

PUBLISHED FROM Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Himachal and Jammu

The Sikh Times National Daily

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Supreme Court notice to government, NTA on pleas for cancelling NEET-UG 2024

Sanjay Kumar New Delhi, June 20: The Supreme Court on Thursday sought responses from the Centre, the National Testing Agency (NTA) and others on petitions seeking the cancellation of NEET-UG 2024, and a court-monitored probe into the alleged irregularities in the medical entrance exam.

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal granted bail in excise policy case

Simmi Kaur Babbar New Delhi, June 20: A Delhi court on Thursday granted bail to chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in a money laundering case linked to a now-scrapped excise policy.

reserved the order earlier today after hearing the matter for two days. During the hearing, the central financial crime-fighting agency had sought to link Arvind Kejriwal to the alleged proceeds of crime and co-accused, while the defence had claimed the prosecution has no evidence to nail the



tary elections. On May 10, the Supreme Court granted interim bail to the AAP national convener till June 1 for campaigning in the Lok Sabha elections.

Tillu Tajpuriya gang shooter arrested from Delhi's Rohini

New Delhi, June 20: The Delhi Police have arrested an alleged sharpshooter of the Tillu Tajpuriya gang from Rohini following a brief encounter, an officer said on Thursday.

Not acting on unsecured lending could have created bigger problem: Shaktikanta Das

Mumbai, June 20: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday said not acting on unsecured lending could have created a "bigger problem", and RBI's actions on such practices have had the desired impact of slowing down growth in the riskier segment.



ing standards, lack of proper appraisals and a mentality to join the bandwagon for driving up the unsecured lending among some lenders, he added. "We thought if left unattended, these vulnerabilities can become a bigger problem. So, we thought it is better to act in advance and slow down the credit growth," Das said.

ED raids in Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Nagpur in over Rs 20,000 crore bank fraud case

New Delhi, June 20: The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday searched about 35 premises in Delhi-NCR, Mumbai and Nagpur as part of a money laundering probe against a company and its promoters accused of perpetrating an alleged bank loan fraud of more than Rs 20,000 crore, official sources said.

NEET, UGC-NET row: PM Modi unable to stop exam paper leaks: Rahul Gandhi

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, June 20: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday launched a scathing attack on the government over the alleged irregularities in NEET and cancellation of UGC-NET and called for accountability, urging swift action against those responsible.

not bothered about anything or the future of the students but is focused on the appointment of the new Speaker of the Lok Sabha and running the government," said Rahul while addressing a



press conference. "Vajpayee ji or Manmohan Singh ji would have shown humility, but Modi ji is not concerned about what is happening with students and youths," he added.

Taking a dig at Modi, the Congress MP from Rae Bareilly said, "Despite tall claims that PM Modi stopped the war between Russia and Ukraine, he has failed to check the leaking of question papers of competitive exams." Rahul alleged that BJP leaders have monopolised top positions in educational institutions, including university Vice-Chancellors, by appointing ideologically aligned individuals.

PM Modi to unveil 84 projects worth Rs 1,500 crore in Jammu and Kashmir

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, June 20: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday for a two-day visit and will unveil 84 development projects valued Rs 1,500 crore.

the occasion and take part in the CYP Yoga session thereafter. The event "Empowering Youth, Transforming J&K" will see the PM inspecting stalls



and interacting with Young Achievers of J&K. "Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone and inaugurate 84 Major developmental projects valued at more

than Rs 1,500 crore. The inaugurations will include projects related to road infrastructure, water supply schemes, and infrastructure in higher education. Additionally, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone for projects like improvement of Chenani-Patnitop-Nashri Section, development of Industrial Estates and construction of 06 Government Degree Colleges.

Man accused of attacking former local MLA shot at in Himachal Pradesh's Bilaspur

Bilaspur, June 20: A man allegedly involved in an attack on a former local MLA was shot at on a court's premises here and was rushed to the AIIMS with bullet wounds, police said on Thursday.

Patna High Court strikes down Bihar's 50% to 65% quota hike

Naresh Malhotra

Patna, June 20: In a setback to the Nitish Kumar Government in Bihar, the Patna High Court on Thursday struck down its last year's decision to raise quotas for Dalits, backward classes and tribals from 50 to 65 per cent.

its judgment in March. Today, the court allowed the petitions," said Ritika Rani, one of the counsels who appeared on behalf of the petitioners. These articles deal with equality before the law and equal protection of the laws (Art 14), equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment (Art 16) and safeguarding certain rights in criminal proceedings (Art 20).

October 2 last year come out with its report on a caste survey that was con-



ducted after the Centre expressed its inability to undertake a headcount of social groups other than SCs and STs as part of the census. According to the survey, OBCs and EBCs comprised a whopping 63 per cent of the state's total population while SCs and STs, taken together, accounted for more than 21 per cent. The

state government took the view that the Supreme Court's cap on reservations at 50 per cent had already been breached with the introduction of 10 per cent quotas for economically weaker sections (EWS) by the Centre and replicated in provinces, including Bihar. The state government then amended its reservation laws whereby the quotas for SCs, STs, OBCs and EBCs were raised from 50 per cent to 65 per cent. Taken together with the quotas for EWS, reserved seats in the state rose to 75 per cent of the total population.

34 dead, over 100 hospitalised after consuming illicit liquor in Tamil Nadu's Kallakurichi

Kallakurichi/Chennai, June 20: The entire Karunapuram locality in Kallakurichi on Thursday echoed with the wails of the family members of the victims of illicit arrack, that claimed the lives of at least 34 persons and left some children virtually orphaned.

dents and also look into the reasons for the deaths. Four persons linked to the sale of the poisonous arrack have been arrested so far, Stalin said and declared Rs 10 lakh assistance to each of the families of the deceased. Also, he announced Rs 50,000 assistance to those who are being treated in hospitals. The state Home Secretary and Director General of Police will submit a report on the hooch tragedy following inspection, he added.



Working out policy to up groundwater, says Irrigation Minister NS Boseraju

**BENGALURU:** Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology Minister NS Boseraju announced that a new policy is under consideration to enhance groundwater recharge throughout the state. This announcement was made during the inauguration of the three-day National Conference on Sustainable Groundwater Management for Water Security, organised by the Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA), on Wednesday.

Addressing delegates, Boseraju highlighted the critical decline in groundwater levels, attributing this trend to escalating urbanisation and deforestation. He emphasised the historical reliance on groundwater for industrial, agricultural, and domestic purposes, noting that the depletion of this vital resource poses significant risks to future generations. "The exploitation of groundwater is intensifying while efforts to recharge it are diminishing. The natural recharge processes are hampered by urban expansion. Immediate action is required to mitigate these effects, or our successors will suffer the consequences," the minister said.

The current drought made people realise the importance of water conservation. To prevent further groundwater exploitation, the minister underscored the importance of implementing rainwater harvesting systems and promoting groundwater recharge. He called for a collective effort to adopt sustainable practices, noting that the Directorate of Groundwater is actively considering a policy that would provide incentives for such initiatives. The minister also stressed the importance of raising awareness about advancements in groundwater management through national conferences and urged cooperation.

# Kerala launches toddy board to ensure quality and boost industry welfare

**KOTTAYAM:** Toddy enthusiasts have reason to celebrate. The state government's efforts to guarantee high-quality toddy for consumers and improve the well-being of employees in the sector have marked an important milestone with the establishment of the Kerala Toddy Industry Development Board. Following the publication of the gazette notification in February, the board has launched its operations.

The board aims to organise, develop, and promote the sector while safeguarding the welfare of workers. Its responsibilities include ensuring the availability of natural toddy for consumers, initiating projects for the production of value-added products, and establishing a structured framework by maintaining statistical data on the industry. Currently, there is no accurate data on the amount of toddy being tapped in the state. Despite the excise department collecting Rs 2 per litre following the introduction of the Kerala Toddy Industry Development Board Bill in 2021, the government only possesses data on toddy being transported from Palakkad to other districts. For toddy tapped in other regions, the government still relies on figures provided by toddy shop owners to the Kerala Toddy Workers Welfare Fund Board. "The board has begun its operations and is actively fulfilling its primary duties.

In addition to regular discussions, we have already held meetings with representatives of trade unions and shop licensees. The board has extensive powers to advance the toddy industry, but we must overcome



initial challenges," said U P Joseph, chairman of the toddy board.

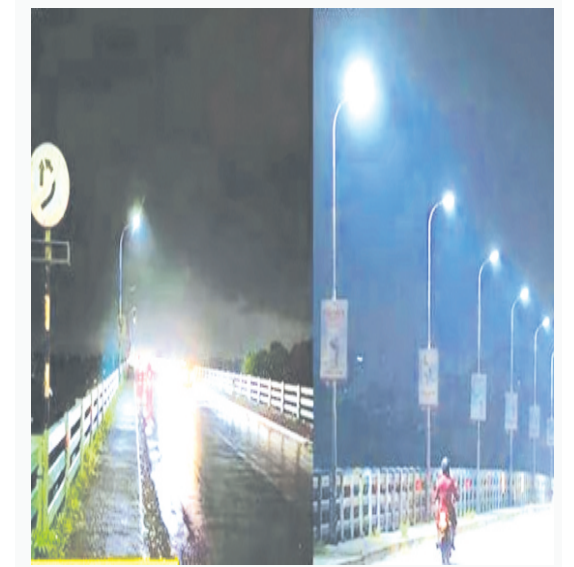
The Toddy Industries Welfare Fund Board has provided a loan of Rs 2 crore for the initial activities of the toddy board, along with temporary office space at its office premises in Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram. Of the Rs 2 cess being collected by the excise department on toddy transported from Palakkad to other districts, other than Thiruvananthapuram, Rs 1 is for the board.

This has resulted in the excise department accumulating Rs 19 crore over three years. The transfer is pending the approval of the finance department. Additionally, the board has recommended that the government create 16 posts to support its functioning. The government has so far appointed a chief executive officer. Joseph emphasised that the board's first priority is to promote the production of value-added products to prevent wastage. Despite Kerala facing a shortage, sometimes toddy cannot be sold entirely due to factors such as adverse weather conditions. The current protocol is to dispose of the excess toddy daily. To address this issue, the board will explore opportunities to create value-added products such as natural vinegar from toddy, Joseph added. Furthermore, the government plans to increase toddy production by planting high-yielding toddy-producing trees. "The main challenge lies in the insufficient number of coconut and palm trees available for tapping the required amount of toddy. To tackle this issue, the board intends to establish toddy-tapping plantations in each district initially, followed by each taluk. Efforts are also underway to identify tappable coconut trees across the state to enhance productivity and to meet the requirements locally," said Joseph. Additionally, the board aims to set up toddy parlours with modern amenities in tourism centres to provide families with the opportunity to enjoy quality food along with toddy tasting.

## Congress councillors accuse Cochin smart mission of installing defective LED streetlights

**KOCHI:** The Congress councillors of Kochi corporation have questioned Cochin Smart Mission Ltd's installation of allegedly defective LED streetlights. Staging a protest in front of the CSML office on Wednesday, opposition members said streetlights in Thammannam, Kaloor, Mundemveli, Chullikkal and other divisions are malfunctioning.

"The corporation spends Rs 1.30 crore a month to illuminate the city's streetlights. In a bid to enhance energy conservation, CSML was tasked with installing 40,400 LED streetlights by June this year. The Rs 40-crore project was intended to help the civic body save big on its electricity bill," said opposition leader Antony Kureethara.



CSML had claimed that the new LED lights will reduce the corporation's monthly electricity bill for streetlights to Rs 29 lakh.

"The project was awarded through a tender and includes a seven-year operation and maintenance window, along with a five-year warranty. However, the operational lights were replaced with new LED lights by CSML, of which most of them are not in working order," said Kureethara. As per the contract, the defective lights are to be replaced within 24 hours, but this has not been adhered to. There is suspicion that the contractor may be using substandard lights, prompting calls for an investigation by a technical committee. Kureethara criticised the contractor for the delays and raised concerns about the future of the project, if such issues persist during the initial phase. With the contract period nearing its end, only 20% of the work has been completed.

# Police keep a 'hawk-eye' on history-sheeters in Chennai

Real-time monitoring with Parundhu helps prevent crime, gang wars

**CHENNAI:** A few weeks ago, when a notorious history-sheeter was released from a prison in central Tamil Nadu, an assistant commissioner of police in Chennai south was woken up by a Whatsapp alert. As soon as he saw the message, he immediately forwarded it to the beat officers and directed them to maintain a hawk-like vigil in the locality that the history-sheeter (HS) was active in, keep track of his activities and be on the watch to prevent untoward incidents.

This real-time monitoring of around 4,000 history-sheeters in the city to prevent crimes, break-out of gang wars and maintain law and order in the city is courtesy the in-house 'Parundhu' (Hawk)

software developed by a team led by Prem Anand Sinha, additional commissioner of police (south Chennai). The app was created to address the unavailability of HS database management and reporting systems in the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS). Supervisory officers can get real time updates on periodic checks conducted on history sheeters in jurisdictional police stations over time. According to multiple cops in the city police, leveraging technology to maintain an effective watch over history-sheeters according to their crime history has helped them stay a few steps ahead. The app has features that help cops follow up cases against history-sheeters which are under investigation and those pending trial, thereby improving chances of conviction. Earlier, Chennai police was dependent on a paper-based system which had a time lag of a few days. Cops would have to refer to voluminous documents to get a background of the HS

and spend precious hours preparing a report for review by senior officials. "By the time a HS returned home, met gang



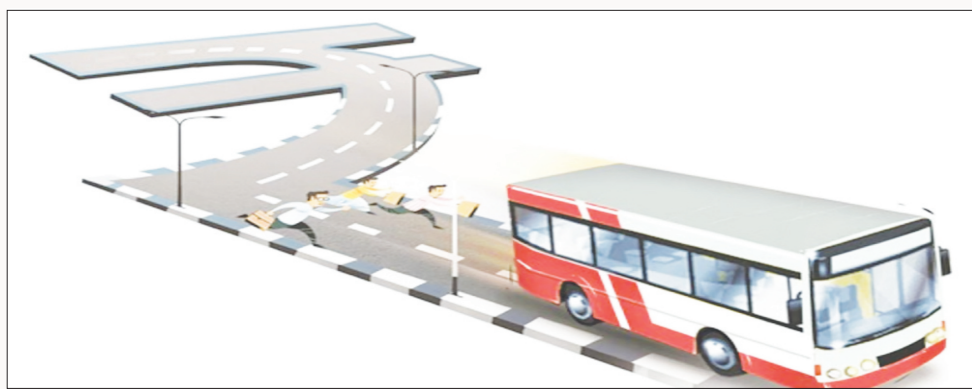
members and got involved in, say, a gang war, we would not even be aware that he had been released from prison. But now

once we get the automated alert, we send out beat cops to track their known locations immediately and keep track," an ACP said. The application also has features to broadcast the alerts for quick communication, provide intelligence alerts on history-sheeters for immediate action and give summaries of gang and non-bailable warrant (NBW) cases. With a few clicks, the entire chain of police officers right from a sub-inspector up to the commissioner can view the entire profile of the offender, the types of offences they have committed, how many times they have been to jail and other information. It is given in the form of a data-sheet. An inspector working in Central Chennai said that the app is useful in case of monitoring history-sheeters belonging to rival gangs as the app has the feature to segregate them based on the groups that they are part of.

"The quality of preventive checks has improved. Every HS must be inspected at least once a month, data of which also reflects in the system. This helps us control them," he said.

## Bus fare hike inevitable, says transport minister Ramalinga Reddy

**BENGALURU:** Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Wednesday said bus fare hike is inevitable in the state. He was speaking to reporters after inaugurating the command centre here that will receive data from vehicle location tracking devices and panic buttons that have been made mandatory in all public transport vehicles, both government and commercial (by September). "BMTC bus fares were revised in 2014 and those of KSRTC, KKRTC and NWRKTC in 2020. Prices of diesel and spare parts have gone up after the fare revision. In addition, the staff salaries have increased. All these factors make fare hike inevitable," he said. Reddy said the fare hike will become a political issue. If the fare is not hiked, the government may have to give a



special grant to its bus corporations. He has not received a proposal to hike bus fares from the boards of the four corporations. "The boards may seek a 25-30% hike. We will

not hike the fare to that extent. We will hold a thorough discussion on the proposal and take a decision," he said. He said that a proposal has been sent to the state

government seeking Rs 1,100 crore towards last year's Shakti scheme expenses.

**HSRP deadline extended to September 15**  
The deadline to fix High-Security Registration Plates (HSRP) on vehicles registered before April 2019 has been extended to September 15. In a notification issued in August last, the state government made it mandatory to install HSRP before November.

However, due to poor response, it was extended to February and then again to May 31. Meanwhile, the High Court of Karnataka, which heard a case regarding HSRP, passed an order stating that the state government could take a decision on extending the deadline to fix HSRP.

## THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published  
Owned by **Simmi Babbar**  
N - 31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar  
Delhi-110009  
Printed at **Qaum 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  
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RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

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To interpret the classic verses of Thirukkural easily, Sowmya Ramalinga m explains them with visual portrayals

# Coupling strokes and Kurals

**CHENNAI:** Have you ever imagined how Thiruvalluvar would have written the Thirukkural in the fifth century. No definite work desk that is filled with markers, pens, papers, notepads, laptop with internet connection, and tools like chatGPT. Sitting at the foot of the hills with his profound knowledge, and inspired by nature, he inscribed the words on a palm leaf using a metal stylus. It was as if the wind carried the words and put them in his mind, which was then transferred into a manuscript. I wonder the number of days, months or perhaps, years he would have taken to write the 1,30 couplets which resonate even today. Centuries later, when people are attempting creative representations of the couplets, it is easier to calculate the time taken to present their works. It took precisely three years, seven months and 22 days for Sowmya Ramalingam, a self-taught artist and an assistant professor of visual communication at DG Vaishnav College, to

present the kurals visually. From January 1, 2020, Sowmya took a kural a day to understand the meaning and message, and paint it. "For Valluvar, it was his diary, and for me, it was passion and the fear of losing the literature to this generation," says Sowmya, adding, "I was born in the late 80s and my generation, we use more English words than Tamil in our everyday conversations. When we do not speak the language, then what about its literature? What are we passing on to the next generations?"

### Brushing colourful couplets

The fear of losing touch with such works and the interest in artistic research helped Sowmya connect literature and illustration. "Thirukkural is very nomic and cannot be understood when read directly. It has to be accompanied by an explanation. So, when a kural is read along with the picture, the message is delivered easily," she shares. To decipher the couplets, Sowmya read the

definitions by Kalaingar Karunanidhi, Mu Varadarajan, Solomon Pappaiiah, and Sivayogi Sivakumar.

To convey the meanings she took to artistic expressions such as metaphorical realism, surrealism, semiotics, colour, and space. Explaining the process, Sowmya says, "The average time taken to understand the interpretation, come up with a visual idea and paint it, took three to four hours." These hours were spent on a working pad/desk and also travelling. Sharing an incident, the artist says, "We went to Madurai Meenakshi Amman temple for a vacation, I sat at the ticket counter there and drew.

The only materials needed were watercolour paper, paint and my brushes." Once the artwork is brought to life, the artist shares it on her social media and her friends and family for feedback. For one of the kurals, 'Selvathul selvam seviselvam achselvam; selvathu ellam thalai', Sowmya drew a huge human ear, with

no attachment to the body, donning a crown. Looking at this surreal take, Sowmya's eight-year-old daughter questions, "How could an ear stand alone and why does it have such a big crown?" She explains the couplet's meaning — The richness of the ear is the wealth amongst all wealth, the foremost wealth. The other challenging moments during the artistic journey were in the couplets Thiruvallur wrote about veganism and prostitution. "I am a non-vegetarian and for me to read what he has written about vegetarianism was hugely driven by guilt. For prostitution and extra-marital affairs, he has targeted women and not any other sex. Targeting one gender did not sit quite well with me," she rues.

During such times, Sowmya stood in Valluvar's shoes, acknowledging his perspective. "Such kurals are not well connected with today's current affairs. Taking to parody mode, I drew the chapters with no gender identity and used body positivity," explains the artist.



NEWS BOX

CS orders action against 4 MCG joint commissioners

**Gurgaon:** Chief secretary TVSN Prasad has ordered MCG to impose penalties on four joint commissioners under Rule 7 (major penalty) of the Haryana Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 2016, for failing to ensure that garbage is cleared from collection centres periodically. The officers could be dismissed after being served notices if no significant improvement in sanitation is observed within four weeks. The directions were given in a meeting recently chaired by the chief secretary. Moreover, Prasad also directed that the salaries of two senior sanitary inspectors be withheld for six months. The withheld salaries will be disbursed with interest on Jan 1, 2025, upon their satisfactory performance and recommendation from supervising HCS officers in their respective wards. If their work is deemed unsatisfactory, dismissal action will be initiated, said an MCG official. The chief secretary also said to ensure adequate staffing in each ward, it is essential to perform manpower calculations. A standardised format should be created and distributed to all HCS officers, enabling them to effectively monitor the staffing levels within their assigned wards. By implementing this approach, HCS officers will have the necessary tools to assess and track the manpower requirements specific to their wards. This will facilitate efficient resource allocation in the city.

Prasad on Monday said Gurgaon will be transformed into Asia's cleanest city. The Haryana govt declared a solid waste exigency and subsequently announced the solid waste environment exigency programme (SWEEP) campaign, and also constituted teams headed by 19 officials from MCG, district administration and GMDA to monitor the campaign. A control room has already been set up to address complaints of construction and demolition waste, municipal solid waste, and horticulture garbage.

The committee has been tasked with conducting an analysis of gaps in the existing infrastructure, creating a GIS-based map for waste tracking and developing an effective grievance redress mechanism.

Moreover, MCG also lodged an FIR against a private agency that has been given the contract to sweep roads and ensure cleanliness in some parts of the city on the chief secretary's directions. The corporation accused the private firm of neglecting their responsibilities in sweeping the designated areas or providing efficient services as per their contract with the corporation. The firm was hired for sweeping roads, cleaning drains and uprooting bushes in zones 1A and 2B last August.

We also published the following articles recently after Hry declared solid waste exigency, trash still rots on roads. Gurgaon's waste crisis highlights the urgent need for addressing public behavior to enhance waste management practices in the city. SMCG ends contract with Ecogreen, 3 cos to collect waste & take it to Bandhwari. MCG terminated the contract with Ecogreen and appointed Bimalraj Outsourcing for door-to-door waste collection in Gurgaon through a work order, sharing revenue from user charges. Waste piles up on roads, but MCG has spent only 12% of funds so far. Gurgaon's solid waste management crisis sees MCG struggling to utilize funds effectively. Only a small percentage of the allocated budget for sanitation has been spent, with a reduction in funds from the previous year. Challenges with the concessionaire, Ecogreen, and termination issues with the ULB department add to the complexities.

Demand races past projection as Hry rushes to plug power deficit

**Gurgaon.** Haryana's peak power demand has risen above the projected peak for the first time, amid the blistering heatwave sweeping through north India. The state's peak demand reached 12,336 MW in May and has stayed around those levels, significantly higher than the projected 11,172 MW. The state is trying to secure additional power purchase agreements to plug the deficit. But with that likely to take time, outages could worsen in the coming weeks.

On May 20, the peak demand crossed the projection at 11,251 MW. Four days later, it touched 12,336 MW, and on May 29, it was 12,246 MW. In June, the peak demand reached 13,384 MW against the projected 14,287 MW. Struggling to keep up with the increasing demand, Haryana is expected to face a deficit ranging from 1,177 MW to 2,411 MW between June and Sept. As a result, residents are unlikely to get respite from frequent power cuts and load shedding in the coming months. To mitigate this crisis, Haryana Power Purchase Centre (HPPC), which buys power from plants and different sources to supply to DHBVN and UHBVN, has signed several agreements for purchasing power from thermal plants, the power exchange (a govt platform on which power is transacted), other states, and private companies.

Hry break dancer among 6 selected for BRICS Games

**Gurgaon.** A break dancer from Haryana, BBoy Ginni, is among the six break dancers who have been selected for the BRICS Games being conducted in Russia. The team includes BBoy Flying Machine (Arif Chowdhary), BBoy Tornado, BBoy Antique (Ankit Kushwaha), BBoy Shawn, and BGirl BarB. The break dance competition is scheduled to be conducted on June 22 and 23, and the team is being coached by break dancer Wasim. The team will leave for Russia on Thursday. The 20-year-old Gautam Kaulsee rose to fame after becoming the first person from northern India to win the Red Bull BC One India Cypher. "I started dancing at the beginning of 2017. I used to watch people do flips at the park next to my house. At the time, I had no idea about breakdance as a dance form, but I found it quite fascinating. Eventually, a friend named Shivam told me about it. I had never thought of doing this competitively, but I loved performing the moves. During the lock-down in 2020, I decided to become a full-time B-Boy," said Gautam. "During the lock-down, I practised the dance form for almost eight hours every day, at home or at the park. Eventually, when things opened up in 2021, I started winning at well-known jams and competitions. Making it to Red Bull BC One Cypher India 2022 was my first time in the top 16 of the competition, and it inspired me to go all out," he said. Gautam will also be participating in the final round of Red Bull India 2024 next month. The 2024 BRICS Games began on June 12 in Kazan, Russia. It is an international multi-sport competition organised annually by countries that are part of the economic association BRICS.

350 more garbage vans rolled out for doorstep collection

**Gurgaon.** Divisional commissioner RC Bidhan flagged off 350 vehicles for primary waste collection on Wednesday to streamline doorstep waste collection in the city. Officials said 350 more vehicles will additionally be added to the fleet, bringing the total to 700 vehicles for door-to-door waste collection. "The district administration and MCG are working on war footing to streamline the city's sanitation operations. We have flagged off 350 vehicles today, which will be increased to 700 to ensure all houses are covered regularly. Daily collection from households will pave the way for clean roadsides since garbage will not be dumped on the roads and vacant plots," the divisional commissioner said.

Meanwhile, MCG commissioner Narhari Singh Banger, accompanied by ULB additional commissioner YS Gupta visited 14 markets and directed traders as well as street vendors to keep dustbins outside their shops and ensure that the garbage is dumped in the bins. He directed sanitation inspectors to click pictures of the market and issue challans (fines) if garbage is found littered outside



their shops. The inspections are being organised after the state govt declared a solid waste exigency in the city following which, a campaign named Solid Waste Environment Exigency Programme

(SWEEP) was launched. Another inspection was conducted by Banger and Gupta during the early hours of Tuesday. The inspection, which started at 6am, was conducted to assess the cleanliness

arrangements in different areas of the city. During the inspection, the attendance of sanitation workers was also verified.

We also published the following articles recently

Day after Hry declared solid waste exigency, trash still rots on roads. Gurgaon faced a solid waste crisis despite the SWEEP program implementation, with garbage dumps remaining untouched in key areas. 110979279

MCG ends contract with Ecogreen, 3 cos to collect waste & take it to Bandhwari. MCG served final termination notice to Ecogreen, appoints Bimalraj Outsourcing for door-to-door waste collection in Gurgaon. Waste mgmt, sanitation major issues across municipal corporations. ULB elections for Uttarakhand are upcoming, with waste management and parking space shortages plaguing the nine municipal corporations. Dehradun struggles with waste segregation and cleanliness, while Haridwar faces health and hygiene challenges and property encroachment issues.

**Name Change**  
I, hitherto known as GAJENDRA YADAV S/O MITHU PRASHAD YADAV, permanent R/o H.No. 25 Vijay Colony, Yamunanagar, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135001 and currently residing at MS-1/10 P&T Colony, Atul Grove Road, New Delhi-110001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as GAJINDER KUMAR YADAV.

**Name Change**  
I, JAGAT SINGH S/O MAHESH CHAND R/O 6/80, JHARERA VILLAGE, DELHI CANTT, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110010 have changed my name from JAGAT SINGH to JAGAT SINGH LOHIA for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, KISHEN KUNWAR Mother of JC-251298F Rank-NB RIS Name-PUKHRAJ SINGH Presently residing at VILL-NOKHA GOAN, PO-NOKHA, TEH-NOKHA, DIST-BIKANER, RAJASTHAN-334803 have changed my name from KISHEN KUNWAR to KISHNA KANWAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, IRAM QASIM W/O MOHD QASIM R/O H. NO. 1119/20, GALI TELIYAN, RAKAB GANJ, BEHIND DELITE CINEMA, DARYA GANJ, DELHI-110002 have changed my name from IRAM to IRAM QASIM for all future purpose. My correct name be amended in my son MOHAMMAD ARHAB Passport.

**Name Change**  
I, Archa Kaushik (Wife) Niti Bhardwaj R/O 1001/10th Floor, Rainbow Apartment, Sector-43, Gurgaon, Haryana-122009, Have Changed My Name To Archa Kaushik For All Future Purpose

**Name Change**  
It's for information of all and public notice that I Hari Kishan Kapoor and my wife Mrs Usha Kapoor R/O 3 Krishan Kunj Extn-1, Laxmi Nagar Delhi-92 have legally adopted my grandson master Samrat Kapoor S/O Shri Anurag Kapoor as our son for all purposes rights and duties what so ever as per law

**Name Change**  
I, No. 14871348W Rank-NK Name-MANOJ KUMAR A Presently residing at KANAYAMTHALLA HOUSE, VPO-PULLUR, TEH-HOSDURG, DIST-KASARAGOD, KERALA-671531, have changed my father's name from CHAKRAPANI A to CHAKRAPANI NAIR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, hitherto known as CUPPPAI W/O S. RAJU R/O E-236, BUDH NAGAR, INDERPURI, CENTRAL DELHI, DELHI-110012 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as CUPPPAI.

**Name Change**  
I, IRAM QASIM W/O MOHD QASIM R/O H. NO. 1119/20, GALI TELIYAN, RAKAB GANJ, BEHIND DELITE CINEMA, DARYA GANJ, DELHI-110002 have changed my name from IRAM to IRAM QASIM for all future purpose. My correct name be amended in my daughter AREEFA QASIM Passport.

**Name Change**  
I, MOHD QASIM S/O MOHD TAQI R/O H. NO. 1119/20, GALI TELIYAN, GANJ MIR KHAN, RAKAB GANJ, DELHI-110002 declare that my son's name is wrongly mentioned in his passport as MOHAMMED ARHAB. His correct name is MOHAMMAD ARHAB for all future purpose.

**Name Change**  
I, Shashank Narayan Vaidya S/O Narayan Vaidya R/O 1/404, The Edge Tower, Ramprastha City, Sector 37 D, Gurugram, Haryana, Have Changed My Name To Shashank Vaidya For All Future Purpose

**Name Change**  
I, JC-314854K Rank-NB SUB Name-A KANNAN S/O T ALAGU R/O 94, PATHIRAKALIBURAM, DOM-BUCHERI, BODINAYAKKANUR, DIST, THENI, TAMIL NADU-625582 have changed my minor daughter's name from NAVEENA to NAVEENA K for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, JC-313935X Rank-NB SUB Name-NARASINGA RAO NUNE S/O KALIDASU Presently residing at 13-52, VPO-MADUTHURU, ATCHUTHAPURAM, DIST-ANAKAPALLI, ANDHRA PRADESH-531011 have changed my mother's name from GANGATHA I to NUNE GANGATHALLI for all future purposes and in my service records my mother's date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1962 instead of her correct date of birth as 06/05/1958 vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I hitherto known as VARUN KUMAR son of Shri ANOOP RAJ, residing at 802, S1 Saraswati, Sector-D, Pocket 6, Vasant Kunj, South West Delhi-110070, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VARUN KUMAR CHOPRA.

**Name Change**  
I, JC-251298F Rank-NB RIS Name-PUKHRAJ SINGH S/O HANUMAN SINGH R/O VILL-NOKHA GOAN, PO-NOKHA, TEH-NOKHA, DIST-BIKANER, RAJASTHAN-334803 have changed my minor daughter's name from REENA KANWAR to RENU KANWAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, SUNDER KAWAR Wife of JC-251298F Rank-NB RIS Name-PUKHRAJ SINGH Presently residing at VILL-NOKHA GOAN, PO-NOKHA, TEH-NOKHA, DIST-BIKANER, RAJASTHAN-334803 have changed my name from SUNDER KUNWAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, LIBOYAMA MEITEI Father of NO-1572833PN Rank-NK Name-LAIHRAKAPAM SANAMACHA MEITEI Residing at VILL- SINGJAMEI MAKHA SOROKHAIBAM LEIKAI, DIST-IMPHAL WEST, MANIPUR, 795008 have changed my name from LIBOYAMA MEITEI to LEIPHRAKAPAM IBOYAMA SINGH for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 05/01/1953 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/03/1954 vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**NOTICE**  
Public at large is hereby informed that Sh. Manoj Yadav S/O Sh. Ram Niwas is the owner of Flat No. 701, on 7th Floor Having Super Area 1500 Sq. Ft. On Plot no. GH-21 The Green Campus Co. Op. Group Housing Society Ltd. Situated at Sector-1, IMT Manesar Distt Gurugram Haryana Ghaziabad, U.P. Initially, Sale Certificate Dated 06/05/2024 executed by IDBI Bank through its authorized signatory Smt. Amarjyoti Nayyar in favour of Sh. Manoj Yadav S/O Sh. Ram Niwas In Respect of the Said Property (Vide Doc no. 1348, Book no. 1, Vol no. 368/2950, Pages- 25/ 61 to 63, SRO- Manesar Gurgaon). Initially, Conveyance Deed Dated 21/09/2011 executed by The Green Campus Co. Operative Group Housing Society Ltd. through its secretary Sh. Mohit Bansal S/O Sh. Ajay Bansal in favour of Sh. Sanjeev Gupta & Smt. Ritu Gupta in Respect of the Said Property. (Doc no. 1789) who executed Registered Sale Deed Dated 14/08/2013 in favour of Sh. Netraaj Singh S/O Late Sh. Raghuvir Singh in Respect of the Said Property. (Doc no. 1128). Finally, Registered Sale Certificate Dated 06/05/2024 executed in favour of abovementioned client who intends to mortgage the said immovable property for their bonafide requirements to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited. Whosoever is having any objection to the said mortgage or anyone has claim or right or interest in the said property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections or claims to this property.  
NEW DELHI  
DATE: 20/6/2024  
PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE  
Enrl. No. D/721/02  
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48  
Mob.: 9968006418

**Name Change**  
I, SANTOS wife of NO-15682436Y Rank-HAV Name- PAWAN, residing at VILL-BIRAR, PO-SAL-HAWAS, TEH-JHAJJAR, DIST-JHAJJAR, HARYANA-124146 have changed my name from SANTOS to SANTOSH for all future purposes, in my husband's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 15/02/1982 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/01/1984 vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, J.C-313935X Rank-NB SUB Name-NARASINGA RAO NUNE S/O KALIDASU Presently residing at 13-52, VPO-MADUTHURU, ATCHUTHAPURAM, DIST-ANAKAPALLI, ANDHRA PRADESH-531011 have changed my mother's name from GANGATHA I to NUNE GANGATHALLI for all future purposes and in my service records my mother's date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1962 instead of her correct date of birth as 06/05/1958 vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, DHANA DEVI Mother of NO-1572833PN Rank-NK Name-LAIHRAKAPAM SANAMACHA MEITEI Residing at VILL- SINGJAMEI MAKHA SOROKHAIBAM LEIKAI, DIST-IMPHAL WEST, MANIPUR, 795008 have changed my name from DHANA DEVI to LEIPHRAKAPAM DHANAANJURI DEVI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 04/05/1954 instead of my correct date of birth as 12/02/1954 vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, DHANA DEVI Mother of NO-1572833PN Rank-NK Name-LAIHRAKAPAM SANAMACHA MEITEI Residing at VILL- SINGJAMEI MAKHA SOROKHAIBAM LEIKAI, DIST-IMPHAL WEST, MANIPUR, 795008 have changed my name from DHANA DEVI to LEIPHRAKAPAM DHANAANJURI DEVI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 04/05/1954 instead of my correct date of birth as 12/02/1954 vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, No-15485271M Rank-DFR Name-TUNTUN KUMAR S/O SUKHARI SAHANI R/O VILL-LAXMIPUR, PO-TURKI, TEH+DIST-MUZAFFARPUR, BIHAR-844127 have changed my minor daughter's name from KAMANI KUMARI to KAMINI KUMARI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, No-15485271M Rank-DFR Name-TUNTUN KUMAR S/O SUKHARI SAHANI R/O VILL-LAXMIPUR, PO-TURKI, TEH+DIST-MUZAFFARPUR, BIHAR-844127 have changed my minor daughter's name from KAMANI KUMARI to KAMINI KUMARI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, KAMIAIAH father of NO-15681526N Rank-HAV Name-LAXMANA RAO PALLA, residing at VILL-GOPALPURAM, PO-GARUDAKHANDI, TEH-PALASA, DIST-SRIKAKULAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-532220 have changed my name from KAMIAIAH to KAMAYAYA for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1957 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/07/1948 vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, H D JOSHI father of NO-15681052L Rank-HAV Name-SURESH JOSHI, residing at D-23, SAI BABA, CO-OP HOUSING SOCIETY, DESALE PADA, BHOPAL ROAD, TEH-KALYAN, DIST-THANE, MAHARASHTRA-421204 have changed my name from H D JOSHI to HARI DUTT JOSHI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1956 instead of my correct date of birth as 11/03/1956 vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**INDIAN RAILWAYS**  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)  
(RAILWAY BOARD)  
No. 2018/Track-(P)/IRSP-EUR/Vol. I Date: 19.06.2024  
CORRIGENDUM NO. 5  
Sub : E-Tender No. TKP-1-2024 for Supply of Long rail exchange (unloading and loading) System and its Annual Maintenance Contract for 05 (Five) years (Existing EURs to be provided by Indian Railways).  
The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://ireps.gov.in> for Corrigendum details  
(Alok Kumar)  
Executive Director/Track (P&P)  
Room No. 256-D, Rail Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110001  
Phone: 011-23304852  
E-mail: alokumar.g@gov.in  
146/2024  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE  
No. NIT-39-24-25-W-II Dated :- 20.06.2024  
The Sr. Divisional Engineer-II, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work:  
1) NIT-39-24-25-W-II  
2) Name of work:- Provision of Ballast less track (BLT) for line no.1 & 4 at MDNR station in the section of ADEN/MUT under SR, DEN-II.  
3) Approx cost of work As per NIT or IREPS  
4) Earnest Money to be deposited As per NIT or IREPS  
5) Date & Time of submission of tender bid 02.07.2024 to 16.07.2024 at 15:00 Hrs.  
6) Date & Time of opening of tender. 16.07.2024 15:00 Hrs.  
7) Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
\* The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for participating in the e-tender system. \* For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. \* No manual offers are acceptable. \* Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.  
1862/24  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**NOTICE**  
Public at large is hereby informed that Smt. Priti Mahajan W/o Sh. Vijay Mahajan is the owner of Municipal No.-A-272/1, (Entire TF with roof/SKY rights) Area Measuring 50 sq. yds. i.e., 41.8 sq. mtrs old Plot No.-86 & 87, situated at Village-Sadhora Kalan, Bagh Dabarwala, Shastri Nagar, New Delhi.-110052 vide Registered Sale Deed dated 28.10.2021 executed by Sh. Raj Rani @ Raj Rani W/o Sh. Fakir Chand in favour of Smt. Priti Mahajan W/o Sh. Vijay Mahajan in Respect of entire Third Floor With Roof/Sky Rights Freehold Built-up property bearing Municipal No. A-272/1 area measuring 50 sq. yds. i.e., 41.8 sq. mtrs built on Old no. 86 & 87 (Vide Doc no. 10221, Book no.1, Vol no. 8748, Pages- 57 to 66, SRO-1, New Delhi). Initially, Sale Deed dated 03.07.1972 executed by Smt. Sant Kaur in favour of Sh. Devi Dayal in respect of said property (Doc. no. 7020), who executed ATS dated 15.06.1981 in favour of Smt. Sharfi Devi w/o Ram Kumar in respect of said property and executed GPA dated 15.06.1981 in favour of Ram Kumar in respect of said property. Later, GPA dated 25.09.1985 executed by Ram Kumar in favour of Smt. Raj Rani Mahajan in respect of said property and ATS dated 25.09.1985 executed by Smt. Sharfi Devi w/o Ram Kumar in favour of Smt. Raj Rani Mahajan in respect of said property. Finally, Registered Sale Deed dated 28.10.2021 executed in favour of above mentioned client who intends to mortgage the said immovable property for their bonafide requirements to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited. Whosoever is having any objection to the said mortgage or anyone has claim or right or interest in the said property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections or claims to this property.  
NEW DELHI  
DATE: 20/6/2024  
PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE  
Enrl. No. D/721/02  
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48  
Mob.: 9968006418

**NOTICE**  
Public at large is hereby informed that Smt. Priti Mahajan W/o Sh. Vijay Mahajan is the owner of Municipal No.-A-272/1, (Entire TF with roof/SKY rights) Area Measuring 50 sq. yds. i.e., 41.8 sq. mtrs old Plot No.-86 & 87, situated at Village-Sadhora Kalan, Bagh Dabarwala, Shastri Nagar, New Delhi.-110052 vide Registered Sale Deed dated 28.10.2021 executed by Sh. Raj Rani @ Raj Rani W/o Sh. Fakir Chand in favour of Smt. Priti Mahajan W/o Sh. Vijay Mahajan in Respect of entire Third Floor With Roof/Sky Rights Freehold Built-up property bearing Municipal No. A-272/1 area measuring 50 sq. yds. i.e., 41.8 sq. mtrs built on Old no. 86 & 87 (Vide Doc no. 10221, Book no.1, Vol no. 8748, Pages- 57 to 66, SRO-1, New Delhi). Initially, Sale Deed dated 03.07.1972 executed by Smt. Sant Kaur in favour of Sh. Devi Dayal in respect of said property (Doc. no. 7020), who executed ATS dated 15.06.1981 in favour of Smt. Sharfi Devi w/o Ram Kumar in respect of said property and executed GPA dated 15.06.1981 in favour of Ram Kumar in respect of said property. Later, GPA dated 25.09.1985 executed by Ram Kumar in favour of Smt. Raj Rani Mahajan in respect of said property and ATS dated 25.09.1985 executed by Smt. Sharfi Devi w/o Ram Kumar in favour of Smt. Raj Rani Mahajan in respect of said property. Finally, Registered Sale Deed dated 28.10.2021 executed in favour of above mentioned client who intends to mortgage the said immovable property for their bonafide requirements to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited. Whosoever is having any objection to the said mortgage or anyone has claim or right or interest in the said property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections or claims to this property.  
NEW DELHI  
DATE: 20/6/2024  
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NEW DELHI  
DATE: 20/6/2024  
PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE  
Enrl. No. D/721/02  
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48  
Mob.: 9968006418

**Name Change**  
I, NO-15705064N Rank- LNK Name-CHANDRAVEER SINGH S/O BALRAJ SINGH R/O VILL-MUKARPUR GADAI, POST-SHARPU KALYAN, DIST & TEH-BIJNOR, UTTAR PRADESH-246726 have changed my name from CHANDRAVEER SINGH to CHANDRAVEER SINGH for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, MALLAMMA PAILA mother of NO-15681526N Rank-HAV Name-LAXMANA RAO PALLA, residing at VILL-GOPALPURAM, PO-GARUDAKHANDI, TEH-PALASA, DIST-SRIKAKULAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-532220 have changed my name from MALLAMMA PAILA to PAILA VARALAKSHMI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1962 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/01/1967 vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, LAKITA wife of NO-17006604N Rank-NK Name-DHANASUKHA PATIDAR R/O WARD-NO-05, VPO-BARKHEDA LOYA, TEH-GAROTH, DIST-MANDSAUR, MADHYA PRADESH-458880 have changed my name from LAKITA to LAKITA GOTHLI for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, DHANA DEVI Mother of NO-1572833PN Rank-NK Name-LAIHRAKAPAM SANAMACHA MEITEI Residing at VILL- SINGJAMEI MAKHA SOROKHAIBAM LEIKAI, DIST-IMPHAL WEST, MANIPUR, 795008 have changed my name from DHANA DEVI to LEIPHRAKAPAM DHANAANJURI DEVI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 04/05/1954 instead of my correct date of birth as 12/02/1954 vide Affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, KAMIAIAH father of NO-15681526N Rank-HAV Name-LAXMANA RAO PALLA, residing at VILL-GOPALPURAM, PO-GARUDAKHANDI, TEH-PALASA, DIST-SRIKAKULAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-532220 have changed my name from KAMIAIAH to KAMAYAYA for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1957 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/07/1948 vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, H D JOSHI father of NO-15681052L Rank-HAV Name-SURESH JOSHI, residing at D-23, SAI BABA, CO-OP HOUSING SOCIETY, DESALE PADA, BHOPAL ROAD, TEH-KALYAN, DIST-THANE, MAHARASHTRA-421204 have changed my name from H D JOSHI to HARI DUTT JOSHI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1956 instead of my correct date of birth as 11/03/1956 vide affidavit dated 20/06/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**NOTICE**  
Public at large informed that my client Smt. Kamal Taneja W/o Sh. Taran Taneja, R/O B-67, Dayanand Colony Lapat Nagar New Delhi-110024, is the owner of the flat by virtue of entering into agreement with M/S Royal Home Town Planners Pvt. Ltd. 7, RBI Colony Market Hazrat Nizamuddin Delhi 110016 for purchase of Flat /Unit Number D-1004 Tower number 1D vide customer ID number RHP/BL/13-140682 Beetle Lap. GH-G-2 sector-25, Jaypee Greens Sports City S/D2, Noida. The said agreement was signed on 12/02/2021 and has paid a sum of Rs. 36,21,302/-. The legal proceedings regarding the above said flat has been initiated by my client, thereby the said flat is under dispute and any kind of sale/purchase response to be filed with M/S Royal Home Town Planners Pvt. Ltd or any other person, would be illegal and shall be deemed null and void. Anybody dealing in respect of the said flat shall do it at its own risk and cost and he shall also be prosecuted for the same.  
S. Mohit Advocate  
CHAMBER NO. 283  
LAWYERS CHAMBER COMPLEX,  
PATIALA HOUSE COURTS,  
NEW DELHI-110001

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public at large informed that my client Smt. Kamal Taneja W/o Sh. Taran Taneja, R/O B-67, Dayanand Colony Lapat Nagar New Delhi-110024, is the owner of the flat by virtue of entering into agreement with M/S Royal Home Town Planners Pvt. Ltd. 7, RBI Colony Market Hazrat Nizamuddin Delhi 110016 for purchase of Flat /Unit Number D-1004 Tower number 1D vide customer ID number RHP/BL/13-140682 Beetle Lap. GH-G-2 sector-25, Jaypee Greens Sports City S/D2, Noida. The said agreement was signed on 12/02/2021 and has paid a sum of Rs. 36,21,302/-. The legal proceedings regarding the above said flat has been initiated by my client, thereby the said flat is under dispute and any kind of sale/purchase response to be filed with M/S Royal Home Town Planners Pvt. Ltd or any other person, would be illegal and shall be deemed null and void. Anybody dealing in respect of the said flat shall do it at its own risk and cost and he shall also be prosecuted for the same.  
S. Mohit Advocate  
CHAMBER NO. 283  
LAWYERS CHAMBER COMPLEX,  
PATIALA HOUSE COURTS,  
NEW DELHI-110001

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Information is given to general public at large that our clients Mr. Rajveer Singh is the owner of Freehold Residential Land admeasuring 75Sq. Yards out of total admeasuring 243.75 Sq. Yards i.e. 203



NEWS BOX

### Louisiana mandates displaying Ten Commandments in public school classrooms

**Louisian.** Louisiana has become the first state to require that the Ten Commandments be displayed in every public school classroom, the latest move from a GOP-dominated Legislature pushing a conservative agenda under a new governor. The legislation that Republican Gov. Jeff Landry signed into law on Wednesday requires a poster-sized display of the Ten Commandments in "large, easily readable font" in all public classrooms, from kindergarten to state-funded universities. Opponents questioned the law's constitutionality and vowed to challenge it in court. Proponents said the measure is not solely religious, but that it has historical significance. In the language of the law, the Ten Commandments are "foundational documents of our state and national government." The posters, which will be paired with a four-paragraph "context statement" describing how the Ten Commandments "were a prominent part of American public education for almost three centuries," must be in place in classrooms by the start of 2025.

Under the law, state funds will not be used to implement the mandate. The posters would be paid for through donations. The law also "authorises" but does not require the display of other items in K-12 public schools, including: The Mayflower Compact, which was signed by religious pilgrims aboard the Mayflower in 1620 and is often referred to as America's "First Constitution"; the Declaration of Independence; and the Northwest Ordinance, which established a government in the Northwest Territory — in the present day Midwest — and created a pathway for admitting new states to the Union. Not long after the governor signed the bill into law at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in Lafayette on Wednesday, civil rights groups and organisations that want to keep religion out of government promised to file a lawsuit challenging it. The law prevents students from getting an equal education and will keep children who have different beliefs from feeling safe at school, the American Civil Liberties Union, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and the Freedom from Religion Foundation said in a joint statement Wednesday afternoon.

"Even among those who may believe in some version of the Ten Commandments, the particular text that they adhere to can differ by religious denomination or tradition. The government should not be taking sides in this theological debate," the groups said.

### 68 Indians Among 645 Hajj Pilgrims Who Died In Mecca, Says Saudi Diplomat

**Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.** A diplomat in Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday that 68 Indian nationals died during the hajj pilgrimage this year marked by searing heat, bringing the overall tally to more than 600.

"We have confirmed around 68 dead... Some are because of natural causes and we had many old-age pilgrims. And some are due to the weather conditions, that's what we assume," the diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told AFP.

The new toll comes after two Arab diplomats told AFP on Tuesday that 550 deaths had been recorded during the hajj, one of the five pillars of Islam that all Muslims with the means must perform at least once.

North Korea is under heavy U.N. Security Council economic sanctions over its nuclear weapons and missile programs, while Russia is also grappling with sanctions by the United States and its Western partners over its aggression in Ukraine.

The total reported dead so far is 645, according to an AFP tally. Riyadh, Saudi Arabia: A diplomat in Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday that 68 Indian nationals died during the hajj pilgrimage this year marked by searing heat, bringing the overall tally to more than 600.

"We have confirmed around 68 dead... Some are because of natural causes and we had many old-age pilgrims. And some are due to the weather conditions, that's what we assume," the diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told AFP. The new toll comes after two Arab diplomats told AFP on Tuesday that 550 deaths had been recorded during the hajj, one of the five pillars of Islam that all Muslims with the means must perform at least once.

### Russia, North Korea Pact Shows Mutual Support By Authoritarian Powers: NATO

**Washington.** Russia's new defensive pact with North Korea shows increasing alignment among authoritarian powers and underscores the importance of democracies presenting a united front, the head of NATO said on Wednesday. Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a deal with North Korea's Kim Jong Un that included a mutual defense pledge, a move that overhauls Moscow's policy towards Pyongyang. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said North Korea had provided "an enormous amount of ammunition" to Russia while both China and Iran were supporting Moscow militarily in its war against Ukraine. "We need to be aware that authoritarian powers are aligning more and more. They are supporting each other in a way we haven't seen before," he told a panel discussion during an official visit to Ottawa. "When they are more and more aligned - authoritarian regimes like North Korea and China, Iran, Russia - then it's even more important that we are aligned as countries believing in freedom and democracy," he said. The growing closeness between Russia and other Asian nations means it is all the more important that NATO works with allies in the Asia-Pacific, he said, adding this was why leaders from Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea had been invited to a NATO summit in Washington next month. Stoltenberg also said he expected Canada to meet the NATO target of spending 2% of gross domestic product on defense.

Canada's Liberal government, which has poured billions into social programs, only spends 1.37% of GDP on its military. In April it issued a plan to reach 1.76% by 2030.

# Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party set for heavy election defeat, polls forecast

**Polling by YouGov showed Keir Starmer's Labour was on track to win 425 parliamentary seats in Britain's 650-strong House of Commons, the most in its history. Savanta predicted 516 seats for Labour and More in Common gave it 406.**

**London.** Three opinion polls on Wednesday predicted a record defeat for British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservatives at a July 4 election, forecasting the Labour Party would comfortably win a large majority after 14 years in opposition.

Polling by YouGov showed Keir Starmer's Labour was on track to win 425 parliamentary seats in Britain's 650-strong House of Commons, the most in its history. Savanta predicted 516 seats for Labour and More in Common gave it 406. YouGov had the Conservatives on 108 and the Liberal Democrats on 67, while Savanta predicted the Conservatives would take 53 parliamentary seats and the Liberal

Democrats 50. More in Common forecast 155 and 49 seats respectively. Chris Hopkins, Political Research Director at Savanta, said its projection put Labour on course "for a historic majority".

The three polls were so-called multilevel regression and post-stratification (MRP) surveys, an approach that uses voters' age, gender, education and other variables to predict results in every British voting district. Pollsters used the method to successfully predict the 2017 British election result. They are largely in line with previous surveys predicting a Labour victory, but show the scale of the Conservatives' defeat could be even worse than previously thought. YouGov's forecast of 108 seats for the Conservatives was around 32 lower than its previous poll two weeks earlier.

Both Savanta and YouGov predicted that the party of Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher could be left with the lowest number of seats in its near 200-



year history contesting elections. MISSTEPS

Sunak, who in a final throw of the dice last week pledged to cut 17 billion pounds of taxes for working people if re-elected, has failed to turn the polls around so far in a campaign littered with missteps.

His task has been made harder by the surprise mid-campaign return to frontline politics by prominent Brexit campaigner Nigel Farage, a right-wing populist, whose Reform UK party threatens to split the right-of-centre vote. Britain has a first-past-the-post electoral system, meaning

Reform could pick up millions of votes across the country without winning any individual seats. YouGov predicted Reform would win five seats and Savanta none. More in Common did not give a figure for Reform. The Savanta poll, published by the Telegraph newspaper, said Sunak could even lose his own parliamentary seat in northern England, once considered a safe Conservative constituency, with the contest currently too close to call. Sunak has acknowledged that people are frustrated with him and his party after more than a decade in power, dominated at times by political turmoil and scandal. All three surveys projected several senior government ministers, including finance minister Jeremy Hunt, were on course to lose their seats.

Most opinion polls currently place Keir Starmer's Labour about 20 percentage points ahead of the governing Conservatives in the national vote share.

Other polls in recent days have also presented a grim picture for Sunak, with one pollster predicting "electoral extinction" for the Conservatives.

## Sri Lankan President on India's industrial development: 'We need to join in'

**Sri Lanka must connect with India to benefit from its industrial growth. President hopes to discuss follow-up with Jaishankar on Thursday. In 2022, Sri Lanka declared bankruptcy, its first sovereign default.**



**Colombo.** President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Wednesday said Sri Lanka needs to connect with neighbouring India to reap the benefits of its massive industrial development. "Our neighbour India is going through a phase of massive industrial development. Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are experiencing it. We must also join in," said Mr. Wickremesinghe in his address at the Industry 2024 event in Colombo. The president said he was hopeful of discussing with External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar, who is due to arrive in Colombo on

Thursday, about the follow-up on his interaction with Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to India. Usage of solar and wind powers and to obtain liquid hydrogen are areas where we hope to work in collaboration with India," Wickremesinghe, also the finance minister, said, adding that Adani projects in Sri Lanka have pioneered these efforts. Sri Lanka in the second quarter of 2022 had declared bankruptcy announcing the island's first ever sovereign default. Negotiations with the International Monetary Fund for a bailout began almost immediately and

the first tranche of the USD 2.9 billion facility was released in March 2023. The cash-strapped country has introduced a set of hard reforms to address its economic woes. Despite the outstanding issue of debt restructuring, three tranches worth USD 1 billion of the USD 2.9 billion bail-out have been materialised subject to reforms. Wickremesinghe said that by ongoing debt restructuring negotiations, the government was hoping to get time until 2042 to repay. He said it was important for Sri Lanka to convert into becoming an export-oriented economy from the current import-oriented one. "Since we are an import-oriented economy, we have to find money to import. To become an export-oriented economy, we have to be competitive with our industries to become a production economy," the president said. The IMF while commending Sri Lanka's recovery efforts said the island nation's economy is far from being safe unless persisted with hard reforms needed.

## Indian farm labourer dies in Italy after being left on roadside with severed arm

**World.** An Indian national, working as a labourer at a farm in Italy, died on Wednesday after he was left on the side of a road following an accident that severed his arm. The Indian Embassy in Italy took to X on Monday to condole the "unfortunate demise" of Satnam Singh. "The Embassy is aware of the very unfortunate demise of an Indian national in Latina, Italy. We are in contact with local authorities. Efforts are underway to contact the family and provide consular assistance," the post read. Satnam Singh, aged between 30 and 31, was injured on Monday while working at a farm in Latina, a rural area in the south of Rome where thousands of Indian migrant workers live. He was cutting hay when his arm was chopped off by a machine, according to Flai CGIL trade union (an Italian organisation for workers in the agriculture and food industry). Instead of helping Satnam Singh, his employers "dumped" him like a "bag of rubbish near his home", AFP reported, citing the statement by Flai CGIL that likened the situation



to a "horror film". Italian Labour Minister Marina Calderone called the incident "a true act of barbarity" in Parliament. "The Indian agricultural worker who suffered a serious accident in the countryside of Latina and was abandoned in very serious conditions... has died," AFP reported, quoting Marina Calderone. She further stated that authorities were investigating the incident and expressed hope that those responsible for the act would be punished. Police said that they were called by Satnam Singh's wife and friends, and an air ambulance was sent. He was flown to a hospital in Rome, but "died around midday" (local time) on Wednesday, a police spokesperson in Latina told AFP. Satnam Singh was working at the farm without legal papers. The centre-left Democratic Party condemned the manner Satnam Singh was treated in a region known for the exploitation of workers, calling it a "defeat for civilisation".

## 8 dead as Israeli tanks advance deeper into Rafah, heavy shelling hit tents

**Cairo.** Israeli tanks backed by warplanes and drones advanced deeper into the western part of the Gaza Strip city of Rafah on Wednesday, killing eight people, according to residents and Palestinian medics. Residents said the tanks moved into five neighbourhoods after midnight. Heavy shelling and gunfire hit the tents of displaced families in the Al-Mawasi area, further to the west of the coastal enclave, they said. Some eight months into the war, there has been no sign of let up in the fighting as efforts by international mediators, backed by the United States, have failed to persuade Israel and Hamas to agree to a ceasefire. Twelve Palestinians were also killed in an Israeli strike that hit a group of citizens and merchants in the south of the Gaza Strip, medical sources told Reuters on Wednesday. The people were hit as they waited for convoys of aid trucks

carrying goods through the Kerem Shalom crossing in Salahuddin Road northeast of Rafah, the sources added. Israeli forces have laid waste to much of Gaza and seized most of the Palestinian territory but have yet to achieve Israel's stated goal of wiping out Hamas and freeing Israeli hostages. Medics and Hamas media said eight Palestinians were killed in Al-Mawasi and many families fled north in panic. They did not identify the fatalities, and the Israeli military said it was looking into the report. Residents said Israeli army forces blew up several homes in western Rafah, which had sheltered over half of Gaza's 2.3 million people before last month, when Israel began its ground offensive and forced most of the population to head northwards. Some United Nations and Palestinian figures put those who remained at under 100,000 people.

"Another night of horror in Rafah. They opened fire from planes, drones and tanks on the western areas to cover for their invasion," said one Rafah resident, who asked not to be named. Bullets and shells landed in the Mawasi area near where people slept, killing and wounding many," he told Reuters via a chat app. An Israeli commander briefing military correspondents in Rafah on Tuesday named two more locations there - Shaboura and Tel Al-Sultan - where the army planned to take on Hamas fighters. "The Hamas battalions there are not yet well worn down and we need to dismantle them completely. We estimate it at more or less a month, at this intensity," Colonel Liron Batito, head of the Givati Brigade, told Army Radio. The Israeli military remained in control of the border between Rafah and Egypt. Footage circulated.

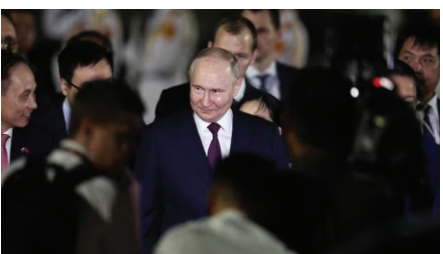
# Vladimir Putin arrives in Vietnam for final stop on two-nation Asia tour

**Putin praised the Southeast Asian Communist country for its pragmatic stance on Ukraine. Vietnam's neutral "bamboo diplomacy" avoids condemning Russia's Ukraine attack, worrying the West. Neither Vietnam nor Russia are members of the ICC.**

"a pragmatic way to solve the crisis" in Ukraine. Vietnam, which officially pursues a neutral foreign policy it calls "bamboo diplomacy" in its relations with world powers, has abstained from condemning Russia's attack on Ukraine, a stance that Western countries view as too close to the Kremlin.

As well as praising Vietnam for its "balanced" stance on the Ukraine war, Putin listed progress on payments, energy and trade between the countries in the article published in Vietnam's Communist Party newspaper Nhan Dan. Although both North Korea and Russia face international isolation, Vietnam has built careful alliances with the United States and the European Union.

"President Putin's visit to North Korea and Vietnam is to demonstrate that Western attempts to isolate Russia are not working and that Russia has partners in Asia," said Carl Thayer, an expert on Vietnam security at the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra. Russia was hit with U.S.-led Western sanctions after it invaded



Ukraine in February 2022 in what Moscow calls a "special military operation". In March 2023, the Hague-based International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Putin over alleged war crimes in Ukraine, charges he denies. Neither Vietnam nor Russia are members of the ICC.

The Southeast Asian country will be the third nation Putin has visited, after China and North Korea, since he was sworn in for a fifth term in May. Vietnam has been gearing up for a full state welcome for Putin, his first visit since 2017 and his fifth in total. Putin is due to meet Communist Party leader Nguyen Phu Trong, state President To Lam and Prime

Minister Pham Minh Chinh. The Russian leader will also attend wreath laying ceremonies, including at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, housing the embalmed corpse of Vietnam's founding leader. The countries have historically close ties and shared Communist roots. Tens of thousands of cadres studied in the former Soviet Union during the Cold War, including the current head of Vietnam's Communist Party Trong. "President Vladimir Putin is a person who has made many contributions to Vietnam-Russia relations. He always has good feelings and concern for Vietnam and values relationships with Vietnam's senior leaders," Ministry of Defence newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan said in an article. "President Vladimir Putin is a person who has made many contributions to Vietnam-Russia relations. He always has good feelings and concern for Vietnam and values relationships with Vietnam's senior leaders," Ministry of Defence newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan said in an article.



## Heavy rain forecast in Tamil Nadu till June 23

**CHENNAI.** Several parts of the state will continue to receive heavy rain till June 23 and the maximum temperature is likely to be near normal.

The southwest monsoon will be vigorous over Nilgiris and ghat areas of Coimbatore district, where heavy to very heavy rain has been forecast for June 22 and 23. Tiruppur, Dindigul, Theni, Erode, Salem and Dharmapuri districts may receive heavy rain. Chennai will receive light to moderate rain for the next two days, according to the regional meteorological centre here. The city has been witnessing thunderstorms, lightning and heavy showers for the past two days during late evenings and night.

In the last 24 hours ending 8.30am on Wednesday, Devala in Nilgiris received the highest rainfall of 13cm followed by 11cm at Arcot in Ranipet. Several other weather stations in Pudukkottai, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Ranipet, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur have also received good rains in the range of 6-10 cm. In Chennai, Tiruvottiyur received 9cm. Anna Nagar, Nungambakkam, Teynampet, TVK Nagar, Manali received 7cm of rainfall.

Corporation officials said that most parts of the city, including Thiruvottiyur and parts of Manali did not have prolonged waterlogging after the rain on Tuesday night and briefly on Wednesday afternoon. Of the 2,624km of storm water drains, 1,242 km have been taken up for desilting now after completing 755 kilometres. "Only very few low lying areas experienced some amount of waterlogging but even those were drained out before morning. There is only one isolated spot in Perambur that is left and we will complete draining water from there by Wednesday afternoon," a senior official said.

## Kerala sees monsoon revival, but 47% rain deficit in first 20 days

**KOCHI.** The southwest monsoon, which had stalled for two weeks after its onset on May 30, has become active over Kerala. However, between June 1 and 19, Kerala recorded a 47% deficit, receiving 208.1 mm of rainfall against the normal 393.9 mm. This has the KSEB worried as its reservoirs are at just 25% storage.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD), in a special weather bulletin on Wednesday, said the monsoon will be active for the next seven days and Kerala is expected to receive copious rain in July, August and September.

The westerly wind, which weakened after the monsoon onset, has gained strength and is expected to bring heavy rain in northern districts. As per the forecast, south Kerala will receive isolated heavy rainfall on Thursday and northern districts will receive heavy to very heavy rainfall from June 21 to 23. Kozhikode, Kannur, Wayanad and Kasaragod are expected to receive extreme heavy rainfall on June 23 and 24.

"The lull in monsoon was caused by weakening of westerly after monsoon onset. However, the strength and depth of the wind has increased from Tuesday — from 1.5 km to 4.5 km now — which brought fairly widespread rain from Wednesday. The rain will continue till June 25 after which we can expect a lull. However, there are indications monsoon will gain strength in July," said IMD Thiruvananthapuram director Neetha K Gopal. KSEB dams have storage to generate 1,020 MUs of power



The special weather bulletin said rain or thundershower is most likely at most places in Kerala and Lakshadweep from June 19 to 25. IMD has advised fishermen not to venture into the sea from June 20 to 23. Considering the heavy rain forecast, the KSEB has decided to increase generation and keep water level in its reservoirs low. The forecast indicates Kerala may get 150% rainfall as against the average of 445 mm in August.

This year, KSEB reservoirs have the storage to generate 1,020 million units (MUs) of power as against 2023, when the storage allowed generation of 648.76 million units. The Idukki reservoir, with a storage of 29%, generated 10 MUs of power on Tuesday while the Sabarigiri project generated 6 MUs. Meanwhile, peak-hour consumption in the state went up during the past week prompting the KSEB to purchase additional power from real-time market. On Tuesday, KSEB

purchased 1.17 MUs during peak hours. The demand during the second peak from 10.30pm to 12.30 am has been increasing in recent days owing to the rise in temperature caused by the monsoon break. La Nina may bring heavy rain in August

La Nina is expected to set in between July and September and may bring heavy rainfall to India by August. The IMD too has forecast above normal monsoon during the latter phase of the Southwest monsoon. La Nina is the periodic cooling of surface water in the central and east central equatorial Pacific, which influences wind pattern and causes heavy rainfall. Monsoon active, heavy spell predicted till Sunday

After breaking a long dry spell on Wednesday, the state is bracing for heavy rain over the weekend. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted that the conditions are set for heavy to very heavy rain in the state till June 23, aided by the presence of a cyclonic circulation over coastal Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Kozhikode, Wayanad and Kannur are expected to get extremely heavy rain (orange alert) at one or two places on June 23.

IMD has issued an orange alert for Thursday in Malappuram, Kozhikode and Kannur and a yellow alert in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Kannur and Kasaragod. Extremely heavy rain means a place getting over 20cm rainfall in 24 hours.

## Act, don't play with words: EPS to TN govt in hooch deaths



**CHENNAI.** Terming the death of people after drinking illicit liquor in Karunapuram in Kallakurichi as worrying, AIADMK general secretary and leader of the opposition Edappadi K Palaniswami condemned the DMK government on Wednesday for failing to curb the production of illicit liquor. He urged Chief Minister MK Stalin to 'avoid playing with words' by saying it is 'methanol' and not 'illicit liquor', and to keep in mind that it is a matter of people's lives.

In his statement, the AIADMK leader extended his condolences to the grieving families. "I have been continuously pointing out that the production of illicit liquor is rampant under the DMK regime. However, the government has not taken any action to curb it, even after several lives have been lost due to it," he alleged.

Meanwhile, PMK founder S Ramadoss blamed the district administration for attempting to cover up the incompetency of the government by initially stating the deaths were not related to illicit liquor. "It is a known fact that illicit liquor is produced in the Kalvarayan hill area round-the-clock and is supplied throughout the district. The situation is so worse that arrack is even supplied in chocolate flavour," he alleged.

He also recalled incidents in which two people dying allegedly after consuming liquor from Tasmac outlets in Thanjavur and more than 30 people losing lives after drinking illicit liquor in Mathuranthakam and Marakanam last year.

He added the consumption of liquor is causing law and order problems, and the CM, who also handles the home department, should take responsibility for these incidents. Ramadoss demanded the government provide Rs 10 lakh to the families of the deceased and ensure proper medical care for the others affected.

On X, formerly Twitter, BJP state president Annamalai said it is heart-wrenching to see the parents cry out of pain about losing their child and a wife losing her husband. "DMK has not learnt lesson after the 22 hooch deaths last year, and their mis-governance has led to more deaths today. There is zero accountability in the DMK government and ministers do not fear consequences for posing with illicit liquor sellers," he said.

Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) chief coordinator Seeman said the deaths due to illicit liquor are the 'achievement' of the three-year tenure of the DMK government. He criticised the DMK stating its 'achievements' are increasing Tasmac sales and failing to curb drugs. "The DMK expresses pride in supporting women by giving them Rs 1,000 every month. What will they now say to the women who have lost their husbands, fathers, and sons?" he questioned.

## Renukaswamy murder case: Darshan confesses to giving Rs 30 lakh to another accused

**BENGALURU.** Actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, accused No 2 in the Renukaswamy murder case, is said to have confessed to his involvement in the case as per the remand application submitted by the police to the court. According to the remand copy, the 47-year-old actor confessed to having given Rs 30 lakh to Pradosh, another accused in the case, to manage the police and lawyers and to pay those who surrender before the police, claiming that they had committed the murder. The actor is said to have given the money to make sure that his name does not come up in the case. As per the remand copy, the actor mentioned this in his voluntary statement. During their search, the police seized cash from Pradosh's house on JP Road in Girinagar. Meanwhile, Darshan, Pavithra Gowda and 13 other accused in the case were taken to Victoria Hospital, where their blood and hair samples were collected.



The samples have been sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory to ascertain if the accused were under the influence of any substance at the time of committing the crime. Since the police custody of the accused ends on Thursday, the police are ensuring that all angles in the probe are covered.

The Vijaynagar sub-division police questioned Darshan's wife Vijayalakshmi on Wednesday. The police, while collecting evidence, found the actor's shoes at her house on Outer Ring Road in Banashankari. The shoes that were found at her house were reportedly worn by the actor at the time of the murder in the Pattanagere shed in RR Nagar.

After collecting the shoes, the police issued her a notice to appear before the investigating officer. Vijayalakshmi went to Annapoorneshwari Nagar police station with two advocates for the first time in nine days of Darshan's police custody. Meanwhile, Narendra Singh, who reportedly witnessed the murder, is said to have given his statements before a magistrate under Section 164 of the CrP. The police are yet to recover Renukaswamy's mobile phone, said to be thrown into the Sumanahalli stormwater drain. So far, 118 pieces of evidence, including the vehicles used in the crime, clothes worn by the accused, clothes of the victim, blood samples, mobile phones, weapons used to kill the victim, megger device, and CCTV footage, have been collected. Karthik alias Kappe, 27, accused No 15, is said to be involved in another crime in Thalaghattapura police limits and the police are also looking into

## To control air pollution, BBMP builds water fountains instead of filling potholes

**BENGALURU:** Filling up potholes and maintaining good roads is not just a demand from motorists, but is also important to improve air quality. But in the state capital, the priorities of authorities seem to be different. A preliminary report prepared by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) shows that Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has spent more on beautifying Bengaluru by putting up water fountains, sprinklers and painting walls, instead of filling up potholes. The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and 15th Finance Commission allocate funds to cities, based on their respective population, to improve air quality. While Bengaluru gets funds from the latter, Hubballi, Dharwad and Davangere are allocated funds by NCAP. "From 2020 till 2024, BBMP has allocated Rs 27.90 crore for water fountains and other beautification works, but Rs 19.53 crore for filling potholes. On the ground, the fountains are not working and as it is, they play no role in controlling air pollution," said a KSPCB official. BBMP got Rs 279 crore in 2020-21, Rs 147.35 crore in 2021-22, Rs 108.35 crore in 2022-23 and Rs 154 crore in 2023-24. BBMP has been given the task of apportioning money to other agencies, including BMTC and DULT, to improve roads and add electric buses. For 2024-25, BBMP has prepared an action plan seeking Rs 265 crore. But now as the programme comes to an end, BBMP, KSPCB and Urban Development Department officials are at loggerheads. "Before allocating more funds, CPCB is asking for a utilisation certification report of the works done. We have been repeatedly asking BBMP and UDD, but there has been no response," the official said.

## Kerala: Soaring prices of veggies, fish burn a hole in pockets

**KOCHI:** Family budgets are taking a hit with the price of vegetables and fish headed northward. With tomatoes going for Rs 100/kg and carrots quoting Rs 120/kg, even staple veggies are threatening to eat into people's finances. The situation is such that footfalls in markets have dropped sharply. Local traders blame the decline in arrivals from Tamil Nadu for the price hike. Vendors at the otherwise bustling Ernakulam market are lamenting the severe impact on both customers and sellers, with current prices surpassing levels of the previous year. Highlighting the difference in prices compared with last year, Majeed, a seller, said, "Prices fluctuate daily. However, this year they are at historic levels. We are barely making any money as people are reluctant to buy vegetables at exorbitant prices,"



he remarked. Majeed added: "Tomatoes are now at Rs 100/kg, compared with Rs 60 last year. An increase in prices has been observed in vegetables from Karnataka, while those from Tamil Nadu remain relatively more affordable." Najeeb, another vendor, attributed the price surge to adverse climatic conditions that have severely affected crops across the country. "The intense heat and subsequent drought have destroyed crops, leading to skyrocketing prices." Saleem a vendor at Kaloor market, said that while fruit prices

remain stable during the monsoon, the surge in vegetable prices has created significant hardship. Even fish prices have jumped due to the trawling ban," he said. He cited Kerala's dependency on neighbouring states for vegetables as the key reason for fluctuating prices. Due to the trawling ban and the subsequent decline in catch, locally popular fish like sardine, and mackerel have also become dearer. "However, the trawling ban is not the only reason behind the increase in the price of staples like sardine, mackerel, anchovy, and trevally. Anchovy and trevally are not available in the market now," said Charles George, state secretary of the Trade Union Centre of India (TUCI). The fish in the market comes from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, he added.

## 'PG degree through one-year course is valid for appointment to govt services'

**CHENNAI.** Holding that a degree from a one-year postgraduate course is equivalent to that from a two-year PG course and that it is valid under the 10+2+3+1 scheme of education, the Madras High Court has ordered the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) to appoint a candidate as a typist in government services. He was earlier denied the job and it was cited that his PG degree from a one-year course made him ineligible. Justice D Bharatha Chakravarthy passed the orders on Tuesday on a petition filed by K Paranthaman.

The judge stated that there are one-year PG courses such as Master of Law and Master of Library Science which are valid degrees as per UGC norms. Therefore, just because of the numerals 10+2+3+2 — mainly intended to clarify SSLC (minimum 10 years of studies) + Higher Secondary



(minimum two years) + UG + PG — the petitioner's MLIS degree cannot be rejected as invalid for government services and such an approach would be pedantic, he reasoned, referring to Clause 25 of the Tamil Nadu Government Servants (Conditions of Service) Act. The judge underscored that the purpose of the rule is to eliminate candidates possessing a

direct PG without even basic school education and is not concerned with the duration of the PG course. The petitioner applied for the post of a typist as per the 2017 notification issued by TNPSC and scored 201 marks. When several persons scored the same marks, the eligibility for recruitment was based on the higher qualifications of PG degrees. Paranthaman had two PG degrees — MBA and MLIS — but could mark only MLIS in the column given in the application. TNPSC then denied him an appointment stating that MLIS is a one-year course and hence not acceptable as per Clause 25. Quashing the 2021 order of the TNPSC in this regard, Justice Chakravarthy directed the commission to appoint the petitioner in the typist post on or before July 31, 2024, and said that he will be entitled to all benefits of service only from the date of the appointment.

## Railway Board gives green signal to hire additional 1103 Assistant Loco Pilots for SWR Zone

**Bengaluru:** The Railway Board has on Tuesday given the green signal for hiring an additional 1103 Assistant Loco Pilots (ALPs) across the South Western Railway Zone. This is in addition to the 473 ALP vacancies which it had given its nod for filling up earlier, thereby bringing the total new ALPs to be hired to 1576 now. The spate of accidents including the recent accident involving the Kanchanjunga Express on June 17 allegedly due to human error appears to have prompted the quick response. It has also approved a total of 18799 vacancies in the 16 zones across the country, a big jump over the 5,696 ALP vacancies it had notified earlier for appointment. C James, Secretary General, AILRSA,

had written to the Chairman and CEO of Railway Board on January 20, 2024 on the need for speeding up the recruitment process for ALPs specifying that 5696 ALPs were not enough for Indian Railways.

"Crew are overburdened due to shortage of staff. They are being forced to work more than 12 to 20 hours at a stretch. Weekly rest was denied massively. Leave for unavoidable necessities was denied," the letter said. While the process of hiring 473 ALPs has already commenced in SWR Zone, the letter asked all the Zonal Railways to take immediate action for processing the revised indent for enhanced vacancies within a week. Southern Railway has 726 vacancies approved in the new

order (up from 218 earlier) while South Central Railway has the maximum vacancies approved of 1949 (as against 585 approved earlier). C Sunish, Secretary of All India Loco Running Staff Association told TNIE, "Our Association's stand stands vindicated today. We had repeatedly impressed upon the Railways the need to hire more ALPs. The acute shortage forced the limited ALPs to work many extra hours endangering the safety of the train. The reason for the sudden move, Sunish added, "One of the reasons could be the spate of railway accidents recently. It has probably made them realise that there is a need to recruit more drivers in the interest of the safety of all."

Sunish also said that SWR train drivers plan to avail the weekly 30-hr Periodical Rest they are entitled to on their own shortly. "We presently get a 16-hour break after every round trip when we return to the Headquarters but do not have any weekly offs. We plan to start taking them like how it has been done by loco pilots of Southern Railway," he added. The Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) Bangalore has in its order dated October 22, 2001, stated that Railway staff are entitled to their Periodical Rest. However, if it overlaps with the Headquarter rest, the payment of compensation would be twice the normal rate.



## Opportunity beckons as oil prices soften

AS the new government prepares for its first Budget, it will have an unexpected bonus of global oil markets remaining bearish. It was earlier expected that geopolitical tensions and supply cuts imposed by OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) Plus would lead to prices firming up, but this has fortunately not happened. Instead, the markets are subdued and the prospect of a Gaza peace agreement as well as slowing world demand has brightened chances of a moderate price scenario continuing for the rest of 2024. The impact of international crude oil prices on the Budget is considerable given the sizeable outgo of foreign exchange on crude oil purchases from abroad. Any reduction in the import bill will bring welcome relief as it helps in bridging the fiscal deficit, which is set to drop to 5.1 per cent in 2024-25. The cost of imports in 2023-24 was estimated at \$132.4 billion, slightly lower than the \$157.5 billion spent in 2022-23. The shrinkage was largely due to the fall in average oil prices over the past two years, along with some savings on account of buying Russian crude at discounted rates.

The outlook on the oil front had in April been rather dismal. At the time, crude prices had shot up to \$90 per barrel for the benchmark Brent crude after having been below \$80 since January. The spike occurred due to an escalation of the West Asia crisis, with Iran launching strikes against Israel. Prospects looked dim then for any improvement in view of deepening geopolitical tensions as well as the determination of OPEC Plus to expand production cuts. In the case of the former, the West Asia conflict initially had little impact on oil markets, but the attacks of Yemen-based Houthi rebels on merchant shipping had created ripples. There were also concerns that oil supplies from the region could be affected in case there was a disruption of shipping through the key choke point of the Strait of Hormuz. Any blockage at this point, which accounts for the bulk of crude movement from the region, could have affected India's oil shipments. The situation has eased somewhat in recent months, though merchant shipping going through the Suez Canal is still affected by the depredations of the Houthi rebels supporting the Palestinian cause. For the time being, crude oil movement is continuing without any serious disruption. There is even a glimmer of hope that efforts to reach a pause in the Israel-Hamas conflict could conceivably succeed.

As for OPEC Plus — the cartel which now includes Russia and its allies — it announced voluntary output cuts by members amounting to 2.2 million barrels per day (bpd) last year in a bid to prop up the market. These are being phased out from October this year. This is much earlier than anticipated, thus ensuring that the bearish market trends will continue at least for this year. OPEC Plus, however, retains the mandatory production cuts on members, amounting to 3.66 million bpd up to 2025. The early phaseout decision, along with reports of lower demand in the world's biggest oil importer, China, has strengthened the softening trend in oil prices. Besides, output from non-OPEC producers is rising rapidly and oil inventories are growing further. This includes the US, Canada, Brazil and Guyana.

The result is that oil prices are now in the range of \$80-83 per barrel, much lower than earlier anticipated for this year. This is a far cry from last year's prediction by Goldman Sachs that crude would touch \$100 by the end of 2024. Current price trends are at variance with earlier forecasts.

For a country like India, this is a huge relief as it imports over 85 per cent of its fuel requirements. The moderation in world prices will ensure that retail prices of products like petrol, diesel and liquefied petroleum gas are contained at existing levels. This is critical to keep inflationary pressures in check as any hike in rates, especially of diesel, has a cascading effect on the economy.

It also must be recognised that petroleum products, being out of the ambit of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), are viewed as the perennial cash cows to shore up state government revenue. The Karnataka government, for instance, has just hiked retail rates of petroleum products, evidently in a bid to boost revenue. A look at the levies on these products by various states is illuminating as it shows high tax levels. Most states impose a value-added tax, while others like Karnataka and Kerala levy sales tax on petrol and diesel.

## Beware of China's attempt to assume leadership of Asia-Pacific

For India, the border issue is not just a small part of bilateral military relations. It is the issue that must be resolved for a mutually stable neighbourhood.

AMID concerns over the emergence of a 'rules-broken' international order, replacing the "taken for granted, insufficiently protected and barely modernised rules-based order", the 21st Shangri-La Dialogue, Asia's premier defence summit, was held in Singapore from May 31 to June 2. This annual dialogue brings together defence ministers, senior officials and non-governmental stakeholders to discuss the most pressing challenges in the Asia-Pacific region.

The most-watched participants this year included Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Jr, who delivered the keynote address, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin and the new Defence Minister of China, Admiral Dong Jun, who was appointed in December last year, two months after his predecessor, Gen Li Shangfu, was formally removed. The challenge set forth for the participants by Sir John Chipman, Executive Chairman, International Institute of Strategic Studies — a co-organiser of the event (along with the Singapore Government) — was to find a unique way to build a rules-based order in the Asia-Pacific, amid the complex realities presented by the "interplay of economic statecraft and military strategy". Within the region, there is an ongoing major power contestation and a progressive drift towards a unipolar Asia, oblivious to the reality that power alone cannot decide the rules by which this region is governed or integrated.

Despite the backdrop of a sombre and bleak global and regional security environment, the messaging by the Chinese Defence Minister and his accompanying delegation of Generals was far from 'reassuring'. The glaring contrast between the words and deeds of China was evidenced best by the stark difference between the 'prepared' text of the speech of Admiral Dong and his answers to the questions raised (though most were left unanswered). In addition, members of the Chinese delegation posed provocative questions to prominent speakers. Such coordinated aggressive behaviour, which is not usual in global security dialogues, gave the impression of a 'pack of wolves' being present at Shangri-La, an ironic contrast to this mythical paradise.

The most significant observation was that China seemed to have unilaterally usurped the mantle of leadership of Asia-Pacific, articulating its own concerns, disguised as the voice of the region. Admiral Dong said that while different countries had different security interests and goals, China has a 'leadership' role. He also said: "We will not allow anyone to bring geopolitical conflicts or any war, whether hot or cold, to our region." The efforts

to displace the US in the Indo-Pacific and create an uncontested, unipolar, Sino-centric Asia and disregard for the centrality of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) were more than evident.

The harshest words, though, were reserved for Taiwan, termed the "core of China's core interests". Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te, who took over in May, is viewed by China as a 'separatist'. Referring to his statements as a 'betrayal of China and their ancestors', Admiral Dong warned: "They will be nailed to the pillar of shame in history." Reiterating confidence in the People's Liberation Army's capabilities to deter Taiwan independence, he added, "Anyone who dares to separate Taiwan from China will only end up in self-destruction."



The threat of use of force for the capture of Taiwan was not even attempted to be disguised.

The Dragon's belligerent actions in the South China Sea, particularly against the Philippines, were sought to be justified by dubbing all facts, other than the Chinese 'facts', as 'a fabricated and false narrative'. In a severe criticism of the July 2016 award of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in favour of the Philippines, Admiral Dong accused the country of enforcing the 'illegal arbitration award'. He described it as "blackmailing others (China) under the guise of international law". Claiming Beijing's great restraint in the face of infringements and provocations, he warned that it would backfire.

The questions fielded by Admiral Dong's delegation members seemed an extension of the predetermined script. A Major General confronted President Marcos,

stating that the Philippines' behaviour in recent times risks ruining the long-earned, long-lasting regional peace and that the Philippines seems to be disregarding the other party's (China's) comfort level. Likewise, a Senior Colonel asked the US Secretary of Defence, "Is the US planning to build a NATO-like alliance system in the Asia-Pacific region?" adding, "The east border expansion of NATO has led to the Ukraine crisis. What implications do you think the strengthening of the US alliance system in Asia-Pacific will have on the region's security and stability?"

Other references to China's disruptive behaviour included Zelenskyy's assertions that Beijing was attempting to sabotage the global peace summit in Switzerland by pressuring countries not to attend.

Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles raised concerns over China's strategic partnership with Russia, its escalatory behaviour in Asian waters and airspace, incursions against Taiwan, activities against the Philippines in their territorial waters and interference with Australian navy operations in Korea. Through these illustrations, he raised doubts about the role that China intends to play as a global actor.

The unusually belligerent behaviour of the Chinese delegation at the Shangri-La Dialogue does raise concerns over the Dragon's role in the Indo-Pacific, particularly for its neighbours. There are indicators that India must take note of: China's usurping of the leadership role in Asia and attempts to coerce the nations seeking alternatives; an undisguised attempt to create a Sino-

centric unipolar Asia and undermining the centrality of ASEAN; the propensity to create fabricated historical narratives and discredit established international institutions like the Permanent Court of Arbitration (established in 1899); and the willingness to use the military for furthering its perceived national interests. The recent Shangri-La Dialogue has highlighted to the world a facet of China's behaviour that India has experienced for a long time. While India maintains the desire to improve its relations with China, the latter must remain mindful of Indian interests and aspirations. For India, the border issue is not just a small part of bilateral military relations, as the Chinese would have us believe. It is the issue that must be resolved for a mutually stable neighbourhood and to ensure that 'Galwans' and 'Yangtzes' do not occur again.

## Priyanka's poll debut

Congress takes right call to field her from Wayanad

THE Congress' encouraging performance in the recent Lok Sabha elections has prompted former party president Rahul Gandhi to retain the Raebareli Lok Sabha seat in Uttar Pradesh and vacate the one in Wayanad, Kerala. His sister, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who was appointed Congress general secretary in 2019, will make her electoral debut in the Wayanad bypoll. The grand old party, which had been reduced to a nonentity in UP, made a comeback in the 2024 parliamentary polls in alliance with the Samajwadi Party (SP). The Congress bagged six seats, including the Gandhi family bastions of Raebareli and Amethi. Priyanka is believed to have played a key role in helping the party win the two prestigious seats, especially Amethi, where Rahul had suffered a shock



defeat in 2019.

It is obvious that the Congress wants to build on the gains

made in UP and actively assist the Akhilesh Yadav-led SP in dislodging the ruling BJP in the 2027 Assembly elections. Rahul's long-term presence in the state is a must to energise the party rank and file. For the record, the Congress had hit a new low in the 2022 Assembly polls, winning just two seats in the state with the highest political stakes.

Having made major inroads into the South in recent years, the Congress has chosen a presumably easy seat for Priyanka. The Congress-led United Democratic Front swept the Lok Sabha polls in Kerala, winning 18 of the 20 seats, even as the BJP managed to open its account. Both the BJP and the CPI have trained their guns on Rahul, alleging that he did not inform voters of Wayanad beforehand about his plan to contest from two constituencies. Nevertheless, the Congress is confident that the electorate of this constituency will send another Gandhi to Parliament, that too a first-timer, thus strengthening the resurgent Opposition.

## Five constraints on revival of Punjab's economy

Public policy should address these constraints for the sake of vibrant, sustainable and inclusive development.

PUNJAB's regression in economic development has continued unabated over the past four decades. The slow-growing economy has serious consequences, such as the fall in the state's ranking in terms of per capita income, high unemployment rate, mass migration, degradation of environmental indicators, agrarian distress and rural suicide. The revival of Punjab's economy has been constrained by several interrelated factors. If the remedial measures are implemented, Punjab can again provide exemplary economic leadership. The first constraint is the production structure. Compared with other performing states of India and the newly industrialising East Asian countries, Punjab's economy is predominantly agricultural both in terms of contribution to the State Domestic Product (SDP) and the share of the workforce deriving its livelihood from farming. The lack of required interlinkage between the sectors prevents the realisation of increasing returns to scale, which is essential for high rates of economic growth. It has been long realised that Punjab's economy is overemphasising agriculture and requires both transformation of the economy and of the farm sector itself. The suggested strategy has received resistance due to overdependence of the Centre on Punjab for the food security of the country. The state government and farmers have attempted diversification of agriculture, but the attempt failed due to reliance on markets which could not absorb the bulk of the new commodities produced in the absence of suitable processing, manufacturing and marketing facilities. The consequence is Punjab's fixation with wheat-paddy rotation, and this has resulted in depletion of groundwater and biomass burning that has generated a further constraint on the sustainability of the Punjab model of economic development. The diversification of Punjab's economy in general and the agriculture sector in particular requires joint efforts of both the state and Union governments. They need to incur one-time 'switching cost' for building new infrastructure and an



enabling environment. The will of the political leadership can overcome this constraint.

The second major constraint is the dysfunctionality of the fiscal policy. It was in the mid-1980s that the revenue-surplus state turned revenue-deficit for the first time. It was the peak period of turmoil in Punjab when most of the organisations and institutions turned non-functional, including the revenue collection machinery, along with the cost of deployment of Central security forces. This was a double burden on the public exchequer and the state government resorted to borrowings. Despite three decades of elected governments without a break, Punjab has gone deeper into debt. The state has accumulated more than Rs 3.51 lakh crore debt (47 per cent of the debt-to-GSDP ratio). Out of the total borrowings, nearly 92 per cent go to service the debt. The committed expenditure exceeds the revenue collected by the state government. Even during the Covid-19 pandemic, it was realised that the Centre could incur higher fiscal deficit but it restricted state government from borrowing. With

both restrictive fiscal rules for the state government and dynamic taxes in the hand of the Centre, the former has a limited capacity to raise resources for meeting the needs of development finance. However, the increasing burden of irrational subsidies such as power subsidies has made the fiscal policy dysfunctional.

The third significant constraint is the result of non-economic factors, such as the use of religion for political purposes and the identity issues that disturb the peace that is desirable for long-term private investment in economic activities. This trend of crowding out private investment started in the mid-1980s and has continued till date. The industrial towns of Mandi Gobindgarh and Batala provide evidence of de-industrialisation and pulling out of investment from other industrial centres of Punjab as well. A complementary reason for the deficiency of investment in Punjab is that it has a long border with Pakistan; more often than not, India-Pakistan relations have not been normal, thus disincentivising both domestic and foreign investment

in the state. The low gross fixed capital investment of 14 per cent of the GSDP in 2023 sums up the state of affairs.

The fourth major constraining factor is the deficiency of human capital. It is counter-intuitive to the historical fact that Punjabis possess great entrepreneurial and leadership skills. Over the past four decades, both educational and health organisations suffered because of a lack of public investment. The proliferation of profit-oriented but low-quality private educational and health institutions has created a mismatch between the skills in demand in the business sector and low-skilled human capital produced in the state. The migration of relatively better skilled and financial resource-based human capital to Western countries has further perpetuated the deficiency of human resources required for new economic avenues such as information and communication technology.

Last but not least is the dysfunctionality of development and the lack of decentralisation of developmental institutions. The developmental institutional framework is controlled by vested interests — a gridlock of police-bureaucracy-political elites. Policy-making, implementation and evaluation have been concentrated in the hands of groups that have maximised their interests and indulged in mass-scale rent-seeking behaviour, besides promoting a wide variety of mafia, involved in the illicit drug trade and illegal sand mining. This has reduced opportunities for private investment to flourish in Punjab, thus hastening the exodus of precious human and capital resources from the state. Taken together, the five constraints have created a formidable challenge for the revival of Punjab's economy. Public policy should address these constraints for the sake of vibrant, sustainable and inclusive development. A 'business as usual' approach of the state government has made the situation go from bad to worse. Sincere efforts with a holistic public policy approach involving all stakeholders, including the diaspora, can turn the tide.



# 5 workouts that don't feel like

# Workouts



up to domestic help, but there is no reason for us not to make them part of our weekly routines, if only just to ingrain more activity into our busy schedules.

However, we are not suggesting that you replace regimented strength and cardio workouts with the following five activities. This post is meant to encourage daily chores or activities that offer variations in your body's activity levels, and not offer any alternatives to real workouts.

**1. Clean your house:**

Start with your bedroom. Rearrange furniture, pick things up, bend, squat, lift heavy things. Cleaning your house and rearranging furniture has all the elements of a good gym session though you may not even know it. This may not be a weekly routine, but it can certainly be made part of something you do on a regular basis, when you have time to yourself at home.

Not to mention, this one is truly therapeutic with good music to keep you moving.

**2. Go on a hike:**

This one's clearly not for people well encased within miles and

miles of metro city traffic. But perhaps even city dwellers can find some park, nearby town, or natural feature to visit over weekends? Try and incorporate hiking into your weekend activity.

Sunday's are a great day to take off outside the city and spend time hiking, climbing a hill. Take a picnic basket and soak in all the vitamin D that you have missed out on during the week.

**3. Bathe your dog:**

Even better, bathe your cat. If you have a larger dog, or a cat, you will know what a great exercise it is. First the battle to hold on firm, the usage of your body weight to get the upper hand, the scrubbing, the rinsing, and then the drying. All the while holding on to dear life. If this isn't a workout, then we don't know what is!

**4. Play with your kids:**

Anything goes. Your kids will truly love it and there will be no dearth of action. Pillow fights, go to a park and throw a ball around, go to a pool and have races, and of course ask the kids for more ideas. Physical playtime is a great workout and also an unparalleled family bonding time.

**5. Walk in a mall:**

Ladies, the ideal workout! For the men, a nice way to spend time in a mall while your better half disappears. Of course the idea is to walk, climb stairs, and keep a decent pace. Walking is a good exercise to stay active and to stay on your feet more.

For most of us, the word 'workout' conjures up images of sweat soaked t-shirts, bulging muscles, a gym trainer, or running shoes. This image may not be entirely real because there are a few

things you can do in your daily life, or maybe weekly life, which have the ingredients of a good workout without necessarily being one. Many of these chores are left entirely

## Top 5 low-calorie Indian foods

Globally, Indian food has a reputation to be oily, spicy and heavy to digest. Is this really true?

We take a look at popular Indian dishes that are delicious and healthy at the same time. Remember that there are certain rules; you must control the levels of oil, butter, spices, cream and cheese. Find out which Indian foods come under the top 5 low-calorie Indian foods list: Buttermilk - This thick delicious dairy product goes well with any dish and is relished by family members.

Calorie intake - 30 calories per glass

Ragi dosa - A popular South Indian dish that is



made from ragi and not from rice. It is still a winner among dosa lovers.

Calorie intake - 87 calories per dosa

Oats idli - Idlis are a great way to begin your day. Again, it is a South Indian delicacy that has Indians lapping it up with hot sambar. If you are going the healthy way prepare the idlis from oats, it is healthy and a great way to start your day.

Calorie intake - 26 calories per idli

Sprouts salad - Sprouts are healthy; add a dash of sour lime and a pinch of spice and you have a great combination sprout

salad. Calorie intake - 93 calories per 100gms



# Belly fat

## Top 8 home remedies to reduce

Belly fat is a return gift that our haphazard lifestyle and wrong eating habits give us. It not only destroys your image but also increases your risk to many health ailments. Try these Ayurveda tips to lose the fat deposits around your belly.

**Start your day with lemon juice:**

This is one of the best therapies to eliminate belly fat. Pinch some yellow juice into a glass of warm water and add some salt to it. Continue drinking this every morning to boost your metabolism and to get rid of that paunch.

**Stay off from white rice:**

Replace white rice with various wheat products. Include brown rice, brown bread, wholegrains, oats and quinoa in your diet.

**Avoid sugary substances:**

Stay away from sweets, sweetened drinks and foods rich in oil. Consuming these foods can increase body fat around various areas of your body like abdomen and thighs.

**Drink plenty of water:**



If you want to get rid of your belly, then drink sufficient amount of water every day. Drinking water, after regular intervals will help to boost your metabolism and remove toxins from your body.

**Eat raw garlic:**

Chew two to three cloves of garlic every morning, and drink a glass of lemon water after that. This treatment will double up your weight loss process and make your blood circulation smooth in your body.

**Avoid non-veg food:**

To eliminate belly fat, it is recommended that one should avoid

non-vegetarian food as far as possible.

**Load up on fruits and vegetables:**

Eat a bowl of fruits daily in the morning and evening. This will fill you up with many antioxidants, minerals and vitamins.

**Spice up your cooking:**

Use spices like cinnamon, ginger and black pepper in your cooking. These spices are loaded with health benefits. They help to improve your insulin resistance and reduce levels of sugar in your blood.





# India Reports Over 40,000 Suspected Heatstroke Cases This Summer

**India heatwave death toll: Temperatures in north India have soared to almost 50 degrees Celsius in one of the longest heatwave spells recorded.**

**New Delhi/Guwahati:** India recorded more than 40,000 suspected heatstroke cases this summer as a prolonged heatwave killed more than 100 people across the country, while parts of its northeast grappled with floods from heavy rain, authorities said.

Billions across Asia are grappling with extreme heat this summer in a trend scientists say has been worsened by human-driven climate change, with temperatures in north India soaring to almost 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit) in one of the longest heatwave spells recorded. Birds fell from the skies due to extreme heat and hospitals reported an inflow of heat-affected patients as both day and night time temperatures peaked in recent weeks since the start of summer in March.

The health ministry ordered federal and state institutions to ensure "immediate attention" to patients, while hospitals in the capital Delhi, which is also facing a water shortage, were directed make more beds available. A health ministry official said there were more



than 40,000 suspected heatstroke cases and at least 110 confirmed deaths between March 1 and June 18, when northwest and eastern India recorded twice the usual number of heatwave days. The weather office has forecast above normal temperatures for this month too, as authorities say Indian cities

have become "heat traps" due to unbalanced growth.

"During the ongoing heatwave, most bird rescue calls that we receive are due to birds falling from the skies," said Kartick Satyanarayan, co-founder and CEO of non-profit Wildlife SOS. "In the past two weeks,

Wildlife SOS has been receiving more than 35-40 rescue calls daily, in and around Delhi-National Capital Region. Most of the calls include bird rescue requests. "Separately, floods and landslides triggered by incessant rain in the northeastern state of Assam killed at least six people on Tuesday night, officials said. "A landslide buried a woman and her three daughters alive," a state disaster management official, Siju Das, said by telephone.

"Their house was on a slope, and they died on the spot around midnight," he said, adding that the bodies were retrieved after a three-hour search operation by rescuers.

"A three-year-old was killed too." In Assam, more than 160,000 people were affected, with waters surpassing the danger level in the Kopili, one of the largest tributaries of the Brahmaputra, which ranks among India's biggest rivers. More than 30 people in the state have died since the end of May in floods and landslides brought by heavy rain, officials said.

## I Am Not Secure with Current Kolkata Police Contingent in Raj Bhavan: Bengal Guv Bose

**New Delhi:** West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose on Thursday said that he was apprehending a threat to his security because of the presence of the current contingent of Kolkata Police posted at Raj Bhavan here.

His statement came days after he ordered the police personnel to vacate the Raj Bhavan premises. They, however, are still on duty in the Governor House. "I have reasons to believe that the presence of the current officer-in-charge and his team is a threat to my personal security," Bose told PTI. "I have informed Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee that I am insecure with Kolkata Police in Raj Bhavan, but there was no action," he said. Sources in the Governor House said Bose has complained to the state government that there has been constant snooping by the police personnel posted in Raj Bhavan and he could sense that they were doing it on the insistence of "influencers" from outside.

"The policemen posted here have been snooping on my movements as well as many of my officers. Their acts are with the tacit support of their political masters in government. This is violative of the Constitution," Bose said. The governor has brought the matter to the notice of Banerjee from time to time but no action has been taken by her. The chief minister also holds the Home portfolio.

"None of these can happen without the knowledge of the highest authorities in the police department which is under the Home department," he asserted. Bose claimed he had information about the "misdeeds" of the police contingent posted in Raj Bhavan, under the current officer-in-charge.

## Centre Can't Be Mere Spectator, Should Take Lead To Resolve Quota Issue: Sharad Pawar

**Pune:** NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Thursday said the Centre cannot be a mere spectator and it should take lead to resolve matters pertaining to the quota demand by the Maratha community and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Asked about the increasing Maratha-OBC conflict over the reservation issue in Maharashtra, Mr Pawar said there is only one solution that the Centre should take the lead to resolve it and there is a need for amendments in law and the state and Centre's policies. The former Union minister was speaking to reporters at Baramati in Maharashtra's Pune district.

In February this year, the Maharashtra legislature unanimously passed a bill granting a separate 10 per cent reservation in education and jobs to the Maratha community under a separate category. However, the community has been demanding quota under the OBC grouping.

Activist Manoj Jarange has been demanding implementation of the draft notification that recognises Kunbis as "sage soyare" (blood relatives) of Maratha community members and also seeking a law to identify Kunbis as Marathas.

Kunbi, an agrarian group, falls under the OBC category, and Jarange has been demanding that Kunbi certificates be issued to all Marathas, thus making them eligible for quota in government jobs and education. Amidst the Maratha reservation demand, two OBC activists have been sitting on a fast in Jalna district, seeking an assurance from the government that the existing Other Backward Classes quota will not be disturbed.

Mr Pawar said, "A change in the policy of the state and centre governments will have to be made." "The governments, specially the Centre, should take the lead in addressing demands of both the communities and ensure the agitation does not cross a limit and that social tension should not take place. The governments cannot be a mere spectator on the issue," he said.

## Airlines, Airports Told To Increase Women Staff To 25% Of Workforce

**New Delhi:** Civil aviation regulator, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), has issued an advisory to airports and airlines to increase the number of women employees in their organisations to ensure more gender equality in the aviation sector. "With this move, the DGCA aims to increase the number of women in various positions to a desirable representation of 25 per cent by 2025 within the aviation industry in India," the circular states. The circular, titled 'Gender Equality in Civil Aviation Sector', has been issued keeping in mind the principle of gender equality that is enshrined in the Constitution of India and the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) vision for promoting equal opportunities in the aviation sector.



The regulator suggested that the airports and airlines should publish the vacant positions on various forums, explicitly encouraging applications from female candidates and drafting positions with precise information on flexible working conditions in their organisations. "The stakeholders are advised to promote enhanced representation of women in the aviation workforce, introduce leadership and mentorship programs for women in the organisation,

address the issue of stereotypes and gender bias and promote a better work-life balance for women employees," the circular states. It has also directed the stakeholders to improve their policies and practices to ensure gender equality in the workplace. Airlines and Airports have been asked to adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual harassment and formulate HR policies to achieve this goal. They have also been asked to diversify the work profiles of women employees, highlighting women role models and other facilitative steps that promote a gender-inclusive work culture. The organisations should also develop suitable programmes to hire women back if they have taken a break due to parenting needs "or other attendant life cycle issues".

## No Relief For Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi Court Reserves Order On Bail Plea In Liquor Policy Scam Case

**New Delhi:** A Delhi court on Thursday reserved its order on the bail plea of Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the money laundering case related to the now-scrapped excise policy. Appearing on behalf of the ED, ASG Raju said that the central agency has documentary evidence showing that part of the alleged proceeds of crime was used to cover the cost of Kejriwal's stay at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Goa during the 2022 state elections. This comes a day after a Delhi court extended Kejriwal's custody till July 3. The ED today said its evidence shows that Rs 1.5 lakh was paid in installments of Rs 50,000 each by Charanpreet Singh to settle the hotel



and banquet charges for Kejriwal's stay. The ED alleged that Charanpreet, who reportedly managed AAP's Goa poll funds, received around Rs 45 crore in cash from various "angadiyas" (hawala operators) and was involved in handling cash for the AAP's Goa election campaign. The ED also said it has witness

statements, including from an individual named Sagar Patel, corroborating the cash payments made to Charanpreet, Prince Kumar and Rajiv Mondkar for the AAP's Goa election expenses. The agency argued that Kejriwal's refusal to provide the password to his phone should lead to an adverse inference against him, which is a ground for denying bail even under ordinary bail law. ASG Raju on Wednesday informed the court that the cost of the Delhi chief minister's stay was covered partly in cash and partly by the admin Department of GNCTD. "It was earlier hushed up but we then discovered that the payment was in cash and the same came through hawala. Charanpreet arranged," he said.

## Delhi Burger King Murder May Be Revenge Killing, Mystery Woman Lured Victim

**Delhi Burger King murder: As many as 38 bullets of 3 different makes were fired at Aman Joon inside Burger King outlet at Rajouri Garden Tuesday night**

**New Delhi:** The chilling murder of a 26-year-old man in a shooting spree at a Burger King outlet in west Delhi may have been revenge for a 2020 murder in Haryana, according to reports. Police

suspect gang rivalry led to the shocking murder that has raised questions on the law and order situation in the capital. Latest and Breaking News on As many as 38 bullets of three different makes were fired at Aman Joon inside the fast food outlet at Rajouri Garden in west Delhi Tuesday night, the FIR says. The different bullets suggest that more than two weapons were used by the two shooters. Aman's body was found behind the billing counter, indicating that he tried to flee when the killers opened fire. The killers, the Burger King staff have said, were in the 25-30 years age group.

### The Mystery Woman

The staff have said Aman came to the eatery to meet a woman. She left the spot soon after the attack, possibly with the dead man's phone. The woman, police have found, faces multiple cases in Haryana and had first come to Delhi to prepare for competitive exams and stayed at Mukherjee Nagar. Police suspect that



she was part of the trap set up to lure Aman to the Burger King store. CCTV footage has shown that the woman took a train from GTB Nagar Metro Station to reach Rajouri Garden and after the murder, she took the metro from Rajouri Garden to Shakurpur Metro Station, PTI has reported.

### The Gangster in Portugal

Fugitive gangster Himanshu Bhau, suspected to be in Portugal now, has claimed responsibility for the murder in a social media post and a police officer told PTI that police suspect the same. Himanshu Bhau has said in the post that

Aman was involved in the murder of "our brother" Shakti Dada and "this was revenge". Warning the others involved, he said their "turn will come soon". Himanshu Bhau, whose gang operates across Delhi and Haryana, is notorious for extortion, the police officer said. Bhau, an associate of jailed gangster Neeraj Bawana, fled the country in 2022.

### A Jhajar Murder

Neeraj Bawana's cousin Shakti Singh was shot dead in Haryana's Jhajar in October 2020. A police officer told PTI that Joon is believed to have tipped off rival gangster Ashok Pradhan about Shakti Singh. Himanshu Bhau, the officer said, wanted to get Joon outside his village so that he can be bumped off and the Burger King plan was made. The social media post by Bhau also mentioned, "14 ke badle 40 goli di hain ginti kar lo" (40 bullets in return of 14, count them). The authenticity of the social media post is being verified, police said.

## Aviation Watchdog Revises Regulations To Boost Seaplane Operations

**New Delhi:** In a major leap towards sustainable and safe seaplane operations, the civil aviation regulator, DGCA, has revamped its regulatory provisions. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) informed that the pivotal amendments will streamline infrastructure procedures, pilot training requirements, and regulatory compliances, paving the way for seaplane services to reach remote, inaccessible areas. "Initially established in 2008, the regulatory framework for seaplane operations was long due for a review. According to a DGCA Working Group recommending rationalization and revision of the said regulatory framework, revised regulations (CAR Section 3 Series C Part IX and CAR Section 7 Series B Part XVI) have been promulgated," an official statement said.

The revised regulations incorporate easier training requirements and simplified approval processes for



undertaking seaplane operations. Pilots with a Commercial Pilot License (CPL) can now qualify as seaplane-rated pilots by undertaking training at any ICAO-recognized training organisation globally. Additionally, new training opportunities for support roles are set to enhance employment potential at seaplane hubs nationwide.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) spearheaded the initiative to promote the seaplane ecosystem, providing guidance and engaging with stakeholders, including DGCA, State Governments, the Airports Authority of India (AAI), Airlines, and Aircraft Manufacturers. These collaborative efforts have ensured that the new regulations address key stakeholder concerns and pave the way for growth in this niche area. With the revised regulatory provisions, seaplane operators can utilize the streamlined procedures and optimized infrastructure requirements, to further extend seaplane services across the country and reach the most remote parts of the country, fostering inclusive and sustainable development. The simplified water aerodrome requirements would also aid in economical and efficient operations while maintaining essential safety standards.



# Combat dehydration with home-made Flavoured water

So do you think your eight glasses of water can be substituted with coffee, tea, milk or other beverages? Well, experts say that all kinds of drinks and fluids do the job of hydrating our body to some extent, but there are some that could work otherwise, due to the components they have. You need to choose hydrating fluids that are not just healthy and low in calories, but are also full of flavours which prompt you to reach out for them throughout the day. Here is a list...

### Water

Pure water is one of the best hydrants. But since it is tasteless, adding flavour might compel you to reach out for it frequently.

### Flavoured water

This is great for replenishing your dehydrated body during hot summer months. Flavoured water helps to refresh and revitalise you, thanks to the fresh herbs and fruit pieces they are infused with.

### Iced tea

You could try sipping on herbal iced teas made with pre-flavoured water. Herbs and flavours like mint, chamomile, cardamom, jasmine, verbena etc., can add a pleasant aroma and make the drink a refreshing one.

### Fresh juices

Juices of fresh fruits and vegetables have a host of nutritional

benefits but they have unwanted calories and high concentration of sugars too. So, if you want to avoid calories, opt for fruit waters with minimal calorific value.

### Caffeinated drinks

If you have coffee, tea, and drinks that have caffeine frequently during the day, it increases your toxin content. So you must have ample water along with these drinks to eliminate the toxins through urination and perspiration.

Herbs, fruit flavour and juice infused H<sub>2</sub>O is one of the best bets when it comes to quenching your thirst

### Do It Yourself

-You will need filtered pure water Herbs that complement your chosen fruits

-For maximum flavour and sweetness pick the best quality, ripe fruits n You will need pitchers or large glasses to steep fruits Wooden spoon to mash and mix fruits and herbs in your pitcher n Place chosen ingredients in a pitcher and mash them very lightly with a wooden spoon. n Top with water and let it stand for a few hours before serving.

-Use sliced lime, mint leaves, two drops of ginger juice and lemon juice

-Strawberry slices, mint leaves, and a few drops of lemon juice

-Sliced cucumber, lemon, lemon juice and a pinch of cinnamon powder



## Tips to stop biting your nails

- If nothing works, try applying a deterrent like a neem paste or black pepper.
- Get rid of the habit by wearing a wrist band and keep snapping it each time you have the urge to bite your nails.



Some people have a horrible habit of biting their nails. It not only damages your nails but teeth as well. Here are a few tips to get rid of this habit.

- Cut your nails from time to time. This way you will have short nails and you won't have anything to bite!
- Be committed at letting go of this habit. Keep a reminder on your phone or put up sticky notes in front of your desk. They do help.
- Get a manicure often. Will you have the heart to bite those pretty nails, now?
- Cut your nails from time to time. This way you will have short nails and you won't have anything to bite!
- Be committed at letting go of this habit. Keep a reminder on your phone or put up sticky notes in front of your desk. They do help.
- Get a manicure often. Will you have the heart to bite those pretty nails, now?

## Is your metabolism lagging behind? Here's what will help

Don't be under the impression that you cannot boost your metabolism. While it is true that ageing slows it down, you can improve it with these effective tips...

- Depending upon the workout you're doing, increase the pace in the middle of the routine for about 30 seconds to a minute. This results in your body burning more energy because you inhale more oxygen.
- Pay attention to your diet. Ensure that you consume lots of foods that are rich in omega-3 fatty acids because they not only lower inflammation in the body but also keep blood sugar levels in check.
- Don't shirk away from building muscle. Women assume that weight training will give them unsightly muscles, so they prefer other forms of workout. Experts, however, say that muscles use more energy and hence should be a part of your workout.
- Green tea is known for its antioxidant properties and one of the ingredients present in it — catechin — is said to boost metabolism.
- Don't embark on a strict diet because

that gives a signal to your body to start saving energy and this, in turn, lowers how fast it burns fat. Instead, make sure you eat the right things in the right amount.

- Never ever skip your breakfast. In fact, make sure that it is packed with essential nutrients that will keep you going till lunchtime. This will also ensure that your metabolism stays on track.
- Instead of eating three large meals a day, break them up into several smaller ones. This will keep hunger pangs at bay, ensure you don't overeat and also keep your blood levels in check, which results in better metabolism.
- Some studies also recommend you switch to organic products to rev up your metabolism. This is because foods that are grown naturally, without the use of pesticides, ensure that your metabolism runs at full gear without allowing your body to get affected by harmful toxins. And instead of piling your plate with carbs and fats, opt for protein, which keeps you full far longer.



Yoga can be helpful in prevention and management of type 2 diabetes mellitus in adults, scientific reviews of over 25 trials conducted globally shows.

Systematic reviews of trials conducted on Indians as well as Americans show yoga can help control blood sugar levels, improve the lipid profile and manage body weight, all of which can be very effective in preventing type 2 diabetes. The reviews were recently published in two international medical journals - Elsevier and the Journal of Diabetes Research.

"Findings suggest yogic practices may promote significant improvements in several indices of importance in DM2 (type 2 diabetes) management, including glycemic control, lipid levels and body composition," said a review published in Journal of Diabetes Research. Analysis of data from these trials suggest that yoga may also lower oxidative stress and blood pressure, enhance pulmonary and autonomic

## Yoga may help to control Diabetes



function, mood, sleep and quality of life. With regular practice, yoga can also reduce medication use in adults with type 2 diabetes.

However, the reviews suggested because of the methodological limitations of existing studies, additional high-quality investigations are required to confirm and further elucidate the potential benefits of yoga in diabetics.

Doctors say yoga can be considered as an add-on intervention for management of diabetes. However, currently it cannot replace moderate intensity aerobic exercises prescribed to diabetic patients as more scientific evidence is required. "If ancient yogic practices (diet, yogic asanas, simple way of life) are performed, it will benefit any lifestyle disease. However, currently yoga has to pass through more rigorous scientific scrutiny before any definitive recommendations can be made regarding adding to mainline therapy," said Dr Anoop Misra, chairman, Fortis-C-DOC Centre of Excellence for Diabetes. The health ministry has also commissioned similar large-scale studies in India through S-VYASA, an Indian university for Yoga.



### Suzlon Energy shares hit upper circuit, near 52-week high. Will it gain further

New Delhi. Shares of Suzlon Energy Ltd hit an upper circuit on Thursday, continuing their impressive run this year.

The stock surged past the Rs 50 mark in early trading, reaching an upper circuit limit of 5% at Rs 51.34, before partially giving up its gains.

This pushed Suzlon's market capitalisation close to Rs 70,000 crore. Previously, the stock had settled at Rs 48.90 on Wednesday. Suzlon Energy's shares are now approaching their 52-week high of Rs 52.19, achieved on June 4, 2024. The stock has skyrocketed more than 285% from its 52-week low of Rs 13.28, recorded a year ago. So far in 2024, the stock is up nearly 32%, with an over 15% increase in the past month alone.

The surge in Suzlon's shares is supported by favourable government policies promoting renewable energy.

The central government's goal to achieve 500 GW of renewable energy generation by 2030 has boosted market optimism. Reports suggest that India's renewable energy sector is expected to attract over Rs 20.8 lakh crore in investments, positioning Suzlon Energy as a significant player. Recently, Suzlon Energy appointed Khaitan & Co, a prominent Indian law firm, to evaluate its corporate governance practices following the resignation of independent director Marc Desaedeleer. Additionally, Vice Chairman Girish Tanti was elected as Chair of the Global Wind Energy Council India earlier this week. In April, he was elected Vice-Chair of GWEC, highlighting Suzlon's growing influence in the global wind energy sector.

Domestic brokerage firms remain bullish on Suzlon's prospects. ICICI Securities has issued a buy rating with a target price of Rs 60. JM Financial and Nuvama Institutional Equities also recommend buying the stock, with target prices of Rs 54 and Rs 53, respectively.

### Sensex, Nifty decline after opening marginally higher; pharma stocks drop

New Delhi. Benchmark stock market indices declined after opening marginally higher on Thursday, triggered by a drop in pharma company stocks.

The S&P BSE Sensex was down 95.17 points at 77,242.42 at 10:10 am, while the NSE Nifty50 fell 22.40 points to 23,493.60.

The other broader market indices were also trading mixed as volatility witnessed a slight uptick. High-weightage Nifty Bank, Nifty Financial Services and Nifty IT fell in early trade, but Nifty Pharma was the top loser. The top five gainers on the Nifty50 were Ultratech Cement, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Hindalco, JSW Steel and Coal India. On the other hand, the top losers were Sun Pharma, HDFC Life, Bajaj Finance, Power Grid and HCLTech. Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said, "The current distinct trend in the market is the sectoral churn happening somewhat strongly. Huge money is flowing into fairly valued largecaps in banking and profit booking is happening in sectors like capital goods, telecom, metals and FMCG. This churn is likely to continue in the near-term since it is a healthy trend. The overvalued broader market space also is taking a breather."

### Group will invest 100 billion dollar in energy transition over next decade: Gautam Adani



MUMBAI. The Adani Group is planning more than \$100 billion investments in energy transition projects and towards building manufacturing capabilities to produce all the key components needed for green energy generation, group chairman Gautam Adani said on Wednesday. "The next decade will see us invest more than \$100 billion in the energy transition space and further expand our integrated renewable energy value-chain that today already spans manufacturing of every major component required for green energy generation," the billionaire businessman told an infra event organised by Crisil Ratings here. The diversified group that straddles airports, ports, power generation, distribution, city gas distribution, solar panel manufacturing and data centres, among others, will be setting up facilities to manufacture electrolyzers to make green hydrogen, wind power turbines and solar panels apart from already solar parks and wind farms, he said. Adani said these investments will go into establishing solar parks, wind farms, facilities to manufacture electrolyzers, wind power turbines and solar panels.

Underlining the country's immense potential of energy transition and digital infrastructure, Adani said the country can add a trillion dollars to the GDP every 12 to 18 months, which will put us on track to be a \$30-trillion economy by 2050 and this will see the market capitalisation jumping to \$40 trillion from around \$5.2 trillion now. "What this effectively means is that over the next 26 years, we will potentially add \$36 trillion to the stock market capitalisation," Adani said.

# Inflation targeting to remain work in progress till food prices fall: RBI

**For the eighth time in a row, the monetary policy committee of the RBI had on June 7 left the key policy rates unchanged at 6.5% and reiterated its resolve to bring down inflation to the target on a durable period.**

MUMBAI. The Reserve Bank on Wednesday in its monthly bulletin said the goal of aligning inflation with the target of 4% will remain a work in progress as long as food prices pressure persists. After the monetary policy committee was set up, the central bank



had set an inflation target of 4%, with a leeway of 2 percentage points on either side. This will be up for review in September 2025. The article further said though many central banks have pivoted towards a less restrictive monetary policy stance in response to the fall in inflation in their economies, back home inflation still remains above the targeted level mostly because of the food prices.

Yet, the article notes that "headline inflation is gradually easing, driven by sustained softening of its core component, although the path of disinflation is interrupted by volatile and elevated food prices." For the eighth time in a row, the monetary policy committee of the Reserve Bank had on June 7 left the key policy rates unchanged at 6.5% and reiterated its resolve to bring down inflation to the target on a durable

period. The RBI also reiterated its stance of remaining focused on withdrawal of accommodation to ensure that inflation progressively aligns to the target, while supporting growth. This was because the committee found the domestic economic activity remaining resilient and this had even the RBI increasing its GDP forecast by 20 bps to 7.2% for this fiscal. "High frequency indicators of activity reflect a sustained momentum in manufacturing and services. The prospects for agriculture are brightening with the expectations of an above-normal SWM and the actual landfall ahead of its schedule. This should augur well for spurring rural demand and, in turn, support private consumption. The MPC also expected investment activity to be bolstered by strong balance sheets of banks and corporates, the policy emphasis on infrastructure spending, and rising business optimism" the article said.

The RBI expects headline inflation to ease from 5.4% in 2023-24 to 4.5% in 2024-25, as it fears that prices will again spiral from the third quarter.

### Ola Electric, Emcure Pharma get Sebi nod for IPOs. Check details

New Delhi. Markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has given the green light to the initial public offerings (IPOs) of Ola Electric and Emcure Pharmaceuticals, setting the stage for their public listings in the near future. Ola Electric, a Bengaluru-based startup focused on electric vehicles (EVs), is poised to become the first EV startup to list on the stock exchanges. The company aims for a valuation of approximately \$6 billion through its IPO, which consists of a fresh equity sale of Rs 5,500 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of 95.2 million shares. Founder Bhavish Aggarwal, along with investors SoftBank Vision Fund and Tiger Global, among others, will participate in the OFS. Ola Electric plans to utilize the IPO proceeds for expanding its subsidiary OCT's cell manufacturing capacity, debt repayment, research and product development, inorganic growth initiatives, and general corporate purposes. In the financial

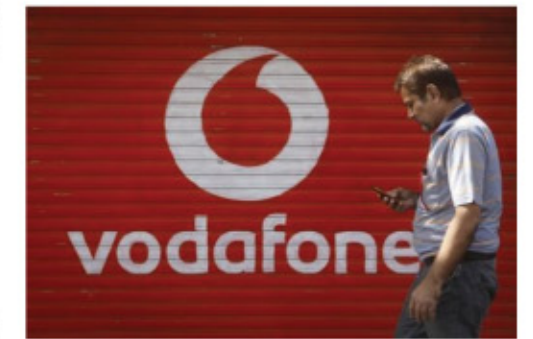


year FY23, the company reported a substantial revenue growth to Rs 2,631 crore from Rs 373 crore in FY22, although its losses widened to Rs 1,472 crore. Alongside Ola Electric, Sebi has also approved Emcure Pharmaceuticals' IPO. Based in Pune and backed by Bain Capital, Emcure Pharma will offer fresh equity worth Rs 800 crore and an OFS of 1.36 crore

equity shares by promoters and existing shareholders. The proceeds from Emcure Pharma's IPO will primarily be used for debt repayment and general corporate purposes. The company specializes in developing, manufacturing, and marketing pharmaceutical products across various therapeutic areas. The IPOs are being managed by prominent financial institutions including Kotak Mahindra Capital, BofA Securities, Axis Capital, SBI Capital Markets, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, ICICI Securities, BoB Capital Markets for Ola Electric, and Kotak Mahindra Capital Company, Jefferies India, Axis Capital, and JP Morgan India for Emcure Pharmaceuticals. Ola Electric and Emcure Pharmaceuticals are expected to launch their IPOs in the coming months.

### Vodafone sells 18 per cent stake in Indus for Rs 15,300 crore

NEW DELHI. Vodafone Group PLC on Wednesday sold 484.7 million (48.47 crore) shares in Indus Towers Limited, representing 18% of the latter's share capital through an accelerated book-building offer. The placing raised Rs 15,300 crore (€1.7 billion) in gross proceeds which will be used by Vodafone to substantially repay its existing lenders in relation to the outstanding bank borrowings of €1.8 billion secured against Vodafone's Indian assets. Following the placing, Vodafone now holds 82.5 million (8.25 crore) shares in Indus, equivalent to a 3.1% shareholding. Bharti Airtel on Wednesday said that it has acquired a 1% equity stake in Indus Towers. Besides Airtel, SBI Mutual Fund and Kotak Securities were also among the buyers of Indus Tower shares. JP Morgan in a research note said that as per a security package agreed upon during the merger of erstwhile Bharti Infratel and Indus Towers, Vodafone Plc's 21.05% stake in Indus was the primary pledge by its lenders against the initial \$1.4 billion loan Vodafone had



taken in back 2019 to participate in its Indian telecom JV, Vodafone Idea's rights issue.

JP Morgan said that if this share sale goes through, then the proceeds would be first used to repay Vodafone UK's lenders. Indus Towers has a secondary pledge on this Vodafone UK stake with a maximum liability of Rs 4,250 crore.

Vodafone PLC will first clear the dues of the primary pledgers and the residual amount should go towards Indus Towers' dues with a max limit of Rs 42.5 billion (Rs 4,250 crore) directly or indirectly," it said in the note. The stake sale by Vodafone in the Indian tower company is more than what it was expected to offload. The telecom giant on Tuesday was rumoured to sell about 10% stake in Indus for as much as \$1.1 billion as a part of its efforts to repay debt.

The stake sale comes months after billionaire Sunil Mittal-led Bharti Airtel denied news reports that it was in talks to buy Vodafone Group's stake in Indus Towers. Bharti Airtel is Indus Towers' biggest shareholder, with a 47.95% stake. With an additional 1%, Airtel's holding has now increased to about 49%. The block deal in Indus Tower triggered a massive spike in volumes and pulled down the shares by.

### Sebi asks Religare Enterprises to seek regulatory nod for top investor raising stake

**Sebi instructs Religare to seek approvals for Burman stake increase**  
**Directive thwarts Religare's efforts to block Burman family acquisition**  
**Burmans raised Religare stake to 25%, triggering open offer requirement**

New Delhi. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has instructed Religare Enterprises to apply for necessary approvals to facilitate the Burman family's bid to increase their stake in the financial services company. The directive comes as a setback to Religare's efforts to prevent the acquisition. The Burman family,

founders of the consumer goods giant Dabur India, had boosted their stake in Religare to almost 25% in September of last year. This triggered an open offer requirement, allowing them to



purchase additional shares from public shareholders. However, Religare attempted to block this move, alleging that the open offer was fraught with "irregularities and statutory violations," and raising concerns about the acquirers' "fit and proper status." The Burmans aim to acquire an additional 26% of Religare, aiming to

strengthen their foothold in the burgeoning financial services sector.

They sought intervention from Sebi due to Religare's lack of cooperation in the process. In an interim order dated June 19, Sebi directed Religare to provide an undertaking by July 12, confirming that it will seek regulatory approvals, including from the central bank, for the open offer. Additionally, Sebi instructed Religare to establish a committee of independent directors, if one is not already in place, although the reason for this directive was not disclosed. Commenting on the development, a Religare spokesperson said, "As per Sebi's advisory the company will apply for the fit and proper status of the acquirers for the open offer to the concerned regulators including the RBI."

## Pre-budget meet: Focus on fiscal deficit, job creation

**After the meeting, the economists revealed that the government is also focusing on implementing policies aimed at boosting employment growth.**

NEW DELHI. During the pre-budget meeting with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday economists stressed on the importance of further reducing the fiscal deficit in the upcoming budget. After the meeting, the economists revealed that the government is also focusing on implementing policies aimed at boosting employment growth.

"...The government has already stated that the fiscal deficit will be lower in the budget. At the same time, employment remained an important issue of discussion," Ashwani Mahajan, National Co-convenor of the Swadeshi Jagaran Manch told reporters after the meeting got over. Nagesh Kumar, Director and CEO of the Institute of Studies in Industrial Development, said upon the need for sustaining the growth of the economy by maintaining Capex (capital expenditure) and by encouraging private sector investment and consumption



growth. He said it is important to extend production linked incentive (PLI) scheme to other labour intensive sectors like textiles and labour to give impetus to the manufacturing sector and create jobs.

The meeting was attended by the finance secretary and the secretaries of the Departments of Economic Affairs, revenue, financial services, and corporate affairs, as well as the Chief Economic Adviser of India. Meanwhile, in another meeting with the revenue secretary, Sanjay Malhotra, industry bodies recommended extension of concessional tax rate of 15% for new domestic manufacturing to give further boost to the government's "Make in India" initiative. They also suggested streamlining of holding period, uniformity in tax rates across various asset classes, a shift in index years for long-term capital gains etc. to mitigate

hardships faced by investors. In addition, the industrial bodies recommended simplification of the overall TDS/TCS compliance and limiting them to two or three rates. They also suggested introduction of new provision allowing companies incurring losses to set it off against previous years' profit and concept of

group taxation whereby the financials of companies under the same group could be consolidated for paying taxes in India.

Industrial bodies also recommended that the contributions made and deductions claimed for previous years regarding electoral bonds purchased prior to Supreme Court judgement should remain undisturbed.

### 34 per cent of biz struggle to find right talent, 1 in 3 grapples with retaining employees

BENGALURU. Nearly 34% of organisations struggle to find the right talent, and almost one in three grapples with retaining existing employees. For employers, one of the top 10 hiring challenges is matching salary expectations, said Michael Page, which provides recruitment services for professionals at middle management to leadership levels. In its Talent Trends 2024 report, it said matching salary expectations proves difficult, while the scarcity of required skills in the talent pool adds complexity. Finding applicants who align with the company culture further intensifies the struggle for businesses. Its data revealed that 94% of respondents are open to exploring different roles in 2024, a

decrease of 4% y-o-y. In India, about 94% are open to new job opportunities in 2024. "On the one hand, workers have a growing list of expectations stretching beyond competitive salaries and flexibility on the other hand, employers face significant pressures in a rapidly evolving business environment, making it harder for both sides to meet in the middle," Nicolas Dumoulin, Senior MD India, Thailand, Philippines & Vietnam, Michael Page, said. Flexibility has become a major point of contention in most parts of India, as employers grapple with implementing hybrid working models and policies that meet both business needs and employee preferences, he added.



NEWS BOX

T20 World Cup, Super 8: In the 'Big Boys Club', Afghanistan want to be giant killers

New Delhi. AT the start of the T20 World Cup 2024, did you bet on Afghanistan to make it to the Super 8s? Well, the Rashid Khan-led team has risen through the ranks to make a mark for themselves in international cricket.

The signs of this South-Asian team's rise were evident from the ODI World Cup last year. In their very next ICC event, Afghanistan ensured that they stamped their authority and how! Mind you, they were not placed in an easy group.

AFG brilliant run in T20 World Cup 2024

Afghanistan came out all guns firing in their very first match against Uganda to register their second biggest win in the T20Is, hammering the associate team by 125 runs.



However, this was just a glimpse of what followed next. This time it was New Zealand, who faced the wrath of Afghanistan's batters as well as the bowlers and lost the match by 84 runs. It was followed by an easy win by 7 wickets against Papua New Guinea.

How AFG need to prepare against India?

Former India cricketer Varun Aaron wanted Afghanistan to brush aside the loss and come up with a fresh approach against India. "Tell us the truth, definitely. It's going to bother them because you want to take momentum into a big game like against India."

T20 World Cup 2024: Time to unleash magician Kuldeep Yadav in Super 8s?

New Delhi. Having passed the group stages of the T20 World Cup 2024 unscathed, India will be eager to continue their winning momentum in the Super 8s as they take on Afghanistan on Thursday, June 20 at Kensington Oval, Bridgetown, Barbados.



their team combination as per the conditions in the West Indies. The New York surface allowed India to go in with four seamers as batters found it difficult to attack them.

However, the same might not be the case on the surfaces in the Caribbean, with spinners likely to get a lot more purchase out of the pitches. Hence, the Men in Blue will look to bring in their mystery spinner Kuldeep Yadav into the playing XI.

Kuldeep Yadav ruling the roost

The 29-year-old has 59 wickets from 34 innings in his T20I career at an average of 14.10 and an economy of 6.74. Kuldeep has emerged as India's go-to man in the middle overs to stop the flow of runs by picking crucial wickets.

Despite his incredible numbers, team India will have a lot to think about before bringing him into the squad as they usually don't change their winning combination during mega events. Another headache would be about dropping one of the players from the winning combination to make way for Kuldeep.

No point in thinking about South Africa and our luck in knockouts: Kagiso Rabada

Rabada said the belief is there in the squad

South Africa have found the knockout matches to be a stumbling block

South Africa will next face England in their second Super 8 clash on June 21



New Delhi. South Africa pacer Kagiso Rabada has claimed that there is no point in thinking about their luck in the knockout matches of ICC tournaments after their win against USA on June 19 in the T20 World Cup 2024.

games. The Proteas now have a 100 percent win record in the T20 World Cup 2024 as they beat USA by 18 runs. During the press conference, Rabada was asked if the team isn't thinking

about the curse of the knockouts at the moment. The pacer quickly said they're taking this game by game and keeping their belief that they can head to the final and win. There's no point in thinking about it. You

just take it game by game and the belief is there. Belief is there. If you don't have the belief then you might as well go pack your bags and go home. And whatever happens after that happens but the belief is there," said Rabada.

Never write off anyone

The chase from the USA did come close in the end as Andries Gous scored 80 off 47 balls. Rabada first praised the South African batters for posting a good total of 194 in the end. Rabada also said that you never write anyone off and praised the USA side for their playing style in the tournament.

"The USA have been chasing well and that's the reason why they chose to bowl first. I must commend our batting lineup, especially Quinton. And at the end of the day, we got a respectable total on the board, or more than a respectable total on the board, which gave us an opportunity to put them under pressure with the ball."

"We got a couple of early wickets and then Andries batted extremely well and gave them a good chance and they came close in the end. You can never write any opposition off no matter who they're playing for. The USA have been playing well, they beat Pakistan. So, hats off to the way they're playing," said Rabada.

Rahmanullah Gurbaz reveals AFG's 'champions' mindset, says 'Bumrah not only target'

New Delhi. Afghanistan opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz revealed that he will not just look to take on star pacer Jasprit Bumrah during their match against India at the Kensington Oval, Barbados on June 20, Thursday. Gurbaz was eager to take on every Indian bowler during the Super 8s clash.



against the Indian openers. "Honestly, my target is not just Bumrah. I will look to target all the bowlers, not only Bumrah, because there are 5 bowlers bowling. I have to face them all, not just Bumrah and maybe another bowler could get

me out, but yes, if I get a chance to hit him, let's go for it. Could be Bumrah, Arshdeep or Siraj. Anyone, if they bowl in my area, I will hit. I will either get out or I will hit them," Gurbaz told ICC in a video.

Afghanistan's 'champion' mindset

Gurbaz also affirmed that Afghanistan are playing the tournament with the mindset of winning it, something that has been evident from their performances as well.

"We have played World Cups before, and we are here again now. But there is a huge difference and the difference is that our mindset was to just participate in the World Cup, but this time it is let's go, and we should be champions at the World Cup. There is no pressure on us to be champions. We don't have those expectations, but we are taking it just one game at a time. That is our focus and I hope we achieve our goals, and we qualify to the semi-final first and then to the final," Gurbaz added.

Roger Federer vs Roger Federer lights up London's Tower Bridge

New Delhi. London's Tower Bridge displayed a jaw-dropping advertisement for Roger Federer's latest documentary 'Twelve Final Days'. The fans were reminded to watch the documentary by displaying it on the iconic Tower Bridge.

'Twelve Final Days' documentary

Federer had been a dominant force in tennis for



nearly two decades before he decided to hang up his racket in the Laver Cup 2022. It was an emotional day for the tennis fans as the Swiss great played for the last time. The documentary will give insight into his final days as a professional tennis player in the lead up to the Laver Cup.

ederer revealed that him and his wife Mirika Federer cried several times while watching the documentary during its premiere. He also suggested that watching the documentary finally got him on terms with retirement.

Michael Vaughan on fighting 'awful' stress-related illness: I was embarrassed

New Delhi. Former English cricketer Michael Vaughan opened up on the mental health struggles he has been battling for the last nine months. One of England's most charismatic captains, Vaughan, talked about the times when he had to resort to medication after going into a slump due to a stress-related illness.



"I'll be honest with you; I was never going to speak about it. But then I thought, 'Wait a minute, there are probably quite a few people who go through similar and stay silent'. I don't want this to appear as if I'm after any sympathy, because I'm not. I just hope I can help one or two people."

minute, there are probably quite a few people who go through similar and stay silent'. I don't want this to appear as if I'm after any sympathy, because I'm not. I just hope I can help one or two people."

Kane Williamson may have announced that he has decided to snub a central contract from New Zealand cricket, but expect the star batter to remain one of the main players for the nation in probably all formats of the game. Here's how Williamson can continue to play for New Zealand despite the contract snub.

'Do not ever think you can't get treated'

Vaughan, who last played international cricket back in 2008, said that mental illness isn't a 'visible injury' but can pile up over time, making life tougher for a person. He reckoned that instead of concealing mental health struggles, one should ask for help and consult psychologists and psychiatrists.

"People always talk about mental illness being the hardest to detect because it's not a visible injury; it is just something that happens inside your mind. It's similar to this illness. Over time, it just builds up."

Key for India will be to get Rohit Sharma-Virat Kohli partnership firing: Brian Lara

South Africa skipper Aiden Markram is wary of the threat posed by the USA side and claimed they weren't 'a small team anymore.' USA shocked the world when they defeated Pakistan in the group stages of the T20 World Cup 2024.

during this time and Rohit has failed to make an impact after his fifty in the first game against Ireland. Fans do feel it would be best to put Kohli at No.3 and get in Yashasvi Jaiswal to open along with Rohit. Speaking to Star Sports before the game, Lara felt that for putting a good partnership in the Caribbean, getting 60-70 runs in the powerplay would be a great start.



New Delhi. Brian Lara feels that the Virat Kohli-Rohit Sharma partnership firing at the top would be key for India ahead of their Super 8 clash against Afghanistan on June 20, Thursday. Kohli and Rohit have opened the batting in India's all 3 matches but it has failed to click. Kohli has scored just 5 runs

"I think there is all sorts of possibilities. They are two very aggressive players. They're two world class players. But sometimes, in terms of putting together a partnership in the Caribbean, you think well, you know 60-70 runs in the powerplay would be a great start. I think one could afford to drop anchor, but it all depends, you know, on match-ups. If you feel that, as a batter, that you are better equipped than the other player to do well

against a bowler, then you do that. So I think it's a conversation that has to happen in the middle, and it doesn't necessarily mean that they have to go from both ends," said Lara. Rohit, Kohli form psychologically important for India Lara continued by saying that getting Kohli and Rohit into form is psychologically important for India as both

players have an impact on the team. He also commented that blasting away wouldn't be a good thing in the Caribbean. "I think key for India is to get this partnership firing because they have such an effect on the team. Obviously, India has played good cricket. They have not lost a game in the tournament so far, and they can keep thinking positively. But you know, I think psychologically they would know how important both of these players coming into form quickly is for that. So, there are different ways of going about it. I don't feel blasting away in the Caribbean is one of the things you know. You just need to think about what you're doing and put a good partnership on because you know more often than not when you're playing Afghanistan than you're thinking. When are the spinners coming? Then the contest begins," said Lara.





# Shama Sikander

Set The Internet On Fire In Bikini, Hot Video Goes Viral

Shama Sikander has often made headlines with her sexy photos. Today, also she treated fans with another hot video which has gone viral. Shama was seen flaunting her curves in a bikini as she enjoyed swimming in a pool. Saking to her Instagram handle, Shama shared a video in which she was seen enjoying the view while swimming. "Kis kis ka pahado pe jane ka man hai?" her caption reads. Fans also commented. Recently, Shama took to her Instagram handle and shared a series of pictures which are now setting fire online. In these latest clicks, Shama was seen posing in a black bodysuit, looking hotter with every frame. She ditched accessories, opted for smoky makeup and looked gorgeous as ever. In the caption of her post, Shama wrote, "New week, same fabulous me. Bring it on, Monday!" Meanwhile, on the work front, Shama Sikander has worked in several shows including Baal Veer, Ye Meri Life Hai and Maaya: Slave of Her Desires among others. Even though she has been away from television screens for quite some time now, she often stuns fans with her impeccable fashion sense. Previously, in an interview with News18 Showsha, Shama shared that she wants to work in web series and films only now and does not want to return to television. She revealed that she has not watched TV shows for over six years now and added, "I'm looking at only web series and feature films. I believe in doing different kinds of cinema, stories that matter. I want to do characters on screen that can add to people's lives. I feel that content can be used for great purpose for the well-being of everyone in all its art and glory. So I want to do meaty roles, and powerful performances as I am a performer and I deserve the best," she told us.



## Varalaxmi Sarathkumar

Goes Wedding Shopping With Father, Fiance And His Daughter

Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, a popular face in the Tamil and Telugu film industries, has been grabbing the headlines ever since the announcement of her wedding with Nicholai Sachdev. The actress often shares a few glimpses of herself and her fiance on social media, which receives a lot of attention. As the adorable couple are gearing up for their wedding, she shared some clips and photos of her story from their day out when they went out shopping. Actress Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, her father R Sarathkumar, Nicholai Sachdev and his daughter Kasha Nia Sachdev spent a day out together. The actress shared a selfie of "family fun day" where she can be seen wearing an olive green halter-neck dress, while others wore white attire.

The next story was a clip where her father can be seen dressed in a simple white kurta and pyjama, Nicholai Sachdev in a white t-shirt and cream trousers and Kasha in a white t-shirt and a black slit skirt. From the stories, it looks like the family was out shopping and spending time with each other. She shared yet another photo with her father R Sarathkumar. Meanwhile, Varalaxmi Sarathkumar is also in the spotlight for her engagement ceremony which took place on March 1 in Mumbai. There was a section of the internet which trolled her fiance and the fact that he has a young daughter from his previous marriage. The news of her wedding has made their fans go into a frenzy. As per the gossip mill, the wedding is set to take place in Thailand for which grand arrangements are being made. Reportedly, the wedding will be held on July 2. If the reports are anything to go by, the wedding will be graced by family members and close friends. The couple has yet to announce the venue and other related details of the marriage.

Reports also claim that the pre-wedding rituals and mehendi ceremony will be held at the Taj Hotel in Chennai. The wedding reception will reportedly take place at Leela Palace in Chennai. Who's-who of the Tamil industry are expected to grace the reception ceremony. Varalaxmi Sarathkumar has starred in films like Hanu Man, Sarkar, Vikram Vedha, Vindhya Victim Verdict V3, Pakka Commercial, Mr Chandramouli, Kota Bommali PS and Naandhi.



## Dalljiet Kaur Accuses Estranged Husband Nikhil Patel of Seeking 'Publicity': 'Stop Being So Desperate'



Dalljiet Kaur has accused her estranged husband Nikhil Patel of seeking "publicity" in India by using her name. Recently, the actress took to her Instagram stories and claimed that Nikhil has hired a PR agent in India. She asked him not to use her name publicly and went on to say that he should rather message her directly. "Stop seeking publicity on my name for god sake! And a message on my number directly," she wrote and then added, "Stop being so desperate for fame. You have already managed to do your cultural event/PR party on March 18th and gained enough publicity." "The fact that you hired a PR is the biggest joke. You couldn't have hired someone before March 18th in India, to get published about your personal life," Dalljiet continued and further wrote, "I hope the leaders of your company who were a part of the cultural event called wedding, start worrying about your desperation to be popular by ruining life of a whole family already. And also remember what truly they were invited for, a cultural event or wedding?" Dalljiet Kaur also accused Nikhil of mocking Indian traditions by ruining their married life. She concluded by urging Kenya authorities to take a stand for her and have some "mercy" on her son, Jaydon. i.e. after 10 months of their wedding, Nikhil confirmed their separation in May when he told E-Times, "In January this year, Dalljiet decided to leave Kenya with her son Jaydon and return to India, which ultimately led to our separation. We both realized that the foundation of our blended family wasn't as strong as we had hoped, making it hard for Dalljiet to settle in Kenya. In March 2023, we held an Indian wedding ceremony in Mumbai. Though it held cultural significance, it was not legally binding. This ceremony was intended to reassure Dalljiet's family about her move to Kenya." Recently, Dalljiet moved to Nairobi City court against Nikhil and received a stay order to prevent Patel from evicting her or her son from their home in Kenya.

## Actress Rinku Rajguru's Father Has These Conditions For His Prospective Son-In-Law



Actress Rinku Rajguru is best known for her debut in the Marathi film Sairat and has been impressing the audience with her acting skills since then. Besides her films, Rinku's fans are also interested to know about her personal life, including her wedding. Now, Rinku's father Mahadev Rajguru has spilled the beans on this aspect in an interview. As per Mahadev, who is a teacher by profession, he will get his daughter married to a man who fulfils certain conditions. Mahadev said that he would not immediately accept his daughter's choice and would first contemplate it. According to him, Rinku's prospective life partner should not put any restrictions on his daughter's freedom to do whatever she wants. Lastly, the boy should not have any issues, with his daughter going to many places which is her profession's demands.

Rinku Rajguru remains one of the most sought-after actresses in the film industry with hits like Jhimma 2 and Aathva Rang Premacha. Despite being a part of these amazing projects, the 23-year-old doesn't want success to get into her head. She talked about this in an interview with a media portal. She said, "I've just started."

I was 13-14 when I did Sairat and have no formal training in acting. I don't understand stardom." According to Rinku, people often tell her that she should behave in a certain way. The Marathi actress said that she is enjoying being the way she is. "On the set, I'm an actor, at home, I'm studying, spending time with family and friends", she concluded.

Rinku will next act in the Marathi project Khillar, written and directed by Makarand Mane. Lalit Prabhakar will enact the male lead in this project bankrolled by Nuclear Arrow Pictures. Khillar remains in the pre-production stage for now. Khillar deals with the contentious issue of bullock cart racing which is a tradition in Maharashtra that the Supreme Court of India recognised as legal.