

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

The Sikh Times National Daily

VISIT: www.thesikhtimes.in Email:sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

Vol. 16 No. 101 RNI NO. DELENG/2008/25465 New Delhi, Friday, 23 August 2024 sikhtimesindia@gmail.com 9654077232 12 pages ₹ 3

SC terms 'extremely disturbing' police delay in registering unnatural death in Kolkata case

Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, August 22: A tough-talking Supreme Court on Thursday termed "extremely disturbing" the Kolkata Police's delay in registering the unnatural death of the woman doctor raped and killed at the RG Kar Hospital...

general of police to ensure the safety of healthcare professionals," the bench said, while ordering that the exercise be completed in a week. Appearing in the court on behalf of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Solicitor General Tushar Mehta alleged that senior doctors at the Kolkata hospital as well as the victim's colleagues had asked for videography...

the FIR in connection with the incident. "Who was in touch with the principal of the RG Kar Medical College? Why did he delay the FIR? What was the purpose?" the bench



asked. Questioning the sequence and timing of the legal formalities conducted by police, the court said it is very surprising that the post-mortem was conducted between 6:10 pm and 7:10 pm on August 9, even before the case of unnatural death was registered. "How

was it that the post-mortem was conducted at 6:10 pm on August 9 and yet the unnatural death information is sent to the Tala police station at 11:30 pm on August 9? This is extremely disturbing," the bench, also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said. It directed the Kolkata Police officer, who registered the first entry about the incident that has shocked the country, to appear in the next hearing and disclose the time of the entry. Mehta told the court that the most shocking fact is that the FIR was registered at 11:45 pm, after the post-graduate medic was cremated. "The state police told the parents it was suicide. Then they said it was murder. Victim's friends suspected a cover up and insisted on videography," Mehta told the bench. The bench said peaceful protests over the Kolkata incident shall not be disturbed or disrupted by the West Bengal government. The court, however, clarified that it has not enjoined the state government from exercising such law powers.

Ayodhya gang-rape accused Moid Khan's 'unauthorised' shopping complex demolished

Ayodhya (UP), August 22: The district administration on Thursday bulldozed a shopping complex here belonging to Moid Khan, a gang-rape accused alleged by BJP to be a member of the Samajwadi Party (SP). The Ayodhya police on July 30 arrested Moid Khan, who ran a bakery in Bhadarsa Nagar of the Purakalandar police station area of the district, and his employee Raju Khan for allegedly raping the 12-year-old girl two months ago and recording the act. The incident came to light when recently a medical examination revealed that the victim was pregnant. The bulldozers started demolishing the shopping complex in Bhadarsa town around 1.30 pm. According to the police, the shopping complex was vacant and a branch of a bank operating there was shifted before the demolition. Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Sohawal Tehsil AK Saini said, "The shopping complex of Moid Khan was built on government land. So action was taken to demolish the unauthorised building." Heavy security arrangements were put in place in Bhadarsa town with the deployment of provincial armed constabulary and civil police to ensure that law and order is maintained, officials said. On August 3, the Ayodhya district administration demolished Moid Khan's bakery that was allegedly built illegally over a pond. BJP leaders, including Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, have alleged that Moid Khan is a member of the Samajwadi Party and is part of the team of Faizabad MP Awadhesh Prasad.

'Full emergency' at Thiruvananthapuram airport after bomb threat on Air India flight from Mumbai

ST Correspondent

Thiruvananthapuram, August 22: A full emergency was declared at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport on Thursday after a bomb threat message was found in the washroom of an Air India flight arriving from Mumbai, according to airport sources. The pilot of the aircraft informed the ATC about the threat after a 'Bomb in flight' message, written on a tissue paper, was found in the washroom of the plane, they said. They also said that the police have initiated an investigation into the incident. The aircraft is currently being inspected by security agencies, including a bomb detection squad, the sources said, adding that the passengers who travelled on the flight are presently wait-



ing for their luggage to be delivered. Meanwhile, Air India, in a statement, said that a specific security alert was detected on flight AI 657 during cruise from Mumbai to Thiruvananthapuram and "the crew carried out all the laid down security drills keeping passenger safety as top priority." "All passengers and crew disembarked safely. Air India accords top priority to the safety of its passengers and crew," an airline spokesperson said. The flight with 135 passengers landed safely at the airport around 8 am and was moved to an isolation bay, airport sources said earlier.

Alliance with Congress final on all 90 seats: NC chief Abdullah

Srinagar, August 22: An alliance with the Congress is final on all 90 Assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir, National Conference president Farooq Abdullah said on Thursday. The announcement came after Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge met the National Conference leadership at Abdullah's residence. "We had a good meeting, in a cordial atmosphere. The alliance is on track and, God willing, it will run smoothly. The alliance is final. It will be signed this evening and the alliance is on all 90 seats," Abdullah told reporters. The three-phase elections to the 90-member Jammu and Kashmir Assembly will be held on September 18, September 25 and October 1.

Flood situation in Bangladesh not due to release of waters from Indian dam on Gumbri river

New Delhi, August 22: India on Thursday turned down suggestions that floods in the neighbouring Bangladesh had been caused by opening of gates of a dam across the Gumbri river in Tripura. The Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement saying it has seen concerns being expressed in Bangladesh that the current situation of flood in districts on the eastern borders of Bangladesh has been caused by opening of the Dumbur dam upstream of the Gumbri river in Tripura. The statement said the catchment areas of the Gumbri river that flows through India and Bangladesh have witnessed heaviest rains of this year over the last few days. The flood in Bangladesh is primarily due to waters from these large catchments downstream of the dam. The Dumbur dam is located over 120 km upstream of the India-Bangladesh border. The dam is just about 30 metres in height that generates power feeding into a grid and from which Bangladesh also draws 40MW power from Tripura. Along the 120 km river course in India, there are three water-level observation sites at Amarapur, Sonamura and Sonamura 2 in Tripura. Heavy rain has been continuing since August 21 in the whole of Tripura and adjoining districts of Bangladesh.

Conflict in Ukraine and West Asia are deeply worrisome: PM Modi

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, August 22: Hours ahead of his visit to Kyiv, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday termed the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and West Asia, "deeply worrisome". India, he said, wants peace and stability. "We support dialogue and diplomacy. For this, India will join hands with its friendly countries to provide all possible support". Modi and his Polish counterpart Donald Tusk were addressing the media in Warsaw following a bilateral meet. The Indian PM reiterated what he said in the past: "India firmly believes there is no solution to any issue on battlefield". Modi decried the loss of lives saying, "In any crisis, the loss of innocent lives has become a challenge for entire human kind". Polish PM Donald Tusk said, "India can play vital role in Ukraine". Tusk added, "India and Poland have no dispute with each other. We

understand each other despite the geographic distance and diverse cultures. History has taught us to respect borders and rule of law." "The two sides spoke on cooperation in the defence industry and we have possibilities to collaborate.



Poland is ready to participate in make in India as we have the expertise and technological prowess". In March 2024, the Sweden-based think tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

(SIPRI) listed Poland as the world's 14th largest exporter of weapons, with Ukraine, Sweden and India being its top three clients. Modi on his part said defence sector cooperation is a signal of our deep trust. "We should increase this", he added. The PM thanked Poland for the help during the evacuation of Indian students from war-hit Ukraine. He asked Polish industries to join in by investing in mega food parks in India. For skilled workers and to increase mobility, the two sides agreed on social security agreement. In January 2025, Poland will be chair of European Union and Modi hoped that would help India-EU relations. Modi also announced a youth exchange programme named after Jam Saheb of Nawanagar. Each year, 20 youth from Poland will be taken to India for a tour "We both agree that reforms in the United Nations and international institutions are the need of the hour to face global challenges. Terrorism is a big challenge for us," Modi said.

Badlapur sexual assault: Son falsely implicated, claim parents of accused

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

Mumbai, August 22: The parents of the accused in the Badlapur sexual assault case on Thursday claimed that their son was innocent and he had been framed. Speaking to a Marathi news channel, the parents said there is no truth in the allegations against their son. The accused, who worked as an attendant, has been arrested for allegedly sexually molesting two 4-year-old girl students inside the toilet of a school in Badlapur town in Maharashtra's Thane district. A local court on Wednesday sent him to police custody till August 26. "Our son had been doing the job for the past 15 days. He used to go to the school by 11 am daily to clean the bathroom. He would then proceed to another place for similar work," his mother claimed. The mother said they learnt on August 13 that such an incident had happened in the school. Their son was detained on August 17, she said. "A woman working with the school told me

about the incident and about my son being taken to the police chowki (on August 17). I rushed there and saw police thrashing him. They also beat my younger son," said the mother. At the police station, officials told them about the crime committed by



him, she claimed. The arrested attendant's mother said she and her husband also used to go to the Badlapur school every day to clean the premises. "We used to go to the school at 5.30 pm daily for the cleaning

work and come out around 8.30 pm," she said. The mother claimed that the accused had some medical issues in his childhood and was mentally weak. But he has taken medicines for that, she said. "Some people came to our house on Tuesday and beat up all the family members and threw out our belongings," claimed the father of the accused. "Our house was vandalised by the people. They did not allow us to utter a single word. They just told us not to stay in the village as he (accused) is our son," the father claimed. Internet services in Badlapur were suspended on Wednesday, a day after the massive protest over the alleged sexual abuse of the two kindergarten girls, and 72 people had been arrested in connection with the violence during the stir, officials had said earlier. At least 25 police personnel were injured in the incidents of stone-pelting at the railway station and other parts of Badlapur during the protest as thousands of protesters blocked railway tracks at the station and stormed the school building on Tuesday.

ITBP gets cadre officer as ADG in rare appointment

New Delhi, August 22: Sanjeev Raina, a 1987-batch ITBP officer, has been appointed Additional Director General (ADG) in the India-China LAC guarding force. He becomes only the second non-IPS officer who has been elevated to this post in the force. An order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Wednesday said Raina, serving as an Inspector General (IG) at the force's central sector headquartered in Bhopal, is being elevated to the ADG rank apart from another officer, IG Jaspal Singh, for the panel year 2024. However, Raina, 59, will serve in the new post for just over a month, as he is scheduled to retire next month. A rank-piping ceremony was held at the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) headquarters on Lodhi Road here on Thursday in the presence of DG Rahul Rasgotra and other senior officers. Raina has now been posted as the ADG (western command) of the ITBP headquarters in Chandigarh, the order said. The formation looks after the deployment of the force along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, apart from supervising units located in Punjab, Delhi, and Jammu and Kashmir. Officials said the ITBP was raised in 1962, and it would be the second time a cadre officer has been elevated to the ADG post, the second highest rank in the force. The ADG post in the ITBP and other Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) is essentially occupied by officers who come on deputation to these organisations from the Indian Police Service (IPS). A senior officer said, "This appointment also came late as the departmental promotion committee meeting was delayed. Jaspal Singh will be appointed ADG after Raina's retirement and he too will retire in a few months, in December." Raina, who hails from Kashmir, joined the ITBP in November 1987 and has served tenures in Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir, and the Northeast.



Congress willing to forge pre-poll alliance in J&K

Naresh Malhotra

Srinagar, August 22: Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday expressed his willingness to forge an alliance with other opposition parties for the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls and termed the ruling BJP's promises to the people of the Union Territory "jumla". Kharge, along with Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, spoke to Congress leaders and workers here on Thursday to get feedback about the party's grassroots-level preparations for the Assembly polls. "This was the first meeting after the polls were announced... We are here to seek the views of local leaders and workers for the polls and alliances. Under Rahul Gandhi's leadership, we have taken the initiative to restore statehood for Jammu and Kashmir. We promise to work towards that," Kharge told reporters here. He said Gandhi is interested in forging a pre-poll alliance in the Union Territory. "Rahul Gandhi is interested in contesting the polls unitedly with other parties in Jammu and Kashmir. We have had success as well. We have seen the results in the Lok Sabha polls. The INDIA bloc stopped a

dictator from coming to power (at the Centre) with an absolute majority. This is the biggest success of the INDIA bloc," Kharge said. The Congress president said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is worried after the Lok Sabha polls as some of the legislations it was keen on passing in Parliament have either been withdrawn or sent to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. He claimed that the BJP used to take advantage of its brute majority in Parliament to pass anti-people laws like those on the farming sector. About Jammu and Kashmir, Kharge said not a single promise made by the BJP to the people of the region before elections has been fulfilled. "Not a single promise made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir before polls has been kept. They are all jumla," Kharge said. The saffron party downgraded the erstwhile state into a Union Territory and the people here were not given any rights, he said, adding that there is no legislative council, no

panchayat or municipality. "The people have been kept away from democracy," Kharge



said. He said the Assembly polls have been announced in Jammu and Kashmir only because of the Supreme Court's direction that the election be held by September 30. "I want to tell the BJP and (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi sahib that try as you might, you will not

be successful in suppressing the voice of people. You cannot suppress their aspirations. In a democracy, the voice that matters is the voice of people, and we will continue to support the voice of people. "We will be with the people. We will fight shoulder to shoulder with them for their wishes and aspirations. This is our promise," the Congress chief said. He said if elected to power, the Congress will work on job creation, bringing investments and giving a boost to horticulture and tourism as well as small-scale industries. Kharge also said secular forces will work together towards the restoration of peace in Jammu and Kashmir. "We want peace and prosperity to be restored in Jammu and Kashmir. There is violence on the border, infiltration and terror. They (BJP) used to say that when Article 370 (of the Constitution) goes, it will stop terror and bring prosperity. Where is the prosperity? Unemployment is increasing, there is price rise and their atrocities are also increasing across the country," he said.

News box

96 tonnes waste cleared from 1,265 Chennai bus stops

CHENNAI. Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) conducted a mass cleaning drive across 1,265 bus stops in the city on Wednesday, removing nearly 95.7 tonnes of waste and construction debris. Moreover, as many as 4,221 posters and 47 unauthorised advertising hoardings were also taken down. Under the supervision of GCC officials, a total of 2,541 workers across all 15 zones conducted the drive which included garbage disposal, removal of construction debris, posters, and unauthorised banners, along with cleaning benches at bus stops. According to a release, overgrown shrubs were trimmed, encroachments cleared, and around 78 minor faults identified for further action.

The drive is part of a mass cleaning campaign that began on July 22, to cover 471 bus



route roads spanning 418.56 km. The campaign has since been extended to 36,640 interior roads across the city, spanning 5,270 km. Complaints regarding civic issues can be reported by calling the GCC helpline 1913.

Home Buyers Forum urges Karnataka Governor to address RERA implementation issues

BENGALURU. A forum representing home buyers across Karnataka has recently written to Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot, seeking his intervention to restore the rights of home buyers. The Karnataka Home Buyers Forum has cited irregularities and loopholes in the Real Estate Regulation Act (RERA) rules, which have rendered it ineffective and not of much use to home buyers. Its communication to the governor on July 17 says, "An important failure of RERA authority is not giving directions on implementation of section 17 of RERA 2016 which speaks about Transfer of Common Area land to association of allottees. Till today neither RERA nor Government of Karnataka have declared as to who is the competent authority for registration of apartment owners/allottees associations and how the land transfer should happen to association as per the RERA guidelines."

Due to a lack of clarity, apartment land continues to be in the name of builders or landowners, who have started mortgaging the land even after apartments have been sold to home buyers, charged the convenor of the forum, Dhananjaya Padmanabhaiah. The letter urged the governor to advise the state government to restore the rights of property owners by declaring the competent authority for the apartments, as well as release guidelines on common area transfer to associations.

Assamese girl gone missing from Kerala found from a train in

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. Putting to rest the anxiety and apprehensions that lasted more than 36 hours, the 13-year-old Assamese girl, who went missing from Kazhakoottam on Tuesday morning, was found on a train at Visakhapatnam railway station. The girl was found asleep on one of the berths in the Santragachi Antyodaya Express by Keralites, who identified her to be the missing child, and informed the matter to the Kerala Samajam members in Visakhapatnam. The child was taken out of the train and handed over to the Railway Protection Force. The child was visibly exhausted due to hunger, but her health was otherwise satisfactory, sources said. The sources added that the train reached Visakhapatnam station by 10 pm and the child was handed over to the railway officials. The matter was duly conveyed to the child's parents in Kazhakoottam, who profusely thanked the state police and the media for getting the child back without any harm. The police from the CCTV visuals got to know that the girl reached Egmore station on Wednesday morning via a train from Kanyakumari. Thereafter, she took the train that departed Chennai by 8 am. The police had doubts that the child could've taken a train to Kolkata as the direct train to Guwahati was not available. The police sources said they had alerted the railway police and the local police about. "There were two trains travelling towards Kolkata. On Wednesday night, one of the trains had reached Vijayawada, while the other was approaching Visakhapatnam.

47% of bus commuters in Mumbai now rely on apps to book tickets: Survey

MUMBAI. A collaborative survey by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) and Grant Thornton has shown that 47% of Mumbai's bus commuters are now using city travel apps to plan and book their journeys, signifying a significant shift towards digital convenience.

The survey respondents highlighted various reasons for their preference: "While 26% of commuters emphasised the importance of a user-friendly interface, 27% prioritised access to up-to-date seat availability information over the app, 21% of respondents valued accurate real-time bus tracking using mobile apps, and 12% sought personalised tariff options which the app provided." However, the survey also revealed that 9% of users experienced app freezing or failure, and 5% found bus apps inconvenient to use.

According to the survey, the BEST has been leading this digital transformation, with its live tracking app garnering over 6 million



downloads within two years of its launch. These apps provide numerous advantages to both commuters and bus operators, such as route optimisation, reduced operational inefficiencies, and increased profitability.

The survey, which involved more than 1,400 participants, explores the awareness and usage of bus tracking features in mobile apps. "By leveraging GPS technology and real-time data analysis, these apps enable

users to track their buses, minimise waiting times, and optimise travel planning. This functionality enhances the visibility and reliability of bus services, increasing user confidence in public transportation and improving the overall user experience," the survey report stated. Dhruv Chopra, co-founder of Chalo Mobility Private Limited and IAMA member, said, "The findings of the 'Connected Commutes 2024' survey underline the role of city travel apps in transforming urban bus travel, delivering substantial benefits to commuters, the environment, and the economy."

He further added, "City travel apps have revolutionised the ticketing process with digital pass systems, offering users a seamless and contactless way to purchase and manage tickets. Transitioning from traditional paper-based tickets, digital passes provide hassle-free boarding and eliminate the need for cash transactions."

Teen climber Preetham Goli conquers Kilimanjaro with mentor's guidance

HYDERABAD. At just 16 years old, Preetham Goli achieved something extraordinary — he reached the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest peak, with guidance from his mentor, Satyarup Siddhanta. This impressive feat showcases not only his physical strength but also his mental toughness and unyielding determination. The journey was far from easy. Over eight days, Preetham, student of Delhi Public School, Nacharam, faced the harsh realities of mountaineering: bitter cold, physical exhaustion, and the solitude of the climb. Reflecting on his experience, Preetham said, "I'll never forget those eight days. Loneliness was one of the toughest challenges, but I've learned to accept it. The hardest part was summit day — we started climbing at night and reached an altitude of 5,895 m, which was nerve-racking. My hands and feet often got freezing, and on summit day, I had a terrible headache, which is common at that height, but it was still really tough."

Despite these difficulties, Preetham's resolve never wavered. His trek to Everest Base Camp had taught him the importance of mental strength. "I was physically prepared, but you can never predict how your body will react. I kept up with running, yoga, and a good diet. Mental strength is even more crucial than physical fitness. You have to be determined and not give up," he explained. Preetham's interest in mountaineering began at a young age, sparked by documentaries about Everest and inspired

by his uncle. However, it was his connection with Satyarup Siddhanta that truly ignited his passion. "Satyarup Sir was the only one who guided, supported, and inspired me to climb Kilimanjaro. He's a role model for me and helped me every step of the way," Preetham said, clearly moved by his mentor's



support. Preetham's climb became a journey of self-discovery. He came to value companionship and the importance of nurturing relationships. "This trip made me realise how trivial it is to end a good friendship over a minor argument. Being alone made me appreciate the value of being around others. I learned that inner peace is more important than anything else," he noted. Initially, Preetham's

parents were worried about him taking on this challenge, especially after he fell ill following his Everest Base Camp trek. "At first, my family, particularly my mom, was hesitant about me going to Kilimanjaro. They were scared because I had been very sick after Everest Base Camp. But after talking it over and giving it some thought, they eventually supported my decision," Preetham recalled.

Reaching the summit was an emotional moment for Preetham. "The feeling when you reach the top is indescribable. When I eventually arrived, I was met with a breathtaking view of the crater. The mountain's beauty is beyond words. I just sat on a rock, listened to music, and soaked in the view. All I felt was pure happiness," he said.

Looking ahead, Preetham has ambitious plans. "Next year, I'm hoping to climb Mt Elbrus in Russia and will take a mountaineering course. I also want to do another Everest Base Camp trek with friends. After that, I plan to keep climbing and continue this journey indefinitely," he shared with unwavering determination. Preetham's story is about more than just a physical achievement; it's about a young man discovering his passion, pushing his limits, and inspiring others to pursue their dreams. As he juggles his academic responsibilities with his mountaineering goals, Preetham's journey is a powerful reminder that with determination and the right support, even the loftiest dreams can become reality.

Mumbai school bus association launches sensitisation camps for drivers after Badlapur incident

MUMBAI. The School Bus Owners Association (SBOA) has taken the initiative to organise sensitisation camps for bus drivers in a few schools in the far-flung western suburbs on Wednesday.

While the camp was held in four schools in Virar, three in Vasai, and one in Mira-Bhayander, it will now be conducted at Andheri and a few other schools in the western suburbs of the city on Thursday, said SBOA president Anil Garg.

This move comes in the wake of the recent incident in Badlapur, where two nursery students were sexually abused by a school sweeper. Garg stated, "In the past, there have been incidents of bus attendants or drivers molesting young students, and we want to warn everyone about the dire consequences." The association has begun training drivers and female attendants in the buses, with approximately 12 school sessions conducted on Wednesday. SBOA plans to provide similar training in all other schools in Mumbai and across the region, emphasising the importance of maintaining a professional distance from students and the severe consequences of any misconduct.

The association has also instructed all bus operators to ensure that their school buses are equipped with functional CCTV cameras and that no bus should pick up or drop off children without the presence of a female attendant. In cases where the female attendant is absent, school principals are requested to provide support staff or teachers to accompany the children on the bus. "Additionally, the association stresses the importance of educating students about the concept of good touch and bad touch," Garg said. The primary objective of these sensitisation camps is to raise awareness among bus drivers and attendants regarding the grave consequences of any form of sexual abuse or molestation involving young children. The training sessions will address various aspects of child safety, such as maintaining appropriate boundaries with students, ensuring the presence of a female attendant on the bus, and the proper functioning of CCTV cameras.

Insect in soup, kitchen of Bodakdev hotel sealed

Ahmedabad. The kitchen of a hotel on Judges Bungalow Road in Bodakdev was sealed by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) on Wednesday after receiving a complaint about an insect floating in a soup served during a business meeting.

On receiving the complaint, AMC's health department conducted an inspection of Hotel Pride and found the hotel's kitchen to be in an unhygienic condition. The inspection revealed improper storage of prepared food in the cold storage and the absence of a required pest control certificate. The kitchen in-charge of Pride Hotels Limited has been informed of the incident. The issue gained widespread attention after videos showing an insect floating in the tomato soup and bugs scurrying around the sugar tray and coffee machine swiftly gained

traction online. This marks the ninth such case of contamination in food establishments in the city in just two months.

We also published the following articles recently: Insect found in soup, Bodakdev hotel sealed; Ahmedabad's Hotel Pride on Judges Bungalow Road was sealed by the AMC after a complaint about an insect in soup. The inspection revealed unhygienic conditions and improper food storage in the kitchen. Videos of the contamination went viral. This incident is the ninth such case in two months in the city. 112688130

Best Food Processors In India: Finest Picks For Every Kitchen The article discussed the best food processors available in India, detailing their features, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness. Models from brands like



INALSA, Bajaj, Braun, PHILIPS, and Bosch were highlighted. The piece also reviewed pros and cons, helping consumers

select the most suitable food processors for their kitchen needs, from budget picks to high-end options. 112573208

Can streetlights make leaves inedible to insects? Heres the truth! A study by researchers from the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences revealed that artificial streetlights toughen leaves of urban trees, making them less palatable to insects. Tested on Japanese pagoda and green ash trees in Beijing, leaves exposed to more artificial light had reduced leaf damage and lower nutrient levels.

Implications for urban biodiversity need further exploration.

Tribalography exhibition offers insight into Indian tribal life through captivating photography

HYDERABAD. Portraits of women with long and sagged ear holes, heavy jewellery covering the collarbone to neck, bangle-sized nose rings, and tattoos all over their bodies — wondering what? These are just a few observations from 'Tribalography', a photography exhibition on Indian tribes. Andhekar Sathish Lal, the photographer who travelled thousands of miles to capture the lifestyle of these hidden forest communities, offers Hyderabadis a glimpse through this exhibition. Capturing the essence of tribal communities for more than a decade, Sathish Lal explored nearly 20 states across the country. 'Tribalography' features around 110 photographs spread across three galleries on the second floor of the Chitramayee State Gallery of Art. Natural surroundings, festivals, candid portraits, women, and jewellery are some of the highlighted themes. The walls are adorned with beautiful pictures of tribes such as the Drokpa Tribe from Ladakh, Konyak Tribe from Nagaland, Lajia Saora Tribe from Odisha, Dongria Tribe from

Odisha, Jat Tribe from Gujarat, Munda Tribe from Jharkhand, Bonda Tribe from Odisha, and many more. Previously exhibited in New Delhi, his works received appreciation from Draupadi Murmu, President of India, and 65 of his photographs remain on permanent display at the Tribal Art Museum, Rashtrapati Bhavan. This year's exhibition featured few more tribes, including Changpa from Nagaland, Lokpa from Nagaland, Koraga from Karnataka, Halakki from Karnataka, Dhurwa from Chhattisgarh, and Muria from Chhattisgarh.

Having worked as a photographer for a Telugu daily for over 15 years, Sathish's exploration began with the Banjar and Chenchu tribes in Telangana. However, his inspiration dates back to his childhood when he grew up with his grandparents in the Ranga Reddy district of Telangana. "From childhood, I have been very keen to know about the tribals' attire and their culture because my primary studies were done in my grandmother's village where our native tribes, the Lambadas, lived



very near to my grandmother's house. At that time, many questions were in my mind — why they are like this, and why their attires are different from other people... And I took this tribal photography seriously 14 years back when I read the news about how the culture of these tribes is declining day by day. So, I thought to capture all of them before they and their culture vanish due to modernisation," he shared.

Recalling a few memories from his exploration of tribal cultures, Sathish described a lifetime memory from his first

photo exhibition for tribals in a weekly market in a tribal area in Odisha.

THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published
Owned by Simmi Babbar
N - 31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi-110009
Printed at Qaumi Patrika Printing
Press, A-4/A-144, Tronica City
(Loni), Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)
Corporate Office:
5, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
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RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465
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News box

Knockout blow: Boxer lands in hot water over fake documents in Haryana

GURGAON. An FIR has been lodged against a boxer for allegedly participating in the Junior Asian Championship trials in Rohtak using forged documents. Complainant Naresh Walia alleged that Hardik, who defeated his son Devansh, a boxer from Hisar, in the final round of the trials, had used counterfeit documents to compete. Based on Walia's complaint, police have registered a case under section 318(4) (cheating and dishonesty) of BNS against the boxer, who is from Sonapat, for participating in the trials with fraudulent documents. "I went to Sonapat where I was told that I could fetch the birth certificate of Hardik. I sought help from everyone I knew who could help. I also asked the federation to show me a direction. Finally, I was able to get a provisional copy of his birth certificate which showed a three-year age gap," said Walia. Police officers in the Urban Estate station in Rohtak are investigating how Hardik misled the federation to participate in Junior Asian Championship trials, which were held on August 11 at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Rohtak. "My son's final match in the junior group's 80kg category was against boxer Hardik. Hardik appeared to be older. When asked to provide documents to verify his age, he refused to show them," said Walia.

Walia further added that Hardik's birth certificate mentioned his date of birth as March 25, 2005. However, the certificate he provided for participating in Junior Asian Championship trials lists his date of birth as March 25, 2008. "Hardik cheated my son by competing in the junior group instead of the senior group using fake documents. We have also filed a complaint against Hardik with the Boxing Federation of India," said Walia.

Nailed: Carpenter murdered in Manesar; 3 arrested

GURGAON: Three persons were arrested for allegedly murdering a 27-year-old carpenter in Manesar. Two workers who were clearing bushes in the greenbelt found Ramparichhan Sharma's body stuffed in a plastic drum in the stormwater drain in front of an automobile company on Aug 17. On Tuesday, police arrested Sharma's brother-in-law Panchdev Thakur, a carpenter, his wife Indu, and their friend Chandan in connection with the murder. According to the police, Sharma, a resident of Begumpur Khatola, had an affair with Indu. Panchdev, who came to know about it, had made his wife call Sharma to their house in Bas Kushla and strangled him when he was asleep on the night of Aug 14. On Aug 17, police received an alert from the security staff of the automobile firm around 4.30pm about a stench from a drum, win which cops found Sharma's body with an electric wire tightly wound around his neck. The body was sent for autopsy. But the body was not identified. On Aug 18, Sharma's family members approached IMT Manesar police, saying he went missing after leaving the house on Aug 14. A missing complaint was filed on Aug 15 at Badshapur police station. The family identified the body to be of Ramparichhan Sharma on Aug 18.

After analysing Sharma's call records, cops found Panchdev had contacted him. Panchdev and Indu were taken to the police station on Aug 20 for questioning.

Indu was sent to judicial remand on Tuesday. Panchdev and Chandan are in police remand.

Gurgaon: Final voter list for assembly polls to be ready by Aug 27

GURGAON: A total of 18,013 applications for voter registration were received by the district administration by Aug 16, during the voter verification campaign ahead of the assembly elections. Of these, 5,204 names have been added to the voter list and 269 applications have been rejected. The final voter list will be published on Aug 27. The SDMs and electoral registration officers of Pataudi, Badshapur, Sohna, and Gurgaon assembly constituencies are addressing the claims and objections received during the review campaign. This work will be completed by Aug 26, and the final voter list will be published on Aug 27. Deputy commissioner of Gurgaon, Nishant Yadav, who is also the district election officer, said that after the announcement of the assembly elections, only those who submit online or offline applications by Sept 1 will be registered. The supplementary list of the final voter list will be released on Sept 12 and the nomination process for the election will begin on Sept 5. The DC said that 6,146 applications for new voter registrations were received in the Gurgaon assembly constituency. Out of these, 47 applications were rejected, and 1,863 names were added to the voter list. The resolution of 4,236 applications is still pending. During the same period, 6,169 applications were received in the Badshapur assembly constituency. Of these, 85 applications were rejected due to ineligibility, 2,223 names were added to the list, and 3,861 applications are pending. In Sohna, 2,711 applications for voter registration were filed between Aug 3 and Aug 16, out of which, 23 names were added, and 2,688 applications are pending.

WHO calls for accelerated action to provide lifesaving vaccines to all children, protect adolescent girls from cervical cancer

Simranjit Makkar

New Delhi | 22 August 2024: The World Health Organization today called on countries in WHO South-East Asia Region to accelerate action to protect all children with life-saving vaccines being offered under the childhood immunization programme, focusing on those who have missed all or some vaccine doses, and protecting all adolescent girls from cervical cancer. "We should aim for a 'big catch-up' to vaccinate all zero dose and partially vaccinated children, and restore immunization progress lost during the pandemic; protect all adolescent girls from cervical cancer and accelerate efforts to eliminate Measles and Rubella from WHO South-East Asia by 2026," said Ms Saima Wazed, Regional Director WHO South-East Asia, in her inaugural address to the 15th Meeting of the WHO South-East Asia Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group (SEAR-ITAG). The Regional Director acknowledged and thanked all experts, national programme managers, immunization champions, partners including the vaccinators and community workers, and the communities themselves, on expanded immunization programme completing 50 years this year. "We can proudly say, in the last 50 years, together, immunization programmes have helped hundreds of millions of people in our Region live healthier,

longer, more productive, and prosperous lives," the Regional Director said. "Today, South-East Asia Region continues to be free of wild polio virus transmission and has maintained elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus as a public health problem. Five countries have eliminated measles and rubella, and six have controlled hepatitis B through immunization. Seven countries consistently reach over 90% of children with three doses of diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DTP3) vaccines," she said. However, the Region missed the target to eliminate measles and rubella by 2023. The WHO/UNICEF Estimates of National Immunization Coverage data released last month shows slow progress and no meaningful change in childhood immunization coverage last year compared to 2022, and coverage is yet to be restored to the pre-pandemic 2019 levels. "Nearly 2.7 million children in our Region did not get any vaccine and another 0.6 million children were partially vaccinated in 2023. We need to understand where and why these children were missed and prioritize reaching them as soon as possible. No

child should ever fall sick or die of any vaccine preventable disease, when safe and effective vaccines exist to protect them," Ms Wazed said. The stagnation in post-pandemic recovery highlights the need to

all adolescent girls in our Region are protected and get at least one dose of HPV vaccine to protect from cervical cancer," Ms Wazed said. Revitalizing immunization programmes, strengthening community-centered health systems, ensuring vaccine supply, and boosting demand through community engagement are critical components of success. Policy and resources should urgently prioritize routine immunization, particularly for measles, and focus on reducing zero-dose and partially vaccinated children. "The focus must be on tailored approaches, identified in consultation with the affected communities. No matter how challenging or remote the setting is, we will need to find new ways to reach the children most at risk of life-threatening diseases and protect them with vaccines," the Regional Director said. Being held in New Delhi from 20-23 August, the SEAR-ITAG provides guidance on setting regional priorities for immunization and offers technical support for strengthening routine immunization services to Member States. Experts, national immunization programme managers, surveillance focal points and partner agencies review progress on immunization coverage, surveillance, and programme issues at this annual meeting.



World Health Organization

innovate. We need to find locally impactful approaches, and most critically, enhance the political and social leadership that are the basis for intensified actions needed to meet our Regional targets, she said. One of the priorities in the Regional Director's Regional Roadmap for Results and Resilience is 'reaffirming investment in women, girls, adolescents and vulnerable populations'. "Against this, we must ensure

Situation in West Bengal is critical, people have lost faith in the current government: Charanjiv Malhotra

New Delhi. Prominent social worker and Gaumata Raksha and Corona warrior Charanjiv Malhotra has termed the rape and murder of a female doctor as the most shameful moment for the society. He claimed that West Bengal is in a state of crisis and the public has lost faith in the current government. He described Mamata Banerjee's statement questioning the rally organized to demand justice for the deceased doctor as jargon. Malhotra said, Bengal is going through a crisis situation. Students have lost faith in the government, the youth are scared and women are disappointed. There is a growing feeling that the government which is there to protect the citizens is failing to play its role. This statement has come at a time when health services in the state have been badly affected after the rape and murder of a postgraduate female doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata on August 9. The strike of junior



doctors in protest against the incident has entered the 12th day on Tuesday. The doctors have demanded justice for the victim and have also appealed for legislation for better safety at workplaces. Charanjiv Malhotra further said that students have lost faith in the police. Discontent is growing, especially among women doctors and paramedics. Ordinary citizens are also unhappy that the government does not take any action when action is needed. Accusing the Kolkata Police of criminalisation and politicisation, he spoke of a possible disconnect between the government's actions and the needs of the public. Questioning the attitude of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Malhotra said, the Chief Minister's position is not clear. In her public address on August 14, Mamata Banerjee had

said, the victim is no longer in this world, but I had asked her parents if they would like to do something in the name of their daughter. Regarding the vandalism that took place at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on the night of August 14, Malhotra said that the media at that time raised the question whether this incident was done to divert attention from the murder of the doctor and termed it as a situation of disruption of democracy by mobocracy. When asked if he was considering recommending President's rule in West Bengal, he indicated that he would write to the President and the Union Home Minister on the issue. The governor also expressed his desire to meet the parents of the deceased doctor but only when they are mentally ready. "I will meet them when they are mentally ready for it. I respect the feelings of the parents who lost their beloved daughter. I will give them enough time," he said.

Man promises to take girl to her boyfriend, kills her

Gurgaon. A 26-year-old man who promised to take an 18-year-old girl to her boyfriend — his nephew — allegedly confined her to a room for two days and then killed her. Police said the girl grew suspicious and threatened to call the cops, after which he took her to a secluded place on April 30 with promises of arranging a meeting with her boyfriend, where he killed her and dumped the body in the bushes. The accused — identified as Santosh, who is originally from UP's Aligarh and was living in a rented accommodation in Gurgaon's Shivaji Nagar — was arrested on Friday. Police said they are trying to ascertain the actual motive behind the murder and why the accused confined the girl for two days. Woman's body was found in the bushes at a vacant plot near Bandhwari village on May 1. The body had a scarf wrapped around the neck. A murder case was registered at the DLF-1 police station based on a complaint by the Bandhwari sarpanch. During the investigation, the woman was identified, and the case was handed over to the Sikanderpur crime branch. Cops discovered that a complaint of a missing girl had been registered at another police station and contacted the girl's family, who identified the body. She had gone missing from the city on April 30. Even the seriousness of the crime and to identify and arrest the accused, police announced a reward of Rs 20,000 for the arrest of the accused. After several weeks of investigation, the police managed to arrest Santosh on Friday. During police interrogation, Santosh revealed that his nephew and the girl were in a relationship. When her family found out about this, they met Santosh, who pretended to counsel the girl and gave her his mobile number. He promised to arrange her marriage with his nephew. On April 27, the girl left her house for tuition, but went to Santosh's place instead. Santosh kept her in his room for two days. When she started insisting that he take her to his nephew, Santosh instead took her to Vrindavan, saying that his nephew would meet them there. When he didn't turn up, the girl realised she had been cheated and threatened to report Santosh to the police if he didn't take her to her boyfriend immediately, cops said. Santosh then took her to Bandhwari, claiming his nephew was at a farmhouse there, and allegedly killed her in the nearby forest area by hitting her head with a brick and strangling her with her scarf. "The accused was produced before a court on Saturday and taken into police remand for further interrogation," a senior police officer said.

Name Change

I, RAJEEV CHHABRA S/O TILAK RAJ CHHABRA R/O C-82, Third Floor, Lajpat Nagar-1, New Delhi, South Delhi-110024, declare that name of mine and my father have been wrongly written as RAJIV CHABRA and SH TILAK RAJ CHHABRA in my Driving Licence No. DL0519940139407. The actual name of mine and my father are RAJEEV CHHABRA and TILAK RAJ CHHABRA respectively.

Name Change

It is for general information that I, SONI KAPOOR alias SONI SAHNI D/o SHIKH SAHNI Ex. wife of SUSHIL KAPOOR, Residing at C-15, Malviya Nagar, Near SBI Bank, New Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017 declare that I got divorce from my Husband SUSHIL KAPOOR vide Court Decree HMA No. 393/21 Dated 03-03-2021. Further, I have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SONI SAHNI.

Name Change

I, hitherto known as FARZANA PARVEEN W/O MOHAMMAD FIROZ R/O F-178, VILLAGE LAO SARAI, NEW DELHI-110030 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ISHRAAT KHATUN.

Name Change

It is for general information that I, R/O House No RZ-49, T/J Right Side, Gali No-11, Near- Taar Factory Chowk, Subhash Park Extn, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi, Delhi, 110059 declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written Nirmala devi in my 10th class educational document. The actual name of my mother is Nirmala which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change

I, P LALITHA BAI Mother of No-1615714H Rank-NK Name-VINODH CHANDRAN C Father of VA BADRINATH R/o 9-83A, CHANDRA BHAVAN VADALIKKAKAM, VILL-METHUKUMAL, PO-CHATHENCODE, TEH-VILAVANCODE, DIST-KANYAKUMARI, TAMIL NADU-629153 have changed my minor son's name from VA BADRINATH to BADRINATH V/A for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 22/08/2024 Before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change

I, JC-708737W Rank-NB SUB Name-SHINDE AMOL ANANDRAO Presently residing at VPO-WALEKHINDI, TEH-JAT, DIST-SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA-416404 have changed my wife's name from MAYURI to MAYURI AMOL SHINDE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 22/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change

I, SHILPA W/O Army No - 2800416L HAV jagtap Sunil Janardhan R/O VILL-Vadiyeraibag POST-Vadiyeraibag TEH-Kadegaon DIST - sangali PIN - 415305 have checked my name from SHILPA TO SHILPA SUNIL JAGTAP for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 22/08/2024 before notary public Delhi

Name Change

I, No. JC-391307P Rank NB SUB Name RAM MOORAT PAL S/O SHIV NANDAN PAL R/O VILL GHANAKAPOORA, PO-MANJHANPUR, TEH-SIRATHU, DIST-KAUSHAMBI (UP)-212207 have changed my minor daughter name from AKANSHHA PAL to AKANSHHA PAL for all future purposes. And in my service document my daughter date of birth wrongly mentioned is 12/02/2006 instead 12/02/2008. Vide Affidavit dated 22/08/2024 before Notary Public New Delhi.

Name Change

I, No. JC-391307P Rank NB SUB Name RAM MOORAT PAL S/O SHIV NANDAN PAL R/O VILL GHANAKAPOORA, PO-MANJHANPUR, TEH-SIRATHU, DIST-KAUSHAMBI (UP)-212207 have changed my minor daughter name from AKANSHHA PAL to AKANSHHA PAL for all future purposes. And in my service document my daughter date of birth wrongly mentioned is 12/02/2006 instead 12/02/2008. Vide Affidavit dated 22/08/2024 before Notary Public New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, MOEN CHAUHAN S/O MOBEM CHAUHAN resident of House No. 653, Street No. 6, Old Mustafabad, Mustafabad, North East Delhi, 110094. In my 10th class marksheet, by mistake my father's name has become MOBEM CHAUHAN which is wrong. In all my documents my father's name is MOBEM CHAUHAN which is correct. In future I should be known by my father's name along with the correct name.

Name Change

I hitherto known as Krishan Singh alias Krishan Lal Lamba S/O: Baudh Raj Lamba, R/O A-36, Sector-33, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as KRISHAN LAL LAMBA.

Name Change

I, NASIR DESAI S/O SHAMSUDDIN DESAI FARIDI R/O J-3/33, KHIRKI EXTN, MALVIYA NAGAR, DELHI - 110017, have changed my name from NASIR FARIDI TO NASIR DESAI for all future purpose

Name Change

I, Pramod agarwala S/O Banarashil agarwala R/O C-412,U/G/F, Block -C, Vojna vihar, Delhi, Shadara, Delhi - 110092 have changed my name from Pramod agarwala to Pramod agarwal for all future purposes.

Name Change

I, MOHAMMAD BILAL S/O MOHAMMAD ZAHID residing at HOUSE NO 313/85-A, PLOT NO OLD 4 KH NO RIGHT PORTION 2ND FLOOR STREET NO-1 TULSI NAGAR INDER LOK DELHI - 110035 have changed my name to MOHD BILAL for all future purpose.

Name Change

I, CHANDRA SEKHARAN NAIR Father of No-16115714H Rank-NK Name-VINODH CHANDRAN C Presently residing at 9-83A, CHANDRA BHAVAN VADALIKKAKAM, VILL-METHUKUMAL, PO-CHATHENCODE, TEH-VILAVANCODE, DIST-KANYAKUMARI, TAMIL NADU-629153, have changed my name from CHANDRA SEKHARAN NAIR to CHANDRA SEKHARAN NAIR THANU PILLAI for all future purposes and in my son's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 20/05/1951 instead of my correct date of birth as 24/05/1951 vide affidavit dated 22/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME DECLARATION

It is for general information that I, Virender Kumar Bijani S/O Late Anril Lal Bijani, R/O: N-3, Second Floor, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027 declares that in Conveyance Deed issued by DDA which is registered as Registration No. 1465, Book No. 1, Volume No. 5431, Page No. 126-127, on date 22/08/2015 with Sub Registrar, New Delhi, for H.No. 107-B, Cat-A, First Floor, Lig Flats, Madipur, New Delhi-110063, my name has been mentioned as V.K. Bijani instead of full name Virender Kumar Bijani and my father's name has been mentioned as Late Sh. A.L. Bijani instead of Late Sh. Anril Lal Bijani. I declare that V.K. Bijani and Virender Kumar Bijani, is the name of one and same person. It is further declared that full name of my late father mentioned in the Conveyance Deed as Sh. A.L. Bijani is Anril Lal Bijani.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for notice of the general public that the political party by the name of GLOBAL REPUBLICAN PARTY (name of the party) with headquarters at 71, Third Floor, Matru Ashish Apartment, Tribhuvan Nagar, Infront of Akhandanand College, Ved Road, Surat, Gujarat- 395004 (give full address of party office), registered with the Election Commission, proposes to change its name to GLOBAL LIGAN PARTY OF INDIA (BHIMRAO AMBEDKAR). If anyone has any objection to the proposed new name they may send their objection with reasons thereof, to the Secretary (Political Party), Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001 within 30 days of the publication.

Name Change

I, SHAHANA HASAN W/O SHAHNAWAZ HASAN Residing at D-192, ABUL FAZAL ENCLAVE PART-1, OKHLA, DELHI-110025 have changed my name to SHAHANA for all future purpose.

Name Change

I, JC-708737W Rank-NB SUB Name-SHINDE AMOL ANANDRAO Presently residing at VPO-WALEKHINDI, TEH-JAT, DIST-SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA-416404 have changed my father's name from SHINDE ANANDRAO GANPAT to ANANDRAO GANPATI SHINDE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 22/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I MOHAMMED ANIS S/O MOHAMMAD, ISHAQ, R/O 754 SHEESH MAHAL, SHIVAJI ROAD, NEAR HAUZ WALI MASJID, AZAD MARKET, DELHI-110006 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as MOHAMMAD ANIS in my minor daughter AZDIGA aged 16 year in her 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine is MOHAMMED ANIS which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Jitender Singh S/o Surtia R/o H.No.80, Wochi Bagh, South Moti Bagh South West Delhi, Delhi-110021, declare that name of my minor son has been wrongly written as Santanu in my minor son namey Santanu Bhakar aged 14 years in his School Record. The actual name of my minor son is Santanu Bhakar, which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is given to general public at large that our client Mrs. Geeta Gupta & Sh. Praveen Kumar Gupta are the owner of Freehold Residential House No. 106 (Old No. 103 & 110), area measuring 103.63 sq. sqm, situated at Mohalla Sukhimal, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. By Virtue of Sale Deed dated 12.07.2013 as Document No. 10785, Book No. 1, Volume No. 7372, on pages 253-282, registered on 12.07.2013. SRO-Ghaziabad-II. In the chain Documents below mentioned documents not available i.e. Death Certificate & SMC of Vijayvati Devi Aggarwal & SMC of Late Mrs. Rajdulari expired on 22/08/2014, now our client is declaring that that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, and same property sold to be Mr. Pradeep Kumar Garg and Mr. Shivam Garg and same has been finance by Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd. Branch, Aggarwal Metro Mall, Unit No. 107, First Floor, Station Box at Dilshad Garden Metro Station New Delhi 110095. If any person is having objection right of claim against the said property, contact to undersigned along with supporting documents within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone the latter no claim shall be entertained. [NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA] Advocate F-211,sector-3 Vashi Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201010, Contact at 0965871432

News box

Oprah Winfrey urges Americans to 'choose common sense over nonsense' in DNC speech, taking subtle jabs at Trump and Vance: Key points

World. Oprah Winfrey delivered a powerful call for unity at the Democratic National Convention on Wednesday night, subtly targeting former President Donald Trump and his running mate, Ohio Senator JD Vance. Her speech emphasized the need for national togetherness amid growing political divisions.

Key takeaways from Winfrey's speech at DNC-

Unity vs division

"There are people who want you to see our country as a nation of 'us against them' — people who want to scare you, who want to rule you," Winfrey said. "People who'd have you believe that books are dangerous and assault rifles are safe, that there's a right way to worship and a wrong way to love. People who seek first to divide and then to conquer. But here's the thing — when we stand together, it is impossible to conquer us." Endorsement of Harris and Walz

Winfrey urged independents and undecided voters to support Vice President Kamala Harris and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. "Common sense tells you that Kamala Harris and Tim Walz can give us decency and respect. They're the ones that give it to us," she said. "Let us choose loyalty to the Constitution over loyalty to any individual, because that's the best of America. And let us choose optimism over cynicism, because that's the best of America. And let us choose inclusion over retribution. Let us choose common sense over nonsense, because that's the best of America. And let us choose the sweet promise of tomorrow over the bitter return to yesterday. But more than anything else, let us choose freedom. Why? Because that's the best of America." A call for compassion

Winfrey extended her message of unity with a poignant metaphor: "When a house is on fire, we don't ask about the homeowner's race or religion, we don't wonder who their partner is or how they voted. No. We just try to do the best we can to save them." She added with a reference to comments made by Vance in 2021, "And if the place happens to belong to a childless cat lady, well, we try to get that cat out too."

Jujitsu and motorbikes: Ukrainian spirit remains strong despite the war

KYIV. It's a balmy summer afternoon as we drive up to a workshop fronted by an array of fancy motorbikes. As we step in, we are transported to the world of Ukrainian motorbike clubs — smell of grease and metal, scattered tools on workbenches, cigarettes and grim-reaper artworks on the wall. At the far end stands a tall man in a grey t-shirt with golden-brown locks and features of a supermodel. You would be forgiven to overlook his jetblack prosthetic leg.

Artyom Kuzmich went viral last month when he stood out among the chaotic scenes at the Okhmatdyt children's hospital in Kyiv after it was hit by a Russian missile. "I got a call from my friend that the hospital had been hit. I immediately He went on to learn Brazilian jujitsu and became a national champion in his category. "Brazilian jujitsu is very adaptive for anyone with injuries or amputations. I went to Brazil to learn para-jujitsu and won competitions there. After I returned to Ukraine, and following the beginning of the fullscale war, I started my own para-jujitsu school here." His outlook on the war is one of matter of fact.

Tim Walz formally accepts Democratic nomination for vice president

World. Minnesota governor Tim Walz formally accepted his party's nomination for vice president on Wednesday evening at the Democratic National Convention and expressed gratitude to the packed arena for "bringing the joy" to the election. "We're all here tonight for one beautiful, simple, reason: We love this country," said Walz. The democratic VP pick also shared stories about his upbringing in Nebraska and his experiences as a teacher and football coach in Minnesota, thanking the audience for their passion and dedication to the campaign. "While other states were banning books from their schools, we were banishing hunger from ours," said Walz highlighting the progressive policies of his home state. He also took a subtle jab at his Republican counterpart, JD Vance, by mentioning the small size of his high school class and the fact that none of his classmates attended Yale. The Minnesota governor was introduced as "Coach Walz" by Benjamin C Ingman, a former student of Walz from high school. At Ingman's request, several of Walz's past players, sporting their red and white jerseys, joined him on stage for the introduction. Walz, a relatively unknown figure until his selection as Harris' running mate, has won over supporters with his background and helped to balance Harris' coastal roots by representing Midwestern states crucial to the election.

5 bodies found from wreckage of superyacht carrying British tycoon Mike Lynch

Porticello, Sicily Divers searching the wreck of a superyacht that sank off Sicily found the bodies of five passengers Wednesday, leaving one still missing as questions intensified about why the vessel sank so quickly when a nearby sailboat remained largely unscathed.

Rescue crews brought four body bags ashore at Porticello. Salvatore Cocina, head of the Sicily civil protection agency, said a fifth body had been located. Divers on-scene said they would try to recover it on Thursday while continuing the search for the sixth.

The discovery made clear the operation to search the hull on the seabed 50 meters (164 feet) underwater had quickly turned into a recovery one, not a rescue, given the amount of time that had passed and with no signs of life over three days of searching. The Bayesian, a 56-metre (184-foot) British-flagged yacht, went down in a storm early Monday as it was moored about a kilometre offshore. Civil protection officials said they believed the ship was struck by a tornado over the water, known as a waterspout.

Fifteen people escaped in a lifeboat and were rescued by a nearby sailboat. The body of the ship's chef, Recaldo Thomas of Antigua, was recovered on Monday. Thomas was born in Canada, according to his cousin David Isaac, but visited his parents' homeland of Antigua as a child, and moved permanently to the tiny eastern Caribbean island in his early 20s. Italian officials previously listed Antigua and Canada as the nationality of people on board. The fate of six missing passengers had driven the search effort, including British tech magnate Mike Lynch, his 18-year-old daughter and associates who had successfully defended him in a recent US federal fraud trial. Lynch's spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday. Meanwhile, Termini Imerese Public Prosecutor's Office investigators were acquiring evidence for their criminal investigation, which they opened immediately after the tragedy despite no formal suspects having been publicly identified. Questions have abounded about what caused the superyacht, built in 2008 by Italian shipyard Perini Navi, to rapidly sink,



when the nearby Sir Robert Baden Powell sailboat was largely spared and managed to rescue the survivors. Giovanni Costantino, head of The Italian Sea Group, which owns the ship maker, blamed human error for the disaster, which he said took 16 minutes. "The ship sank because it took on water. From where, the investigators will say," he told RAI state television after he met with prosecutors. Costantino cited AIS ship tracking data which he said showed the Bayesian had taken on water for four minutes when a sudden gust of wind flipped

it, and it continued taking on water. The ship straightened up slightly and then went down, he said. But was it merely the case of a freak waterspout that knocked the ship to its side and allowed water to pour in through open hatches? What was the position of the keel, which on a large sailboat like the Bayesian might have been retractable to allow it to enter shallower ports? "There's a lot of uncertainty whether it had a lifting keel and whether it might have been up," said Jean-Baptiste Soupez, a fellow of the Royal Institute of Naval Architects and the editor of the Journal of Sailing Technology. "But if it had, then that would reduce the amount of stability that the vessel had, and therefore made it easier for it to roll over on its side," he said in an interview. The captain of the sailboat that rescued survivors said his craft sustained minimal damage -- the frame of a sun awning broke -- even with winds that he estimated reached 12 on the Beaufort wind scale, which is the highest hurricane-strength force on the scale.

Biden speaks with Netanyahu on Gaza ceasefire negotiations, hostages deal

Washington US President Joe Biden spoke by phone with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday about ways to advance a potential Gaza ceasefire and hostages deal, the White House said.

The call followed US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's whirlwind trip to the Middle East that ended on Tuesday without an agreement between Israel and Hamas militants on a truce in the Palestinian enclave. Blinken and mediators from Egypt and Qatar have pinned their hopes on a US "bridging proposal" aimed at narrowing the gaps between the two sides in the 10-month-old Gaza war. "President Biden spoke with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel to discuss the ceasefire and hostage release deal and diplomatic efforts to de-escalate regional tensions," a White House statement said. Vice President

Kamala Harris will on Thursday in Chicago formally accept the nomination



as the Democrats' presidential candidate for the November 5 election, also joined the call. The White House was to provide further details of the call later in the day. Biden had been expected to press Netanyahu to soften a new Israeli demand that it be allowed to keep forces along a

land corridor between Egypt and Gaza, a US official said before the call.

Biden is on a family vacation in the Santa Ynez Valley of California, staying on an 8,000-acre ranch. Getting a Gaza ceasefire deal is a major priority for Biden. A senior US official on Friday described the talks as close to a deal but a final agreement has been agonizingly elusive. In talks to halt fighting in the 10-month-old war,

Hamas is seeking a complete Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, including the so-called Philadelphi Corridor, a narrow 14.5-km-long (nine-mile-long) stretch of land along the coastal enclave's southern border with Egypt. Israel wants to retain control of the corridor, which it captured in late May, after destroying dozens of tunnels beneath it that it says had served to smuggle in weapons to Gaza's militant groups.

Million miles an hour': Astronomy student discovers mysterious high-speed object racing through space

World. In Southampton, England, an astronomy student named Tom Bickle made a remarkable discovery while pursuing his passion for stargazing. In his spare time, Bickle enjoys blasting heavy metal music while meticulously analyzing time-lapses of the night sky, searching for elusive objects at the edge of our solar system. During one of these sessions, Bickle noticed something extraordinary: a faint, moving blob on his computer screen. "I knew immediately that it was unusual," Bickle told the New York Times. The discovery, which initially puzzled Bickle, quickly caught the attention of professional astronomers.

Further investigation revealed that the object is either a low-mass star or a brown dwarf, and it's hurtling through space at a staggering speed of one million miles per hour. At such a velocity, it could potentially escape the gravitational pull of the Milky Way, the NY report said.

"It was right when that number came out that we realized we had something spectacular," said Adam Burgasser, a physicist at the University of California, San Diego, who led the study on this observation. The findings were published this month in The Astrophysical Journal Letters. The so-called "hypervelocity object" was spotted by astronomers using

the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI) Legacy Imaging Surveys. "It's a speedy little star," said Kareem El-Badry, a Nasa Hubble Fellow. If the object maintains its current trajectory, it could eventually break free of the Milky Way's gravitational pull and escape into intergalactic space. "It's on an unbound orbit, so in a few million years it will just leave our galaxy entirely and keep going," El-Badry explained. This discovery holds the potential to shed light on some of the oldest and fastest stars in our galaxy, known as halo stars. According to Dr Burgasser, these stars move in peculiar orbits.

Bill Clinton, Kamala Harris's running mate to address Democratic Convention

Former US President Bill Clinton, Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Walz and independent candidate in US polls, Robert F Kennedy, are among the speakers that will address on the third day of the Democratic National Convention.

Washington Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Walz prepared for a high-profile speech at his party's convention on Wednesday, while independent candidate Robert F Kennedy appeared to be weighing an endorsement of Republican Donald Trump. Walz, the running mate of presidential nominee Kamala Harris, has energised Democrats eager to defeat the former president in the November 5 election. The Minnesota governor, 60, will talk about growing up on a farm in Nebraska, his family, and freedoms that Democrats say are under attack from Trump, who is making his third major-party run for the White House. Meanwhile, ABC News reported that Kennedy plans to abandon his bid and declare support for Trump, a development that could help the Republican pick up votes in an election that opinion polls show is likely to be close. Kennedy's campaign did not immediately

respond to a request for comment. Walz has brought a folksy charm to the campaign trail, describing himself and Harris as "joyful warriors" focused on a brighter future and accusing Republicans of stoking fear and division. He will take the stage at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago after former President Bill Clinton, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and former House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who was instrumental in persuading President Joe Biden to drop his struggling reelection bid a month ago. Opinion polls showed Biden trailing Trump before he ceded the party's top spot to Harris; polls now show her besting her Republican rival in several of the states that will decide the November 5 presidential election. At the convention on Tuesday, Walz and Harris got an endorsement from former President Barack Obama and



his wife Michelle Obama. "I love this guy," Obama said of Walz. "You can tell those flannel shirts he wears don't come from some consultant - they come from his closet, and they've been through some stuff." Walz's rapid rise to national fame has drawn scrutiny. Republicans say he was too slow to confront rioters after George Floyd, a Black man, was killed by a white police officer in Minneapolis in 2020, though Trump praised the governor's response at the time. Republicans have also accused Walz of

exaggerating his rank in the Army National Guard, where he served for 24 years. Walz has in the past described himself as a retired command sergeant major, one of the highest noncommissioned officer positions in the Army. While he achieved that rank, he did not meet the requirements to retire with that title. Walz retired to run for Congress in 2005 before his unit was sent to war in Iraq. Harris campaign officials are betting Walz's Midwestern roots and plainspoken style will appeal to some of the white men in rural areas who voted for Trump by huge margins in the last two elections - and help deliver battleground states like Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. Walz will be introduced by Ben Ingman, a former student, and US Senator Amy Klobuchar, a fellow Minnesotan who unsuccessfully ran for president in 2020.

That's my dad!': Tim Walz's son Gus bursts into tears during father's emotional DNC speech

World. At the Democratic National Convention in Chicago on Thursday, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz's heartfelt speech resonated deeply with the audience, particularly with his family members present, including his 17-year-old son, Gus. As Walz accepted the Democratic vice presidential nomination, the emotional weight of his words visibly impacted his family. Posts on social media, including a poignant clip shared on X, formerly Twitter, captured Gus Walz in tears beside his mother, Gwen, as he clapped and cheered for his father. In his speech, Walz shared intimate details about his family's struggle with infertility, a topic he has been open about. "In Minnesota, we respect our neighbors and the personal choices they make, and even if we wouldn't make those same choices for ourselves, we've got a golden rule: mine your own



damn business," Walz said. He continued, "That includes IVF and fertility treatments, and this is personal for Gwen and I. If you've never experienced the hell that is infertility, I guarantee you know somebody who has, and

I can remember praying each night for a phone call, the pit in your stomach when the phone would ring, and the absolute agony when we heard treatments hadn't worked. It took Gwen and I years, but we had access to

fertility treatments, and when our daughter was born, we named her Hope." During the speech, Walz addressed his family directly, saying, "Hope, Gus, and Gwen, you are my entire world, and I love you." This declaration elicited a particularly emotional response from Gus, who pointed to his father and exclaimed, "That's my dad!" Hope Walz, 23, was also present, capturing the moment on camera as the family later joined Walz on stage for hugs and celebration. Walz's personal story and his references to his family's challenges with infertility struck a chord with many, particularly on social media. The Governor's speech also included a nostalgic nod to his past as a teacher and coach. "There will be time to sleep when you are dead. We are going to leave it on the field. That is how we will keep moving forward," he concluded, connecting his past experiences to his current political journey.

News box

Man collapses at apartment water plant in Chennai, dies later

CHENNAI: A 30-year-old engineer collapsed and died at a water recycling station at an apartment complex near Maduravoyal on Tuesday. The deceased, Dinesh Kumar of Pallikaranai, was employed at a private company in Taramani which offers maintenance service to water recycling stations. "Dinesh would visit the plant in the apartment along Ambattur-Vanagaram Road near Maduravoyal for routine checks. On Tuesday, a resident of the apartment found him lying unconscious near the plant. Dinesh gathered himself for a brief time when the resident woke him up and was taken to a hospital in an ambulance," a police officer said. However, Dinesh collapsed and died at the hospital. Upon information, the police recovered the body and sent it for postmortem. The police said that they could not immediately ascertain whether Dinesh's death was due to inhaling noxious gases.

Chennai: Tamil Nadu DGP Shankar Jiwaj on Tuesday inaugurated the orientation programme for the third batch of online diploma in Psychological Wellbeing for Master Trainers. As many as 69 officers will pursue the diploma course conducted by NIMHANS, Bengaluru.

Three caught with 4,000 old mobile phones in Telangana

HYDERABAD: Be cautious when selling your old mobile phone to unknown individuals, as it could be used for cybercrime. When the police track the identity of the device, there is a chance that the seller of the phone might also be seen as a suspect in these crimes, the Telangana police said on Wednesday. The Telangana Cyber Security Bureau identified that in the past month, three men—Mohammad Shamim (30), Abdul Salam (28), and Mohammad Ifthikhar (32)—had purchased as many as 4,000 old mobile phones in Ramagundam and neighbouring districts at low rate with an intention to allegedly use the phones for committing cybercrime. Based on a tip-off, the police apprehended the accused who were in possession of three gunny bags with nearly 4,000 old phones. When inquired, the accused reportedly revealed that they intended to transport the phones to Bihar where their associate would allegedly make some repairs and change software and other components of the phones and then sell it to cyber fraudsters operating from Jamtara, Deoghar and other areas in Jharkhand. "These cyber fraudsters use the repaired phones to carry out scams," said Telangana Cyber Security Bureau Director Shikha Goel on Wednesday. The fourth accused, who allegedly sells the phones to cyber fraudsters is identified as Akhtar Ali. He is currently absconding. Further investigation is on.

FOSS-based Operating System to enhance AI learning in schools

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Soon, over three lakh computers in schools across the state will switch to the latest version of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS)-based Operating System (OS) that enables better learning of Artificial Intelligence (AI) modules introduced in the curriculum from Class VII. Devised by Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE), the technological arm of the General Education department, the OS can be freely accessed by the general public as well. The new FOSS-based OS system suite 'KITE GNU Linux 22.04' will be formally launched by General Education Minister V Sivankutty on August 23.

The launch will happen during the inaugural session of Little KITEs State Camp to be held at Regional Resource Centre of KITE in Ernakulam. The OS suite can be used freely as a complete computing platform not only for ICT learning in schools but also for students and teachers.

It can be accessed for general purposes on computers used in homes, government offices, DTP centres, printing presses, software development companies, colleges and so on. "KITE will provide training for all school IT coordinators for installing the new Operating System in the computers at their schools," said K Anvar Sadath, Chief Executive Officer, KITE. The new Operating System suite can be freely downloaded from the download link in the website of KITE (www.kite.kerala.gov.in) from August 23 onwards. The new version of OS is developed using the Wayland system instead of Xorg Window mechanism currently used in schools. The new OS suite, which is a customised version of Ubuntu, the popular FOSS operating system, comprises applications such as GCompris, Tux Paint, PictoBlox, Traffic game, Waste challenge, Omnitux, EDU Activate, PhET, GeoGebra, Libre Office package, Colour Paint, Scratch and Krita. Given that AI has been included as part of the ICT textbook for Class VII from this year, the new OS will also include tools to gain basic understanding of concepts related to AI, machine learning, computer vision, and more.

The new OS also features elaborate systems for Malayalam computing, e-book reader, desktop publishing software, graphics and image editing softwares.

MVD to focus on key junctions to ease congestion at Tripunithura bottleneck

The motor vehicle department (MVD) on Wednesday initiated measures to decongest key junctions including Petta and S N Junction

KOCHI: With commuters continuing to grapple with frequent traffic jams in the busy Tripunithura region, characterised by narrow roads, the motor vehicle department (MVD) on Wednesday initiated measures to decongest key junctions including Petta and S N Junction. The department has tied up with the SCMS Institute for Road Safety and Transportation (SiRST) to study the steps needed to ease traffic flow, especially during peak hours. A combined team carried out a site visit of the problem areas today. Various suggestions including the setting up of a three-way roundabout, diverting traffic instead of allowing direct crossing at intersections, and the removal of a culvert, among others, are being considered. Tripunithura Joint RTO Abdul Rahman said. With regard to Petta junction, the department is exploring the possibility of a three-way roundabout. "We'll request the Kochi traffic police to conduct a vehicle count at the junction during peak hours," the official said. With increased peak-hour traffic, the threat of accidents too looms large. The situation has been further exacerbated by the fact that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been sitting on a proposal submitted earlier by the Kochi traffic police for a signal system. "We submitted the proposal in 2021 following



the widening of the stretch for Kochi Metro. The plan was resubmitted last year before the tarring of the Kundannoor-Madurai NH 85 was initiated. While resurfacing is over, there is still no provision made for a traffic signal," said a senior officer with the Kochi traffic police (east) station. The junction, where traffic from Kochi city merges with that coming along NH 85 from the Kundannoor side, plays a key

role in avoiding gridlock in Tripunithura's thoroughfares and the suburbs. The proposed plan to ease traffic at S N Junction, further east of Petta, is to direct vehicles coming to the town from the Erroor side to turn left at the junction and then take a U-turn nearly 100 metres ahead. "The idea is to stop direct crossing at the intersection. A trial will be conducted before finalising the plan," the MVD official said.

Mumbai: AIMIM replaces city president Faiyyaz Ahmed with businessman Raiees Lashkaria

MUMBAI: The newly appointed Mumbai president of Majlis Ittihadul Muslimeen (MIM), Raiees Lashkaria, has said that his priority is the upcoming BMC elections. He is working seriously to create a dedicated cadre to ensure that MIM candidates win some seats at the BMC polls.

A businessman-politician, Lashkaria kicked off his "mass contact" after taking over as the party's city president at a Rakshabandhan programme in Jogeshwari on Wednesday, where dozens of women tied rakhi on his wrist. "This was a good gesture by women of this locality who showed love and affection to me by treating me as their

brother," Lashkaria said. He added that he, through volunteers, was identifying the seats from where the party will field its candidates for the civic polls. However, he said the leadership will decide how many seats it wants to fight in the upcoming assembly and BMC elections. Lashkaria was MIM's city president a couple of days ago by replacing Faiyyaz Ahmed. Ahmed was appointed the party's city president just before the 2019 assembly elections. Ahmed stormed out of a press conference which was being addressed by MIM leader and former MP Intiaz Jalil. Later, Ahmed accused MIM of being the "B-team of the BJP." He added



that he has still not decided which party he will join. Earlier, he was with Janta Dal and Congress and is mum about his move since his departure from Asaduddin Owaisi-led MIM which has been trying to spread its footprint outside Telangana but with little success.

When asked to comment on Ahmed's allegations, Lashkaria said: "Faiyyaz sahab should have been more responsible in his comments about the party he headed in Mumbai for five years. My job is to strengthen the cadre in the city and ensure to put up a good show at the upcoming elections."

BBMP cracks down on unregistered PG accommodations

The BBMP's new guidelines require PGs to comply with safety measures and registration or face closure after September 15.

BENGALURU: Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has so far registered only around 2,000 Paying Guest (PG) accommodations, and health department officials of the Palike are reaching out to all PG centres in the city and putting up notices to follow the recently issued guidelines, and register with BBMP if not done already.

Special Commissioner Suralkar Vikas Kishore said the inmates and owners are being told that the most important factor in the guidelines is that only a



permitted number of inmates is allowed, and extra people have to move out to new facilities.

BBMP officials say after the September 15 deadline to adhere to the guidelines, action like sealing illegal PGs will begin. The

Palike had come up with guidelines for PGs after a woman was murdered in one such accommodation in Koramangala in July. The incident had sent shockwaves across the city, especially among women guests, who were worried about their safety. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath directed the BBMP health department to release the guidelines, which include security measures like CCTV, staff to monitor the PG accommodation 24x7, hygienic food, only a certain number of inmates and space between beds. While BBMP officials say there are around 2,000 PGs, sources say the number could touch 10,000, most of them in areas like Mahadevapura and Bommanahalli, where employees of IT and allied sectors are concentrated.

"Most of the illegal PGs in Mahadevapura do not have sanction plan. Each PG accommodation has over 75 people," said a source.

51-year-old climbs onto water tank for fourth time, rescued

Ahmedabad: A 51-year-old man with learning disability was successfully rescued from the top of a water tank by a team from the Ahmedabad Fire and Emergency Services (AFES) on Wednesday evening. The man had climbed on to the water tank in Sarangpur area of the city. The rescue operation lasted nearly four hours, with fire officials deploying a snorkel lift to safely bring the man down. The incident attracted a large crowd near the water tank which is situated at a busy junction near Kalupur railway station.



According to sub inspector Mahipatsinh Jadeja of Kalupur police, the man was identified as Abdul Qadir Shaikh, a resident of Mathurdas Chal in Sarangpur. He has a history of climbing the water tank, having done so three times before. In response to Shaikh's previous attempts, the civic authorities had taken precautionary measures by removing the lower portion of the water tank's stairs to prevent anyone from climbing it. Despite this, Shaikh managed to climb the water tank on Wednesday.

We also published the following articles recently: Brimming Alangulam tank triggers fears of flooding. Due to heavy rainfall, the Alangulam tank in Madurai has reached its capacity, raising concerns among residents about potential flooding. Residents have reported that outlet channels are clogged with waste, worsening the situation. Despite complaints, no significant action has been taken. Officials plan to increase the tank's height and a city-wide desilting drive is being planned. Ukraine using UK-gifted tanks in Russia offensive: Reports British Challenger 2 tanks were deployed by Ukraine in their advance into Russia's Kursk region, marking the first combat use of these tanks on Russian soil. The UK Ministry of Defence emphasized that Ukraine's right to self-defense includes operations within Russia. The UK's Defence Secretary pledged continued military aid to Ukraine while reinforcing support for their efforts.

Is M-pox the next big pandemic?

KOCHI: M-pox or monkeypox is a viral illness caused by orthopoxvirus. It's a zoonotic illness first identified in Central and West Africa around 1970. The virus was accidentally identified in the 1950s among monkeys while scientists were researching some other virus. The smallpox vaccine provided protection for monkeypox. Since the smallpox vaccine was withdrawn after the eradication of the disease in the 1980s, there was an increase in the cases reported for M-pox in the areas where it was endemic. There have been reported cases over a period of time that were associated with travel to endemic areas.

Outbreak of M-pox
This virus came into the limelight once again in 2022 as there were new cases reported in the areas that were non-endemic and were not associated with travel-related spread. The first case in India was diagnosed in July 2022, in a 35-year-old male patient and after that, there were approximately 27 cases which were reported. Recently, WHO declared an M-pox outbreak in August 2024, as more than 100 confirmed cases were identified in four neighbouring countries of the Democratic Republic of Congo -

Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda. This year so far, no case of M-pox has been reported in the Indian Subcontinent.

How does M-pox spread?
The spread is generally associated with coming in direct contact with the infective skin lesions and fomites. This happens when a human comes in contact with an infected animal in the form of



secretions and animal bites. It has also been noted that occasionally an infected individual can spread infection four days prior to the symptom onset. The disease can spread to other individuals through the secretion of the fluid that comes out of skin lesions and pustules of the affected person's skin. Contaminated surfaces act as one of the prominent modes of transmission. Intimate contact can also lead to the spread of this virus.

Symptoms of M-pox

Symptoms are usually skin-related but can vary in severity. The incubation period of this virus varies from five-13 days but can be as long as three weeks. The most common site is the genital region, implicating the spread through intimate contact. There can be rashes ranging from small red raised lesions to large scabbed necrotic areas. The other systems that can be seen involved in these certain cases, include the central nervous system, eyes, etc.

Treatment and prevention

M-pox can be diagnosed by detecting the DNA of the virus. Antivirals are available with limited data on utilities like Tecovirimat and Cidofovir. Availability of tecovirimat may be an issue. The person with the disease needs to be in isolation to prevent further spread. Vaccines (MVA and ACAM2000) are also available for this disease. WHO has requested for emergency listing of these vaccinations to accelerate their availability. The complete strategy for managing the disease has been delineated and thus managing the disease is possible if it is diagnosed on time. However, a high index of suspicion is required for proper treatment and prevention of spread.

Realism, strategic interests should dictate India-China ties

A realistic assessment of the current state of India-China relations is necessary amid the apparent orchestrated pleas urging India to ease travel and import restrictions on Chinese personnel and goods. Since its military adventure in Ladakh in April 2020, Beijing has consistently sought normalisation of relations, especially economic, setting aside the situation on the border. Over the past couple of months, various business sectors, reinforced by arguments advanced by some economists and media reports, have echoed China's demands.

There is a negligible prospect of an improvement in India-China relations in the near future. The absence of communication for over four years at the highest level and China's recent protest against economic assistance to projects in Arunachal Pradesh and other border regions -- on the specious pretext that they are disputed -- are brazen examples. On the contrary, they point to China expanding the areas of pressure on India.

The bilateral relationship has been subjected to considerable strain ever since Beijing decided that it will attempt to forcibly take the territories it claims and compel India to acquiesce to China being the leading power in the region. China has simultaneously redoubled efforts to establish dominance over Asia. These developments have coincided with the view in the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) leadership that India has drawn uncomfortably close to the US. Additionally, Beijing sees India as adopting a tougher, unyielding stance, which includes building defences along the border as well as initiating steps to close off the burgeoning Indian market to China. Beijing views these as unwelcome steps, but considers that India does not yet pose a serious challenge.

The situation on the border has also not changed; 60,000-70,000 troops remain deployed on the front lines. The Chinese have built additional accommodation to billet reinforcements and new advanced weaponry and military units continue to be inducted. Border defence infrastructure is being built at a frenetic pace with plans to build 35 military or dual-use airports and major arterial railways and roads along the border in Tibet. Chinese President Xi Jinping's attitude towards India, signalled on the opening day of the 20th Party Congress in October 2022, with the screening of a video of the fateful Galwan clash of June 2020, has not altered.

In a cosmetic attempt to show that China wants to improve ties but it's India that is playing spoilsport, Beijing claimed that it had sent Ambassador Xu Feihong, who arrived in India almost 20 months after his predecessor Sun Weidong departed, to enhance communication and improve bilateral ties. This has been echoed by many Indian journalists, academics and others. Since his arrival, Xu Feihong has virtually been holding court, meeting Indian politicians, former diplomats, businessmen and others. China is keen on maintaining commercial and economic access to India's market but has no intention of taking substantive steps to ease tensions on the border. At the same time, it is determined to keep India under protracted and sustained pressure.

There are other signs of China's attitude and intentions. Xi has not initiated direct contact or meeting with Prime Minister Modi since April 2020, or even observed basic diplomatic niceties and congratulated him on his re-election. Chinese Premier Li Qiang did send a routine message of congratulations, but only after Modi's swearing-in. China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs explained that it would have been 'premature' to convey greetings prior to the swearing-in. There was, however, no such hesitation in inviting Indonesia's President-elect on an official visit prior to his swearing-in! Whether this presages an effort to restrict China-India interaction at the level of the Chinese Premier is to be seen.

Xi also skipped the G-20 Summit and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meetings. A senior CCP cadre had divulged a couple of months prior to the G20 Summit that Xi would not attend the event and it would, therefore, be a failure. However, Xi's absence ensured there would be no distractions, the G20 communiqué was unanimously approved, and, importantly, India brought the Global South within the G20 fold.

Women's safety at workplace ignored for too long

We need to broaden our vision and take the debate on education beyond what is deleted from or added to NCERT textbooks.

INDIA reports 86 cases of sexual assault on women every day, according to government data. The actual figure could be much higher. And no one would dispute that sexual assault is an everyday occurrence in the country. The Kolkata rape-murder has triggered nationwide protests. PM Narendra Modi has appealed to the head of Bangladesh's interim government to ensure the safety of minorities there, but he is yet to make a direct comment on the Kolkata horror, despite doctors staying away from work and threatening to suspend emergency services and 71 Padma awardee doctors writing to him to seek his intervention. In his Independence Day speech, he had stressed the need to end atrocities against women in general. Women make up around 30 per cent of the doctors and 80 per cent of the nursing staff in India. Though the Indian Medical Association has called for hospitals to be declared safe zones with security measures akin to those at airports and courts, such steps may not be enough. After all, women are abused everywhere, from sports coaching centres to public transport and even in their own homes and at police stations. 'Reclaim the Night' had a spontaneous and emotive appeal. Kolkata had not experienced a telling moment like this in a long time. But going by the NCRB data, 85 other cases may have happened that day, August 9. The last few days alone have witnessed a series of crimes against women across the country. A nurse was allegedly raped and killed while returning home from work in Uttarakhand; her body was recovered last week. A teenage girl was allegedly gangraped and murdered in Bihar. Her mutilated body was found near a pond at a village in Muzaffarpur district. A 16-year-old girl was reportedly gangraped inside a bus in Dehradun. And a female doctor was assaulted at Mumbai's Sion Hospital by an inebriated patient and his relatives.

We as a nation express selective rage and then quickly move on. We light candles on certain anniversaries and forget the rest. It is true that we cannot rise in protest 86 times a day. But certain tragic incidents become the tipping point. And the people in power, who are undeniably responsible for such crimes, have perfected the art of deflection. Ironically, West Bengal CM Mamata



Banerjee, who holds the Home and Health portfolios, has called for swift justice in the Kolkata case.

West Bengal has long perpetuated a culture of political mafia to terrorise the public. On the night of August 14, a mob stormed the hospital in Kolkata where the murder was committed, vandalising property and assaulting doctors and staff members. Many of the vandals arrested are said to be members and volunteers of the ruling party in the state. Besides, we have seen men convicted of gangraping a pregnant woman, Bilkis Bano, and murdering her family members during the 2002 Gujarat riots walk out of jail on remission granted by the Gujarat Government and be greeted with garlands. The Supreme Court had to step in and restore the life sentences for them.

Wrestler Vinesh Phogat recently received a rousing welcome upon her return from Paris not only because of her performance on the mat (though she could not secure an Olympic medal) but also because of the larger battle waged by her and other ace wrestlers against sexual harassment by former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief and six-time BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. In an expected development, despite international scrutiny, Brij Bhushan's proxy had won the WFI elections last year. And he continues to call the shots.

Safety at the workplace or a public place is not something that India has ever taken seriously. Every safety

mechanism here is broken. Some studies indicate that a mere 20 per cent of India's 46.5 crore-strong workforce is covered under the health and safety network. A study conducted by the British Safety Council says that 80 per cent of India's workforce is exposed to an unsafe work environment. According to a study by the International Labour Organisation, only 21 per cent of the factories in India have separate toilets for men and women. Facilities for menstrual hygiene are woefully inadequate. And the lack of arrangements for proper sanitation prevents women from fully participating in the workforce. While the employability of women stands at 51 per cent, their workforce participation is just 36 per cent.

India ranked 129th out of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Report 2024. The country has been placed at the 142nd position in terms of economic participation and opportunities for women. Employers are usually indifferent to the living conditions of employees. And there are no policies in government or corporate sectors that measure employee satisfaction on their work and living conditions.

Rape has been an established weapon of patriarchal state violence in conflict zones in India and other countries. It has been 20 years since the gangrape and murder of Thangiam Manorama in Manipur by soldiers of the Assam Rifles. The incident had triggered mass protests. Twelve women had disrobed in front of the Assam Rifles headquarters in Imphal, forcing then PM Manmohan Singh to rush to the state and call for humane laws to replace the draconian Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), which grants sweeping immunity to security forces. But not one person has been convicted so far. And the AFSPA remains in force. Three Kuki women were allegedly paraded naked and sexually assaulted by a Meitei mob last year. The matter is still being investigated. The survivors had sought police help, but they were left to face the mob.

In Mahasweta Devi's *Draupadi*, the protagonist refuses to put on her clothes after she is taken into custody and then raped by soldiers. "What's the use of clothes? You can strip me, but how can you clothe me again? Are you a man?" she says. From Hathras to Kolkata, the autonomy and independent agency of women are being stripped at every stage.

Policy missteps

Modi must practice consultative governance

THE recent series of policy reversals by the Modi government signals more than just missteps; it underscores the shifting sands beneath the once seemingly invincible throne of the BJP-led administration. In the past two weeks, the government has been compelled to withdraw the contentious Waqf Bill, refer the Broadcast Bill to a parliamentary panel for review, and most notably, backtrack on its lateral entry policy -- moves that reflect a growing realisation that its governance is now bound by the constraints of coalition politics.

The first reversal came with the withdrawal of the Waqf Bill, which had sparked concern among minority communities and Opposition parties. Perceived as an attempt to centralise control over Waqf properties, it faced strong resistance, leading the Centre to pull it back to avoid further alienating its allies. Soon after, the



Broadcast Bill, which aimed to regulate digital content and media, was criticised for its potential to curb press freedom. Sensing the growing unease among its partners

and the media, the government chose a more cautious approach, opting for a review rather than a direct push. The most telling U-turn is on the lateral entry policy, designed to bring private sector experts into top government positions. Initially hailed as a move to infuse fresh talent into the bureaucracy, it faced a backlash over concerns of cronyism and a lack of transparency. Faced with mounting criticism and pressure from within its ranks, the government has now quietly shelved the plan.

This new reality calls for a more consultative approach to governance. The Modi-led government must shed its hubris and engage in genuine dialogue with all stakeholders before pushing through policies that have far-reaching consequences. The government's strength should lie not in imposing its will but in navigating the complexities of coalition politics with wisdom and humility.

The budget & jobs: Prescriptions without diagnosis

Unemployment in India is more structural than seasonal. The budget talks big on jobs and women's empowerment, but its schemes fail to make much economic sense.

The Union budget for 2024-25 has a grand target to provide employment to 4.1 crore young people in 5 years, which works out to 8.2 million a year. It is undoubtedly a major move for a country whose working group of those aged 20-59 will reach its peak in 2041. But the budget's employment prescriptions lack a clear diagnostic basis.

The Economic Survey 2024 does not reflect the nature and magnitude of the problem of unemployment (Chapter 8). For example, it speaks of an "improved" situation "with the unemployment declining to 3.2 per cent in 2022-23", "rising youth and female participation in the workforce", and a "bounce-back of the organised manufacturing sector".

On the other hand, the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy reports an unemployment rate of 8 per cent in 2023-24 for those aged above 15, up from 7.5-7.7 per cent in the preceding two years. Not only that, the employment rate--proportion of those employed in the working-age population--edged down from 38 per cent in May 2024 to 37.6 per cent in June 2024. ILO's Employment Report 2024 also corroborates the poor employment conditions. The Survey's optimism seems misplaced, especially given the emerging reality. India's unemployment situation is more structural than seasonal and short-term. Nearly 90 per cent of the workforce is informally employed, mostly self-employed, casual labour or gig workers. That most of them live on subsistence earnings cannot be ignored without considering minimum wage legislation, social security issues and other livelihood questions. The ILO report points out that the slow transition to non-farm employment has been reversed after the pandemic. It is difficult for an economy where manufacturing employment has been stagnant around 12-14 per cent to absorb surplus labour from the agricultural sector. China, which shared almost the

same economic and demographic conditions before the 1950s, achieved a significant structural transformation through manufacturing.

Let's look at women's employment and empowerment because the two are separately addressed in the budget--allocating Rs 3 trillion, but without a clear strategy. Although 'women's participation' appears in the budget speech immediately after the paras announcing three schemes of the prime minister, it is not part of it. The budget forgets that the number of women not in employment, education or training is five times larger than their male counterparts, and in 2022 constituted around 95 per cent of the total youth population in this category.

Not only that, the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey's estimate of workforce participation for men and women shows a glaring difference--68.4 per cent for men as against 16 per cent for women in 2017-18, but 71.5 per cent for men and 24 per cent for women in 2022-23, as K P Kannan showed in a 2024 paper. There is not much to report. Again, according to the National Family Health Survey 2005-06, married women employed in the previous 12 months was 42.8 per cent against 98.8 per cent for men, but in NFHS 2019-21, it fell to 31.9 per cent for women and 97.5 per cent for men.

Instructively, based on the World Bank Enterprise Surveys 2014 and 2022, Rozi Kumari and Rupayan Pal concluded in a 2024 paper that women's ownership and participation in the top management of registered private firms drastically decreased from "a low to a meagre level" despite high economic growth and the launch of several programmes to promote women's entrepreneurship. The budget is not sensitive to these issues. Another critical area is educated unemployment. The AISHE portal shows



the number of graduates and certificate holders in 2021-22 as 10.27 million (51.24 per cent females), of whom around 8.5 million are under-graduates and post-graduates. Are they an employable resource?

So, this budget has no employment policy that squarely addresses the gender issue, educational policy and a long-term strategy for structural transformation.

Turning to the prescriptions, the budget offers five schemes to expand employment and skilling. It is by requiring the employer to register with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation that employees are drawn into the formal sector. The schemes seek to incentivise the private sector by reducing the labour cost through wage subsidies.

The first three schemes are employment-linked incentives. Briefly, Scheme A is a direct wage subsidy of Rs 15,000 per month to cover 2.1 crore first-time employees; B, a wage subsidy to both the employer and employee to benefit first-time employees broadly to promote manufacturing; and C, support to employers with EPFO contribution for 2 years up to Rs 3,000 a month. The other two initiatives are for youth skill development, one to upgrade 1,000 Industrial

Training Institutes with the support of industry and states, and the other a grand internship project for youth in 500 top companies at an average of 4,000 interns per company per year, to be paid a monthly allowance of Rs 5,000 for 12 months. The companies have to bear a part of the training cost and monthly allowances from their CSR funds. The remedies are more easily announced than implemented. The private sector is the key driving force for employment in India. It can be stimulated only through aggregate demand via consumption, investment and exports. In a growing unequal economy--the nine-point priorities of the budget ignore it--the disposable income of the poor, whose marginal propensity to consume is high, can be increased only through employment or other exchange entitlements.

What is the budget's response? The reduction in MGNREA allocation benefitting the poor from Rs 90,806 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 86,000 crore in 2024-25 is untenable. Not much consumer demand can be promoted by increasing the income of the middle class by Rs 17,500 through changes in tax slabs, or Rs 10,000 by raising the standard deduction.

It is difficult to envisage that the entrepreneurial ecosystem would be improved by abolishing the 'angel tax' along with the Black Money Abolition Act 2015, giving immunity from benami transactions by abolishing the Benami Transactions Act, 1988 and the likes. So whom does the budget help? Annexure 7 shows a total foregone revenue of Rs 1.09 trillion. It is now well documented that tax cuts cannot promote growth and employment as Thomas Piketty in 2020, and Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo showed in 2019. So it's well worth arguing that the budget prescriptions need a radical relook to serve the Indian economy in a useful way.

What's Stressing You out?

At a time when a lot of youngsters are not even aware of the fact that they might be really stressed, we decode symptoms, reasons and solutions...

Ever lost your cool at the tiniest thing, and five minutes later wondered why? Sometimes small things that happen every day, like spilling water or being unable to find your socks, can send you into a flying rage. But why did you lose your cool? You are not going through any life crisis — your job doesn't require you to clock in insane hours and your personal life is looking up. What many of us don't realize is that stress can be caused by several little factors that, on the surface, seem harmless.

Smartphones

Your do-it-all phone is supposed to make your life easier since you can check your mail, chat with friends, play games and add final touches to your presentation, all on the go. So if anything, it should be a stress-buster, right? Wrong. The ability to stay in touch wherever you are and at any time of the day, makes it hard for you to focus on the task at hand; be it in the office, in a party or a picnic. And that phantom buzz — the feeling that your phone vibrated even when it didn't — is a classic sign of stress. People get obsessed with their phones and keep thinking about why they haven't got any calls or texts in a while. All this constantly inflates your stress.

Cubicle-free offices

Most offices today have done away with cubicles. In 'open plan' offices, everyone can see what everyone else is doing. And without realizing it, the things that your colleagues do can add to your stress. Strong perfumes, loud conversations, squeaky chair wheels or the constant prying eyes on your computer screens, can all evoke a reaction within you. Haven't we all clenched our fists in frustration and felt the need to punch the person sitting next to/across from us at least once?

Noise

Finding a quiet corner has become close to impossible, even in our homes. Throughout the day we are bombarded with noises — horns blaring in the traffic, phones ringing in the office, the passing of cars outside your bedroom, the buzz of tube lights or the hum of your computer fan. We are used to many of these noises and don't even notice them anymore, but that doesn't mean that you are immune to their effects. Constant background noises raise your blood pressure, and secretly also affect your ability to pay

attention, all thanks to the build up of stress.

Rude encounters

Being hung up on by someone on the phone, told off by the auto driver or ignored by a salesperson — all these can result in stress. When you feel insulted, the thought tends to linger long after the incident has passed. This plays on your mind, and any negative thoughts can spark off stress. In the long-run, it can alter your hormones and weaken your immune system.

Automated customer assistance

Waiting for what seems like an eternity and pressing all the buttons on your keypad just to get to speak to the customer care representative is a shared irritant. These systems are designed to save companies money, but all they manage to do is steadily raise your frustration. Even though you may not use this service on a daily basis, a single call is enough to stress you out. Getting agitated during or after the call is an instant sign of this.

Bedroom lights

Finding complete darkness is difficult. It's late, you have turned off all the lights in your bedroom and drawn the curtains, but still the light from the streetlamp manages to find its way into your room. If not that, it's the bright LED air conditioner display, your glow-in-the-dark alarm clock, or simply that you have left the TV on. Sleeping eight hours a night is not enough; mind needs uninterrupted, good-quality sleep, and this is not possible with a bright stimulus.

Not paying attention to your appearance

You may pretend to not care about how you look, or how the world views you, but one frown after looking in the mirror is a sign that your appearance has an effect on your psyche. There is a strong link between how you present yourself and how the world views you. When people respond positively, you feel good, and the opposite holds true when you get negative feedback. Not being happy with how you look hits your confidence, and constantly thinking about it, leads to stress.

Mess

Gravy stain on the carpet, toys scattered everywhere,

or the stack of dirty dishes in the sink. A messy living environment can make anyone irritated, especially if it feels like you are the only one who seems to give a hoot about it. Coming back to a messy house after a long day at work makes things that much more annoying. This only adds to your to-do list, no longer making your home a place where you unwind and relax.

Dieting

Ever noticed how someone on a diet is easily irritated? Dieters consume fewer-than-required calories and even end up skipping meals. This sends the body into craving mode, resulting in irritation, headache and fatigue. Cheating on the diet makes you guilty, and blaming yourself for the binge trip results in enormous stress.



Is stomach your worst

Body feature?

With stomach voted the most hated part in a recent study, here's your guide to losing the flab.

Want to flaunt your waist, but shy because of the flab on your stomach? Well, you're not the only one. According to a recent study conducted in the UK, stomachs have reportedly been voted the most hated part of the body, followed by love handles and bingo wings.

What the study says: When it comes to their worst features, almost a third of Britons voted for their stomachs, followed by the dreaded muffin top — basically the fat on the waist, flabby upper arms also known as bingo wings, thighs and noses. One fifth of the respondents also noted their chests or pecs as one of their worst features, as well as teeth and legs.

The study revealed that most people who consider one of their body parts as worst features don't opt for correction through cosmetic surgery. Among those surveyed, 85% said that they aren't planning on having any cosmetic surgery. However, almost four in 10 say they would consider changing something about their body if money wasn't an issue.

Think twice before heading for

correctional surgery: According to experts, most people have hang-ups about their appearance, but cosmetic surgery is a big step and some operations are irreversible. Anyone looking into any kind of procedure should be 100% sure they are doing it for the right reasons and have realistic expectations of the results.

Researchers also advise on thorough research before heading for a correctional surgery. Choose a practitioner you're comfortable with and don't be hesitant to ask for second opinion. Although price can be a determining factor, make sure it isn't your sole focus. Aftercare is also essential. Ways to burn belly fat:

Brisk walking: Go for a 20-minute walk every evening. Alternate the routes and try slopes for a full body workout.

Bicycle crunches: Lie on a mat and press your back against the floor. Link your fingers and bring them behind your head. Bend your legs at a 45-degree angle, lift your right knee up to the chest while straightening out your left leg. Simultaneously, raise your upper body from the ground and get your left elbow near your right knee. Switch to the other side in a way that you are in a bicycle riding motion. Repeat for one minute, three times a day. **Kettlebell swing:** With your feet apart from the hips, hold a kettlebell with both your hands. Squat with a straight back and swing the kettlebell through legs and up to your chest. Continue swinging for 30 to 60 seconds.



Irresponsible, careless kids at obesity risk

A study has found that children showing low conscientiousness (e.g., irresponsible, careless, not persevering) could later in their life be battling obesity.

The Oregon Research Institute (ORI) study examines the relationship between childhood personality and adult health and shows a strong association between childhood conscientiousness (organized, dependable, self-disciplined) and health status in adulthood.

ORI scientist Sarah Hampson, Ph.D., and colleagues at the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health, Hawaii helped complete the study. Hampson said that these results are significant and unique as they show the far-reaching effects of childhood conscientiousness on adult health. She said that others have shown that more conscientious children live longer but now they



have shown that these conscientious children are also healthier at midlife. This is the first study in which all the Big Five personality traits (extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, emotional stability, and intellect/imagination) assessed in childhood have been used to predict objective health status assessed by multiple biomarkers over 40 years later in older adulthood.

In the 1960's, over 2,000 children from entire classrooms in elementary schools on two Hawaiian Islands were comprehensively assessed on their personality characteristics. ORI researchers were funded in 1998 by the National Institute of Mental Health to locate and examine the health-related behaviors and

mental and physical health status of these individuals.

Almost 75 per cent of those in the original group who could be located (mean age 51 years) have agreed to participate, and over 800 individuals completed a medical and psychological examination supported by subsequent grants from the National Institute on Aging.

Hampson said that these findings suggest avenues for further research that may lead to interventions. She asserted that people who are more conscientious tend to have better health habits and less stress, which protects them from disease.

Hampson added that self-control is a key part of being conscientious, so our findings confirm the importance of teaching children self-control to enable them to grow up to be healthy adults.

Brain exercises that will boost your memory

While you can't prevent the deteriorating effects of ageing, you can slow down memory loss in the long run through brain-driven activities.

One of the frightening things about ageing is the loss of memory that comes with it. While one cannot prevent the cognitive decline that comes with age, one can slow them down or even reverse them through productive brain-boosting activities.

Talk to yourself: Having conversations with yourself isn't stupidity. Studies have shown that people who talk to themselves are at lower risk of developing dementia. In fact, telling yourself stories might delay memory loss and help you stay focused on important details of day-to-day living.

Learn a new language: Knowing how to speak and write in a new language will add one more feather to your talent cap, boost your confidence and even reverse memory loss. Learning a new language leads to a better understanding and recognition of objects and words. It leads to improved vocabulary and grammar, as well as more mental and verbal fluency.

Solve puzzles and word games: Get cracking at that Sudoku puzzle in the morning paper, the cryptic or classic crossword in your Sunday read or that game of scrabble gathering dust in your top drawer. Anything that stimulates your mind with new words and word associations helps prevent memory loss.

Use melotherapy: Music therapy, commonly

referred to as melotherapy, is an enjoyable way to enhance mental focus. Studies have shown that listening to classical music boosts the brain capacity and verbal skills of babies and teens, music is also a great healer for memory loss. All you have to do is to listen to your favourite genre of music and try to remember the melody or lyrics. Sing along if you want to!

Read many books together: Read as many books as you can and try to remember their plots. It doesn't matter if you are drawn to books, a magazine article or a newspaper report. Use the spare time you get while commuting to work or during breaks to read something other than work-related material.

No brothel soil for Durga idols over Kolkata rape-murder? Sex worker shares truth

The rape and murder of a trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital sparked protests. Social media, which witnessed the outrage, also saw fake news being circulated. One of the claims was that sex workers from Sonagachi, a red-light district, refused to give soil for Durga idols as a form of protest. What's the truth?

New Delhi: The rape and murder of a trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital sent shockwaves across the nation. The attempt to cover up the crime and the insensitivity shown by the Mamata Banerjee administration pushed people to take to the streets. There were protests and outrage on social media too, which saw fake news being circulated online. One of the claims was that sex workers of Sonagachi, a red-light district, had refused to give brothel soil for Durga idols. Even as Kolkata and its outskirts are reeling from the rape and murder of a female medical worker at RG Kar Hospital, protests are ongoing in various districts. Junior doctors in different government hospitals have joined the protests, demanding justice and safety. Public

outrage is intense, with even expatriates joining in the condemnation. Thousands are shouting, "We want justice". The Supreme Court has asked the CBI to submit a status report on the investigation by the upcoming Thursday. Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has strongly criticised the state government's role in the matter. Social media is helping people vent their anger. Several popular influencers have taken a stand seeking fair probe and justice. This, even as fake news started circulating on social media. Kolkata Police has been warning against fake news and acting against its spread. Among the misinformation circulating on social media, there is a message claiming that as a form of protest against this heinous rape-



murder of the trainee doctor at RG Kar, sex workers of Sonagachi, a red-light district on Kolkata's outskirts, won't provide soil for Durga Puja this year. Aaj Tak Bangla of the India Today Group spoke to a sex worker from Sonagachi to verify the e-ws. "This is not a recent issue. For many years, the soil has not been provided. We still do not have acceptance of sex work as

profession in society. We have long been seeking recognition for sex work," a female sex worker from Bengal's Sonagachi said, revealing that the issue wasn't related. "Sex workers and every woman in this profession endure a lot of humiliation. We face continuous exploitation. It's not just the four days [of Durga Puja] of the year, we need respect every day of the year. When we achieve our rights and are respected, we will provide the soil," she said.

READ THE STORY IN BANGLA HERE

Among all festivals, it is Durga Puja that is celebrated with the most enthusiasm and gaiety in West Bengal. It is said that soil from outside a brothel is needed for the idol of Goddess Durga.

"But if someone takes the soil from our area

without asking us, there is nothing we can do. Until now, we have voluntarily provided the soil," the sex worker from Sonagachi said. "Nowadays, the taking of soil from a brothel has become a commercial transaction. I hear that it is available in the market as well. I can't say whether it's real or fake. Whether the soil is taken from the brothel or elsewhere for business, it's hard to determine," she added. Like most sections of society, sex workers too participated in the protests over the trainee doctor's rape-murder at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, one of the busiest public hospitals in Kolkata. "On August 14, we also participated in the protests. However, every day on social media, we see reports of rape and atrocities against women," said the sex worker.

Heavy rains likely in Kerala, weather body issues orange alert

New Delhi: The India Meteorological Department on Wednesday issued an orange alert for several districts, as rain is likely to intensify in the next few days. The weather body also advised the fishermen not to venture into the sea, as squally weather with windspeed reaching up to 55 kmph, is likely to prevail along and off the coast of Kerala and Lakshadweep.

It also issued an alert for northeastern states, predicting "very heavy" to "extremely heavy" rainfall for the next two days in Assam, Meghalaya, and Tripura. In the three states, the local authorities and people have also been advised to stay updated with weather forecasts and adhere to safety protocols.

In addition, parts of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Gujarat are at risk of "very heavy rainfall", the IMD said. The weather agency also predicted heavy rainfall in Madhya Pradesh on August 21 and between August 23 and August 26, in Maharashtra on August 21 and from August 24 to 26, in Chhattisgarh until August 24, in Goa until August 26, and in Gujarat on August 21, 25, and 26.

Chief Justice Gets - And Gives - Pronunciation Lesson In Kolkata Case

New Delhi: Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud today corrected himself on the pronunciation of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital and said he had been pronouncing "Kar" as "Kaar" and Supreme Court judge, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, had pointed out the error to him. He Supreme Court was hearing petitions related to the horrifying rape and murder of a 31-year-old doctor at the Kolkata hospital. When an advocate mentioned that she was representing junior doctors working at the state-run hospital, the Chief Justice replied, "By the way, Justice Hrishikesh Roy pointed out to me that you kept on saying 'Kaar', 'Kaar', it's 'Kar'. I apologise." The RG Kar Medical College was established in 1886 as the Calcutta School of Medicine by Indian physician Radha Gobinda Kar. At that point, it did not have an associated hospital or a campus of its own. In 1902, the college got a building of its own. It was renamed Belgachia Medical College in 1916. Two years later, it was renamed Carmichael Medical College in the honour of Bengal's



Governor Thomas Gibson-Carmichael. After Independence, the college was named after its founder Dr Radha Gobinda Kar. Subsequently, the West Bengal government took over the management of the hospital. The state-run hospital in North Kolkata has made headlines after a 31-year-old postgraduate trainee doctor on duty was found dead in the hospital's seminar hall on the morning of August 9. Medical examination confirmed sexual assault. The chilling incident has sparked nationwide protests calling for swift justice. Doctors across the country have taken to the streets, demanding safe working conditions. The doctors' protest has paralysed healthcare services across the country.

The Supreme Court has set up a National Task Force to recommend steps to improve the working conditions for healthcare professionals. During the hearing today, an advocate representing a group of doctors said the medicos sometimes have to work for as much as 36 hours. To this, the Chief Justice replied, "Please assure the doctors that we know they are working for 36 hours. I have personally slept on the floor of a public hospital when one my family member was not well."

"Not Correct...": Government On Reports India Dam Caused Bangladesh Floods

New Delhi: Flooding in the eastern districts of Bangladesh - which is facing political turmoil after violent protests forced Sheikh Hasina to resign as Prime Minister and flee to India - were not caused by the opening of a dam on the Gumti River in Tripura, the government clarified Thursday.

The External Affairs Ministry acknowledged "the catchment areas of Gumti River that flows through India and Bangladesh witnessed heaviest rains of this year over the last few days", but said the floods in Bangladesh were mainly due to waters from downstream catchments areas. "The Dumbur dam is located quite far from the border - over 120 km upstream of Bangladesh. It is a low height (about 30m) dam that generates power that feeds into a grid and from which Bangladesh also draws 40MW power from Tripura," the ministry said.

"Heavy rainfall has been continuing

since August 21 in the whole of Tripura and adjoining districts of Bangladesh. Data showing rising trend has been supplied to Bangladesh till 1500 on August 21. At 1800, due to



flooding, there was power outage leading to problems of communication... we tried to maintain communication through other means..." Heavy rains in the region have also led to floods on the Indian side of the border - in Tripura. More than 34,000 people have been

displaced so far due to the floods in the northeastern state.

Officials said on Wednesday that at least nine people, including three members of a family, were killed and two others were injured in separate incidents of landslides and drowning following incessant rain. Officials also said most of the state's prominent rivers were flowing above critical levels while the main river - Gumti - had crossed the 'extreme danger level'. The weather department on Tuesday said the heavy rains were the result of a low-pressure area persisting over central parts of Bangladesh and the neighbouring region.

Over in Bangladesh, multiple deaths have been reported due to the floods, which have affected eight districts - Sunamganj, Maulvibazar, Habiganj, Feni, Chittagong, Noakhali, Comilla, and Khagrachari - according to local media reports.

Assam To Introduce Compulsory Muslim Marriage, Divorce Registration Bill

New Delhi: In a significant move, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that his government will introduce a bill for the compulsory government registration of Muslim marriages and divorces in the upcoming Autumn assembly session. The bill, known as the Assam Compulsory Registration of Marriage And Divorce Bill, aims to address and prevent child marriages in the state. Speaking to the media ahead of the monsoon session, Mr Sarma stated that the new legislation will prohibit the registration of marriages involving individuals under the age of 18.

This step is part of a broader effort to safeguard minors and ensure that all

marriages comply with legal standards. On Wednesday, the Assam Cabinet approved the Muslim Marriage Registration Bill 2024, which stipulates that marriage registrations will be handled by government authorities rather than Qazis. Once enacted, the new law will make the registration of child marriages illegal. In addition to the marriage registration bill, Mr Sarma revealed that the state government will introduce a new law criminalising "Love Jihad", with provisions for life imprisonment for those found guilty. He also mentioned plans to propose a bill to prevent inter-religious land transfers. The Assam government has

previously decided to repeal the Assam Muslim Marriages and Divorce Registration Act and Rules 1935 through the Assam Repealing Bill 2024. This repeal, along with the proposed new legislation, will be tabled in the next monsoon session of the state assembly. Additionally, the State Cabinet has directed the preparation of suitable legislation for the registration of Muslim marriages in Assam, to be considered in the upcoming session. Earlier, the Assam government had considered introducing legislation on the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) following the Lok Sabha elections. Mr Sarma has also pledged that child.

Plans On To Tackle "Dangerous" Glacial Lakes In Himalayas

NDTV has learnt that of the nearly 7,500 glacial lakes in the Indian part of Himalayas, NDMA has finalised a list of 189 lakes where the risk factor needs to be lowered.

New Delhi: The expanding glacial lakes in the Himalayas are a matter of serious concern and the National Disaster Management Authority or NDMA has finalised a list of 189 "potentially dangerous" lakes. NDTV has learnt that of the nearly 7,500 glacial lakes in the Indian

part of Himalayas, NDMA has finalised a list of 189 lakes where the risk factor needs to be lowered. Rising global temperatures lead to faster melting of ice in these lakes and pose a risk of flooding - a situation known as Glacial Lake Outburst Flood or GLOF. This is the kind of flood that had devastated the Kedarnath valley in 2013 and parts of Chamoli in 2021, sources said. In October last year, the South Lhonak Lake in North Sikkim breached, causing a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood. The Teesta III dam, the biggest hydropower project in Sikkim was decimated by a GLOF, which also unleashed devastation on downstream areas and communities. Now, "all central and state agencies are working closely and have already completed expeditions to 15 of these high-risk lakes -- six in Sikkim, six in Ladakh, one in Himachal Pradesh and two in Jammu and Kashmir," a senior official told NDTV. Another seven expeditions are underway, he said. "Given

the inhospitable terrain and weather conditions at heights of 4,500 m and above, there is only a June to September window to approach these formidable lakes. Several visits will be needed to



implement lake-lowering measures, some of which could require civil engineering," he said. One such expedition is going on in Arunachal Pradesh, where teams are assessing threats from six high-risk glacial lakes. Considering the risk of these glacial lakes, the NDMA has suggested that there is an immediate need to take up

measures to mitigate the effects of Glacial Lake Outburst Flood.

The measures being considered include early warning systems, automatic weather stations, and others, the sources said. "These composite expeditions are assessing structural stability and potential breach points of glacial lakes, gathering relevant hydrological and geological samples and data, measuring water quality and flow rates, identifying risk zones and making downstream communities aware," said another official, explaining the work being done by NDMA. The National Glacial Outburst Flood Risk Mitigation Programme (NGRMP) was approved by the government on July 25. The Home ministry has allocated Rs150 crore to support the efforts of state governments of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh in this matter. There is a separate programme envisaged on the same lines for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Will Discuss Strategic Interests": Rajnath Singh Ahead Of US Visit

New Delhi: Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said that he will be visiting Washington and looks forward to meeting his US counterpart Lloyd Austin. Mr Singh said that he will discuss areas of strategic interests and seek to strengthen defence cooperation between India and US. Taking to X, Rajnath Singh stated, "Leaving for Washington. India and the United States share a Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. Looking forward to meet my friend @SecDef Austin. Will discuss areas of strategic interests, while seeking to strengthen defence cooperation."

During his visit, Rajnath Singh will meet the US Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Jake Sullivan. In a press release, the Ministry of Defence stated, "Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh will be undertaking an official visit to the US from August 23 to 26, 2024, on the invitation of the US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin. The visit comes as there is a growing momentum in India-US relations and defence engagements at multiple levels."

"The visit is expected to further deepen and broaden the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership," the release read. "Rajnath Singh will also chair a high-level roundtable meeting with the US defence industry on the ongoing and future defence collaborations. He will also interact with the Indian community during the visit," it added. Earlier on August 17, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met US Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources Richard Verma in Delhi and spoke about the continuing momentum in the bilateral ties between the two countries. Mr Jaishankar and Richard Verma also exchanged views on regional and global issues. Richard Verma served as the 25th United States Ambassador to India. He was nominated by President Obama in September 2014. In a post on X, S Jaishankar said, "Pleased to meet @DepSecStateMR Richard Verma today in Delhi. Spoke about the continuing momentum in our bilateral ties. And exchanged views on certain regional and global issues." On July 29, Mr Jaishankar met US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Tokyo at the Quad Foreign Ministers meeting and stated that they had a wide-ranging discussion on regional and global issues. Taking to X, S Jaishankar said, "Great to catch up with @SecBlinken in Tokyo today. Our bilateral agenda progresses steadily. Also had a wide-ranging discussion on regional and global issues."

Although it is true that there are no such things as "bad" exercises, certain faulty techniques can make an exercise useless and compromising.



While some of these exercises aren't optimal for fitness, some others should be avoided as they can easily lead to injury. However, it is important to understand that they are not always unsafe or unproductive. Adopting or avoiding any exercise technique depends on an individual's personal fitness goals and objectives. Read on to know more about these common red flags...

Spot reduction exercises: An ineffective method of "burning fat" followed by many people is spot reduction. The popularity of this belief can be largely attributed to the many exercise gimmicks that we often see in infomercials regarding localized weight reduction. But always keep in mind that weight loss can never be isolated to a particular area. Localized strengthening and toning exercises will only help to firm muscles but will have no effect on the fat content of the target area. A better alternative is to adopt a well-rounded full-body weight reduction program.

Leg extensions (Seated): A very popular exercise for working the anterior thigh muscles, seated leg extensions are actually one of the most dangerous exercises in the gym. This is because the exercise places an unhealthy amount of stress on the knee joint. According to a research published in the "Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy", individuals who worked on the leg extension machines found no benefit during functional tests. This can be particularly dangerous for those who have any kind of knee problems. Safer alternatives are simple lunges and squats without any added weights.

Leg press: Another form of exercise that should be avoided is the leg press as this can place undue amount of stress on the lower back. This can thus predispose a person to low back injuries. Although, many claim that seated leg press exercises can train your hams, quadriceps and gluts, in reality, it does not engage these muscles at all. All it does is force the spine into a flexed position. Hence, instead of this, try working on body weight squats.

Seated abduction or adduction: Just like leg press, seated abduction/adduction movements can place great amounts of stress on your spine. Also, such movements only train these muscles as prime movers. But, in reality, during actual physical activity, they are used only as stabilizers and not as prime movers. An easy and effective alternative is lunges which can be used to train these muscles for their actual purpose of stabilizing.

Leg curls: According to strength and conditioning coach, Charlie Weingroff,

exercises like deadlifts are more effective than leg curls. This is because the latter trains the hams only as knee flexors while, during activity, they are used mainly as hip extensors. Sit ups: As per the recommendations by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

(NIOSH), a person should never apply more than 3400 newtons of force on his back at a time. Crossing this limit would place unnecessary stress on the back muscles leading to stress or injury. On an average, a regular sit-up program contributes around 3413 newtons of force on the

back muscles. To avoid this, opt for short range crunch movements or tabletops.

Lat pulldown exercises (behind the head): This is a big "no-no" without proper form, as this may affect your shoulder joint functioning. Only those with extreme shoulder joint

flexibility can opt for this exercise and that too, with extreme care for correct form. A better alternative for working your lats is by pulling the bar towards your chest and not behind the head. But, remember to keep your spine straight and abs pulled in while performing this.

7 exercises you need to Avoid



How papaya, fenugreek leaves can control Dengue

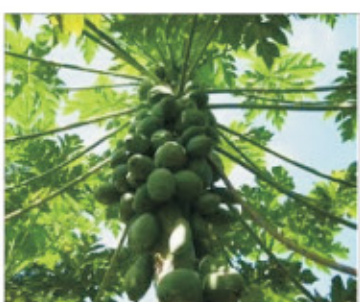
Giloy is helpful in building the immune system and papaya leaves cure dengue fever, an expert says.



Pankaj Aggarwal, from the capital-based Agrawal Homoeo Clinic, has suggested some easy home remedies to control platelet loss and recovery from dengue fever

Giloy (herb): This is helpful in building the immune system, giloy stem marks immediate recovery when consumed in frequently during the fever. Boil two or three giloy stems for ten minutes and serve the patient for better immunity.

Papaya leaves: The budding leaves of papaya tree cure dengue fever and helps in removing excess toxins from the body. The intake of its juice from crushed leaves can help in rising the platelet count.



Fenugreek leaves: Fenugreek leaves help in reducing the pain of the patient and help in restful sleep. It reduces the level of fever stabilizing the blood pressure and heartbeat of the patient.

Goldenseal: The herb proves to be an excellent remedy for its ability to clear up the symptoms of the dengue fever. The leaf when consumed in form of juice helps in eliminating the dengue virus from the body strengthening the immunity of the body against its signs.

Feeling blue? You have impaired your ability to identify colours

Taking the association between our mood and colours beyond a mere metaphor, new research has found that feeling sad can impair our ability to accurately identify colours on the blue-yellow axis.



"Our results show that mood and emotion can affect how we see the world around us," said study first author Christopher Thorstenson from University of Rochester in New York, US.

"Our work advances the study of perception by showing that sadness specifically impairs basic visual processes that are involved in perceiving colour," Thorstenson noted.

In the study, the researchers had 127 undergraduate participants watch an emotional film clip and then complete a visual judgment task.

The participants were randomly assigned to watch an animated film clip intended to induce sadness or a standup comedy clip intended to induce amusement.

After watching the video clip, the participants were then shown 48 consecutive, desaturated colour patches and were asked to indicate whether each patch was red, yellow,

green, or blue. The results showed that participants who watched the sadness video clip were less accurate in identifying colours than participants who watched the amusing clip, but only



for colour patches that were on the blue-yellow axis.

They showed no difference in accuracy for colours on the red-green axis.

The results cannot be explained by differences in participants' level of effort, attention, or engagement with the task, as colour perception was only impaired on the blue-yellow axis.

"We did not predict this specific finding, although it might give us a clue to the reason for the effect in neurotransmitter functioning," Thorstenson said.

The researchers noted that previous work has specifically linked colour perception on the blue-yellow axis with the neurotransmitter dopamine.

The new research was published in the journal Psychological Science.

Here's how you should make turmeric Milk

Milk

Much has been said about the benefits of drinking turmeric milk - or 'Golden Milk' as it is fondly called by the Orientals.

It has been advocated by several schools of native medicine, including Ayurveda. A simple Web search on 'turmeric milk' will tell you about benefits ranging from decongestion to weight loss, so I am not going to delve into that much in this post.

Instead, I want to share with you an authentic method of preparing it, which I zeroed in on after trying several recipes advised by Ayurvedic doctors, and found in many books.

1. Take an inch-long stick of turmeric. Remember that turmeric powder is never as effective as crushed turmeric sticks, because the chances of contamination in the powder are high, plus its efficacy is also

bound to reduce during the heat-generating grinding process. So, take a stick of turmeric (the variety used in cooking; varali manjal in Tamil) and crush it coarsely using a mortar and pestle.

2. Crush a few peppercorns too. The white variety is better.

3. Mix a cup of water with a cup of milk, add the crushed turmeric and pepper and bring to a boil.

4. Simmer for 20 minutes. By this time, the milk will reduce to a cup. This is the reason why I suggest you begin with a mixture of milk and water; else you will end up with a very thick, kheer-like drink that won't be as soothing.

5. Remove from the stove, filter, add a spoonful of honey or palm sugar, and enjoy the drink warm.

6. If you are taking this to relieve a sore throat, add 1/2 teaspoon of ghee to the hot turmeric milk before drinking it. The ghee will melt and coat your throat, relieving you of cough as well.

Note: The most important part is to sit and relax with this cuppa for a few minutes, relishing its soothing flavour and rustic aroma! This will enhance the feel-good factor.



Stock Market Updates: Sensex Gains 200 Points, Nifty Above 24,800; Zomato, Paytm Rise Up To 3%

New Delhi. Benchmark indices BSE Sensex and Nifty 50 opened on a positive note on Thursday, following indications of at least one rate cut during this year by the US Federal Reserve, according to the central bank's latest minutes released on Wednesday. At opening bell, the 30-stock BSE Sensex was up 191.35 points, or 0.24 per cent, to 81,096.65, while the Nifty 50 had climbed 62.25 points, or 0.25 per cent, to 24,832.45. Overnight, the US market closed up following the release of the minutes of the latest US Federal Reserve meeting held on July 30 and 31. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.14 per cent, to 40,890.49, the S&P 500 gained 0.42 per cent, to 5,620.85 and the Nasdaq Composite, opens new tab added 0.57 per cent, to 17,918.99. Asian stocks edged higher ahead of key events from the Federal Reserve and the Bank of Japan that will help define the global rates trajectory. The MSCI Asia Pacific Index climbed 0.2% as benchmarks in Japan, Australia and South Korea rose. That came after the S&P 500 and Nasdaq 100 indexes advanced on further signs the Fed will cut interest rates.

Income Tax Act Review To Wrap Up In 6 Months, Says CBDT Chairman

New Delhi. CBDT Chairman Ravi Agrawal stated on Wednesday that the review of the Income Tax Act of 1961 is set to be completed within the designated six-month timeframe.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in her Budget speech last month, announced that the direct tax law of the country would be reviewed to make it simple, and the job would be completed in six months. "We have an important task on hand, and that is the comprehensive review of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The purpose is to make the Act concise, lucid, and easy to read and understand. This exercise is aimed to reduce litigation and provide tax certainty to taxpayers," Agrawal said during an event held here to mark the 165th Year of Income Tax in India.

The work, though challenging, was transformative, and "we have taken the assignment in a mission mode", the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) chief said. He assured that the task would be completed in the given timeframe.

What Is the Income Tax Act of 1961?

The Income Tax Act of 1961 is the cornerstone of India's taxation system. It outlines the rules, regulations, and procedures governing the levy, administration, collection, and recovery of income tax in the country. The Act provides a comprehensive framework for taxation, covering various aspects such as:

Why the Income Tax Act Is Being Reviewed?

The Income Tax Act has undergone several amendments over the years to keep pace with changes in the economy, technology, and social conditions. These amendments have introduced new provisions, revised existing ones, and simplified the tax administration process.

Interarch Building Products IPO allotment: Step-by-step guide to check status

New Delhi. The initial public offering (IPO) of Interarch Building Products Limited saw great interest from investors as it was subscribed over 90 times. Interarch Building Products IPO had a price band of Rs 850-900 per share. It opened for subscription on August 19, 2024 and closed for bidding on August 21, 2024.

The IPO of Interarch Building Products was oversubscribed by 93.79 times by August 21, 2024. The IPO offered 4,653,341 shares but received bidding for 43,87,55,568 shares. The retail portion of the public issue saw a subscription of 19.46 times, while the QIB category was subscribed 197.29 times, and the NII category recorded a subscription of 130.91 times.

Investors who have bid for Interarch Building Products Limited IPO can check their allotment status online. They can log in to either the BSE website or the website of Link Intime India Private Ltd, the registrar for the issue.

Gold, silver price : Precious metals witness dip on MCX



New Delhi. Both gold and silver prices recorded a dip on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) on Thursday, August 22, 2024. Gold futures, maturing on October 4, 2024, stood at Rs 71,797 per 10 grams on the MCX, after recording a dip of Rs 33 or 0.05 per cent. The previous close was recorded at Rs 71,830. Similarly, silver futures, maturing on September 5, 2024, witnessed a dip of Rs 23 or 0.03 per cent and were retailing at Rs 84,841 per kg on the MCX against the previous close of Rs 84,863.

GOLD, SILVER PRICES IN MAJOR CITIES

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.

Sebi Slaps Rs 11 Lakh Fine On IIFL Securities For Flouting Stock Brokers Rules

Sebi slapped a fine of Rs 11 lakh on brokerage firm IIFL Securities for flouting stock broker rules and other regulatory norms.

New Delhi. Capital market regulator Sebi on Wednesday slapped a fine of Rs 11 lakh on brokerage firm IIFL Securities for flouting stock broker rules and other regulatory norms. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) inspected IIFL Securities Ltd (IIFL) to look into various compliance requirements adhered by the brokerage firm. The inspection was conducted for the period beginning April to July 2022.

Thereafter, a show cause notice (SCN) was issued to IIFL Securities on April 15, 2024 by the regulator. In its 35-page order,

Sebi observed that the noticee (IIFL Securities) has admitted to the allegations stated in the SCN in respect of the monthly/ quarterly settlement of client funds and securities stating that there was some technical error. "I find that the circulars specifically mandate brokers to settle accounts and issue retention statements on a timely basis. However, the noticee failed to do so," Sebi's Adjudicating Officer Barnali Mukherjee said in the order. While the noticee has now taken corrective action, it noted that it failed to settle the funds and securities on a monthly/ quarterly basis.

The regulator also alleged that the noticee did not do periodic reconciliation of client securities lying in DP accounts, with back office holding and also reported incorrect quantity in weekly holding statement in one instance for 1,835 shares valued at Rs 11.69 lakh.

As per Sebi norms, stock reconciliation is a



critical process for all brokers to ensure that their physical inventory count matches the recorded data in their systems to make correct reporting to the exchange. IIFL Securities admitted that it was a one-off case and a very small portion of the entire holding of shares valued at Rs 120.73 crore. Therefore, the noticee failed to reconcile 1,835 shares, and hence the allegation of violation of

norms by the noticee stands established, the order said. "I find that the noticee has given an ambiguous reply and not addressed the issue raised in the SCN regarding the passing of penalty on short reporting of upfront margin."

"The noticee has not given any reason why it had passed on a penalty to clients on account of short reporting of upfront margins amounting to Rs 24.22 lakh in the CM segment for 26 clients, Rs 56 lakh in Futures & Options segment for 13 clients and Rs 5.19 lakh in CD segment for 15 clients," Mukherjee said. Accordingly, IIFL Securities contravened the provisions of brokers' rules.

IIFL Securities was under a statutory obligation to abide by and comply with the provisions of the circulars/ directions issued by Sebi and stock exchanges, which it failed to do during the inspection period, Sebi said.

Paytm Proposes Lower Remuneration for Board Members; Caps Annual Compensation at Rs 48 Lakh

Paytm has proposed reduced remuneration for board members, as part of efforts towards responsible financial discipline and corporate governance

New Delhi. Ahead of its annual general meeting scheduled for next month, Paytm has proposed reduced remuneration for board members, as part of efforts towards responsible financial discipline and corporate governance. The new proposed remuneration framework will be



subject to shareholder approval. With the revised remuneration structure, the annual compensation of each non-executive independent director will be capped at Rs 48 lakh, with a fixed component of Rs 20 lakh.

The variable component will be linked to attendance at the meetings and

chairpersonship/membership positions held in the various committees of the board, to ensure good governance.

The revised remuneration structure will be effective from April 1, 2024. Previously, the annual salaries of non-executive independent directors of Paytm's board, including Ashit Ranjit Lilani, was set at Rs 1.65 crore, while that of Gopalasamudram Srinivasaraghavan Sundararajan was set at Rs 2.07 crore. According to the

company's exchange filing, the new remuneration structure is based on the benchmarking done by the company, keeping in mind good governance practices and companies in similar sectors or types of business with similar market capitalisation.

IndiGo Shares Gain 4% After Jefferies, HSBC Upgrade; Analysts See Up To 20% Upside

New Delhi. Shares of Interglobe Aviation - the parent company operating IndiGo airlines surged 4 per cent to Rs 4,459 on August 22 after

Jefferies and HSBC issued bullish calls, citing strong growth prospects across multiple fronts. While Jefferies upgraded its rating to 'buy' from 'hold', HSBC maintained its 'buy' rating on the country's largest airlines by market share. Global brokerage Jefferies has maintained its bullish stance on the counter and has double upgraded the stock from 'hold' to 'buy'. The company raised the target to Rs 5,225 from the earlier pegged target of Rs 4,400, implying an upside of 22 per cent. The brokerage held that the company has kept in the last 12-18 months. Further, it mentioned that there is a long runway and IndiGo is consistently flying ahead including new avenues. Jefferies pointed out that though FY24 spreads may not repeat, but should sustain at

healthy levels. IndiGo remains in the driver's seat, with new avenues of growth, it added. The company has also performed well on the operational front



and has consistently surprised in past 12-18 months as it maneuvered through cost/capacity headwinds. The precarious industry capacity situation has kept yields/spreads healthy, it added. HSBC also maintained its 'buy' rating on the stock with a raised target of Rs 5,165 per share, implying over 20

per cent gains. The company's business class launch ends Vistara/Air India monopoly, positioning its product close to the premium economy at

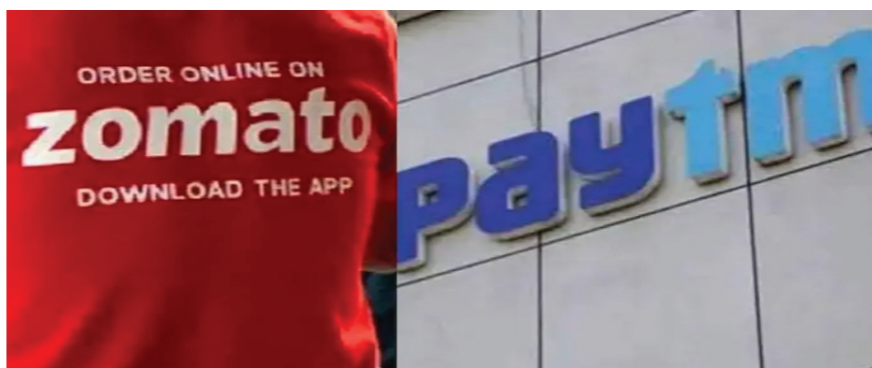
Vistara. The measure may not be margin accretive in the near term, but it could reduce leakage of corporate traffic & strengthen positioning of the company in the travel market. On August 5, IndiGo introduced "IndiGo Stretch," its new customized business class product. This premium offering will be available on all 12 metro routes operating from Delhi. As part of IndiGo Stretch, each flight will feature 12 business class seats, with curated meals included in the service. The first business class flight will be between Delhi and Mumbai in mid-November. At about 9:30 am, shares of the company were trading at Rs 4,454, higher by 3.5 percent. The Interglobe Aviation stock has rallied a massive 56 percent in the past month.

Zomato to buy Paytm's entertainment ticketing business for Rs 2,048 crore

The acquisition of Paytm Insider, approved by Zomato's board, will allow the food delivery giant to foray into the entertainment ticketing sector, complementing its existing dining and food delivery services.

New Delhi. Zomato has taken a significant step to broaden its business horizons by acquiring Paytm Insider, the entertainment and events ticketing arm of One 97 Communications Limited (OCL), for Rs 2,048.4 crore. The acquisition, approved by Zomato's board, will allow the food delivery giant to foray into the entertainment ticketing sector, complementing its existing dining and food delivery services.

In a regulatory filing on Wednesday, Zomato detailed its agreement to enter into a Share Purchase and Subscription



Agreement (SPSA) with OCL, Wasteland Entertainment Private Limited (WEPL), and Orbgen Technologies Private Limited (OTPL) to seal the deal.

The complex transaction involves OCL transferring its movie, sports, and events ticketing businesses to its subsidiaries OTPL and WEPL through a slump sale. OCL will then inject capital into these subsidiaries via preferential allotment, using the proceeds to cover the slump sale payment. Simultaneously, Zomato will purchase OCL's entire stake in both OTPL and WEPL, effectively making them wholly owned Zomato

subsidiaries. The acquisition will be wrapped up within 90 days of signing the SPSA, with OTPL's acquisition valued at Rs 1,264.6 crore and WEPL's at Rs 783.8 crore. By stepping into the entertainment ticketing space, Zomato aims to further diversify its portfolio. The company emphasised that this move aligns with its strategic focus on bolstering its "Going-out" business, a key area of growth for the platform. OTPL, which has been operational since 2007, specialises in movie ticket listings and recorded Rs 13.14 crore in turnover as of March 31, 2024. WEPL, which entered the market in

LIC Unclaimed Amount: Here's How To Check And Claim Unclaimed Money With LIC

New Delhi. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) scheme's easy installment option allows for payments to be made with ease, thus meaning long-term savings for lakhs of policyholders. However many a time, account holders are unable to deposit the premium due to several reasons and do not even surrender the policy. In such a situation, their money remains with LIC. This money is deemed unclaimed if no claim is filed for a certain period. Apart from this, unclaimed claims can include death claims, maturity claims, survival benefits, or indemnity claims. Similar to the banks, LIC has amount worth crores that is listed as unclaimed. Should you feel you also have some unclaimed money



with LIC then you are free to claim it. LIC provides the facility to policyholders and their dependents to conveniently check online for any form of unclaimed amount and claim the amount. Any LIC policyholder or beneficiary can check on the status of any amounts under their policy that are unclaimed with the insurer by going to the LIC official website. The policyholder has to then click on the option labeled 'Unclaimed Amounts of Policyholders'. A window will open where they will be prompted to enter details such as the policy number, policyholder name, date of birth, and PAN card number. After giving this information, they will have to click the submit button. If the policyholders have any money in LIC, it will be visible.

How to claim the unclaimed LIC amount?

To claim any outstanding amount, you must get in touch with the LIC office. You must apply for this, together with the required documents and KYC. Following submission, LIC will start the process of paying the unpaid balance. In a few days, your funds will be transferred to the bank account linked to the insurance.

What do the rules state about unclaimed LIC accounts?

IRDAI regulations provide that any money left unclaimed for more than 10 years is transferred to the Senior Citizen Welfare Fund, which is used for the benefit of senior citizens.

2015, focuses on event ticketing and brought in Rs 236.03 crore over the same period. Paytm, in a lighthearted social media post, welcomed Zomato to the entertainment sector. This acquisition builds on earlier reports from June when Zomato hinted at its interest in acquiring Paytm's movies and events businesses. At the time, the company noted that the move would strengthen its "going-out" segment and fall in line with its plan to concentrate on its four core businesses. Zomato's expansion into the ticketing market dovetails with the launch of 'District,' a new app focused on consolidating its "going-out" offerings. Founder and CEO Deepinder Goyal had remarked, "We believe that there is an opportunity to further expand our going-out offering, building on top of our dining-out business. Additional use cases for customers in the going-out space include - movies, sports ticketing, live performances, shopping, staycations etc." This deal marks a bold new chapter for Zomato, as it blends food and entertainment into a unified experience, strengthening its grip on India's fast-evolving consumer space.

NEWS BOX

'Same energy and vibe': Dravid reveals how ODI World Cup loss did not deter India

New Delhi Former India head coach Rahul Dravid has revealed that there were no differences in preparation between the ODI and the T20 World Cups. Dravid, speaking at a CEAT awards event, Dravid said that the general consensus amongst the coaching staff was that the team needed to replicate the exact processes that they had during the ODI World Cup. India had lost the ODI World Cup Final against Australia at home in November 2023. India, however, trusted its personnel and made minor changes going into the T20 World Cup, held in the USA and the Caribbean islands. Dravid said that India had a brilliant campaign in the ODI World Cup and were unlucky to lose the final in Australia, who were a better team on the day. "Honestly, I didn't want to do anything different. I think we ran a fantastic campaign in the one-day World Cup, Rohit and the team, everyone involved in that one-day World Cup, we ran a superb campaign," Dravid said at the CEAT Cricket Rating Awards. "There's nothing we could have done more in terms of our preparation, the planning, the execution of what we needed to do for 10 games in a row to dominate, to win the game we did, play the game we did,"



said Dravid. "I did not want to change anything. If you'd asked me and we had a discussion with our support staff, we'd get together with the coaches and say, what do you think we should do differently?" "The common consensus (among the team) was we need to do exactly what we did. We need to create the same energy, create the same vibe, the same team atmosphere that we had and then just hope that on the day, we'll have a little bit of luck," he said. Dravid said that India had run a phenomenal campaign in the ODI World Cup, winning 10 games on a row. However, Australia defeated India by six wickets to win their sixth ODI World Cup at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. Before the final, Australia lost their first two matches to India and South Africa but since then won 9 successive matches to complete one of their most memorable World Cup campaigns. "I thought we ran a phenomenal campaign. We came unstuck in the final and Australia played better cricket than us on the day. They were a better team and congratulations (to them). That can happen in sport and that's what sport is about," Dravid concluded on the matter.

Badminton, archery, boxing: India's Paris hopefuls falter, finish without medal

New Delhi After a historic performance at the Tokyo Olympics three years ago, where India set new records with a contingent of 117 athletes, hopes were high for an even better showing at the Paris Olympics 2024. There was anticipation that India might achieve a double-digit medal count for the first time in history. However, despite some bright moments, the campaign ended with six medals—one silver and five bronze.

The total medal count could still change, pending a decision on wrestler Vinesh Phogat's appeal for a silver medal. While India fell just one medal short of its Tokyo tally, the Paris Olympics marked its third-best performance at the Summer Games, following Tokyo 2020 and London 2012. India's archery, badminton, and boxing teams were considered strong medal contenders, but none of these sports managed a podium finish in the recently-concluded Paris Games.

Archery

India's archery team faced another disappointing Olympic run. Deepika Kumari's struggles on the Olympic stage continued, while Tarundeep Rai and Pravin Jadhav also failed to make a significant impact. Only Dhiraj Bommadevara and Ankita Bhakat, along with Bhajan Kaur to some extent, managed to enhance their reputations. The archery team's closest brush with a medal came in the mixed team event, where they narrowly missed out on bronze, finishing fourth against the USA. This marked India's first semifinal appearance in Olympic archery history—a notable achievement—but considering the substantial time and resources invested in this priority sport, the lack of a medal raises concerns. He archers themselves may not be entirely to blame. The federation, however, must answer for the low performance, especially regarding the absence of the high-performance director and the South Korean coach during the games.

Badminton

For the first time since 2008, India's badminton contingent returned from the Olympics without a medal. Despite recent successes in team events, such as the Thomas Cup victory in 2022 and the Badminton Asia Team Championships in 2023, these achievements did not translate to individual glory in Paris. Lakshya Sen came closest to winning a medal but ultimately fell short in the bronze medal match.

Raheem Sterling, Chilwell not training with Chelsea first team: Coach Maresca

Chelsea manager Enzo Maresca has confirmed that Raheem Sterling and Ben Chilwell are currently training away from the club's first team. This development comes as British media reports linked them with potential moves away from the Premier League club.

New Delhi Chelsea manager Enzo Maresca has confirmed that England internationals Raheem Sterling and Ben Chilwell are currently training away from the club's first team. This development comes as British media reports link them with potential moves away from the Premier League club.

Sterling and Chilwell, who both missed Sunday's 2-0 Premier League loss to champions Manchester City, are facing challenges in securing playing time if they choose to remain at Chelsea. Maresca emphasized that the club's large squad makes it impossible to provide minutes for everyone, suggesting that it might be better for them to leave if they seek regular playing time. "In this moment, they are training apart," Maresca stated ahead of Thursday's Europa Conference League playoff tie against Swiss side Servette. "We have a big squad, for me it's impossible to give everyone minutes. So if they're looking for minutes, probably it is better to leave." Maresca explained that Sterling, who has played 59 league games for Chelsea since joining in 2022, does not fit the type of winger he prefers. "I'm not saying he's not a good player, but I prefer different kinds of wingers," the Italian manager said. Maresca had a conversation with



Sterling before excluding him from the lineup for the Manchester City match, informing him that he would struggle to get playing time with Chelsea. He also spoke with Chilwell, telling him that he would face difficulties due to his position. Maresca denied being "brutal" in his approach,

instead describing it as "honest." "It's not a comfortable situation... I think it is good to know that if you want to stay, you will struggle to get minutes... but in a few days or weeks it can be a better situation because you move and you join a club where you will get more minutes," Maresca added.

The manager did not meet with Sterling after the match against City, but if they were to discuss the situation again, he would reiterate the same points he had already made. Captain Reece James will miss Thursday's match due to a hamstring injury.

Maresca emphasized that Chelsea's goal is to win every game, including the upcoming match against Servette. "We try to win every game we play. Against Man City, I don't think the intention was to win the game, but we tried to win that game... and tomorrow is a game, that we will try to win, and hopefully we can win," he concluded.

ENG vs SL, 1st Test: Dhananjaya, Rathnayake showed spirit, Vaughan lauds batters

ENG vs SL: Former England captain Michael Vaughan has lauded Sri Lanka captain Dhananjaya de Silva and Milan Rathnayake for showing incredible spirit in front of adversity. Sri Lanka were 6/3 in the first 10 overs but finished with 236 runs on the board in the 1st innings.



New Delhi Former England captain Michael Vaughan has lauded Sri Lanka's Dhananjaya de Silva and Milan Rathnayake for saving the team's blushes on Day 1 of the first Test match at Manchester. Playing on Wednesday, 21 August, Sri Lanka were in massive trouble after losing 5 wickets in the morning session of the game. However, the SL captain and the No. 9 batter joined forces to get the visitors up to 236 runs in the first innings. Vaughan, while speaking on the BBC said that he thought England would bat

after lunch the way Sri Lanka's wickets fell on Day 1. The former skipper lauded the duo of de Silva and Rathnayake for showing spirit and digging Sri Lanka out of trouble.

"It's been a funny old day. I thought England would be batting after lunch when Sri Lanka were 6-3. But, as with every Sri Lanka side that's ever been, they showed spirit," Vaughan said on BBC. The early resistance was forged by the Sri Lankan captain himself, who was the only batter of the day to look comfortable. De Silva hit 74 runs off

83 balls and added a crucial 63 runs with Rathnayake. The debutant medium pacer took matters into his own hands from there and added another 50 runs alongside Vishwa Fernando.

"The captain Dhananjaya de Silva made batting actually look quite easy, in the face of some really rapid bowling from Mark Wood. And Rathnayake was just brilliant, what a left-hander he is to come in at number nine," Vaughan lauded the batting pair.

While Sri Lanka did manage a 200+ total on board, Vaughan felt that was still too little. However, the former batter said that the proceedings will depend a lot on how the weather goes. "I still feel like it's significantly under par but you just never know because there is rain about and that can often change things quite dramatically," concluded Vaughan. At the end of the first day, England were 22 for the loss of zero wickets and trailed England by 214 runs.

Tim Southee hails Jasprit Bumrah's injury comeback: Don't think anyone's better

UPDATED New Zealand's all-format captain Tim Southee heaped praise on India's star pacer Jasprit Bumrah, commending his remarkable performances across all formats since returning from a major injury. Bumrah, who was sidelined for much of 2022 due to a serious back injury requiring surgery, has not only made a successful comeback but has arguably been better than ever. Speaking at the CEAT Cricket Rating Award, Southee highlighted Bumrah's resilience and ability to return to top form after such a significant setback. Southee heaped extra praise on Bumrah's recent run of performances as he emphasised the challenges that come with playing across multiple formats, noting how difficult it can be to maintain high standards in all of them. "To be able to firstly bounce back from the major injury and come back, he's even better than what he was beforehand... He seems to have been able to do that with ease as well... He's probably more experienced, understands his game a bit more," Southee said at CEAT Cricket Rating Award on August 21, Wednesday. "We are just seeing a great



version (of Bumrah) across all three formats. He's brilliant across all three at the moment. I don't think there's anyone that he's better in (better than him), he is tremendous across all three (formats)," Southee added. Since his return in August 2023, Bumrah has been nothing short of sensational. He was a key player in India's 2023 ICC ODI World Cup campaign, where he took 20 wickets in 11 matches, showcasing his lethal ability with the ball. His performances were equally impressive in the 2024 T20 World Cup, where he played a pivotal role in India's triumph, picking up 15 wickets with an outstanding economy rate of 4.17, the best in the tournament for any bowler who bowled over 100 deliveries. Bumrah's economy rate was particularly noteworthy, as it was the best for anyone who bowled 100-plus balls in a single edition of the men's T20 World Cup. His consistent brilliance earned him the Player-of-the-Tournament award, making him the first player to win this accolade at a T20 World Cup—men's or women's—without scoring a run.

Cristiano Ronaldo joins YouTube, gathers 1 million subscribers in 90 mins



New Delhi Legendary Portugal footballer Cristiano Ronaldo launched his YouTube channel on Wednesday, 21 August. The former Real Madrid star's fans flocked to YouTube to subscribe to his channel and learn what his life is like behind the scenes. The rush was so great that Ronaldo broke the YouTube record for fastest to 1 million subscribers. Ronaldo achieved the feat in

just 90 minutes. Not only that, Ronaldo's channel now has over 11 million subscribers, less than a day after its launch. The football star had announced the start of his YouTube channel via his social media accounts where he has a massive following. Ronaldo has 112.5 million followers on the X platform, 170 million on Facebook and 636 million on Instagram. "The wait is over. My

Legendary footballer Cristiano Ronaldo shattered the record of fastest to 1 million subscribers on YouTube on Wednesday, 21 August. After launching his channel on the platform, Ronaldo gathers a million subscribers within 90 minutes.

@YouTube channel is finally here! SIUUUsubscribe and join me on this new journey," Ronaldo posted on his social media accounts. A couple of hours after posting his first video, 1.69M subscribers had joined the channel. One of the greatest footballers of all time, Ronaldo currently plays for Al Nassr in the Saudi Pro League. The footballer recently featured in the Euro 2024 but was not able to guide his team to a title.

Paris Olympian Archana Kamath Quits Table Tennis Due to Lack of Long-Term Stability in Sport; Set to Pursue Academics

After deeming that there is no feasible future where she can thrive financially, and seemingly with no guarantee of an Olympic medal anytime soon, the 24-year-old decided to call it quits.

New Delhi After a historic outing at the 2024 Paris Olympics, where the Indian Women's Table Tennis team made history by surpassing the round of 16 for the first time ever, star player Archana Kamath has decided to quit the sport and pursue higher studies abroad. Kamath, at 24 years of age,

was the only player to win a game in the Women's Team Quarterfinals, where the Indians fell to Germany 1-3 and ended their campaign at the Paris Olympics. It is said that after her Paris Olympics campaign, the star paddler had an honest conversation with coach Anshul Garg about her future in the sport. After deeming that there is no feasible future where she can thrive financially, and seemingly with no guarantee of an Olympic medal anytime soon, the 24-year-old decided to call it quits. "I told her that it's difficult. It's going to take a lot of hard work. She's ranked outside the top 100 in the world but she improved so much in the past couple of months. But I think she had already made up her mind to go. And once she makes up her mind, it's difficult to change it," Garg was quoted as saying by Kamath's selection into the Indian team itself was one that was hotly debated, as she was picked over Ayhika



Mukerjee, who had beaten World No. 1 Sun Yingsha. But regardless of it all, the youngster has now decided that perhaps pursuing a degree abroad might just be the best course of action for her long-term future in this sporting climate. "My brother works at

NASA. He's my idol and he too encourages me to study. So I make the time to complete all my studies and I enjoy it. I'm good at it too," Kamath had told earlier this year. What Kamath's decision does do though, is raise questions about the growth of the sport in India and where it will be economically feasible for someone to pursue a career in the same over a long term. Coach Anshul Garg believes that there is a need for proper structure in order to protect the pipeline of promising young players coming up the ranks. "The top players generally don't have any problem because they get a lot of support. But what about the upcoming players? Yes, they get support in terms of training and equipment. No expense is spared there but what about a livelihood? That gets difficult so Archana's decision is understandable," Garg said.

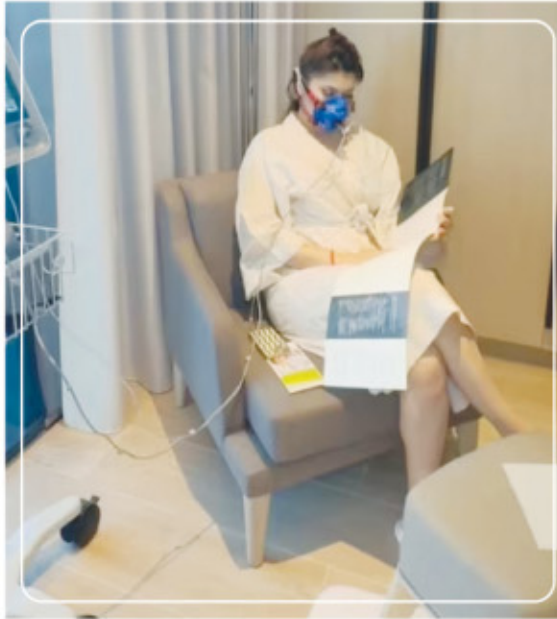


Urvashi Rautela

Trolled For Getting Admitted In Hospital For a Minor Cut: 'Overacting Ki Dukaan'

Urvashi Rautela left netizens confused on Wednesday when she took to her Instagram handle and dropped a video, revealing she has been hospitalised in Mumbai. The video showed the actress getting admitted to a hospital for a minor cut on her finger. In the clip, she sitting on a sofa, reading something with a mask on her face. Not just this, in the caption of her post, Urvashi wrote, "PRAY FOR ME". However, the snippet did not go well with the netizens. Soon after the video was shared, netizens trolled the actress. While one of the users sarcastically wrote, "surgery needed", another user called her "overacting ki dukaan". "First Indian woman to admit in hospital after a small cut on finger," a third comment read. "Areee kaafi khoun beh gaya, donor to nahi chahiye?" wrote another. "Praying for your slower recovery," one of the comments read. Last month too, Urvashi was hospitalised in Hyderabad after she suffered an injury while shooting an action sequence while working on Nandamuri Balakrishna's upcoming Telugu film NBK 109. Interestingly, Urvashi Rautela's hospitalisation comes a year after cricketer Rishabh Pant's tragic accident. Back then, the actress shared a black and white photo featuring Mumbai's Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital and Medical Research Institute, where Pant was admitted. Urvashi's mother also took to social media and dropped a picture of the hospital and wrote, "Everything is all right don't worry beta @urvashirautela. However, the mother-daughter duo was brutally trolled by many who accused them of stalking Pant. "This is mental harassment. If a man did this, he'd either be in jail or have a Netflix crime documentary in his name," one of the Twitter users had written.

Reportedly, Urvashi and Rishabh dated each other in the past but parted ways on an ugly note. However, Pant has often maintained that he does not know the Bollywood diva. Urvashi once mentioned that an 'RP' had her waiting for hours, which made people think that it was directed towards the cricketer. However, later, she clarified that the RP in her life was her co-star Ram Pothineni. Besides this, the Bollywood actress was also in Australia around the same time when Rishabh Pant was there for team India's match.



'End Of Humanity': Marathi Celebrities Condemn Badlapur Sexual Assault Case, Seek Justice



The entire state of Maharashtra is shaken by the inhuman incident involving two girls at a school in Badlapur. On August 13, a sanitation worker sexually assaulted two girls. As per media reports, the two girls are currently undergoing treatment in a hospital. People are protesting in the streets, seeking severe punishment for the perpetrator. As a part of the protest, a 10-hour demonstration took place at Badlapur railway station on August 20. Previously, the country was shocked by the rape case involving a doctor in Kolkata, which attracted widespread protests across the country. Similarly, the Badlapur incident has also seen thousands of people expressing their outrage on social media. Several Marathi celebrities condemned the incident and expressed their anger. The celebrities posted on their social media handle, asking for severe punishment. Actor Prasad Oak posted a story on his social media handle to share the details of the incident. He also demanded justice through his post. He wrote, "Two 4-year-old Girl child was raped in Badlapur Mumbai. The school is named Adarsh School Vidya Mandir. This was done by the school worker who cleans the toilets and washrooms, those two rapists are in the custody of Badlapur Police, and the two innocent 4y/o girls are admitted to the hospital. This was done on 13th August 2024."

Popular actor Abhijit Kelkar, who often writes about several social issues on social media, also posted about the incident seeking justice. He wrote, "If the act itself is brutal and inhuman, why should the punishment be humane?" when translated to English. Chandramukhi fame actress Surabhi Bhavne also expressed her anger on social media. She mentioned that the offenders should be hanged to death immediately. Surabhi wrote, "In Badlapur, two 3-and-a-half-year-old girls were sexually assaulted at their school."

Game of Thrones Actor Iain Glen Lands Major Role In Anupam Kher's Tanvi: The Great



After helming Om Jay Jagadish in 2002, Anupam Kher is returning to the director's chair with a new film called Tanvi: The Great. While details about the film's plot and cast are under wraps, Anupam has often shared updates about the project since its announcement on his 69th birthday in March this year. Now, a Pinkvilla report suggests that Iain Glen, known for his role as Jorah Mormont in Game of Thrones, has been roped in to play an important role in the upcoming film. Interestingly, Iain has already begun working with the cast and crew in Mumbai. The upcoming Bollywood film won't be Iain and Anupam's first collaboration, they previously worked together on the British TV series Mrs Wilson. A source close to the production revealed, "Glen will be playing a substantial role in the film. Anupam Kher has got all celebrated people in his team - from Oscar Winning, MM Keervani to do the music, to Academy Winner, Resul Pookuty as Sound Designer, among many more."

Iain Glen joining the cast has just added more excitement. "While announcing Tanvi: The Great, Anupam Kher shared a sweet video of himself receiving blessings from his mother before beginning the project. Sharing the heart touching video on Instagram, The Kashmir Files star wrote, "I proudly announce the name of the film I have decided to direct. Some stories find their path and compel you to share it with the world. And the best way I thought to start is by taking the blessings of my mother in her temple with my father's pic blessing me too. Have been working on this musical story of Passion, Courage, Innocence and Joy for the last three years."

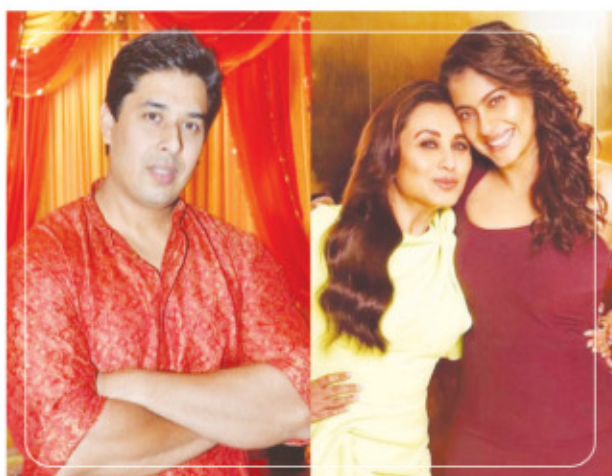
Other than MM Keervani and Resul Pookuty, Anupam Kher also roped in action director Sunil Rodrigues, lyricist Kausar Munir and Japanese cinematographer Keiko Nakahara for Tanvi: The Great. Anupam's directorial debut Om Jay Jagadish, featured Waheeda Rehman, Anil Kapoor, Fardeen Khan, Abhishek Bachchan, Mahima Chaudhry, Urmila Matondkar and Tara Sharma.

Rani Mukerji

Kajol's Cousin Samrat Mukerji Clarifies He's Not Involved In Kolkata Accident: 'It's Not Me'

Hollywood actor Samrat Mukherjee was arrested early Tuesday after his car hit a motorcycle in Behala. Some speculated he was Rani Mukerji and Kajol's cousin, Samrat Mukerji. However, he clarified in an interview with Etimes that he's based in Mumbai and not involved in the incident. Samrat clarified the matter and said, "I would like to clarify met with an accident is not me. The actor Samrat Mukherjee is based in Kolkata and I am a filmmaker owner of Filmalaya studios, based in Mumbai. Since morning I have been getting calls and tired now, telling them how I am not the same Samrat. It is reported that the actor who met with an accident belongs to our family it is not true. I would like to tell everyone, I am safe and based here in Mumbai. The actor Samrat Mukherjee does not belong to our family."

He clarified that many have confused him with the Bengali actor involved in the incident and assured everyone that he is safe in Mumbai. Meanwhile, the Bengali actor with the same name was arrested after his car



hit a motorcycle in Kolkata. The motorcyclist was taken to the hospital for treatment.

The accident

The 29-year-old motorcyclist from Vidyasagar Colony in Behala was initially taken to MR Bangur Hospital and then moved to SSKM Hospital. Witnesses said Mukherjee was driving from Behala Chowrasta towards Tollygunge when he lost control and hit the motorcycle. Police arrested him on charges of reckless driving and causing serious injury. The actor was also given a medical exam.

