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Court allows two-hour custody parole to Engineer Rashid to take oath as MP

Sanjay Kumar New Delhi, July 2: A court here on Tuesday granted two-hour custody parole to Kashmiri leader Sheikh Abdul Rashid to take oath as a Lok Sabha MP on July 5. Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid, was elected from Baramulla seat as an independent candidate defeating National Conference leader Omar Abdullah in the recent Lok Sabha polls. He was arrested in a 2017 Jammu and Kashmir terror funding case. Rashid had moved the court seeking interim bail, or custody parole in the alternative, to take oath and perform his parliamentary functions. Additional Sessions Judge Chanderjit Singh allowed custody parole for two hours on July 5 to enable him to take oath. A detailed order is awaited. On Monday, the NIA's counsel did not oppose Rashid's plea and said his oath

taking should be subject to some conditions like not speaking to the media and completing all formalities within a day. Rashid has been in jail since 2019 after he was charged by the NIA under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for his alleged involvement in a terror funding case. He is currently lodged in Tihar jail. The former MLA's name cropped up during the investigation of Kashmiri businessman Zahoor Watali, who the NIA had arrested for allegedly funding terrorist groups and separatists in the Kashmir valley. The NIA had filed a charge sheet against several individuals, including Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik, Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin in the case. Malik was awarded life imprisonment by a trial court in 2022 after he pleaded guilty to the charges.

116 dead in stampede at religious congregation in UP's Hathras

Simmi Kaur Babbar

Hathras, July 2: A stampede at a religious congregation here killed 116 people on Tuesday as devotees suffocated to their deaths and bodies piled atop each other in the worst such tragedy in recent years. The stampede took place as people headed home after a 'satsang' in the district's Phulrai village, conducted by a preacher known as Bhole Baba. Twenty-seven bodies were brought to a hospital in neighbouring Etah district. Senior Superintendent of Police Rajesh Kumar Singh said 23 of them were women. And 89 lay dead in Hathras itself. Aligarh Range Inspector General of Police Shalabh Mathur put the death toll at 116. Victims, dead or unconscious, were brought to the Sikandra Rao Trauma Centre in trucks and 'tempos'. The bodies lay scattered outside the health centre as people milled around them. One video clip showed a woman crying, sitting amid five or six bodies in a truck. Another showed a man and a woman lifeless in another vehicle. Clips before the stampede showed people in a large 'shamiana' listening to Bhole Baba. The baba sat before them on a throne-like chair. District Magistrate Ashish Kumar said

Shakuntala Devi told PTI Videos that the stampede took place while people were leaving the venue after the 'satsang', which was a day-long affair. People fell atop each other, she said, and then the bodies were pulled out. According to Sikandra Rao sub divisional magistrate Ravendra Kumar, the stampede took place when devotees tried to get a glimpse of Bhole Baba as the event ended. They also wanted to collect some soil from around the baba's feet, he told PTI. Satsang participant Sonu Kumar blamed the slippery ground for the stampede. "When Guru ji left the place after almost one and a half hours, all of a sudden devotees ran behind him to touch his feet," he said. When they turned back, some slipped. Sikandra Rao police station SHO Ashish



slippery ground for the stampede. "When Guru ji left the place after almost one and a half hours, all of a sudden devotees ran behind him to touch his feet," he said. When they turned back, some slipped. Sikandra Rao police station SHO Ashish

Kumar blamed "overcrowding" at the 'satsang'. Another eyewitness, who left the place before the 'satsang' ended, said the arrangements were not adequate, given the number of devotees. Agra's additional director general of police and Aligarh divisional commissioner are part of a team that would probe the incident, the state government said. The team has been asked to give its report in 24 hours. Amid his reply to a two-day debate in Parliament on the motion of thanks on the President's address to both Houses of Parliament, Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the deaths. "In the midst of discussions, I have also been given sad news. It has come to my attention that there have been many tragic deaths in a stampede in Hathras, UP," he said in the Lok Sabha. The prime minister said senior officials of the central government are in constant contact with the Uttar Pradesh administration to coordinate aid efforts. On social media, President Droupadi Murmu said the news was heart-rending. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge expressed sadness.

Selective expunction defies logic, expunged remarks be restored: Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi, July 2: Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi has written a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, expressing his concerns over the expunging of significant portions of his speech during the Motion of Thanks on the President's address on Monday. "Truth can be expunged in Modi's world", Rahul Gandhi after portions of his Lok Sabha speech deleted. In the letter, Gandhi expressed his shock and disappointment at the manner in which his remarks were removed from the official proceedings, suggesting that this action under-



mines the principles of parliamentary democracy and the rights of elected representatives. Gandhi acknowledged that while the Chair has the authority to expunge certain remarks as per Rule 380 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, he argued that the expunged portions of his speech did not violate this rule. "I am, however, shocked to note the manner in which considerable portions of my speech have been simply taken off from the proceedings under the garb of expunction," Gandhi wrote. He included relevant portions of the uncorrected debates of Lok Sabha dated July 2 to substantiate his claim. Gandhi emphasised that his expunged remarks reflected ground realities and factual positions, asserting his right as a member of the House to speak freely as enshrined in Article 105(1) of the Constitution of India. "Every member of the House who personifies the collective voice of people whom he or she represents has the freedom of speech... It is every member's right to raise people's concerns on the floor of the House," he asserted. He further stated that the removal of his remarks from the records goes against the core principles of parliamentary democracy. In his letter, Gandhi drew attention to a perceived double standard in the application of expunction rules. He pointed out that BJP MP Anurag Thakur's speech, which contained numerous allegations, had only one word expunged. "With due respect to your good self, this selective expunction defies logic," he noted, implying a bias in the handling of parliamentary speeches.

Lufthansa plane experiences fire in wheel after landing at Delhi airport

New Delhi, July 2: A Lufthansa wide-body A380 aircraft from Munich experienced fire in one of the wheels during landing at the Delhi airport on Monday night, according to sources. The aircraft, which operated flight LH 762, landed safely at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA). Since the plane had to undergo checks and spare parts were not immediately available, the return flight to Munich was cancelled, they added. Sources said there were around 490 passengers on board the aircraft, which made a controlled landing at the airport. "While LH762 landed safely in Delhi, a short term technical deregistration of the aircraft was required due to the lack of availability of spare parts after a controlled landing. Safety is our top priority at Lufthansa," an airline spokesperson said in a statement on Tuesday. Sources said the fire was noticed in one of the wheels during landing. Further, sources said that due to the incident, the return flight LH 763 was cancelled after boarding passes were issued to the passengers. The Lufthansa spokesperson said the aircraft DAIMC is scheduled to operate flight LH 763 from the national capital to Munich on July 3.

CJI-led Bench to hear on July 8 petitions seeking scrapping of NEET-UG 2024

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, July 2: A three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud will hear on July 8 petitions seeking scrapping of NEET-UG for alleged paper leak and irregularities. According to the cause list for July 8 uploaded on the top court's website, as many as 26 petitions were listed before the CJI-led Bench — which also included Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra. So far, the top court has refused to stay the counselling of the successful candidates for admissions to MBBS, BDS and other courses. Around 24 lakh students appeared for NEET-UG 2024 conducted on May 5 by the NTA across 4,750 centres in 511 cities and 14 centres abroad for admission to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses in more than 700 government and private institutions. As many as 67 students got a perfect score of 720 out of 720 and some of the Rank 1 holders had the same sequence of roll numbers, which raised

suspicion of malpractice and irregularities. The majority of them were from the same examination centres in Rajasthan (11), Tamil Nadu (8), Maharashtra (7), Haryana (6) and four each from Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. In 2019 and 2020, there was one



topper each while there were three toppers in 2021, one in 2022, and two in 2023. Last month, a large number of students protested in Delhi on June 10 demanding a probe into alleged irregularities in NEET-

UG. They alleged that grace marks led to 67 students sharing the top rank. The matter has since been handed over for probe to the CBI which has made several arrests in connection with the alleged paper leak. Amid allegations of paper leak and other malpractices in NEET-UG, the top court had earlier this month issued notices to the Centre, NTA and others on petitions seeking scrapping of NEET-UG, a fresh examination and a court-monitored probe into the paper leak. Even if there was "0.001 percent negligence" on the part of anyone in the conduct of the examination, it should be thoroughly dealt with, the top court had said on June 18. Following scrapping of the grace marks given on account of loss of time to 1,563 NEET-UG candidates, they were given an option of appearing again on June 23 for the test to secure admission to MBBS, BDS and other courses. On Monday, NTA announced the revised rank list after issuing the results of the June 23 re-test.

PM Modi hurls 'balak buddhi' barb at Rahul Gandhi

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, July 2: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday mounted a stinging counterattack on Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi as he mocked him as 'balak buddhi' (childish mind), accused him of linking Hindus with violence and making false claims in Lok Sabha, and sought stringent action against him to protect parliamentary democracy. Replying to a nearly 18-hour-long discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address in the Lower House, Modi said the Congress and its "ecosystem" are working day and night to impress upon people that the BJP-led NDA has been defeated in the elections despite voters handing his government a historic third-term for stability and continuity. "I will tell Congress leaders not to suppress people's mandate under the garb of fake victory celebrations," he said and added the opposition party was behaving as if it

had won 99 out of 100 seats and not out of 543, the actual strength of the House. The Congress turned into a "parasitic party" in



these polls, feeding off its partners' votes to boost its tally, he said. Instead of conceding defeat, the Congress is behaving arrogantly, he said, adding that its cheerful response to the mandate is like a parent

encouraging a child who has fallen off a cycle. In his nearly 135-minute speech, which saw continuous slogan-shouting on the Manipur issue and heckling by opposition members, Modi turned his usual combative self after initially listing various successes of his government since 2014 as he took on the Congress and Gandhi without naming him. "The mandate for the Congress is to sit in the opposition and keep shouting once it runs out of logic," he said. Asserting that the main opposition party delivered its third worst performance in the national elections and failed to reach 250-mark after the 1984 polls, he took a swipe at Gandhi saying, "Aaj desh inse kah raha hai - tumse na ho payega (Country is telling him that you are not up to it)". He said the Congress

became a "parasitic party" in these polls as its tally of 99 was largely courtesy its allies, while it performed poorly with a strike rate of merely 26 per cent where the party was pitted directly against the BJP or was the main opposition force. Its strike rate rose to 50 per cent where it was a junior partner, he added. He accused the party of trying to spread anarchy through its economic policies, "divisive" politics around castes and regions and by raising doubts about India's democratic process. Keeping the Congress, especially Gandhi, in his crosshairs, Modi said it has become addicted to lies like a man-eater animal to blood. The House witnessed childish conduct yesterday, he said of Gandhi's speech in which the Congress leader had targeted the government over the Agnipath scheme, the MSP regime and the revamping work in Ayodhya and accused it of violating tenets of Hinduism by allegedly spreading violence and hate, drawing massive protests by treasury benches.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav's big attack in Lok Sabha

Naresh Malhotra

Chandigarh, July 2: Speaking in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Samajwadi Party supremo Akhilesh Yadav came down heavily on the Narendra Modi government, taking on the ruling BJP-led NDA on various issues, including NEET, unemployment, paper leaks in Uttar Pradesh and Agniveer scheme. Taking a dig at the Election Commission, the Uttar Pradesh leader also said that "he will not trust EVMs even if he wins all 80 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh". His party had won 37 of the 80 seats in the key state in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections. Participating in a debate in the Lok Sabha on the motion of thanks to the President's address, Yadav said the INDIA alliance will do away with EVMs when it comes to power. "When the Model Code of Conduct was imposed, the government and the commission were favouring some peo-

ple. I do not want to go into details. Somewhere a question has been raised on that institution as well," he also said in an apparent reference to the EC. Making a splash in national politics, Yadav, who remained on the front foot, taking on the Yogi Adityanath-led government as a member of the UP Assembly, also raised issues that people could identify with in his election speeches for the Lok Sabha. According to many political observers, it would have been "better for the party" had Yadav stayed on in UP to prepare his party for the next Assembly elections in the state. As he took on the government in the lower house today, Yadav also termed the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls as the "end of communal

politics in India". Referring to the BJP's defeat in Faizabad, he said it was



perhaps the wish of Lord Ram. "Hoi wahi jo Ram rachi rakha (Whatever Lord Ram has planned will happen)," Yadav said with Faizabad MP and SP leader Awadhesh Kumar seated next

to him. Political statements make a impact from a larger platform, say the supporters of his decision. Win-win for Samajwadi Party? Yadav was an MLA from Karhal as well as the leader of the opposition in the UP legislative Assembly. Defending his decision to shift to national politics after winning Kannauj, they say that the Samajwadi Party is now in a "better position to raise issues that can impact the national politics". "The regional satrap won as many as 37, making it the third largest party in the House. Keeping this group together would only be possible if Yadav himself was there in the Lok Sabha to control and monitor the flock. So far as UP is concerned, when he speaks in the Lok Sabha his voice also reaches the state along with rest of the country," say analysts.

CBI seizes Rs 1.59 crore cash in Mumbai Passport corruption ring case

New Delhi, July 2: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) seized Rs 1.59 crore cash and crucial digital evidence during its three-day search operation after busting a corruption racket in Mumbai's Passport Seva Kendras, officials said on Tuesday. After registering 12 cases on Friday against 14 officials of Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) of Lower Parel and Malad, and 18 touts and middlemen, the CBI began a massive search operation in Mumbai and Nashik, which continued until Monday. Besides the cash, the CBI stumbled upon five diaries containing alleged details of transactions and crucial information about the bribery ring, they said. The agency has alleged that the accused officials and middlemen indulged in "collusive corruption," allowing passports to be issued based on incomplete documents or manipulating the particulars of passport applicants. The alleged activities of the officials and the middlemen were detected dur-

ing a joint surprise check at the PSKs conducted by the vigilance wing of the External Affairs Ministry and the CBI. The office desks and mobile phones of the suspect officers were analysed. "The analysis of documents, social media chats and Unified Payments Interface ID activities of suspect public servants had revealed various suspicious transactions by some officials of PSKs indicating demand and acceptance of undue advantage through the passport facilitation agents for issuance of passports as well as to get passports issued based on inadequate/fake/forged documents," a CBI spokesperson said after the registration of the FIR. The agency alleged that the PSK officials, in connivance with touts, were allegedly receiving huge monetary undue advantages directly in their own bank accounts or in the bank accounts of their family members to the tune of several lakhs of rupees, he said.

## Three soldiers from Andhra among five killed in Ladakh

**VIJAYAWADA:** Mortal remains of three soldiers of the Indian Army, who died on Saturday while withdrawing from a military training activity that involved crossing the Shyok River at the Daulat Beg Oldi (DBO) area of eastern Ladakh, reached Vijayawada International Airport in Gannavaram on Monday afternoon. A special plane of the Indian Air Force arrived at the airport from Gwalior. On behalf of Andhra Pradesh Governor S Abdul Nazeer, Major Deepak Sharma laid a wreath and paid tributes to the brave soldiers at the airport. Later, bodies of the soldiers were shifted to their native villages in three special vehicles. Members of the 52 Armoured Regiment, the soldiers had participated in a routine exercise on Saturday (June 28). While crossing the River near Mandir Morh, 148 kilometres from Leh on their T-72 tank, the water levels suddenly began to rise and soon the tank and the soldiers were washed away due to the strong current. Three soldiers from Andhra Pradesh — Risaldar M Ramakrishna Reddy from Kalavapalli village in Prakasam district, Havildar Subhan Khan from Islampur in Bapatla district, and Craftsman Sadaraboina Nagaraju from Chevendra village in Krishna district — lost their lives. Two other soldiers also died in the incident. As per reports reaching here, Sadaraboina Nagaraju (32) joined the Armed forces seven years ago. He is survived by his wife, Mangadevi, and a daughter. Nagaraju joined the Army, taking inspiration from his elder brother Sivayya, who is also in the Armed forces. Born to a patriotic couple, Dhanalakshmi and Venkayya, the brothers are role models for the villagers.

# 17 per cent coral bleach in Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, but recovery on

**CHENNAI:** A comprehensive rapid assessment conducted at the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park has revealed that 17% of coral reefs have bleached due to the unprecedented marine heatwave that triggered a global coral bleaching event. However, the good news is that the corals have shown resilience and are currently in recovery. Predominantly, fast-growing coral genera such as Acropora, Montipora and Pocillopora and slow-growing genera like Porites, Platygyra and Dipsastraea have been bleached. In Palk Bay, 14% of live corals have bleached. Considering the kind of abnormal ocean temperatures observed between April to May this year, Tamil Nadu forest officials and experts feared there would be mass coral mortality, which would be detrimental for the ecosystem and fisheries production. However, the situation is not that bad as ocean temperatures have retreated to threshold levels allowing the bleached corals to slowly recover. Additional Chief Secretary of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Supriya Sahu, said the threshold level for Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay corals is 30 degree Celsius. In April, the water temperature was 33.0-33.70°C. "Temperatures remained very high between 33.5°C and 34°C until mid-May, after which they decreased due to rainfall and winds, currently ranging from 28.5-31.5°C," she noted. The latest survey conducted from May 27 to June 5 included



all 21 islands in the Gulf of Mannar and four reef sites in Palk Bay.

The survey was done by Suganthi Devadason from the Marine Research Institute (SDMRI), who confirmed that branched coral reefs are beginning to recover. The NOAA Coral Reef Watch, which initially issued a red alert for the Gulf of Mannar in April, has also predicted cooler temperatures for the Gulf of Mannar supporting this recovery.

The Tamil Nadu government on Monday stated that the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) is also conducting ocean circulation modelling studies using the

Princeton Ocean Model (POM) and MIKE 3 FM modules to understand ocean temperature distribution around the coral reefs.

### Exposed skeletons

Corals rely on single-celled algae called zooxanthellae living in their tissues for 90% of their nutrition and also their vibrant colours. When water temperatures exceed threshold levels, zooxanthellae leave the corals, exposing their white calcium carbonate skeletons, a phenomenon known as coral bleaching. Bleached corals can survive for only about two months, but can recover if temperatures are normalised

## Amid transition concerns, Kerala police welcome new criminal laws

**KOCHI:** Amid anxieties over the new criminal laws — Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) — that came into effect on Monday, the state police has given its thumbs up to the transition. Compared with the Indian Penal Code (with 576 sections in total), the BNS has 358 sections, with provisions for 20 new crimes. The clubbing of similar sections into defined categories and the training given to impose the laws will aid in their execution, several officers said.

A mobile application of the National Crime Records Bureau, NCRB Sankalan, helps officials and the public understand the changes, an officer said. "BNS has a lot of modifications. But we have had familiarisation classes. Difficulties may arise when we implement the new laws," an SHO-ranked officer said. Various sections under IPC have been numbered differently under BNS. Cases related to grievous harm, property, and offences against woman are sorted in their respective sections. An officer can easily adapt to these modifications, he said. "The facility to determine the new sections in the FIR-registering software also helps," he added. Responding to the transition, Ernakulam Rural police chief Vaibhav Saxena said, "Police officers have received specialised training on BNS. We don't anticipate any complications, and there is clarity in enforcing the law," he said. "BNS came into effect on July 1. So, a crime that happened or was reported before July 1 will be registered under sections of the IPC, but the investigations will follow BNS," added Saxena.

Kochi commissioner S Syamsundar said, "Officers have been well trained in executing the new criminal laws. The guidelines and tables related to BNS were made available to all stations." We are fully prepared for this transition, he added.

### Kondotty registers first FIR under BNS in Kerala

In Kerala, the first case under BNS was registered at Kondotty police station, in Malappuram. The case was registered against a two-wheeler rider for reckless driving and endangering human life at 12.20 am on Monday. The FIR was registered under section 281 of BNS and Section 194 D of the Motor Vehicle Act. Section 173 of BNSS was also slapped.

### In Kochi, auto drivers first to be booked under BNS

A 54-year-old auto-rickshaw driver was the first to be booked under BNS in Kochi city police limits. East traffic police booked the man from Chengampuzha Nagar at 9.25 am on Monday on charges of rash and negligent driving, and drunk driving as to endanger human life. Section 194 D of the Motor Vehicle Act was also imposed. However, the auto driver told TNIE that he was merely parking the vehicle when he was questioned by police outside a workshop at Kalamassery Aryaas Junction. "I work in the meat market, I got drunk after completing work early on Monday," he added.

# Small shops, houses to get EB connection without building completion certificate in TN

**COIMBATORE:** The state government has passed an order allowing small commercial buildings and houses to get new electricity connection without submitting building completion certificates from the local bodies. The exemption is given to residential buildings not exceeding either eight dwelling units or 750 square metres (8,073 square feet) of built-up area and for commercial buildings not exceeding 300 sq m (3,229 sq ft) area and 14 meters (45 feet) in height, states the G.O. This news is a great relief for many shop owners who have been unable to obtain Electricity Board connections for several years. Applications seeking new connections, particularly for commercial use, have been pending for months in several offices across the state due to the norms prescribed by the Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019. As per the existing rule, to get a new power connection for a commercial establishment, the owner must submit the building completion certificate and the building plan approval from the local body.

Exemption from these norms is given only to houses with an area less than 750 sq m, provided they have three dwelling units. Even if a building is built on 400 sq m and has four houses, the house owner was asked to submit the completion certificate and the plan approval, said officials. The exemptions came into force in February 2020 and since then several applicants who built their establishments above the limit have been waiting to get new connections.

"The applicants who have submitted papers for more than three domestic connections for a building and the extended building for commercial purposes were hardly given new connections without construction completion certificates. However, many could not produce the building completion certificates as they had reportedly violated the plan while modifying their buildings to rent them out for commercial purposes. The issue is prevalent across the state. Now the government has brought some modifications to ease the process and it



helps many commercial and residential buildings that have been waiting for new connections for a long period," said an officer. This will be implemented once Tangedco releases an official order with clarifications based on the new G.O. A

day after the announcement made by minister S Muthusamy in the Assembly, the principal secretary Housing and Urban Development Department Kakarla Usha passed the G.O, the officer added. New low-tension service connections will be given within a week and not exceeding 30 days. If the connections involve extension and improvement, but without a distribution transformer, the power connections will be given within 60 days. 90 days will be the time limit for new connections that involve extension and improvement with the distribution transformer, according to Tangedco officials.

### Quick look

Previously exemption was given only to houses less than 750 sq m and it should have three dwelling units. Now houses not exceeding either eight dwelling units or 750 sq m (8,073 sq ft) of built-up area and commercial buildings not exceeding 300 sq m (3,229 sq ft) and 14 m (45 ft) in height are given exemption.

## Snakes in town? Don't panic! Contact Sarpa team

**KOCHI:** When it comes to the fear of snakes, this seems the season of double jeopardy! The arrival of monsoon, following the delayed mating season of the slithering reptiles, has the public worried about the increased chance of snakebite.



Moreover, misconceptions related to snakebite, the unscientific handling of such a situation, missteps that follow, lack of knowledge about whom to contact in case of an emergency, etc., contribute to worsening the overall situation. "In a city like Kochi, snakes are usually forced out of their hideouts during the monsoon by waterlogging. We respond to any emergencies," says Sreenivas P Kamath, the Ernakulam district facilitator of the Snake Awareness Rescue and Protection (Sarpa) team. In case a Sarpa volunteer cannot reach your location, they will share a message with the authority concerned in the forest department and take appropriate measures, he says. "There are around 180 licensed rescuers in the Ernakulam range. Of this, more than 60 Sarpa volunteers will be involved in rescue at any given time. They are well-trained in catching snakes," says Sreenivas. "When a Sarpa volunteer catches a snake, it is handed over to the Ernakulam social forestry division.

Following a rescue in a far-flung area, the rescuer himself becomes the custodian of the snake for a short period. The animal is then shifted to the forestry team," he points out. "Prior to 2019, on average over 110 people died from snakebite every year in the state. This has declined to 44 after the functioning of Sarpa," says Sreenivas. Team members are volunteers who don't take any remuneration, he adds. Dr Sandeep Das, a herpetologist and post-doctoral fellow, points out that there are around 130 species of snakes in the state, but only four — spectacled cobra, common krait, Russell's viper, and saw-scaled viper — are dangerous enough to cause human deaths. "There are another 20 snakes, including the hump-nosed pit viper, commonly seen in Kerala, that are venomous. But their venom is not strong enough to harm people," he said. Until 2020, approximately 50,000 to 60,000 people died every year in the country from snakebite.

The death rate in Kerala has been much lower than the national average, Sandeep adds. While appreciating improvements in medical facilities and public awareness, he bemoaned the misconceptions related to snakebite. "Anti-venom is the only treatment for snakebite. Herbal therapies, outdated medical practices, and irrelevant delaying of treatment will worsen the condition of a patient. "Pressure bandaging helps encourage blood clotting, but sometimes it works to the detriment, by causing a blood surge. Delaying treatment to identify the animal that caused the bite will only worsen the health condition of victims," the Sarpa master trainer added. Highlighting the rise in snakebite cases during the monsoon, Muhammad Anwar Yunus, the assistant conservator of forests with the biodiversity cell, said, "The breeding season of snakes is usually from March to April, but this year it got delayed to May-June. This also delayed their search for appropriate hideouts, which is reflected in the number of snakebite cases." There has been an increase in baby viper bites in recent days. But fatalities have dropped as a result of proper medical consciousness, he said.

## Four chilli farmers attempt suicide in Karnataka's Ballari district

**BALLARI:** Four chilli farmers attempted suicide at Somasamudra village in Kurugodu taluk of Ballari district on Sunday after a private company which had purchased their produce has not cleared their payments for the last one-and-a-half years. The four — Rudresh (55), Hanumanth (40), Shekar (45) and Kunes (50) — consumed poison, while protesting along with other farmers against delayed payments. They were admitted to Vijayanagara Institute of Medical Science, where their condition is stable. Farmers said Bengaluru-based Agrigreed Pvt Ltd had bought chillies worth Rs 1.9 crore from 100 farmers. The bills of 54 farmers had been cleared, but the remaining 46 were yet to receive the money. Hanumantappa Vaddar, one of the farmers whose bill is



pending, said, "The company has some well-known persons from the district as shareholders. Trusting them, we sold 220 tonnes of chilli to the company. Normally, we sell it at the Byadgi market and it was the first time that we had given it to a private company. Also, they offered a good price.

Two months ago, we contacted the middleman who introduced us to the company. He gave us cheques, but they were not honoured because of lack of balance in their account. We request the Ballari deputy commissioner, chief executive officer and superintendent of police to solve the issue as soon as possible.

"Kurugodu taluk is top in chilli production in Kalyana-Karnataka. (If you are having suicidal thoughts, or are worried about a friend or need emotional support, someone is always there to listen. Call Sneha Foundation - 04424640050. Tele Manas - 14416 (available 24x7) or iCall, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences' helpline - 02225521111, which is available Monday to Saturday from 8 am to 10 pm.)

## 47 per cent of urban families conned financially in Bengaluru

**BENGALURU:** A recent survey has revealed that 47 per cent of urban Indian families have experienced some type of financial fraud, with 53 per cent reporting that they or someone in their immediate family have been a victim in the past five years. The survey, conducted via LocalCircles platform, gathered over 48,000 responses from citizens across 367 districts and found that six in 10 Indians do not report financial frauds to regulators or law enforcement agencies when the value is under Rs 1,000, so 90 per cent remains unreported. The survey identified credit/debit card and UPI fraud, buying or selling classified site users, and bank account fraud as the top types of financial cheating experienced by families. The findings highlighted that 17 per cent of citizens admitted to storing important

passwords (ATM, debit/credit cards, bank accounts, app/play store) on their mobile devices, making them highly vulnerable to data theft. In terms of password storage, about 34 per cent of citizens admitted to sharing important passwords with someone else, typically a family member. On storing of important passwords, 9 per cent of respondents indicated that they store passwords in mobile phone notes, 4 per cent in a password app on the phone, and 4 per cent in any other app. Additionally, 5 per cent keep them in their wallet or purse, 14 per cent have them memorised, and 16 per cent store them on their computer. The survey also found that Aadhaar card, PAN card and driving licence are the top three identities shared by citizens for various applications, proofs, bookings and stays

over the past five years.

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NEWS BOX

Car crashes into tanker-truck on KMP Expressway, four of a family die; two injured

GURGAON: Four people died, and two others suffered severe injuries as a Maruti Ertiga collided with a tanker-truck on KMP Expressway in Farukhnagar on Monday afternoon. The impact of the collision was so severe that the car was completely shattered.

According to witnesses, both vehicles were travelling in the same direction when the accident occurred. The driver of the Ertiga was attempting to overtake the tanker-truck at high speed, while the latter was trying to exit the expressway. The car driver, unfortunately, failed to react in time and crashed into the truck's rear side. The truck driver is on the run.



After the collision, the car flipped several times before coming to a halt and breaking apart. Among the six family members, four -- Brijesh Kaushik (52), his wife Sunita (48), his mother Kamla Devi (74), and his sister-in-law Kiran Kaushik (46) - lost their lives on the spot, while two others are in critical condition, cops said. Bystanders quickly rushed to their aid, contacted the police and hailed ambulances. Cops arrived at the spot and immediately transported the passengers to hospital. The family from Rajasthan's Sikar was on their way back from Garh Ganga after attending the last rites of a relative. They were being driven by relatives in another vehicle. "A preliminary investigation has revealed that the car driver was trying to overtake the tanker when it rammed into it and overturned. The injured are undergoing treatment at the govt hospital in Sector 10," said police spokesperson Sandeep Kumar.

A case under sections 106 (death by negligence), 125A (Causing hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others), 281 (rash driving), 324 (5) (mischievous causing damage to the amount of one lakh rupees or upwards) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was lodged against the truck driver after a complaint was filed by relatives of the accident victims.

CO level in city 68 times higher than safe limit, says CPCB data

Gurgaon: The city has been experiencing an unusual shift in its air pollution profile recently, with carbon monoxide (CO) emerging as the lead pollutant, surpassing usual concerns of particulate matter such as PM 10 and PM 2.5. The CO levels in the city is over 68 times the permissible limit in the past seven days, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data. The CO concentration between June 24 and June 30 varied between 114µg/m³ and 168µg/m³, while the safe limit is 1.7µg/m³. The city's authorities are being called upon to take immediate measures to curb waste burning incidents and enforce stricter waste management protocols. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has also called for strong punitive actions and ordered HSPCB to urge MCG to conduct inspections in hotspots where waste burning is rampant and apprise it about actions taken against violators, the status of cases, and plans to end waste burning in the open.

**Name Change**  
I, Mohammad Sartaj S/O Abdul Samad Qureshi R/O 17/14, Taj Colony New silampur Shastri Park delhi 110053 have changed my name to Mohd Sartaj for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, Pramod Kumar Mahavir s/o Moolchand R/O 8802, 2nd floor, Gali No.3, Multani Dhandra, Paharganj, Delhi-110055, have changed my name to Pramod Kumar permanently.

**Name Change**  
I, HARDEEP SINGH CHAUDHARY S/O MEGHSYAM R/O HASSANPUR CHOWK BYE PASS HODAL HAVE CHANGED NAME TO HARDEEP SINGH FOR ALL PURPOSES.

**Name Change**  
I, SAHIL S/O SHRI BHAGWAN Residing 566, Pana Gera, Barahi 40, Jhajjar - 124505 have changed my name from SAHIL to SAHIL CHHILLAR for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, Km. Priti W/o Amit Kumar Residing at House No-106, Ward No-3, Pech Colony, Gali No.3, Hodal Palwal-121106, Haryana, have changed my name to Priti Mangla for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, PRAMOD KUMAR S/O HANS RAM R/O B-6/4 D-1 Block, Aditi Apartment, Janakpuri, West Delhi, Delhi-110058, have changed the name of my minor son VAIBHAV 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as VAIBHAV KUMAR.

**Name Change**  
I, Amit Mangla S/o Tek Chand Meenu Residing at House No-106, Ward No-3, Pech Colony, Gali No.3, Hodal Palwal-121106, Haryana, have changed my name to Amit Kumar for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, Meenu Milapchand Jain W/o Milap Chand Nemchand Jain R/O 84P, Second Floor, Block-C, Behind DPS School, Uday Nagar, Sector-45, Kamali(73), Gurgaon, Haryana-122003, Have Changed My Name To Meenu Jain For All Purpose.

**Name Change**  
I, Shaurya S/O Anuj Kumar Bindal R/O Adarsh Colony HODAL HAVE CHANGED NAME TO Shaurya Aggarwal for all purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, hitherto known as PARO MANJHI alias PARO MANJHI S/O TITLU MANJHI R/O U2-543, Street No. 17, Near by Nag Mandir, Prem Nagar 2, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Sultampur, C - Block, North West Delhi, Delhi - 110088, declare that name of mine and my minor daughter has been wrongly written as SULENDAR SONKAR and JYOTI in my minor Daughter namely JYOTI SONKAR aged 12 years in his school record. The actual name of mine and my minor Daughter are VIRENDAR SONKAR and JYOTI SONKAR respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

**Name Change**  
It is for general information that I, VIRENDAR SONKAR S/O SHYAMLAL SONKAR, R/o Jhuggi-211 Indira Colony, Shalimar Bagh, North West Delhi, Delhi - 110088, declare that name of mine and my minor daughter has been wrongly written as SULENDAR SONKAR and JYOTI in my minor Daughter namely JYOTI SONKAR aged 12 years in his school record. The actual name of mine and my minor Daughter are VIRENDAR SONKAR and JYOTI SONKAR respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

**Name Change**  
I, SAHIL S/O SHRI BHAGWAN Residing 566, Pana Gera, Barahi 40, Jhajjar - 124505 have changed my name from SAHIL to SAHIL CHHILLAR for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, NO-14443361W Rank-HAV Name-NEPAL SINGH R/O VPO-HIRONDA, TEH- KHERAGARH, DISTT-AGRA, U.P.-283124 have changed my minor daughter's name from ANKITA to ANKITA KUMARI for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, MRS AMRITA LAKRA wife of NO-16111764W RANK-LHAV NAME-BINOJ XALXO R/O VILL-JARWA CREEK PO-ARALKATCHA BARATANG, TEH-RANGAT, DIST-MIDDLE ANDAMAN, ANDAMAN NICOBAR ISLAND-744210 have changed my name from MRS AMRITA LAKRA to AMRITA LAKRA for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, SHINDE VANDANA DASHRATH MOTHER OF NO-6500531L RANK-SEP NAME - SHINDE NILESH DASHRATH R/O- JAKHANGAON TEH- KHATAV DIST- SATARA MAHARASHTRA PIN-415505. Have changed my name from SHINDE VAN-DANA DASHRATH To VANDANA DASHRATH SHINDE For all purpose. In my son's service record my date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 26/08/1966 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/02/1966. Vide affidavit dated 26 Jun 2024 before notary public Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, SHINDE VANDANA DASHRATH MOTHER OF NO-6500531L RANK-SEP NAME - SHINDE NILESH DASHRATH R/O- JAKHANGAON TEH- KHATAV DIST- SATARA MAHARASHTRA PIN-415505. Have changed my name from SHINDE VAN-DANA DASHRATH To VANDANA DASHRATH SHINDE For all purpose. In my son's service record my date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 26/08/1966 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/02/1966. Vide affidavit dated 26 Jun 2024 before notary public Delhi.

Read 10' for murder – for lawyers, it's 'back to school' as BNS replaces IPC

Noida.420 isn't cheating. 302 isn't murder. And 120B isn't criminal conspiracy. These and other sections intuitive to them consigned to history with the Indian Penal Code replaced by Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) from Monday, lawyers have their tasks cut out. At the district courts, hundreds of lawyers were busy memorising new sections and reading the fine prints of BNS, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS, which replaces CrPC), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA, which replaces Indian Evidence Act). Most of them were given briefings and printouts explaining the changes. Several senior advocates TOI spoke to said IPC was second nature to their legal acumen and it felt like returning to school. They also said amending some obsolete laws and revising sections in the IPC and CrPC would have been an easier transition than coming up with a whole new set of criminal laws. Cheating, for instance, is now Section 318; murder is Section 101; and criminal conspiracy is Section 61 (2) of BNS. "All the IPC and CrPC sections

are on the tip of my tongue. I don't know why the govt introduced these laws. Instead, they could have amended them. After so many years of practising, reading all these new laws is like going back to school," said Yusuf Saifi, a lawyer with 26 years of experience, at the Gautam Budh Nagar district court. Manoj Bhati, another lawyer in Noida, said it felt like he had to unlearn all that he knew. "It will take time for lawyers to memorise which section deals with which crime. It has doubled our work," he said. Unlearning, however, is not an option because lawyers will continue to argue cases registered till June 30 under IPC provisions. So, they need to be thorough with both the criminal laws since there will be situations soon when they will have to argue on the same day cases under IPC and BNS. Some lawyers were hopeful that adapting to the new laws won't be too difficult. "Govt introduced these laws six months before implementation, giving us enough time for preparation. There are books and reference materials available in the market," said Raj Kumar Nagar, former



president of the district bar association in GB Nagar. In Ghaziabad, district government counsel (DGC) Rajesh Chand Sharma was studying provisions of BNS in his office on Monday when this correspondent visited. "Lawyers need knowledge of old laws as well as new laws as cases filed before July 1 will be dealt with by IPC sections... Apart from lawyers, magistrates are also facing challenges in interpreting the new laws. Everyone has to learn," Sharma said. There are nearly 2,200 advocates in

Gautam Budh Nagar, and 2,500 in Ghaziabad, according to data with bar associations. So far, bar associations in the two NCR cities haven't organised workshops, but some training programmes have been conducted for public prosecutors. Umesh Bhati, president of GB Nagar Bar Association, said that lawyers have been engaged in comparative studies and "we will also conduct a workshop this week". Utkarsh Vats, special public prosecutor at a Peco court in Ghaziabad, said the new laws were more suitable for the country. "Earlier, there were some sections that referred to India as 'British Raj'. The new laws also emphasise on collection of electronic evidence, which will be useful in trial," he said, referring to Section 105 of BNSS, which mandates investigators to take videos while collecting proof. Vikrant Pandey, secretary of Allahabad high court Bar Association, agreed there was a need for overhaul in criminal laws. "IPC was introduced in 1860, and it was 164 years old. Most of the laws were outdated.

**Name Change**  
I hitherto known as SANTOSH KUMAR SHARMA s/o PRABHU DAYAL r/o WZ-8291-3, HOLI CHOWK, NARAINA VILLAGE, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110028 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SANTOSH SHARMA.

**Name Change**  
I, INDER JEET SINGH Father of 1702110F RANK-SEP Name-UTTAM SINGH Presently residing at MOH-PANCHAYATI MANDIR, DHAMPUR, NEHTAUR, DIST-BUNOR, UTTAR PRADESH-246733 have changed my name from INDER JEET SINGH to INDIRAJEET SINGH for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I IQRA HASHMI W/O MOHAMMAD TAYYAB RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 1821 KALAMAHAL CHHATAAACHAN DARYA CANU DELHI 110002 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM IQRA HASHMI TO IQRA TAYYAB FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE.

**Name Change**  
I, Yogesh Sharma S/o-Panna Lal Sharma R/o 4567, Achievers kalindi hill Sainik Colony nri Sainik colony, sector -49 Faridabad, Faridabad tel haryana - 121001 have changed my name from Yogesh Sharma to Yogesh Kumar Sharma for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, FERROZA BEGUM wife of AINAL GHAZI residing at H NO-52, GALI NO-1, KRISHAN KUNJ EXTN1, LAXMI NAGAR, DELHI-110092 declare that FERROZA and FERROZA BEGUM are the same and one person and I shall henceforth to be known as FERROZA BEGUM

**Name Change**  
I, SHINDE DASHRATH GANPATI FATHER OF NO-6500531L RANK-SEP NAME - SHINDE NILESH DASHRATH R/O- JAKHANGAON TEH- KHATAV DIST- SATARA MAHARASHTRA PIN-415505. Have changed my name from SHINDE DASHRATH GANPATI To DASHRATH GANPATI SHINDE For all purpose. Vide affidavit dated 26 Jun 2024 before notary public Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, Vikas Ghai S/o Sunder Ghai R/O S-288, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi here in general inform that my original Allotment Letter of Property bearing Plot No. UV-48, Udyog Vihar Phase-4, Gurgaon, Haryana somewhere in Delhi, has been lost somewhere in Delhi and FIR lodged via LR No. 1815759/2024. If someone may find, please return to the above address & M.: 9811011256

**LOST & FOUND**  
I, Harpreet Singh Gambhir S/O Raghbir Singh Gambhir R/O 49/4, East Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, hereby in general inform that my original Re-allotment Letter of Property bearing Plot No. 73, Udyog Vihar Phase-4, Gurgaon, Haryana somewhere in Delhi, has been lost somewhere in Delhi and FIR lodged via LR No. 1893288/2024. If someone may find, please return to the above address & M.: 98110125825

**LOST & FOUND**  
I, Harpreet Singh Gambhir S/O Raghbir Singh Gambhir R/O 49/4, East Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, hereby in general inform that my original Re-allotment Letter of Property bearing Plot No. 73, Udyog Vihar Phase-4, Gurgaon, Haryana somewhere in Delhi, has been lost somewhere in Delhi and FIR lodged via LR No. 1893288/2024. If someone may find, please return to the above address & M.: 98110125825

**Name Change**  
It is for general information that I, ZUBAIR AHMAD S/O MD. WAHAB R/O D-Block-7/12, J.J. Colony, Bawana, North West Delhi, Delhi 110039 declare that name of my minor son has been wrongly written MD. AMIR in his school Records. The actual name of my minor son is MOHAMMAD AMIR.

**Name Change**  
I, ZUBAIR AHMAD S/O MD. WAHAB R/O D-Block-7/12, J.J. Colony, Bawana, North West Delhi, Delhi 110039 declare that name of my minor son has been wrongly written MD. AMIR in his school Records. The actual name of my minor son is MOHAMMAD AMIR.

**NOTICE**  
Public at large is hereby informed that Mrs. Rachna Devi is the owner of House No. 3040 area measuring 50 sq. yds. khasra no. 14213/11053/7389/22, Situated at Village Siwana, Moja, Gurgaon, Abadi Vishnu Garden/Rajender Park, Tehsil and District Gurgaon, Haryana. vide Sale Deed dated 08.07.2020 executed by Mr. Shubham Sharma in favour of Mrs. Rachana Devi in respect of the said property, duly registered as Doc. No. 1164, in Book No. 1, Volume No. 41/1057, on Pages no. 65/41 to 43 Dated 08.07.2020. (SR-Gurgaon)(50 sq. yds.) Initially, Sale Deed dated 07.02.2001 executed by Mr. Mahinder Singh in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar in respect of the said property, (Doc. No.13740), Later who executed Sale Deed dated 03.04.2014 in favour of Mrs. Urmila in respect of the said property, (Doc. No.245) who executed Transfer Deed dated 30.12.2016 in favour of Mr. Satpal Sharma in respect of the said property (Doc. No.25413) who executed Sale Deed dated 08.10.2018 executed in favour of Mr. Nirmita Sharma & Mr. Sheetal Sharma in respect of the said property, (Doc. No.10380). Later, Transfer Deed of Blood Relation executed by Mr. Sheetal Sharma in favour of Mr. Shubham Sharma in respect of the said property (50 sq. yds.), (Doc. No.1691) Finally, Sale Deed dated executed 08.07.2020 in favour of Mrs. Rachna Devi who intends to sell the said property to Intended Borrower who will be mortgaging the said property with Bandhan Bank Ltd Whosoever is having any objection to the said mortgage or anyone has claim or right or interest in the property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections. NEW DELHI DATE: 1/7/2024 PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE Enrl. No. D/721/02 Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48 Mob.: 9968006418

**Name Change**  
I, NO-14443361W Rank-HAV Name-NEPAL SINGH R/O VPO-HIRONDA, TEH- KHERAGARH, DISTT-AGRA, U.P.-283124 have changed my minor daughter's name from ANKITA to ANKITA KUMARI for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, KRISHNA NANDY PAL wife of NO-15616451X Rank-NK Name-BAPALIYA PAL R/O VPO-CHOATORE, TEH-KANDI, DIST-MURSHIDABAD, WEST BENGAL-742140 have changed my name from KRISHNA NANDY PAL to KRISHNA PAL for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, SHAGUIT YASMIN W/O MOHAMMED MUHAMMED residing at PLOT NO-444, SHAHZADA BAGH PHASE-1, INDER LOK NEAR GUPTA COMPLEX, DELHI-110035 have changed my name to SHAGUITA YASMIN all future purposes

**Name Change**  
I, NILAM DEVI wife of NO-14443361W Rank-HAV Name-NEPAL SINGH R/O VPO-HIRONDA, TEH- KHERAGARH, DISTT-AGRA, U.P.-283124 have changed my name from NILAM DEVI to NEELAM DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, RUKHSANA W/O PANDIT PREM BAREM BAREMI Residing at A-963, 2ND FLOOR, G.D. COLONY, MAYUR VIHAR PHASE-3, BEHIND HANUMAN MANDIR, DELHI-110096 have changed my name to RUKHKA BHARDWAJ all future purposes

**Name Change**  
I, Moolchand Mahavir s/o Sh.Govind Ram R/O 8802, 2nd floor, Gali No.3, Multani Dhandra, Paharganj, Delhi-110055, have changed my name to Moolchand permanently

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform general public at large that our client Mrs. Nidhi W/o Mr. Gauri who have approached Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd. to borrow Home Loan in respect of OLD PLOT NO. 27 A, NEW NO. C-27-A, LAND AREA MEASURING 65 SQ. YDS., OUT OF KHASRA NO. 1215, SITUATED AT VILLAGE MATIALA, SHIV VIHAR, UTTAM NAGAR, BLOCK NO. C, SEWAK PARK, NEW DELHI. At present this property is in the name of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh who had purchased this property from Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass Vide GPA (Regd.) Dated 31.01.2004 executed by Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh in respect of Land Area Measuring 65 Sq.Yds. of Plot No. 27 A, Part of Kharsa No. 1215, Situated in Shiv Vihar, Delhi, area of Village Matiala, Delhi. Registered as Doc. No. 5529, Vol No. 5547, Pages 101-102, Book No.4 and SRO- Delhi & W.I & ATS. It is to mention that the Original Will & ATS Dated 31.01.2004 executed by Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh in respect of Land Area Measuring 65 Sq.Yds. of Plot No. 27 A, Part of Kharsa No. 1215, Situated in Shiv Vihar, Delhi, area of Village Matiala, Delhi is lost by Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh. And the said property is going to be mortgaged in AADHAR HOUSING FINANCE LTD. OFFICE AT, PUSHPAH VIHAR. All persons, if any, including bank, financial institutions, or any party/ies having any claim (Object to Kharsa Number), demand, rights, interests in respect of or against the said property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, assignment, mortgage, charge, possession, lien or otherwise, are hereby required to make the same known in writing within 7 days with the documentary evidence from the date of publication, failing which the said claim of the person/s, if any will be considered waived and settled.

**Name Change**  
I, NEETA SUNDRIYAL Wife of JC-342660X Rank-SUB, Name-SANTOSH KUMAR MAINDOLA R/O B-86, SUBHASH NAGAR, VILL-SHAHAPUR, PO-ROORKEE, DIST-HARIIDWAR, UTTARAKHAND-247667 have changed my name from NEETA SUNDRIYAL to NEETA MAINDOLA for all future purposes and in my husband's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 06/10/1963 instead of my correct date of birth as 25/06/1984 vide Affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, No. 15789872N1 Rank-LHAV Name-RAVI CHANDRA BAITHA Residing at VPO-NAINPURA, TEHSIL-SIWAN, DISTT-SIWAN, BIHAR-841241 have changed my father's name from JAGANARAYAN BAITHA to JAGAT NARAYAN BAITHA for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, MOHD MOBIN S/O MOHAMMED ISMAIL residing at PLOT NO-444, SHAHZADA BAGH PHASE-1, INDER LOK, NEAR GUPTA COMPLEX, DELHI-110035 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHAMMED MUBEN all future purposes

**Name Change**  
I, RUPALI wife of NO-2808079W RANK-LNK NAME-KADAM PRANIL DILIP R/O FLAT NO-202 B WING HANSA APT, SAGE ROAD, NEAR HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL, DIVYA EAST, PO-DIVA, DIST-THANE, MAHARASHTRA-400612 have changed my name from RUPALI to RUPALI PRANIL KADAM for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for general information that [JAAVN] HOUSE No.1721, 2nd Floor, Opp GTB Nagar, Outram Line, GTB Nagar, North West Delhi 110009 declare that the name of my mother has been wrongly written as SWATA KHANAJIA in my all educational documents. My mother name is MUSKAN KHANAJIA, which may be amended accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for general information that our client Mrs. Nidhi W/o Mr. Gauri who have approached Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd. to borrow Home Loan in respect of OLD PLOT NO. 27 A, NEW NO. C-27-A, LAND AREA MEASURING 65 SQ. YDS., OUT OF KHASRA NO. 1215, SITUATED AT VILLAGE MATIALA, SHIV VIHAR, UTTAM NAGAR, BLOCK NO. C, SEWAK PARK, NEW DELHI. At present this property is in the name of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh who had purchased this property from Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass Vide GPA (Regd.) Dated 31.01.2004 executed by Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh in respect of Land Area Measuring 65 Sq.Yds. of Plot No. 27 A, Part of Kharsa No. 1215, Situated in Shiv Vihar, Delhi, area of Village Matiala, Delhi. Registered as Doc. No. 5529, Vol No. 5547, Pages 101-102, Book No.4 and SRO- Delhi & W.I & ATS. It is to mention that the Original Will & ATS Dated 31.01.2004 executed by Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh in respect of Land Area Measuring 65 Sq.Yds. of Plot No. 27 A, Part of Kharsa No. 1215, Situated in Shiv Vihar, Delhi, area of Village Matiala, Delhi is lost by Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh. And the said property is going to be mortgaged in AADHAR HOUSING FINANCE LTD. OFFICE AT, PUSHPAH VIHAR. All persons, if any, including bank, financial institutions, or any party/ies having any claim (Object to Kharsa Number), demand, rights, interests in respect of or against the said property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, assignment, mortgage, charge, possession, lien or otherwise, are hereby required to make the same known in writing within 7 days with the documentary evidence from the date of publication, failing which the said claim of the person/s, if any will be considered waived and settled.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for general information that our client Mrs. Nidhi W/o Mr. Gauri who have approached Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd. to borrow Home Loan in respect of OLD PLOT NO. 27 A, NEW NO. C-27-A, LAND AREA MEASURING 65 SQ. YDS., OUT OF KHASRA NO. 1215, SITUATED AT VILLAGE MATIALA, SHIV VIHAR, UTTAM NAGAR, BLOCK NO. C, SEWAK PARK, NEW DELHI. At present this property is in the name of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh who had purchased this property from Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass Vide GPA (Regd.) Dated 31.01.2004 executed by Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh in respect of Land Area Measuring 65 Sq.Yds. of Plot No. 27 A, Part of Kharsa No. 1215, Situated in Shiv Vihar, Delhi, area of Village Matiala, Delhi. Registered as Doc. No. 5529, Vol No. 5547, Pages 101-102, Book No.4 and SRO- Delhi & W.I & ATS. It is to mention that the Original Will & ATS Dated 31.01.2004 executed by Mrs. Shanti Rani W/o. Late Sh. Sunder Dass in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh in respect of Land Area Measuring 65 Sq.Yds. of Plot No. 27 A, Part of Kharsa No. 1215, Situated in Shiv Vihar, Delhi, area of Village Matiala, Delhi is lost by Mr. Rajesh Kumar S/o. Mr. Sawant Singh. And the said property is going to be mortgaged in AADHAR HOUSING FINANCE LTD. OFFICE AT, PUSHPAH VIHAR. All persons, if any, including bank, financial institutions, or any party/ies having any claim (Object to Kharsa Number), demand, rights, interests in respect of or against the said property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, assignment, mortgage, charge, possession, lien or otherwise, are hereby required to make the same known in writing within 7 days with the documentary evidence from the date of publication, failing which the said claim of the person/s, if any will be considered waived and settled.

**Name Change**  
I hitherto known as Jyoti Gera :D/O Rajesh Kumar Gera,W/O Gaurav Yadav R/O PARMAMENT ADDRESS-mohar singh chowk, ward n-14, house n-770, purani abadi, Sri Ganganagar, Ganganagar, Rajasthan- 335001 Present address Hno 651 near Jtender General store madan pur khadar, sarita vihar delhi -110076 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as JYOTI YADAV.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for the general public information that my Clients Chand Pal S/o Sh. Amar Singh & Mrs. Neeraj W/o Sh. Chand Pal both residents of Slovak Embassy, 50 M, Chanakyapuri, Neel Marg, NDMC, Chanakyapuri, South West, New Delhi-110021, has departed, disown and break down all the relationship from his/her adopted daughter from his father-in-law Late Sh. Ram Pal, adopted daughter namely Ashu (DOB 07.04.1995), from all my moveable and immovable properties either self acquired or ancestral situated all over India due to their misconduct, disobedience and misbehavior attitude. My client will not be responsible in future for his/her acts or deeds which was done by him/her.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
SUNIL KUMAR TOMER Advocate& Consultant Off. Chamber No.356, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001

**Name Change**  
I, Kamle Tejashwini Wife of No. 15439203A Rank-NK Name-KAMBLE GANESH ARJUN UNIT-ARMY HOSPITAL R&R, DELHI CANTT-110010 Permanent address VILL-BRAMHAGAON, POST- MOJU, TEH-BEED, DIST-BEED, MAHARASHTRA-431122 have changed my name from KAMBLE TEJASHWINI to KAMBLE TEJASHWINI GANESH for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 02/07/2024 before Executive Magistrate, Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General public is hereby informed that my client Yamin Khan S/O Razaque R/O HOUSE NO. E- 202-A, Kanchan Kunj, Madanpur khadar Ext. Part 2, Sarita Vihar New Delhi 110076, have disowned their son namely Mohd. Fardeen, daughter-in-law namely Smt. Arshi and one child of their aforesaid son and daughter-in-law from all my moveable and immovable properties and severed their all relationships with them due to their disobedience and bad behaviour. Anybody dealing with them will be at his/her own costs, risks and responsibility.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
SHOAIB REHMAN (ADVOCATES) Ch. No.353, Lawyer's Block, Saket Courts complex, New Delhi-110017

**NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**  
The Sr. Divisional Engineer-II, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work:-

**NIT-43**  
Improvement, upgradation & standardization of various L-Xing by providing rubberized surface, repair/providing of height gauge under ADEEN/UT

**Work of**  
Approx. cost of work: As per NIT or IREPS Earnest Money to be deposited: As per NIT or IREPS

**Date & Time of opening of tender**  
26.07.2024 at 15:00 Hrs.

**Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen**  
www.ireps.gov.in

**Note:**  
The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. 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.**

**NIT No.: 43-24-25-W-I Dated : 01.07.2024 1998/2024**

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

EXTENSION OF SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS

For the convenience of Rail Passengers, Railways have decided to extend the Periodicity of run of the following Summer Special Trains as per details given below:-

Train No.	From	To	Frequency Days of Run	Notified up to	Period of Extension
09425	Sabarmati BG	Haridwar Jn.	Mon, Fri	14.06.2024	11.07.2024 to 31.07.2024
09426	Haridwar Jn.	Sabarmati BG	Tue, Sat	15.06.2024	11.07.2024 to 31.07.2024
09195	Vadodra Jn.	Mau Jn.	Saturday	29.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09196	Mau Jn.	Vadodra Jn.	Sunday	30.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09417	Ahmedabad	Danapur	Monday	24.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09418	Danapur	Ahmedabad	Tuesday	25.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09557	Bhavnagar T.	Delhi Cantt.	Friday	28.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09558	Delhi Cantt.	Bhavnagar T.	Saturday	29.06.2024	upto 31.07.2024
09405	Sabarmati BG	Patna J			

NEWS BOX

Teen arrested in Australia after stabbing at University of Sydney

Sydney. Australian police said on Tuesday it had arrested a 14-year-old boy after a stabbing at the University of Sydney. Emergency crews treated a 22-year-old man, who was taken to a hospital in a serious but stable condition, New South Wales state police said in a statement. There is no ongoing risk to the community, it said. A University of Sydney spokesperson said a police operation was underway on its Camperdown campus and that police would remain on campus while investigations continue.

Joe Biden on immunity ruling for Donald Trump: There are no kings in America

Washington US President Joe Biden on Monday criticized the Supreme Court ruling on presidential immunity that was seen as a win for his rival, former President Donald Trump, in forceful remarks from the White House.

The US Supreme Court found on Monday that Trump cannot be prosecuted for any actions that were within his constitutional powers as president, but can be for private acts, in a landmark ruling recognizing for the first time any form of presidential immunity from prosecution. "This nation was founded on the principle that there are no kings in America," Biden said, adding that no one is above the law. With the Supreme Court decision, he said, "That fundamentally changed." Biden is running for re-election against Trump and has been sharply critical of his rival's actions related to the January 6, 2021, raid on the US Capitol by Trump's supporters, who believed Trump's false claims that he had won the 2020 election.

Biden, 81, was making his first set of remarks at the White House since his shaky debate against Trump last week led to calls for him to step aside as the Democratic Party's standard-bearer for the election.

After he stumbled over his words on the Atlanta debate stage, his remarks and comportment will be scrutinized for signs that he is up to the job of running for re-election and of governing the country for four more years.

Five members of Georgia family killed after plane crashes in New York

Masonville, New York Five members of a family from Georgia who were visiting Cooperstown, New York, for a baseball tournament died when their small plane crashed in a wooded area of upstate New York, authorities said Monday. The single-engine Piper PA-46 crashed around 2 pm Sunday after taking off from Albert S. Nader Regional Airport in Oneonta, the Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement. The wreckage of the plane and the remains of the five people on board were found Sunday night in the town of Masonville, the New York State Police said in a news release. Drones, all-terrain vehicles and helicopters were used to search for the remote crash site, which was about 125 miles (200 kilometers) northwest of New York City. The victims were identified as Roger Beggs, 76; Laura VanEpps, 43; Ryan VanEpps, 42; James VanEpps, 12; and Harrison VanEpps, 10. The family was returning to Georgia after attending a tournament in Cooperstown, the home of the Baseball Hall of Fame, police said. The plane was headed to Cobb County International Airport in Atlanta with a fueling stop in West Virginia when it crashed, the state police said.

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp said on the social media platform X that he and his family were praying for the victims' families and offered "our deepest condolences to all who knew and loved them."

Why did the US judge call Karen Read's cop boyfriend murder 'mistrial'

world. A Massachusetts judge in the US declared Karen Read's murder trial "mistrial" after jurors deadlocked in the case with no decision despite over 26 hours of deliberation. The court came to this conclusion after the jurors sent notes to Cannone saying they were hopelessly deadlocked. The judge delivered Tury-Rodriguez instructions — sometimes referred to as "dynamite" instructions intended to blast apart deadlocked juries in Massachusetts, the Washington Post reported. Moments after Judge Beverly J Cannone called a mistrial, Norfolk County District Attorney Michael Morrissey's office announced that they intend to retry the case. The prosecutors said in a statement, "First, we thank the O'Keefe family for their commitment and dedication to this long process. They maintained sight of the true core of this case — to find justice for John O'Keefe. The Commonwealth intends to re-try the case," according to AP. According to the prosecutor, Karen Read, who was accused of drunkenly driving into her police officer boyfriend and leaving him to die in January 2022, was drinking with her partner O'Keefe before she dropped him off at a party at the home of Brian Albert, a fellow officer. They said she hit him with her SUV before driving away. While prosecutors were blaming her for Keefe's death, the defence lawyers tried to paint her as the victim in the case. The defence said that Keefe was killed inside Albert's home and then dragged outside and left for dead, reported Washington Post. They argued that investigators focused on Read because she was a "convenient outsider" who saved them from having to consider other suspects, including Albert and other law enforcement officers at the party. After the prosecutors said that they will re-try, defense attorney Alan Jackson said, "They failed. They failed miserably, and they'll continue to fail... No matter how long it takes, no matter how long they keep trying, we will not stop fighting," AP reported. The trial, which lasted for two months, centered around police procedures and the connections between those involved. Law enforcement officials admitted to gathering blood evidence using red plastic cups and attempting to remove snow to uncover evidence with a leaf blower. The primary investigator also confessed to sending inappropriate messages about Read from his mobile phone.

Palestinian group Islamic Jihad fires rockets into Israel, no casualties reported

Cairo. The Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad fired a barrage of rockets into Israel on Monday as fighting raged in Gaza and Israeli tanks advanced deeper in parts of the enclave, residents and officials said.

Islamic Jihad, an ally of Hamas - both of whom are backed by Iran - said its fighters fired rockets towards several Israeli communities near the fence with Gaza in response to "the crimes of the Zionist enemy against our Palestinian people". The volley of about 20 rockets caused no casualties, the Israeli military said. But the attack showed militants still possess rocket capabilities almost nine months into an offensive that Israel says is aimed at neutralising threats against it. Residents of several neighbourhoods in eastern Khan Younis, which is in southern Gaza, said they had received audio messages from Israeli phone numbers ordering them to leave their homes. "For your safety, you must evacuate immediately to the humanitarian zone," army spokesperson Avichay Adraec posted on social media platform X in a

call to residents and displaced people living in those areas. Some suggested this could mean Israeli forces will return to the area, which they left several weeks ago. The Israeli military said in a statement earlier on Monday the rockets were fired from the Khan Younis area. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel was nearing its goal of taking out the military capabilities of Hamas, the Islamist group that governs Gaza and led the Oct. 7 assault on Israel that sparked the war. Less intense operations would continue, he said. "We are advancing to the end of the phase of eliminating the terrorist army of Hamas, and there will be a continuation to strike its remnants," Netanyahu said. Violence also flared on Monday in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, where the Palestinian health ministry said a woman and a boy were killed in the city of Tulkarm during an operation by Israeli forces. A day earlier, an Israeli strike in the same area killed an Islamic Jihad member. In some parts of Gaza, militants continue to stage attacks on Israeli forces



in areas that the army had left months ago. Israeli tanks deepened incursions into the Shejaia suburb of eastern Gaza City for a fifth day, and tanks advanced further in western and central Rafah, in southern Gaza near the border with Egypt, residents said. The Israeli military said it had killed a number of militants in combat in Shejaia on Monday and found large amounts of weapons there. Hamas said its fighters had lured an Israeli force into a booby-trapped house in the east of Rafah and blown it up, causing casualties. The Israeli military announced the death of a soldier in southern Gaza without

providing details. Israel's Army Radio said the soldier was killed in Rafah in a booby-trapped house - a possible reference to the incident reported by Islamic Jihad. Also in Rafah, the Israeli military said that an airstrike killed a militant who fired an anti-tank missile at its troops. Israel has signalled that its operation in Rafah, meant to stamp out Hamas, will soon be concluded. After the intense phase of the war is over, its forces will focus on smaller scale operations meant to stop Hamas reassembling, officials say. The war began when Hamas-led fighters burst into southern Israel on Oct. 7, killed 1,200 people and took around 250 hostages, including civilians and soldiers, back into Gaza, according to Israeli tallies. The offensive launched by Israel in retaliation has killed nearly 38,000 people, according to the Gaza health ministry, and has left the heavily built-up coastal enclave in ruins. The Gaza health ministry does not distinguish between combatants and non-combatants, but officials say most of the dead are civilians.

US heightens security alert at European bases due to multiple threats

Washington The US military has raised the security protection measures it is taking at its bases throughout Europe, asking service members to be more vigilant and keep a lower profile due to a combination of threats it is seeing across the region. US European Command said in a statement Sunday that a "variety of factors play into the safety of US military community abroad." Increasing the threat level to Charlie, the second-highest of five levels for service members, is the result of a combination of events occurring across Europe, including elections in France and the UK, the upcoming Olympics and other major sporting events, and the ongoing wars in Ukraine and Gaza, according to two US officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity to provide additional details. But they said they were unaware of any specific

threat. Pentagon deputy press secretary Sabrina Singh would not say Monday whether bases in the Middle East, Africa or the Indo-Pacific were at similar increased force protection



levels. However, one of the officials said that many of those bases, especially bases throughout the Middle East and Africa, already maintain higher security levels. Force protection Charlie is instituted "when an incident

occurs or intelligence is received indicating that some form of terrorist action or targeting against personnel or facilities is likely." The highest of the five levels is Delta, which applies where a terrorist attack has occurred or when intelligence indicates terrorist action against a person or place is imminent, followed by Charlie, Bravo, Alpha and Normal, the minimum level.

Raising the threat level to Charlie means additional security measures will be in place at US military installations, but it's up to each commander's discretion to determine what those measures are. It also means service members and their families who are living in each community should be more aware of their surroundings and maintain a lower profile, one of the officials said.

Hurricane Beryl 'extremely dangerous' as it gains strength in Caribbean

Port of Spain Hurricane Beryl unleashed powerful winds over the Eastern Caribbean on Monday, downing power lines and ripping roofs from buildings, as scientists argue that climate change likely added to how quickly the unusually fierce, early storm formed.

Beryl struck the southeastern Caribbean at Category 4 strength on the Saffir-Simpson five-point scale, spiraling toward the Caribbean's Windward Islands and threatening devastating flooding as potentially deadly winds picked up speed. This is an extremely dangerous and life-threatening situation. Take action now to protect your life! the US National Hurricane Center said in a post on Monday, urging residents in Grenada, the Grenadine Islands as well as Carriacou Island to shelter in place due to an expected rapid increase in wind force. Across many islands that dot the Eastern Caribbean, residents boarded up windows, stocked up on food and filled their cars with fuel as the storm drew closer. The Miami-

based hurricane center noted that hurricane-force winds spread out from Beryl's well-defined eye by up to 40 miles (64 km), with still-dangerous tropical storm force winds extending outward by another 125 miles (201 km).



Beryl's rapid rise marks an unusually fierce and early start to this year's Atlantic hurricane season, including the earliest Category 4 storm on record. Scientists surveyed by Reuters see the powerful hurricane as a harbinger of an unusually active hurricane season made possible by record-high temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean. Climate change is

loading the dice for more intense hurricanes to form," said Christopher Rozoff, an atmospheric scientist at the United States' National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado. Andra Gerner, a New Jersey-based meteorologist, noted that Beryl jumped from a Category 1 to a Category 4 storm in less than 10 hours.

Leaders in the region sought to prepare locals for the worst, including the prime minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines, Ralph Gonsalves. He said he was expecting a natural disaster that could continue for days. "We have to wait this monster out," he said in an address to the nation in the capital of Kingstown, conditions around the main harbor worsened on Monday morning, with some damage to buildings reported, caused by intensifying winds. Video from the city showed waves crashing over a seawall and palm trees along the shore battered by the wind. Beryl's maximum sustained wind speed had risen to 150 miles (241 km) per hour by Monday afternoon.

Hunter Biden sues Fox News over showing his explicit images in miniseries

New York US President Joe Biden's son Hunter is suing right-wing Fox News for airing nude images of him in a miniseries that he claims amount to "revenge porn," court documents showed Monday.

The Trial of Hunter Biden" was made up of six episodes published in 2022 on Fox Nation, the conservative broadcaster's online platform owned by the family of media mogul Rupert Murdoch. A dramatised version of a criminal trial, the series contained a warning the proceedings were fiction, depicting the first son being prosecuted for graft -- accusations that have been made for years by Donald Trump supporters who point to Hunter Biden's past business ties with Ukraine and China. The accusations have never led to legal action. But the series integrates real images of Biden, "depicting him in the nude, depicting an unclothed or exposed intimate part of him, as well as engaged in sex acts," the complaint alleges. "Fox published and disseminated these intimate images to its vast audience of millions as part of an entertainment program in order to humiliate, harass, annoy and alarm Mr. Biden and to tarnish his reputation."

The images originated from a laptop that Hunter Biden dropped off at a computer repair shop, but which he never collected. Its contents have been circulating ever since, and are the subject of widespread conspiracy theories as well as

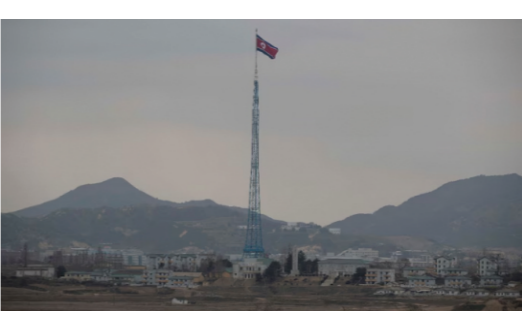


embarrassing fodder for the political opposition. "This entirely politically motivated lawsuit is devoid of merit," Fox News said in a statement. "Mr. Biden did not complain about (it) until sending a letter in late April 2024. The program was removed within days of the letter, in an abundance of caution." Consistent with the First Amendment, Fox News has accurately covered the newsworthy events of Mr. Biden's own making, and we look forward to vindicating our rights in court. Hunter Biden was convicted by a jury in June of illegal possession of a firearm in a federal trial that again brought to light his years of addiction to alcohol, cocaine and crack cocaine, apparent in many of the images discovered on the laptop.

North Korea tests missile capable of carrying super-large warhead: Report

Seou North Korea said it successfully tested a new tactical ballistic missile on Monday capable of carrying a 4.5-ton super-large warhead, state news agency KCNA reported on Tuesday. day earlier, South Korea reported the launch of two ballistic missiles by North Korea and said the second likely failed soon after launch, blowing up in flight over land. The KCNA report did not make clear if two missiles were launched and referred to the projectile in a singular term. It said the test of the new tactical ballistic missile, named Hwasongpho-11 Da-4.5, was conducted with a simulated heavy warhead to verify flight stability and accuracy. It did not elaborate on the nature of the simulated warhead. North Korea's report on the missile test was likely "deception" with one of the two missiles flying abnormally and appearing to show up in a field not far from Pyongyang, Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) spokesperson Colonel Lee Sung-jun told a briefing. "Conducting a test-fire inland is extremely rare and it is highly likely to be false to claim it has succeeded," Lee said. South Korea's military conducted artillery drills at ranges within five kms

(three miles) of the Military Demarcation Line inside the DMZ separating the two Koreas on Tuesday morning, an Army official said during the briefing. The resumption of such live-fire exercises near the border comes following the suspension of a military pact signed with Pyongyang after the North launched hundreds of balloons carried by wind across the border that dropped trash throughout South Korea. The country's Missile Administration will conduct another launch of the same type of missile in July to test the "explosion power" of the super-large warhead, KCNA said in a rare disclosure of a future missile launch plan. Hwasongpho-11, or Hwasong-11, is a series of short-range ballistic missiles (SRBM) developed by the North that are otherwise known as KN-23 and KN-24. South Korea's military said on Monday the first of the two missiles launched by the North appeared to be a KN-23 that flew about 600 km (373 miles). The KN-23 is likely the missile that North Korea has supplied to Russia and was used in the war against Ukraine, according to Ukrainian



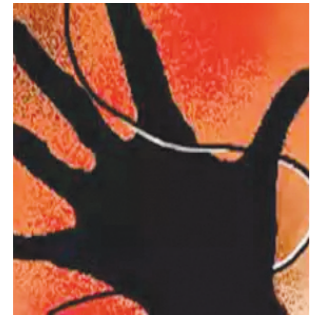
authorities who examined debris from missiles launched by Russia since December. North Korea and Russia deny any arms trade, but their ties have rapidly developed since their leaders met in September in Russia pledging closer military cooperation. Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un met again in Pyongyang in June and signed a pact on a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership that included a mutual defence agreement. South Korean officials have said North Korea's recent short-range ballistic missile launches may be intended to show its wares to potential

buyers. The second missile launched on Monday flew about 120 km, the South Korean military said. Given the trajectory and the location of the launch near the west coast, the missile likely fell inland in North Korea, South Korea's military said.

North Korea has raced to develop a range of ballistic missiles in recent years, which it names with the Hwasong identifier, including its intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM). Hwasong is Korean for Mars. On Tuesday, KCNA reported the North's ruling Workers' Party Central Committee concluded four days of policy meetings led by its leader Kim. The report said Kim highlighted the progress made in the industrial and agricultural sectors in the first half of the year and presented goals and strategy for the second half. In a departure from usual reporting on his fiery remarks on arms development and anti-USA struggle at similar meetings, KCNA made scant mention of any discussion on defence or foreign policy, only saying Kim gave directions for its armed forces.

## 10-year-old boy electrocuted while trying to retrieve ball in Mumbai

**MUMBAI.** A 10-year-old boy climbing an iron fence to retrieve a ball from the rooftop of a police chowky was electrocuted on Sunday. Adil Chaudhary was a class V school student. The incident occurred at Meenatai Thackeray ground in New Mhada Colony, Goregaon East. A video shot soon after the incident quickly went viral. Around 3 pm on Sunday, Chaudhary was playing cricket with his friends at Meenatai Thackeray ground. During the game, a ball went onto the roof of a police chowky constructed by Mhada. While attempting to retrieve the ball, the child was electrocuted.



The Dindoshi police moved the child to the Trauma

Care Hospital in Jogeshwari. His body was later sent for a post-mortem examination. An accidental death report has been recorded by the police.

Chaudhary's father is a tempo driver. Police said they did not come across any electric wires at the location. They will carry out an investigation to determine if anybody's negligence led to the incident.

## Heavy rain continues to lash Gujarat, causing road closures, flooding in cities

**VALSAD.** Gujarat continues to experience heavy rainfall, causing significant disruptions and damage across the state. In Valsad, severe flooding has led to the closure of two main underpasses, with the city receiving 3.45 inches of rain in just two hours on Tuesday morning.

The police have placed barricades to prevent access to the flooded underpasses, and waterlogging has affected the service road of National Highway 48 in the city.

Junagadh district has also been heavily impacted, with many roads, including two national highways, closed on Monday due to heavy rain. District authorities have reported the closure of three state highways, six major district connecting roads, and 40 panchayat roads due to flooding. "Three state highways in Junagadh have been closed. Once the water level goes down, the situation will be under control. In low-lying areas, we have issued alerts and closed waterlogged roads," said JP Zala, Junagadh deputy collector.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted that parts of south Gujarat and Saurashtra may receive very heavy rains in isolated places on July 2, while heavy rain is expected to lash several parts of north Gujarat, central Gujarat, and the Saurashtra region. On July 3, the IMD has forecasted very heavy rains in "Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Daman, and Dadra Nagar Haveli. The wet spell in Gujarat is attributed to two cyclonic circulations over the north and south of the state, according to the IMD. A 'red alert' has been issued for several districts, indicating



extremely heavy rain in Surat, Navsari, and Valsad in south Gujarat, as well as Jammagar, Porbandar, Junagadh, Dwarka, and Kutch in the Saurashtra-Kutch region. The continuous rain has caused damage to many roads in the state. In Ahmedabad Smart City, a massive sinkhole resembling a meteor crater formed when a portion of a road caved in during heavy rainfall at Shela. Waterlogging and uprooted trees have also

been reported in several places in Ahmedabad, with vehicles being damaged in KK Nagar. In a separate incident, part of the canopy at the passenger pickup and drop-off area of Rajkot airport collapsed on Saturday. According to Ministry of Civil Aviation sources, the canopy broke during maintenance work to push out accumulated water. Fortunately, no one was injured in the incident, and a detailed report has been requested.

## Teen sleepwalks to death after fall from 6th floor of his building in Mumbai

**MUMBAI.** A 19-year-old youth died on Sunday morning after he fell from his sixth-floor residence to the building's third-floor podium in Mazgaon. The victim was suffering from a sleepwalking condition, said the police. The police received a call from a private hospital, after which a team reached the hospital. Family members of the victim, Mustafa Chunawala, mentioned that he had a sleepwalking (somniaambulism) condition.

"His mother had woken up for prayers in the morning. Chunawala fell from the sixth floor to the third-floor podium. Hearing a thud, the family rushed to see what had happened and found Chunawala lying on the podium. He was rushed to the hospital and was declared dead upon arrival," said a police officer. The incident occurred around 5am on Sunday in a building on Nesbit Road in Mazgaon, Central Mumbai. An officer from the Byculla police said they have registered an accidental death case and an investigation is underway.

## Youth kill girlfriend, sat near his mother's grave before his father tracked him and handed over to police

**MUMBAI.** A youth strangled his girlfriend to death and left her house to end his life but did not dare to do so. This made him go to the Kabrastan (graveyard) sat beside his mother's grave in Andheri (East) for over five hours before his father located him and handed him to the Sahar police station at 12.30 pm on Sunday.

Police said the 22-year-old youth named Zaib Khawaja Solkar strangled his 18-year-old girlfriend, Sara Sayyed, to death in her flat at Ashok Tower in Marol Naka, Mumbai at 4.30 after she, a Class XII college student, allowed him access to her bedroom through the backdoor late on Saturday night.

Sayyed's father and younger brother, aged around 14, were asleep in the hall, unaware of Solkar's presence due to the locked bedroom door. "Solkar, who is pursuing an AC mechanic course after completing Class XII, confessed to having a fight with the victim after spending some time together. He used Sayyed's dupatta (scarf) to strangle her," said a police officer of the Sahar police station.

In the morning, Sayyed's family found her motionless and rushed her to the hospital, where she was declared dead on arrival. Police said after committing the crime, Solkar left the flat through the back door and purchased rat poison from the Chimanpada locality in Andheri (East).

Solkar said he tried to kill himself but did not dare to consume the poison. "This made him go to the graveyard and sit beside his mother's grave before his father tracked him. Solkar and the victim have known each other for the last three years. They even had a verbal fight on social media three days ago before he killed her early morning on Sunday," said the police. Police booked Solkar under the Indian Penal Code section 302 (murder) and took him into custody for five days.

## Mumbai man kills girlfriend, visits mom's grave; dad hands him to cops

**MUMBAI.** After allegedly strangling his girlfriend following a fight, a 22-year-old youth went to buy rat poison to kill himself but decided against it, and then he went to his mother's grave in Andheri (East) and sat beside it for more than five hours until his father located him and handed him to Sahar police station around 12.30pm on Sunday. Police said his father thought since the accused had committed a crime, he should be punished for it. Police said the youth, Zaib Khawaja Solkar, strangled his 18-year-old girlfriend, Sara Sayyed, in her flat at Ashok Tower in Marol Naka at 4.30am on Sunday. She had allowed him access to her bedroom through the backdoor late on Saturday. Police went through CCTVs in the locality as there was none in the victim's building. "Solkar's father, an autorickshaw driver, said as his son did not return home at night, he thought he might be at the graveyard which he visited when depressed. He found his son there who confessed to the crime," said a Sahar police officer.

Police said Sayyed's father and brother, aged around 14, were asleep in the hall, unaware of Solkar's presence in their home due to the locked bedroom door. "Solkar, who has been pursuing an AC mechanic course after his Class 12, confessed to having had a fight with the victim, a Class 12 student. He used her dupatta to kill her," said an officer. In the morning, her family found her motionless and rushed her to a hospital where she was declared dead on arrival. Police said after committing the crime, Solkar left and purchased rat poison from Andheri's Chimanpada locality to die by suicide. Solkar reportedly said he could not bring himself to consume the poison though. "This made him visit his mother's grave and sit beside it. Solkar and the victim had known each other for three years.

## Mumbai's Barfiwala flyover opened for traffic, no one knows who did it

**MUMBAI.** Andheri's Gokhale bridge made news once again on Monday morning when C D Barfiwala flyover that connects with it opened to motorists -and abruptly shut after half an hour. The connector is now slated to open on July 4 at 5pm.

BMC said the plastic barricades on the flyover had been removed by unknown persons and they will launch an inquiry into the issue. Traffic police

said the Barfiwala flyover, once open, can be used only by light vehicles. They said the reason is that it connects with the partially opened Gokhale bridge which permits light vehicles to ply to avoid load on the structure for commuter safety as it is being used for two-way traffic. The traffic department had written to BMC asking it to fulfil certain requirements before the Barfiwala connector could



be thrown open to motorists. The letter, dated June 30, asked for safety infrastructure such as a traffic signal at the location where the Barfiwala connector and Gokhale bridge meet. The letter asked for a speed breaker, a pedestrian crossing and a stop line to be constructed around 35 feet from the start of the Barfiwala flyover, at Mayor Hall signal, to the location where it connects with

Gokhale bridge.

Locals said it was difficult to believe the barricades could be removed by the public and it was likely there was miscommunication between authorities. The entire Gokhale bridge is proposed to be opened in March 2025. This is also when the second arm of Barfiwala flyover would be ready. Meanwhile, BMC is likely to build a staircase for pedestrians for East-West connectivity in Andheri.

## SAD rebels apologise at Akal Takht for Akali rule 'mistakes'

**Amritsar.** Rebel Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leaders on Monday appeared before the Akal Takht here, the highest temporal seat of the Sikhs, and apologised for the "mistakes" committed when the party was in power in Punjab. Acknowledging their involvement in the "religious transgressions" during the party's 10-year rule from 2007 to 2017, the rebel SAD group appealed to Akal Takht jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh to pronounce penance upon them and departed after offering prayers for the 'chardi kalan' of SAD.

Party members Bibi Jagir Kaur, Parminder Singh Dhindsa, Surjit Singh Rakhra, Prem Singh Chandumajra, Sarwan Singh Phillaur, Suchha Singh Chottepur and Bhai Manjit Singh submitted a letter to the Akal Takht jathedar, blaming SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal for the mistakes that, according to them, eroded the trust of a substantial segment of the Sikh community and people of Punjab in the SAD leadership. These "missteps" resulted in several failures of the SAD gov't and Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) following which the party encountered a palpable estrangement from the populace of Punjab, said the rebel SAD group while mentioning "four mistakes". Highlighting the first, they said that in 2007, Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim conducted a baptism ceremony clad in an attire resembling that of Sikh's 10 master Guru Gobind Singh following which a police case was filed against him.

We also published the following articles recently SAD rebels apologise before Akal Takht for 'religious transgressions' during Akali rule Rebel Shiromani Akali Dal members seek forgiveness from Akal Takht for past mistakes, urging Sukhbir Singh Badal to step down. They apologise for religious transgressions, blame Badal for errors, and appeal for penance, highlighting the importance of positivity within the party.

## State's Q1 GST revenue collection up by 14%

**Ahmedabad.** Goods and services tax collection from Gujarat grew by 14% in the first quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal year. The state's revenues from GST stood at Rs 29,621 crore from April to June 2024, higher than Rs 26,066.48 crore collected in the same period last year, according to data from the state commercial tax department. Economic growth and improved industrial activity in addition to inflation are key factors behind the rise in the state's revenues through GST, sources told.

This revenue includes GST, VAT, electricity duty, excise duty and business tax. In the 2023-24 fiscal year, GST collection clocked 9.7% growth to Rs 1.25 lakh crore from Rs 1.14 lakh crore in 2022-23, according to the data from the Union finance ministry.

As the GST regime completed seven years on Monday - July 1, Gujarat has fared well, clocking an average of 14% growth in tax revenues, according to sources. "There is a marked improvement in economic activity in Gujarat over the past year, with revival in order volumes, greater exports, higher sales and further expansion of industries augmenting industrial growth, revenue and tax collection," said a state government source, on condition of anonymity.

The increase in GST mop-up also reflects a disciplined taxpayer base with a greater degree of compliance in return filing and payments. At least 80% of taxpayers in Gujarat file returns before the deadline. Overall, the state's compliance is above 95%, the official added.

In June 2024, the state revenue department received Rs 9,589 crore from EST, VAT, excise duty and business tax, a 14% increase from June 2023. Gujarat has recorded a collection of Rs 5,561 crore in June this year, which is 10% more than in June 2023.

In FY 2024, VAT revenue from non-subsumed items was estimated to be Rs 3,149 crore, tax revenue was Rs 858 crore and business tax revenue was Rs 21 crore.

## Solitary complaint filed under BNS in city on Day 1

**Ahmedabad.** On Sunday, 193 criminal cases were filed in the city, but there were just 13 filed on Monday (till 6pm). Of these 13, only one case was registered under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), under Section 281, which deals with rash driving.

City police said of the 13 complaints filed until 6pm on Monday, eight were under the Prohibition Act, one under the Prohibition Act and Motor Vehicles Act, one complaint under the Gambling Act, and a complaint under IPC Section 379 for theft. Three new criminal laws — the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA) — came into force on Monday. These new laws have replaced the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act respectively. The complaints filed in the city by traffic and city police

show that the first complaint in Ahmedabad city under BNS was filed by B Division traffic police against Mukesh Dantani, a resident of Nava Vadaj. Dantani was caught driving his scooter on the wrong side of the road near the Old Vadaj Circle. This was the only complaint filed under BNS on the first day of it coming into force. Officials said that usually, if a person is caught drunk, city police register a case under IPC Section 279 (riding a vehicle in a negligent manner) along with charges under the Motor Vehicles Act and prohibition laws. However, on Monday, Isanpur police registered a case only under the Motor Vehicles Act and prohibition laws. In Odhav, a vehicle theft from the night of June 23 was reported under IPC Section 379. Officials stated that traffic police have begun a one-month campaign against wrong-side driving. During this drive, an

average of 200 complaints for driving on the wrong side were registered every day since June 22, but on Monday, just one was filed, by B Division police. This was the only complaint under BNS. Officials also said police personnel are yet to fully understand the changes in the new laws. Police remand period continues to be 15 days under BNS: Amit Shah Amit Shah highlighted the replacement of the British-era Indian Evidence Act with the BSA under the new laws. The provisions of BNS, BNSS, and BSA include a 15-day police custody within a 60-day limit, with the Delhi case resolved using the review provision. 111407664

New Criminal laws come into effect: CID updates registration system for BNS sections in Maharashtra Police personnel transition to BNS sections for FIR registration, facing challenges due to familiarity with IPC.

## Schools reopen, UP Board start preparations for 2025 exams

**Prayagraj.** With the opening of schools, authorities of Uttar Pradesh Board of Secondary Education (UP Board) have started preparations for the board examination 2025.

Board secretary Dibyakant Shukla has announced the timetable for advance registration for the academic session 2024-25 in schools from classes 9 to 12. Shukla said new admissions will be taken till Aug 5 and the exam fee received from the students of high school and intermediate can be deposited in the treasury by Aug 10. After this the deposited examination fee and

the educational details of the students will need to be uploaded on the board's official website www.upmpsp.edu.in by Aug 16, said Shukla.

After Aug 10, the last date for depositing the examination fee in the treasury through challan with a late fee of Rs 100 per student is Aug 16. Information about late fee and educational details of students will then need to be uploaded on the board's website by Aug 20. After receiving the checklist of the students uploaded on the website, the principals will check their details including name, parent's name, date of birth, subject

and photo etc from Aug 21-31, he added. Shukla further said if there is any correction that needs to be made following the scrutiny of applications, principals will be able to do it between Sep 1 and 10. No new details of students will, however, be allowed to be uploaded during this period. After that, the principals will submit the photo roll and copy of the treasury receipt of the students to the regional office concerned of the board by Sep 30 through the office of the district inspector of schools (DIoS) concerned, he added. Likewise, for advance registration of classes 9 and 11 students, the principals will

upload the details of registration fee and educational details of those taking admission in classes 9 and 11 by Aug 25. After receiving the checklist, principals will check their details from Aug 26 to Sep 5. Any kind of correction needed to be done will be carried out between Sep 6-20 and a copy of the photo roll and treasury sheet will need to be submitted to the office of the DIoS concerned by Sep 30 for sending it to the regional office of the board concerned, Shukla added. WB Madhyamik exam schedule 2025 announced, begins from Feb 10: Check detailed class 10 boards timetable here The WBSE

Madhyamik 2025 exam schedule, 2024 PPR results, and pass percentage data, along with top ranks, highlight the presence of 4.03 lakh boys, 5.08 lakh girls, and 2.675 exam centers. Full rollout of new laws in UTs by Aug 15: The nationwide implementation of the new criminal laws is expected to take 3-4 years to achieve 100% coverage, with upgrades to the criminal justice infrastructure in progress to meet the requirements. The process, guided by Home Minister Amit Shah's directive, involves a phased approach starting from police stations to eventually cover entire states.

## Civility a casualty in Biden-Trump debate

ANOTHER hallowed beacon of democracy died in the US last week on the day the country's two main presidential candidates in this November's election held their first debate in a cable TV studio. The independent Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) had steered some of the mainstay quadrennial events in US presidential politics, beginning with the election to the White House in 1988. Its 36-year record has been so outstanding that presidential debates hosted by the CPD became one of the most popular events of every presidential cycle in the oldest democracy in the world. At least 15 nations around the world, especially emerging post-Cold War democracies like Romania and Ukraine and newly born countries like Bosnia-Herzegovina, have adopted the US presidential debate model. CPD staff have worked with these 15 struggling democracies to implement its model during their presidential election cycles. This year's US presidential aspirants — Democrat Joe Biden and Republican Donald Trump — junked the CPD and opted for a studio debate at the CNN headquarters in Atlanta. For the first time, the debate was held without an audience and without its customary welcome applause for the candidates. Having been part of the foreign media contingent at 12 previous presidential debates, the revelry associated with them is memorable for this writer. Popular participation in those debates was not confined to the auditoriums where the candidates sparred. Such democracy in action eventually became folklore and legends in towns which hosted the debates. Festivities on the streets, in pubs and at debate-watch parties, combined with the serious business of politics, saw the dramatis personae in election after election travel to small towns and diverse states. The CPD debates mostly took place in universities. This, in turn, motivated young people to vote in a country where the turnout has been low for many decades. The CPD may live on in East Europe and Africa, but in the US, the institution is dead, for now.

Customary civility was a casualty during the first Biden-Trump debate of 2024. The two candidates did not shake hands like they used to amidst thundering bipartisan applause from the audience. That tradition now lies buried amidst partisan acrimony. At the two Biden-Trump debates in 2020, too, the candidates did not shake hands on the way to the lecterns. But that was under medical advice because the Covid-19 pandemic was raging at that time. Physical contact was discouraged, especially among those over 60 years of age, and social distancing was encouraged among all. The wives of the candidates did not hug each other after the debates in 2020, as was the practice because of the pandemic. Nor did they do so last week. There was no audience and the spouses could be a part of to climb the podium and join their husbands at the end of the 90-minute grilling by the moderators, usually TV anchors with coast-to-coast name recognition. Such gracious acts in the past were integral to the idea that when the elections were over, the US would go back to truly being the united states of the American people. No more. No matter who wins the November election, the US Supreme Court made it explicit last week that its judges were no longer going to sit back and watch their country descend into a banana republic and hurtle towards African- or Latin American-style chaos in public life. Judicial activism will restrain Biden and Trump, whoever of the two gets to occupy the White House for the next four years. The violence on Capitol Hill on January 6, 2021, has deeply impacted every American who believes in the rule of law. A spate of Supreme Court decisions, coincidentally made during the debate week, warned that Trump appointees to the highest court would not be his poodles or be grateful to him for their lifetime jobs.

## Onus on West to bring Ukraine war to an end

Russia has been the steadiest of India's allies, both in the best and the worst of times. The bilateral relations just cannot be undermined or weakened.

LOVE him or hate him, but you just cannot ignore him. His comments and views merit an in-depth analysis. In a BBC interview and an article in The Telegraph, Nigel Farage of the Reform UK party (a pivotal figure of Brexit) questioned the West's conventional wisdom: "Don't blame me for telling the truth about Putin's war. Facing up facts about the mistakes of the past has to be the first step towards the peaceful future we all want to see..." Farage was speaking on the genesis of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the ongoing war.

Without mincing words, Farage called out the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine as "immoral and outrageous". Yet, he recalled his 2014 statement in the European Parliament that "there will be a war in Ukraine" because "the expansion of NATO and the European Union was giving Putin a pretext he would not ignore". Farage added: "If you poke the Russian bear with a stick, don't be surprised if he responds." That takes us to the history as well as geography of the world and of Russia to assess the present imbroglio that the West is well aware of, owing to its past of gory wars and expansionist power politics for two centuries. Let's be clear about Russia's size, location, position and vastness. The erstwhile USSR had an area of 2.26 crore square km. It lost 55 lakh square km in the 1991 breakup. Fourteen of its border provinces became independent. In one stroke, the "land border" came back to haunt Russian rulers as the prime factor for the safety, security and sovereignty of mighty Moscow. Naval historian Alfred Thayer Mahan's theory that "land powers are perennially insecure" holds true for Moscow as things have gone from bad to worse. Thus, no sooner did Russia shrink — what Napoleon and Hitler failed to do with their guns — that NATO and EU got into the expansion game, as is made clear by Farage. After the 9/11 terror attacks, Russia unconditionally supported the US, leading to the Moscow-Washington summit of Ljubljana, Slovenia, in June 2002. However, it was followed by NATO leading the charge for the membership of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia to expand its zone of political and military influence. NATO was closing in towards 21st-century



Russia's underbelly as well as routes through which Napoleon and Hitler ravaged Russia. What happened before begs a reference pertaining to the Russian-speaking demography in Ukraine. Essentially, the problem originated because a lack of "national or ethnic homogeneity" is common to all former Soviet republics. The issue of Russian minorities proved to be the most difficult to resolve in Estonia, Latvia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan. In the December 1991 plebiscite in Crimea (which has 90 per cent Russian-speaking population), "54.2 per cent voted in favour of independence from Ukraine. It is confirmed by the election of the Crimean parliament with a majority firmly in favour of a union with Russia" (from Frontiers: Territories and State Formation in Modern World by Malcolm Anderson, 1996). Let's now look beyond Russia. Why did France and Germany fight for years over Alsace-Lorraine and Eupen-Malmedy? Why did Germany find it compelling to annex Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia, Schleswig and Holstein in the 19th and 20th centuries? Why does China object to anyone even talking about Tibet and Taiwan? Why can't India allow any power to go near Bhutanese territory and why does it want its

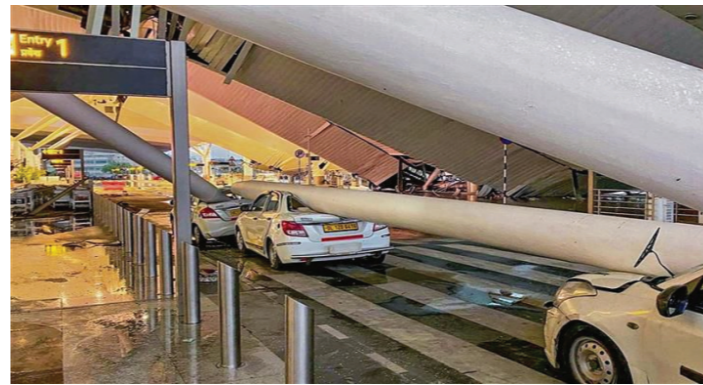
island neighbours not to pose a threat to Indian security? Why does Iran want the narrow and shallow Strait of Hormuz to be free of US carriers? Why did Margaret Thatcher fight the 1982 war in the Falkland Islands, which are some 10,000 miles from the British Isles? Why does Australia feel apprehensive of any non-Western nation approaching Tasmania, New Zealand and islands around Canberra? Why did the Anglo-French forces fight Egypt in 1956 over the Suez Canal, which legitimately belongs to Cairo and neither to Paris nor London? Why did the US retaliate against Japan with atomic bombs in 1945 and punish Iraq and Afghanistan over the 9/11 attacks? Why is the Levant war, instead of ceasing, showing signs of extinction of several groups which flourished for years owing to the geopolitical interests of the West? Can it be said that whereas war is the terror of the prosperous, terror is the war of the poor?

Coming back to Farage, there is no doubt that Russian President Vladimir Putin is the aggressor and Ukraine the victim. The West did provoke Putin to the point of no return. It's, therefore, the duty and responsibility of the West to find ways to stop the Ukraine war. The 28-month-old war between Moscow and Kyiv is the longest and most destructive in mainland Europe since World War II. The entire West has been shaken to its foundations, resulting in unprecedented political, economic, social and diplomatic disarray, thereby creating a global crisis. India is right in taking a neutral stand. Nevertheless, the increasing Western pressure on New Delhi to castigate Russia and throttle its economy must be withstood. The business of 'sanctions' is becoming a joke being played by the prosperous West. Russia has been the steadiest of India's allies, both in the best and the worst of times. The bilateral relations just cannot be undermined or weakened.

## Airport roof collapse

Wake-up call for infra and urban planning

FRIDAY's roof collapse at the busy Delhi airport serves as a reminder of the underlying problems plaguing India's ambitious infrastructure push. The incident, which occurred during the heaviest rainfall recorded in Delhi on a June day in 88 years, caused the death of one person and left several injured. It not only disrupted airport operations but also shook public confidence in the robustness of our infrastructure. The incident is symptomatic of a broader problem as similar lapses have been reported across the country. From the collapse of bridges in Bihar to water leakage in the newly built Ram Temple and the fury unleashed by the monsoon in Himachal Pradesh, such disasters raise questions about planning, execution and maintenance of projects. The problem isn't merely the rain; it is faulty drainage. As cities expand and green spaces turn to grey concrete, rainwater floods roads. Most new development projects lack proper stormwater drains, and many existing ones are



repurposed for sewage. Elevated green belts and tiled roadsides obstruct natural drainage, leading to persistent urban flooding — an anthropogenic phenomenon. It calls for a re-evaluation of urban planning. The Delhi airport incident also underscores the necessity of monitoring major projects. The Modi

government has touted infrastructure development as a cornerstone of India's economic policy, with more than Rs 44 trillion to be invested over the next two years. However, the emphasis on rapid construction has seemingly overshadowed the importance of stringent standards and maintenance. The rush to inaugurate projects, often ahead of elections, compromises quality, turning these marvels into electoral gimmicks. Regular audits, adherence to international norms and accountability mechanisms are essential to prevent such tragedies. Ultimately, infrastructure is about more than just economic growth; it is about the wellbeing of the people, with their safety being a non-negotiable aspect of development. The roof collapse should catalyse a comprehensive overhaul of infrastructure policies to prioritise long-term safety and sustainability.

## No room for complacency in J&K as terror threat persists

A decline in violence and the diminished residual strength of terrorists active in J&K should not lull us into a false sense of security and normalcy.

LAST month, terrorists opened fire on a bus carrying pilgrims returning from the Shiv Khori shrine in Reasi. The driver lost control of the bus, causing it to veer off the road and plunge into a gorge. Nine people were killed and 33 others injured. PM Narendra Modi chaired a review meeting days later to assess the situation in Jammu and Kashmir after a spike in terror incidents. He was given an overview by Home Minister Amit Shah and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval. Reportedly, he directed them to deploy the full spectrum of the armed forces' counter-terror capabilities. This directive does not call for any dramatic or knee-jerk reaction by the security establishment. However, it is imperative to carry out an in-depth analysis of the security situation and recognise the conceptual shifts taking place in the character of this conflict so as to suitably tailor and direct the state response.

We need to understand that, historically, all conflicts — even the seemingly intractable ones — transform over a period of time, and so has the conflict in J&K. There are numerous factors, both internal and external, including geopolitical changes, that alter the very nature of conflicts. In the state-turned-UT, external factors are more pronounced than the internal ones. Therefore, the intensity of violence in J&K is dependent directly on the role and scope of the support provided by Pakistan to keep the pot boiling. Even if the power of the Pakistani army diminishes, a strong democratic government is unlikely to give up the use of terrorism as an instrument of state policy. With an uncontrollable internal security situation, a fragile economy and an increasingly adverse geostrategic environment, Pakistan has been forced to scale down the terrorists' activities. Therefore, a decline in violence and the diminished residual strength of terrorists active in J&K should not lull us into a false sense of security and normalcy. In such circumstances, the clamour for the reduction of force levels or the revocation of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act

from various quarters should not unduly influence policy decisions. The generalisation of episodic events can cloud our judgement. PM Modi's two-day visit to J&K (June 20-21) to launch a developmental project worth Rs 1,800 crore and participate in the International Yoga Day celebrations was significant but not an indicator of normalcy in the UT.

The Army needs to retain and sustain a robust counter-infiltration posture on the LoC and an extensive counter-terrorism grid in the depth areas irrespective of overall violence levels in J&K. Stability and continuity of these grids are established over a protracted period and cannot be achieved by the induction of incremental forces following an incident. A responsive counter-terrorism deployment with a large footprint in the depth areas denies operating space to the terrorists, who otherwise would have free rein to influence the local populace and execute their nefarious designs with impunity. The Rashtriya Rifles units provide the foundation for such a deployment, and their combat edge should not be diluted. At present, there is no room for complacency or letting the guard down in view of the security situation in J&K. The gains made by the security forces should not be frittered away.

The terrorists involved in the recent Reasi and Hiranagar incidents are believed to have crossed the international border, exploiting the gaps in deployment. The deployment of the Central Armed Police Forces and the border police and their operating procedures along the border fence also need to be modified. The existing surveillance mechanisms are insufficient to prevent well-coordinated and determined infiltration attempts. At this stage, the situation is not conducive for the police to take over the task of the Army/paramilitary forces completely. However, an all-out effort should be made to ensure that the police become confident, self-sufficient and ready for the

challenges of the future. Its equipment profile and training threshold need to be improved accordingly. The use of artificial intelligence in the recognition of terrorists/overground workers (OGWs) and monitoring their communications, anti-drone measures and leveraging technology to counter IEDs (improvised explosive devices) should be incorporated on priority.



The goals set originally by the parties to the conflict also change as they come to be regarded as unattainable or requiring unacceptable efforts. Accordingly, while Pakistan's stated aim is to annex J&K, apparently it has been modified to wait for favourable conditions. Similarly, resources and methods have been modified. The attack on Hindu pilgrims in Reasi was an attempt to create communal hatred among religious groups through their network, including OGWs. The use of IEDs is also likely to rise as a low-cost option.

The Election Commission stated in May that J&K had recorded the highest voter turnout in a Lok Sabha poll in the last 35 years, with the Kashmir valley witnessing a "massive" 30-point jump in poll participation this year compared to 2019. It is a clear mandate by the people of the UT for good governance and aspirations for a better quality of life. While the Jammu region has been hit by a number of terrorist strikes of late, there is a perceptible transformation in the attitude of people and waning support for the terrorists. Overall, the majority of the population remains neutral, and it is this segment that we should strive to win over. Jihad is no longer a cause for the mass movement, but it continues to be a means of prosperity for some. Fear of the gun continues to be the main sustainer of terrorism. The populace has become aware of the benefits of the expanding Indian economy and those accruing locally from expanding tourism and a dip in violence. Changes in the dynamics of terrorism in J&K necessitate the security forces to suitably modify their operational techniques in order to maintain their continued ascendancy over the terrorists. Accordingly, the forces' operations should focus on making the terrorists irrelevant by removing their ability to influence people.

Gradually, as the violence levels drop further and the residual strength of terrorists reduces, the operations of the forces will need to change focus from carrying out purely offensive operations aimed at the destruction of terrorists to positive steps designed to retain and increase the allegiance of the public. Combined with other government initiatives in terms of economic, political and social measures, such changes are likely to reduce public support for the terrorists.

Parents can benefit by looking at themselves as coaches who build life skills. In an extract from her book, a family therapist and psychologist prescribes a gentler approach. We measure our worth according to how well the children fit into those dreams. If they fall short, we feel cheated, angry, depressed and wonder 'Why me?' We feel inadequate and, in our anxiety, react by cranking up our resentment towards our children. We become judgemental, critical and comparative. And, therefore, get stuck in a spiral of negativity. Before we know it, unhealthy patterns of a lifetime get carved out. A long time back I came across this book titled, Stop Parenting, Start Coaching and I really loved the title. It resonated so deeply with my belief that our role as parents is to help our children build life skills. Here are seven steps to highly effective coaching.

**CLEAR GOAL**

'What is the one skill I want to nurture in my child which will help her become a more healthy, responsible, independent and happy human being?' Depending on the age of the child, it could range from eating well, sleeping on her own, staying fit, doing less screen, being more organised, managing time better, being financially savvy, getting better grades, being more communicative, articulate, confident, happy, sociable, respectful, emotionally balanced, focused and so on and so forth. We would all like that in our children. It makes our work easier as parents and feels good to boot. However, just start with one or two skills. Make it very specific. Rather than making good habits a goal as it is too vague, be more specific and narrow it down to one or, maybe, two activities. For example, clear up the bathroom after using it or go and play in the park every day.

Rate it on a scale of 0 to 10 where 5 is in the middle

'Where is my child right now in that skill?'

'Where does he need to be?'

'What is the one step he needs to take that will help him move one point up in that scale?'

'What would I need to do to help him move one step further?'

These are extremely important questions as they help you clarify the goal and establish the next step forward, for you and for your child. For example, you want your child to get better grades. You might identify that on the scale he is at 3 where the goal is 8. I would always suggest that you stay away from making 10 as a goal as it will then make you seek perfection (which I think is a huge problem) and establish extremely high expectations (for a child who is at 3 right now). The next step that you might think would work in helping him move to 4 would be to make him sit down and study for an extra half hour every day. You might want to keep yourself free around that time so that you could provide him some level of 'scaffolding' till he is ready to sit and work on his own.

**ASK INSTEAD OF TELLING**

We are constantly telling children what they need to do and not ask them as much as is required what they would want to do. So, you could sit down with your child and ask, 'Are you happy with your grades right now? Do you think you are putting in enough time? How can I help you in this?' Make sure you ask without sounding sarcastic or angry.

**DRAW UP A PLAN**

For any change to happen you would have to get down and draw up a clear plan. So you might want to first make sure that your connect with your child is solid and strong. Then you might want to sit with him and ask him a few questions regarding how he feels about his grades. Initially, he might show a bit of his rebellious child (I hate studying, it is so boring); listen to him, empathise with it (I



7 effective ways to coach

# Your Kids



and 'careful with her things'. We have to water the wholesome seeds rather than just the negativity seeds of lack, deficit and what's wrong.

**EXTERNALISATION**

However, you might want to address the 'problem' sometimes, but how can you do that without the child feeling attacked. In Narrative Therapy, we use an approach pioneered by the late Michael White called

Externalisation. Through this approach, we place the problem outside the child rather than within him and give it a name. So, for example, if the child is struggling with anger we might call the problem Anger and talk to the child as if the Anger was separate from him. So the questions statements might go as, 'Did you see how Anger was controlling you yesterday?' (It is best to do this when the child is calm and more receptive.) I think Anger is really troubling you nowadays in the evening.' 'Can you make out when Anger is coming close?' It might seem a little bizarre but children take to this slight change in language and approach very well. Personifying feelings, difficulties, imaginations and fantasies come very easily to them.

Do remember you have to be consistent in this approach otherwise you might end up confusing the child. If you feel unsure about it or after trying it you feel it does not work, just drop it. It needs practice and a way of thinking (the problem is the problem, the child is not the problem) that does not come easily to most of us. The best part of externalisation is that it can be tried with so many issues - anger, tantrums, crankiness, bed-wetting, soiling, laziness, procrastination, etc. I remember when my daughter was little she was going through a phase when she would become a little whiny at times when she was tired or hungry.

We would playfully call that mood 'Chimpu' and there was much talk about how Chimpu was troubling Anya and what we needed to do to make it run away and leave Anya alone. This was a sure way to get her giggling and in her usual bubbly, happy mood soon.



know it can be a drag sometimes. I remember feeling like that, but bring him back to the issue (I can understand you find it boring but we still need to do it). After being listened to and understanding your point of view, he might agree that he needs to work on his grades too. That's when you need to gently work out a plan of action. Make sure you don't make it too overwhelming and remember he is at 3 and we just want him to move up to 4 and not 8. Work out when he could take out that hour for studying, where he would like to study, with whom, how, etc.

**RHYTHMS AND ROUTINES**

When we lived in England, I heard a very experienced nanny say once, 'There is nothing like a bad child, there are just bad routines!' It sounds a bit drastic but there is a lot of truth in that statement. I do believe that if children follow a clear routine then you have already won half the battle. Routines give a rhythm and flow to the day. If a child knows that after school she can relax for an hour followed by homework time at 4 p.m., playtime from 5 to 7 p.m. and then bath, dinner, reading in bed and

lights off at 9 p.m., then chances of her following it every day without much protest are higher. However, if there is no clear routine and the homework can be done anytime she chooses or dinner time changes every day, then she might push things around as she deems fit and everything might turn into a battle ground. It could vary during the holidays when you make it more flexible with timings that can be stretched a little like 'get ready and finish breakfast by 10 a.m.' or 'finish homework before going to the park in the evening'. Teenagers can be given a choice in making their own time schedule with some basic expectations outlined by you. I would also like to point out that it is most important that as parents we also need to follow a routine before we start advocating it to our children. Do remember that children have very sensitive hypocrisy radars.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Recognitions are a very powerful tool in parenting. They are about acknowledging and celebrating the child in front of you. It is about building in the child a sense of

worthiness that is authentic and genuine. It is not about praising and making them feel good about themselves but about recognising and valuing every trait and skill that you want to nurture in them. The former makes them feel they have to please, perform and be perfect in order to get appreciation, whereas the latter builds a solid sense of 'I am valued for who I am right now'. So let's see how recognitions can be used as a coaching tool too. Take an example of a child who is being trained to be more organised.

On a scale of 0 to 10, she is on 3 and needs to reach 6:

- Through active recognitions you could highlight the child every time you see her put her things in the proper place: 'I see you have put the books in your school bag.'
  - By giving value recognitions you could focus on the skills you want to help build in your child: 'I saw you put the toothbrush and toothpaste back in the mug. I see that your organisational muscles are becoming stronger.'
  - Proactive recognitions could be used to highlight the exceptions: 'I did notice that rather than throwing the towel on the floor, you hung it back on the peg. I think the towel looks really happy!'
  - Finally, creative recognitions to showcase little opportunities for success. So, after baking a cake, both of you could clear up the kitchen together and you could tell others how your little one 'was so helpful in cleaning up and putting everything back where it belonged'.
- Therefore, through recognitions, the child is able to see and build another side to her identity, which is just not 'messy', 'disorganised', 'chaotic' but also 'organised'

## What are you buying your pet this Puja?

**Maa Durga and her beloved pet lion are all set to pay us their mandatory annual visit. Soon, the sounds of dhaks and cymbals will fill the air and we'll pull out our brand new clothes and accessories to accessories to dress up for our reunion with the goddess.**

But have we forgotten someone here, like those furry lit bundles of love who welcome us with excited barks or purrs every time we return home? Not really, says Subhajit Saha, owner of Pet Palace. "Earlier, people would only buy clothes for their pets, but now they've become a little more thoughtful. Fancy steel bowls, chew toys, combs, flyer disks, slicker brush, colourful leashes and collars are among the bestselling gift items this season. The sale goes up during the Pujas and it's heartening to see that people are buying new stuff for their pets in the festive season," he says. From clothes like smart jackets and dainty frocks to accessories like cosy beds, colourful bows, pet owners in the city have been smitten by this adorable new trend. They are thronging pet stores to buy their furry friends a whole new wardrobe for Puja. Shaswati Basu, who works with a travel and tourism company, is busy shopping for



herself and her precious spitz, Diamond. "I've bought satin ribbons of various colours for Diamond as well as a new belt so that he feels fancy. I will dress him up in ribbons of different hues on each of the four days of Puja. I want him to look his best. I've also bought special treats for him," she says. Professional contemporary dancer Dipshikha

Ghosh has also been busy shopping for her babies - Stuart, a two-and-half-year-old spitz and Scooby, a four-month-old golden retriever. "I have a 12-year-old son and when I went out to shop for him, I couldn't stop myself from shopping for my fur babies too. So, I got them collars and am also planning to buy them quirky T-shirts and toys for Puja. Pets are like our own children and they should not be dispossessed of gifts during the festive season and I'm really looking forward to take them out during the festival in their new collars and tees," she says. Snehasish Sawoo, owner of the pet store, Zoo o Pet, feels, unlike last year, there has been a steep rise in pet shopping this season. "Earlier, there was demand for new collars and bowls, but this season, there has been a considerable rise in the sale of other accessories. I have had customers coming in to order dog bags, T-shirts and shoes. Some have even ordered customized shoes for their cats," he says.

## Things you should never say to a mom with a colicky baby

- Have you tried... (insert cliché parenting advice)? You mean I'm supposed to feed him when he's hungry?!? Come on, people. We're tired, but we're not that tired!
- I only got six hours of sleep. Really? I can't remember the last time I slept more than an hour straight. Six hours of sleep sounds like a luxurious vacation.
- Did you see the latest episode last night? The only thing we use our television for anymore is watching videos of Liza Minnelli on repeat, because it's the only thing that keeps the baby quiet.
- Are you feeling okay? If you ever ask this question of a new mother, you should probably run and hope she's too exhausted and anemic to catch you.
- When is the last time you showered? I'm pretty sure it was a Tuesday, but what month?
- Cherish these times, they're only young once.

**If you have never had the privilege of spending an extended amount of time with a colicky baby, then here's some help — never utter these lines to mums of such infants!**

- Would you like to babysit?
- Tried cutting gluten? I'm pretty sure those are the only things keeping me sane. Don't take away my cookies.
- My kids never cried like that. No? But you might if you ever say that again!
- Thank God those days are behind me. I'm not sure you've rubbed enough salt in my wound. Here's some lemon juice.
- Why don't you post more photos online? Because who doesn't love babies with puffy eyes, red, blotchy faces, and snot bubbles oozing out of their noses?
- Weird, he never cries when I'm watching him. Then he's all yours!



# Swati Maliwal flags 'systemic erosion' of Delhi women panel, helpline shutdown

**In a letter to Arvind Kejriwal, Swati Maliwal underscored several issues being faced by the DCW, including lack of funding, cuts in budget and removal of staff.**

**New Delhi:** AAP Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal has urged Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to address the shutdown of the 181 women helpline and the "systemic erosion" of the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) since her resignation. In a letter to Arvind Kejriwal, Maliwal underscored several issues being faced by the DCW, including lack of funding, cuts in budget and removal of staff. Maliwal has also flagged that the post of DCW chief was lying vacant since she was nominated to Rajya Sabha by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). "I am writing this letter to bring attention to how the Delhi Government has been systematically dismantling the DCW since my resignation from the position of chairperson in January 2024. It is deeply regrettable that the systems that I painstakingly built since 2015, are being



destroyed by the Government," Maliwal said. "As the Chief Minister of a city infamous as the 'Rape Capital of the World', it is crucial to safeguard systems that protect women and girls," the AAP leader said. Maliwal said the shutdown of the 181 women helpline was "appalling", asserting that survivors of rape and other crimes have been left without crucial assistance for the

past 48 hours. Maliwal's letter comes a day after Delhi Women and Child Development minister Kailash Gahlot said the 181 helpline would now be run by his department rather than the DCW. Gahlot also said the number would be closed for a few days for transition. "The commission has been informed that the order was issued after the approval of the concerned minister and is supposedly in compliance with a Central government directive which states that 181 Women Helpline should be run by WCD departments in states," the letter said. "The DCW works under the aegis of the WCD Department. Hence, there was no need to take over the helpline from the commission," Maliwal wrote. She also alleged that funds to the commission were halted, disrupting its operations. "This funding deprivation over

the past six months has crippled the commission... the dedicated women ground staff members of the commission, many of whom are survivors of atrocities like acid attacks and sexual assault, have been deprived of their rightful salaries since November 2023," Maliwal further said. Maliwal, who has recently accused Kejriwal's aide Bibhav Kumar of assault, said the commission's budget was "unexpectedly reduced" by Rs 10 crore, amounting to a 28.5 per cent cut. The Rajya Sabha MP also said the DCW was ordered by the WCD department in April 2024 to immediately remove all its contractual staff. "However, the commission did not implement the decision, as this would have led to a complete breakdown in its functioning. Presently, the Commission has 100 staff out of which 88 are contractual and out-sourced staff. The commission will be left with only 12 staff if all these staff are removed," she said.

## Couple injured after shed collapses at Delhi's Hyatt Regency hotel

**New Delhi:** A temporary shed at a five-star hotel, Hyatt Regency, in southwest Delhi collapsed, injuring two people. The couple suffered minor head injuries in the incident that took place at 8 pm on Monday. The incident comes days after a portion of a roof at Delhi airport's Terminal-1 collapsed, killing one person and injuring six others. "A PCR call was received at around 8.56 pm (on Monday) in PS (police station) RK Puram about caving/falling of roof and injury to a husband and wife, who were staying at the Hyatt Regency," the police said in a statement.

Police said the couple, Amit Jain (42) and his wife Reva Jain (32), have said they do not want to take any action at the moment. Amit and Reva hail from Punjab's Ludhiana and run a business in Chandigarh. Police said the couple were standing near the pool, located on the ground floor of the hotel, when a portion of a shed collapsed and fell on them. The couple later made a PCR call and informed the police about the incident, PTI reported. "When a police team reached the spot, it found the injured had already been shifted to Fortis hospital, Vasant Kunj," the police said. They have been discharged from the hospital after receiving first aid. Police said the spot was forensically examined, and necessary action would be taken. "The scene was forensically examined, exhibits were lifted and videographed as per procedure. The couple has not filed a complaint yet. Further necessary action will be taken as per the law," police said.

## Maharashtra college bans jeans, T-shirts, jerseys on campus, releases notice

**New Delhi:** A college in Maharashtra stirred a controversy after it banned jeans on campus. An official note by Acharya Marathe College in Chembur stated the students wearing jeans would not be allowed to enter the college premises. The notice also stated that male students should come to college in formal attire.

The female students were allowed to wear ethnic or Western dress. However, any dress which revealed



their religion would not be allowed, the notice stated. "Students can wear half shirt or full shirt and trouser.

Girls can wear any Indian or Western outfit. Students shall not wear any dress which reveals religion or shows cultural disparity," the notice read. "Nakab, Hizab, Burkha, Stole, Cap, Badge etc shall be removed while going to common rooms on the ground floor and then only they can move throughout college campus.

Torn jeans, T-shirts, revealing dresses and jerseys are not allowed," it stated. Meanwhile, some students who did not attend college the day the notice was released, were not allowed to enter the premises the next day over the new dress code. According to the details, at least nine female students at the college also approached the Mumbai High Court against the college order.

## Bihar man gets Rs 52 lakh electricity bill, officials promise to rectify error

**New Delhi:** A man in Bihar's Muzaffarpur was shocked after receiving an electricity bill of over Rs 52 lakh. Harishankar Maniyari, who works as a medical representative, received a monthly electricity bill of Rs 52,43,327 for his home on June 27. The incident came to the fore when Maniyari's son informed him that his home's power had been disconnected. Upon receiving the information, he recharged his electricity connection for Rs 500, but even after that, the power was not restored. Maniyari downloaded his electricity bill, which showed the outstanding amount.

Left helpless in a dire situation, he approached the local electricity office to complain about the



electricity bill. Speaking to the media after the complaint, Maniyari said, "On June 27, my home's power was disconnected. When my son informed me about it, I immediately recharged my electricity account with Rs 500, but the power was not restored. Then, I downloaded the bill and it showed an outstanding amount of over Rs 52 lakh." "I met the power department's junior engineer in connection with the matter, but the electricity has not been restored yet. I

have been paying my bills on time. There is also a patient at my home. Despite this, my electricity has not been restored," Maniyari added. Meanwhile, the power department's executive engineer Shrawan Kumar Thakur said work had been ongoing to install smart meters in Muzaffarpur. He said the discrepancy might have occurred due to the readings of the old meter getting transferred to the new smart meter.

I think there was an error in the bill, it will be corrected. We are also developing a system under which every suspicious electricity bill will first reach the department and the bill will be generated," Kumar said while responding to queries about Maniyari's inflated bill.

## Bihar man refuses marriage proposal, lover cuts off his private parts

**New Delhi:** A woman working in a nursing home was arrested after she cut off the private parts of her lover and flushed them in a toilet when he refused to marry her in Bihar's Saran district, police said. The woman, Abhilasha, ran a nursing home in Madhaura and had been in an affair with Vedprakash, a ward councillor of the same facility, for the past several years. During this period, Abhilasha said she and Vedprakash maintained a physical relationship and that she got pregnant. She alleged that Vedprakash deceived her in the name of marriage.

Abhilasha said she had applied mehendi on her hands and claimed Vedprakash asked her to do a court marriage. When he refused to marry



again, the woman cut off the man's private parts with a knife and disposed them off in a toilet. Following that, police arrested the woman and recovered the knife that was used in the crime. She said she had no regrets about the gruesome attack on her lover, who is admitted to Patna Medical College in a serious condition. Saran

Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kumar Ashish said the woman was upset by her man's repeated refusal to marry her and that the wedding date was fixed seven to eight times. "A woman runs a private medical centre and had an affair with this boy for many years. The wedding date was also fixed seven to eight times, but the marriage could not happen. Upset by this, the woman called the young man and cut off his private parts," he said. "The police, on getting immediate information, sent the man for treatment. The woman was arrested with a knife. Further action is being taken. It will also be investigated whether her nursing home is registered or not," the SSP added.

## Child Labourers At Madhya Pradesh Distillery Worked 11 Hours A Day: Report

**New Delhi:** The Madhya Pradesh government's inspection of a Som Group distillery said child labourers, some aged between 13 and 17, were made to fill and pack liquor bottles and worked long hours. Police are investigating the use of child labour at the distillery in Madhya Pradesh after the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights said last month it had found 58 children working illegally at the factory. The commission released photos of some with hands showing chemical burns and said some children were transported in school buses for factory work.

A day after the children were found on June 15, an inspection report was drafted by the state's industrial health and safety department based on interviews with 27 workers, the youngest among them being 13 years old. The state says those aged under 21 cannot work in a liquor factory. The report, which is not public but was seen by Reuters, says children were working 11-hour shifts starting at 8 am. Som and the Madhya Pradesh government did not respond to Reuters' requests for comment. In a submission to the state government on June 18, also seen by Reuters, Som said some children would visit the company to deliver food and medicines to their parents, and no worker was younger than 21. Som is one of the smaller distilleries in India's thriving alcohol industry, where both foreign and domestic players operate. Its website describes it as an "internationally acclaimed brand" available in more than 20 markets including the US, New Zealand and the UK.

The incident has drawn attention to child labour in Indian supply chains. In 2021, Reuters reported an external audit of two Carlsberg warehouses found underage labourers at a location in Jharkhand. Carlsberg at the time said it had terminated the services of the third-party provider. In the Som inspection report, the state government said the children working there were not given training on how they could protect themselves from harmful chemicals. "Since it is hazardous work, there should have been a health centre at the factory," the report said.

The Madhya Pradesh government temporarily suspended Som Distillery's manufacturing licences, but the company has challenged the decision, saying there has been no conclusive finding of wrongdoing. After Som's challenge, a local court put the state's decision on hold and said it would next hear the case later this month. Som Distilleries and Breweries Ltd said the Madhya Pradesh plant was run by its "associate private limited company" and used labour supplied by contractors who may not have carried out proper age checks.

## 24-Year-Old Posed As Senior Citizen In 'Donkey Route' Attempt To Reach US

**New Delhi:** 24-Year-Old Posed As Senior Citizen In 'Donkey Route' Attempt To Reach US

Guru Sewak had dyed his hair and beard white and wore glasses to appear elderly.

**New Delhi:** In his desperate quest to leave the country for the United States, a 24-year-old man from Uttar Pradesh's Lucknow went to great lengths, including transforming his appearance to resemble a 67-year-old. On the evening of June 18, around 5:20 pm, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) stationed at Delhi Airport's Terminal 3 intercepted a suspicious couple. Guru Sewak Singh, accompanied by his wife, approached the immigration counter with forged documents and an appearance designed to deceive. The passport in his possession identified him as Rashwinder Singh Sahota, allegedly born on February 2, 1957 in Punjab's Jalandhar and bound for Canada on Air Canada flight AC 043. The passport bore the number 438851 and

listed Rashwinder's age as 67. However, discrepancies between Guru Sewak's physical appearance and the details in the passport immediately raised red flags. The immigration officer noted inconsistencies in his appearance, voice, and demeanor, sparking suspicion about the authenticity of the documents and the traveler's actual identity.

Closer examination revealed that Guru Sewak had dyed his hair and beard white and wore glasses to appear elderly. Despite these efforts, the mismatch between his youthful energy and the age stated on the passport was apparent. This inconsistency prompted CISF personnel to conduct a more thorough inspection. During the search, authorities found a soft copy of another passport on Guru Sewak's mobile phone. This passport, bearing the name Guru Sewak Singh and a birthdate of June 10, 2000, with the number V4770942,



revealed the passenger's true identity. Confronted with this evidence, Guru Sewak confessed to his real age and name, admitting that the passport in the name of Rashwinder Singh Sahota was forged. Further investigation uncovered a meticulously planned scheme. Guru Sewak disclosed that he and his wife had sought the help of a travel agent named Jaggi. Desperate to reach the United

States, Guru Sewak agreed to pay Jaggi a staggering ? 60 lakh for the journey. Jaggi's plan involved flying the couple to Canada, from where they intended to enter the United States using the "Donkey Route," a clandestine path often used by illegal immigrants.

Guru Sewak had already paid Jaggi ? 30 lakh as an advance. To facilitate the journey, Jaggi had arranged for a fake passport and the necessary visas, providing the couple with fabricated identities. The CISF handed Guru Sewak and his wife over to the Delhi Police for legal action. They were arrested on charges of possessing forged passports and attempting to travel abroad illegally. An FIR was registered, and authorities have launched an investigation to determine the extent of Jaggi's operations and uncover how many individuals he may have sent abroad using similar tactics.



# Learn the lingo

# Baby talk



Babbling and cooing are a baby's way of making small talk. A primer on important developmental milestones, and how to track them.

### Baby buddy

Babies are interested and fascinated by other babies well before they are a year old, but they don't know to 'play' yet. By 18-24 months, they take part in parallel play where they may play next to each other but not with each other. Interactive play starts after two years of age. "A quiet, passive child in the first few months is a cause for concern. No big smiles or warm expressions by six months or thereafter, no babbling after a year, or no use of gestures like pointing, showing or waving, no meaningful words by 16 to 18 months are all red flags. This means that development is not proceeding as expected," explains Deshpande. A child who is not responding to his name by 10 months will also need to consult a specialist.

signs. "A child with speech delays or difficulties with play skills could find it harder to socially engage," explains Dr Roopa Srinivasan, developmental paediatrician at Ummeed Child Development Centre. In serious cases, it could be diagnosed as developmental difficulties like speech delays, intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

### Toothless talk

Decoding baby talk begins with understanding that crying, garbled sounds or facial expressions are the first signs of communication, explains Deshpande. Language development includes speaking and understanding. So responsiveness like reacting to a mother's words, smiling back and cooing starts in the second month. "Identifying isolated hearing loss and addressing it in the first six months of life could ensure that a child has normal speech in future," says Srinivasan. Repetitive babbling starts in month six and goes on till the 12th. Here, nonverbal ways of communication like smiling responsively, shaking the head and knowing to wave back when saying 'bye' begins in the first year. By six-eight weeks, they have already started to show interest in their surroundings. Interactive games like peek-a-boo will stimulate this behavior.

### Parent playmate

Early exposure to the television has a proven impact on language development, attention and concentration skills and social skill development. "When a mother is singing to the baby, social and interactional skills develop as against when the same song is being played through a DVD," says Deshpande. Doctors suggest no TV-time until the child is two and not more than an hour thereafter. "Lack of interaction and stimulation at home is one of the most important environmental factors, which delay speech and language skills," says Srinivasan. Instead, she suggests reading children from infancy and speaking to the child while bathing, feeding and changing. Don't be afraid to speak in different languages, multilingualism doesn't cause speech and language delay. Children are impressionable long before parents realise it. They learn by imitating actions and body language. Hence, arguments or aggression confuses and scares them. If it goes on and becomes a way of life, it can also impact future relationships, says Deshpande.

### Red flags

- Does not babble or coo by 12 months of age
- Does not gesture (point, wave, grasp) by 12 months of age
- Does not say single words by 16 months of age
- Avoids eye contact and wants to be alone
- Does not share interests with others
- Does not say two-word phrases on his or her own (rather than just repeating what someone says to him or her) by 24 months of age



## 4 ways to save Money when single

Are you among those who desperately wait for their salaries to get credited, so that they don't have to struggle to manage their daily expenses?



Many people have a tough time during the month end, not because they don't earn enough. It happens mostly because people don't manage their finances well. Here are a few simple steps to put into practice, especially if you are single.

**1. Start a recurring deposit account:**

The right time to start a recurring account is when you open a salary account. The agreed amount automatically gets transferred from your salary. Also, you won't be able to withdraw money from this account midway. So, once the amount matures, you will have a bulk sum at your disposal.

- 2. Write down your expenses:** When you don't have any idea about the expenses, you tend to splurge. Therefore, you end up spending more than what you earn. Once you make a note of the expenses for the month, you can prioritize and later, adjust the budget depending on how much you earn.
- 3. Have small parties at home:** Instead of heading out to a hotel or a pub to celebrate your birthday or any other special occasion, invite friends home. Apart from cutting down on food expenses, it also assures great fun as one can indulge in activities like cooking together, setting the table or a game of cards after the meal. These may not be possible if you go out.
- 4. Follow the 30 day rule:** Haven't heard about that? It's simple. If you feel that you are in need of something, wait for 30 days and reconsider your decision to buy it. If you manage without that for the first 30 days, you may even decide not to buy it at all as your urge to possess it would have passed.

## A novel way to spot dyslexia in kids

There could soon be a tool to spot kids at risk of developing reading difficulties before they experience the challenges as researchers have found that white matter volume in the brain is key to development of reading abilities.



development during a critical period in a child's life, when they start school and learn to read for the very first time, predicts how well the child ends up reading," said Fumiko Hoeft, a senior author and an associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco in the US. Doctors commonly use behavioural measures of reading readiness for assessments of ability. Other measures such as cognitive ability, early linguistic skills, measures of the environment such as socioeconomic status and whether there is a family member with reading problems or dyslexia are all common early factors used to assess risk of developing reading difficulties. "What was intriguing in this study was that brain development in regions important to reading predicted above and beyond all of these measures," Hoeft added. In the study, researchers examined brain scans of 38 kindergartners as they were learning to read formally at school and tracked their white matter development until third grade. Left hemisphere white matter in the temporo-parietal region just behind and above the left ear - thought to be important for language, reading and speech - was highly predictive of reading acquisition, the researchers found.

The developmental course of children's white matter volume may be used to predict his/her ability to read, the findings showed. "We show that white matter

## Allied Blenders and Distillers lists at 14% premium over issue price

**New Delhi.** Allied Blenders and Distillers made a decent debut on the stock exchanges on Tuesday, with shares listing at a 14% premium over the issue price.

The shares began trading at Rs 320 on the NSE, a 13.88% increase from the issue price of Rs 281. On the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), the shares opened at Rs 318.10, a 13.20% premium over the issue price.

"The stock debuted at Rs. 320 per share, exceeding the issue price of Rs. 281 but falling short of pre-listing expectations that likely anticipated a higher premium due to the good investor response (subscribed 24.85 times). The stock price has further declined since the listing, adding to the cautious investor sentiment," said Shivani Nyati, Head of Wealth, Swastika Investmart Ltd. The IPO was significantly oversubscribed, with an overall subscription rate of 24.85 times. The quota for qualified institutional bidders (QIBs) was subscribed 53.01 times, non-institutional investors 34.09 times, retail investors 4.73 times by June 27, 2024 (Day 3).

Each equity share in the Allied Blenders and Distillers IPO, which concluded on Thursday, June 27, had a face value of Rs 2 and was priced between Rs 267 and Rs 281. The company revealed that it raised Rs 449 crore from anchor investors a day before its initial public offering opened for public subscription.

**Allied Blenders IPO details**

The initial public offering (IPO) of Allied Blenders (Allied Blenders and Distillers Limited) opened for bidding on June 25, 2024 looking to raise Rs 1,500 crore through a combination of fresh issue and an offer for sale. Allied Blenders IPO is a book-built issue offering a fresh issue of 3.56 crore shares amounting to Rs 1,000 crore and an offer for sale of 1.78 crore shares totalling Rs 500 crore. The price band for Allied Blenders IPO was set at Rs 267 to Rs 281 per share and closes for bidding on June 27, 2024.

## Gold, silver price \: Precious metals record hike on MCX

**NEW DELHI.** Both gold and silver prices recorded a hike on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) on Tuesday, July 2, 2024. Gold futures, maturing on August 5, 2024, stood at Rs 71,670 per 10 grams on the MCX, after recording a jump of Rs 16 or 0.02 per cent. The previous close was recorded at Rs 71,654. Meanwhile, silver futures, maturing on September 5, 2024, witnessed a marginal hike of Rs 117 or 0.13 per cent and were retailing at Rs 89,867 per kg on the MCX against the previous close of Rs 89,750. The gold and silver prices in India depend on several factors, including the value of the rupee against the dollar. Global demand also plays a key role in determining the trends observed in the rate of precious metals.

**GOLD, SILVER PRICES IN INTERNATIONAL MARKET**

Gold prices were flat on Tuesday, as investors awaited comments from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell and jobs data for further insight about the U.S. central bank's interest rate outlook, news agency Reuters reported. According to the latest metal report, spot gold stood at \$2,331.41 per ounce by 0238 GMT, while, U.S. gold futures rose 0.1 per cent to \$2,341.80.

## Stockbroking firms plummet as SEBI mandates uniform charge structure

**NEW DELHI:** Shares of stock broking firms declined sharply on Tuesday, following a directive from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) mandating a uniform and equal charge structure for all members of stock exchanges and other market infrastructure institutions (MIIs), rather than varying charges based on their volume or activity.

The stock of Angel One tumbled 10.50%, Geojit Financial Services tanked 5.86%, Dolat Algotech dropped 5.39%, Spaisa Capital declined 4.51%, Motilal Oswal Financial Services went lower by 3.70%, and SMC Global Securities dipped 2.41% on the BSE. SEBI's directive, issued in a circular on Monday, instructed stock exchanges, clearing corporations, and depositories constituted as MIIs



to ensure that any charges recovered from the end client are "True to Label." This means that if a certain charge is levied on the end client by members including stock brokers, depository participants, and clearing members MIIs must ensure that the same amount is received by them. "To begin with, the new charge structure designed by MIIs should give due consideration to the existing per unit charges realized by MIIs, so that the end clients benefit from the reduction of charges," SEBI stated.

The regulator has asked MIIs to comply with these additional principles while designing the processes for charges levied on their members, which are to be recovered from the end clients. MIIs, being public utility institutions, act as first-level regulators and are entrusted with the responsibility of providing equal, unrestricted, transparent, and fair access to all market participants.

# Adani case: Hindenburg mentions Kotak Bank in its response to Sebi notice

**The US-based research firm alleged that the market regulator did not name the private lender involved in short selling Adani group shares.**

**NEW DELHI.** T Hindenburg Research has responded to a show cause notice from Sebi, adding a new twist to the saga involving its report on the Adani Group. The US-based short seller alleged that the market regulator did not name the private lender involved in short selling Adani group shares.

Hindenburg said that brokerage firms funded by Uday Kotak created and managed the offshore fund structure used

by its investor partner to bet against Adani group shares. It mentioned that Sebi only referred to the K-India Opportunities fund and used the acronym 'KMIL' to mask the 'Kotak' name.

"While Sebi tried to claim jurisdiction over us, its notice did not name the party actually tied to India: Kotak Bank, one of India's largest banks and brokerage firms founded by Uday Kotak, which created and managed the offshore fund structure used by our investor partner to bet against Adani. Instead, it named the K-India Opportunities fund and masked the 'Kotak' name with the acronym 'KMIL,'" Hindenburg said in a blog post.

It said that KMIL stands for Kotak Mahindra Investment. "We suspect Sebi's omission of Kotak or any Kotak board member may be to protect yet another powerful Indian businessman from scrutiny, a role Sebi seems to embrace," Hindenburg added. In 2023, Hindenburg



Research said that it held short positions in Adani Group companies through US-traded bonds and non-Indian-traded derivatives but did not reveal the size of its bets or the specific derivatives and reference securities used. Hindenburg's new note said that Uday Kotak, the bank's founder, personally led Sebi's 2017 committee on corporate governance. Hindenburg Research alleged that much of Sebi's notice was intended to suggest that its legal and disclosed

investment stance was secretive or dubious, or to present new legal arguments claiming jurisdiction over it.

"Note that we are a US-based research firm with no Indian entities, employees, consultants, or operations. Some of these arguments seemed circular," Hindenburg added. Hindenburg said the regulator claimed the disclaimers in its report were misleading because it was indirectly participating in the Indian securities market, and therefore, was short Adani.

This was no secret—everyone knew we were short Adani because we disclosed it prominently and repeatedly," the research firm said. Hindenburg Research said it wanted to learn more about Sebi's process and was ready to file a Right to Information (RTI) request seeking the names of Sebi employees involved in both the Adani and Hindenburg matters, along with details of meetings and calls between Sebi, Adani and its representatives.

## Sensex, Nifty fall after opening at record highs, brokerage stocks fall

**NEW DELHI.** Benchmark stock market indices pared gains after reaching record highs at the opening bell. The S&P BSE Sensex was down 38.34 points at 79,437.85 around 10:17 am, while the NSE Nifty50 declined 8.70 points to 24,133.25. Sensex hit a record high of 79,855.87 at opening, while Nifty50 surged to 24,236.35. Most broader market indices traded mixed in early trade as volatility dipped slightly. Major sectoral indices, including Nifty Bank and Nifty Financial Services, declined sharply after brokerage stocks fell following SEBI's directive to stock exchanges to levy uniform charges on brokers. The decline in banking and financial services stocks overshadowed the over 1% gain in information technology stocks.

The top five gainers on the Nifty50 were Infosys, Coal India, LTIM, Wipro, and ONGC. Conversely, the top losers were

HDFC Life, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Shriram Finance, Bajaj Finance, and SBI Life. r. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, noted, "Nifty has delivered 10.4% returns in the first half



of 2024 on top of the 20% returns in 2023. These are impressive returns. An important feature of this bull market which began after the COVID crash of March 2020 (Nifty at 7511) is that it has been devoid of any significant correction."

The only above 5% correction in the Nifty was on June 4th, in response to the election results. But this was followed the very next day by a sharp recovery. This one-way move in the market can be attributed to the successful 'buy on dips' strategy being followed by the domestic investors - both institutional and retail. There is sustained flow of money into the market through mutual funds, particularly through SIPs," he added. "So long as this market construct holds steady, the market will remain resilient. It is worth repeating that some stocks in the broader market have bubble valuations and, therefore, they are vulnerable to sharp correction. The up move in the U.S. 10-year bond yield to 4.45% will invite selling by FIIs. But the domestic investors will be more than happy to absorb this," Vijayakumar noted.

## Russian oil imports surge to 13-month high, Saudi volumes crash to decade-low

**NEW DELHI.** India's Russian oil imports rose to a near-peak level in June powered by the highest-ever import volumes of Moscow's key crude grade Urals, as per oil tanker tracking data and industry experts. Additional availability of Russian crude for export markets due to Ukrainian drone strikes on Russian refinery infrastructure and sizable price differential vis-à-vis competing Middle Eastern crude grades have led to higher flows of Russian oil to India in recent months.

The rise in India's import of discounted Russian oil over the past few months has hit flows from Saudi Arabia the most, with June import volumes from Riyadh falling to the lowest monthly level in over a decade, the data shows. Indian refiners imported a total of 2.13 million barrels per day (bpd) of Russian crude oil in June, the highest since May of last year, when Russian crude imports had hit a record high of

2.15 million bpd, as per provisional ship-tracking data from commodity market analytics firm Kpler. India's Russian oil imports in June were 7.2 per cent higher sequentially, and accounted for as much as 45 per cent of India's total oil imports for the month. Oil imports from Saudi Arabia—India's third-biggest source market for crude—declined over 25 per cent sequentially to 0.41 million bpd, the lowest in over 10 years. The primary reason for the decline is seen as the ample availability of Russian crude and its continued price advantage over Riyadh's oil. "Confirming that the largest sufferer of higher Russian inflows have been Saudi term volumes, the June imports from Saudi Arabia came in at... the lowest monthly figure since January 2014," said Viktor Katona, head of crude analysis at Kpler. According to industry watchers, Urals has a price advantage of \$6-7 per barrel over Saudi Arabian medium-

sour grades. Urals, a medium-sour crude, is seen as Russia's flagship crude grade, and is the mainstay of India's Russian oil imports. In June, Indian refiners cumulatively bought 1.61 million bpd of Urals crude, the highest ever. India's Urals import volumes in June accounted for three-fourths of New Delhi's total oil imports from Moscow. Evidently, the price differential between Urals and competing crude grades from India's traditional West Asian suppliers was significant enough for Indian refiners to prefer the Russian grade. "Even though 800,000 bpd imports from Iraq (in June) are nowhere near as weak as Saudi Arabian imports, and are the lowest since February 2024. While definitely not a record low, June inflows (of Iraqi oil) to India were nevertheless marked by a much lower interest in Iraq's medium sour grade, Basrah Medium. The heaviest Iraqi grade, Basrah Heavy.

**Hindenburg responds to Sebi's 46 page notice. Full text here**

**NEW DELHI.** Hindenburg on Tuesday responded to a 46-page 'show cause' notice from Sebi that talked about its earnings from short selling of Adani Securities.

The US-based short seller in its response also mentioned the name of one of the country's biggest private lenders.

ere's the full text of its response: We have been aware that Indian securities regulator SEBI has been grappling with how they are going to respond to us, a U.S.-based research firm with no presence or operations in India, after we presented overwhelming evidence in January 2023 of why we believed Indian conglomerate Adani Group was operating "the largest con in corporate history." We had anticipated fierce opposition to our report before we ever published it, regardless of how comprehensive and truthful our body of evidence was. On the morning of June 27, 2024, our firm received a bizarre email, ostensibly from SEBI, alerting us that SEBI had flagged its own message to us that we never received as an apparent security risk, and that the regulator had "quarantined" it for its own safety. (Email to Hindenburg Research from SEBI's security system)[1]

This, at first, struck us as a possible targeted phishing attempt. It was only later that day that we received another email, again ostensibly from SEBI, with a 'Show Cause' notice, a letter from the regulator outlining suspected violations of Indian regulations. Today we are sharing the entirety of this notice, frankly because we think it is nonsense, concocted to serve a pre-ordained purpose: an attempt to silence and intimidate those who expose corruption and fraud perpetrated by the most powerful individuals in India. Background: Basics On Our 106-Page Adani Report's Findings And The 40+ Independent Media Investigations That Corroborated And Expounded On Our Work

To This Day Adani Hasn't Directly Addressed The Findings From Our Research Or From Dozens of Media Investigations, Instead Offering Deflections And Blanket Denials. For context, our original report was 106-pages, with 32,000 words, and included 720 citations, collectively detailing evidence that Adani "engaged in a brazen stock manipulation and accounting fraud scheme over the course of decades."

The report provided evidence of a vast network of offshore shell entities controlled by Gautam Adani's brother, Vinod Adani, and close associates. We detailed how billions were surreptitiously moved through these entities, into and out of Adani public and private entities, often without related-party disclosures.

# Non-bailable warrant against Vijay Mallya in Rs 180-crore loan default case

**A CBI court has issued a non-bailable warrant (NBW) against fugitive businessman Vijay Mallya in a Rs 180-crore loan default case linked to Indian Overseas Bank.**

**Mumbai** A special court in Mumbai has issued a non-bailable warrant (NBW) against fugitive businessman Vijay Mallya in a Rs 180-crore loan default case linked to Indian Overseas Bank (IOB). The NBW was issued against Mallya on June 29 by special CBI court judge SP Naik Nimbalkar and a detailed order was made available on Monday. Citing other non-bailable warrants issued against the 68-year-old businessman after taking into account CBI submission, and his status as a "fugitive", the court noted, "this is a fit case to issue an open-ended NBW against him to secure his presence". The CBI,

probing the case, has claimed the promoter of the now defunct Kingfisher Airlines caused a wrongful loss of more than Rs 180 crore to the government-run bank by "wilfully" defaulting in payments. The embattled liquor tycoon, who has already been declared a fugitive economic offender in a money laundering case probed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), currently resides in London and the Indian government is seeking his extradition.

The warrant was related to a cheating case registered by the CBI for alleged diversion of loans availed by the then-operational Kingfisher Airlines from IOB between 2007 and 2012.

As per a chargesheet filed in the case in the court recently by the central agency, these credit facilities were issued to the grounded private carrier by the bank under an agreement.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had in August 2010 directed the complainant bank (in the case) State Bank of India (SBI) to consider the proposal of



Kingfisher Airlines Ltd (KAL) for restructuring of existing facilities by relaxing the concerned guidelines as a one-time measure for the aviation sector, the probe agency said in the document.

Accordingly, the lenders, including IOB, restructured the existing credit facilities to KAL through a Master Debt Recast Agreement (MDRA). The agreement was signed between the KAL and a consortium of 18 banks. The allegations in the case pertain to false promises, diversion of loans for the purposes other than it was availed, the CBI said.

The accused dishonestly and with intent to

cheat, "wilfully" defaulted on the repayment obligations under the aforesaid loans and caused a wrongful loss of Rs 141.91 crore on the account of default on loans, the chargesheet claimed.

The probe agency further alleged that an additional wrongful loss of Rs 38.30 crores was caused on the account conversion of loans to shares. Taking cognizance of the charge-sheet, the CBI court issued process (summons) against Mallya and five other accused in the case. However, the probe agency pressed for issuance of an NBW against Mallya, saying "the accused is a fugitive and an absconder". Citing multiple cases where NBWs and summonses have been issued against the embattled businessman, the CBI's plea said he is presently living in England and "continues to subvert the process of law in India." Considering the CBI submission, the court said Mallya has absconded, declared a fugitive and NBWs are pending for execution against him in other cases. So no purpose will be served by issuing process (summons) to him.

## NEWS BOX

**Wimbledon: Brenda Fruhvirtova stuns favourite Mirra Andreeva in battle of 17-year-olds**

**New Delhi.** Mirra Andreeva was expected to breeze past Brenda Fruhvirtova when the 17-year-olds locked horns with each other in the first round of the Wimbledon 2024. On Monday, July 1, Andreeva started the match off clinically, but Brenda made a stunning comeback to win the match 1-6, 6-3, 6-2. Brenda fought hard for 2 hours and 6 minutes to beat Andreeva and advance to her maiden second round at the grass-court major. Andreeva, who made her way through to the third round of Wimbledon last season, could not step up in the crunch moments. Brenda, on the other hand, has a tough task on her hands as she will face Spain's Paula Badosa, who knocked out 2023 French Open runner-up Karolina Muchova, in the second round. 17yo Brenda Fruhvirtova defeats 17yo Mirra Andreeva 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 to reach the 2nd round at #Wimbledon.

Mirra made the semifinals at RG and the second week in London last year.

Not a great comeback from Conchita Martinez, who already won this event as player & coach — José Morgado (@josemorgado) July 1, 2024

Mirra Andreeva succumbs Andreeva breezed past Brenda in the first set with 3 breaks of serve. The fact that she did not give Brenda a single chance to break her serve showed how dominating she was. But fortunes started turning from the second set onwards. Brenda earned 3 breaks in the second set and from there on, she did not look back.

**ZIM vs IND: Young Indian brigade jets off to Zimbabwe for T20I series**

**New Delhi.** The young Indian team has jetted off for Zimbabwe on July 2, Tuesday as they face Sikandar Raza and his men in a 5-match series, starting from July 6. This will be the first assignment for India since they became the T20 World Cup champions by beating South Africa on July 29. With most of the senior players being given a much-needed rest, Shubman Gill would be leading the young side, which will have a lot of new faces. The BCCI shared a set of pictures showing the squad departing for Zimbabwe. The coach for the assignment, VVS Laxman was pictured alongside the likes of Avesh Khan, Ravi Bishnoi, Abhishek Sharma and Riyan Parag in the post shared by the BCCI. The likes of Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sanju Samson, Rinku Singh, Shivam Dube and Khaleel Ahmed, who are currently in Barbados with the T20 World Cup-winning India squad, could be expected to join the squad directly after they leave Barbados. Gill was absent from the images shared on Instagram by BCCI. The young star was part of the reserves for the T20 World Cup squad, but was allowed to leave the camp early. He was seen spending some time off and was spotted during the Copa America tournament in the US. He could be expected to join the squad directly from there.

#### INDIA'S SQUAD FOR ZIMBABWE TOUR

India's squad for Zimbabwe tour: Shubman Gill (Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Abhishek Sharma, Rinku Singh, Sanju Samson (WK), Dhruv Jurel (WK), Shivam Dube, Riyan Parag, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Khaleel Ahmed, Mukesh Kumar, Tushar Deshpande.

**Wimbledon 2024: Sumit Nagal bows out in first round in maiden main draw appearance**

**NEW DELHI.** India's top-ranked singles player Sumit Nagal lost to Miomir Kecmanovic of Serbia in the first round of men's singles at Wimbledon 2024. The former boys doubles Wimbledon champion lost to Kecmanovic 2-6, 6-3, 3-6, 4-6 in 2 hours and 48 minutes at the SW19. Nagal, playing his first match in the main draw of Wimbledon, put up a brave fight before going down in the opening round.

Sumit Nagal, who qualified for the Paris Olympics last month, showed flashes of brilliance but paid the price for inconsistency in the opening round on his weakest surface. Nagal went down 2-6 in the opening round against his good friend Kecmanovic, but he fought back to take the second set 6-3. Nagal was hitting them cleanly and was covering the court well, sparking hopes of a come-from-behind win. However, Kecmanovic made it 2-1 and put the pressure back on the Indian star. Nagal was down 1-5 in the final set, but the World No. 73 did not throw in the towel. Nagal broke back, battled to stay in the match, and got to a game away from levelling. However, Kecmanovic held his nerves and got the job done in four sets. Nagal spoke about the difficulty of playing on grass, which is not his favourite surface despite the Wimbledon boys' doubles win nine years ago. The Indian singles player arrived early in London to train for the opening round after having had an extended clay court swing in the season. Nagal's lack of exposure to the surface was evident as the 26-year-old fluffed opportunities to seize control of the match. Nagal's singles campaign is over, but he will be in action in doubles, partnering Serbia's Dusan Lajovic in Wimbledon. The Indo-Serbian duo will open its campaign against Pedro Martinez and Jaume Munar of Spain in the men's doubles first round.

# Penalty miss, tears: Ronaldo's whirlwind night as Portugal reach Euro 2024 quarters

**It was a whirlwind night for Cristiano Ronaldo as Portugal edged past Slovenia in a penalty shootout to reach the quarterfinals of Euro 2024. Ronaldo was left in tears as he missed a penalty in extra time.**

**New Delhi.** It was a whirlwind night for Cristiano Ronaldo as Portugal was forced to work to edge past Slovenia in the Round Of 16 of the Euro 2024 on July 1, Monday. Goalkeeper Diogo Costa was the star of the show in the penalty shootout as he saved all three penalties from Slovenia as Portugal won it 3-0. However, the spotlight was firmly on Ronaldo as the game was a rollercoaster ride of emotions for the superstar. Ronaldo experienced a tough match, squandering multiple chances, including a missed penalty in extra time,

which left him in tears, requiring comfort from his teammates. Portugal was granted the penalty late in the first half of extra time after Diogo Jota's powerful run into the box was halted illegally by defender Vanja Drkusic, who, already on a yellow card, was fortunate not to receive a second one.

Despite having a dependable penalty taker in Bruno Fernandes, captain Ronaldo opted to take the crucial kick. However, his shot was expertly saved by Slovenia's Jan Oblak, who deflected the ball onto the post. Throughout the match, the 39-year-old Ronaldo, aiming to become the oldest scorer in Euros history, appeared out of form, missing several headers. He also insisted on taking all four free-kicks awarded to Portugal in shooting range, none of which troubled Oblak significantly. Slovenia's defense was stellar, and whenever they gained possession, they launched long balls to forwards Andraz Sporar and



Benjamin Sesko, aiming to capitalize on opportunities. This strategy was effective, with Sesko having two one-on-one chances due to mistakes by Pepe. The first was misfired wide, and the second, seven minutes from the end of extra time, was well saved by Costa. Sesko's missed opportunities will likely haunt him, and when it came to the pressure of the shootout, Slovenia faltered against excellent goalkeeping. Despite his earlier struggles, Ronaldo redeemed himself by confidently scoring the first penalty for

Portugal in the shootout. After that moment, Ronaldo was seen apologising to the Portugal fans for his earlier penalty miss.

#### Was at rock bottom

Ronaldo would say that he had hit rock bottom when his team needed him the most but was happy that things turned out well for them in the end. The Portugal captain believed that his side deserved to win in the end as they had more authority. "Even the strongest people have their (bad) days. I was at rock bottom ... when the team needed me the most," Ronaldo said in a post-match interview before bursting into tears again. "Sadness at the start is joy at the end. That's what football is. Moments, inexplicable moments," he said. "I feel sad and happy at the same time. But the important thing is to enjoy it. The team did an extraordinary job. We fought right to the end and if you look at it, if you analyse the game, I think we deserved it because we had more authority."

## Rahul Dravid recalls Rohit Sharma phone call in final dressing room speech

**New Delhi.** Departing India coach Rahul Dravid has revealed how a call from Rohit Sharma made him stay on in his job after the loss to Australia in the ODI World Cup 2023 final. Dravid, who is now leaving the job, masterminded India to the T20 World Cup title on June 29 as they defeated South Africa by 7 runs in Barbados. Dravid went on to have his final dressing room speech with the team, where he had a special thanks reserved for his skipper.

In a video that showed Dravid's final dressing room address, the Indian legend revealed how Rohit asked him to continue as the coach in November last year.

#### Thank You Rohit Sharma

"I just like to say, Ro, thank you very much for making that call to me in November and asking me to continue. I think it's been



to get to know each and every one of you as a person," said Dravid. This was a fact that was confirmed by Suryakumar Yadav in an interaction with Indian Express, where he revealed that Dravid was ready to quit after the World Cup final loss.

"In the end, he came and thanked Rohit and said, 'Thank you, Rohit, for that phone call in November', because he didn't want to continue after (India's loss in) the 50-over World Cup but Rohit and Jay sir (BCCI secretary Jay Shah) convinced him to stay," said Suryakumar Yadav.

India will finalise the new coach before the tour of Sri Lanka, according to BCCI secretary Jay Shah.

such a privilege and a pleasure to work with each and every one of you and every one of you, but also to know Ro. Thanks for the time. "I know as a captain and a coach, there's a lot of times we have to chat. We have to discuss. We have to agree. We have to disagree at times, but thank you so very much. It's been brilliant

## Why did Rohit Sharma decide to have 'a bite' of Barbados pitch India captain reveals

**New Delhi.** India captain Rohit Sharma has revealed why he decided to have a bite of the Barbados pitch after India became the T20 World Cup champions on July 29, Saturday. India defeated South Africa in the final by 7 runs to claim their 2nd T20 World Cup crown with Rohit masterminding the win. Following the win, a video of the India skipper had gone viral. The video posted by the ICC saw Rohit having a 'bite' of the pitch and showing his respect to the track on the Kensington Oval. The India skipper has now revealed the reason behind his gesture. During a candid interview after the captain's photoshoot, Rohit said that the ground had given them the win and he would remember it for the rest of his life. The India captain said he wanted to keep a piece of the track with him for the rest of his life and that was the feeling behind the gesture.

"See, those things are actually, I don't think I can describe that because nothing was scripted. It was all, you know, whatever was

coming instinctively, I was feeling the moment, when I went to the pitch, because that pitch gave us this. We played on that particular pitch and we won the game. That particular ground as well. I will remember



that ground forever in my life and that pitch as well. So I wanted to have a piece of it with me. Yeah, those moments are very, very special. And the place where all our dreams came true. I wanted something of it. So that was the feeling behind it," said Rohit.

#### Feeling still not sunk in yet

The India skipper commented on the feeling after winning the World Cup and it is yet to sink in. Rohit claimed that it all feels like a dream for the team and they feel relieved after getting the trophy home.

"Yeah, the feeling actually is surreal. Uh, it's still I would still say it hasn't sunk in. Totally, it's been a great moment. You know, right from when the game got over till now, you know, it feels like a dream. We still feel that it hasn't happened, although it has happened, but it feels like it hasn't happened."

"That's the emotion. That's the feeling that you have. We've dreamt about this for such a long period of time. We worked hard as a unit for such a long period of time, and to see this now with us feels quite relieved as well, because, when you work hard for something and you eventually get it at the end, it feels really, really nice," said Rohit.

## NBA: Klay Thompson ends historic run with Golden State Warriors, set to join Mavericks

**4-time NBA Champion Klay Thompson is all set to end his time with the Golden State Warriors and reportedly be traded to the NBA 2024 finalists, Dallas Mavericks.**

**NEW DELHI.** Four-time NBA champion Klay Thompson agreed to a sign-and-trade deal to join the Dallas Mavericks, according to multiple reports, closing the historic championship chapter of his career with the Golden State Warriors. In a statement Monday night, the Warriors did not confirm details of the trade but thanked Thompson for his contributions to their dynasty run and promised his No. 11 jersey would be retired by the franchise someday. Thompson, 34, teamed with Steph Curry for four NBA championships in 13 seasons with the

Warriors but turned down a contract extension offer last season that was reportedly for two years and \$48 million. ESPN reported Thompson would sign a three-year, \$50 million contract to join the Mavericks and team with All-Star guards Luka Doncic and Kyrie Irving. Dallas lost in the NBA Finals to the Boston Celtics last month. As part of the three-team trade, the Mavericks confirmed they are trading Josh Green to the Charlotte Hornets.

ESPN and The Athletic reported the Warriors will receive a financial trade exception and two second-round picks from Dallas. The exception could be used in the Warriors' trade conversations around versatile forwards. Golden State is reportedly high on Jazz forward Lauri Markkanen. A five-time All-Star and two-time All-NBA pick, Thompson was the 11th overall pick in the 2011 draft out of Washington State and has never played for another NBA team. Warriors coach Steve Kerr said at his press conference kicking off Team USA training camp last month that Golden State "desperately" wanted Thompson to return. "We can't overstate Klay Thompson's incredible and legendary contributions with



the Warriors during his 13 years with the team," the Warriors' statement Monday night said, highlighting Thompson's NBA records for points scored in a quarter (37) and most 3-pointers made in a game (14).

"The amount of joy and happiness that Klay provided Warriors fans, Bay Area natives and Dub Nation supporters all around the world has been immense and cannot be minimized. His penchant for delivering in pressurized situations on the biggest stage, including many Game 6 heroics, has helped define a career. Klay's legacy will live on



thus far. Elena Rybakina, who won the Wimbledon in 2022, will begin her campaign against Elena-Gabriela Ruse of Romania. Jessica Pegula, who did not play in the French Open, will lock horns with Ashlyn Krueger of the USA. Pegula won the championship in Berlin after beating Anna Kalinskaya and will be high on confidence. Ons Jabeur, the runners-up in 2022, will face Moyuka Uchijima of Japan in the opening round. Defending champion Marketa Vondrousova will look to carry on from where she left off last year when she faces Jessica Bouzas Maneiro of Spain. Andy Murray and Alexander Zverev will also be in action.

## Wimbledon 2024, Day 2 Order of Play: Novak Djokovic, Iga Swiatek begin campaign

**Wimbledon 2024: Novak Djokovic and Iga Swiatek are amongst the big players who will be in action in their respective first-round matches at SW19 on Tuesday.**

**New Delhi.** Novak Djokovic and Iga Swiatek are among the big names that will be on show on Day of Wimbledon 2024. Djokovic is making his return after sustaining a knee injury in the French Open. Finishing as the runners-up last year, the Serb will look to make amends. The former World No.1's opponent in the first round at SW19 is Czech Republic's Vit Kopryva. In the women's singles, World No.1 Iga Swiatek from Poland will be up against Sofia Kenin of the United States. Swiatek won the French Open last month, but is yet to make a mark on grass

Golden State reportedly agreed to a one-year, \$12.8 million deal with former 76ers guard De'Anthony Melton, 26, on Monday. Dallas agreed to a deal with free agent Naji Marshall (three years, \$27 million) and acquired Quentin Grimes in the trade that sent Tim Hardaway Jr. to the Detroit Pistons on June 28.

# Mouni Roy

## Flaunts Her Bombshell Curves In Leather Pants, Hot Photos Go Viral

Mouni Roy needs no introduction. She has become one of the highest-paid Hindi television actresses after appearing in the supernatural thriller series Naagin and its sequel, Naagin. Apart from her outstanding acting skills, she is also known as a fashion icon. She never misses a single chance to embrace her distinctive sense of style and surprise her fans. Not only that, her social feed is often peppered with candid pictures and moments. Maintaining that trajectory, Mouni Roy set the internet on fire once again after she dropped a series of sizzling pictures. Mouni Roy took to her Instagram handle and gave a glimpse of her latest shoot. The slew of pictures featured the Naagin actress flaunting her bombshell body in a bodysuit and leather pants. She



captioned the post, "Old & new! Thank you @itisriti for the recommendations. Loving em x." Check out the post here:

Mouni Roy has come a long way ever since she made her television debut with Ekta Kapoor's *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi*. She became a popular name after she starred in *Naagin*. Mouni made her Bollywood debut with Akshay Kumar's *Gold* in 2018. Last year, Mouni was seen in Ayan Mukerji's magnum opus, *Brahmastra*. Recently, she was also seen in a music video titled 'Dotara' along with Jubin Nautiyal. Mouni Roy was also seen in the web-series *Sultan of Delhi*. She was last

seen in Emraan Hashmi-starrer *Showtime*. In a recent interview, Mouni shared that it is projects like *Sultan of Delhi* and *Brahmastra* which changed people's perception of her as an actor. "Brahmastra was absolutely different. When you see *Gold*, *RAW* and *Made In China*, I had played very Indianised characters. Maybe after *Naagin* and *Sati*, people could only see me as a 'saree-clad Indian character'. So, for Milan sir to think of me as this cabaret dancer *Nayantara*, at a time when *Brahmastra* had not even released. I think it is an exciting time to be an actor where makers can visualise you in different roles. Such great parts are being written. I really feel fortunate to be offered these parts and be able to play them on screen," she told.



### Adman Freddy Birdy Recalls Virat Kohli Flirting Anushka Sharma In The 'Nicest Way', Actress Reacts



Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli are one of the most powerful couples in Bollywood. Recently, both were seen showering love on each other after India won against South Africa in the T20 World Cup. On this note, Adman Freddy Birdy recalled an old interview in which he visited Anushka Sharma's residence in Mumbai. He revealed that during that time both Anushka and Virat were dating. Taking to his Instagram handle, he wrote a series of posts in which he revealed how the actress first didn't react to the question. However, he further revealed, "But then a couple of minutes later her mobile phone rang, and in the utter silence of the room I could hear the person at the other end flirting in the nicest way and making dinner plans with her and I could tell that it was Virat Kohli". Reacting to the post, Anushka wrote, "Freddy..." with hearts and hug emojis.

Anushka Sharma shared a special post after team India won the T20 World Cup 2024 and Virat Kohli announced his retirement from international T20 cricket format. The Bollywood actress took to her Instagram account and shared a solo photo of Kohli holding the T20 WC trophy. Anushka showered him with love and asked him to have some 'sparkling water' after the win and retirement announcement. "I love this man @virat.kohli. So grateful to call you my home—now go have a glass of sparkling water for me to celebrate this!", Anushka wrote.

Reacting to this, Virat Kohli expressed his gratitude and love for his wife, actress Anushka Sharma after India's T20 World Cup victory in the Caribbean a few days back. "None of this would remotely be possible without you my love. You keep me humble, grounded and you always say it how it is with absolute honesty. I couldn't be more grateful for you. This victory is as much yours as it's mine. Thank you and I love you for being YOU @anushkasharma," Kohli wrote on Instagram with photo of the couple.

### Richa Chadha And Ali Fazal Want To Opt For Free-Spirited Parenting Approach: 'We Will Inculcate...'



Richa Chadha and her actor-husband Ali Fazal are eagerly anticipating the arrival of their first child, expected any day now in July 2024. As they prepare for this exciting new chapter, the couple has meticulously planned every phase of their journey to ensure a seamless balance between their personal and professional lives. In a recent interview with HT City, Richa Chadha opened up about her aspirations for their child's upbringing. She shared her vision for the values and qualities she hopes to instill in their little one, emphasizing the importance of nurturing a well-rounded character. Richa Chadha, who recently captivated audiences with her vibrant portrayal of Lajjo in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's magnum opus *Heeramandi*, is brimming with excitement about the imminent new chapter in her life: parenthood. The actress revealed that she and her husband, Ali Fazal, are well-prepared for the unpredictable yet thrilling journey of becoming first-time parents.

Reflecting on their upbringing, Richa shared, "We have had very free upbringings where no restrictions were placed on us by our parents. So, I think we will do the same. We will also surely try to inculcate the spirit of curiosity in the child." In a recent interview, Richa Chadha, known for her role in *Fukrey*, shared that she is anything but idle these days. She is channeling her energy into enhancing the couple's production house, seizing the opportunity to scout new talent, engage with fresh creators, read their scripts, and bring their visions to life. This year, her production unit is set to bankroll exciting projects such as *Girls Will Be Girls*, *Papita*, *Pinky Promise*, and the adult animation *Doggie Stylez*.

# Rhea Chakraborty's 32nd Birthday, A Look At Actress' Career

Becoming a big name in Bollywood depends heavily on an actor's hard work and also their luck. Actress Rhea Chakraborty is one such name, who got the opportunity to work with big names but was unable to have a lasting impact. As she celebrates her 32nd birthday, let's take a look at the actress' career. Born in Bengaluru in 1992, Rhea belonged to a Bengali family. She is the daughter of an army officer. She started her journey in the world of entertainment through the small screen. In 2009, she appeared in MTV India's *TVS Scooty Teen Diva*, as a contestant and became the first runner-up. After auditioning for a VJ at MTV Delhi, she was selected for the job. She went on to host several MTV shows like *Pepsi MTV Wassup*, *TicTac College Beat* and *MTV Gone in 60 Seconds*. She entered the film industry in 2012, with the film *Tuneega Tuneega*, a Telugu language release. In the film, she was seen opposite Sumanth Ashwin, Mrinal Dutt and Vasundhara Kashyap. It was directed by MS Raju while the producer was Maganti Ramchandran. The production banner behind the film is Padmini Arts. It was released on July 20, 2012. Then in 2013, she made her debut in Bollywood with the film *Mere Dad Ki Maruti*. Directed by Ashima Chibber, Rhea was paired opposite Saquib Saleem, in the film. The cast also included Ram Kapoor and Ravi Kishan. It was produced by Ashish Patil, under the banner of Y-Films. The music in the film is given



by Sachin Gupta.

In the following years, she went on to appear in lead as well as cameo roles in films like *Sonali Cable*, *Dobaara: See Your Evil*, *Bank Chor*, *Half Girlfriend* and *Jalebi*. Most of the films proved to be box-office failures. In 2020, the actress got embroiled in a controversy, after then-boyfriend Sushant Singh Rajput allegedly died by suicide, six days after she left their house. During that period, Rhea had to experience intense media scrutiny and criticism. She was arrested and jailed for 28 days. She made her return to the small screen with *MTV Roadies: Karm Ya Kaand*, where she appeared as a gang leader.

