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Relief to Shivakumar; HC rejects CBI plea to continue DA case probe

Bengaluru, August 29: The Karnataka High Court on Thursday held as "non-maintainable" a petition filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) challenging the Congress government's decision to withdraw consent to it for investigating a disproportionate assets (DA) case against Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar.

Pakistan invites PM Narendra Modi to attend SCO meeting in Islamabad in October

Islamabad, August 29: Pakistan on Thursday invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Heads of Government meeting to be held here in October.



and humanitarian cooperation among the SCO member states. The SCO, comprising India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest trans-

regional international organisations. As part of this key regional group, both Pakistan and India can hold summit meetings. India hosted the SCO Summit last year, organised in a virtual mode, and attended by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif through a video link.

Delhi High Court extends till September 5 interim protection from arrest to IAS probationer Puja Khedkar

New Delhi, August 29: The Delhi High Court on Thursday extended till September 5 the interim protection from arrest granted to former IAS probationer Puja Khedkar, who has been accused of cheating and wrongly availing OBC and disability quota benefits.

Delhi HC grants time to Brij Bhushan to file note seeking quashing of FIR

New Delhi, August 29: The Delhi High Court on Thursday granted time to former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief and ex-BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh to file contentions for seeking quashing of the FIR and charges framed against him in a sexual harassment case lodged by several women wrestlers.



Justice Neena Bansal Krishna granted two weeks to Singh and listed the matter for further hearing on September 26. "Petitioner seeks time to prepare a short note raising all the contentions for seeking quashing of the charge sheet and all other proceedings emanating therefrom.

SC raps Revanth Reddy over comments on bail to Kavitha

New Delhi, August 29: Piqued over Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's comments on the bail granted to BRS leader K Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy 'scam' cases, the Supreme Court on Thursday said courts should not be dragged into political rivalry.

Mamata Banerjee clarifies 'snake' remark, says it was aimed at BJP

Navdeep Singh Sahni

Kolkata, August 29: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who was in the eye of the storm over her remarks at the Trinamool Congress rally, on Thursday clarified that she was not against medical students or their movements but referring to a popular parable by Hindu mystic Ramakrishna Paramahansa on a "snake that refused to hiss".

state-run R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital in Kolkata earlier this month. Soon after she made the statement, scathing criticisms flooded both from the opposition parties as well as from different walks of society claiming the

not aimed at silencing the protests by the medical fraternity or students but to counter the "negative politics" of the BJP and the Union government against the state government. "Let me most emphatically clarify that I have not uttered a single word against the (medical etc) students or their movements. I support their movement. Their movement is genuine. I never threatened them, as some people are accusing me of doing.



Mallikarjun Kharge accuses PM Modi of paying only lip service to issue of women's safety

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, August 29: Casting doubts on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's concern for women's safety, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday accused the Modi government of not taking any concrete step in the last 10 years to prevent crimes against women.

our country. There are countless crimes that are not recorded due to fear, intimidation and other social factors, the statement by the Congress president read. "Prime Minister Modi ji has talked about women's

assassinated the character of the victim, which is shameful", Kharge said. The Congress leader's statement came day after President Droupadi Murmu expressed concern about the rising incidents of crime against women in the country.



UPSC adopts Aadhaar-based authentication for candidates' verifications

Naresh Malhotra

New Delhi, August 29: The Centre has allowed the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) to utilise Aadhaar-based authentication to verify candidates' identities voluntarily, both at the time of registration and during several stages of examinations and recruitment.

examination/recruitment test, using Yes/No or/and e-KYC authentication facility." "Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) shall adhere to all provisions of the Act, the rules and regulations made there under, and directions issued by the 'Unique Identification Authority of India'."



number plate. Moreover, she allegedly occupied the ante-chamber of Additional Collector Ajay More without permission, removed office furniture without consent, and requested unauthorised facilities. The UPSC con-

ducts Civil Services Examinations (Preliminary, Main, and Interview/Personality Test) for recruitment to the Services and Posts such as Indian Administrative Service, Indian Foreign Service, Indian Police Service, Indian Audit and Accounts Service, Group 'A', Indian Civil Accounts Service, Group 'A', Indian Corporate Law Service, Group 'A', Indian Defence Accounts Service, Group 'A', Indian Defence Estates Service, Group 'A', Indian Information Service, Group 'A', Indian Postal Service, Group 'A', Indian P&T Accounts and Finance Service, Group 'A' and others.



an accused in the criminal defamation complaint filed by BJP leader Rajiv Babbar. He had also sought quashing of the complaint of November 2, 2018. The criminal complaint was filed against Tharoor in the trial court by Babbar, who had claimed that his religious sentiments were hurt by the Congress leader's statement.

News box

Odisha reports no confirmed cases of bird flu in humans

BHUBANESWAR: Samples collected from a suspected human case of bird flu in Puri district has turned out to be negative for H5N1, the Health department said on Wednesday. Amid rumours of a person from Pipili area infected by bird flu after detection of the virus in poultry farms, the Health department issued a statement saying no confirmed case of avian influenza in human beings has been detected from Odisha. Sources said the person was down with influenza-like illness (ILI) symptoms. "Though bird-to-human transmission is rare, it can happen in case of persons who are in contact with live birds. Since the person was involved in culling of birds, we had sent his swab samples to RMRC for a test and it came out negative. He has been provided with a treatment dose of Oseltamivir," said a senior health official. The state government had ordered house-to-house visits on a daily basis for active search of any suspected case of ILI and severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) after bird samples were found to be positive for H5N1 in Pipili and Satyabadi areas. An isolation ward has been opened at Mangalpur community health centre for quarantine of suspected persons. Health and Family Welfare minister Mukesh Mahaling said micro and ground-level action plans for containing bird flu in the state has been rolled out in full swing. After reports of its outbreak in the two blocks with epicentre at Raichakradharpur and Abalpur, culling of birds is on, he said.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approves Bargarh-Nuapada railway line project

BHUBANESWAR: The much-awaited Bargarh-Nuapada new rail line via Padampur that led to a political slugfest between BJD and BJP during the 2022 by-election has finally got the nod of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday. The 138.3 km Bargarh-Nuapada line would be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 2,926 crore. It was among the two railway projects for Odisha that were approved by the CCEA - the other being the 37 km Sardegga-Bhalumuda new double-line which would come up at a cost of Rs 1,360 crore. Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said of the three railway projects worth Rs 6,456 crore cleared by the CCEA, two from Odisha will be developed at an estimated cost of Rs 2,866 crore. "As promised earlier, the Bargarh-Nuapada new line would pass through Padampur and boost economic activities in the region. This will serve as a vital link and decongest the heavily saturated Jharsuguda-Raipur section by providing an additional route. The two projects will be fast-tracked and completed within five years," he said. The broad-gauge rail line from Bargarh Road to Nuapada Road via Padampur was initially announced in 2018. It was later shelved by the Centre for not being financially viable. The project was, however, granted in-principle approval in December 2021 after the state government assured to give free land along with the funding support of Rs 300 crore.

Odisha plans to bring 12 tigers to Satkosia with National Tiger Conservation Authority approval

BHUBANESWAR: Four-and-half years after suspending the country's first big cat relocation project in Satkosia Tiger Reserve, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has finally given a green signal to the state government to resume the programme. The Forest department's wildlife wing has planned to bring over a dozen tigers from the central India landscape to Satkosia, where the big cats have locally extirpated in recent years. The whole exercise will be spread over the next five years, department officials said. Officials said, the nod for tiger reintroduction has been given on the basis of a proposal submitted by the wildlife wing and the report of the five-member committee of NTCA that visited Satkosia earlier in June to reassess the feasibility of re-initiating the project in the tiger reserve. The proposal submitted by the state government in January this year has been approved by the technical committee of the NTCA subject to adherence of the SOP on active management of tigers in Satkosia and recommendations of the committee constituted for the purpose, they said. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of Forest Force (PCCF) and chief wildlife warden Susanta Nanda said a proposal to resume the reintroduction of tigers in Satkosia Tiger Reserve was submitted to NTCA following the voluntary shifting of some of the villages in the protected area. However, the NTCA has laid down 15 conditions that Satkosia needs to meet before resuming the project. As per the conditions, the project will be carried out with due consent from the locals and local public representatives.

Other pre-requisites include, voluntary relocation by villages, prey augmentation, creation of inviolate space, capacity-building of staff and enhancement of protection measures. Nanda said while steps are being taken to meet these conditions, the wildlife wing will also draw a five-year action plan and submit it to the NTCA to take up the project. After the plan is approved, tigers from the central India landscape will be translocated to the habitat.

Onam bliss sets in early for farmers as Kerala spreads flower cultivation bouquet

According to Shaji C B, a flower farmer and an agriculture enthusiast, the reason why farmers only plant the saplings eyeing the Onam season is because it is the only time they get customers.

KOCHI: The fields across the state are turning golden and orange as the marigold plants, which were planted eyeing the Onam season sales, have begun to bloom. The important fact that needs to be noted is that the area under flower cultivation has increased from around 300 hectares in 2023 to 500 hectares this year. However, the state has a long way to go before it can achieve the target of becoming self-sufficient in the Onam flower market, according to those in the industry and the agriculture department. Pramod Madhavan, assistant director (planning) of the agriculture department, speaking to TNIE, says, "There has been a significant increase in the land holdings brought under flower cultivation in the state. More and more farmers are showing interest in the cultivation. Farmers find flower cultivation very attractive because of its low input and great output." He says the acreage under marigold cultivation is higher compared to other types of flowers like vadamalli (globe amaranth) and jasmine. "The reason is the difficulty faced during the harvest and the time taken for the plant to bloom. The vadamalli flowers are small and harvesting is very difficult. In the case of jasmine, cultivation is difficult and flower production might not be as expected," he adds. He points out a

drawback saying that flower cultivation is seasonal. "Farmers only cultivate flowers aiming at the Onam season. However, instead of being seasonal, the flowers can be grown as an intercrop. Once the momentum is maintained we will be able to capture the market. But that is not happening," says Pramod.

According to Shaji C B, a flower farmer and



an agriculture enthusiast, the reason why farmers only plant the saplings eyeing the Onam season is because it is the only time they get customers. "Even during the Onam season, the farmers have to resort to self-marketing. And why? This is because all the wholesale and retail flower sellers remain loyal to their suppliers from neighbouring states like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka where hectares of land is under flower cultivation," he says. Clarifying this, Pramod says, "The reason why the flower sellers don't want to let go of their

suppliers is the low production in the state. Onam is a 10-day festival and the demand for the flowers is high throughout. With only 500 hectares under cultivation, our farmers will not be able to meet the demand."

But we hope to increase the production in the coming years. It is a positive sign that there has been an increase in the acreage under flower cultivation," he adds. Another issue that some farmers are facing this season is early flowering. K K Vijayan, a flower farmer from Ernakulam who had trended on social media because of his marigold plants which had become a tourist attraction, says, "This year, the plants bloomed early. The flowers bloomed a week before Atham and now I am finding it difficult to get buyers." Shaji too faced the same issue. He, however, managed to overcome the problem by selling the flowers to a wedding party. Shaji says, "This year in Ernakulam district, the agriculture department distributed 3,000 saplings. And those who were given the saplings were those who had larger plots earmarked for flower cultivation." According to Pramod, flower cultivation is happening on a large scale in Thiruvananthapuram, Kannur, Alappuzha, Ernakulam and Thrissur.

Karnataka's Bommasandra-Hosur metro line may face opposition

BENGALURU: The Rs 6,900-crore Bommasandra-Hosur Metro project proposed by Chennai Metro Rail Corporation Limited (CMRL) will have five stations in Karnataka and seven in Tamil Nadu. A detailed feasibility report on the 23-km elevated metro line (12km in Karnataka and 11km in TN) was presented by a team from CMRL to officials of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) on Tuesday. However, there seems to be resistance from Karnataka to the project as Hosur will emerge as a competitor to the business interests of Bengaluru. With Tamil Nadu also planning an airport in Hosur, which is likely to attract flyers from South Bengaluru, metro connectivity with Bengaluru will be a windfall for Hosur. From Bommasandra, the Yellow Line of Namma Metro links RV Road with an interchange with the Airport Line (Blue Line) at Central Silk Board. The line will also touch suburban rail and bus depots en route. BMRCL initiated a project on its own on July 9 to extend the Bommasandra line to Attibele.

Got positive response from BMRCL: Official Aarvee Associates Architects Engineer and Consultants Pvt Limited is conducting a feasibility study that may take six months to complete. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has directed the Tamil Nadu government to prepare a feasibility report. "The feasibility report was supposed to be prepared by BMRCL initially. However, with Tamil Nadu showing keen interest in the project, Bengaluru Metro did not go ahead with it. MoHUA has now asked Tamil Nadu to prepare the feasibility report," sources told TNIE. "Hosur is just 39km from Bengaluru. With good roads and less traffic compared to Bengaluru, the metro connectivity will further boost the economic prospects of Hosur. Bengaluru will face a tough competition from Hosur," a source told TNIE.

Liquor shortage in Karnataka as excise duty deadlock continues

In the wake of the stalemate, the distillers have not been able to indent their alcohol to the state's beverages corporation limited.

BENGALURU: Karnataka is facing a shortage of Indian Made Liquor (IML). According to sources in the liquor and hospitality industry, the state may run out of IML if the reported stalemate between the distillers and the Excise Department on filing Ex Distillery Price (EDP), as per the new government notification, is not resolved at the earliest. In the wake of the stalemate, the distillers have not been able to indent their alcohol to Karnataka State Beverages Corporation Limited (KSBCL), which channelises and distributes duty paid liquor to excise licencees in the state. This week, the

distillers had no transaction with KSBCL because we are unable to file the EDP or the new declared price as per the notification issued on August 23. The Excise Department is not allowing us to do so," claimed sources in the industry.

"The loss to the state exchequer in the absence of any sale to KSBCL may be around Rs 110 crore and Rs 120 crore per day. Besides, if the deadlock continues, the IML stocks in the state will deplete further," sources said. The distillers met excise officials on Wednesday and appealed to them to approve their new declared prices as per the new notification.

"We have asked for an early resolution. There was some positive response, but we have to wait and watch," said industry insiders.

Meanwhile, sources in the government said that they intend to resolve the 'crisis' at the earliest, but it may take at least a week to stabilise the IML inventory. The delay is reportedly being attributed to the scheduled three-day visit of Arvind Panagariya led 16th Finance Commission team to the state from August 29, on which the state machinery is focussed.

'Running out of big brands'

"The IML companies have slowed their indenting since the issuance of the draft notification on the proposed cut in Additional Excise Duty (AED) on IML in higher slabs in June. They have been indenting only what they are confident to sell because no one wants to pay higher AED. They have been waiting for the notification on rationalisation of AED, which was expected on July 1, but was delayed. Nobody wants to stock up," the sources said. Some leading liquor retailers (CL2) in the city said that their IML stocks have gone down to 30%.

Telangana CM Revanth to reveal Talli statue on December 9 in Secretariat

HYDERABAD: Stating that the proposed Telangana Talli statue would be unveiled in the Secretariat — the epicentre of state administration — in the presence of lakhs of people on December 9, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Wednesday said that the "historic event will be organised on the lines of Million March conducted during the intensified separate statehood movement. The chief minister was addressing the gathering after laying the foundation stone for the Telangana Talli statue amidst chanting of Vedic hymns on the Secretariat premises. Stating that the previous regime claimed to have built Telangana as a role model for the world, he said that it neglected honouring Telangana Talli. "The previous rulers acted in such a way that they considered Telangana to be their personal property. The Congress government is against such practices," Revanth said. The chief minister recalled that the people were barred from entering



the Pragati Bhavan as the previous regime erected a huge fence and deployed many police personnel to restrict entry. "Pragati Bhavan was a restricted fort in the previous government. Today, it is Praja Bhavan and an example for the country where people are allowed to move freely," he said. The chief minister also criticised the previous administration for not allowing people inside the Secretariat. He said that the previous government

presented Budgets totalling Rs 22.5 lakh crore during its 10-year rule, but failed to spend even Rs 1 crore to install a statue of Telangana Talli in the Secretariat.

Long-cherished dream

"The statues of Dr BR Ambedkar, Indira Gandhi, Anjaiah, PV Narasimha Rao, Kaka Venkateswamy and Jaipal Reddy, who contributed immensely to the country and the state, were installed around Necklace Road and Tank Bund. However, a statue of renowned leader and former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi was missing. Some vested interests tried to exploit the place in front of the Secretariat for their own interests. On the suggestion of intellectuals, the government has installed Rajiv Gandhi's statue there," he said.

Revanth also expressed his anger at the attempts to politicise the Rajiv Gandhi statue by linking it with the Telangana Talli icon.

Travancore Devaswom Board's offices, temples to join digital bandwagon

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) is planning to completely digitise its offices and the temples under its fold. Software-based office management and vashpadu billing will be implemented at all the 1,252 temples in phases. TDB president P S Prasanth told TNIE that talks were going on with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) on the temple software. "Government-controlled temples in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are using software developed by the NIC. Preliminary examination showed that the software used in Tamil Nadu is 70% compatible with our system. We will request the NIC to provide a modified version of that software to cater to our needs," he said. A TDB delegation comprising board members and senior officers will visit the NIC office in Chennai for further discussions, he said.

"The discussions are scheduled on the March 3 and 4. We will inform our requirements, i.e, the changes to be made in the software as part of customisation," said Prasanth. The Public Works Department of the TDB will also be digitised. For this, the PRICE software used by the state Public Works Department will be incorporated into the department's functioning.

Revival of Muthuvan Sangham comes as a ray of hope in Kerala

IDUKKI: Although Edamalakkudy was formed as the state's first tribal panchayat in 2010, it took 14 years for the residents there to get an uninterrupted 4G network facility in their settlement. Network coverage became a turning point in their path to development as the

tribe, majority Muthuvans, formed a social media group comprising government officials to bring their issues to the attention of the government. Now, in what is seen as yet another milestone, the educated youths of the community have formed an organisation to seek their rights and work for the betterment of the community. The Muthuvan Adivasi Samudhaya Sangham is a renewed version of the organisation formed by tribal leaders of the settlements in Devikulam Taluk of Idukki way back in 1995. "The Sangham was the brainchild of a group of faculties of the Gangothri School, opened by an NGO named World Vision at the Tank Kudi settlement



in Suryanelli in the 90s. The officials emphasised the need for a collective for the tribal people and the Sangham was formed under the leadership of the tribal chiefs of various Muthuvan settlements in Devikulam in 1995. The Sangham has its registered office at

community then to lead the collective. "When the idea of forming a collective for the Muthuvan community was mooted again, instead of forming a new one, renewing the old registered Sangham was the suggestion put forward by the tribal elders. So that the official proceedings and activities of the Sangham can be expedited," Ramachandran said.

A first of its kind

Although many socio-cultural organisations are there for tribal people in the state, a collective exclusively for Muthuvans aimed at their welfare, development and progress is a first of its kind in Kerala. Muthuvan tribal settlers belonging to nearly 130 settlements in Idukki, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Palakkad districts will become part of the organisation. In addition, Muthuvans settled in tribal settlements located on the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border near Devikulam Taluk.

With bricks, jelly stones, Bengaluru residents make road motorable

BENGALURU: With no solution in sight for a motorable road in their BDA layout, residents of Arkavathy Layout 19th Block, are filling the potholes and other sunken portions of the muddy roads with bricks and jelly stones so that vehicles can be taken out of their homes. There are 600 sites in the Chellakere village of Arkavathy Layout, and houses have been built on two-thirds of the sites. Patilgouda Karadal, an office-bearer of Arkavathy Layout 19th Block Residents Association, told TNIE, "To ensure that roads can be used, residents have filled up potholes and openings on the road with big stones and bricks for bigger roads, and used jelly stones to cover smaller cross roads and potholes. We are doing this just to take our vehicles out of our layout.

of vehicles get stuck badly in the muddy roads during heavy rain and we had a tough time extricating them.

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RAJASTHAN CLASSIFIED Name Change

I, hitherto known as ASHOK RAM alias ASHOK GEHLOT S/o LOON SINGH residing at Barli Mandavla, Mandora, Jodhpur, Rajasthan - 342304 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHOK GEHLOT.

NEWS BOX

Man handed 20-year jail term in Pocco case

GURGAON: A sessions court on Wednesday sentenced a man to 20 years in jail for committing an obscene act with a three-year-old girl in 2020, police said.

"On the basis of the charge sheet filed by police with the evidence and witnesses, the court declared the accused guilty. It has sentenced the accused to 20 years of imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 40,000 under the Pocco Act," a police spokesperson said.

The officer added that a man had filed a complaint in April 2020 that the accused had committed an obscene act with his daughter. Following the complaint, an FIR was registered at the Sector 53 police station and later the police arrested the accused.

Gurgaon: Former banker cheated of Rs 8.5 lakh in investment fraud

GURGAON: A retired SBI employee was allegedly cheated of Rs 8.5 lakh by cyber fraudsters.

The accused allegedly added him to WhatsApp and Telegram groups earlier this month and persuaded him to invest in the stock market with promises of high returns. In June, the complainant (68), who lives in Sushant Lok-1, saw a post on social media offering handsome returns on investment in stocks.

As soon as the victim refused to pay up, his access to the app was blocked, he said. An FIR was filed under section 318 (4) (cheating) of the BNS on Tuesday.

62 FIRs filed in Gurgaon for flouting model code

Gurgaon: A total of 62 FIRs have been filed in the city against those who violated the model code of conduct (MCC) so far. Officials have removed banners and posters from 2,155 areas and seized liquor worth Rs 7 lakh.

3 women Naxalites killed in Chhattisgarh encounter

Narayanpur, August 29: Three women Naxalites were killed in an encounter with security personnel in Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh on Thursday, a senior police official said.

Name Change I, SHANTHI N Wife of No-14681077 Rank-SEP Name-VELU K Presently residing at VPO-SIVANATHAPURAM, TEH-DIST-VELLORE, TAMIL NADU-632105, have changed my name from SHANTHI N to SHANTHI V for all future purposes and in my husband's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 27/09/1988 instead of my correct date of birth as 11/05/1989 vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, MANJU W/O PARVEEN KUMAR Residing H.No. B-58, Sector - 34, Sunjay, Rohitk-124001 have changed my name from MANJU to MANJU SHARMA for all future purposes.

Name Change I, PAVAN KUMAR KASHYAP S/O NIRANJAN LAL residing at 24/460 24-BLOCK TRILOK PURI DELHI-110091 have changed my name to PAVAN KUMAR permanently

Name Change I, hitherto known as VIJAY KUMAR alias VIJAY KUMAR TALWAR S/O HARSH CHAND R/O B-10 GURU RAM DASS NAGAR, LAXMI NAGAR, DELHI-110092 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VIJAY KUMAR TALWAR

Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my father's name from SHRISHAIL to SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, SHANKAR HUDDAR father of No. 16120721H Rank-NK Name-NAMEESH SHANKAR HUDDAR R/O PO- HIREKODI, TEH-CHIKODI, DIST-BELGUM, KARNATAKA-591247 have changed my name SHANKAR HUDDAR to SHANKAR MAHADEV HUDDAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 16134610W Rank-SPR Name-ROHITH B K Presently residing at VPO-BAGESHPURA, M.L.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, LAXMI S HUDDAR mother of No. 16120721H Rank-NK Name-RAMESH SHANKAR HUDDAR R/O PO- HIREKODI, TEH-CHIKODI, DIST-BELGUM, KARNATAKA-591247 have changed my name from LAXMI S HUDDAR to LAXMIBAI SHANKAR HUDDAR for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 04/02/1967 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/01/1967 vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, 16111729N, Rank-HAV, Name-MAHESH S/O Late PRASAD HEGADE Residing at VPO-NEGINHAL, TAL-BAILHONGAL, DIST-BELGAUM, KARNATAKA-591102 have changed my mother's name from BHAVANI PI to BHAVANI HEGADE for all future purposes and in my service records my mother's date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1957 instead of her correct date of birth as 01/01/1963 vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, 16111729N, Rank-HAV, Name-MAHESH S/O Late PRASAD HEGADE Residing at VPO-NEGINHAL, TAL-BAILHONGAL, DIST-BELGAUM, KARNATAKA-591102 have changed my mother's name from BHAVANI PI to BHAVANI HEGADE for all future purposes and in my service records my mother's date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1957 instead of her correct date of birth as 01/01/1963 vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

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Name Change I, hitherto known as ANJALI KHANDELWAL D/O PRADEEP KUMAR KHANDELWAL, and W/O VISHAL JAIN R/O BP-114 West, Shalimar Bagh, North West Delhi, Delhi-110088, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ANJALI JAIN. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

Name Change I, hitherto known as ANJALI KHANDELWAL D/O PRADEEP KUMAR KHANDELWAL, and W/O VISHAL JAIN R/O BP-114 West, Shalimar Bagh, North West Delhi, Delhi-110088, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ANJALI JAIN. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

Name Change I, hitherto known as ANJALI KHANDELWAL D/O PRADEEP KUMAR KHANDELWAL, and W/O VISHAL JAIN R/O BP-114 West, Shalimar Bagh, North West Delhi, Delhi-110088, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ANJALI JAIN. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

Name Change I, hitherto known as ANJALI KHANDELWAL D/O PRADEEP KUMAR KHANDELWAL, and W/O VISHAL JAIN R/O BP-114 West, Shalimar Bagh, North West Delhi, Delhi-110088, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ANJALI JAIN. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

Name Change I, hitherto known as SARITA BHARDWAJ alias VARSHA WADHWANI D/O KASTURI LAL BHARDWAJ W/O JUGAL KISHORE WADHWANI R/O B-7/7, 2nd Floor, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi - 110027 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VARSHA WADHWANI.

Name Change I, SWATI ARUNKUMAR GOYAL W/O ACHINT KUMAR Residing H.No. 217-R, Third Floor, Near Char Khamba, Model Town, Rohitk- 124001 have changed my name from SWATI ARUNKUMAR GOYAL to SWATI GOYAL for all future purposes.

Name Change I, hitherto known as IRSHAD AHMAD S/O MOHAMMAD ILYAS, residing at D-13, Meer Vihar, Madan Pur Dabas, PO: Rani Khera, DIST: North West Delhi, Delhi - 110081, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as IRSHAD MIRZA.

Name Change I, ANUP SINGH S/O RAMINIWAS R/O VILLAGE NAWDI (19), KANTI, MAHINDER GARH HARYANA 123021 have changed the name of my daughter CHANCHAL KUMARI to RADHA vide affidavit dated 09 AUG 2024 sworn before Notary PUBLIC RAJSHA RATTI Notary public DELHI (INDIA)

Name Change I, Zareena Akhtar w/o Sikander Attar R/O B-27, Madhu Kunj Gali, Subhash Mohalla, North Ghonda, Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Zareena Akhtar Permanently

Name Change I, hitherto known as KM. REENA SINGH alias REENA SHARMA D/o SURENDER SINGH W/O AJAY SHARMA Residing at H.No. 226, Gurudwara, Maansarovar Park, Shahdara, East Delhi - 110032, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as REENA SHARMA.

Name Change I, hitherto known as M R BHARTI alias MUNNA RAM BHARTI alias MANU BHARTI S/O BABU RAM BHARTI, R/O E-65, Railway Quater, College Lane, New Delhi NDMC, Central Delhi, Delhi - 110001 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MANU BHARTI.

Name Change I, SHASHIKALA wife of No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-RAMESH SHANKAR HUDDAR Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from SHASHIKALA to SHASHIKALA SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

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Name Change I, No. 15173504X Rank-HAV Name-PURSHOTTAM SUJANE Presently residing at VILL-CHICHOLIDHANA, PO-BARHAPUR, TEH-BHAINSADEHI, DIST-BETUL, M.P.-460220 have changed my name from PURSHOTTAM SUJANE to PURSHOTTAM SUJANE for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, SANDHYA MEHTA W/O DILIP SINGH SACHDEVA, R/O E-103, DLF REGZA GARDEN, SECTOR 30, GURUGRAM, HARYANA - 122055, have changed my name to SANDHYA SACHDEVA for all future purposes.

LOST AND FOUND It is notified for the information that my original Share Certificate of 200 Shares of Colgate Palmolive India Limited Registered office C-101, 247 Park, LBS Marg, Virkholi (West), Mumbai-400083 of Folio No.M32542 and Certificate No. 2060922 Distinctive No. 138081483-138081682 Registered Owners Mohammed Suleheen and Zeenat Kausar has been lost if someone misuses the documents I am not responsible for the same. If someone Find Contact Zeenat Kausar R/O 3363, Bagchi Acheji, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi-110006, Mob.No.9654689656.

Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my mother's name from SIVARNA to SWARNA SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my mother's name from SIVARNA to SWARNA SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my mother's name from SIVARNA to SWARNA SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my mother's name from SIVARNA to SWARNA SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my mother's name from SIVARNA to SWARNA SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

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Name Change I, NO-16121586M Rank-NK Name-SATEESH GUDDAPUR residing at VPO-SATTI, TEH-ATHANI, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591240 have changed my mother's name from SIVARNA to SWARNA SHRISHAIL GUDDAPUR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, NEERAJ S/O RAMESH Residing VPO: Mattan (20), Distt. Hujjar - 124501 have changed my name from NEERAJ to NEERAJ DALAL for all future purposes.

Name Change I, RAMANA PASUPALETI Father of No. 16116722N Rank-HAV Name-MALLIKHARJUNA RAO P Residing at H.No-2-108, VPO-VOPPICHERLA, TEHSIL-KAREMPUDI, DISTT-GUNTUR, ANDHRA PRADESH-522614 have changed my name from RAMANA PASUPALUTI to PASUPULETI RAMANA for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 18/12/1966 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/01/1971 Vide Affidavit dated 29/08/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change I, NEERAJ S/O RAMESH Residing VPO: Mattan (20), Distt. Hujjar - 124501 have changed my name from NEERAJ to NEERAJ DALAL for all future purposes.

Name Change I, NEERAJ S/O RAMESH Residing VPO: Mattan (20), Distt. Hujjar - 124501 have changed my name from NEERAJ to NEERAJ DALAL for all future purposes.

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PUBLIC NOTICE My client MOHAN LAL S/O LUNGI RAM R/O C-577, AVANTIKA, SECTOR-1, ROHINI, DELHI-110085, has debarred his son SANDEEP SHARMA from his all movable-immovable properties and sever all his relations due to his misconduct and bad behavior. Anybody dealing with him at their own cost & risk. NIKHIL KATARIA ADVOCATE CH NO.456, TIS HAZARI COURT, DELHI

Name Change I, SHUBHAM KUMAR KASHYAP S/O PAWAN KUMAR residing at 24/460 24-BLOCK TRILOK PURI DELHI-110091 have changed my name to SHUBHAM KUMAR permanently

Name Change I, hitherto known as Karikanya alias Yash Ahlawat S/O Narender Kumar Ahlawat R/O ? N-3 CH. NAND RAM HOUSE, MAIN ROAD BINDAPUR VILLAGE, UTTAM NAGAR D. K. Mohan Garden S.O. West, Delhi, Delhi, 110059 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Yash Ahlawat.

Name Change I, hitherto known as Karikanya alias Yash Ahlawat S/O Narender Kumar Ahlawat R/O ? N-3 CH. NAND RAM HOUSE, MAIN ROAD BINDAPUR VILLAGE, UTTAM NAGAR D. K. Mohan Garden S.O. West, Delhi, Delhi, 110059 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Yash Ahlawat.

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Name Change I, LAKSHYA S/O PARVEEN KUMAR Residing H.No. B-58, Sector - 34, Sunjay, Rohitk- 124001 have changed my name from LAKSHYA to LAKSHYA SHARMA for all future purposes.

Name Change I, SHUBHAM KUMAR KASHYAP S/O PAWAN KUMAR residing at 24/460 24-BLOCK TRILOK PURI DELHI-110091 have changed my name to SHUBHAM KUMAR permanently

Name Change I, SWATI KUMAR W/O ACHINT KUMAR Residing H.No. 217-R, Third Floor, Near Char Khamba, Model Town, Rohitk- 124001 have changed my name from SWATI KUMAR to SWATI GOYAL for all future purposes.

Name Change I, hitherto known as Karikanya alias Yash Ahlawat S/O Narender Kumar Ahlawat R/O ? N-3 CH. NAND RAM HOUSE, MAIN ROAD BINDAPUR VILLAGE, UTTAM NAGAR D. K. Mohan Garden S.O. West, Delhi, Delhi, 110059 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Yash Ahlawat.

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Name Change I, hitherto known as Karikanya alias Yash Ahlawat S/O Narender Kumar Ahlawat R/O ? N-3 CH. NAND RAM HOUSE, MAIN ROAD BINDAPUR

News box

Mexico-US flight diverted after severe turbulence, 1 passenger hospitalised

Tennessee. One person was taken to a hospital Wednesday after a United Airlines flight was diverted to Memphis because of severe turbulence, officials said. The person was in non-critical condition when taken to a hospital after the flight headed from Cancun, Mexico, to Chicago landed at Memphis International Airport, United and the Memphis Fire Department said in separate statements. The turbulence happened while the airplane's seat belt sign was on, United said. The Memphis Fire Department said six other people declined treatment and transport to the hospital, but the extent of their injuries was not known. Chicago-based United said the 737-900ER aircraft had 172 passengers and seven crew members on board. The airplane was scheduled to resume its flight to Chicago on Wednesday afternoon.

Russia faces 'difficult fight' to retake Ukraine-held area: CIA official

BETHESDA, Maryland Russian President Vladimir Putin will mount a counteroffensive to try to retake territory in the Kursk region captured by Ukrainian troops, but Russian forces will encounter "a difficult fight," Deputy CIA Director David Cohen said on Wednesday. Cohen told a national security industry conference that the significance of the Ukrainian incursion, which has overrun some 300 square miles (777 square km) of the Russian province, remained to be seen. Ukrainian forces crashed through Russia's western border into the Kursk region on Aug. 6 in a surprise offensive that is continuing. While Kyiv has said it has no intention of annexing the area it has captured, Ukrainian troops are building defensive lines and it appears that they intend to retain "some of that territory for some period of time," Cohen told the Intelligence and National Security Summit.

"We can be certain that Putin will mount a counteroffensive to try to reclaim that territory," Cohen said. "I think our expectation is that that will be a difficult fight for the Russians." Putin, he said, "is not only going to have to face the fact that there is a front line now within Russian territory that he's going to have to deal with, he has to deal with reverberations back in his own society that they have lost a piece of Russian territory." Ukraine's success in Kursk "has the potential to change the dynamic" of the conflict "a little bit going forward," he continued without elaborating.

Ukraine has claimed the capture of 100 settlements in its incursion into Russia's Kursk region, while Russian forces continue to inch forward in the eastern Donetsk region. Cohen said that Russia has been making those gains "at extraordinary cost" in troops and equipment and "may or may not" capture the key Ukrainian logistics hub city of Pokrovsk. But at the end of the day, none of it is a game changer in a strategic sense for the Russians, he continued. On Tuesday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the war with Russia would eventually end in dialogue, but that Kyiv had to be in a strong position and that he would present a plan to U.S. President Joe Biden and his two potential successors.

Telegram CEO allowed child abuse images, drug trafficking on app: French court

Paris A French judge put Telegram boss Pavel Durov under formal investigation on Wednesday in a probe into organised crime on the messaging app, but granted the entrepreneur bail on condition he pays 5 million euros, reports twice a week to police and does not leave French territory. Paris prosecutor Laure Beccuaud said in a statement the judge found there were grounds to formally investigate Durov on all the charges for which he was initially arrested four days ago.

They include suspected complicity in running an online platform that allows illicit transactions, images of child sex abuse, drug trafficking and fraud, as well as the refusal to communicate information to authorities, money laundering and providing cryptographic services to criminals. Durov's lawyer did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Being placed under formal investigation in France does not imply guilt or necessarily lead to trial, but indicates judges consider there is enough evidence to proceed with the probe. Investigations can last years before being sent to trial or shelved. The judge's decision came after Russian-born Durov was arrested at an airport near Paris on Saturday evening. Durov's detention has fuelled debate on where freedom of speech ends and enforcement of the law begins. It also underlines the uneasy relationship between governments and Telegram, which has close to 1 billion users, while serving as a warning shot to tech titans who refuse to comply with authorities over alleged illegality on their platforms. Russian state news agency RIA published a video on Telegram that appeared to show Durov, dressed in black in a baseball cap and sunglasses, leaving the prosecutor's office and entering a waiting vehicle. Reuters was unable to authenticate the images.

Typhoon Shanshan makes landfall in Japan, warnings for floods and landslides

Fukuoka. Typhoon Shanshan slammed into Japan on Thursday (Aug 29), injuring dozens as howling winds smashed windows and blew tiles off houses while torrential rains sparked floods and landslide warnings. Japan's most powerful typhoon this year, packing gusts up to 252kmh, made landfall on the main southern island of Kyushu, home to 12.5 million people, around 8am (7am, Singapore time). Ahead of the arrival, authorities issued their highest alert level in places, advising hundreds of thousands of people to evacuate and warning of "life-threatening" flooding, landslides and storm surges. The coastal city of Miyazaki has so far recorded 26 injuries - including some from a tornado - with 124 incidents of damage to buildings, a disaster official told AFP. Most of the injuries were caused by strong winds smashing windows, with none life-threatening. Broadcaster NHK reported that nine people were hurt in nearby Kagoshima. Unverified social media footage showed a small river in the city of Beppu turned into a raging torrent of dark water and a fallen tree hanging precipitously above a rainswept road near Oita. Student Aoi Nishimoto, 18, said he had called his

family in Miyazaki. "Our home is fine, but there was a tornado in Miyazaki and power went out in some places. It's worrying," he told AFP in Kyushu's main city Fukuoka. "This year, I am away from my parents' home for the first time. So it's a bit scary being all alone," student Rio Ohtsuru, 19, told AFP. "Maybe I will look for a flashlight in case of a power outage," she said. Kyushu's utility operator said that 254,610 houses were already without power elsewhere on the island. The system was moving slowly, which often means more rain, with the weather office forecasting it to gradually rumble towards Japan's main island Honshu and the cities of Osaka and Nagoya, although this could change. The Japan Meteorological Office warned that "the risk of a disaster due to heavy rain can rapidly escalate in western Japan as Friday approaches."

"SPECIAL WARNINGS"

For Kagoshima, the JMA issued "special warnings of violent storms, high waves and high tides." "Please exercise maximum vigilance against violent storms, high waves and high tides in Kagoshima, as well as landslides, flooding in low-lying areas and



overflowing rivers in southern Kyushu," it said. For southern Kyushu, the JMA predicted an enormous 1,100mm of precipitation in the 48 hours to Friday morning. Heavy rain brought by Shanshan has been lashing large parts of Japan since Tuesday. Three members of a family died after a landslide buried a house in Gamagori, a city in central Aichi prefecture, late Tuesday, local media reported. The deceased included a couple in their 70s as well as a son in his 30s, while two adult daughters in their

40s survived with injuries, TOYOTA HALT

Auto giant Toyota has suspended production at all 14 of its factories in Japan, Nissan and Honda also decided to halt operations at their Kyushu plants, reports said. Japan Airlines has cancelled 275 domestic flights for Thursday, affecting 14,893 passengers, and an additional 13 for Friday that would have carried 1,307 people. ANA scrapped 212 domestic flights slated for Thursday, affecting 18,700 passengers, and 42 Friday flights, affecting 4,200 more. Shanshan comes in the wake of Typhoon Ampil, which disrupted hundreds of flights and trains this month. Despite dumping heavy rain, it caused only minor injuries and damage. Ampil came days after Tropical Storm Maria brought record rains to northern areas. Typhoons in the region have been forming closer to coastlines, intensifying more rapidly and lasting longer over land due to climate change, according to a study released last month.

Sheikh Hasina faces four new cases, total spike to 75

Dhaka Four more cases have been filed against Bangladesh's deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina, her former cabinet ministers and aides, taking the total number of cases filed against her to 75, a media report said on Wednesday. Three of the cases were filed with Dhaka courts on Tuesday, while another murder case was filed in Bogura two days ago, the Daily Star newspaper reported. With these, 76-year-old Hasina is now facing 75 cases related to the protests, including 63 on murder charges, seven on allegations of crimes against humanity and genocide, three on charges of abduction, and two for other charges, the paper said. Hasina and 30 others were sued over the death of a grocery shop owner during the quota reform movement in the capital's Banasree on July 19. The victim's father filed the murder case with the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Md Tofazzal Hossain who asked



Khilgaon Police Station to register it as a first information report (FIR), the paper said. The court asked the officer in-charge of the same police station to register an FIR against Hasina and 26 others in a case related to the death of a 14-year-old on the same day. The third case was filed against Hasina and 50 others on charges related to the attempted murder of a lawyer of the Dhaka Bar Association during the

students' quota reform protest on July 18, the paper said. A murder case was filed in Bogura against Hasina, three local journalists and 130 others. The 35-year-old victim was shot dead on August 4, a day before Hasina's ouster. Hasina resigned and fled to India on August 5 after unprecedented anti-government student-led protests against her government over a controversial quota system in jobs. The Hasina-led government was replaced by an interim government, and 84-year-old Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus was named its Chief Adviser. Over 230 people were killed in Bangladesh in the incidents of violence that erupted across the country following the fall of the Hasina government, taking the death toll to more than 600 since the massive protest by students against a controversial quota system in government jobs first started in mid-July.

Hong Kong court to deliver verdict against 2 editors in sedition case

Hong Kong A Hong Kong court on Thursday is expected to hand down verdicts against two editors of a now-defunct online media outlet for conspiring to publish seditious articles in a case that has drawn international scrutiny. This is the first sedition trial against any journalist or editor since Hong Kong's handover from Britain to China in 1997. It is a case that critics, including the U.S. government, say reflects deteriorating media freedoms under a years-long national security crackdown in the China-ruled city. Stand News, once Hong Kong's leading online media outlet with a mix of critical reportage and commentary, was raided by police in December 2021 and had its assets frozen, leading to its closure a few days later.

Its top editors, Chung Pui-kuen, 54, Patrick Lam, 36, and the outlet's parent company Best Pencil (Hong Kong) Ltd, were all charged with conspiracy to publish seditious publications in connection with 17 news articles and commentaries between July 2020 and December 2021. All those charged pleaded not guilty. If convicted, they face a maximum two years jail term. During the 57-day trial, government prosecutor Laura Ng alleged Stand News had acted as a political platform to promote "illegal" ideologies and incited readers' hatred against the Chinese and Hong Kong governments. Ng described the articles as seditious, including interviews with jailed or exiled pro-democracy politicians and a news article about jailed human rights lawyer Chow Hang-tung. Foreign governments including the U.S., and media freedom advocacy groups said the case showed how authorities had suppressed freedoms and intensified self-censorship since the national security law was passed in 2020.

"REPORT THE TRUTH"

Chung, who chose to testify in court, was in the witness box for 36 days of the trial, defending media freedoms and saying Stand News had only "recorded the facts and reported the truth", while giving voice to a spectrum of voices including democrats.

Donald Trump's shooter didn't conspire with anyone, motive not clear yet, says FBI

Washington. The gunman in the assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump searched online for events of both Trump and President Joe Biden, looked up information about explosives over the last five years and eyed the Pennsylvania campaign rally where he opened fire last month as a "target of opportunity," a senior FBI official said Wednesday. Investigators who have conducted nearly 1,000 interviews do not yet have a motive for why 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks shot at Trump during a July campaign rally but they believe that he conducted "extensive attack planning," including looking up campaign events involving both the current president and former president, particularly in western Pennsylvania. The FBI analysis of his

online search history reveals a "sustained, detailed effort to plan an attack on some event, meaning he looked at any number of events or targets," Kevin Rojek, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Pittsburgh field office, told reporters Wednesday in the latest in a series of briefings on the investigation. Once a Trump rally was announced for July 13 in Butler, Pennsylvania, "He became hyper-focused on that specific event and looked at it as a target of opportunity," Rojek said. Crooks' internet searches in the days leading up to the rally included queries about the grounds where the rally was held, "Where will Trump speak from at Butler Farm Show?" "Butler Farm Show podium" and "Butler Farm Show photos." In the 30 days before the attack,

the FBI says, Crooks did more than 60 internet searches related to Biden and Trump, including seeking the dates of both the Democratic and Republican national conventions. FBI Director Christopher Wray has previously revealed that one week before the shooting, Crooks did a Google search for "How far away was Oswald from Kennedy?" That's an apparent reference to Lee Harvey Oswald, the shooter who killed President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963. The new details add to an emerging portrait of Crooks as a highly intelligent and reclusive man who investigators say in the years before the shooting had taken an eerie interest in explosives, violence and prominent public figures but whose internet searches of Democrats and

Kamala Harris campaign recruits Egyptian American lawyer to boost Arab votes

Kamala Harris' presidential campaign has recruited Brenda Abdelall, an Egyptian American lawyer, to enhance outreach to Arab American voters. This move comes amid a tight race with Republican candidate Donald Trump, with key battleground states like Michigan in focus.

Washington Kamala Harris' campaign for U.S. president has hired an Egyptian American lawyer and former Department of Homeland Security official to help lead outreach to Arab American voters who hold sway in some states that could help decide the Nov. 5 election, the campaign said on Wednesday. Brenda Abdelall would be tasked with shoring up support from a community frustrated with U.S. support for Israel's war in Gaza. Vice President Harris, a

Democrat, has already hired Afghan American lawyer Nasrina Bargzie for outreach to Muslim Americans. Harris is in a tight race with Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. Votes from Muslim and Arab Americans could help decide the outcome in battleground states like Michigan, which has seen street protests over the Israel-Gaza war. U.S. President Joe Biden won a large share of the Arab and Muslim vote in 2020, but his support for Israel despite the huge death toll in Gaza has frustrated many community members. They launched an "uncommitted" campaign against him in the Democratic nominating contests. Michigan, where Harris is due to visit next week, is home to one of the largest Muslim and Arab American populations in the United States. More than 100,000 voters cast their ballot "uncommitted" instead of Biden, who stepped aside as candidate on July 21, in the state's primary. Some activists say they hold Harris responsible for the



Biden administration's Israel policy and the crisis in Gaza. Following last week's Democratic convention, pro-Palestinian activists said Harris had failed to demonstrate any break from the status quo. While pro-Palestinian voices are not expected to vote for Trump and have indicated no support for the Republican, some activists have launched a campaign called "Abandon Harris" and have urged their supporters to back third-party candidates. Abdelall, Harris' pick for Arab American outreach, most recently served as

senior counselor to the Department of Homeland Security's secretary. She joined the agency in January, 2021, shortly after Trump left office, to be chief of staff for the department's civil rights office. Abdelall, who grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan, previously ran a food blog and website, focused on Middle Eastern cuisine. She has taught Middle Eastern cooking classes at a culinary school in northern Virginia. The latest bloodshed in the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict was triggered on Oct. 7 when Palestinian Islamist group Hamas attacked Israel, killing 1,200 and taking about 250 hostages, according to Israeli tallies. Israel's subsequent assault on the Hamas-governed enclave has since killed over 40,000 Palestinians, according to the local health ministry, while also displacing nearly the entire population of 2.3 million, causing a hunger crisis and leading to genocide allegations at the World Court that Israel denies.

Israeli forces kill 10 Hamas militants, arrest 5 in massive West Bank operation

AL-FARAA REFUGEE CAMP Israeli forces launched a large operation in the occupied West Bank overnight and into Wednesday, killing at least 10 Hamas militants, carrying out arrests and sealing off the volatile city of Jenin. The ongoing operation was among the largest in the West Bank in months, and a reminder that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict extends far beyond the war in Gaza that began with Hamas' Oct. 7 attack. Israel says it is rooting out West Bank militants to prevent attacks, while Palestinians fear it intends to broaden the war and expel them from territories they want for a future state. Lt. Col. Nadav Shoshani, an Israeli military spokesman, said "large forces" had entered Jenin, long a militant stronghold, as well as Tulkarem and the Al-Faraa refugee camp dating back to the 1948 Mideast war, all in the northern West Bank. He said Israeli forces killed three militants in an airstrike in Tulkarem and four in an airstrike in Al-Faraa. He said another five suspected militants were arrested, and

that the raids were the first stage of an even larger operation. Four Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire in Jenin, according to Palestinian officials. Hamas announced that 10 of its fighters had been killed in the West Bank on Wednesday, including three of the four men killed in Jenin. It was not immediately clear if the fourth was also a fighter. The military said all of the dead were militants. The governor of Jenin, Kamal Abu al-Rub, said on Palestinian radio that Israeli forces had surrounded the city, blocking exit and entry points and access to hospitals, and ripping up infrastructure in the camp. The Palestinian Health Ministry in the West Bank said Israeli forces had blocked the roads leading to a hospital with dirt barriers and surrounded other medical facilities in Jenin. Shoshani said the military was trying to prevent militants from taking shelter in hospitals. An Associated Press reporter saw army vehicles blocking all the entrances to Al-Faraa camp. Military jeeps and bulldozers entered the

camp and soldiers were seen patrolling its alleyways by foot. Water leaked onto the damaged streets from houses where fighting



had ruptured tanks and pipes. Shots rang out every few minutes. Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz drew comparisons with Gaza and called for similar measures in the West Bank. "We must deal with the threat just as we deal with the terrorist infrastructure in Gaza, including the temporary evacuation of Palestinian residents and whatever steps might be

required. This is a war in every respect, and we must win it," he wrote on the platform X. Hamas called on Palestinians in the West Bank to rise up, calling the raids part of a larger plan to expand the war in Gaza and blaming the escalation on U.S. support for Israel. The militant group called on security forces loyal to the Western-backed Palestinian Authority, which cooperate with Israel, to "join the sacred battle of our people." Nabil Abu Rudeineh, a spokesman for Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, condemned the raids as a "serious escalation" and called on the U.S. to intervene. Abbas announced he was cutting short a visit to Saudi Arabia and returning to the West Bank, where his government is based. At least 652 Palestinians in the West Bank have been killed by Israeli fire since the war in Gaza began over 10 months ago, according to the Palestinian ministry. Most have died during raids, which often trigger gunbattles with militants.

News box

Telangana partners with NSIC to train 50K youth in skill development

HYDERABAD: IT and Industries Minister Sridhar Babu said on Wednesday that 50,000 youngsters will be provided skill training in various fields over the next three to four years in collaboration with the National Small Scale Industries Corporation (NSIC). As per an MoU signed with the Telangana Industries and Commerce Department at the Secretariat, NSIC will provide skill training and assist small industries in purchasing raw materials and selling products. A programme named Tejas (Teangana Entrepreneurs Journey for Aspirations and Achieving Success) has been initiated for the same. The minister said more attention will be given at the district level, adding that skill development and trained human resources will be available for medium, small and micro industries. Stating that NSIC has entered into such an agreement with the Telangana government for the first time, the minister added, "Most of the employment opportunities can be created through small industries, and therefore the government will support their growth and expansion." Meanwhile, the UN, in collaboration with the Melinda Gates Foundation, will undertake a study in Telangana on opportunities to increase the participation of women and small-scale enterprises in the agri-food system. The UN Executive Secretary of the United Nations ESCAP, Armida Salsiah.

Governor urges Telangana farmers to embrace solar energy under PM-KUSUM scheme

HANAMKONDA/WARANGAL/MULU GU: Governor Jishnu Dev Varma on Wednesday called upon farmers to utilise and reap the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme. The district administration should take the initiative to educate the farmers on using solar energy in agriculture, he said.

The PM-KUSUM scheme aims to replace the use of diesel pumps with solar ones to bring down cost of production. The Centre subsidises 60 per cent of the cost of the solar pump to encourage farmers to switch over to solar pumps. The Governor expressed delight at the speedy development of Telangana state and appreciated the government extending help to women self-help groups (SHGs). He hoped that the SHGs would stand on their feet and scale new heights. The Governor interacted with Warangal Collector Satya Sharada, her Hanamkonda counterpart P Pravyina and Warangal Commissioner of Police Ambar Kishor Jha, prominent writers, artists, eminent personalities, and various national and state-level awardees at the Hanamkonda collectorate.

Odisha plans to bring 12 tigers to Satkosia with National Tiger Conservation Authority approval

BHUBANESWAR: Four-and-half years after suspending the country's first big cat relocation project in Satkosia Tiger Reserve, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has finally given a green signal to the state government to resume the programme. The Forest department's wildlife wing has planned to bring over a dozen tigers from the central India landscape to Satkosia, where the big cats have locally extirpated in recent years. The whole exercise will be spread over the next five years, department officials said. Officials said, the nod for tiger reintroduction has been given on the basis of a proposal submitted by the wildlife wing and the report of the five-member committee of NTCA that visited Satkosia earlier in June to reassess the feasibility of re-initiating the project in the tiger reserve. The proposal submitted by the state government in January this year has been approved by the technical committee of the NTCA subject to adherence of the SOP on active management of tigers in Satkosia and recommendations of the committee constituted for the purpose, they said. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of Forest Force (PCCF) and chief wildlife warden Susanta Nanda said a proposal to resume the reintroduction of tigers in Satkosia Tiger Reserve was submitted to NTCA following the voluntary shifting of some of the villages in the protected area. However, the NTCA has laid down 15 conditions that Satkosia needs to meet before resuming the project. As per the conditions, the project will be carried out with due consent from the locals and local public representatives.

Other pre-requisites include, voluntary relocation by villages, prey augmentation, creation of inviolate space, capacity-building of staff and enhancement of protection measures. Nanda said while steps are being taken to meet these conditions, the wildlife wing will also draw a five-year action plan and submit it to the NTCA to take up the project.

'MeToo' may be Bollywood's defining moment

KOCHI: Amid the muck the Malayalam film industry finds itself in after the release of the Hema Committee report, there may after all be a silver lining. History will record this period as the moment that changed the course for Bollywood, making the ongoing #MeToo movement the defining moment — a moment that made the industry a safer and better place for women. Actor Prithviraj summed up his press conference in Kochi earlier this week thus: "One thing we shouldn't forget is that this correction and redirection we are seeing now is happening first in Malayalam cinema, and will be documented in the history of the Indian film industry. History will remind you that this correction happened here first." For a start, the Hema Committee recommendations need to be acted on. "The Hema Committee report will be effective only when the recommendations are implemented. So far, the state hasn't taken any action except appointing a seven-member special investigation team as more women spoke up. There is a stagnation. The recommendations need to be discussed and implemented," said Deedi Damodharan, screenwriter and a member of the Women in Cinema Collective (WCC). Perhaps, realising that the entire public discourse is focused solely on the sexual harassment angle and not on the much-needed course correction, WCC came out with the hashtag #changethenarrative. "To women who didn't have the privilege or the circumstance to say 'NO' - it was not your fault. To women who have that privilege - let us create a safe workspace they didn't have," posted WCC on their social media handles with that particular hashtag. The public should also

know who the perpetrators in Malayalam cinema are, according to Divya Gopinath, an actor and a member of WCC. "Women

industry a better place to work," she said.

After all these allegations and movements, when they return to work, the film industry should be a safe place where junior artists and technicians are provided with better facilities, with more women working and a fair environment, she added. Deedi stressed that more women coming out and speaking against the perpetrators is a fallout of the report. "It's good that women now have the courage to speak up and reveal their experiences. These people should be exposed and the report has helped the survivors dare to do just that," she said. She emphasised the government, just like how they appointed an SIT, should implement the recommendations. "The investigation team was appointed as soon as the complaints came in. The government should act in the

same manner while setting guidelines too. That will help the future generations. We need a change in the industry and the Hema Committee was only the first step towards it," Deedi added. Actor Revathy, speaking to the media, echoed a similar sentiment. "We need this change, not for me and you, but for the generation to come. We need change. A lot of amazing artists, filmmakers and technicians have come out of this industry.

Amazing films with international acclaim have come out from the Malayalam industry. It's up to all of us to see to it and ensure that the industry and our workspace is cleaned up," she said.

Added Divya: "The aim of WCC, the Hema Committee and even the release of the report is to bring in systemic change in the industry. These revelations will also help in that sense. However, more discussions on improvements need to be held."



including myself are speaking out because these men should be exposed before society. We are continuing our efforts to make the

Rs 840-crore project to make Karnataka coast plastic-free

MANGALURU: The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) on August 19 approved the World Bank funded Rs 840 crore Karnataka Strengthening of Coastal Resilience Economy (K-Shore) project to make the state's 320-km coast plastic waste free. Under this project, the Forest, Fisheries, and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) departments will implement various initiatives to improve the capacity of the coast to withstand pollution, besides creating employment opportunities for locals.

The project also intends to address sea erosion and marine conservation, which is expected to give a fillip to the conservation of Olive Ridley turtles and dolphins along the coast. Dr K Karikalan, conservator of forests, Mangaluru Circle, said under the project, the forest department will take up mangrove cultivation, plant bamboo and

cane saplings at estuaries, shores and other areas along the coast, which will act as a vegetative trap. The department will also construct culverts, check dams and causeways, and take up



soil moisture works along the banks of 16 rivers that originate in the Western Ghats and enter the Arabian Sea. At estuaries, trash barriers will be set up to collect plastic waste and beach cleaning work will be taken up involving fishermen and other local communities. Among others, the

focus will be on pilgrim centres such as Kukke Subramanya temple, Dharmasthala, Kateel Durgapameshwari temple, Sri Krishna temple in Udipi, Kollur Mookambika temple, etc.

'DPR ready for next five years'

The authorities will tie-up with various organisations to find alternatives to the use of plastic items such as carry bags and to create awareness among the people visiting the places of worship in the region.

On trekking routes and forests, plastic bottles and other waste will be collected at entry and exit points. Bins will be placed at various places. Plastic waste collected at the vegetative traps and other places will be recycled with the establishment of Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) units in various places. "This initiative will help generate employment opportunities for the locals," said Dr Karikalan.

Why didn't you do it: BJP to BJD on quota demand

BHUBANESWAR: The state government on Wednesday rejected the Opposition's demand for a resolution in the Assembly to increase the reservation cap beyond 50 per cent. The Opposition has also been demanding caste census to be carried out in the state and reservation of seats for SCs, STs and OBCs in educational institutions as per their population.

Replying to the discussion on an adjournment motion moved by the Opposition, minister for ST and SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare Nityananda Gond stated that the previous BJD government should have taken a decision in this regard as a draft bill was pending in an inter-ministerial committee since 2017.

The department had prepared the draft bill for revising the reservation and submitted it to the Law department on July 13, 2015 for scrutiny. The draft bill had provision for reservation of 22.5 per cent for STs, 16.25 per cent for SCs and 11.25 per cent for OBCs. The state now has 12 per cent and 8 per cent reservation for STs and SCs in medical and engineering colleges. The Law department had scrutinised the draft bill on June 5, 2017 and the SC, ST, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare department had submitted a bill as per the provisions. But the bill was referred to an inter-ministerial committee by the then government. "The BJD government did not take any decision on

the draft bill for seven years and is now blaming a two-and-half month-old government over the issue," Gond said. Participating in the discussion, Congress legislature party (CLP) leader Rama Chandra Kadam criticised the BJP for what he described as a shift in attitude towards these communities after coming to power.

He argued that despite the 50 per cent reservation limit imposed by courts, the state government could still push for a constitutional amendment to raise the quota limit, he said. BJD leader and former minister Arun Kumar Sahoo supported Kadam's demand for a resolution to exceed the 50 per cent cap if proposed by the government.

Licence of KFC outlet in Bengaluru's Devanahalli suspended for 14 days

During the inspection, the health department officials also found unhygienic conditions at the KFC Devanahalli branch.

BENGALURU: The Devanahalli branch of the popular fast-food chain KFC has had its licence suspended following an inspection by the state health department officials. The officials found that the outlet was using chemicals to purify used cooking oil. Known for its fried chicken, KFC is now under scrutiny as the health department investigates further to determine the extent of the violations. As part of a special drive, officials from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) collected samples of various items



sold at KFC, including fried chicken, for analysis. The test results revealed the presence of 'synthetic magnesium silicate', a chemical not approved for use in

food preparation. An official from the department mentioned that synthetic magnesium silicate is used in industrial applications such as ceramics, rubber, and paint, and as an anti-caking agent in cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. It is harmful in food because it is not intended for consumption and can cause health issues if ingested. During the inspection, the department also found unhygienic conditions at the KFC Devanahalli branch. Following test results that confirmed the use of adulterated substances, the restaurant admitted

to reusing the cooking oil multiple times to fry various items. The drive was initiated after Health Commissioner Randeep D received a tip-off and directed Karnataka FSSAI Commissioner Srinivas K to carry out an inspection. Following the inspection, the department suspended the branch's licence for 14 days. Part of KFC's branch, the inspection also led to the suspension of licences of several other establishments. Nupa Technologies, a poultry-focused startup and Mamta Agency, both in BBMP South, and Vishal.

Karnataka HC urge govt to ensure probe of cross-case by same investigating officers

BENGALURU: The Karnataka High Court directed the Home Department to bring in an amendment to the Karnataka Police Manual to the effect that investigating the case and counter case of the same incident by two different investigating officers (IOs) is a violation of law which attracts departmental action against them. The state has not implemented its own circular of 2013 to ensure the investigation of two cases of same crime by the same investigating officer, the state has to reissue the circular or bring an amendment to the Police Manual, Justice M Nagaprasanna said. The court passed the order, while allowing partly a petition filed by Gajendra KM and others questioning issue a circular or bring necessary amendments to the

Police Manual, the court said. The court directed the state to get the matter reinvestigated by the same IO within three months. The case was registered in January 2023. The court stated that the apex court has observed that two challans are registered into the same incident, and both cannot be true. The SC observed that a same IO must investigate into a case and a counter case, the court said.

The high court stated the state's 2013 circular has remained only on paper. Ten years have passed and this court is coming across cases where a case and a counter case is still being investigated by two different IOs. This results in grave injustice, all because of the callousness of the state in not implementing its circular. It has become necessary to direct the state to again issue a circular or bring necessary amendments to the



Thiruvananthapuram: Amayizhanchan tunnel to be cleaned after nine years

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The tunnel of the Amayizhanchan Canal running underneath the Central Railway Station at Thampanoor in the state capital will be cleaned after nine long years. It took nearly a decade for the state agencies and the Southern Railways to take steps to clean the tunnel passing underneath the railway lines. The last time the tunnel, which was clogged with tonnes of silt and garbage, was cleaned to some extent in 2015 as part of 'Operation Anantha' to mitigate flooding in Thampanoor and East Fort areas. The clogged tunnel came into the limelight for all the wrong reasons following the death of sanitation worker Joy while attempting to

clean the same tunnel in July. After a blame game between railway authorities, the City Corporation and the Irrigation Department, the state government finally sanctioned Rs 63 lakh for cleaning up the tunnel. An official of the Irrigation department said that though it is the responsibility of the railways to undertake cleaning, the custodian of the canal is the Irrigation department. "It has been decades since a proper cleaning of the canal was undertaken. During Operation Anantha, a significant amount of silt and other clogged materials were removed. But a deep cleaning was still pending. Now, we have an idea about how it is done," the official said.

Guard against partisanship entering the barracks

MILITARIES of the Indian subcontinent have a common fount — the colonial British Indian Army. Before the raising of the official 'Indian Army' in 1895, the collective force of the British Raj was made up of three presidency armies — Bengal Army, Madras Army and the Bombay Army. Till date, the essential construct of the subcontinental militaries retains similar nomenclature, structuring, culture of regiments (reflecting societal/regional diversities) and institutional values that, on paper, make for an aligned purpose for the profession of arms.

The three major subcontinental countries — India, Pakistan and Bangladesh — are constitutional democracies, subscribing to the principle of civilian control of the military. However, the ideal level of civil control, defined by historian Samuel P Huntington as "the proper subordination of a competent, professional military to the ends of policy as determined by civilian authority", has varied dramatically among the three countries. The ability to keep the armed forces insulated and distanced from internal politics, partisanship or societal passion (e.g., religiosity, regionalism) has varied substantially. Wherever and whenever the militaries have sought a role beyond their constitutionally defined mandate of defending the borders or for tackling internal insurgencies (whenever the police forces have failed to contain them), progressive democracy has weakened.

Since independence in 1947, the Pakistani military has taken over the formal reins of power during 1958-71, 1977-88, and 1999-2008. Even when the civilian rule ostensibly existed in Pakistan, it was the worst-kept secret that the Army House (residence of the army chief) in the garrison township of Rawalpindi — and not in the political capital of Islamabad — called the shots. The Pakistani Warrant of Precedence may put the army chief at Article (level) 11, but the 'redlines' on critical sovereign politics, positions and preferences are always defined by the Army House. Across the Line of Control, the Indian experiment in democracy persisted with virtually no role or relevance afforded to the world's second-largest military force beyond its constitutional remit. The Indian tradition of maintaining the institution's healthy 'distance' from politics and partisanship, has been the key, unlike in Pakistan. Even the relatively younger nation of Bangladesh has had difficulties in restraining its 'barracks', with as many as 29 recorded coup attempts. The formal takeover by the military could be traced to the presidency of Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem (1975-77), who took over in the aftermath of repeated counter-coups. He was made the Chief Martial Law Administrator in a junta-style cabinet presided by three chiefs of the armed forces. He was succeeded by Lt Gen Ziaur Rahman (1977-81) and, after a two-year gap, by Lt Gen Hussain Muhammad Ershad (1983-90). The fact that the post-independence Bangladeshi military was composed of diverse elements from the Pakistani army, Mukti Bahini militia and other rebels from varied ideological moorings made the institution susceptible to irreconcilable affiliations that were in conflict with each other and banked on domestic politics to advance their agendas. Since the Bangladeshi military (like the Pakistanis) was unable to extricate itself from the societal morass and afflictions, it partook of extraconstitutional endeavours, and thus democracy suffered.

There were unscheduled regime changes in Pakistan (April 2022) and Bangladesh (August 2024), where the hand of the respective militaries was unmistakable. The Pakistani 'establishment' (read military) had forced out the vainglorious PM Imran Khan after 'selecting' him in 2018, as he had started fancying a bigger role for himself. Imran was soon cut to size and the political forces that were dumped by the 'establishment' earlier (PML-N and PPP) made a comeback as unnatural coalition partners. The 'establishment' made it clear that it was not bound by any partisan preference, but only by the institution's self-interest and supremacy.

Regulate e-commerce with foolproof policy

Govt should focus on ways to make companies more accountable to consumers

INDIA'S online retail market has not expanded as rapidly as that of other countries despite the growing levels of Internet penetration. The share of e-commerce in the total retail market is a paltry 8 per cent compared to nearly 40 per cent in China, 22 per cent in the US and 16 per cent in the European Union (EU). It is in this backdrop that one must view the criticism of the widening role of e-retail by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal at an event recently. Though he softened his stance subsequently, the initial comments indicated deep concern over the impact of online sales on brick-and-mortar shops, especially the country's widespread network of kirana stores. He was also unhappy over the findings of a report presented there about the relatively low impact of e-commerce on offline stores. In contrast, he felt the economy could be heading for up to 50 per cent share of e-commerce in the retail segment. Other studies, however, corroborate the findings that online sales are a marginal player in the economy, at least for the time being. A study carried out by the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and the Retailers Association of India (RAI) earlier this year noted that the share of e-commerce in the total retail market has grown from 4 per cent in 2018 to 8 per cent in 2023. It forecast that this would reach 13 to 15 per cent by 2028. The potential, as is often pointed out, remains huge in this country but the e-commerce growth rate declined slightly last year. From 22 to 55 per cent rise over the period from 2019 to 2022, it fell to 10 per cent in 2023, according to the BCG-RAI study. Even so, it is clear that e-retail has not had the expected disastrous effect on traditional brick-and-mortar shops. No wonder there has been little comment on the issue either from the Swadeshi Jagran Manch or the Confederation of All India Traders in recent times, barring the latest statements of support for Goyal's stance. Both the manch — an RSS affiliate — and the traders' body were at one time vociferous lobbyists seeking protection for the country's physical retail markets. The fact is that kirana stores or the neighbourhood grocery vendors still have a pre-eminent place in the country's retail arena. The study by the Pahle India Foundation that was contested by Goyal found that the advent of e-

commerce has reinvigorated the growth of traditional retail. It noted that e-retail has spurred the move towards digital sales, increasing customer satisfaction, home delivery and after-sales service. Many stores are looking to expand their footprint. The study projects that e-commerce will touch 32 per cent of total retail sales by 2030, a far cry from the 50 per cent envisaged by the Commerce Minister. Yet, he cannot be faulted for expressing concern over predatory pricing and B2C (business to consumer) sales by online platforms in violation of existing guidelines. The former issue has been raised earlier as well in regard to deep discounts offered on marketing platforms like Amazon and

ministries as well as the Niti Aayog. The Department of Industrial Promotion, the Consumer Affairs Ministry and the Ministries of Electronics and Information Technology are all involved in the process. The discussions have gone on for far too long. A final view must be taken soon, especially since the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is also holding talks on global e-commerce.

One of the critical aspects being discussed at the WTO as well as at the domestic policy level is the issue of data protection and privacy. This country has been seeking that the algorithms behind e-commerce websites be made available to it. This has been raised at the WTO too where India has sought data

localisation and technology transfer.

Other countries have moved much more quickly to take a view on the issues of market dominance and data protection. The EU has been the leader in this regard. It adopted the Digital Markets Act last year to curb the market dominance of Big Tech with violations punishable with fines up to 10 per cent of a company's global sales. It also laid down the General Data Protection Regulation in 2018. Companies must now ask for consent when they collect personal information and may no longer use data from several sources to profile people against their will. It is for the government to focus on ways to make



Flipkart. The question of predatory pricing has gone up to the Competition Commission but could not be resolved since companies must have a dominant position in the market to be considered in this light. As for B2C sales, this is prohibited for online marketplaces which are meant to be platforms for sale of products made by other companies. The unfortunate reality is that online entities had created their own subsidiaries and were selling in violation of guidelines. Though such firms have apparently now been delinked from the online platforms, there is still concern that their products are being given undue prominence on the sites.

The entire gamut of these issues needs to be clarified in the proposed new e-commerce policy, which has been in the works for several years now. The proposals are being debated by at least three

e-commerce companies more accountable to consumers as this is a sector that is going to expand rapidly. Fears over the impact on the enormous physical retail network of this country — valued at roughly \$850 billion — need to be finally kept aside. There is no reason that both the brick-and-mortar infrastructure and e-retail cannot grow together in this extremely large marketplace. It is reassuring to know that Goyal has also commented on the beneficial aspects of e-commerce in terms of improving technology and innovation as well as providing quick delivery and convenience to consumers. The stress on operating within the provisions of the law is unexceptionable. The onus is on the government to provide detailed rules and guidelines for this sunrise sector in the form of a comprehensive e-commerce policy.

Bail, but still in jail

Supreme Court reiterates humane approach

A large number of undertrials not being able to get out of prison despite being granted bail remains a matter of concern — 5,000 undertrials, according to one estimate. It's one reason why jails are overcrowded and overwhelmingly populated by people from the underprivileged sections. Last year, the Supreme Court issued a slew of directions, asking courts to consider modifying the conditions of furnishing bonds and sureties. Preparing a report on the socioeconomic circumstances of such inmates, it was indicated, would help relax these conditions. The apex court has now again asked judges not to shut their eyes to the hard realities of life. Its observation could not be more explicit — to grant bail and thereafter impose excessive conditions is to take away with the left



hand what is given with the right. A more humane approach has to be institutionalised.

That bail is the rule and refusal an exception has been forcefully reiterated by the Supreme Court in recent judgments. Bail, it held, should be granted if a case is made out for personal liberty even if the offence is one under the UAPA (Unlawful Activities Prevention Act). The legislation, which punishes terror acts, has often been labelled draconian. Describing the right to speedy trial and liberty as sacrosanct, the apex court did not shy away from suggesting that trial courts and high courts were attempting to play safe while granting bail.

The justice system continues to be plagued by delays at every level. If 'tareekh pe tareekh' is a chronic flaw, so is the aspect of undertrials languishing in jails even after grant of bail. The lack of awareness

and legal literacy adds to the distress.

Leverage digital technology to improve delivery of health services

The integration of digital technology and AI into primary healthcare can revolutionise India's public health system.

Digital technology can have an enormous impact on enhancing healthcare efficiency, access and outcomes, thereby helping to achieve universal health coverage and related sustainable development goals. India, home to one-sixth of the world's population, is central to global health. The country has a rich pool of talent in science and technology, but it suffers disproportionately from the global burden of disease. While tremendous progress has been made in the last few decades in reducing infant and child mortality and improving life expectancy, the public health sector is perennially plagued by an inefficient and inequitable healthcare system that is unable to provide better services. Nearly 80 per cent of the healthcare facilities are concentrated in major cities, and millions of people living in rural and remote areas across the country still lack access to quality healthcare. Besides, healthcare costs continue to rise, pushing many into a poverty trap. Moreover, the population is ageing, and the nation is in the middle of an epidemiological transition, with chronic noncommunicable diseases rising rapidly, along with the continued burden of communicable diseases. This double burden is putting pressure on an already overstretched healthcare infrastructure.

Against this background, technology and innovation can play a vital role in enhancing efficiency in programme implementation, improving the quality of service and reducing the cost of healthcare, as demonstrated during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We need to shift to a more digital-centric healthcare model. During the pandemic, the people faced many challenges in accessing healthcare. Besides, there was inadequate real-time data to track the evolving situation and plan interventions. With fragmented data and limited data exchange mechanisms, the need for an effective use of technology, such as data

analytics, to improve facilities and solve healthcare problems has been felt.

Health informatics technology, including the national web portal and telemedicine, facilitated the delivery of the home-grown Covid vaccine at an unprecedented speed in India. The CoWIN platform helped people fix appointments online for vaccination and then download certificates after receiving the shot. Drones were deployed to deliver vaccines in hard-to-reach areas. A national telemedicine service, eSanjeevani, was launched in the middle of the pandemic in 2020. It saw three million consultations within the first year.

Since then, India has expanded information communication technologies, achieved near-nationwide mobile network coverage and strengthened digital public infrastructure, including the National Health Stack as a framework to create digital health records for all citizens of India. Experiences in the country and around the globe demonstrate that technology has the potential to help in many healthcare areas, such as patient care, surveillance, data management, communication, information and prevention. Diagnosis and treatment using telemedicine and teleconsultations, the provision of patient follow-up for treatment adherence in chronic disease conditions, such as diabetes, and using mobile technology and artificial intelligence (AI) for the early detection of cancer can benefit a patient. Further, electronic health records can facilitate the digital sharing of patient information among specialists. These measures can help avoid delays in diagnosis and treatment, thereby reducing the cost. To ensure health security, web-based disease surveillance, the use of handheld techniques for the collection and transmission of data, big data for predicting epidemics, and data

analytics are some applications that can help strengthen the early warning system. A rapid response thereafter can contain further spread, preventing an outbreak in a local area from progressing to a pandemic.

Technology can also aid in capacity-building through distance learning, webinars, online training courses, video conferencing and information-sharing through social media sites. The most disruptive among newer



technologies is AI, defined simply as a simulation of human intelligence using computers. There are many types, including machine learning, which can harness vast open-source data and predict or detect epidemic signals much earlier than traditional surveillance based on case reporting, thereby complementing the ongoing surveillance system. In addition to the detection of cancer at an early stage, AI can play an important role in accelerating a vaccine or drug development process. By overcoming the challenges faced by a weak health system, AI can be both revolutionary and highly

sustainable. Recognising that healthcare costs are growing day by day and that financial and human resources are limited, the concept of appropriate technology — technologies that are scientifically valid, socially acceptable and universally available to all at an affordable price — can help strike a balance between the available resources and the emerging needs. Initiatives are needed to conduct a gap analysis in terms of the availability of infrastructure, human resources, data management, data security and privacy as well as the skill set needed for this field. The outcome of such an analysis can help develop a national digital health policy and strategy. It is imperative to have a national policy and a firm commitment to investing in digital technology, which needs to be integrated in all health programmes and healthcare services. In this regard, it is important to build partnerships with the private sector, which offers the bulk of the healthcare provision in the country.

The integration of digital technology and AI into primary healthcare can indeed revolutionise India's public health system, paving the way for universal health coverage or healthcare for all by 2030. But the availability of appropriate bandwidth is a prerequisite for that.

The nation must prioritise research and the development of new technologies as well as the improvement of the existing ones. Researchers should be encouraged to develop appropriate technologies that promote health, ensure equitable access to these technologies and advance sustainability at the national and local levels. To build a sustainable pool of talent on a long-term basis, we should lay special emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics as part of the education policy.



Prepping yourself up for your second Trimester

So you've got past the first three months somehow and also dealt with the dreaded morning sickness.

While most women heave a sigh of relief because symptoms of nausea usually lessen after the first trimester, there are a new set of demands that will come your way once you enter your second trimester. Here's what to expect...

- As your morning sickness gets lesser and lesser, you will start wanting to eat more and more. Make sure that instead of piling your plate with junk food, you have healthy portions of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- You'll also feel less tired than you did in the

first three months. Use this time wisely and embark on an easy and regular fitness program. This is also the time when you can start planning your baby's nursery, slowly start buying things that you will need post delivery, etc.

- In the first three months, your baby grows slowly. However, in the second trimester, your baby begins to grow quite fast. Thanks to the Internet and the plethora of mobile apps, you can actually keep track of your baby's growth — you

can see how it changes and grows every week.

- As your baby grows, you will also experience backache — this is due to the extra weight that you're gaining as well as the fact that your baby is growing. Ensure that your bed has a hard mattress and the chairs you use have adequate back support. Try and sleep on your side and wear flat shoes.
- Many women also complain about pain in the gums and sometimes even bleeding gums. Use a soft bristled toothbrush, which won't cause you any pain.



Organise your Mind to function better

Studies say that the human mind, put very simply, is like a filing cabinet — the brain stores information that it thinks is important and deletes things to make way for new memories. No wonder then, it is important to find ways to make your mind function more productively.



We all have a lot of things going on in our lives. And sometimes we may tend to forget doing some tasks or errands simply because our mind is crammed with so much info. A helpful trick here is to keep a diary for yourself. This will ensure that you remain on track and are better organised. Whether you use a diary for daily tasks, certain errands or shopping trips, it will keep you composed.

- Do you ever feel like you have too much inside you and it all needs to come out? Why not pour out your thoughts in a journal or blog? You needn't make your blog public if you want to keep your thoughts private. But the habit of regularly penning down your thoughts will help you unburden your mind and eventually make you perform better at everyday tasks.
- Are you irresponsible when it comes to your things? Are you often

misplacing or losing them? To make sure you organise your mind, you also need to organise your habits. Keep things in place instead of thinking you'll do it later. This way you won't get stressed when you're in a hurry and can't find your things.

- Don't put off tasks or errands. The more you delay them, the bigger they get. Instead, give yourself a reasonable deadline and try to stick to it as much as you can.
- Don't take on more than you can handle. Sometimes it is okay to say no to someone. Recognise your limits and don't feel ashamed of asking for help if you need it.



A new study has suggested that when it comes to exercise, if people keep their 'eyes on the prize,' it could help them get to their target faster. The new research suggested that while walking, staying focused on a specific target ahead can make the distance to it appear shorter and help people walk there faster, psychology researchers have found. Their study, which compared the technique to walking while looking around the environment naturally, offered a new strategy to improve the quality of exercise.

One of the study's co-authors said that people get less interested in exercise if physical activity seems daunting to them, which could happen when distances to be walked appear quite long.

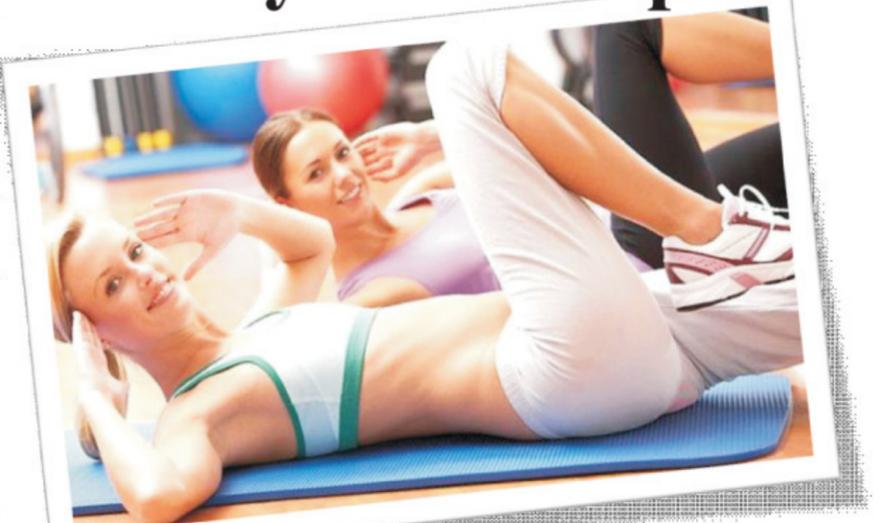
These findings indicated that narrowly focusing visual attention on a specific target, like a building which is a few blocks ahead, rather than looking around your surroundings, makes that distance appear shorter, helps you walk faster and also makes exercising much easier.

The study focused on "attentional narrowing," which affects perceptions of space. The researchers hypothesized that narrowing attention

on a finish line would lead to it appearing closer, increasing the walking speed and also reducing the feelings of physical exertion. The researchers conducted two experiments. In the first, adults visiting a park in the summer stood 12-feet away from an open cooler, which contained cold beverages and ice. The experimenter explained to the participants that they were to estimate the distance of the cooler from where they stood.

One set of adults were randomly assigned to a 'narrowed attention' condition in which they imagined that a spotlight was shining only on the cooler. They learned that to be

Exercising is easier with 'eyes on the prize'



Keeping your "eyes on the prize" makes you motivated to exercise and helps you reach your target faster, a new study has suggested

effective at estimating distance, they should focus their attention on the cooler and avoid looking around the environment.

The second set of adults were assigned to the 'natural attention' condition and were instructed to allow their attention to move naturally and in whatever way they found to be most helpful for estimating distance. Subjects who focused their attention only on the cooler, perceived the cooler as closer than did those who were in the natural attention group.

In a second experiment, the researchers used this intervention to change perceptions of distance and improve the quality of exercise. Here, 73 participants walked 20-feet in a gymnasium while

wearing ankle weights that added 15% to their body weight, thus making the task more challenging than unfettered walking.

As in the first experiment, one set of participants received the narrowed attention instructions (they were asked to focus on a traffic cone marking a finish line) and the other set received the natural attention condition (they were told to glance at the cone as well as look at their surroundings). Each group then completed the walking test while being timed by the experimenters. The results confirmed the researchers' hypothesis that attentional narrowing changed perceptions of distance, speed of walking and perceived effort, said the study.

Super benefits of ginger you did not know

Here are some benefits of ginger that will have you biting into it. Ginger is one condiment which not just spices up your food and gives it the punch; it also comes with a lot of health and beauty benefits. Here are some of them-

- Bite into a small piece of ginger before a meal and it will help increase your appetite.
- Ginger can get your digestive juices working.
- Ginger absorbs essential

nutrients in the body. If you are feeling nauseous, chew on to some ginger, preferably with a splash of honey.

Bogged down with stomach cramps? Chew on to some ginger for relief.

Suffering from pain in joints? Bite into ginger and feel the relief. Ginger tea is great for a soar throat and a blocked nose. Ginger also has aphrodisiac properties to spice up your life.



IIT experts examined gate of Delhi coaching centre where students died, SUV: CBI

The CBI, which is probing the death of three IAS aspirants at a Delhi coaching centre, has submitted a report to court stating that a team of IIT-Delhi professors examined the gate of Rau's IAS Study Circle and a seized SUV.

New Delhi: A team of experts from IIT Delhi has examined the gate of the building where the Rau's IAS Study Circle is located, where three students drowned in a basement flooding in July, and an SUV that allegedly caused the breaching of the gate, the CBI, which is probing the incident, informed the court. An SUV driver was arrested and his Force Gurkha was seized after he was accused of driving his vehicle through a flooded road in front of Rau's coaching centre, causing the water to sell and breach the gates of the building. In its report submitted before a special court in Delhi, the central agency, which is probing

the drowning of three IAS aspirants on July 27 in the basement of their coaching centre amid rain, said the experts took measurements of the vehicle and the gate on Sunday.

The CBI further stated that the SUV will also be inspected by a domain expert, a motor vehicle inspector. The agency has requested an additional week to have the vehicle examined by the inspector. This request comes in response to the SUV owner's plea for the release of his vehicle. The CBI's investigation has revealed that the three UPSC aspirants, Shreya Yadav, Tanya Soni, and Nevin Dalvin, died due to asphyxia

caused by drowning, the agency stated, citing the postmortem report. The probe also found that several students were studying in the basement of the coaching centre during the heavy rain, news agency PTI reported. "All the floors including basement were used by the said coaching institute. The basement was used for the purpose of library where students used to sit throughout the day for study as well as for taking test conducted by coaching institute," it said.

The CBI report also mentioned, "The rainwater entered the ground floor due to sudden fall of sliding gates of main building and

subsequently entered the basement resulting its flooding". The case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder [Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Section 105], initially handled by the Delhi Police, was transferred to the CBI by the Delhi High Court on August 2. Meanwhile, the jailed co-owners of the coaching centre moved the Delhi High Court, seeking bail in the criminal case against them. The four co-owners have pleaded that they are merely the landlords of the basement, which was let out on rent to the coaching centre, and therefore had no role in the event. The matter is likely to be heard this week.



No Court Relief For Ex-Wrestling Chief Brij Bhushan In Sex Harassment Case

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has refused to provide any relief to former Wrestling Federation of India president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. The court has asked Singh's lawyer to submit a short note with all his contentions for quashing the case against him. Singh's petition seeks to contest the continuation of these proceedings against him. He faces charges of sexual harassment and outraging the modesty of women.



Bhushan has challenged the FIR, the chargesheet, and the trial court's order related to the framing of charges in the case. His petition seeks to contest the legal proceedings against him in connection with the complaints filed by several

women wrestlers. He contended that the investigation was done in a biased manner as only the version of the victims, who were interested in taking revenge against him, was considered and the charge sheet was filed before the trial court without taking care of the falsehood of allegation. Brij Bhushan, a six-time MP who represented Gonda, Balrampur and Kaiserganj, was denied a ticket for this year's Lok Sabha elections after sexual harassment allegations by six women wrestlers. He also had to step down as the WFI chief.

3 Terrorists Killed In Separate Encounters In Jammu And Kashmir

New Delhi: Three terrorists are believed to have been killed in two separate encounters between security forces and terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said today. The encounters started after a joint operation was launched by the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir police in



response to the suspected movement of the terrorists, officials said. "Based on intelligence inputs about likely infiltration bids, a joint operation was launched by the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir police on the intervening night of August 28-29 in the general area Machhal, Kupwara. The suspicious movement was observed in bad weather and was engaged with effective firing by own troops; two terrorists are likely to have been neutralized," the army's Srinagar-based Chinara Corps said in a post on X (formerly Twitter). Based on intelligence inputs with respect to likely infiltration bids, a Joint Operation was launched by #IndianArmy & @JmuKmrPolice on the intervening night of 28-29 Aug 24 in general area Machhal, Kupwara.

Based on intelligence inputs regarding likely infiltration bids, a Joint anti-infiltration Operation was launched by #IndianArmy & @JmuKmrPolice on the intervening night of 28-29 Aug 24 in general area Tangdhar, Kupwara. One terrorist is likely to. The encounter in Kupwara's Tangdhar sector started yesterday evening after troops intercepted an infiltration attempt.

Smriti Irani on Amethi defeat: Polls will come and go, but my real win is...

New Delhi: BJP leader Smriti Irani said Amethi was an "emotive and ideological issue" for her, and she was not disheartened following her defeat in the high-profile Uttar Pradesh constituency in the Lok Sabha polls. From being hailed as a giant slayer after defeating Rahul Gandhi in the 2019 polls, Irani won the seat for three consecutive terms. "On March 22, 2014, I received a call from Rajnath Singh at 11 pm that I have to go to Amethi and contest from there. I did not crib about it and took the challenge head on," she said. "When I went there, I saw there were 40 villages where no roads were constructed after Independence. In the last five years, I have constructed homes for one lakh families, 3.5 lakh toilets, and connected 4 lakh people to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme. Around two lakh

families received gas cylinders for the first time," Irani said. Irani was routed by KL Sharma in Amethi by over 1.6 lakh votes -- three times the margin she secured while defeating Rahul Gandhi in 2019.

SMRITI IRANI AS BJP'S DELHI CHIEF MINISTER FACE? When asked about speculation that she would be made the BJP's chief ministerial face for the Delhi polls, Irani sidestepped the question and said it was always a privilege to serve the people. "It has always been a privilege to serve the people. I have been an MP thrice and served as the head of five-six departments. I have also been the president of the BJP Mahila Morcha and the party national secretary," Irani said in a cryptic response.

allegations that the MP was never seen in Amethi, but she ensured that the constituency was never neglected and also bought a home there. The remarks are being seen as an indirect dig at Rahul Gandhi, who won the seat for three consecutive terms.

"On March 22, 2014, I received a call from Rajnath Singh at 11 pm that I have to go to Amethi and contest from there. I did not crib about it and took the challenge head on," she said. "When I went there, I saw there were 40 villages where no roads were constructed after Independence. In the last five years, I have constructed homes for one lakh families, 3.5 lakh toilets, and connected 4 lakh people to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme. Around two lakh

40 Chinese yaks, which had strayed onto Ladakh, returned to China

New Delhi: A total of 40 Chinese yaks that had strayed inside Ladakh near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) have been returned to China. A warning was also issued to the owners of these Yaks to not enter Indian territory. This incident highlights China's ongoing strategy of encroaching on land along the LAC using animals. The yaks had strayed into the Demchok area of eastern Ladakh in search of fodder. The incident was shared on social media by Chushul Councilor Konchok Tenzin on August 19, who noted that when Indian animals stray into Chinese territory, they are not returned. However, the Indian Army informed the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) about the incident as per established protocol, and the yaks were returned the next day.

Disputes over grazing lands in Ladakh have been common, as these areas are crucial for the local tribal communities who have grazed their animals there for



centuries. China has allegedly used local herders, disguised as soldiers and spies, to carry out activities in Indian territories. Whenever disputes over grazing lands arise, China claims that their animals have been grazing there for centuries, reinforcing their

territorial claims. The LAC area has witnessed an increase in such incidents, particularly since the 2020 stand-off between India and China.

The Indian Army had to close some grazing lands near the LAC, directing villagers to alternate locations. The number of livestock grazing in these areas decreased from 56,000 in 2019 to 28,000 in 2021 due to the disputes. However, in recent years, the number has risen back to around 58,000. There are about ten major grazing areas in Ladakh, including Chushul, Tara, Nyoma, Fukche, and Demchok, where Indian herders continue to graze their animals. Despite occasional face-offs and standoffs, China continues to send its herders and livestock into Indian territories to avoid direct confrontations.

Maharashtra school cleaner shows porn to girl, sexually assaults her; arrested

New Delhi: A man was arrested in Maharashtra's Nandurbar district for allegedly sexually assaulting and showing pornographic content to a girl student at a school. The accused, who used to work as a sanitation worker at the school, was arrested under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and POCSO Act after the parents of the girl student approached the police with a complaint. The incident came to light when the girl student shared it with her parents. A CCTV footage from inside the school also showed the accused handing over his phone to the girl student.



The school administration also terminated his services after taking cognisance of the incident. Speaking about the incident, Nandurbar's Superintendent of Police (SP) said, "On August 27, an incident occurred in a school in Nandurbar. A man working in the school showed pornographic content on his phone to a minor schoolgirl. Today, the girl student's family reached the police station and taking swift action, a case was filed at Nandurbar City Police Station and the accused has been arrested". Further investigation into the case was underway and the police is preparing to file the chargesheet against the accused at the earliest, the SP added. Earlier this month, Maharashtra's Badlapur was rocked by the sexual abuse of two kindergarten girls by a male attendant at a private school. The incident led to a massive protest, following which the Maharashtra government set up a special investigation team (SIT) to probe the case.

Ex IAS Officer Puja Khedkar Claims UPSC Doesn't Have Power To Disqualify Her

New Delhi: Former IAS probationer Puja Khedkar, who has been accused of cheating and wrongly securing OBC (Other Backward Class) and disability quota benefits, has told the Delhi High Court that the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) - which conducts the civil services exam - has no power to take disqualify her. The UPSC last month cancelled Puja Khedkar's candidature and debarred her from future exams. The Commission alleged that she misrepresented information in her application for the UPSC Civil Services Examination, 2022 to get reservation benefits. "Once selected and appointed as a Probationary Officer, UPSC does not have the power to disqualify the candidature," Puja Khedkar, who is seeking anticipatory bail in the criminal case against her, said in a response filed before the court on the UPSC's charges against her. She said that now only the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) of the Central Government can



take action against her. **Puja Khedkar On UPSC's 'Chnged Her Name' Charge** The UPSC has claimed that Puja Khedkar attempted the uber-competitive qualifying test more than the six times permitted for a general category candidate. She did so by changing her name, and that of her parents, which is why the Commission said it could not detect the violation. Puja Khedkar, however, refuted these allegations and said that there has been no change in her

name or surname from 2012 to 2022. She also said that she had not given any wrong information about herself to the UPSC. "UPSC verified my identity through biometric data. The Commission did not find my documents fake or incorrect. My educational certificate, Aadhaar card, date of birth, and other personal information were found to be absolutely correct," she told the court. "All the necessary verifications were also done by DoPT. As per DoPT, a medical board constituted by AIIMS conducted my medical examination. The board found my disability to be up to 47% and more than the 40% disability required for the PwBD (Person with Benchmark Disability) category," she said in her reply. **Puja Khedkar's 'Fraud' Not Only Against Us But Public Too: UPSC** The UPSC, earlier this month, opposed in the Delhi High Court an anticipatory bail petition by Puja Khedkar, saying she committed "fraud" against the

commission and the public. In its reply filed in court on August 21, the UPSC said Puja Khedkar's custodial interrogation was necessary to unearth the magnitude of the "fraud" that could not have been done without the help of other individuals. Therefore, her pre-arrest bail plea should be dismissed, it said. "The gravity of the fraud committed is unprecedented in nature having been committed against not only a constitutional body -- the complainant -- whose traditions are untrammelled and unparalleled but also against the public at large, including the citizens of this country who have utmost faith upon the credibility of the UPSC as well as persons who could not be appointed despite being duly eligible and qualified due to illegal means employed by the applicant to seek appointment," the UPSC said. The Delhi Police has also sought dismissal of the pre-arrest bail plea on the ground that any relief to her would hinder its probe into the "deep-rooted conspiracy" and that the case.



Though it is important for overall health, an overdose of this 'sunshine' vitamin can have ugly consequences



Why too much Vitamin D can be bad for you

Vitamin Supplements /capsules /tablets as advised by your doctor. "If taken in excess and high doses — for eg. above 4000 IUs everyday — for a long period of time, it may cause high levels of calcium in the blood. This increase in blood calcium may lead to hardening of arteries or Atherosclerosis, leading to blocked arteries. Other side effects of excessive intake of Vitamin D may be dryness in mouth, fatigue, weakness, headache and nausea among others," warns

Obesity leads to Vitamin D deficiency

There are plenty of health studies throwing light on the link between Vitamin D and weight, specifically, it being beneficial for weight loss. "It has been hypothesised that because Vitamin D is a fat soluble vitamin, it is hidden away and stored in fat tissues and muscles and then released slowly into the circulation. To summarise, obesity leads to Vitamin D deficiency and therefore an increase of the metabolic disorders too. Studies have also shown that calcium with Vitamin D supplementation has a small effect on prevention of weight gain in case of inadequate dietary intake," says GI laparoscopic surgeon and an obesity expert

So, if aiding your weight loss goal is your reason for self-prescribing Vitamin D, think again. Nutritionist Zainab Syed recommends supplementation of Vitamin D for weight loss only combined with moderate form of activity, a balanced diet and lifestyle modifications. "The first consultation is very important to know the patient's lifestyle, health concerns, etc. based on which I recommend a few diagnostic tests and then decide on their diet, supplementation and lifestyle modification," she says.

A lot has been said about the importance of Vitamin D or rather about the ill effects of its deficiency, which could include symptoms like weakness, poor concentration, restless sleep, weight gain, headaches, etc. Therefore, it's not surprising to find people compensating for it through self-medication of the same. Also, it's inexpensive (cost varies from Rs 34 for an injection to Rs 46 for tablets and Rs 63 for a suspension approximately) and can be easily purchased over-the-counter. If you too are guilty of the same, you better stop doing it with immediate effect. Why, you may ask? Read on to find out more.

Case 1: Neeta Tejuja (name changed), a 27-year-old media executive began taking Vitamin D, courtesy of her friend who told her about its numerous health benefits. She began taking it in the form of suspension (a suspension is a liquid with small pieces of drug) once every 10 days, until she casually happened to ask her doctor about it who asked her to refrain from doing so.

Case 2: Afshan Qureshi (name changed), 32-year-old lawyer read about the downside of deficiency of Vitamin D and self-diagnosed herself as being deficient due to fatigue, improper sleep and some weight gain. But that was probably because of her stressful job and eating fast food on the go. Nevertheless,

Afshan began taking Vitamin D sachets once a week.

Daily ideal requirement

An ideal daily requirement of Vitamin D for our body usually depends upon one's age. Interventional cardiologist Dr Haresh Mehta says that generally accepted figures are 400-600 IUs (International Units) in most people up to the age of 70. However, this requirement may increase beyond this age and go up to 800 and 1000 IUs. And, in case of deficiencies or certain illnesses, it can even go up to 1000 to 2000 IUs per day.

Don't self-diagnose

Reading about symptoms of Vitamin D on the internet or based on hearsay, and matching them with your general well-being is not a good/correct way to determine deficiency of Vitamin D. For this, it's best you consult a doctor who will prescribe test based on your health concerns. Ideally, the 25-hydroxy Vitamin D test is a good way to determine Vitamin D levels in the body.

Do not self-medicate

Now that you got the low down on Vitamin D, don't rush to your nearest drug store to buy it and self-medicate. "It is very unsafe to take Vitamin D or any supplement without consulting a doctor or health practitioner as there have been cases where patients have shown toxic levels of Vitamin D in their blood," warns Syed.

If there's a deficiency, you must certainly look for

Eat with ease for weight loss

Everybody wants to look good. Today we see people doing crash diets and fad diets; people go in for weight loss pills and even go to the extent of going under the knife just to lose that extra weight.

Today I'll share a simple secret that not many are aware of, it's a simple and effective measure that can go a long way in helping and working towards achieving your weight loss goals.

Though any kind of exercise/workout is a very important factor in the process of weight loss it is also the food that we eat. It is not only the kind of food that one consumes but also the way one eats that affects the body weight. The answer to ones weight loss worries lies in simply 'eating slowly and with ease'. It's not about starving oneself with diets but eating healthy food in the required quantity as per our body's needs. Unbelievable but true. So why should one eat

slowly?

Well, eating fast leads to eating more in less time. When we eat slowly, we feel satisfied and tend to eat less because our senses are more alert and send the signals to the brain saying the stomach is full. For the record a normal human needs only a fistful of food for one meal, that's the size of our stomach. In this way we can end a meal when we're actually satisfied instead of stuffed. Scientists have said that the very sight or smell of food sets about the brain activity that delivers the signal that we have eaten enough. It takes about twenty minutes into the meal, for this whole process to be completed and for our brain to get the signals from the digestive system that we are 'full'. Therefore when we eat fast or in a hurry we tend to stuff

ourselves more than required. By the time our brain sends its signals we would have already finished eating way more than what we should have in the same time span. That is why eating slowly helps. This way we provide sufficient time for effective communication to occur between these vital body systems.

Benefits of eating slowly:

Eating slowly has its own benefits as well, it aids in improving the digestion and absorption of nutrients fully as the process of digesting food begins in the mouth as we chew. When we chew our food properly and slowly our stomach doesn't have an overload of digesting food since the food is already broken down into a simpler form and thus the nutrients are absorbed faster and there are less digestive ailments. Strangely eating slowly also aids in reducing the stress level and also helps rapidly in weight loss. Eating at a slow pace and focusing on what and how much we put into our mouth can directly impact our stress levels. Eating with soft music instead of fast or blaring music helps you calm down and focus on the food thus aiding in eating slowly which impacts on your daily calorie intake helping you reducing weight.

Back pain is one of the most common fallouts of everyday life. But even dumping your heels and stretching may not help your spine. New research shows that a vast majority of backaches are the result of cumulative effects of lifestyle that we often ignore. Simple daily habits such as hunching to read your smart phone or slouching in front of your computer can, over time, strain your spine and the surrounding muscles, leaving you vulnerable to serious back injury. Here are the habits to watch out for:

Sitting still

Forget heavy lifting — sitting hunched over a computer all day is poison for your back. Research has found that people with desk jobs suffer more back pain than those working in manual jobs. Using your joints and spine strengthens them, reducing risk of injury. But inactivity weakens them, which makes you more prone to problems.

Fix it: Get up and walk around for two minutes, at least once an hour, and improve your posture while you're sitting down. Aim for a "neutral spine position", in which everything is in line, with no strain spots. Your shoulders should be relaxed, feet flat on the floor, and eyes in line with the middle of your screen.

Sneezing

This seemingly innocuous, activity is apparently a very common cause of back pain — thanks to its sheer



force. A sneeze's speed of release can be up to 100 miles per hour, and our first instinct is to cover our faces and turn away. According to Janet Wakley, author of The Smart Guide to Back Care, this instinctive turn is terrible for our backs. "Spontaneously twisting to the side, combined with the force used by the chest muscles to sneeze, can wrench back muscles in a second," she says. **Fix it:** Turn your body when you're about to sneeze, so that your back remains straight. Wearing high heels, pumps Yes, tottering in high heels for long periods can make your back sore, but too much time in the wrong flats can do just as much damage. Heels cause

problems because they force your foot forward, altering your body's angle. Since your weight isn't evenly distributed over the spine, it can trigger pain from your knees all the way up to your back. But ballet pumps and flip-flops aren't any better as they allow your foot to slide around. The lack of stability that this causes puts pressure on your spine. **Fix it:** Ensure your shoe holds your foot firmly in place. Alternate between high heels, mids and flats. By wearing different shoes every day, you lessen your chance of experiencing long-term problems caused by using only one type of shoe.

Your favourite bra Figures suggest 80 per cent women wear an ill-fitting bra. This can cause several muscular problems. A bad bra can lead to hunching and sore neck and back muscles, while one that gives proper support can minimise that forward hunch and relieve pain.

Fix it: Get measured by a trained bra-fitter. Go for styles with wider shoulder straps or a racer-style back, which offer better support and draw you to pull your shoulders back.

Your pot belly

Even an extra couple of pounds around your middle makes your pelvis tilt forward. This puts it out of alignment as your body works to rebalance itself. Also, this means that your spine isn't getting enough support from your abdominal muscles, which can cause excessive strain on your lower back.

Fix it: Don't do sit-ups — they won't flatten your tummy if there's fat on top. Fat-burning cardiovascular exercises, such as running or swimming, for 45 minutes, three times a week, are more effective at shifting the bulge.

Your Smartphone The head-down position that you use to look at phones, iPads and laptops strains the muscles in the neck and the pain can extend to your lower back. Using them for hours on end means your body will eventually start to adopt this hunched position.

Fix it: Make sure you take frequent screen breaks. Try to look straight ahead and not down at your screen.



Stock Market Updates: Sensex, Nifty Trade Marginally Lower; Banking Stocks Drag

New Delhi. The Indian benchmark indices BSE Sensex and Nifty 50 opened in the red on Thursday, tracking weakness in the overnight US market following Nvidia's results.

At opening bell, the BSE Sensex was down 0.08 per cent at 81,717, while the Nifty 50 was at 25,023, down 0.11 per cent. Meanwhile, investors in the domestic market would also have their eyes peeled for the Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Annual General Meeting, scheduled for today afternoon.

In the Asia-Pacific markets, UBS, on Wednesday, cut its 2024 GDP growth forecast for China to 4.6 per cent from 4.9 per cent which may weigh on investors' minds. The US markets closed lower on Wednesday, with the S&P 500 finishing down 0.60 per cent, while the Nasdaq Composite up 1.12 per cent. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slipped 0.39 per cent.

Stocks in Asia slipped as Nvidia Corp. earnings lacked the wow factor to impress investors, while Chinese results helped extend a selloff in the country's tech companies. MSCI's Asia-Pacific gauge declined 0.5 per cent, dragged by chipmakers Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and SK Hynix Inc. A gauge of Chinese tech stocks fell more than 2 per cent in Hong Kong. Nvidia slumped more than 8 per cent in post-market trading following a sales forecast that disappointed some on Wall Street.

Japan's Nikkei shed 0.45 per cent, Australia's ASX200 0.6 per cent, and South Korea's Kospi 0.78 per cent.

Gold, silver price : Precious metals record hike on MCX

New Delhi. Both gold and silver prices recorded a hike on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) on Thursday, August 29, 2024. Gold futures, maturing on October 4, 2024, stood at Rs 71,970 per 10 grams on the MCX, after recording a jump of Rs 227 or 0.32 per cent. The previous close was recorded at Rs 71,743.

Meanwhile, silver futures, maturing on September 5, 2024, witnessed a marginal hike of Rs 513 or 0.61 per cent and were retailing at Rs 84,490 per kg on the MCX against the previous close of Rs 83,997. 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.

Sensex, Nifty open flat as weak global cues trigger profit booking

NEW DELHI. Benchmark stock market indices opened flat on Tuesday as global cues and consequent weak openings led to profit bookings. The S&P BSE Sensex added 10.01 points to 81,795.57, while the NSE Nifty50 gained 6.05 points to 25,058.40 as of 9:35 AM. Dr V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services said that weak global cues and the consequent weak openings have proved to be opportunities to buy in the domestic market. Leading the gainers was Bajaj Finserv with an increase of 1.93%. Bajaj Finance followed with a rise of 0.94%, while Bajaj Auto climbed 0.81%. Shriram Finance and Wipro rounded out the top gainers, both advancing 0.79%. On the downside, Hindalco experienced the largest decline, dropping 1.09%. UltraTech Cement followed with a fall of 0.88%, while Dr. Reddy's Laboratories slipped 0.82%. Grasim Industries and LTIMindtree also faced losses, declining by 0.76% and 0.72% respectively. This pattern may persist. A significant feature of the near-term market trend is that it is resilient and steadily moving up without sharp spurts thereby preventing a spike in valuations in the largecap category. The recent accumulation of IT stocks stems from the confidence that the soft landing scenario in the US economy will lead to execution of the orders on which the IT companies have been sitting for some time now," he said. He further added that SEBI's advisory to investors to be vigilant in investment in SME stocks is timely. Investors should heed the warning from the regulator that many SMEs are "projecting an unrealistic picture of their operations."

Steel prices decline amid sluggish demand

NEW DELHI. Steel prices in India have fallen sharply over the past three-and-a-half years, reflecting a major downturn, driven by sluggish domestic demand and increased imports. As of August 2024, prices for cold rolled steel (CRT) stood at Rs 57,400 per tonne, down from Rs 71,000 in December 2021. Similarly, hot rolled coil (HRC) steel prices fell about 24% to Rs 50,300 per tonne, compared to Rs 66,000 in late 2021, as per BigMint, a platform for price reporting. Experts say the decline in prices can be attributed to multiple factors, mainly lack of robust demand both domestically and internationally. Experts note that a decrease in raw material costs has contributed to downward pressure on steel prices. Steel imports from countries such as South Korea, China, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Japan has exacerbated the situation, as global suppliers have sought to offload excess inventory in the Indian market.

In response to these challenges, the Indian government recently initiated anti-dumping probe against Vietnam, even as existing duties on Chinese steel have not significantly mitigated the impact of lower-priced imports from China. As per experts, anti-dumping probe is unlikely to have a substantial impact in view of high levels of inventory and the fact that domestic production and imports have outpaced demand.

"The price decline is an issue - but it's almost entirely attributable to the massive excess capacity in the Chinese market, combined with Vietnamese manufacturers being affected by steep fall in domestic steel demand of China," said Mukund Pant, Managing Director at Metal Power Analytical.

Reliance AGM: 5 top expectations to watch out for, where to watch

New Delhi. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is set to hold its 47th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday with all eyes on it as details about a lot of crucial plans are expected to be shared today. The virtual meeting will begin at 2:00 PM and Mukesh Ambani, the Chairman of RIL, will address shareholders and provide updates on several important aspects of the company's operations.

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Top 5 things to expect from RIL AGM

Reliance Jio and Reliance Retail IPOs: Investors are keen to hear about the timelines for the initial public offerings (IPOs) of Reliance Jio and Reliance Retail. During the AGM five years ago, it was announced that these IPOs would be listed on stock exchanges within this period. Analysts are now expecting a concrete announcement about when these listings will occur, with Reliance Jio potentially valued at \$112 billion.

Stake sale in Oil-to-Chemicals (O2C) business: The market anticipates RIL to outline a strategy for selling stakes in its Oil-to-Chemicals (O2C) division. Details regarding potential bids or buyers for this stake sale are expected to be shared by



Mukesh Ambani during the AGM.

"Reliance is in transition phase. Over the next 2 years, we expect earnings growth will be driven by telecoms & retail, while O2C business will see consolidation with profit growth. Overall we expect EPS to grow by 20% CAGR to FY26. Key catalysts include new spin-offs & improving free cash flow as the capex cycle turns and new energy

announcements," said Rahul Malhotra, analyst at Bernstein. Updates on solar manufacturing: RIL's focus on new energy, particularly its solar cell and module manufacturing project, is a significant point of interest. In the financial year 2024, RIL invested \$1 billion in this sector. Shareholders will be looking for updates on progress and future investments in this area. 5G Rollout

and monetisation: With Reliance Jio's recent tariff hikes, there is speculation about the monetisation of its 5G services. Investors will be keen to hear about the progress of the 5G rollout, including plans for growth and acceleration in the coming year. "Jio's growth is driven by its expanding 5G user base, increasing data consumption, and tariff hikes. RIL is currently trading at a P/E multiple of around 30, while its telecom sector peer, Bharti Airtel, is trading at a P/E multiple of over 70. This disparity indicates a significant value creation opportunity if a public issue occurs," said Amar Nandu, Research Analyst, SAMCO. Leadership transition: Mukesh Ambani's succession plan, which includes his children—Isha, Akash, and Anant Ambani—taking on key roles, will also be under the spotlight. The AGM is expected to provide further details on how these leadership changes will impact the company's future.

How to watch the Reliance AGM You can follow the Reliance AGM live updates on the India Today website by clicking here. Shareholders and interested viewers can join the AGM at 2:00 PM (IST) through JioMeet by following these steps:

Berkshire Hathaway becomes first non-tech US firm to hit \$1 trillion market cap

New Delhi. Warren Buffett's conglomerate, Berkshire Hathaway, reached an important milestone by becoming the first US company outside the technology sector to surpass a market value of \$1 trillion. The company's shares rose by 0.8%, pushing its market capitalisation above the trillion-dollar mark for the first time on Wednesday. The company's stocks have climbed 30% in 2024, outperforming the S&P 500's gain of 18% so far. This surge has added more than \$200 billion to Berkshire's market capitalisation this year alone, a record for the firm. However, it's a huge contrast to the nearly \$2 trillion increase in value seen by Nvidia, another market giant.

Berkshire Hathaway, based in Omaha, Nebraska, now joins a select group of companies that have reached this milestone, a group previously dominated by technology giants like Alphabet Inc., Meta Platforms Inc., and Nvidia Corp. Although Berkshire is not a tech firm, its stock performance this year is not far behind the so-called 'Magnificent Seven,' which refers to the top tech stocks, up 35% in



2024. Warren Buffett, often regarded as one of the greatest investors of all time, has spent decades transforming Berkshire Hathaway from its origins as a textile manufacturer into a sprawling business empire. He accomplished this alongside his longtime business partner, Charlie Munger, who passed away in November at the age of 99. Berkshire Hathaway's performance over the years is evident in its market value growth, which has averaged around 20% annually from 1965 through 2023, nearly double the average annual return of the S&P 500. This consistent growth has made Buffett one of the richest individuals in the world and solidified his reputation as a prolific investor.

The recent surge in Berkshire's market

value comes amid growing optimism about the US economy. With the Federal Reserve expected to cut interest rates in its September meeting, consumer confidence has reached a six-month high in August. However, lower interest rates could impact returns on Berkshire's substantial cash reserves, which stood at about \$276.9 billion at the end of the second quarter. A significant portion of this cash reserve was accumulated after Berkshire reduced its stake in Apple Inc., the iPhone maker, a move that surprised many. Apple has long been considered a cornerstone of Berkshire's investment portfolio, and Buffett himself had referred to Apple as the "pillar" of Berkshire's business. Despite the reduction, Apple CEO Tim Cook has stated that he still considers it a privilege to have Berkshire as a major shareholder. Berkshire Hathaway's strength is further highlighted by its recent financial performance. The company reported a record quarterly profit in the first quarter of 2024, driven by a significant increase in income from its insurance underwriting business.

Resourceful Automobile shares list flat at issue price despite huge bidding

Resourceful Automobile listing: The stock, which attracted bids worth Rs 4,800 crore for its Rs 12 crore IPO, was listed at its exact IPO price of Rs 117 per share.

New Delhi Shares of Resourceful Automobile, an SME IPO that created a buzz on social media due to its high subscription rate, made a flat debut on the stock exchanges. Resourceful Automobile attracted bids worth Rs 4,800 crore for its Rs 12 crore IPO, and has listed at its issue price of Rs 117 per share. The grey market premium ahead of the listing suggested gains but has proved to be wrong with its shares listing flat on the D-Street. The Resourceful Automobile IPO was subscribed 418.82 times overall, with retail investors leading the charge at 496.22 times subscription, while the "Other" category saw a 315.61 times subscription by August 26, 2024. These figures were strikingly high for a Small Medium Enterprise (SME) IPO, raising questions about what drove this level of interest.



Based in Delhi, the company focusses on the sale and servicing of Yamaha motorcycles and scooters. It operates with a small team of eight employees: three handle finance and legal responsibilities, two are in charge of sales and marketing, one manages HR and administration, and the remaining two oversee operations.

The listing follows a recent warning from the market regulator Sebi, which advised investors against depending on tips and social media sources before investing in SME stocks.

Sebi cautioned that certain SME companies might present an exaggerated view of their operations after listing, often accompanied by actions such as bonus issues, stock splits, and preferential allotments.

Amazon to make entry into quick commerce space

BENGALURU. After Flipkart, e-commerce giant Amazon is reportedly planning to enter quick commerce space soon, which is dominated by Zomato-owned Blinkit, Swiggy Instamart and Zepto. Flipkart recently entered the space with 'Minutes' service. According to reports, e-commerce platform BigBasket is also planning to enter the quick commerce space as there has been demand for quick deliveries. When asked Amazon about its plans, its spokesperson said, "We don't comment on speculations."

Ratna Mehta, chief executive officer and Managing Partner, Fundalogical Ventures, told this newspaper that as customer preferences change, market places as well as brands are seriously thinking about quick commerce.

A couple of years ago, many venture

capitalists were questioning the quick commerce model, but the view has been changing now. "Blinkit has shaped up its business with a sharp



focus on operations, flawless customer service and eye on profitability. They are proving that quick commerce can become profitable," he said.

As players such as Amazon and Flipkart

are planning to enter, it will be interesting to see this space in the next two-three years, he added.

Redseer predicts a 40-45% GMV CAGR for q-commerce in the next 3 years. "The average monthly transacting users of quick commerce still stand at 1/3rd of online food delivery and 1/4th of online mobility, thereby leaving headroom for growth, given the high consumer overlap with these sectors," it recently said. Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal on August 22 came down heavily on Amazon alleging that it is practicing predatory prices.

However later in the day, he said the government is not against e-commerce and only wants fair competition between online and offline businesses.

RBI's Global Mission: UPI, RuPay Expansion Plans Revealed By Guv Shaktikanta Das

NEW DELHI. Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said the central bank is focused on making the UPI and RuPay 'truly global' and asked financial institutions and fintech startups to adapt robust frameworks to capitalise on the new opportunities while mitigating connected risks. Speaking at the Global Fintech Fest 2024, the governor said digital financial inclusion, digital public infrastructure (DPI), consumer protection and cyber security, sustainable finance, and global integration and cooperation are the five priority areas for the Reserve Bank. Das said strengthening financial infrastructure, including cross-border payment systems, will be key focus areas as India, with its tech talent and evolved fintech ecosystem, holds the potential to serve as a global hub for digital innovation and fintech startups.

Building and strengthening strategic partnerships, reinforcing the commitment to international cooperation, and developing institutions of excellence in the areas of technology and innovation across a wide spectrum of areas, including financial services, would

give the right impetus for our journey towards 2047, he added. "Based on the encouraging response we have received from several jurisdictions, we are now focusing on making the UPI and RuPay truly global," Das said. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is an instant real-time payment system to facilitate inter-bank transactions through mobile phones, while RuPay is a domestically designed global card payment network.

India's CBDC, which is in the pilot stage, is another example of possible international cooperation, Das said, adding that the RBI is now utilising features like programmability to provide credit or government assistance to landless tenant farmers and carbon credits to farmers through CBDC. "While we have successfully demonstrated the interoperability of CBDC with retail fast payment systems like UPI, we continue to gain from our experimentation on off-line solutions. As we make progress, we would be happy to cooperate with other nations in their CBDC efforts," the governor said. Das also touched upon the regulatory approach for the fintech sector. "Sustainable and orderly development of the fintech sector



requires an appropriate balance between innovation and prudence. Our endeavour is to carefully craft regulations to achieve this delicate balance, while simultaneously ensuring trust, security, accessibility, risk management and competition," he said. Emphasising that developing a mindset that anticipates disruption and embraces change with prudence becomes very important, Das said, "Financial institutions and FinTech startups alike must, therefore, adapt swiftly, leveraging agile strategies and robust frameworks to capitalise on the new opportunities while mitigating the

connected risks". Publicly available information places the number of FinTechs founded in India at approximately eleven thousand (11,000). The sector has received investments of about USD 6 billion in the last two years alone, Das said. He further said a preferred approach for achieving balance between innovation and prudent regulation involves self-regulation within the fintech sector. Self-regulatory organisations (SROs), comprising industry participants and having a good understanding of the sector's unique challenges and opportunities, would be in a position to give appropriate suggestions to the regulators on regulations that are both practical and effective. The RBI has received 3 applications for recognition as a Self-Regulatory Organisation(s) in the FinTech Sector (SRO-FT). The central bank has decided to recognise the Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) as an SRO-FT.

"Of the remaining two applications, one application has been returned with a provision for resubmission after meeting certain requirements.

NEWS BOX

Paris Paralympics India schedule Day 1: Full list of day-wise events and timings

New Delhi. After a two-week break, Paris is set to host the world's top athletes once again as the 2024 Paralympic Games kick off on Wednesday. The Paris 2024 Paralympics will see India participating with its largest-ever contingent, comprising 84 athletes competing across 12 sports. This formidable lineup is poised to make a strong impact and aims to surpass the record-breaking performance of the previous games in Tokyo. Amongst the notable athletes representing India are Sumit Antil, Avani Lekhara, Manish Narwal, and Krishna Nagar, all of whom will be defending their titles and vying for gold once again.

India's para-athletes have a packed schedule on Thursday, starting at noon with multiple para-badminton matches. Nitesh Kumar and Thulasimathi Murugesan will face Suhas Yathiraj and Palak Kohli in a mixed doubles SL3-SU5 group-stage match. Simultaneously, Suhas Yathiraj will compete against Indonesia's Hikmat Ramdani in the men's singles SL4 group



stage. Another mixed doubles event will see Sivaranjan Solaimalai and Nithya Sre Sivan taking on USA's Miles Krajewski and Jayci Simon in the SH6 group stage. In para taekwondo, Aruna Tanwar is set to compete against Turkey's Nurcihan Ekinci in the women's K44-47kg round of 16 at 1:30 PM, with the medal matches scheduled for around 10:40 PM. The afternoon will feature several more para badminton matches, including Mandeep Kaur against Nigeria's Eniola Bolaji and Manasi Joshi facing Qonitah Syakuroh in the women's singles SL3 category. Sukant Kadam, Tarun Dhillon, and Nitesh Kumar will also participate in men's singles SL4 and SL3 matches throughout the afternoon. In the afternoon, para-cycling starts at 4:25 PM with Jyoti Gaderiya competing in the women's C1-3 3000m individual pursuit qualification, and medal races will follow at 7:55 PM. At the same time, para archers like Sheetal Devi, Sarita, and Harvinder Singh will compete in their ranking rounds.

Kylian Mbappe's X hacked: Statements on Ronaldo-Messi and Manchester United

New Delhi Kylian Mbappé, Real Madrid's star forward, found himself at the centre of controversy on August 29 when his X (formerly Twitter) account was hacked. A series of provocative tweets were posted from his handle, drawing widespread attention in the football community. These posts fuelled the long-standing rivalry between Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi. The hacked account didn't stop at this rivalry, however. It also included critical remarks about prominent Premier League teams, including Manchester United, Manchester City, and Tottenham Hotspur. These posts, like the others, were controversial and quickly became a talking point among



football enthusiasts. Fortunately, they were removed shortly after being published. Mbappé, who recently joined Real Madrid in the summer of 2024 after years of speculation, has had a mixed start to his career in Spain. Despite scoring on his competitive debut in the UEFA Super Cup, the Frenchman has struggled to find consistent form during his early days at the Santiago Bernabéu. The hacking incident only adds to the challenges he faces as he seeks to establish himself as a key player for Los Blancos.

Here is a look at all the deleted tweets-Mbappé's stint with Real Madrid
Real Madrid's head coach, Carlo Ancelotti, has dismissed concerns over Mbappé's recent performances, expressing confidence that the forward will soon hit his stride. However, the hacking incident serves as a stark reminder of the constant pressures faced by top footballers. Even the slightest misstep, or in this case, an incident outside their control, can quickly turn into a significant issue. "His last goal was on August 14th. It has only been two weeks since, that is no reason to worry.

Sanjay Manjrekar Questions Rohit, Kohli and Bumrah Exclusion From Duleep Trophy, Says 'I See Them as Well-Rested Players'

New Delhi. The former Indian cricketer, Sanjay Manjrekar believes that the Indian trio could have taken part in the domestic tournament. He revealed some interesting stats which indicated that the three men have had more than enough rest regularly to be included in the tournament comprising of some of the senior team stars, hopefuls and possible prospects. In a post on Manjrekar's official handle on X (formerly known as Twitter), the former Indian batter said, "India has played 249 international matches in the last 5 years. Rohit has played only 59% of those. Virat 61% & Bumrah 34%. I see them as well-rested India players. Could have been selected for the Duleep trophy". The trio are key members of the Indian team across all three formats. The selectors have likely opted against their participation considering the international games coming up with the headline event being the Border-Gavaskar Trophy set to take place in November, later this year. But Manjrekar does not see it that way and wants to see the three take part in the domestic tournament. It is to be noted that the likes of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli are coming to their final chapters in their career while Bumrah being India's most prized asset in the bowling department has had his fair share of injury concerns,



thus opting to manage his workload. Earlier the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had released the mandate that those who are not on national duty would be expected to take part in domestic cricket. This would have led to the expectations that the quality within India's domestic scene would increase after seeing international stars representing their states, but that might not be the case for the moment when it comes to the senior Indian players. India's next assignment will be their two-match Test series against Bangladesh which is set to take place in Chennai and Kanpur respectively. This would be followed by the three-match T20I series. The Indian team will also take on New Zealand at home followed by their tour to Australia to defend the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2024.

Karn Sharma recalls Virat Kohli's brave decision to chase 364 on Day 5 in

India and RCB spinner Karn Sharma recalled former India captain Virat Kohli's decision to chase down 364 on the final day of the Adelaide Test in 2014.



New Delhi. India and RCB wrist spinner Karn Sharma recently recalled Virat Kohli's brave Test captaincy debut in Australia 2014. Notably, Kohli captained India in the first Test of the series in Adelaide with regular skipper MS Dhoni not playing the game due to an injury. The Delhi-born batter had a great start to his captaincy career as he notched up twin hundreds on his captaincy debut becoming just the second player to do so after Greg Chappell. Karn Sharma was also a part of the team in Australia as he made his debut in Australia as he played the Adelaide Test. Recalling the game, the 36-year-old said that the dressing room atmosphere was good with the presence of head coach Ravi

Shastri. Sharma also spoke about Kohli's brave call of going after chasing 364 on the final day saying that it injected positivity in the team. "Making my Test debut against Australia in Australia will always remain special. Very few people get that type of start. The dressing room atmosphere was quite good. Ravi Shastri, the coach, was there. We were chasing over 300 runs in that match and Virat said 'no draw. We are going to chase it down.' That injected a lot of positivity among players in the dressing room," Sharma said on second innings with Manjot Kalra. Further speaking ahead, Sharma hailed Kohli for his approach and the positive impact it had on the players.

"It was a different approach. Different captains have different approaches, but ever since he said we are chasing over 300 in the fourth innings of a Test - which was very tough in Australian conditions - it sent a wonderful indication to the players in the dressing room that your captain has different plans," he added.

India's heartbreaking loss in Adelaide Coming back to the Adelaide Test, after Australia's overnight declaration, India required 364 runs to win on the final day. Kohli joined Murali Vijay at the crease at the crease with India on 57/2 and the duo got involved in a 185-run stand for the third wicket. Vijay departed on 99 by Nathan Lyon who also dismissed Ajinkya Rahane for a duck. At one stage, India required 87 runs having six wickets in hand. However, Lyon's vicious spin led to India's undoing on the final day as they got all out for 315 losing the match by 48 runs. Kohli's valiant knock of 141 went in vain as he lost his first Test as captain. However, the match gave a glimpse of how Kohli would go about his business as a full time skipper in the years to come as he led Indian Test team to unprecedented heights under his tenure.

US Open 2024: Tiafoe advises on dealing with online abuse after Garcia's revelation

New Delhi Caroline Garcia, a semi-finalist of US Open 2022, recently opened up about some of the derogatory online messages she has been receiving on social media after her recent losses. She pointed out "unhealthy betting" being one of the reasons for players getting targeted. American tennis player Frances Tiafoe addressed the issue and gave his advice on dealing with online abuse. He said not to worry about what people say who follow their lives and rather focus on improving as a player. "I get it. I've been getting cooked for a long time. It's never good. People are saying outlandish stuff. It's just wild. You know, you have players working all their lives trying to compete at the highest level. You don't know peoples circumstances, what they're going through, and how this affects people," Tiafoe told the media during US Open 2024. Tiafoe resonates with Garcia



The 30-year-old Garcia from France, who was once ranked as high as No. 4, arrived at Flushing Meadows as 28th seed. However, she was eliminated by Renata Zarazua 6-1, 6-4 in the first round of US Open 2024 itself. The 92nd ranked Zarazua is making her US Open debut. After her first round exit, Garcia shared the online hate which she has been receiving. "The biggest thing I would tell players, other colleagues, men,

women— these people are going to follow your life regardless. Don't hang your head so low on these things. They follow your life. You don't care about anything they do. They'll continue to follow your life. You're the important person. Be more upset about the loss or tough time you're actually gonna through," Tiafoe advised. Garcia upset with the online hate The American tennis player's mantra was simple and that is 'to not care' and he wanted every athlete receiving hate to apply this to their lives. "Don't let your mood get even worse because of people you don't know & don't care about their opinions that put you in the gutter. It's already hard enough. That's the biggest thing I would say. But again, I'm not gonna say it's an easy thing. Personally, I don't care. It doesn't bother me. But I get why it bothers people."

UEFA Champions League: Everything you need to know about the new format

NEW DELHI. The UEFA Champions League draw for the 2024/25 season is set to take place on Thursday in Monaco. The competition has undergone significant changes, with the number of participating clubs increasing from 32 to 36. France's Ligue 1 has been granted an additional automatic qualification spot, bringing their total to three, as they are currently the fifth-best European league according to UEFA's ranking. Furthermore, Germany and Italy, the two leagues with the highest coefficient ranking from the previous season in UEFA competition, have each been awarded an extra berth. The final additional slot will be given to a national champion emerging from the qualifying rounds, which are scheduled to conclude this midweek. The format of the Champions League has undergone a radical change. Since 2003, the competition featured 32 clubs divided into eight groups of four, with the top two from each section progressing to the last 16. However, starting from this season, the 36 clubs will be pooled together in a single league, following a "Swiss system" format, which is more commonly associated with chess tournaments. The Champions League group stage has undergone significant changes. Previously, teams played six matches against each opponent, both home and away. Under the new format, clubs will participate in eight games.

US Open 2024: 'Shirtless' Musetti's five-set win, Casper Ruud beats Gael Monfils

New Delhi. Euphoric scenes erupted at Flushing Meadows as Lorenzo Musetti celebrated his round 2 win at the US Open 2024 by taking off his shirt. The Italian showcased his prowess against Miomir Kecmanovic to register a five-set win with a score of 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 7-5. In another round 2 contest, Casper Ruud beat Gael Monfils 6-4, 6-2, 2-6, 7-6 (3) to reach the next round. The No. 8 seeded Ruud will face China's Juncheng Shang next in the round three of the US Open 2024.

Musetti battled through the tough conditions to reverse his fortunes in round 2. He faced two match points at 4-5 in the fifth set of the match and rallied his way to win a five-setter. Kecmanovic held two match points but was not able to gain control of the point on either occasion. Musetti faced an opening set deficit, and then he bagged the next two sets. However, Kecmanovic wasn't done.

Watch: Musetti goes shirtless, flaunts abs
The Serbian levelled the match by claiming the fourth set, and forced a decider. Kecmanovic showcased resistance, but the Italian prevailed in the end, giving an action-packed contest. Musetti finished the match with 51



winners and he converted six of his 13 break points. He took off his t-shirt in front of the New York crowd and flaunted his abs and roared while receiving loud cheers from the crowd. This year has turned out to be great for Musetti, who reached the semi-final of Wimbledon 2024 and won a bronze medal in the men's singles event at the Paris Olympics 2024. Ruud reaches round 3 Norwegian Ruud edged past Frenchman Monfils to reach the round three of US Open 2024. The No. 8 seeded outmatched the world no. 45 Monfils with a scoreline of 6-4, 6-2, 2-6, 7-3(6) in a contest that lasted for 2 hours and 53 minutes. Casper could not save any break points in the match but retaliated against Monfils. This was the 46th win of the year for the semi-finalist of the US Open 2022.

Lionel Messi returns to practice with Inter Miami as he recovers from ankle injury

Lionel Messi has returned to the Inter Miami squad for group training as he continues to recover from a high-ankle injury which he suffered during the Copa America final.

in Major League Soccer so far this season. Messi was also not selected by Argentina to play in World Cup qualifiers in early September. Meanwhile, Inter Miami will visit Chicago this Saturday and will return to play the league match with Philadelphia on September 14. If Messi doesn't participate in this game, he will have two more weeks to continue his rehab before returning to game action. "To see him on the field is great," Inter Miami goalkeeper Drake Callender said after the Wednesday workout. "I know he's been getting treatment every single day, training every single day. He's dealt with things before. He's been there, done that and he's still doing it at the highest level. To see him recoup from the kind of injury we saw at Copa America and be available for us this season, it goes to show the quality of care we have here." When can



Messi make comeback?

"To be able to get him back," Callender said, "it's going to be huge." "There were specific drills that we devised that would allow him a certain level of participation," coach Tata Martino told The Outlet. "But he still does not have medical clearance (to play)." Martino said there is no change to the timetable that Messi will return to action sometime before the end of the regular season on October 19 against the New England Revolution. Messi's ankle injury The 37-year-old has been away from action after suffering a high ankle injury on July 14 while playing the Copa America final for Argentina against Colombia. He has 12 goals and 13 assists in 12 Major League Soccer games for Inter Miami this season. He missed 14 of the club's league matches, which also included the last eight as he was playing for Argentina and then recovering from injury.



Sharvari Wagh

BREAKS Silence On Vedaa's Poor Box Office Collection: 'It's Only My Third Film, I'm Still...'

John Abraham made a comeback as a full-fledged hero in the film Vedaa, alongside Sharvari Wagh. However, the Nikkhil Advani directorial venture didn't perform well at the box office. The film was released on August 15 and faced stiff competition from Shradha Kapoor starrer juggernaut, Stree 2. Vedaa also clashed with Akshay Kumar's Khel Khel Mein and this three-way box office battle proved detrimental for the film. The film managed to earn Rs 19.25 cro till now. Sharvari Wagh has now reacted to the film's performance. "Honestly, there are two different ways of looking at this. For me, I think in Vedaa, my heart was in the role and the performance had its heart in the right

of it. I really feel that the film place. Now business decisions, whether things work or not are beyond me because this is only my third film in theatres. So, that is something I am still learning, and I am still a student of understanding how this translates and what is the right thing in terms of business," she told the Hindustan Times. She added, "I think this role was very difficult, and challenging and very out of my comfort zone. So, when I got audience love for it, I was satisfied because I took a little leap of faith in my performance. It could have gone a hundred other ways. For it to have gone in the right way for me is a big win. I haven't done drama, which is also very difficult, and this was a big success for me." Actor Abhishek Banerjee, who plays the antagonist in the film, exclusively spoke to News18 about Vedaa's box office numbers. Abhishek also plays Jana in Stree 2, which is proving to be a runaway hit this year. "As an actor, it's a bittersweet experience. Nikkhil Advani has directed a beautiful film. I saw 60 per cent occupancy for Vedaa in metro cities. I don't know about the rest. I saw people clapping during the climax. The problem is that Stree is a juggernaut. Since it is also a sequel, the audience is already in sync with the characters. Nobody imagined Stree to be such a big monster. I knew it would be a monster but not that it would become Godzilla," Abhishek said.



Aly Goni Drops BIG Hint About His Breakup Reason With Natasa Stankovic: 'Usne Mujhe Bola Ki...'



It is no secret that Aly Goni and Natasa Stankovic dated each other in the past. They even appeared together on the 9th season of Nach Baliye but broke up soon after the show ended. While nobody knows why they actually parted ways, Aly has finally dropped a big hint about it. Recently, Aly Goni appeared on Bharti Singh and Haash Limbachiya's podcast when he talked about his past relationship. Even though the actor did not name Natasa, he mentioned that they broke up because she wanted to not live with his family. "Jo mera isse pahle bhi relation tha, voh bahut hi serious tha. Uska reason hi yahi tha ke usne mujhe bola ke 'yaar jab hum shaadi kareinge future mein hum alag raheinge'. Voh cheez mujhe nahi jami (My previous relationship was very serious. The reason we broke up was that she told me that we would live separately. I did not agree to it)," Aly said.

Goni, who is currently seen in Laughter Chefs, further mentioned that he is a family man and does not want to live separately. "Main apne family ko saath leke chalunge jahab bhi jaaunga. Main family ko alag nahi kar sakte. Main nahi chod sakta, chahe duniya ki koi bhi taakat aa jaaye (I will take my family along wherever I go. I cannot separate from my family. I can't leave them, come what may)," he added.

While Aly Goni is currently in a romantic relationship with Jasmin Bhasin, Natasa Stankovic recently parted ways from her cricketer husband Hardik Pandya. The two, who tied the knot in May 2020 and renewed their wedding vows according to the Hindu and Christian rituals in February 2023, confirmed their separation in July 2024. They issued a joint statement and mentioned that it was a "tough decision" for both of them and added that they will continue to co-parent their son, Agastya. Following their separation, Natasa moved to her hometown, Serbia with her 4-year-old son Agastya.

Kriti Sanon and Kabir Bahia Make Their Relationship Instagram Official? Fans Say 'Jiju in the House'



Bollywood actress Kriti Sanon and Kabir Bahia have sent fans into a frenzy with their latest social media interaction, sparking rumours that they may be "soft-launching" their relationship online. Kabir, whose name has been romantically linked to Kriti in recent weeks, made his first-ever comment on her Instagram post, leading many to believe the duo could be taking their rumoured relationship public. The speculation began when Kriti posted a behind-the-scenes video of her electrifying performance at the UP T20 Season 2 Opening Ceremony held at the Ekana Stadium. In the caption, she playfully wrote, "This was a 'Deadly' act! But nothing gives a bigger rush than a live performance in a stadium!!" Fans were quick to shower the post with likes and comments, but it was Kabir's comment that stole the spotlight.

Kabir wrote, "I'm dead.." along with a rolling on the floor laughing emoji, to which Kriti responded with a like, further fuelling the dating rumours. This seemingly casual exchange didn't go unnoticed by the fans. Within hours, a screenshot of Kabir's comment began circulating on Reddit, with netizens speculating whether the two are making their relationship Instagram official. The comment section of Kriti's post soon became flooded with fan reactions. Many users couldn't help but wonder if wedding bells might be on the horizon. "Jiju in the house," one fan commented, referring to Kabir as their 'brother-in-law.' Another asked, "Are you getting married to Kriti in real?"—a question that echoed the thoughts of many who have been closely following the rumoured couple.

The buzz around Kriti and Kabir's relationship comes on the heels of Kriti's recent interview with Nikhil Kamath, where she discussed various aspects of her personal life. When asked whether she is the first to apologise in a relationship, Kriti revealed, "It depends. If I feel I'm not wrong at all, then I wouldn't, but I would want to sort it out."

Swara Bhasker

Reacts to Sexual Abuse in Malayalam Film Industry, Calls Showbiz 'Patriarchal': 'Successful Actors...'

Actor Swara Bhasker recently opened up about the Hema Committee's findings, highlighting the strong patriarchal norms and financial pressures in the entertainment industry, including Bollywood. She also said that she has deep gratitude and support for the Women In Cinema Collective (WCC) and praised their bravery in bringing issues of sexual harassment and violence to light. Reacting to the Hema Committee report, which uncovered sexual harassment and exploitation in the Malayalam film industry, Swara Bhasker shared a heartfelt note on Instagram, saying she was "heartbroken" by the committee's findings. An excerpt from her post read, "It has been heartbreaking to read the findings of the committee. More heartbreaking because it is familiar. Maybe not every detail and not every nitty gritty but the larger picture of what the women have testified to is all too familiar (sic)".



She added that in showbiz, if one raises her voice, one is labelled a troublemaker and they have to bear the consequences of their reaction. "Showbiz is not just patriarchal, it's also feudal in character. Successful actors, directors and producers are elevated to the status of demigods and anything they do goes. If they do something unsavoury, the norm for everyone around is to look away. If someone makes too much noise and doesn't let an issue drop, label them 'trouble-makers' and let them bear the brunt of their over enthusiastic conscience," she wrote. She also wrote that every day of production—whether during

shooting, pre-production, or post-production—costs money, and no one likes interruptions, even if someone is speaking up for what's right. "Showbiz is and always has been a male-centric industry, a patriarchal power set-up. It's also deeply perception sensitive and risk averse. Every day of production—shoot days but also pre and post-production days—are days when the meter is running and money is being spent. No one likes a disruption. Even if the disruptor has raised her voice for what is ethically correct. It's so much more convenient and financially practical to just

