervention in forex and money markets intensifies. Profit cannot be an objective for the central bank in its market operations, as RBI is the biggest insider in the market. While the RBI can create money, the dividends it pays to the government come from its actual earnings. A significant portion of these earnings is derived from higher interest income on foreign securities and profits from selling foreign exchange. This record surplus could aid India in improving its credit rating, the TOI analysis says.

FPIs offloaded over Rs 22,000 crore Indian stocks so far in May, pace lately slowed

NEW DELHI. The selling spree in Indian stock markets by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) turned aggressive in May, standing now at Rs 22,046 crore with a few more days still to go as the month ends.

The consistent offloading of money from Indian stocks is partly attributable to a strong US dollar, sticky inflation, particularly in the food segment, and poll outcome-related anxieties. However, in the past few sessions, they seemed to have slowed down on selling, expecting a strong performance in the indices. Both Nifty and Sensex also touched all-time highs this week, accumulating huge sums of money for investors.A week ago, the total selling, cumulatively, was around Rs 28,000 crore, data from National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) showed."The bumper dividend payout of Rs 2.11 lakh crore from RBI to the central government for the fiscal year would have caused FPI to reconsider its strategy and temporarily halt selling," said Vipul Bhowar, Director, Listed Investments, Waterfield Advisors."The long-term outlook for foreign portfolio investment (FPI) flows into Indian debt is positive due to India's inclusion in global bond indices. However, near-term flows are being impacted by global macroeconomic uncertainty and volatility. The trend will reverse once the interest rate outlook becomes clearer," added Bhowar. According to VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, "The FII selling which began as a trickle in April turned into a flood in May."Going forward, as clarity emerges on the election front, FIIs are likely to buy in India since they cannot afford to miss the post-election results rally. Actually, the rally may begin even before the election results," he added. In April too, FPIs were net sellers in Indian stocks, as the ongoing geopolitical crisis in the Middle East then likely pushed investors to take money off their portfolios. FPIs, who continued to remain net buyers for the third month until till mid-April, have cumulatively sold stocks worth Rs 8,671 crore by the end of the month.

Hits and misses of aviation sector in 10 yrs

NEW DELHI. When Prime Minister 10% CAGR in 10 years
Narendra Modi-led NDA came to power India's aviation industry has witnessed a in 2014, domestic aviation industry was reeling under severe pressure following the grounding of Kingfisher Airlines. Huge losses, piling debts, employee protests and promoter Vijay Mallya

fleeing to the United Kingdom made all

the wrong headlines for the sector.

Against the backdrop, another private airline - Spicejet - was facing turbulence as its new promoter - media baron Kalanidhi Maran - realised why many billionaires avoid owning an airline. In less than a year since the new government came into power, SpiceJet was sold back to Ajay Singh.Fast forward to 2024 and the sector is yet out of the woods. In the last 5 years, two major airlines - Jet Airways and Go First - succumbed to financial woes while many smaller players vanished in the covid 19 pandemic. The big change for the industry, however, has been the privatisation of Air India and the emergence of two strong players. Having made combined orders of more than 1100 planes, the Tata Group-led Air India and Interglobe Aviation (IndiGo) have set ambitions to define the world's fastest-

compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10% in domestic passenger traffic in the last 10 years i.e. between FY2014 and FY2024. This growth was supported by a growing economy, improvement in infrastructure and connectivity to regional centres. The number of operational airports doubled from 74 in 2014 to 148 in April 2023.

Kinjal Shah, Vice President & Co-Group Head - Corporate Ratings at ICRA Limited, said that this growth has to be looked at in two parts – pre-pandemic, that is, between FY2014 and FY2020, the domestic air passenger traffic reported a CAGR of 15%, while the growth was impacted since FY21 as the restrictions associated with the pandemic stalled passenger movement during FY21 and FY22. The recovery in passenger traffic was significant with a CAGR of 35% between FY22 and FY24. "However, over the same period, the growth in capacity, as denoted by available seat kilometers or ASKMs grew at a CAGR of 8% and has lagged the passenger traffic growth," added Shah. The main reason for this is the collapse of several carriers.Pragya Priyadarshini, Vice President at Primus



Partners, said that in the past, airlines worked hard to attract passengers, but now they are struggling to add more capacity, which has led to high fares. Most airlines are already operating at 85% and above passenger load capacity, indicating the need for increased capacity to meet demand, added Priyadarshini.

The big misses

While the government's ambitious regional connectivity scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) and privatization of highly loss-making Air India are touted as the big positives for the industry, the collapse of numerous airlines in a tough regulatory environment remains a big concern. Despite a lengthy bankruptcy process, Jet Airways 2.0 is yet to take off and hopes of

crashed. Further, the credit profile of a few existing players remains weak. "While some airlines have adequate liquidity and/or financial support from a strong parent, supporting their credit profiles, the credit metrics and liquidity profile of others will remain under stress over the near term, despite some improvement relative to the last few years," said Shah of ICRA.Even the much-applauded UDAN scheme has its shortcomings.

The Comptroller and Auditor General

(CAG) in August 2023 had said that only 54 routes or 7% of all awarded routes under UDAN have managed to sustain operations beyond the three-year concession period. CAG had flagged that out that 52% (403 out of 774 routes) of the awarded routes were unable to commence operations. Additionally, the scheme's main goal to provide tickets at affordable prices has been questioned.

Further, the most populous nation's ambition to become a global aviation hub remains a project on paper and more than 55% of its International travel is still catered by foreign airlines. The recent effort by IndiGo and Air India to induct more wide-body aircraft is likely.

Nishant Pitti withdraws bid for bankrupt Go First

NEW DELHI: EaseMyTrip's chief executive officer Nishant Pitti on Saturday said he is withdrawing the bid for the bankrupt airline Go First.

'After careful consideration, I have decided to withdraw from the GoAir bid in my personal capacity.

This decision allows me to better focus on other strategic priorities and initiatives that align with our longterm vision and growth objectives," said Pitti, Founder & CEO of the travel port EaseMyTrip.

More than three months back, Busy Bee Airways, majority-owned by Pitti, along with SpiceJet Chief Ajay Singh, had put in a bid for Go First, which is undergoing an insolvency resolution process. It is not immediately known whether Singh would go ahead or withdraw his plans

leased to Go First. This order, according to experts, has the capability to derail

allowed lessors to take back 54 planes Meanwhile, Pitti's announcement about the withdrawal of the bid also comes a day after EaseMyTrip on Friday reported a consolidated loss

of Rs 15.07 crore for the March quarter and a full-year profit after tax of Rs 103.46 crore. Go First stopped flying on May 3, 2023, and its plea for

voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings was admitted by the NCLT on May 10 last year. Apart from Ajay Singh-Busy Bee Airways, Sharjah-based Sky One FZE had submitted a bid

for Go First.

On April 8, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) again extended the deadline to complete Go First's insolvency resolution process by 60 days to June 3. Prior to this extension,

Markets to Track Global Cues, May Witness Gradual Upmove Ahead of **Lok Sabha Poll Results: Analysts** Equity markets may witness a gradual up-move this week with some volatility as both election

and earnings season are nearing their end, analysts said, adding that global trends and trading activity of foreign investors would hold significance in dictating investors' sentiment.

Benchmark indices, which had a record-breaking rally last week, would also track global oil benchmark Brent crude and the rupee-dollar trend. The monthly derivatives expiry on Thursday may also fuel volatility in markets.

We have reached the final curtain for the Q4 earnings season. Many companies, including names like Tata Steel, will release their financial results this week. Positive earnings from the final quarter could provide strength to the market to continue its bullish momentum.

We are very close to the Lok Sabha election results, and the election verdict will give a boost to FII flows," said Pravesh Gour, Senior Technical Analyst, Swastika Investmart Ltd.



The results of the ongoing general elections will be declared on June 4.On the global front, the upcoming economic data from Japan and the US, along with movement in the global currency market, will also be important factors to consider, he added. This week, attention will remain on elections, global cues, and the final phase of the earnings season, Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

On the March quarter results front, LIC, NMDC, IRCTC, and MMTC will announce their earnings this week. Overall, we expect the market to witness a gradual up-move and see some volatility this week as both election and earnings season are nearing the end," said Siddhartha Khemka, Head, Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd.From the domestic macroeconomic data, GDP growth rate for the January-March quarter of FY24 will be announced on Friday. Last week, the BSE benchmark zoomed 1,404.45 points, or 1.89 per cent, while the NSE Nifty climbed 455.1 points, or 2 per cent. The 30-share BSE Sensex hit its alltime intra-day high of 75,636.50 on Friday. The NSE Nifty breached the 23,000 mark for the first time on that day. During the day, the benchmark hit its lifetime peak of 23,026.40.

adjustments to its proposed offer for the The latest move by Pitti comes less than a grounded airline after reviewing the month after the Delhi High Court Assam small tea growers facing uncertainty as factories to stop production over quality regulations

the revival process of airline as it would

leave minuscule assets for the bidders

who have shown interest in acquiring

the airline. Following this order, Pitti

had said he will consider any necessary

GUWAHATI. Small tea growers in Assam, who account for nearly half of the tea grown in this North Eastern state, are staring at uncertainty with the bought leaf tea factories (BLFs) to stop procuring their green leaves from next month over quality compliance regulations. The Assam Bought Leaf Tea Manufacturers Association ABLIMA) had announced shutting down its factories from June 1 as it is not possible to produce FSSAIcompliant teas from untested green leaves provided by small growers.

A Team Board India notification earlier this year made it mandatory for manufacture of only compliant tea by green leaves, if the made tea is found non-compliant when sent for mandatory public auction, the failed teas will be destroyed with penal action against the BLFs, as per the notification. The small-scale planters, on their part, maintained that they are working on cent per cent compliance more time to ensure it and seeking government intervention in the matter.

"We have written to the state government and Tea Board to intervene. But we

have not received any response yet," working president of All Assam Small Tea Growers' Association (AASTGA) Karuna Mahanta told PTI.



the BLFs. With no testing done of the Referring to the notification which also made routing of 100 per cent dust teas through public auctions mandatory, he said it was decided last month to maintain status quo till elections are over."The BLFs were to continue procuring green leaves as earlier. But this sudden decision by the factories has taken us aback," Mahanta said.

by all their members, while urging for The AASTGA has dashed off separate letters to the state government and Tea Board, seeking their intervention while also expressing concern that this unilateral decision of the ABLTMA

was a ploy to lead to drop in prices of green leaves. Expressing similar concern, Jatin Chandra Bora, advisor of Lakhimpur district committee of AASTGA, said, "This is a strategy to

bring down the prices of the green leaves as such a decision creates pressure on the grower to sell off at whatever price is given."He maintained that the small growers are now aware of harmful effects of pesticides and are ensuring on producing safety standardscompliant leaves."We have been demanding for facilities for testing the green leaves in the factories itself. Currently, we have

to send the samples to Kolkata and it takes long to get the results. By that time, the leaves have to be sold off already," Bora said. The ABLTMA had last week said its member factories will not operate until compliant green leaves are provided, which is nearly impossible for the small growers in the absence of testing facilities in the state."The BLFs do not use any chemical in the manufacturing process. But we are being made to pay for noncompliance by the growers," ABLTMA president Chand Gohain told PTI.

Will Mumbai's infra boom make the city more liveable?

Mumbai. our financial capital, long A recent brainstorming session led by neglected, is experiencing a renewed infrastructure boom. After frenetic construction activity, the city has just seen the inauguration of the coastal road. Built at a huge cost of Rs 13,000 crore, the part-underground, 11-kilometre channel connects the extreme south of the island city to midtown Worli, and then onwards to suburban Bandra via the sealink. This allows car traffic to bypass the worst snarls during peak hours. The Dharavi slum project, awarded to the Adani Group, is finally seeing movement. If it goes through, the 640acre slum sprawl will be the city's new Manhattan with high-rise commercial buildings, and residences for over 60,000 families. The Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), now christened 'Atal Setu', India's longest 22-km sea bridge, Ads by is commissioned, while dozens of glitzy Drawing a similar parallel, Gagrani flyovers are promising to make life easier in the megalopolis. There is stout opposition too. Planners and environmental activists point to lopsided development favouring the top 10% carusing, creamy layer. For the average Mumbaikar, the living densities, the shrinking open spaces and the worsening public transport, has made things more difficult.Development trigger

newly appointed Municipal Commissioner, Bhushan Gagrani, along with retired IAS officer who helmed the Mumbai-Pune Expressway, R.C. Sinha, and architect-activist P K Das, generated important pointers. Making a presentation at the Mumbai Press Club, Bhushan Gagrani said the slew of infrastructure projects taking off in the city not only aid urban mobility but over time will trigger a socio-economic transformation. What would have happened had the Mumbai-Pune Expressway, built in the teeth of opposition in 2002, not been constructed? he questioned. Today, because of its connectivity, Pune has transformed into a hub for IT, R&D and the auto industry.

predicted the Coastal Road and the MTHL would "transform the real estate market over the next five to ten years, bringing equilibrium to both residential and commercial sectors." The bureaucrat was arguing by connecting the island city to its hinterland, the city's footprint would expand, thereby cooling high real estate prices that are currently riding on the shortage of buildable land.On the

other hand, the approach of another panelist at the discussion, retired IAS officer R C Sinha, was of the hard-nosed bureaucrat. His focus was entirely on project completion, with little stomach for considering social costs or environmental damage. While leading the charge for early completion of the Mumbai-Pune Expressway, he revealed how the Dukes Hotel in the Khandala Hills tried to block the work by moving the Bombay High Court against the blasting endangering the hotel structure. "In reply, I gave the hotel notice that we

would acquire the hotel property under the Land Acquisition Act, Sinha said. "The hotel owner was on his knees apologizing; and he withdrew his petition.

Sustainable growth

This brainstorming reflects the continuing, sharp debate between development and sustainable growth. Providing more and wider channels for movement of passenger cars does not reduce traffic snarls. It only ensures more cars come on the road, at the expense of public transport. The coastal road, and the burgeoning number of flyovers are examples of supporting increasing private transportation at the expense of buses and train traffic that carry 20 times the passenger load.P K Das, planner and architect, underlined that in a time of heightened climate change, Mumbai was hurtling towards disaster. The unbridled construction and high density of buildings had turned Mumbai into a 'heat island' significantly lowering the quality of life of ordinary people. The current philosophy was to "build more ...and more", a mania that seemed to think that the more you build, the faster will the city solve its problems of housing and crowding. This has led to planning and development entirely focused on the 240 sq km of high-density, buildable areas. What is neglected is the city's ecological infrastructure. The failure to integrate the 140 sq kms of waterfronts, mangrove outcrops, and other wetlands and creeks into urban planning "could lead to a bleak future and existential crisis for both the people and the city." Among the many debates that followed, the big one was on the 'slow death' of the municipalized bus service run by the Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply & Transport Undertaking (BEST). Once the lifeline of Mumbai, the BEST provided efficient and cost effective last-line connectivity to commuters between home and train junctions, and then finally to their place

NEWS BOX

KKR vs SRH: Harshit Rana focusing on assesing conditions ahead of IPL

New Delhi. KKR pacer Harshit Rana believes that assessing the conditions will be key to winning the Indian Premier League 2024 title. Rana, who has been a key figure in KKR's death over bowling, will hope to win his first IPL title after what has been a really strong season for him. Speaking ahead of their clash vs SRH, Rana told Wisden India about his focus in the match. The fast bowler, who has been banned for a match due to his exaggerated celebrations, said that it has been intense for a bowler throughout the tournament."The situations are extremely intense when we are playing on the ground. The earlier you assess the conditions and the wickets, the more advantageous it is for me. So, my first focus and priority are to find out what will work on this wicket," Harshit Rana told Wisden India. Asked about his training, Rana said that he has put himself under pressure and tried to simulate match situations so that he can excel under pressure. Rana has 17 wickets from 12 matches at an enviable economy of 9.41. Considering the amount of runs that have been scored in Kolkata this season, an economy of 9.4 and strike rate of 13.47 does not sound bad at all. It is tough but I have been working hard on these. I keep working on these in the practice sessions, and it becomes easier for me to implement them during the game. It is tough but as I have worked hard on it during training, I know exactly what to bowl when -I have put that pressure on myself to excel in various situations," Rana said.

IPL 2024 Final: KKR vs SRH Match Preview KKR have reached the final by beating SRH in the Qualifier 1 at Ahmedabad. KKR would hope to beat SRH the third time in a row this season and clinch their third title in the history of the tournament.

Rishabh Pant posts photo with India players before flying out for T20 World Cup

New Delhi. India wicketkeeper batter and DC captain Rishabh Pant flew out with a part of the Indian team for the T20 World Cup 2024 on Saturday, 25 May. Pant, alongside Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Mohammed Siraj, Shivam Dube, Jasprit Bumrah and Rahul Dravid were among the first members of the contingent to leave for the tournament. This was the first time that Rishabh Pant was seen alongside India players since his road accident in December 2022.

Rishabh posted a photo on his social media account before leaving and captioned the photo - back with the blues. Pant was selected for the Indian after he was able to prove his fitness in the Indian Premier League 2024. Not only did Rishabh bat well, he showed promising signs with his keeping and captaincy as well. The Board of Control for Cricket in India took to Twitter as well to post photos of India players waiting in the Mumbai airport lounge for their flights. Amongst the notable absentees from the Indian squad were Virat Kohli and Hardik Pandya. Sports Tak's Vikrant Gupta reported that Virat was stuck due to paperwork, while other media reports suggested that Hardik Pandya was in London and would join the India squad directly in the USA.India play their first match on June 5 against Ireland at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York. The stadium was recently built from scratch specifically for the T20 World Cup 2024.

WHEN WILL REST OF THE INDIAN TEAM FLY OUT?

Sanju Samson, Yuzvendra Chahal, Avesh Khan and Yashasvi Jaiswal will leave with the second batch of Indian cricketers. Chahal, Jaiswal, Avesh and Samson recently ended their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 campaign after RR lost to SRH by 36 runs in the Qualifier 2 on Friday, May 24 at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai.

LaLiga: Tonis Kroos in tears at emotional Real Madrid farewell

Madrid Toni Kroos bade an emotional farewell to Real Madrid fans at a sold-out Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday as the German midfielder played his final home game after a remarkable decade with the Spanish giants.

A goalless draw with Real Betis was largely irrelevant with Real confirmed as LaLiga champions and all the European qualification and relegation spots decided, so the evening was about celebrating the 34year-old Kroos.ne of Real's most successful ever players after making 464 appearances and helping them win more than 20 major trophies including four European Cups, Kroos announced that he will refire after this year's European Championship on home soil.He fought back tears as walked on to the pitch through a corridor formed by his team mates, who were wearing his number eight jersey as the fans held up a giant flag with his face and the words "Thank you, legend" which covered the south stand. In the 85th minute, Kroos broke down in tears when, after receiving another standing ovation as he was substituted, he embraced his three children who were crying on the sidelines.

The game was stopped for several minutes as Kroos hugged each of his team mates and his coach. After the referee blew the final whistle, Kroos, his family and team mates did a lap of honour as the fans serenaded him for almost 30 minutes."I can only say thank you to all the Madridismo, to the club, to my team mates, to the stadium," Kroos told reporters."I've always felt at home during these 10 years. I couldn't ask for more. They have been 10 unforgettable years.

IPL Final, KKR vs SRH: Pat Cummins looks to emulate MS Dhoni with prized trophy double

New Delhi . Pat Cummins, the serial trophyhunter, is back in the spotlight as the SunRisers captain has an opportunity to add another glittery silverware to his decorated trophy cabinet. It's the biggest domestic T20 title that is up for grabs when the SunRisers take on the Knight Riders in the IPL 2024 final in Chennai on Sunday, May 26.

On Sunday, Cummins can become only the second captain after MS Dhoni to complete the World Cup-IPL double. MS Dhoni went on to win the IPL trophy with the Super Kings, months after leading India to their historic ODI World Cup triumph in 2011. In fact, Dhoni is the only captain so far in cricket history to have won the IPL and the ODI World Cup.Social media is abuzz about Pat Cummins standing to the left of the trophy during the mandatory pre-final photoshoot. During the World Test Championship final in London and the ODI World Cup final in Ahmedabad last year, Cummins stood to the left of the trophy and walked away with the coveted prize on both occasions. Call it the luck factor, or a lazy way to define someone's success, Cummins's serial winning ability has left the world in awe.In 12 months, Cummins

has led Australia to win the World Test Championship, and the ODI World Cup and retain the Ashes Urn in England. Not many modern-day captains have had such success. Cummins's elite pack will be complete if he leads the SunRisers to glory on Sunday. Having started his career as a prodigiously talented and express fast bowler, Cummins had to overcome injury setbacks early in his journey. The setbacks did not deter him as he went on to become one of the finest fast bowlers of this era. The 31-year-old has become that rare bowling captain with an incredible success rate. He has changed the fortunes of the Australian Test side since taking over from Tim Paine, who had an unceremonious exit. Australia weren't the favourites at the ODI World Cup last year, but they stunned in-form India to win the big trophy, thereby ending the 12year-long streak of home teams winning the 50-over top prize. When SunRisers spent a record sum of Rs 20.50 crore, eyebrows were raised as the Australian superstar was an unproven commodity in the IPL despite his incredible success at the international level. In fact, Cummins never led a T20 team at the senior level in his career before



he was named as SunRisers captain.

SRH TURNAROUND UNDER CUMMINS However, the punt from the SRH management seems to have worked wonders. Cummins, along with head coach Daniel Vettori, seem to have unlocked the incredible potential in the squad. SRH finished with the wooden spoon in 2023, not because of lack of talent, but lack of focus and direction. That's exactly what Cummins has been able to provide to the SunRisers side in 2024. With the likes of some of the Can Cummins repeat what he and his team hardest hitters of the cricket ball in the team - Travis Head, an in-form Abhishek Sharma, Heinrich Klaasen, and Aiden Markram -SRH shifted from a bowler-dependent team to a batting powerhouse in 2024. SRH,

along with KKR, have led the batting revolution in 2024 - a season which has seen the most number of 250-plus scores in the tournament's history -8."I think at the start of the season you map out the style that you want to play to give yourself the best chance to win. Obviously, along the way you're allowed to adapt and maybe change the personnel," Cummins said on the eve of the IPL final."But we were

pretty strong with how we wanted to play super-aggressive - and in a 14 game-season, you're not going to win every single game, but we think if we play that way, you're going to win most of them," he said.SunRisers will meet the best team in the tournament in the final. Despite their success, SRH have not been able to beat KKR so far, having lost to them by the barest of margins in a run-fest in Kolkata and then in the Qualifier 1 in Ahmedabad.

achieved on November 19, 2023 - beat the best team of the tournament? Well, Australian captains have had success in the past with Hyderaebad-based IPL teams. It was Adam Gilchrist in 20090..

Jacks, Salt would have been better off in IPL: Vaughan's dig at Pakistan

New Delhi. Former England cricketer Michael Vaughan has taken a sly dig at Pakistan after their meek display in the first T20I against Jos Buttler's side. England had called back all of their players from the Indian Premier League for their T20 World Cup preparation, which included the crucial T20I series against Babar

After Pakistan lost the second match at Edgbaston on Saturday by 23 runs, Vaughan said that some of the players might have been better off in the IPL 2024. Speaking at the Club Praire podcast, Vaughan felt that England missed a trick by not letting

some of their players play in the IPL 2024."I think you're going to miss the trick by sending all their players home. You know, I think Will Jacks, Phil Salt, Josh Butler, in particular, playing in the IPL in the eliminators, pressure, crowd, expectation. I would argue that playing here is better



preparation than playing a T20 game against Pakistan," Vaughan said in the podcast. Vaughan said that some of the England batters like Phil Salt and Will Jacks could have been better prepared in the highpressure IPL rather than playing Pakistan at home. England will go into the tournament as the defending champions. The team did

not have a good outing in the ODI World Cup 2023 and will be desperate to change their fortunes this time around."I'm all for international cricket, but now and again, this tournament in particular, it's so exposed to pressure. These players are under a huge amount of pressure from fans, owners, and social media. It's massive. I just felt particularly those two, and Butler, probably not as much, but I still think he could have stayed here,'

Vaughan said. "But Will Jacks and Phil Salt, I think they'd have been better prepared description." better prepared staying here playing in the IPL, then going back to head and let's play a game," Vaughan concluded the former captain.England play a total of 4 T20Is vs Pakistan. The first match of the series was

Clash of Mentality Monsters: Gautam Gambhir, Pat Cummins face off in IPL Final showdown

Chennai.It's time for the ultimate showdown! The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 final between the Sunrisers and the Knight Riders on Super Sunday has all the ingredients to be a jaw-dropping affair. Although the legendary MS Dhoni and the Super Kings aren't a part of the IPL anymore, the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai is expected to be buzzing with cheers for KKR and SRH.It goes without saying that they have been the standout teams in the tournament by quite some distance. And it does not spring a surprise that the Sunrisers and the Knight Riders are in the final, especially because of the presence of two individuals, who have thrived under pressure over the years in crunch matches - Gautam Gambhir and Pat Cummins.

Gambhir brings back fortunes for KKR.

Gambhir and knockout matches share a romantic relationship and their bonding has never weakened. The architect of India's World Cup wins in 2007 and 2011, Gambhir knows how to up his game in big matches. He did not win the Player of the Match awards in the finals at the Wanderers and Mumbai, but that does not undermine the importance of the

Gambhir brought the legacy to KKR after he led them to victory in 2012 and 2014. Before Gambhir joined them, the Knight Riders did not have an identity, having not qualified for the playoffs even once. From 2011 to 2017, Kolkata made the playoffs 5 times. When Gambhir was not there with them for 6 seasons, they tried multiple captains, but none of them could win the title for them.

When Gambhir returned to KKR, this time as a mentor, fans could see a glimmer of hope after a couple of lacklustre seasons where they failed to go through to the playoffs. Albeit not as a player, Gambhir was expected to make an impact and bring a change to the team management and he hasn't let the Knight Riders down by any means. There is now a realistic chance for him to win the IPL both as a player and mentor.

Cummins with the Midas Touch

Cummins, on the other hand, is going through a purple patch. Master of his own destiny, Cummins has flourished regardless of the teams he has played for. The Sunrisers had faced flak for naming him as their skipper for the 2024 IPL edition despite him not captaining a single T20 team earlier at any level. But he has made captaincy look like child's play. He has made his own luck, so much so that someday, he may magically even pick up 5-wicket hauls as a left-arm spinner or score a hat-trick in a FIFA World Cup match. After winning the World Test Championship and ODI World Cup in the last 12 months has

Reunion of Champion Knights': Gautam Gambhir catches up with Manvinder Bisla at Chepauk

NEW DELHI. Former KKR captain and current mentor Gautam Gambhir was seen catching up with his old teammate Manvinder Bisla ahead of the Indian Premier League 2024 final. KKR will be locking horns with SRH in the final on

Sunday, May 26 at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Ahead of the big game, Gambhir was seen catching up with Bisla, who played a major role in Kolkata's first IPL victory way back in 2012

Notably, The Haryana-born cricketer played a match-winning innings of 89 (48) with the help of eight fours and five sixes to help KKR chase down 191 and clinch their first IPL trophy in Chennai. Hence, the duo was seen catching up after a long time reminiscing their memories at the venue. KKR's X handle shared

"The reunion of our champion Knights."During the IPL 2012 final, KKR faced an uphill task of chasing down a massive score of 191 against the defending champions CSK in their own den. The situation got tense after captain Gautam Gambhir returned to the pavilion in the very first over itself. However, Bisla made sure to keep his team's current run rate in check KKR one step awayfrom third IPL title with his magnificent knock.



the image of their catchup with the caption, The right-handed batter got involved in a crucial 136-run stand off 82 balls with Jacques Kallis (69 off 49) and brought KKR into ascendancy. The game went down the wire with Kolkata needing nine runs to win

off the final over. However, Manoj Tiwary held his nerve against Dwayne Bravo and guided his team home with back-to-back boundaries.

As a result, KKR won the match by five

wickets and two balls remaining as they clinched their first IPL trophy. Two years later, the Kolkata-based franchise added second trophy to their cabinet under the leadership of Gambhir by emerging victorious in the IPL 2014.Ten years after their second triumph, KKR once again find themselves on the verge of lifting their third trophy as they make their fourth IPL final appearance. Under the mentorship of their former captain, Kolkata have made a massive improvement from their seventh-placed finish last season and are just one step away from attaining glory. The two-time

champions will be eager to replicate their performance in the 2012 final at the same venue and take down SRH in the summit sky-rocketed his confidence.

Shreyas Iyer hilariously charges Pat Cummins Rs 20 crore for autorickshaw ride

KKR captain Shreyas Iyer and SRH captain Pat Cummins were seen being involved in a hilarious banter ahead of the allimportant Indian Premier League **2024 final.**

NEW DELHI. Ahead of the all-important Indian Premier League 2024 final between KKR and SRH, two captains Shreyas Iyer and Pat Cummins were seen in a jolly good mood as the duo got involved in a hilarious banter. Notably, KKR and SRH will take on each other in the final on Sunday, May 26 at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Ahead of the big game, the two captains did a mandatory photoshoot with the IPL trophy at Chepauk beach. The duo

exhibited their unfiltered self in a fun video released by the IPL where they pulled each other's legs. The video captures fun banter between the two captains as Iyer joked about riding an autorickshaw in his early days and hilariously charged the SRH skipper INR 20 crore for a ride.During their conversation, Iyer also asked Cummins about his IPL triumph in his debut season playing for KKR in 2014. Notably, Cummins was a part of KKR's squad during their second IPL triumph under the leadership of Gautam Gambhir.

However, the right-arm seamer only featured in one game where he also picked a wicket. The towering seamer was a part of KKR for the 2015 season as well and further returned to the franchise in 2020 after playing for DD (now DD) in 2017.Captain



Cummins continuing his Midas touchHowever, he was bought by SRH in the mini auction ahead of the ongoing season for a whopping INR 20.50 crore and immediately took up the captaincy of the side. Despite having no experience of leading a T20 team before, the 31-year-old

has continued his 'Midas Touch' and led SRH to their first IPL final after six years. Captain Cummins has been the secondhighest wicket-taker for his team with 17 scalps to his name in the ongoing season and played a few quick cameos with the bat as well.On the other hand, Shreyas has also done a remarkable job after returning to his side following his last season's absence due to a back injury. The 29-year-old has played a pivotal role in his team's victories in the

season with 345 runs to his name from 13 innings at an average of 38.33 and a strike rate of 146.18. Iyer will be eager to help his team win their third IPL title as they look to replicate their success of the IPL 2012 final



Kartik Aaryan Breaks His No-Sugar Policy After 2 Years. Courtesy: Suniel Shetty And Madhuri Dixit



artik Aaryan is currently on a promotional spree for his much-awaited project Chandu Champion. Set to hit theatres on June 14th, the film required the actor to undergo a significant body transformation for his lead role. Kartik Aaryan's dedication was evident as he maintained a strict no-sugar diet for the past two years. However, during his appearance on the Colors reality show Dance Deewane, Kartik indulged in a delicious sweet Rasgulla, all thanks to Suniel Shetty and Madhuri Dixit.In a promo released by the makers, Kartik Aaryan can be seen attending the finale episode of the dance reality show. Upon his arrival on the show, he receives a warm welcome from the Hum Aapke Hain Koun actress who is one of the judges in the show. Madhuri, while welcoming the Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 actor, says, "You have come to the grand finale party of the family today our champion is to be declared here. And Chandu Champion, you have also come; the party is going to be superhit today."

Proceeding further, Suniel Shetty, another judge on the show, hails the actor for his dedication and sincerity while filming for his upcoming release. Showering praises on Kartik, the Hera Pheri actor says, "He has been through everything. Body transformation is done by many, but you have done it with dedication. I think you must not have eaten sweets since a few years."

The kind words of Shetty prompted the Satyaprem Ki Katha actor to unveil that he considered sugar "poison" for him and has not consumed the same for at least two years. Following his response, Shetty urged him to break his no-sugar policy on Dance Deewane 4. In the end, we can see Madhuri Dixit lovingly feeding him a Rasgulla while also extending wishes for Chandu Champion.Chandu Champion, helmed by Kabir Khan, is inspired by the life of India's first Paralympic gold medallist, Murlikant Petkar. Earlier, the makers unveiled the trailer of the film. Packed with intensified action sequences, emotional depth and a heartwrenching war scene, the trailer struck a chord with the audience, creating hype ahead of the film's release.

Dirty Fellow Review: Internet Calls It An Actionpacked Mafia Drama With **Intriguing Twists**



he new Telugu film Dirty Fellow, starring Shanti Chandra, revolves around a soldier who serves in the Indian Navy. The teaser and trailer have received a good response from the audience. So far, good promotions have created hype around Dirty Fellow. The film was released yesterday, May 24.JP (Nagineedu) and Shankar Narayana (Satya Prakash) are two mafia dons and close friends. One fine day, Satya Prakash hatches a plan to eliminate JP so that he can become the undisputed mafia don. He arranges things in such a way that the cops are after JP but in a tragic turn of events, Shankar Narayana's son gets killed. Shakar Narayana is upset by this and declares war on JP, stating that he will kill his son Satru (Santi Chandra) at any cost.

As time passes, Shanti Chandra has plans to deal with Shankar Naraya and his gang. How this all unfolds is the main story of the film.Dirty Fellow has been directed by Adari Murthy Sai and he sets a good tone right from the start. He starts the film with the character of Dirty Fellow and slowly unleashes the mafia war. Once this is done, the character of Siddhu is introduced, which piques the interest in the

The promos may look a little odd, but once you accept the new faces, things start looking pretty good for the viwer. The interest is piqued when the main villain comes to know that Siddhu and Dirty Fellow are the same person, and they have the villain and his gang in their hands. The film has a decent glamour, and the makers have used it in a very sensible way.

The first half has action and romance but is boring when it comes to emotions. The makers should have handled this aspect a little better.



Reveals There Is A 'Celebrity Ration Card', Paparazzi Get Paid Per Photo Of Star

anhvi Kapoor recently opened up about the paparazzi culture in tinsel town. In a new interview while promoting her film Mr. and Mrs. Mahi, the actress stated that the paparazzi get paid based on the photos they click.n an interview with the Lallantop, Janhvi shared that there is a 'celebrity ration card'. She added, "Jaise abhi film ka promotion chalra hai toh, unhe bulaya gaya tha airport. Meri tasveer khichne. Lekin jab film ki promotion nahi hori hai, jab shoot mein nahi jaari hoon, jab gayab hona chahti hoon, tab woh, agar woh extra effort longe, aur aisa kahi baar hua hai woh gaadi follow karte hai, kyunki har picture ka, har image ka unhe paise milte hai. Har celebrity ka ek ration card hota hai. Inki picture itne mein bikti hai. Agar aapka price ho, toh aphuch jaate hain, gaadi follow kar lete hai. Agar price itna high nahi hai, toh bulaya jaata hai.' The Roohi actress was asked about celebrities who call the media personnel to spot them and then



act surprised. The actress shared that it varies from celeb to celeb. She added that when she is promoting a film, the paps are invited. She further commented that often paps chase the car of a celebrity, as their picture has a certain value.

In the same interview, the Mili actress mentioned that for Mr and Mrs Mahi's promotions, she has taken 25-30 flights, but the media has been able to spot her just 5-6 times only. She further disclosed that she has requested the paps to not

click her outside the gym as she does not want to be snapped in "tight" gym clothes. She said, "Main nahi chahti hoon ke woh log mujhe gym ke tight tight kapdo mein dekhen. Aur jab woh photo aate the baahar to bolte the ke jaan boojh kar ye tight kapde pehan kar dikhna chah rahi hai. To usse acha mat kheencho, main to nahi bulati wahaan gym ke baahar. (I don't want them to snap in tight gym clothes. When those pictures come out, they say that she loves to get herself clicked in tight-fitted clothes. So, they shouldn't click me. I did not ask them to come outside my gym). She also added that she requested them politely and now they do not come. On the work front, Janhvi Kapoor will be sharing the screen with Rajkummar Rao for Mr and Mrs Mahi which is slated to hit the theatres on May 31. She is also gearing up for her Telugu debut opposite Jr NTR in Devara.



time I saw Amala paul in chubby", when another Instagram user wrote,

"Tom and Jerry couples". Another one wrote, "Soo adorable and sweet.". Amala was previously married to director L Vijay. They got married in 2014. Their relationship did not last the test of time. They got mutually divorced in

2017. After her divorce, Amala became busy doing movies. She led a single life until she met her current Jagat Desai. Amala Paul has also appeared on

television. She was seen in Kudi Yedamaithe, Ranjish Hi Sahi, Raju Vootla Party, and Victim: Who is Next?. She has received multiple awards through her

acting career till now. Edison Awards in 2011, 1st South Indian International Movie Awards in 2012, Times of India Most Desirable Married Women of Kollywood in 2015, and Tamil Cinema Journalist Dailies Association Awards